COMMON HALL.

The Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Liverymen of the City of London, met on the 9th in Guildhall, for the purpose of considering the propriety of petitioning Parliament against the continuance or renewal of the Tax upon Income, commonly called the Property Tax.

The Lord Mayor having stated the object of the Meeting, said he would only address them in two or three words, for he could hardly suppose, that there was more than one opinion in the Hall on the subject they were called on to consider; but, should it be otherwise, he had to request, that they would give a hearing to both sides of the question.

The Requisition, with the Signatures, was then read, after which—

Mr. Jas. Davies came forward, and, after adverting to the Requisition, said they had to acknowledge their obligation to the Lord Mayor for the prompt attention which he had paid to it. It had fallen to his lot to address them on that most interesting matter which they were now called on to consider. After some observations, he would present to them certain Resolutions, which he had taken the liberty to prepare, that they might give expression to their opinion in suitable language respecting that most odious of all taxes, the Property Tax. [*Applause.*] He felt himself inadequate to the occasion, and must expect from them the exercise of their accustomed kindness and candour. It was a satisfaction to him, on the present occasion, that the question was one which left no room for party discussion. They were all of them completely able to appreciate its importance, and estimate its pre-eminent claim upon them, in preference to all other questions merely of a party or political nature; so that he hoped the Resolutions would be adopted with unanimity, if not with acclamation. They all knew from experience the misery and sufferings that had been endured in consequence of that odious tax; and their feelings rendered it superfluous for him to attempt to expose, at any length, the hardships and degradations to which they had all been so long exposed. It was to be remembered, that, not more than sixteen years ago, this tax had been first proposed to meet the exigencies of the Government. All of them knew, that it had been proposed as a temporary measure to meet the existing financial difficulties—that it was only to be continued as a War Tax and to cease on the restoration of Peace. They all recollected, also, that there was a period, though very short certainly, in which this Tax ceased to operate—a period similar to that which had now again returned—though it was almost presently re-imposed, from the country's being again plunged in another war. They were indebted to the Councils of a Minister, whose monument was then in his eye, for the first enactment of that Tax, and its long continuation. They had, however, now arrived at a period, when, from the great exertions which had been made last year, with such effect, as a reward for their public spirit, decision and constancy—they had a right to look for an alleviation of their sufferings. He had only to appeal to the concessions of Ministers last year, in justification of what he had to submit to them. Were it not for the unhappy circumstance of the country having been again plunged in war, in all probability they would not have had any renewal of the Tax, which would, of course, have ceased to operate. How extraordinary was it, then, even at a moment when the Commissioners of his Royal Highness stated to the Houses of Parliament, that peace was likely to be permanent, in consequence of the great and signally successful exertions of the nation, the Chancellor of the Exchequer should think proper to put the feelings of the People to a fresh trial, and announce his intention of proposing a renewal of the Property Tax. It would almost seem as if he had thrown out this merely with a view of seeing how the People would take it. He hoped, then, they would let him see in a becoming manner how they took it. But, to do away the objection to it, he had told them, that it would be reduced one-half in its amount, and that instead of 10 per cent. it would be only 5. But what had the reduction to do with the principle? The 5 per cent. Tax would be productive of more evil than if it were 10 per cent. In plain English, the 5 per cent. Tax would be enforced with such rigour, that it would be made to produce almost equal to 10; but whether 10, or 5, or 1 per cent. the question was as to the principle, not the amount;—whether they would allow any set of men to inquire into the nature and amount of their transactions in trade—which was a gross violation of all constitutional principles, and ought never to be endured.—[*Applause.*] He would not enter into any farther remarks of this kind, because they were not called to the consideration of any party or political question, but merely to express their sentiments in a manner becoming Englishmen.—Mr. Davies then concluded with reading a series of Resolutions.

Mr. John Bumsted came forward to second the Resolutions.—After the statement which they had heard, little more remained for him to do, than barely, *pro forma*, to second the Resolutions. It was well for him that it was so, for he was so little accustomed to speak in public, that, if he had had to do so, he should certainly have failed in it.—There was one thing, however, which he wished more particularly to state to them and to impress on their minds—that a Petition would be prepared and ready for signature. He trusted that every Gentleman who now heard him would not only sign the Petition, but recommend to every man of his acquaintance to do the same thing; for it was only by unity of effort that they could hope to succeed in their object. Let them all bear in mind the good old fable of the bundle of sticks—let them make a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether.—[*Applause.*]

The Resolutions were then successively proposed, and unanimously adopted.

Mr. Davies then proposed a Petition to the House of Commons, founded on the Resolutions, which, being moved and seconded, was also carried unanimously.

It was then moved by Mr. Davies, and seconded, that the Representatives of the City in Parliament be instructed to present the Petition to the House of Commons, and support the prayer of it. This question was carried by acclamation.

Sir William Curtis then stepped forward, and after some opposition obtained a hearing. He said he was glad to meet his fellow-citizens upon a question which afforded them so much satisfaction, and which to himself personally afforded the like agreeable sensations. [*Applauses.*] He had formerly supported the Property Tax, not from any peculiar approbation of it either in principle or in operation, but from a conviction in his own mind, that nothing but the most strenuous exertions of the country could enable it to achieve those glorious results which had so recently crowned the British arms. He had supported this tax on the score of necessity; but now that the motive of his conduct ceased, and a peace was happily restored throughout the world, the tax, in his opinion, ought not to exist any longer. [*Applauses.*] After twenty five years of difficulties and unparalleled struggles—and after those difficulties and struggles had been surmounted, the least that the People of this country had a right to expect, was the cessation of those burdens which most heavily pressed upon them. [*Hear, hear, hear!*] Having said thus much upon the subject of his present sentiments, and professing, as he always did, the most zealous attachment to the British Constitution, he was sorry that he could not commend that part of the motion just adopted, which was to "instruct" the City Representatives, to support the prayer of the Petition. [*Disapprobation.*] He could not be instructed by his Constituents, or by any body else, in the discharge of what he thought his duty as a Member of the House of Commons. [*Loud disapprobation.*] He should not be deterred by any expression of hostility from acting up to his own sentiments, whatever dissatisfaction such conduct might give other people. [*Hisses, and other expressions of disapprobation.*] He could not at present say what would be the precise course of conduct he should pursue when this question was agitated in Parliament; but if he were left to himself, he should act consistently with his duty as Representative of the Livery of London. [*Disapprobation.*]

Sir James Shaw said, that when this subject was last under the consideration of the Livery, he expressed his opinion, that the extraordinary exertions of the country ought to be continued until an honourable peace should be obtained. That event had now arrived, and he therefore thought the Property Tax ought not to be continued any longer. It could be justifiable only as a war tax, and under the extraordinary circumstances in which this country was placed during the last ten years. He thought that if the Chancellor of the Exchequer had occasion for any considerable aid in the present situation of affairs, the most expedient and preferable mode of attaining his object would be by way of loan—say 5 or 600,000*l.*, the interest to be paid out of the Sinking Fund. [*Cheers.*] His sentiments were at present adverse to the continuance of this tax, and those sentiments he should carry with him into the House of Commons. [*Applause.*]

Mr. Ald. Atkins said, he had always approved of the principle of the Property Tax, as a mode of supplying the exigencies of the State, in as much as it was upon the property of the country the burden of taxation ought to fall. He had felt it his duty to support this tax in the House of Commons, from a conviction of the necessity of it at the time when it was last brought forward. That necessity was not now so great; but when he was called upon, and instructed, to use his exertions in opposing the continuance of this tax, he did not consider himself fairly dealt by. The proposition was, that, without consideration—without reference to the circumstances under which the renewal of the tax should be proposed, he must pledge himself, right or wrong, to comply with the instructions of his constituents. [*Loud opposition.*] If it should be made clear to him, that the Property Tax could be utterly dispensed with, no man would more strenuously oppose it, and his sincerity could not be doubted, for he had "a stake in the hedge of the country."—[*Cries of off, off!*] What was the import of the Resolution now agreed to? It was this—"You are hereby required and desired to support the Petition—you must go to Parliament tied hand and foot, and decide upon the principle of this measure without consideration." After being placed in the important situation he now had the honour to hold, he could not hear this mandate without thinking that the Livery distrusted the honesty of his intentions. [*Off, off!*] He had always stood up for the rights and privileges of the City; and he trusted that his past conduct entitled him to confidence. [*Loud cries of off off!*] He would lose his right arm before he would pledge himself without consideration—without exercising his own free judgment to support the Petition.—[*Off off!*] "I never will pledge myself," continued the Alderman, "to support the Petition without consideration—I won't, by G—d!!!" [*Here the Honourable Alderman was compelled to retire under the din of opposition which followed this climax.*]

Mr. Favell said, it was for the Livery to judge whether the speech they had just heard was fitting the cause of religion or order, concluding, as the worthy Alderman did, with something very like an oath.—[*Applauses and a laugh.*]—With respect to the doctrine which the worthy Alderman seemed so strenuously disposed to enforce, he (Mr. F.) for one could never agree to it. For what purpose did the People of this country send their Representatives to Parliament, if those Representatives were above receiving the instructions and advice of their constituents? Such a doctrine as this never escaped the mouth of that tried and faithful Representative of the City of London, whose sentiments he (Mr. F.) was now deputed, in his absence, to express. He meant that friend to liberty and independence, Mr. Harvey Christian Combe, who was unhappily prevented by illness from giving his attendance in Hall to day.—[*Applause.*]—On all occasions, that independent man was ready to receive and abide by the instructions of his constituents, and in that spirit he should second the wishes of the Livery now expressed. It was a generally received notion of the Constitution of this country, that the People were to tax themselves through the medium of their Representatives. But the result of the worthy Alderman's doctrine was, that the real sentiments of the People ought never to be heard in Parliament. The People of this country were to be told by the House of Commons, consisting of about 600 Members—"We are to make up our minds upon all subjects brought before us; and we don't care one farthing about your opinions or wishes;"—and yet this was called Representation!—[*Applauses.*]—It was the duty of every man to raise his voice against a principle so diametrically opposite to the spirit of the Constitution. With respect to the Tax under consideration, he perfectly concurred in the Resolutions proposed, and it was of importance that all classes of men united their energies in imitating the example of the City of London.—[*Applauses.*]

Mr. Waithman said, that after hearing the extraordinary doctrine professed by the worthy Alderman, and the manner in which it had been submitted to the Livery, it was impossible for him to be utterly silent upon the present occasion. On many occasions he (Mr. W.) had ventured to propose instructions to be given to the Representatives of the City, for the regulation of their conduct in Parliament; but without any avail. Possibly they might feel some irritation at the observations made upon their public conduct; and probably their weakness might have entitled them to some indulgence; but it was an insult not to be endured, when the Livery were daily told that their instructions should not be attended to. Certainly justice required that from this observation one of the worthy Aldermen (Shaw) ought to be excepted. But though the Livery had been thus grossly insulted, he (Mr. W.) could not help taking notice of one of the most extraordinary occurrences that ever happened in that Hall—namely, that a Magistrate of the City of London, who in the due administration of his office would be bound to commit any one of the Liverymen for profane swearing (if any could be found guilty of such an offence), had come forward this day in the face of his constituents—in the presence of the Chief Magistrate of the City and the whole Board of Aldermen—and utter a horrible oath, which would have subjected any other person to the charge of the grossest impiety, nay even to the penalties of the law.—[*Applauses.*]—When such a man as this could hazard such profaneness, what might not be the baneful effect of such an example upon the minds of the People? He (Mr. W.) would give the Livery joy, if they could forget such conduct as this on a future occasion.—[*Cries of "we will remember him"*] If he (Mr. W.) knew any thing of the British Constitution, the People of England had a right, either by themselves or their Representatives, to impose taxes. The great Lord Somers, who drew up the Bill of Rights, described Parliament as the great Inquest of the Nation. They might have more knowledge than other people, but they would cease to be the great Inquest of the Nation, if they refused to listen to those who delegated them as the Guardians of the public welfare. He deprecated in the strongest manner the tone sometimes assumed by Members of that great Inquest, who disclaimed obedience to the wishes of their Constituents. He hoped that the Livery of London would not only insist upon their constitutional right of instructing their Representatives, but persist in desiring that they should present and support their Petition. The Livery could not fail to recollect the manner in which their last Petition was treated, in consequence of the conduct of one of the Members for the City, who consulted the Minister upon the propriety of presenting it. The result was, the Petition was kicked out, and the worthy Representative gave the first kick.—[*Applauses.*]—After several other observations, Mr. W. concluded by supporting the motion.

Mr. Davies then moved the thanks of the Livery to the Lord Mayor, for his ready compliance with the Requisition for the present Meeting, and for his impartial conduct in the Chair. The motion was carried unanimously.

The Lord Mayor expressed his sense of the honour done him, and his readiness at all times to discharge his public duties to the utmost of his activity.

The thanks of the Livery were also moved by Mr. Waithman, to the mover and seconder of the Resolutions; and both those Gentlemen severally acknowledged the distinction.

After some other motions, not necessary to mention, the Court adjourned.

On Thursday the Common Council agreed *unanimously* to the following Resolutions against this abominable Tax; and on Friday, similar ones were passed at a Common Hall. Even the City Barons thought the Tax too bad for longer endurance; as did also Mr. Alderman Atkins, though he insisted on his right to vote against the wishes of his Constituents, and swore (yes, this supporter of Church and State absolutely swore) by God, that he would give them no pledge!—Upon this, many laughed, and more groaned and hissed—and the worthy Alderman seemed much enraged:—

That this Court has learnt, with the most serious alarm, that it is the intention of his Majesty's Ministers, in violation of their assurances, and the solemn faith of Parliament, to propose the continuance or modification of the Tax upon Income, commonly called the Property Tax.

That this Court have uniformly declared their abhorrence of the measure, and painful experience has only served the more strongly to root in their minds a conviction of its injustice, vexation, and oppression.

That notwithstanding it was held out, that under the present Act the inquisitorial vexations would be entirely obviated, by taking for the basis of taxation the assessments of the former year, the provision of the Act was rendered altogether nugatory; for the assessments of the former year were suspended until the passing of the same; and immediately after surcharges and assessments were commenced with more rigour and severity, this Court believes, than at any former period.

That nothing can be more evidently partial and unjust than taxing in the same proportion Incomes of a short duration, arising from personal industry and temporary and uncertain sources, and those arising from fixed and permanent property.

That the manner in which the said Tax is carried into execution (by means of an odious, arbitrary, and detestable inquisition into the most private concerns and circumstances of individuals) is still more vexatious, unjust, and oppressive, hostile to every sense of freedom, revolting to the feelings of Englishmen, and repugnant to the principles of the British Constitution.

That, deeply as this Court feel for the depressed state of the Agricultural Interests, and the ruinous consequences of such a burden thereon, they nevertheless feel that the Manufacturing and Trading Interests are equally depressed, equally borne down with the weight of Taxation, and still more harrassed and oppressed by the degrading expositions before the Inquisitorial Commissioners, from which the Landed and Funded Proprietors are exempt.

That such have been the multiplied vexations and oppressions the People have experienced, that the Tax is become altogether insupportable; and however it may have been reluctantly submitted to, under the peculiar circumstances of the times, and as a temporary measure only, this Court are persuaded that, had its duration been foreseen, and the arbitrary exercise of the Inquisitorial Authority at first fully felt, it never could, even at that period, have been carried into execution.

That to adopt the said Tax upon a reduced scale, would be to make a fatal inroad upon the Constitution, and would more effectually lead, by slower, but more certain means, to the subversion of the Rights and Liberties of the People.

That having patiently submitted to the most painful burdens and privations, during a war of unexampled difficulty, this Court naturally expected, that, on the return of Peace, they should have been relieved from War-Establishments and War-Taxes; that at least the most obnoxious of them would have been removed; and this Court confidently feel, that by such reductions in the Public Expenditure, with the necessary reformations, and the abolition of unnecessary Places, Pensions, and Sinecures, there could be no pretence for the continuance of a Tax, subversive of freedom, and destructive to the peace and happiness of the People.

That a Petition be presented to Parliament, praying them to take these matters into their serious consideration, and to reject any proposition that may be made for the continuance of the said Tax, under any modification or alteration whatever, and to adopt such measures as may be best calculated to alleviate the burdens, and promote the liberty, prosperity, and happiness of the People.

CATHOLIC PETITION.

Several Catholic Noblemen and Gentlemen met at the house of Lord Trimbleston on Tuesday, and signed a Petition to Parliament, for the repeal of those disabilities under which the Catholics still labour. We are much pleased to find the respectable portion of the Catholic Body inclined to shake off that supineness which has proved so injurious to Catholic affairs. We have not seen the Petition, but the names of some who signed it are to us a sufficient guarantee that it is free from any just cause of objection.—*Carrick's Post.*

The *Evening Post* says, that Lord Southwell was in the Chair, and that it was resolved to entrust the Petition to Mr. Grattan.

Corn Exchange, London, Feb 12.—In consequence of the severity of the frost, which has stopped the navigation of the River, no business was done to day upon our market; as such, the prices of all Grain are nominally as last week.

Irish Stocks—February 14.

Bank Stock	—
Government Debentures 3½ per cent	78¼
Do. Stock, 3½ per Cent	[illegible]
Do. Do. 4 per Cent	[illegible]
Government Debentures, 5 per cent	[illegible]
Do. Stock, 5 per cent	[illegible]

Exchange, Course, 12¾ per cent.

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PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—MONDAY, FEB. 12.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved the Order of the Day on the Committee of Supply. In the Committee he observed, that the only matter he had specifically to propose was, the providing for the outstanding Exchequer Bills, to complete the provision for £12,500,000 Exchequer Bills, and to provide for £4,500,000 afterwards issued, and which were now nearly becoming due; and, finally, to call on the House to provide for the Bills issued in consequence of the grants for 1815. He had no other immediate subject to which to call the attention of the House; but he had understood that it was expected by some, that on this occasion he should commence the consideration of the subject of Supply by taking some general view, and making some general exposition, of what he intended to propose as measures of finance. This expectation he could not regard as unreasonable, at a period of so much importance as the present. He should, therefore, endeavour to offer some statement of his views, by which some general judgment might be formed of circumstances and measures. He should wish to state, as clearly as he could, that there was no probability of much increase of expenditure. He hoped that, by a reference to facts and documents which would be laid before the House, it would be seen, that our resources remained in a highly productive state; and that, for whatever might be now wanting, we had only to apply a portion of the same perseverance and firmness which we had displayed during so long a contest. All the necessary documents would be almost immediately laid upon the table. Looking at the customs for the year ending 1815, they produced £11,590,000; for the year ending 1816, £10,487,000. The House would, however, recollect the expiral of the war-taxes on tonnage, which produced £600,000 or £700,000. In 1814, the excise produced £25,145,000, and for 1815, £26,562,000, an increase of £1,400,000 over the preceding year. No particular means operated last year, except what concerned licenses, &c. The stamp duties for 1814 produced £5,598,000; for 1815, £5,865,000. A considerable increase in duty had no doubt taken place, but he could not just then ascertain accurately to what it had amounted. The Post Office had produced, for 1814, £1,450,000; for 1815, £1,548,000. The Assessed Taxes produced, in 1814, £6,400,000; but there was in the next year a diminution of about £200,000. For 1814, the Property Tax produced £14,900,000, and for 1815, £14,300,000, making an increase of £100,000. The Land Tax for 1814 produced £1,089,000. The total revenue for 1814 was £65,430,000; for 1815 there was an increase of about a million. He had great satisfaction in hoping, that the branch of the revenue arising from the Assessed Taxes would continue to flourish, and might be safely reckoned upon. He should now proceed to take some notice of the application of those very large and liberal grants which had so greatly contributed to our final success in the conflict. He recollected that it was said by some, that so large a supply, granted to the full extent of what was asked, would certainly fall far short of the financial means which would be demanded. It was also stated, about the same time, that to make an attempt upon the French frontier, would be hopeless—would be absurd; but both these predictions had proved fallacious. The very day after one of them was delivered, Charleroi was attacked, and the result was, the cannon did not cease to roar till in a few days our efforts were crowned with the most complete, brilliant, and decisive success.—[*Hear, hear!*]—Of last year's grants, there were £21,000,000 due for past expenditure, and which formed no part of the supplies wanted for future exertions. By this means, what was previously due had been all discharged.—But, on the 5th of January last, the Unfunded Debt had been by those liberal grants still reduced by £21,000,000. There was last year a reduction to the amount of £41,500,000. Navy debts had also undergone a reduction of from £6,000,000 to about £3,000,000. If he looked to the amount of our manufactures exported, he found it, in the quarter ending October 10, 1814, £37,167,000; and, at a similar date in 1815, the amount was £42,425,000. The House would have time and opportunity to peruse and examine the particulars. He should, for the present, merely advert to one or two of them. Of Cotton goods we exported, in 1814, to the value of £13,169,000; and in 1815, £19,372,000. Of Linens, in 1814, £1,100,000; in 1815, £2,340,000. Of Woollens, in 1814, £6,000,000 odd, and in 1815, £8,074,000.—Having so recently exerted all the great sinews of our national strength, the House would be frequently this Session called to the important consideration of our financial affairs. Of that situation he wished, as clearly as he could, to state his own general views. The greatest difficulties seemed to result from the prices of various articles; and more particularly so, as they regarded the Interests of Agriculture, in which, during the war, they had swelled in too great a proportion. It should be recollected, that great alarm had been occasioned by the scarcities of 1800, and of a year or two before; and it became generally thought, that our means were very inadequate to our supply. Besides this, our means of supply from foreign countries were frequently interrupted, and rendered very difficult to procure. We had the fear of depending upon other countries, and the apprehensions arising from liability to scarcity. Some powers had wholly withheld any supply; with others, the procuring was rendered so troublesome and expensive, through licenses and charges, as to prevent its coming to us abundantly. This induced us more and more to look to the effects of our produce. Prices, however, advanced to a disproportionate extent. A considerable spur, however, was given to our agriculture at home. Last year Parliament had interfered by a protecting measure; but that measure was resorted to after a considerable supply had been received from abroad, and after a productive harvest at home had afforded a superfluity. During the war, Government was in the habit of constant purchases. The Victualling Office bought at the rate of 200,000 sacks of flour. Other branches also made purchases. This, of course, always raised the market, as sellers could depend upon the Government, which they knew must be supplied. When Government purchases ceased, there must of course follow a considerable alteration. Had Parliament interposed by a protecting measure at an earlier period than last year, it was probable that the effects now so much felt would not have taken place. But Parliament did not interpose until after the interests of agriculture had suffered a considerable blow. The country was now in a situation in which the fall of prices pressed severely on all those branches which supplied the agricultural interest. This was likely to continue, until a diminution of demand should produce a diminution of price. A great variety of remedies for these inconveniencies had been both publicly and privately suggested; but he did not then intend to dwell upon them. One Hon. Gentleman had suggested, as one means of relief, the suspension of the Usury Acts. If he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) should feel that the present difficulties were likely to continue long, and if no other and better remedy offered, he should not treat that suggestion lightly. The remedies to which he now directed his attention consisted in the diminution of taxes, and in a course of measures calculated to support public credit. The latter seemed at present the most important and pressing subject.—If he might use a familiar, and perhaps rather vulgar illustration, he would suppose that every man in the country, great and small, should find a guinea in his pocket to-morrow morning.—[*Laughter.*]—He knew it was a visionary supposition.—[*Laugh.*]—But though this might amount to fifteen millions, yet each person would have no more means of paying a debt than he had at present. It would be a long time before these guineas could be collected together for useful operations. It would be different if they could be all brought at once to the country banks; for then all who could give security might be accommodated—agriculture invigorated, manufactures assisted, and the distresses of the country might disappear. We could neither give any man a guinea, nor send the fifteen millions to the banks. But the wants of the country would require a large sum of money. The distresses of the country would not be in any material degree augmented by the taxes; but if we took a large sum in a mass by loan from the capital of the country, we might do much injury. Last year we had added fifty four millions to our national debt, while this year, instead of being obliged to make any addition, we should be relieved to the extent of fourteen millions. This sum, employed in buying up Exchequer Bills, would contribute powerfully to assist the wants of the State. The relief which must result from this diminution of public expenditure, would spread confidence in various channels, and remove the pressure that is at present felt by many classes of society. The House would see that advantage would be taken of our financial condition to reduce immediately the weight of taxation. The proposal which he had stated on a former occasion, to reduce the Property Tax from ten to five per cent. would produce a relief of seven millions. About four millions of this tax, which fall upon agriculture, will thus be taken off, making a moiety of the eight millions paid by the agricultural interest. In addition to this mitigation in favour of agriculture, he meant to propose the further relief of one million, arising from other sources of taxation, which the farming part of the community at present paid—making thus a reduction of their burdens to the amount of five millions. The class relieved comprehends those in schedule B or the farmers. He meant to propose the remission entirely of the tax upon horses employed in agriculture.—[*Hear, hear!*]—Some other reduction might be made, but to what proportion, or of what nature, could not now be stated, and must be reserved for future deliberation. What appeared to him to be as important, in our present situation, as immediate relief from particular taxes, were those means that might be employed for supporting and improving public credit. He would, therefore, in proposing the Ways and Means of the year, endeavour to abstain from any measure, that had a tendency to press upon the money market; and he had much satisfaction in stating, that he should not feel himself called upon to resort to a loan for carrying on the public service. If we could thus abstain from adding to our debts, which in the course of the last three years had been augmented by the great sum of £142,000,000, and in the last year alone by £54,000,000, and if we could realize a saving of £14,000,000, he could not but congratulate the country upon our state and prospects. He would now shortly state the principal heads of expenditure, and would begin with the Navy. His Honourable Friend (Sir George Warrender), one of the Lords of the Admiralty, would soon have to propose to the House the Estimates connected with that department. In what he had to say, he would not be understood as fixing the peace establishment. He merely wished to state what would, in his opinion, be the supply for the year, leaving for future discussion and arrangement what would be necessary as a permanent establishment. In future years a great reduction may be expected; but he did not wish at present to state any opinion on a subject which could not, without time and experience of events, be decided upon. It would not appear remarkable, that we could not, immediately after a protracted and extensive war, reduce our establishment so as to meet such a state of peace, when it is considered that three or four years intervened between the end of the American war and the final arrangements for a season of tranquillity. The number of seamen which he would propose for manning the navy would be 33,000. In the peace that occurred after the contest with America, the number kept up was sometimes 18,000, and sometimes 20,000. The ordinary and extraordinary expenses of this establishment he would estimate at £7,000,000. He did not think it necessary to enter further into details concerning the navy; but he would be a little more particular with regard to the army, as the subject would not come regularly before the House for some time. He begged Gentlemen to bear in mind, that in our former estimates of the Peace Establishment for the army, the force kept up for the service of Ireland was never included. On the present occasion, he would state the estimate for the whole Empire. For Great Britain, Guernsey, and Jersey, the number of troops proposed to be kept up would be 25,000 men; and for Ireland he likewise proposed 25,000 men.—[*Hear, hear!*]—There would be 3000 required as a kind of floating force for the relief of foreign garrisons, and for other incidental purposes. It might have been thought impossible to reduce our forces to such a small establishment, considering the immense extent of our foreign dependencies, and the necessity of supplying them from time to time with accessions of troops, as well as relieving them from the fatigues of distant service. This force would not remain permanently in the country. It would be continually changing place with the troops employed in our Colonies, thus acquiring itself experience and discipline, and allowing those who have served abroad to return at intervals to their native land. Those in the Colonies, and those at home, would thus improve in the qualities of a British army, the former acquiring efficiency, and the latter recovering their truly British feelings by their return. The army to be employed in France, the Right Hon. Gent. stated at 30,000.—He then detailed the following numbers for our Colonies and Foreign Dependencies:—For Gibraltar, Malta, and the other British Garrisons in the Mediterranean, 11,000; for British America, including Canada, Nova Scotia, and the Bermudas, &c. 10,000; and for our West India Colonies 13,000, including in this estimate 4000 for Jamaica. Since the year 1792, we had increased our possessions in that quarter to a great extent, by adding several islands to our dominions; and this additional force would appear small in proportion to the number of garrisons to be maintained. [There was here a laugh on the Opposition Benches; when the Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that whether these possessions were valuable to the Country might be afterwards discussed by the Honourable Gentlemen opposite.] The Cape of Good Hope would require 3000, and Ceylon 3000 troops. In our Colonies, formerly the great proportion, or nearly the whole, of the force employed was British. At present, there was a very considerable mixture of natives composing these detachments. They were found to perform the duty equally well, and thus there was a great saving of British lives, as the climate of our Colonies was frequently detrimental to the health of our countrymen. The garrison of St. Helena might be stated at 1200, the force on the coast of Africa 1000, and that of New South Wales 800. The total of the military force upon the British and Irish establishments would, according to these estimates, amount to 99,000 men. He meant by this estimate to state, not the effective force, or the number of men fit for service, which, at any particular time, probably would not exceed eighty-five or ninety thousand, but the gross amount, includ

deficiencies. The number to be

France he had already stated at 30,0

quired for the East Indies might be

20,000. No call would be made u

try for the maintenance of the troops

part of the army of occupation in F

will be supplied from France itself, a

therto been. The contributions fixe

been regularly paid, and no assistan

quired from England in future, as they

plied to the public service, except such

them as will be given in the form of

as prize money, to the troops who

selves and their country to so much

Chancellor of the Exchequer believed

the whole of these contributions migh

ed as *droits of the Crown*; [*hear, h*

but the Prince Regent, without consul

private interest, ordered the whole to

the public service. The Allies had agr

propriety and justice of allotting fift

francs, or something more than two

ling, to the British and Prussian troo

noble service, in the battle of Waterlo

had been placed at the disposal of the

thorities of England and Prussia, and

into two parts—the British army,

Hanoverians and the Belgians, receiv

five millions of French francs, and the

my the other half. The amount all

Government of the Indemnities levied

was one hundred millions of francs,

lions sterling, and eight hundred thou

of this had been this year received.

reduction of forces which he had for

the total amount of supply necessary fo

our military establishment might be t

million three hundred thousand pounds

mate was, however, exclusive of the

ries, which he would proceed to la

House. The Commissariat might b

£580,000, the barracks at £258,00

whole extraordinaries at two millions.

for the army, including some items no

amounted to £12,235,000. For the

ries and extraordinaries seven millions;

nance two millions; and for miscellane

ture two millions and a half. The o

year amounted to four millions. The

other item of expenditure which he had

tion, and that would be created by a re

the East India Company of two mill

they had expended for services in the

In consequence of a pressure upon the

they had made a charge of two millio

already received £500,000, in the pre

which they had exported to their eastern

and found a reasonable and seasonable

[*A laugh.*]—The whole of these estima

to £24,738,000. To the Bank it woul

sary to pay one million five hundre

pounds, which, together with the su

specified, and several other items, will

neral aggregate of twenty-nine millions

dred and thirty-eight thousand pounds

Britain and Ireland. There would be a

of the charge for Ireland, as it was prop

the charges for the two countries dis

Chancellor of the Exchequer then pro

state the Ways and Means. He had al

ed a surplus of the grants of last ye

amount of more than forty millions,

been employed in paying arrears and

ing Exchequer Bills; and he would beg

year, with a very novel and unexpecte

revenue, and one that he was sure would

faction to the House; he meant an addi

plus of three millions, applicable to the

the country.—[*Hear, hear!*]—This sum

ject to a contingency, by which it might

ed; but he would not hesitate to take

amount he had specified. The surplus of

solidated Fund was likewise subject to so

tainty, but, in his opinion, might be sta

millions. The annual taxes might be rate

millions, and the war taxes of the Excise

toms at six millions. The Property Tax,

the deductions which would be made fr

would not calculate at more than six m

The Lottery would give two hundred

pounds. The only remaining part of the

Means was an advance of six millions by

The most eligible mode of providing for

of the State was one that would not inju

credit; and, therefore, instead of [illegible]

of twelve millions, which would have [illegible]

ry had the Property Tax been abolished,

assistance given by the Bank, he had th

his duty to continue a modification of tha

and to apply to the Bank for the advanc

mentioned. The Bank had agreed to adv

millions, which, deducting one million an

due to them for Exchequer Bills, would le

millions and a half applicable to the servic

year. He had, in making this agreemen

sented to recommend to Parliament the

ance of the restriction on cash payments f

time longer; but no consideratio [illegible]

the interests of that establishment would have induced him to consent to such a measure, had he not been of opinion, that the resumption of cash payments on the 5th of July next, when the Restriction Act would expire, was impossible, and that the country could suffer nothing from its continuance. The Bank is necessarily a great holder of Exchequer Bills, and as 16 millions were, during the last year, paid off, he thought that it would be consistent enough with its ability to make the advance he had formerly specified. A further deduction might be expected to take place, as 18 millions still remained outstanding. The Chancellor of the Exchequer then stated, as a favourable circumstance in our prospects of this year over the last, that the accounts have given so advantageous a result, although they have been made up two months later in the present year than in the last. He went on to shew, that, in point of public economy, in point of a real saving to the Country, the arrangement with the Bank was the best that could have been made for assisting the finances of the State. Instead of coming into the money market for a loan, which would certainly have depressed public credit, we had put off the funding till two years afterwards, when the tranquillity which this nation enjoyed abroad, and our improving resources at home, would make the addition of the debt less felt. He would, however, abstain from any farther observations at present, as an opportunity would be given for discussing this measure, when he brought in a bill to carry the arrangements formed between the Bank and the Government into execution. The six millions are advanced at four per cent. interest for two years, and afterwards to be continued for three years longer, subject, however, to a renunciation of the agreement, by either of the parties, on six months notice. The whole amount, then, of the expenditure, and the means provided for meeting it, were as follow :—

SUPPLY, 1816.

Army	£9,300,000	
Commissariat	680,000	
Barracks	258,000	
Extraordinaries	2,000,000	
		12,238,000
Navy	7,000,000	
Ordnance	2,000,000	
Miscellaneous	2,500,000	
India Debt	1,000,000	
		12,500,000
Repayment to the Bank	1,500,000	
Exchequer Bill Interest	2,000,000	
Sinking Fund on Exch. Bills	260,000	
Debentures	900,000	
		4,660,000
		29,398,000
Irish Proportion		2,910,354
		£26,487,646

WAYS AND MEANS.

Surplus of Grants, after discharging Debt in the Peninsula and America	£3,000,000	
Surplus Consolidated Fund	2,500,000	
Land and Malt	3,000,000	
Customs and Excise (War Taxes)	6,000,000	
Property Tax	6,000,000	
Lottery	200,000	
Bank Allowance	6,000,000	
		26,700,000

He concluded by observing, that he begged not to be understood as settling the peace establishment. It would be premature for him, or even for Parliament, to decide what that should be with any degree of precision; but he might assure the House, that the Executive would always be willing to co-operate with the Legislature in taking those measures which should at once provide for the dignity and security of the empire, and conduce to public economy.

[The remainder of this discussion will be found in the last page. the irregular arrival of the mails having rendered this arrangement unavoidable.]

HOUSE OF COMMONS—TUESDAY, FEB. 13.

The Sheriffs of London appeared at the bar, with the Petition of the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, against the renewal of the Property Tax. The Petition was read, and, upon the motion of Sir William Curtis, was ordered to lie on the table.

Sir WM. CURTIS said, that there was another petition on the same subject from the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Livery of London, legally and constitutionally convened in Common Hall by public advertisement. The Petition was in effect similar to the last. It was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. BROGDEN brought up the Report of the Committee of Supply. On the reading of the first Resolution, for a grant of £11,024,100 to provide for outstanding Exchequer Bills.

Mr. W. WYNNE said, it was impossible for him to forbear stating his total objection to the whole principle on which the supply was proposed. He had supported Government in all their measures during the war, and in the laying on the heavy burdens which appeared necessary; he had constantly opposed a premature peace, because he felt, and experience had shown, that we could expect from it merely an armed truce, and that it was necessary to carry on the contest till it could be brought to a satisfactory termination, when we might enjoy the real blessings of peace, which must consist in low establishments, and a general reduction of expenditure. Now, after obtaining more than in our most sanguine moments we could have hoped for, we were to be burdened with a very large and heavy establishment. The 149,000 troops to be kept up were a number four times greater than on former occasions. He trusted that, in the ensuing debates, Ministers would assign good reasons why the Income Tax should be continued, after they had stated that peace would reduce our establishments infinitely below former experience.

On the second reading of the resolutions—

Mr. BARCLAY observed, that he had voted for the Property Tax last year, as the means of enabling Government to carry on the war; but now, after peace, he must protest against its renewal.

Mr. HORNER concurred with Mr. Barclay in his objections; but felt compelled to take this opportunity to say, that it was quite in vain for Gentlemen to expect any permanent relief, except by the reducing of the proposed establishments. On former occasions, when he had voted for the Property Tax on the score of necessity, he had yet felt conscious of its oppression. The real point now was, for every Gentleman in that House to put to himself the question—"Does there exist a necessity for this tax? Aye, or No?" [*Hear!*] He would repeat, that it would be a mere delusion to try any other experiments, if this establishment was to be maintained. There was one only remedy, and that was, to retrench.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER felt himself called on to say a few words. On the question of the necessity of the establishments, the arguments of Ministers must stand or fall. He (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) had before said, that we only required a further exertion of that perseverance and firmness which we had displayed during the contest, to bring us through our difficulties. As to the propriety of maintaining the proposed establishments, he could only say, that Government would be ready to substantiate their propositions, and to discuss the subject candidly.

Mr. TIERNEY dreaded the power of the Crown, supported by such an enormous establishment; he was alarmed for the danger that ultimately threatened the liberties and constitution of England.—[*Hear, hear!*]—He felt this alarm himself, and wished he had a voice to sound it from one end of the nation to the other.—[*Hear, hear!*]—The People should be warned of their situation—they should be advertised of the designs their Government had in view. The House would disgrace itself, if on such an occasion it did not demand a call of its members. (*Repeated cries of Hear! on the Opposition side.*) If ever there was a time when the Representatives of the People should be universally assembled to examine the measures of administration, and to declare to their constituents the dangers which threatened them, and the way in which they were to be averted, what had occurred last night pointed out this as the period. They should be assembled to oppose the measures in contemplation, and to decide upon the monstrous statement delivered by the Right Hon. Gentleman within the walls of this House. The Noble Lord opposite might smile at what he now said. He probably felt himself secure in his situation; he was confident in his overpowering majorities, and might anticipate no danger within doors. He (Mr. Tierney) trusted, however, that he would not see himself so secure in all quarters, and that an opposition would arise from without which would induce him to change his system. The People must be roused to attend to their own interests; they must be excited to take every constitutional method of resisting schemes which would not only empty the purses, but endanger the liberties, of the nation.—[*Hear, hear.*]—Had not the Noble Lord taken credit to himself for the result of his counsels? Had he not received the blue ribband exclusively for his great services on the Continent? And were we now to be told, that the only advantage the country could derive from them was to see their resources wasted, and their liberties endangered by a standing army, upon the pretence, that the state of Europe still rendered it necessary for us to maintain a formidable attitude?—[*Hear, hear.*]—When the question arose concerning the necessity of an establishment, he would ask what were the advantages secured to us by the Noble Lord's negotiations? When he (Lord Castlereagh) came forward with a proposition for maintaining a great army, he would ask, "what then is the use of your blue ribband? (*Loud cries of hear, and a laugh, on the Opposition benches.*) There was no such intimation with regard to the navy, on which this country had formerly been accustomed to rely for its protection and security.—What did this predilection portend? what intention did it point to on the part of the executive? He would not hesitate to say, that in his conscience he believed it was the object of his Majesty's Ministers to make us a military nation.—[*Loud cries of hear, hear!*]—He would not hesitate to say, that this great peace establishment was the commencement of the execution of a design entertained, to assimilate this nation to the great military powers on the Continent. This system, he believed in his conscience, was the one on which they were bound to act, if they wished to retain their places.—[*Hear, hear.*]—His Majesty's Ministers were bound to support the measure of a great standing army, by the very terms on which they held their office. They might use any freedom with the navy, but they had no power to reduce the army; they might pay off ten ships of the line sooner than disband one regiment of hussars.—[*Cries of hear.*]—The progress of this system might be traced for years in all our measures. Every day this propensity seemed to acquire strength. The proper defence of the country, which resided in our navy, was neglected for a more splendid and showy species of force. There was, he confessed, something peculiarly captivating to some persons in the array of a numerous army—in the spirit of the horses, the splendid equipments and rich dresses of the cavalry force, and in the brilliant appearance and regular evolutions of great masses of infantry, in all the pomp and parade of a review. He was not surprised, that a preference was given, when mere external decoration was concerned, to an officer of hussars, with his fur cap and whiskers, over a plain jolly sailor, who could neither boast of the splendour of his dress, nor the refinement of his manners. [*Hear, hear, hear! and a laugh.*] The Right Honourable Gentleman opposite (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) could last night keep a firm countenance while he spoke of our taxes and our distresses. He could talk as coolly of millions of pounds as others could do of hundreds. Nothing seemed to move him, in the statement which he gave, as either extraordinary or striking; but he (Mr. Tierney) could conceive nothing more unexpected and alarming. [*Hear, hear!*] The Right Hon. Gentleman had congratulated the House on the flourishing state of our finances, and had mentioned, as an evidence of this prosperous condition, that, instead of being obliged to make any loan this year, there would remain 14 millions arising from the Sinking Fund, to be applied to the support of public credit. There was one objection to this statement, which was sufficient to destroy the satisfaction which it might otherwise yield. The Right Hon. Gentleman had not disclosed the whole of our condition to the House, and therefore left an impression that this sum was *free* of all deductions. Last year there had been about 36 millions of a loan voted, and 12 millions of this still remained unpaid. This amount of 12 millions was to be placed opposite the 14 millions to which the Right Hon. Gentleman's speech referred, and would nearly neutralize his prosperous statement. He contended, that the Right Honourable Gentleman had not dealt fairly by the House in concealing from its view this unpaid balance of last year's loan, and asked what good would the throwing of fourteen millions into circulation produce, when twelve millions were to be taken out of it? What had we now got for the supplies of the year? What appeared to support our establishments, even upon the Right Hon. Gentleman's own showing? Why, there were three millions of surplus grants, and the House heard a great deal of congratulation on so fortunate a circumstance. He (Mr. Tierney) was not surprised at this piece of good fortune; he was rather surprised that the surplus was so small. The war did not last above two months, and there was great hurry manifested in refitting the navy. Instead of being so well satisfied with the surplus as to require no further explanation, he thought it ought to have been much greater, and wished to know what had become of it. It was for the Noble Lord to say why we should pay money to Russia for bringing more men into the field than we had bargained for. Considering our desperate situation, he would sound the alarm now; and he hoped that not a single Petition would be sent to the House, without containing a passage warning them against the dangers of expensive establishments. Ministers might count, as they always did, upon a majority; but he confidently believed that that majority would receive instructions from their constituents as soon as they were informed what was going on, and that they would deem it proper to obey them. As to the Property Tax, he would declare his firm opinion, that if the People would submit to bear half of it, they were fully entitled to be saddled with the whole. He would say again to Ministers, you must reduce your establishments to a proper peace establishment, which will be the only real earnest you can give the Public of your good intentions. Was the Noble Lord keeping in a state of preparation for war? Had he any suspicions that the peace in which he endeavoured to fix our confidence would be of short duration? The great armaments still supported by the Sovereigns in alliance with us seemed of evil augury, and showed that peace was established without the spirit of peace. Did they already entertain jealousies of one another? and might they not feel alarmed at the preparations of England? If a motion of a Right Honourable Friend of his (Mr. Brougham) had been agreed to, with regard to the production of a Treaty against Russia, we might have some data for determining the temper with which the Allies were animated.

Lord CASTLEREAGH said, averse, as he notorally was, to address the House on subjects purely financial, (and he was ready to admit, particularly so when he had to cope with the Right Honourable Gentleman, whose skill and knowledge of this nature were well known to the House,) he still, however, felt it to be his duty to offer some observations in reply to the reasonings and principles set forth in the Right Hon. Gentleman's speech. He was not a little surprised, indeed, to see the Right Hon. Gentleman do so much injustice to his own talents, and so surrender up his knowledge of principles, as to suppose for a moment that he had satisfied the House that the plan of finance suggested by his Right Hon. Friend, because it had discarded all idea of a new loan, was altogether unwise, and founded on a wrong basis. [Here Mr. Tierney assured the Noble Lord that he had never said any such thing.] He could wish that the Right Hon. Gentleman would rather reply to than interrupt him. What he had understood to have fallen from the Right Hon. Gentleman was, that he first objected to the renewal of the Property Tax, and then added, that twelve millions of the last loan were not yet taken up, which ought therefore to be considered as a loan to that amount for this year. The Right Honourable Gentleman wished to deny the Property Tax to the Crown.—Could he point out any other effectual means of sustaining the money market?—and, hardened as the Country was, was it not indispensable that that market should be sustained? Was there any other mode of pouring that influx of capital into the circulating system, by which alone relief could be given on individual security? The largest loan that ever was made took place last year, and because there remained ten or twelve millions of that loan to be paid up, was this an argument to authorise the Right Honourable Gentleman to attack and break down the whole system of taxation of the country, and endeavour to destroy the public confidence?—The Right Honourable Gentleman's arguments always bore that tincture of despondency which had pervaded them on almost every occasion for the last fifteen or sixteen years; but he was happy to say, that this ague of the Right Hon. Gentleman had not affected the tone or nerves of the country.—From the dangers so often described on the other side, the country was happily delivered, and he was sure that the Right Hon. Gent. rejoiced in being relieved from that alarm which had been the source of so many fallacious predictions. So long as public credit was supported, there was no reason to despair of the public resources. Every successive year would present resources of its own, so long as the spirit of the country remained unbroken, and public credit was secure. He trusted that the People would not be disheartened, therefore, by the gloomy prognostics of the Right Hon. Gentleman, now that we had surmounted our difficulties, and that all the great objects of our foreign policy had been accomplished. [*Hear, hear, from the Opposition benches.*] He hoped they would not rush upon their ruin, by giving up themselves to the delusion attempted by the Right Hon. Gentleman, nor hazard the dearest interests of the country in compliment to the speeches on the other side, when the reasoning employed by the Right Hon. Gent. himself on the subject of loans was an unanswerable argument in favour of continuing the property tax for some time longer. The Hon. and Learned Gentleman (Mr. Horner) had placed the question between them on a fairer and more liberal issue, in admitting that if it could be shown satisfactorily that the expenditure proposed was necessary, the property tax was necessary also. Upon this ground he was willing to join issue. It was true that the property tax was an evil in itself; and the same might be said of every species of taxation, when separated from all considerations of their necessity or application. But the question was—Was there any other mode, supposing (which he trusted he should be able to make out to the satisfaction of Parliament, when the proper period should arrive) that the proposed establishment was necessary, by which a sum of £6,000,000 could be raised so easily, and with so little oppression to the subject?—[*Hear, hear.*] He certainly thought the peace such as ought to create confidence in its continuance and stability; but he, for one, should never think the tranquillity of the world sufficiently established, till he saw every where a respect for civil institutions taking place of a military spirit, and the civil principle enthroned, as it were, paramount to the military views and policy of other states.—[*Hear.*]—To him the most alarming symptom of the times we lived in was, that out of the great efforts made by the confederacy of Europe against the thraldom with which they were menaced by one particular power, so general a military interest has been created, that it was impossible to consider Europe as perfectly tranquillized until those armies which had been put in motion shall have sunk to their natural level. He could not recommend it to the country to disarm altogether, whilst the Continent was still covered with camps and armies, or to leave itself without the possible resurrection of its strength, if it should suddenly become necessary. He must contend, that whatever advantages might in some respects attend our present situation from the reduction of the power of France, a continued jealousy was highly necessary, particularly when it was considered, that the French army was not extinguished, and that, although it had been disbanded, its component parts were still in existence. Upon all these points he was prepared to enter into the minutest detail, and felt as much anxiety as the Right Hon. Gent. for a full attendance of Members. He should make no opposition to the motion for a call of the House, should it be made within such time as not to interrupt the progress of parliamentary business. But when he listened to that sort of appeal to the Country by the Right Honourable Gentleman, and to his professed design of sounding an alarm to the Public (appeals common enough from him, and yet chiefly made when he felt himself destitute of all foundation in fair reasoning), he must express his hopes, that the Country would not be induced by such attempts to withdraw its confidence from a Government which had carried it through so many difficulties. Appeals, indeed, of this nature ought to be looked upon as forming part of the tactics on the other side, and, not being inconsistent with parliamentary practice, to constitute one of the regular modes of attacking an administration. He felt assured that the People of England would not, in their impatience to get rid of burdens which they had so nobly borne, put every thing to hazard, when every thing might be accomplished by continued constancy and firmness. He would venture to assert, that they did not desire relief from their burdens more than Ministers desired it for them, and that no opportunity would be neglected, or time lost, in carrying their disposition into effect. The Right Hon. Gentleman had had recourse to his usual custom of complaints against the influence of the Crown. This, when no other topic suggested itself on the opposite side of the House, was the ground always occupied. It was the citadel to which the Opposition retreated on desperate occasions, and in which they shot themselves up, as their forlorn hope. [*Hear, hear!*] But, with regard to military patronage, he did not think that those who know how admirably and impartially the affairs of the army were administered by the illustrious Personage at the head of that Department would be led away by any false insinuations. He felt certain, that whatever the course of objections might be that would be made on the other side, they would prove unsound, and he was sure that the Country would wait on this occasion, and bear the necessity that existed with the same patience and good will as it had displayed throughout the war. The good sense of the People would leave them tranquilly to wait till the subject had been amply discussed by their Representatives, without suspicion that Government would lend themselves to force any unnecessary establishment on the nation, which had so nobly sustained itself throughout the long, grand, and trying contest—and without assuming, gratuitously and unreasonably, that the Ministers of the Crown entertain any designs destructive of their interests, or hostile to the Constitution of the Country. [*Hear, hear, hear.*]

The Resolutions were then agreed to.

[Here followed a debate of considerable length, but producing only dry and uninteresting details, relative to the Bank of England. Mr. Grenfell moved for a Select Committee to inquire into the engagements subsisting between the Public and the Bank. The motion was negatived by 81 against 41. On the motion of Mr. Brougham, a Call of the House was fixed for Monday next, and it is to be rigorously enforced. In the Lords, some conversation took place relative to the order issued by the Government of France for the departure of Lord Kinnaird from that Country. Lord Liverpool, in reply to Lord Holland, said, that the British Government could not interfere, but that there was no charge whatever affecting Lord Kinnaird.—Here the matter dropped.

Waterford Chronicle.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20.

The London Journals of Thursday and Friday were due when we went to Press. Those of the two foregoing days were almost exclusively occupied with proceedings in Parliament, to which we have devoted nearly the whole of our space.

There is no foreign intelligence of any moment. The French Generals DROUET, LEFEBVRE DESNOUETTES, and GROUCHY, have been cited to appear before the tribunal appointed to try them.

The Three per Cent. English Consols were at 51⅛. Omnium was at 16½.

The Munster Mail Coach for Carrick, Clonmel, &c. will start hereafter, at the usual hour, from Mr. M'LEAN's, Hatter, on the Quay.

We have to apologize for the postponement of some articles of news, and of some Advertisements. We hope to be able on Thursday to attend to the communications of Poetical *Correspondents*.

The humane and benevolent Author of the following letter, while he has overvalued the feeble exertions which we have made at times on behalf of the Poor of this City, has left nothing for us to do upon the present occasion. He has supported his cause by the strongest arguments that can bear upon it, and with an energy of feeling which must go home to the heart. He may confidently expect, that his appeal will not be in vain. If the Institution for the Relief of the Sick Poor has experienced less of the countenance of the Female Sex than other Charitable Establishments, it is because their attention has not been peculiarly called to it's interests. Now, however, the misery, which at present so powerfully and so extensively prevails, will call forth their best and most ardent endeavours, and they will have the self-enjoyment of reflecting, that they have become the happy means of removing or alleviating much of the sufferings of their Fellow-Creatures:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WATERFORD CHRONICLE.

SIR—I request you will have the goodness to insert in your respectable and valuable Paper the following letter, for the length of which, and various other defects, I have only to plead the motive, and the nature of the subject. From your able and unremitted exertions in the cause of benevolence, it would appear invidious to solicit, what I may fairly anticipate, the aid of your talents upon such an occasion. I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

A FRIEND TO THE SICK POOR.

To the Ladies of the City and Neighbourhood of Waterford.

The propriety or rather the necessity of this appeal to your humanity has been suggested by the perusal of the "State of the Fund for the Relief of the Sick Poor," just published, by which it appears, that, in consequence of the increased number of objects, the fund is reduced to a very low state—and that but very few of your names appear in the List as Subscribers. The latter circumstance I attribute to your not being aware of the value or nature of this Institution, by which hundreds of our fellow-creatures are relieved weekly from the accumulated woes of sickness, cold, and hunger. Oh! my fair Countrywomen, had you visited, as I have, the habitations of those miserable objects, and beheld their sad condition—some shivering with cold, almost naked, sitting round the fire place, where no fire was to warm or cheer them—others lying, not on a bed, for that is out of the question, but on the cold, damp floor, without straw or covering—and all, in addition to these severe privations, suffering the pangs of sickness—your tender natures would be shocked—you would exclaim, that Human Nature could not endure such excessive misery—and all the sensibilities of your hearts, and energies of your minds, would be excited to relieve them. The fund admits of no more on an average than ten pence weekly to each Family, yet, scanty as this pittance is, it saves great numbers from perishing, and restores them to health and useful labour. But it is melancholy to relate, that many famish in the heart of your City, to whose wants this small relief is inadequate, whilst wealth and luxury appear around them, as if the Rich were under no obligation to relieve or alleviate the sufferings of the Poor, and were not accountable for the application of their abundance to Him who has given them all.

Under these circumstances, I presume to solicit your kind and benevolent support for the SICK POOR—brief, emphatic, comprehensive appellation, requiring no definition or explanation, and comprizing all that can attract compassion or demand relief. Recollect that, "blessed are they who provide for the sick and needy," (the persons for whom I supplicate,) and that "the Lord will deliver them in the time of trouble." Become subscribers to this invaluable Institution—the subscription is small—to you it is nothing—nay more, become its strenuous advocates. In this god-like character, you will be irresistible, with our sex especially—and, amiable as you are, you will appear superlatively so, in this work of benevolence, for which nature has so peculiarly formed you.

Permit me to submit to your consideration a plan that would produce incalculable benefit, without the least inconvenience. This City abounds with Card parties—various tables have their *pools*, producing considerable sums to the winners; but there is no *pool*, no Box, for the Poor! They are, alas! forgotten. I ask, with great respect, should this be so? and would not the enjoyments of the evening be rendered more sweet by *remembering them*, in obedience to the divine command? Now, if it were an established rule, that a certain poundage should be appropriated out of each pool, to the Relief of the Poor, a large fund would be created, which could not be regarded as a loss or expense to any individual, nor would any, it may be hoped, be so unfeeling as to object to it—and every Lady, at her own party, or at least the party, may fix the *poor's rate*, suppose 10d. or more in the pound. At Whist and other tables, where there are not pools, the same rate may be established to be paid out of each Game or Rubber won, and those who don't play, and are, therefore, exempt from the expense of Card money, it may be hoped will also contribute something to the general fund. Thus, those parties, which have been marked with the disapprobation of many grave and pious persons, as a waste of time and money, and tending to no useful purpose, will be vindicated, and become subservient to the noblest purposes of humanity and virtue. The Lady who shall commence the benevolent work will be entitled to pre-eminent praise, and her bright example will, I trust, be ardently imitated by you all. Reflect, how much is in your power, and the infinite blessings you can shed around you, without inconvenience or expense—and remember that "*from* those to whom much is given, much will be expected." Unite, then, I beseech you, in this charitable design, and you may rely, that it will be the most effectual means of securing the continuance of the prosperity you now enjoy, and of attaining eternal Happiness, promised at the final Judgment to those who have visited the Sick, clothed the Naked, and fed the Hungry. Even in this transitory life, your reward will be great—for each night, on retiring from the gay scene to your soft pillows, your walking & sleeping hours will be sweetened by those delightful sensations which the consciousness of benevolent actions never fails to inspire—but which all the pomp and luxury of this World cannot bestow.

I have the honour to be, Ladies,
Your most obedient Servant,
A FRIEND TO THE SICK POOR.

CATHOLIC PETITION.

We insert a Copy of the Petition agreed to at the Meeting at Lord Trimleston's, on Tuesday last, which we venture to say is correct: it was determined, as we are informed, that it should be entrusted to the Right Hon. Henry Grattan.—*Dublin Evening Post.*

THE HUMBLE PETITION
OF THE UNDERSIGNED
ROMAN CATHOLICS OF IRELAND,

"SHEWETH,

"That, whilst your Petitioners acknowledge with gratitude the many important relaxations of the Penal Laws, which have taken place during his Majesty's auspicious Reign, they still have to regret the continuance of many severe Disqualifications, and humbly submit, that the Repeal of the Laws by which they are inflicted would eminently tend to give stability to the existing form of Government and Constitution, by at once removing every ground for alienation, or apathy.

"That, in approaching this Honourable House, with a view to the Relief for which they pray, your Petitioners rest their claim to that Relief on the fact of their Religious Principles not being in their nature dangerous to the State, or to the continuance of the present form of Government, whether Civil or Ecclesiastical, and rely on the wisdom and equity of the Legislature as the source from which they desire to obtain a Repeal of the Laws which now affect them.

"That it is their anxious wish, that the great measure of Catholic Emancipation shall be carried into effect under such circumstances as will render it satisfactory and unobjectionable to all classes of his Majesty's Subjects; inasmuch as, in your Petitioners' estimation, the chief benefit to be derived from it is the union of Persons of different Religious Descriptions in the bonds of Concord and Amity, and the removal of all Jealousies and Apprehensions, which being accomplished, all will be naturally led to co-operate in zealous and uniform endeavours to promote the general Welfare.

"That, actuated with this impression, your Petitioners feel themselves in duty bound to state their readiness to submit and conform to any Regulations not incompatible with the Principles of their Religion, as they respect its Faith and Discipline, and not threatening danger to the purity and permanence of its exercise—and, whilst your Petitioners feel happy in stating, that they fully rely on the Liberality and Justice of the Legislature, as a pledge of its not entertaining a wish to impose any Arrangements thus incompatible, they feel equal satisfaction in the conviction, that Conciliatory Adjustments may be settled, fully satisfactory to the minds of his Majesty's Protestant Subjects, and yet perfectly consistent with your Petitioners' Principles, both of Faith and Discipline.

"That your Petitioners do not seek for any alteration in the Principles of the British Constitution, as now settled; for neither with regard to the maintenance of the Succession to the Crown (as limited by Act of Parliament) in his Majesty's Family, *being Protestants*, nor with regard to a sincere support of the Protestant Establishment in its Temporal Rights, as fixed by Law, do the Principles of the Roman Catholic Religion impose any obstacle, or impediment.

"That, with regard to the other leading features of the British Constitution, it is too well known, to need being now insisted on, that their origin is to be found at a period when Roman Catholic Princes and Roman Catholic Parliaments were entrusted with the Guardianship of the Public Interest of a Roman Catholic People.

"That your Petitioners, in the prosecution of the object which so naturally excites all their feelings, & occupies all their anxieties, earnestly desire, neither in act or expression to leave room for Jealousy on the Part of their Protestant Fellow Subjects. On the contrary, firmly attached to the Principles of the Constitution and to British Connection, your Petitioners show, that they wish to evince, by every part of their conduct, that, whilst they are solicitous to attain that station in the Constitution to which they feel it would be culpable not to aspire, they reject and reprobate all idea of Party Aggrandizement, and aspire solely to the common participation of Personal Privileges which will identify their interests and feelings with those of their Protestant Country men, and thus unite the entire Body of his Majesty's Subjects in constant and cordial co operation for the common benefit.

"Your Petitioners, therefore, contemplating the attainment of the general co operation, universal harmony, extinction of jealousy, and consequent benefit and improvement of the British Empire, humbly solicit this Honourable House to take into its consideration the State of the Laws now affecting his Majesty's Subjects professing the Roman Catholic Religion, with a view to the Repeal of all of them which do not relate to the Succession to the Crown, or to the continuance of the present Church Establishment.

"And your Petitioners will pray."

We have procured a copy of the Petition agreed on at the Meeting held at Lord Trimbleston's, on Tuesday last. It was resolved, that Mr. Grattan should be entrusted with the management of it. No other Resolution was entered into, except as to the steps to be taken for the purpose of procuring signatures.—*Carrick's Post.*

DEATHS.—On Thursday last, in this City, Mr. Patrick Carroll, aged 94.—On Saturday night, William Leonard, Esq. a Gentleman whose mild and unassuming manners, the amiableness of his disposition, and the integrity of his conduct, warmly endeared him to his relatives and friends.—At New York, Mr. William Davis, son of the late Mr. Samuel Davis, of this City.—At New Ross, County of Wexford, the Rev. John Cliffe, Vicar of Ballyleard, in the Diocess of Cork, highly esteemed as a husband, a father, and a friend.—On Sunday last, at the Mall, Mrs. Anne Clarke, wife of Mr. Wm. Clarke, sincerely regretted by her family and friends.

PORT NEWS—PASSAGE, FEB. 19.

ARRIVED,

16th—Earl Leicester Packet.

17th—Freeling Packet; Prince Edward, Row, St. Ives, herrings Cork

18th—Betty Brown, Rea, Wexford, live pigs, Liverpool; Hibernia, Thomas, Dublin, ballast; Aurora, Nicholls, ditto, ditto; James and Ann, Davis, Dublin, beef and linen, Cadiz; Commerce, Armstrong, Liverpool, coals.

SAILED,

16th—Mermaid, Bridges, Newhaven, bacon, butter, oats, &c.; Edward, Hewson, London, oats; Mansfield Packet

17th—Sarah Transport, Baker, Bristol, ballast; Prosperous, Mitchell, Southampton, butter, bacon, &c.; Margaret, Trevitt, London, ditto; Gower Packet.

18th—Richmond Revenue Cruiser; Hero, Allen, Liverpool, wheat and oats; Lovely Mary, Hodgson, Dublin, wheat; Anastatia, Evans, Drogheda, ditto; Joan, Cooke, Bristol, flour, bacon, and lard; John and Mary, Young, Bristol, oats and flour; Speedy, Hall, Plymouth, provisions; Sandwich Packet. 19th—Wind N. W. past 7 morning

SUBSCRIPTIONS
FOR
THE MONUMENT
TO THE
RIGHT REV. DOCTOR POWER,
Continue to be received at the BANK, *and at the* NEWSPAPER OFFICES *in this City.*
Waterford, February 20, 1816.

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF
THE HONOURABLE MRS. BOURKE.

THE Ladies and Gentlemen of Waterford and the Neighbourhood are respectfully informed, that there will be

A BALL AT THE NEW ROOMS,
FOR THE BENEFIT OF MRS. ALLEN,
On MONDAY, *the 26th February, instant.*

HARRY ALCOCK, Esq. Mayor,
PIERCE GEORGE BARRON, Esq. } *Stewards.*
WILLIAM SARGENT, Esq.

☞ The Honourable Mrs BOURKE has most kindly undertaken to patronize this Ball, which, it is hoped, will be generally attended

N. B. Tickets to be had of Mr BULL, Quay—of Miss ROBERTS—and of Mrs ALLEN, at the New Rooms. Waterford, Feb 20, 1816.

FRESH GARDEN SEEDS.

ARRIVED to Wm. POKE, per the *Aurora*, from London, a general Supply of GARDEN SEEDS, BIRD and FLOWER SEEDS, SPLIT PEAS, Spring VETCHES, &c &c. He daily expects, by the *Susannah*, from London, Red and White CLOVER and TREFOIL.

☞ TEA, as usual, and refined SUGAR, by the Loaf, at very reduced Prices for *ready money*.
Waterford, Feb. 20, 1816.

COAL FISH.

JUST ARRIVED, TO MATTHEW MURPHY, COOPER, GEORGE'S-STREET,
Per the CURLEW, *from* NEWFOUNDLAND,
ABOUT TWENTY TONS OF
PRIME COAL FISH,
Which he will dispose of on moderate Terms.
Waterford, Feb. 20, 1816.

SUGAR, &c.

CHARLES TROUTON
HAS RECEIVED, AND OFFERS FOR SALE,
22 *Hhds. SUGAR—of Good—Middling—and Brown Qualities,*
12 *Thousand W. O. Hhd. STAVES,*
5 *Casks Mull MADDER, and*
2 *Chests of INDIGO.*
HE HAS ALSO ON SALE,
PORT, CLARET, SHERRY, and TENERIFFE WINES (in Bottle)—Six Pipes of very superior BENECARLO WINE, in Wood—and a few Puncheons WHISKEY, of excellent Strength and Flavour.
Waterford, Feb. 20, 1816.

STAVES BY AUCTION.

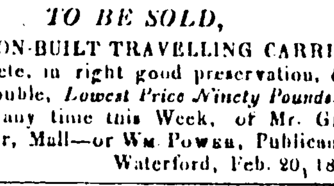
CHARLES TROUTON will offer for Sale by Auction, on THURSDAY, the 22d Instant, on the Scotch Quay, at the Hour of One o'Clock, 12 Thousand W. O. BARREL STAVES.
Waterford. Feb. 20, 1816.

TO BE SOLD,

A LONDON-BUILT TRAVELLING CARRIAGE, complete, in right good preservation, &c—To save Trouble, *Lowest Price Ninety Pounds.* Inquire, any time this Week, of Mr. GRANT, Coach Maker, Mall—or WM POWER, Publican.
Waterford, Feb. 20, 1816.

REAL FRENCH BRANDY.

FRANCIS CARIGAN respectfully informs his Friends and the Public, that he has in addition to his usual Stock of old MALT WHISKEY, a quantity of superior FRENCH BRANDY—also some FRENCH CIDER—all which he will sell on moderate Terms.
Broad street, Waterford, Feb. 17, 1816.



TO STAND AT NEW-ROSS,
At Five Guineas Blood Mares—Two & a Half Guineas others—5s. 5d. the Groom,

THE beautiful, high bred, CHESNUT HORSE RECORDON, got by *Remembrancer*; Dam, *Fair Charlotte*, by *Precipitate*; Grand Dam, *Everlasting*, by *Eclipse*. He covered in Season 1815. He is a sure Foal getter, and his Stock is uncommonly large and promising. He is 7 Years old. Won the Craven Stake at Newmarket, beating 16 others, and was reckoned as fast a Horse as any in England until he was injured

☞ GOOD GRASS provided, on the usual Terms. No Mare taken away until first paid for, the Groom being accountable.
Ross, February 14, 1816.

TO BAKERS.

THE GOVERNORS of the HOUSE of INDUSTRY are desirous of contracting for a regular and full supply of HOUSEHOLD BREAD. Application to the Regulating Committee, at the Board Room, on MONDAYS, at 12 o'clock. Payment once a Month.
Waterford. Feb 8, 1816.

TO BE LET,
FROM THE 25TH DAY OF MARCH NEXT,
FOR ONE YEAR,
TO OCCUPYING TENANTS,
THE LANDS OF ISLAND KEAN,
PART OF THE ESTATE OF
LORD VISCOUNT DONERAILE,
SITUATE NEAR THE TOWN OF TRAMORE,
IN THE FOLLOWING DIVISIONS, VIZ.

	A.	R.	[illegible]
No. 1, as now occupied by J. Phelan,	111	2	[illegible]
2, by Brett, &c.	123	3	1[illegible]
3, by Veal & Foran	129	1	7
4, known by the name of Caher,	101	2	16

☞ Mr. HILL will attend at the COMMERCIAL HOTEL, Waterford, on SATURDAY, the 24th of February instant, to declare the Tenants.
February 5, 1816.

TO BE SET,

THE HOUSE and CONCERNS late in possession of MATTHEW JACKSON, situated in Cook lane. Application to be made to WILLIAM BOLAN.
Waterford, January 23, 1816.

TOBACCO.

ARRIVED this day, per the *Ariel*, from Virginia, 154 Hhds. of TOBACCO, of the very best Quality, which will be immediately landed and offered for Sale by
JOHN ALLEN AND SONS.
Waterford, December 13, 1815.

P. M. AND PENROSE NEVINS
HAVE FOR SALE,
Prime Port Wine—Vintage 1812.
Benecarlos,
Teneriffe, and } *Wines,*
Bronte,
Jamaica Rum,
French Vinegar,
Cork Bark,
Russia Tallow,
Russia Mats,
Kelp,
Tar,
[illegible] Hops,
Bloom Raisins,
Sweet and Bitter Almonds,
French Prunes,
[illegible]
[illegible] *Skins,*
Scotch Herrings,
[illegible] *French Clover-Seed,*
[illegible] *Pipes,* } *Cider,*
[illegible]
[illegible] *Paper Stuff.*
Waterford, 1st Mo. 30, 1816.