



LAW INTELLIGENCE.

DEFAULTER IN THE COLLECTION OF THE PUBLIC TAXES.

CITY COMMISSION—JULY 11. Thomas Hunter, a Health Collector, stood indicted, for that he, being an Officer entrusted by the Chief Commissioners of Excise with the collection of the taxes arising to his Majesty in St. Peter's Parish, Dublin, for the year ending the 5th of January, 1816, did, knowingly, fraudulently, and unlawfully, furnish false statements and returns of the sums of money collected and received by him, as such Officer, knowingly, falsely, and fraudulently representing persons to be in arrears for taxes, whereas he before received the same, against Peace and Statute.

The Solicitor-General, on behalf of the Chief Commissioners of Excise (at whose instance this Prosecution had been carried on), stated the case. He said, that, in the month of May, 1815, the Traverser had been selected, by the Board of Excise, to collect the taxes of the first East Walk in the City of Dublin, comprising the Parish of St. Peter, which is of considerable extent, the annual collection whereof amounted to £27,000, as appeared from the Traverser's own returns, on the receipt of which he had a per centage allowed him, exclusive of salary; that, in March last, the Board having investigated the whole of the Health-money Department, deemed it necessary to place a Clerk Officer over the Traverser's Walk; and after describing the duties, books, &c. formed for bringing to charge the collection, he stated, that it was discovered that the Traverser had received, from divers inhabitants of the Walk, on account of taxes, sums amounting to upwards of £3000, which he did not bring to charge, but utterly suppressed the same in his accounts; that the Board had, for the purposes of this prosecution, selected, out of the many persons in arrears for taxes, the names of two persons, from whose evidence, and the evidence that would be adduced on the part of the Crown, from other sources, he had no doubt but that the Jury he addressed would return a verdict of guilty without hesitation.

Edward John Burke Fitzsimons, Esq. an Inspector of Taxes, was then examined. He proved that, while the Traverser was in the collection of the taxes of the first East Walk, witness was appointed to superintend the collection and inspect the Traverser's accounts; that, on the 5th of January last, witness received from the Traverser his Ledger, which contains the receipts of the taxes, and the out-standing arrears for the year ended that day; that Traverser had withheld his Cash Abstract Book, in which his daily receipts were written; that he examined the Ledger, and that the names, John Dumoulin, and Matthias Kelly, are returned in arrears for their taxes, for the year ending 3th January, 1816.

This witness underwent a long cross-examination by Peter Burrows, Esq.; but nothing material for the Traverser occurred.

William Fitzgerald, Esq. Inspector-General of Taxes, examined, proved the identity of the Ledger. Francis Dumoulin, Gent. examined.—Is son of Mr. John Dumoulin, of Stephen's-green; proved, that, by directions of his father, he, on the 22d of July, 1815, paid the Traverser, in his office, in Gutes-street, the sum of £20 14s. 4d. the duty payable by his father on eight nine-hearts and twenty-seven windows, and obtained Traverser's receipt, which he identified.

Matthias Kelly, Gent. examined.—Lives in Cuthes-street; proved that, on the 17th October, 1815, he paid the Traverser, in his office, in Cuthes-street, the sum of £15 3s. 4d. the duty payable by him on six fire-hearts and twenty-two windows, and obtained Traverser's receipt, which he identified.

Henry Hurst, examined.—Is Clerk to Mr. Fitzsimons; proved his delivering, in Traverser's lodgings, in Cuthes-street, by order of Mr. Fitzsimons, the Ledger and Cash Abstract Book; heard that the Ledger was afterwards returned, but not the Cash Abstract Book.

These last-mentioned witnesses were severally cross-examined; but nothing material appeared for the Traverser.

James Parkinson, examined. Proved the service of a notice on Traverser's Attorney, to produce the Cash Abstract Book.

Mr. Burrows, for Traverser, stated the case, which went to show, that, though the Traverser had omitted to give credit for the taxes received from Mr. Dumoulin and Mr. Kelly, in his Ledger, that such omission might have arisen through the hurry of business, and not with any fraudulent or unlawful intent to defraud the Crown.

Lake Connor, Esq. was then examined as to character, as was also William Norton, Esq. Prosecutor of Dublin City Excise, to the same effect; but Mr. Norton admitted, upon his cross-examination, that it was the duty of the Traverser to pay in all sums of money received by him, once in every fortnight, and previously to compare the entries in the Ledger with the Cash Abstract Book and Acquittances, and fairly bring all sums received by him to charge in his accounts, and which, in the two particular instances alluded to, appeared to him he had not done.

The case on both sides here closed.

Burton McCullagh charged the Jury, who, after retiring about half an hour, returned a verdict of Guilty.

Traverser sentenced to one year's imprisonment in the goal of Newgate.

THE SINKING FUND.

It is with great pleasure that we lay before our readers a paper which has been published in the Gazette, and which has since been printed by order of the House of Commons, and we think that it is a considerable advantage resulting from the arrangements respecting the Sinking Fund, adopted by Parliament in 1813, that they bring before the view of the Public, from time to time, so authentic, simple, and comprehensive an account of its operations.

CERTIFICATE AND DECLARATION OF THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE REDUCTION OF THE NATIONAL DEBT, of the Amount of Capital Stock purchased by or transferred to them, on account of the Public Funded Debt of Great Britain, up to the 14th June, 1816.—Part II. amount to 53 Geo. III. c. 53.

Table with columns: TOTAL Amount of the Public Fund, CAPITAL STOCK, NATIONAL DEBT, and various sub-totals. Includes a section for 'EXCESS Redeemed'.

In pursuance therefore of an Act of the 53d Geo. III. c. 35, intituled, 'An Act to alter and amend several Acts passed in his present Majesty's reign, relating to the redemption of the National Debt, and for making further provision in respect thereof,' we do hereby declare, that the several sums of capital stock, and the interest or yearly dividend thereon, purchased by or transferred to us, up to the 14th day of June, one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, inclusive, as aforesaid, exceed the capital stock and annual charge, in perpetual redemptible annuities of the said Public Funded Debt of Great Britain, created by sundry Acts prior to, and by an Act of the 33d Geo. III. c. 14, by twenty-four millions three hundred and eighty-one thousand five hundred and ninety-five pounds, two shillings and elevenpence farthing, capital stock; and by one thousand three hundred and ninety pounds, six shillings and fivepence, annual charge. Given under our hands this twenty-sixth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and sixteen. (Signed) CHARLES AMOR, N. VASSART, J. HULMES, J. HIGHAM, GEORGE DUMOUIN, Dep. Secy & Super. of Ann. George Dumoulin.

The above Paper presents a view of the state of our Public Debt, which cannot fail to be highly gratifying. It brings at once before us the progress of the redemption of debt from the period when the Sinking Fund was so wisely established, under the auspices of Mr. Pitt, in 1786, to the present time; and it shows, that, by the wisdom and firmness with which his plans have been executed and followed up by Parliament, under all his successors, a result has been obtained very far exceeding the utmost hopes of that able Minister. In thirty years, from 1786 to 1816, a debt has been redeemed of above £308,800,000 of capital stock, and of £9,369,000 annual interest. Not only has the operation of the Sinking Fund proceeded, without interruption, during the most arduous and expensive contest in which this Country ever was engaged; not only has it swept away the whole amount of debt existing when the Sinking Fund was established, in little more than half the time then contemplated by Mr. Pitt; but it has already, when the war is so recently closed, actually made a progress in the repayment of the debt contracted during the war itself. By Mr. Pitt's original plan, forty-five years were allowed for the redemption of the debt; but it appears that we are now redeeming a debt of only 21 years standing; the debt contracted during the first three years of the war, 1793, 4, and 5, has been wholly repaid, and we are now actually paying the debt of 1796, contracted only 20 years ago. When Mr. Pitt commenced his system, the debt contracted during the wars of King William and Queen Anne still remained unpaid, and the idea of repayment of public debt began to be considered visionary and chimerical. We have now afforded to this country, and to the world the practical proof of the fallacy of such opinions: we have shown that we possess the means of liquidating our debt as rapidly as can be desired for any wise or beneficial purpose; and we rely upon the

steadiness and wisdom of Parliament to carry on the great work so wisely undertaken, and pursued with so much fortitude and magnanimity amidst the most formidable difficulties.

ATTEMPT AT ROBBERY AND MURDER.

On Monday se'night, between three and four o'clock in the afternoon, a daring attempt at robbery and murder was made upon the wife of John Fletcher, an industrious labourer, living in a cottage near to Mr. Pryer's, of Reed's Farm, Writtle. Mrs. Fletcher, whilst sitting alone in her house on the above afternoon, her husband being employed in the fields, observed a strange man pass the back window which looked into her garden, and, suspecting his intentions, ran to the door for the purpose of fastening it, when the man forced it open, and gave her a violent blow with his fist, which nearly knocked her down; on recovering herself, a scuffle ensued, in which her gown was much torn by the villain in his endeavours to get at her pockets. Mrs. Fletcher, however, succeeded in pinning him by the leg between the door and the sill, where she held him a short time, expecting to receive assistance from work-out, as she knew there were several men at work within a few rods of the house, but in which she was unfortunately disappointed. The fellow then said, if she would let him in and give him a shilling, he would not hurt her; to which she objected, and called out 'Murder,' at the same time forcing her way out of the house with great resolution, to alarm the neighbourhood; and she was, however, overpowered, and inhumanly dragged to a corner of the garden, where the wretch stamped upon her body, and kicked her about the head in a most brutal manner; after which he thought it prudent to retreat, leaving his unfortunate victim weltering in her blood, and almost in a lifeless state. One of Mr. Pryer's men, on going into his master's yard, fortunately heard her groans, and immediately repaired to her assistance. Mr. Pryer, on hearing of the transaction, ordered the poor woman to be taken to his own house, where she at present remains in a very weakly state, receiving the kindest attention from the above Gentleman and his family; and we are happy to state, that she is now considered out of danger. Parties were immediately formed, and sent in different directions in search of the brutal villain, but at present he has escaped the vigilance of his pursuers. Mrs. Fletcher is able to wear to his person; and from the description she gives of him, no doubt remains of his being apprehended, as his person is so well known. Fletcher and his wife, it appears, live in a little cottage of their own, and from their industry had been enabled to collect together a few pounds, which, it is supposed, was the object in view; but meeting with such resolute and unexpected opposition from the wifer, the wretch was induced to commit the above outrage. *Writtleford Paper.*

Mr. Gurney, on the part of the Defendants, submitted to his Lordship, that this indictment would not lie, inasmuch as there was no proof of money being won or lost in this case. All the valuables which had passed in this case were the bank-notes handed over to the Prosecutor as the balance due on the large note, after £800 had been paid from him. To make the indictment apply to the bills of exchange, or to bank-notes, they should have been set forth and described in the record as valuable things, whereas nothing was set forth in the record except money, and in this case he should contend, that bank-notes were not money.

Lord Ellenborough said, he would save the point for future consideration. Mr. Gurney then addressed the Jury on the part of Bennett, and submitted, that there was no credible evidence to prove, that he was a party to the present action was brought. Captain Grimes, a Captain in the Artillery Dragoon, was then called. On the night of the 6th of Feb. 1815, or on the morning of the 7th, he went to the house in question, No. 77, in St. James's-street; a party was playing at hazard; the witness betted a little, and sometimes lost and won. The company dwindled away, and the witness was left with Bennett, Darley, and Reynolds; witness then, in playing with Bennett, lost about £200 in bank-notes and guineas. Witness had at this time two bills in his pocket, one for £123 and the other for £1201. After losing his money, he produced the lesser of his two bills, Bennett continued to throw till he had won almost the whole of the £123 bill; he then gave witness the debt-bill. Bennett and Reynolds then left the room, and witness saw his bill no more. Soon after, they came back again, and witness produced his large bill; Reynolds then took the box, and continued to throw against the large bill, and soon won £200 of it; he then gave witness £201, the difference. Witness delivered up the bill, which Reynolds gave to Darley, and Darley left the room with it; witness continued

COURT OF KING'S BENCH, LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 13.

The King vs. Bennett and others.

The Attorney-General stated, that this was an indictment against the Defendants, Bennett, Reynolds, and Hill Darley, brought upon the statute of the 9th of Ann. the statute against gaming, and charging them with having won from the Prosecutor an officer in the army, a sum of money amounting to more than £13 at one sitting. The Prosecutor in this case was a gentleman belonging to the army, and having just returned from the Continent, he had, on the 6th of February last, been dining with some friends in the city, where he had drunk freely, and, on his return, unfortunately went into a house, which, to distinguish it from others less notorious, and to give it prominence, was called Hell. At this time, several persons were there playing at hazard. At length, they withdrew, and the Prosecutor was left with the Defendants, where they continued to play till the Prosecutor had lost two bills of exchange amounting to upwards of £1300, and also upwards of £80 which he had in his pocket, in bank-notes and guineas. The game continued till late in the morning of the 7th of February, when the Prosecutor, having been stripped of all his money, went away; and soon after, having consulted a friend on the subject, immediate application was made at the banker's where the bills were made payable to stop payment; but the Defendants had been beforehand with him, and had already got cash for them. Under these circumstances it was that the present action was brought.

Mr. Gurney then addressed the Jury on the part of Bennett, and submitted, that there was no credible evidence to prove, that he was a party to the present action was brought. Captain Grimes, a Captain in the Artillery Dragoon, was then called. On the night of the 6th of Feb. 1815, or on the morning of the 7th, he went to the house in question, No. 77, in St. James's-street; a party was playing at hazard; the witness betted a little, and sometimes lost and won. The company dwindled away, and the witness was left with Bennett, Darley, and Reynolds; witness then, in playing with Bennett, lost about £200 in bank-notes and guineas. Witness had at this time two bills in his pocket, one for £123 and the other for £1201. After losing his money, he produced the lesser of his two bills, Bennett continued to throw till he had won almost the whole of the £123 bill; he then gave witness the debt-bill. Bennett and Reynolds then left the room, and witness saw his bill no more. Soon after, they came back again, and witness produced his large bill; Reynolds then took the box, and continued to throw against the large bill, and soon won £200 of it; he then gave witness £201, the difference. Witness delivered up the bill, which Reynolds gave to Darley, and Darley left the room with it; witness continued

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The Waterford Chronicle.

The London Journals of Tuesday were the when we went to Press. Some of the two foregoing days conveyed some intelligence of interest, but none of importance, or such as calls for particular notice in this place. The expedition against the Barbary States is calculated to excite considerable attention. With the recent exception of the interruption of America, a long period has elapsed, since these com-

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In this quarter of the country, Wednesday last was remarkable for the severity of the winds and the heaviness of the rain. For the first part of the day, the wind blew from the south-east; a few minutes before three o'clock, it instantaneously changed to north-west, and greatly increased in violence, accompanied with a coldness of the atmosphere, wholly unusual at this season of the year. We lament to state, that, on the same day, a sail boat upset near Passage, and that a fine and promising young man, of the name of Murray, from Dunmore, perished on the occasion. His body has since been found.

We have also with regret to state the death of a man of the name of Fyne, one of the Wicklow Miners, employed in the works at Dunmore. A projecting piece of earth fell upon him, by which he was so injured as to survive only a short time. Medical aid was speedily procured, but unfortunately in vain, and it is apprehended, that he had received some internal bruise, which deprived him of life.

A meeting of friends to the establishment of a Bank for Savings took place at the New Rooms on Thursday, 9th Inst. Esq. Deputy Mayor, in the Chair. It was intended to have proceeded to the nomination of the proper Officers, but circumstances rendered an adjournment expedient. Mr. Denis has summoned a meeting for Tuesday next, and it is to be hoped, that the call will experience that attention which the importance of the measure so evidently and so forcibly deserves. On Tuesday, we shall resume the subject, but we think it to be our duty to take this notice of it at present, in order that the supporters of such an Establishment—and we know of none who can be its opponents—may so arrange their business as to be able to give their attendance upon the occasion. Multitudes look up to the higher order of the Citizens of Waterford for the immediate means of devoting the savings of their labours to a productive use, and it cannot be, that expectations so conducive to morals, so salutary to the good order and peace of society, and so intimately connected with the domestic happiness of numbers of individuals, shall be disappointed.

The inclemency of the weather obliged the Race Performances of Desborough to postpone their entertainments. Richard the Third, and the truly interesting Fable of Lake Mearns, will be performed on Monday, the 22d inst. and a large and fashionable assembly is expected on the occasion. Performance will begin at one o'clock in the day.

We (Magd. Constitution) have much pleasure in directing the attention of the Public to Mr. Brown's Letter, respecting the late decision in the Court of Chancery, in the matter of Lord Fitzroy and Co. We do not presume to question or to complain of the Lord Chancellor's decision (which we are persuaded, was contrary to his jurisdiction); but we lament sincerely, that law and precedent should have compelled his Lordship to pronounce it. It may however remain that it can be reversed by legislative interference, the experiment cannot be more properly made, than by the Right Hon. Gentleman who declares his intention of taking up the matter, whose improved and consistent are sufficient to more than the amount of £10000 by the failure of the Team Bank.

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A meeting of friends to the establishment of a Bank for Savings took place at the New Rooms on Thursday, 9th Inst. Esq. Deputy Mayor, in the Chair. It was intended to have proceeded to the nomination of the proper Officers, but circumstances rendered an adjournment expedient. Mr. Denis has summoned a meeting for Tuesday next, and it is to be hoped, that the call will experience that attention which the importance of the measure so evidently and so forcibly deserves. On Tuesday, we shall resume the subject, but we think it to be our duty to take this notice of it at present, in order that the supporters of such an Establishment—and we know of none who can be its opponents—may so arrange their business as to be able to give their attendance upon the occasion. Multitudes look up to the higher order of the Citizens of Waterford for the immediate means of devoting the savings of their labours to a productive use, and it cannot be, that expectations so conducive to morals, so salutary to the good order and peace of society, and so intimately connected with the domestic happiness of numbers of individuals, shall be disappointed.

The inclemency of the weather obliged the Race Performances of Desborough to postpone their entertainments. Richard the Third, and the truly interesting Fable of Lake Mearns, will be performed on Monday, the 22d inst. and a large and fashionable assembly is expected on the occasion. Performance will begin at one o'clock in the day.

plunderers have felt the strength of any Foreign Power. They are now, however, about to experience the energy of a British force, and the result can hardly be questioned. The views of Government with respect to them are not known, but it is to be presumed, that they are consistent with insulted dignity, and with the violated rights of humanity. Lord Exmouth (Sir Edward Pellew) has found, that Treaties are with them nothing, and he will take care to render the arm of injustice feeble in time to come. His first object will, probably, be, to destroy the low batteries which cover the sea approaches to the fortified holds of the Pirates, and then to pursue such a course as circumstances may justify. As yet, there appears to be no preparation for carrying on the war by land, but measures for that purpose may, perhaps, have been adopted. The interests of the whole civilized world are involved in the issue of this armament, and no Power is so competent as Britain to secure mankind from such abominable aggressions.

The war in India promises to be a very important character. Great preparations are making upon both sides, and the British force which is to enter the Nepal Country is said to be on a very extended scale.

Additional particulars, and some of them of considerable interest, relative to Captain Grant and his Lieutenant, will be found in another part of our paper. The watches of Mr. Sturges and Mr. Hayes have been found in the possession of the Captain, together with the hat of the latter, with his name written at full length. Grant has been heard facetiously to say, that it is his intention to leave Mayborough Gaol before the Assizes. Centinels attend him night and day in his abode.

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We (Magd. Constitution) have much pleasure in directing the attention of the Public to Mr. Brown's Letter, respecting the late decision in the Court of Chancery, in the matter of Lord Fitzroy and Co. We do not presume to question or to complain of the Lord Chancellor's decision (which we are persuaded, was contrary to his jurisdiction); but we lament sincerely, that law and precedent should have compelled his Lordship to pronounce it. It may however remain that it can be reversed by legislative interference, the experiment cannot be more properly made, than by the Right Hon. Gentleman who declares his intention of taking up the matter, whose improved and consistent are sufficient to more than the amount of £10000 by the failure of the Team Bank.

Mr. Gurney then addressed the Jury on the part of Bennett, and submitted, that there was no credible evidence to prove, that he was a party to the present action was brought. Captain Grimes, a Captain in the Artillery Dragoon, was then called. On the night of the 6th of Feb. 1815, or on the morning of the 7th, he went to the house in question, No. 77, in St. James's-street; a party was playing at hazard; the witness betted a little, and sometimes lost and won. The company dwindled away, and the witness was left with Bennett, Darley, and Reynolds; witness then, in playing with Bennett, lost about £200 in bank-notes and guineas. Witness had at this time two bills in his pocket, one for £123 and the other for £1201. After losing his money, he produced the lesser of his two bills, Bennett continued to throw till he had won almost the whole of the £123 bill; he then gave witness the debt-bill. Bennett and Reynolds then left the room, and witness saw his bill no more. Soon after, they came back again, and witness produced his large bill; Reynolds then took the box, and continued to throw against the large bill, and soon won £200 of it; he then gave witness £201, the difference. Witness delivered up the bill, which Reynolds gave to Darley, and Darley left the room with it; witness continued

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