another of the name of Weston. The point which he (Mr. Plunkett) relied on, and which he now submitted to the Court, was, that the admission of an Officer of the Court was a judicial act of the Court, judging of the fitness, and capacity, and legality of the appointment. In further confirmation of this, he begged leave to refer their Lordships to Cavendish's Case, reported in Saunderson, p. 152, where the Justices of the Common Pleas refused to admit the person appointed by the Crown, "because," they said, "it was void; inasmuch as making out the Writ belonged to the Prothonotary of the Court," &c. &c. &c. and they therefore rejected the Appointee of the Crown. The Justices in that Case had the want of gallantry to refuse the application of a Lady, although made in her *wonted meekness* and *mildness*; because, they said, they were bound to impartially administer the Laws on their oaths. This was in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

He (Mr. Plunkett) affirmed, that, according to this doctrine, and to these precedents, the uniform course of the Court had been, that in every Case where it was considered that the Right of the Crown was wrongfully withheld by the Appointee of a superior Court of Justice, the course hitherto had been to try the right by the nomination of a person on part of the Crown, the trial of which was, in the first instance, submitted to the Court itself; and he would fearlessly take upon him to assert, that the present *prerogative* proceeding, as it was called, was without precedent, and that from the earliest establishment of our Laws---from the first creation of Courts of Justice to the present day---before the Revolution, and since the Revolution---a precedent could not be cited where the act of the Judges of a superior Court of Justice had thus, in the first instance, been questioned by a high prerogative proceeding in the nature of a Writ of "*Quo Warranto*," at the Bar of another Court, thereby treating the King's Judges of equal rank as USURPERS, and for what?---for exercising what they were well warranted in conceiving to be their legal right of appointment.

He did feel it even here to be his duty to press his Friend the Attorney-General to abandon a proceeding so *unprecedented*, so *mischievous*, and so *unconstitutional*, for, on all these grounds, he (Mr. Plunkett) felt it to be his duty to arraign it. If it be said that this mode of illegal proceeding was to prevent the Court of Exchequer from deciding on its own appointment, he (Mr. Plunkett) would reply, that the Law, to prevent the clashing of jurisdictions, had so determined it; and further, that it was not in the power of the Crown, or of the Officers of the Crown, thus to defeat the right of the Court of Exchequer, and, in the plenitude of their power, to say, "we shall resort, in the first instance, to an *Ex-Officio* Information, and oust that Court of the jurisdiction to which it is by law entitled.

Their Lordships would perceive, that if, on the Trial of an Action, brought in the Court of Exchequer, by the Appointee of the Crown, against the Nominee of the Court, any thing should be done amiss, and that the Judges should decide against the right of the Crown, their decision would be set right, and their judgment corrected, by an appeal to the legal and competent tribunal. Let the mode and propriety of this prerogative proceeding be tried by this test---(this is an *Ex-Officio* Information)---suppose an application were made to this Court on an affidavit, stating all the facts, *for liberty to file* a criminal information, their Lordships must and would be bound to refuse it, and for this unanswerable reason, because no Court of Justice could institute any original inquiry to question the acts of another Court of Justice of co-ordinate jurisdiction.

It now remained to him (Mr. Plunkett) to shew, that in no form or manner did the Court of King's Bench ever exercise an appellate jurisdiction from the Court of Exchequer. In confirmation of this, he referred their Lordships to the 4th Inst. 71, 105, 106, and 461, to shew that the Crown could not give it. Then, what he would beseech their Lordships to consider was, the effect to be produced by this information. It was an attempt, by an act of the Crown Officers, to oust the Court of Exchequer, by summary process, in a manner which the Crown itself could not do, even in the way of appeal. He would ask the Court, was a party to be brought before the King's Bench by Criminal Information, and branded as an usurper, because he acts under the authority of a competent Court of exclusive jurisdiction? He would ask what authority the Court of King's Bench had to punish an Officer of the Court of Exchequer for the performance of his official act, more than the Exchequer had to interfere with the Officer of the King's Bench.---He had further to complain of this novel proceeding, as being most vexatious to the Party, *and of no possible advantage to the Public*; it is transferring him by a species of pleading which deprives him of the right of pleading double. If he be defeated, he is liable to the payment of costs to the Crown; if he succeeds against the Crown, he cannot recover costs. The proceeding was altogether so grievously severe and penal, that, unless the office was really usurped by some person without title, it should not have been resorted to. If the Attorney-General seriously considered the Defendant an usurper on the right of the Crown, it was his duty to examine into his claims to the office, and, if he had taken the trouble to inquire, he would have found the Defendant's appointment was by the Chief Baron, and ratified by the entire Court.

He (Mr. Plunkett) thought it right to state, in justice to the Chief Baron, that, immediately after granting the appointment, he waited on the Lord Lieutenant, and told him that he had made a grant of the office in question to his Brother.---In doing so, he thought he had performed a duty he owed to his successors and to himself, and he then expressed it to be his wish to submit the question of the right of appointment to his Majesty's Law Officers, and said he would willingly abide by their decision. When he (Mr. Plunkett) stated, that this proposition was not attended to, he did not mean to convey the slightest imputation on the conduct of Lord Whitworth, for whose public and private character he entertained the highest regard.

He (Mr. Plunkett) again said, that this proceeding was most vexatious, because, if Judgment of *Ouster* be pronounced against the Defendant, there could not be Judgment for the King in order to put him into possession, for he cannot exercise the office himself. To sustain this, he referred the Court to a Case reported in Croke James, p. 259, 260, and to the Case of Woodhouse and Twyford, Lilly's Entries, page 6.---He then cited an Act of the last Session of Parliament, which appeared to him to have been made for the purpose of trying the right to this office. The Act recites, that "Whereas a Suit has been instituted, and other Suits may be instituted, respecting the right," &c. &c. &c. He begged leave to ask, if those Suits were to be instituted, in what Court would they be tried? Was there a man in the community, possessing a legal mind, that would not answer, that they could only be tried in the Court of Exchequer?---He feared those proceedings could be productive of no other effect than to bring into disgrace the prerogative of the Crown, by sending into public what he considered revolutionary and jacobinical doctrines. He was satisfied, if those shameful consequences had occurred to the mind of his Learned Friend, the Attorney-General, that upright Officer never would have thus committed his high character in the prosecution of *such a Suit* as this was.

He (Mr. Plunkett) feeling the irresistible weight of the Constitutional Authorities he had cited, did most earnestly advise the Chief Baron to enter a Remanet on this Record, until the twelve Judges of Ireland had given their opinion on the question. But the Chief Baron declined to impede the progress of the Crown Counsel in their Prosecution---and he (Mr. Plunkett) felt he would not have faithfully discharged his duty to his Client or his Country, had he suffered such an unconstitutional proceeding, which directly led to the clashing of the jurisdiction of the several Courts, to pass without animadversion.

He (Mr. Plunkett) would now call the attention of the Court and the Jury to the argument of the Attorney-General, as it applied to the three issues before them.

[He here stated the several issues.]

He considered those three issues (formerly published) were essentially connected with each other: and, in order to have a proper decision on the question, it would be necessary, in the first instance, to dispose of the first issue. This was the course adopted on the part of the Crown.

If he understood the argument of the Attorney-General, it was this---that, if the Chief Baron had the right of appointment to the office of the Clerkship of the Common Pleas, he had derived his title either from a grant by the Crown, from the original constitution of the Court, from prescription, or by Act of Parliament; and although such right were vested in the Court, it could not be legally transferred to the Chief Baron. This comprised the entire of the argument, and applied generally to all the issues. The words which had been used in denying the right of the Chief Baron were evasive and ambiguous; because it was said, it must have been vested in the Court, by the original constitution of the Court, &c. &c.---What was meant by the original constitution of the Court, he did not rightly understand; but if it was some positive institution of the Court, as distinct from the rules of the Common Law, he directly denied the position. It was very remarkable, that, in the whole course of the Attorney-General's argument, either from inadvertency, or forgetfulness, or fallacy, he never once ventured to mention the name of the Common Law, or intimated to the Court and the Jury that there existed such a thing as the Common Law of the Land. But it was not surprising, that, in a case where his Learned Friend knew he must fall foul of Lord Coke & Lord Holt, that he should omit to mention the Common Law. It answered his proceeding better, to dress out the rights he contended for in the more favourite phrase of the original constitution of the Court. There was this difference between the two modes of expression; according to one it was necessary to shew, that by the Common Law the right was vested in the Crown; whereas, by the other, the right might be vested in opposition to the principles of the Common Law in a Court originally established to-morrow. In an argument of this nature, he did not expect to find the principles of the Common Law treated, not only with contempt, but in argument utterly abandoned. What was the nature of the Common Law? It was made for the protection of the lives and liberties of the subjects of the Crown. It was not created by Act of Parliament, but had existed in this country from the 12th year of the reign of King John. Its history and its advantages were perfectly familiar to the Gentlemen of the Jury. He would now refer to one of the pages of the Common Law, in order to discover how far it applied to the case in argument. He alluded to Lord Coke's Comment on the Statute of Westminster, the 2d, the 13th of Edward I. ch. 30. The words were---

[Here Mr. Plunkett read several passages from 2d Inst. page 425.]

The principle he would endeavour to establish, and which flowed directly from this authority, was, that, by the Common Law of the Land, wherever a Court of Justice existed, either the Judges of that Court, or the Chief of it, must have the power of appointment of the Officers who enrol its records and proceedings. The Attorney-General, when reading Coke's Comment, could not refrain from laughter; he appeared to be reading some passages from a very laughable comedy or farce; but his (Mr. Plunkett's) mind was so differently constructed from that of his Learned Friend's (one of the characteristics of which consisted in humour and ridicule), that he could not find out Lord Coke's joke, although he had closely applied his mind to discover what was comical or absurd in the passage. But he did find out what was the Common Law and common feelings of ancient times from one of the greatest sages of antiquity, who felt a reverence for the Laws and for the integrity of the Judges by whom they were administered.

But they were now come to the times of JACOBINISM, in which it was supposed, by modern sages, that if the Judges were vested with those powers which neither the Common Law nor Statute Law had ever taken from them, they would, it is feared, abuse them, by the appointment of their near connexions to the offices of their Courts. Those were not the feelings of Lord Coke, who proved his integrity and consistency in bad times. He, too, had seen bad times---*bad times may come again!*

The second reason assigned by Lord Coke was this:

"The Officers and Clerks are but to enter, enrol, or effect that which the Justices do adjudge, award, or order, the insufficient doing whereof maketh the proceeding of the Justices erroneous, than which nothing can be more dishonourable or grievous to the Justices, and prejudicial to the party; therefore, as here it appeareth, *did appropriate to the Justices the making of their own Clerks and Officers*, and so to proceed by their own instruments---*and that this was the Common Law.* The King cannot grant the Office of the Shire or County Clerk (who is to enter all Judgments in the Court), for that the making of the Shire Clerk belongeth to the Sheriff by the Common Law, as in Mitton's case---*Et sic de Ceteris.*"

If (continued Mr. Plunkett) a *century* had been employed in considering and stating, in *constitutional* language, the reasons on which those Common Law principles had vested in the Judges the exclusive right of appointing their own Officers, they could not have been better or more appropriately expressed. Is it the language of the Law, or does it demonstrate the principles of the Constitution? The Judges are most interested in carrying into effect the right of the parties. They are most interested for their characters, in seeing that the execution of their own judgments be properly enrolled by "their own instruments."---Next, they are deeply interested in the rights of the Suitors, and it is a novel assumption to say, that the Attorney-General and Criminal Informations are to protect the privileges of the Judges, and the rights of the Subject. From the moment Courts of Justice were created, from that instant those rights and privileges devolve upon the Judges; but now, for an old woman's reason, not for Lord Coke's, we are told that they are not to be trusted---that they are not the proper Judges of the conduct of their own Officers---and the Judges of the Court of Exchequer *in Ireland* are, by a high prerogative proceeding, to be called to answer for their judicial acts at the Bar of another Court. Such a proceeding is monstrous, is alarming, and unconstitutional---it must, in the first instance, *be manfully met and put down.*

[Here Mr. Plunkett cited Mitton's case, and also the case of Popham and Anderson, from Dier's Reports, to shew that the principle on which they were decided against the Crown bore a strong analogy to the present case. The principle, said he, to be collected from these Authorities was this, that although the King might have the absolute appointment of the Judges that constituted the Court, yet, having appointed the Court, the Judges had from thence the appointment of their own Officers. In the case of Harcourt and Fox, reported in 1st Showen, 539, this doctrine and those Common Law principles were still more strongly exemplified. The King might, by virtue of his prerogative, appoint any one of the Judges whom he pleased to be *Custos Rotulorum*, but from the moment of his appointment, then, by necessary consequence, the Common Law principle attached, and gave to him exclusively the right of appointment of the Clerk of the Pleas.]

For the promulgation of the principles of the Common Law, and for his integrity in administering Justice, by their light, Lord Coke, the most distinguished man in legal history, fell a victim to the tyranny and bigotry of James the Second; but after the Revolution, this great Vindicator of Civil Liberty was elevated to a situation which he adorned by his talents, his learning and integrity. It was a *flippant* way to speak of his comment on the Statute of Westminster, by saying, "it was a Case of his own," "a Case of that time."

[Here Mr. Plunkett read Lord Holt's Judgment in the Case of Harcourt and Fox, and most ably contended that the principles admitted in that Case should govern the Case in argument. He also cited and observed on the Case of Scroggs and another, Dier, p. 175, and Mitchel and Moore, Coke's Rep. 842. From the principles recognised by the Court in all those Cases, there were conclusive grounds to establish the Common Law Right of the Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer to the appointment of Mr. Walter O'Grady to the office of the Clerk of the Pleas; and he concluded his first day's argument by informing the Gentlemen of the Jury, that, by the uniform usage in England, the Crown had no right to appoint, nor did not at this hour appoint, the Clerks to similar offices in either the Court of King's Bench, or Common Pleas, or Exchequer. It was the value of the thing that rendered it so interesting in this Country.]

[However highly we admire the unequalled talents of Mr. Plunkett, the limits of our Paper will not permit us to publish, in this day's Number, his second day's argument, which, according to our humble judgment, was the finest specimen of forensic eloquence and logical reasoning that was ever delivered in any of our Courts of Justice.]

The following is the substance of the Evidence on part of the Defendant:

William Robert Steel, James Hardiman, and Henry Harding, Officers of the Court of Exchequer, were severally examined to prove certain Records, and the custom and usage of the Court of Exchequer.---It appeared from their evidence, that, by Patents and Grants from the Crown, several officers had been appointed in the first year of the reign of Edward the Second---that in that year an Officer called Second Ingrosser of the Exchequer was nominated by Patent---and in the same year there was mention made of the Usher of the Exchequer, who, it appeared on record, acknowledged to have received six shillings from the Sheriff of Dublin, for discharging the duties of his office.

In the same year a grant was made by the Crown to Alexander De Pickner, Treasurer of the Exchequer. It appeared there were Records of Grants from the Crown for several years anterior to the year 1403.

[The use the Defendant made of this species of evidence, was to shew the appointment of officers, by the Crown, in and before the year 1403, and that until 1403 no Grants from the Crown, of the office of Clerk of the Pleas, appeared on record---and hence, that the Crown did not exercise the right of appointment to said office from the time stated in the Replication, viz---"from the time whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary."]

James Cathrew, Secondary of the Court of Exchequer, was next examined.

This Witness proved, that the Records of the Court were signed by the Chief Baron when in Dublin, and, in his absence, by the next senior Baron---that Writs of Error were allowed by the Chief Baron, and it was the course of the Court for the Chief Baron to sign the ALLOCATUR, &c. &c. &c.

All Writs to satisfy Judgment, Cognovits, &c. &c. &c. were signed by the Chief Baron---The Chief Baron appointed the moral Examinator, who was an Officer of the Court---all proceedings in such cases between party and party were filed in the Office of Common Pleas in this Court.

[The appointment of the Defendant by the Chief Baron to the office of Clerk of the Pleas was admitted by the Counsel for the Crown.]

Mr. Boucher was the next Witness examined.

He produced the great roll of oaths, and read the oath taken by the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Sir James Galbraith was next examined.

Proved that he was Clerk of the Court of Errors in the Court of Exchequer Chamber, and that all Writs in this Court were allowed by the Chief Baron---the Writs were directed to the Treasurer and Barons, &c. &c.---he never heard of the Treasurer signing any Writs---the late Lord Kilwarden had expressed great dissatisfaction at his (Sir James's) appointment by patent from the Crown.

The Hon. Baron George was next examined.

Witness was in the twenty-third year of his being a Baron of the Exchequer. He was acquainted with the usage and course of the Court during the time Lord Avonmore presided as Chief Baron; he never knew nor heard that the appointment of any of the Officers of the Court was vested in any of the puisne Barons---the course of the Court was, for the Chief Baron to appoint his Officers. He was sitting in the Court of Exchequer when the present Clerk of the Pleas was sworn into office---the Chief Baron & Baron M'Clelland were also present. They were in the Chamber when the Chief Baron executed the Deed of Appointment, and were in Court when the person so appointed took the oaths---the Deed of Appointment was handed up to the Court, and, with the assent of the Judges, the oaths were administered to him, and he took his seat as Clerk of the Common Pleas accordingly. The form of swearing and admission he most undoubtedly considered to be according to the usage and course of the Court. He considered the Crier as one of the Officers of the Court: he is always appointed by the Chief Baron---he considered it to be the office and duty of the Chief Baron to sign the Records of the Court; and in his absence it devolved to the next senior Baron---there was no such Officer at present as Treasurer; no such Office was in existence for the last twenty years.

[N.B. It appeared, from the evidence of Henry Harding, that from the month of May, 17[illegible], to 1783, the Criers of the Court were appointed by the Chief Barons.---(*To be continued.*)

WATERFORD:
Printed and Published by the Proprietor, ARTHUR BIRNIE, Bookseller and Stationer, Quay.

Ramsey's Waterford Chronicle.

No. 12,001. *THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1816.* *PRICE FIVE PENCE.*

TO BE LET,
FOR A TERM OF YEARS,
From the 25th of March next,

THE LANDS of KILCOHAN, as lately possessed by THOMAS FLAHAVAN, adjoining the Mile-Stone on the Tramore Road, containing 23A. 0R. 24P.—and a FIELD at GRANGE-ROCK, opposite Mr. FREESTON'S, containing 1A. 3R. 19P.

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Waterford, Dec. 2, 1816.

In the Matter of PATRICK CUDDIHY, of New Ross, Dublin, and London, *a Bankrupt.*

NOTICE is hereby given to all Parties owing Money to, or holding Property or Securities belonging to the Estate of the said PATRICK CUDDIHY, nor to pay or hand over any such Money, Property, or Securities, to any Person or Persons but the ASSIGNEES of said Bankrupt, or to such Person or Persons as may by them be duly authorized and empowered to receive the same.—London, 26th November, 1816

J. CUFFE,
Provisional Assignee.

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WILL SELL BY AUCTION,
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84 Pockets, }
8 Bags, } *of Prime, New, Kent HOPS.*

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Southey's Roderick.
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Elliott's Life of Wellington.
Johnson's History of Highwaymen, &c.
Rocca's Memoirs of the War of the French in Spain.
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Dean Kirwan's Do.
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Solomon's Balm of Gilead, Anti-Impetigines, Detergent Ointment, and Abstergent Lotion.
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ACCOUNT BOOKS of all kinds, of a superior Manufacture, at the lowest Prices.

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WATERFORD MARKET PRICES—DEC. 4.

	s.	d.	s.	d.	
Butter, first quality,	87	0	00	0	per Cwt.
—— second,	00	0	00	0	
—— third,	00	0	00	0	
Tallow, rendered,	00	0	00	0	
Lard, flake,	00	0	00	0	
—— casks, rendered,	45	0	48	0	
Pigs, singed,	38	0	40	0	
—— scalded,	35	0	39	0	
Beef,	18	0	23	0	
Pork Offal,	16	0	18	0	
Oatmeal,	22	0	24	0	
Flour, first quality,	00	0	00	0	per Bag.
—— second,	00	0	00	0	
—— ditto (new),	80	0	90	0	
—— third,	48	0	58	0	
—— fourth,	40	0	45	0	
Wheat (new),	30	0	68	0	per Barrel.
Barley (new),	21	0	23	0	
Oats, potato (new),	20	9	00	0	
—— common (ditto),	21	9	00	0	
Coals, Whitehaven,	4	1	0	0	
—— Newport,	4	0	4	2	
—— Swansea,	4	0	4	2	
Tallow, rough,	7	0	8	6	per Stone.
Potatoes, by weight,	0	0	0	0	
—— by measure,	0	7	0	10	
[illegible]	0	2½	0	4	per Pound.
[illegible]	0	4	0	5½	
[illegible]	0	0	0	0	
[illegible]	0	3	0	4	
[illegible] Butter,	1	6	1	8	

Corn Returns for the Week ending on Saturday last.

1502 Barrels Wheat,	Averaging	22s.	7d.
5103 —— Oats,		0 17s.	5d.
990 —— Barley,		0 18s.	2½d.

PUBLIC DISTRESS.

MEETING AT THE MANSION-HOUSE, LONDON.

On the 27th, a most numerous and respectable Meeting was held at the Egyptian-hall, in the Mansion-house, pursuant to a Public Requisition addressed to the Lord Mayor, for the purpose of providing a fund for the extraordinary and unparalleled distresses of the poor inhabitants of Spitalfields and its vicinity.

The Meeting was summoned for one o'clock, but the Lord Mayor, who presided, did not enter the Hall till two, by which time the three front rows of seats were occupied by a numerous assemblage of elegant females, among whom we noticed a large proportion of the Society of Friends.

His Lordship was accompanied into the Hall by Sir Wm. Curtis, Alderman Atkins, Messrs. Marryatt, Butterworth, Hibbert, and several of the most eminent Bankers and Merchants in the City.

His Lordship, having taken the Chair, congratulated the friends of the distressed Poor on the very numerous and respectable Meeting which he saw assembled for the purpose of taking into consideration and affording the best means of relieving the distress which unhappily became so extensive. This was the object of the Gentlemen who had signed the Requisition for the Meeting, and he trusted that object would be carried into effect by those who had so humanely come together on the occasion. But the object of the Gentlemen, at whose request the Meeting was called, was not to confine the intended relief solely to the inhabitants of Spitalfields. The poor inhabitants of the adjacent parts were suffering much from the same general causes, and their cases would meet with attention as far as the resources of the Committee should enable them. It was absolutely impossible that the distressed districts could relieve themselves, for the far greater number of the inhabitants were the claimants, and the few who were independent had not the means of assisting the remainder with any effect. Parochial relief it was impossible to give to all, and there were many who, though suffering severe privations, allowed themselves to come nearly to starvation before they applied for or would accept of assistance from the parish—and it was only the unparalleled misery to which the state of the times reduced them which made them at all resort to this species of relief. Various plans to afford relief had been suggested, but, in his opinion, none were more likely to be attended with permanent good effect than those which pointed out labour for the Poor. No doubt, there were many of the distressed manufacturers who were incapable of performing severe bodily labour, but still there were few of them who would not prefer almost any kind of employment rather than be sent to the work-house. His Lordship trusted, that they whom humanity had collected together on the present occasion would give their attention to this subject, and thereby render that assistance, which would otherwise be temporary, of permanent benefit to the People. The increase of pauperism was already alarmingly great; and, though he lamented this as much as any man, yet he had been obliged, for want of the means of procuring employment for them, to send home to their several parishes thirty or forty persons daily for the last two months. As to the kind of labour which should be devised, that was also the subject of many suggestions which had been made. He himself had consulted with Government on the matter, *and he had to regret extremely the case received from Government less attention than it deserved. (Hear, hear!)* Among other things which he had suggested, was one which had for its object the giving employment to nearly 20,000 persons (we understood his Lordship to allude to the inclosing of certain lands), in a place where nearly 8000 of them could be provided with a habitation, and where the expense to Government would not be a single farthing. Unless some such means as this were devised, it would be useless to attempt to remedy the evils which existed. There was another suggestion which had been made, and which, if attended to, would have a salutary effect---that of a subscription from the shopkeepers, of one pound and upwards, towards giving the manufacturers employment, and receiving back the value in goods. Another thing he wished to mention to the Meeting: he had observed among the poor people in Wales a practice of making a kind of fuel, which served as well and was much cheaper than coals. They mixed one part of culm, one part of common coals, and two parts of clay. If such a plan as this were adopted in London, the mixing of the articles would give employment to several thousands, and at the same time afford a cheap and good kind of fuel. *(Here his Lordship produced to the Meeting a sample of the article made up as he had described.)* He should again observe, and begged to impress on the Meeting, that no means, however trivial at first appearance, should be neglected which may contribute to employ the Poor, for by employment only could their distresses be properly alleviated. *(Hear, hear!)* One other observation he should offer to the Meeting before he concluded. The extremely high price of flour and butcher's meat was a subject of just and general complaint. This was an evil to which, in his opinion, the Public itself could apply the remedy. If exertions were made to countenance and support the cheap butcher and cheap baker, there was not a doubt but such a competition would be raised as would greatly contribute to lessen the price of those articles of necessary consumption, bread and meat. Persons, by going to market themselves, and looking out for those who sold at a moderate profit, would find that they could procure the best meat at a rate much lower than that which they now pay; and while they thus cheapened the best pieces of meat for their own consumption, they would also cheapen for the consumption of the Poor the pieces which were called inferior, but which were still good meat. His Lordship concluded his address by expressing an earnest hope, that, as the Meeting had been expressly convened for a charitable purpose, no other subject should engage its attention. *(Loud Applause.)*

Here Mr. J. J. Lister (Secretary to the Association) read the following Address:

"The Committee of the Association for the Relief of the Industrious Poor of Spitalfields and its Neighbourhood address themselves to the Public on behalf of the district to which their labours have been devoted, in full confidence that its condition needs only to be known to receive the sympathy and assistance of the benevolent.

"That part of the metropolis which is commonly included under the general term of Spitalfields comprises, besides the parish of that name, those of Bethnal-green, Shoreditch, and part of Whitechapel, the Hamlets of Mile-end New Town, and Mile-end Old Town, and some other places in the vicinity. The number of opulent individuals in this district is exceedingly small, and its enormous population is chiefly composed of the manufacturing and labouring classes, who are employed by persons residing for the most part in this city. In favourable times they are in general able by their industry to earn a comfortable subsistence, though even then, from sickness and casualties, there are always to be found many instances of individual suffering; but when a depression in trade materially diminishes the demand for labour, multitudes are at once deprived of employment, and suffer all the miseries of want. The applications to the Parishes for support soon become more than they can relieve. A large proportion of those who are called on for the poor-rate are themselves at these times in need of assistance, and, under such circumstances, to advance the assessment would increase the difficulty of collecting it, and often render the payment altogether impossible. Thus the utmost pittance that can be dealt out to the indigent is insufficient to support existence, and the distress becomes extreme.

"This was the state of Spitalfields and its neighbourhood when the Association was first instituted in the year 1812, and, from the exertions made at that time, the Committee have the happiness to know, that many were rescued from perishing. Their operations were suspended as soon as the pressing necessity for them ceased; but they have now been imperatively called upon to resume them by an extent and severity of distress that has not been equalled at any former period within their knowledge.

"Of the inhabitants of this district a large proportion are dependant on the silk manufacture, and form, in some degree, a separate class---possessing a character of their own that peculiarly entitles them to commiseration. Inoffensive and quiet in his demeanour, and accustomed to decent and domestic habits, the Weaver is in general industrious in prosperous times, and patient in adversity; he is seldom found addicted to licentiousness and dissipation, and his earnings, when in full work, enable him to live with respectability; but his sedentary employment induces a want of bodily vigour that unfits him for hard labour; so that when his usual occupation fails, his condition is particularly helpless.

"Of this class nearly two-thirds are at this time unemployed, and without the means of support; as well as a multitude of porters, labourers, and mechanics in different trades. They cannot disperse themselves in the country, which is already overburdened with poor---and where, at former times of difficulty, temporary work might have been obtained, numbers of old hands are now dismissed. Even the resource of the Army and the Navy no longer exists for the destitute; and many are refused admission at the workhouses, which are too crowded to receive them.

"To lighten in some degree this mass of calamity, the Committee provided a depot, where they have sold, since the middle of September, at a very low price, 92 ton 18 cwt. of salt cod, 250 barrels of herrings, and 16 ton 8 cwt. of rice; by which a loss has been incurred of more than £600; and in order the better to assist the most afflicted cases, as more than 100 Members compose the Committee, they have divided themselves into 38 sub-committees, each of which undertakes the visiting of a district. During the last 11 weeks, they have paid more than 8[illegible] visits, and distributed £850, mostly in sums of from one to three shillings, among 3360 families, which contain about 14,400 individuals; and while engaged in this service, they have witnessed an extremity of suffering, of which those, who are not themselves accustomed to explore the abodes of poverty, can form but an inadequate idea. They find numbers, who had been accustomed to support their families respectably, reduced, from want of employment, to sell or pawn their furniture, which had been purchased with the savings of former years, to obtain food. Their bedding, their clothes, and the very looms and tools on which they were accustomed to depend for subsistence, are, in many instances, gone---and little is left them but the bare walls of their rooms. Pauperism is spreading to an extent truly alarming. Many decent families have had all they were possessed of seized, to pay arrears of rent---others are deeply in debt for the common necessaries of life---some have deserted their homes in despair, unable to endure the sight of their starving families---and many pine under lingering diseases, brought on from the want of food and clothing.

"The particulars of every case visited are preserved, and open to the inspection of any person desirous to peruse them. The following may serve as a specimen:---

"G. V. Swan-street, Brick-lane.---This poor man has been out of work nearly 12 months.---His wife has lately been confined with her twentieth child. They are now in the greatest want. Their eldest son, a young man, 23 years of age, caught a cold some time ago (thro' the badness of his shoes when searching about for employment), which has brought on a decline, and he now lies on his death bed, in his father's apartment.---This young man has a wife and two children.

"R. W. a weaver, Bryan-street, has a wife and family of seven children, whom he has supported with comfort until within a few months; but, from the want of employment, he has been obliged from time to time to pledge the little stock of furniture and clothing they possessed, to satisfy the cravings of nature---until, from extreme distress and sickness, they have been induced to ask for an asylum in the workhouse---but which, for want of room, they have not been able to obtain.

"Multitudes of cases like these are to be met with in all parts of the district. To relieve such widely extended misery, the finances of the Committee, though liberally assisted by the General Association, have been altogether inadequate---and with their utmost endeavours to contract their expenditure, it has considerably exceeded their receipts. They have made application to Government for help, and obtained a grant of 800 pair of shoes, 1000 blankets, and 500 palliasses; but with an expression of regret, that "there was no money which could be made available" for their use: and they now feel it their duty to appeal earnestly to the humanity of the Public. The Spitalfields Soup Society has lately recommenced its operations, and now sells 3200 quarts of soup daily; but it stands in need of large supplies to enable it to continue in action. The Spitalfields Benevolent Society also, which has long been a blessing to the Poor, is assiduously employed in conjunction with this Association---and as the three institutions have but one object---to give the most effectual assistance to this deeply suffering district, it is proposed that such funds as may now be raised be appropriated to their joint use.

"The Committee are sensible, that employment is the only permanent and effectual remedy for the evils they deplore---and while they are willing to hope that this will return in the Spring, they will be thankful for any suggestions that may tend to open new channels for labour. But, in the mean time, the liberal aid of charity, and the indefatigable exertions of those who undertake to dispense it, are urgently required, to alleviate the horrors of the approaching winter---to support deserving poverty, that trembles on the brink of ruin---to save them that are ready to perish.---Those in happier circumstances that feel---and who are there but must feel for the overwhelming afflictions of their indigent neighbours, may be assured, that what is granted by their benevolence will be applied with strict economy and caution."

Mr. F. Buxton then rose and spoke as follows:

My Lord---As one of the persons who were instrumental in convening this Meeting, it has been intimated to me that it is my duty to explain its objects---this, and this alone, I can truly say, has urged me to place myself in a situation more prominent and more considerable than any other in

cumstance would warrant. It has been my lot to see something of the distress that rages in our unhappy district; and whoever had seen, as I have seen, the utmost ravages of hunger, cold, and disease, would excuse the transgression of propriety I feel I commit in coming forward so early---would do, as I do, would endeavour to enkindle in the breasts of others those strong emotions of compassion which the sight of such distress would raise in his own mind, and would feel most deeply interested that something this day may be done, may be nobly done, for the relief of my poor neighbours, sunk as they are to the lowest depths of misery; but first allow me to state the causes in which it originates; because these are generally unknown, because they are very curious and peculiar, and because a knowledge of these operate as an apology for this public application, as it will shew that this district has claims not only on your compassion, but something like claims even on your justice---not only those claims which distress always has on the benevolence of the affluent, but those intimate and almost legalized claims which the labourer possesses on his own employer, the mechanic on his own master, the pauper on his own parish. I make bold to think that I can convince you that the persons for whom we plead are your own labourers, your own mechanics, and your own poor. In the Act by which the Poor Laws were established in this country, there is a clause enabling Magistrates, where any parish is too poor to support its own inhabitants, to conjoin with it other parishes more competent. This is right; and if it stopped here, this Meeting would be superfluous, as long ago we should have negotiated a union between our poverty and your wealth; but one word excludes us from this---this conjunction is restricted to parishes within the same county, and London is a county within itself. Now, this is very unfortunate, as it has been estimated that much more than one-half of our population work for masters who reside in the City. Now observe, my Lord, how unequal a division takes place---you have the man, and the labours of the man, when he can work, and we have him and his family when he cannot; you have his strength, and we his infirmity; you his health, and we his sickness; you his youth, and we his age; in short, you have the labourer, and we the pauper; you have the profits of his labour, and we the charges of his maintenance. But let not any Gentleman imagine, that we now ask for aid to our parochial funds---no such misapplication will take place; whether this subscription be large or small, it will still be the duty of the Overseers to exact from the householders every shilling that can be obtained. But I shall be asked, why do we not increase our rates, and thus raise sufficient for the support of the Poor? Because we cannot; because the majority of those who pay the rates are themselves poor; and perhaps there is no class more distressed, more the object of pity, than these householders. Great commiseration is due to those who have seen better times; who, struggling against the waves that threaten to overwhelm him, can hardly resist them. Great pity is also due to those who are obliged to support a respectable appearance, and, to do so, are obliged to curtail their food. These are our householders, and experience has convinced us, that with these we have arrived at the maximum of parochial assessment; that if we increase the rates, we lessen the amount they produce; that the only consequence of such attempted advance is, that we are obliged to strike their names out of the list of those who pay the rates, and insert them in that of those who receive them. Observe then the hardship of our case---our proximity to the City, which, (being in another County) deprives us of the benefit of the Poor Laws, while that very proximity overloads us with poor---the dearness of house rent in the City, its cheapness in the Fields, sends to us all that are too miserable to reside amongst you, and renders Spitalfields what indeed it is, a grand drain for the distresses of the capital---a kind of metropolitan work-house, to which all that is wretched resorts. Other causes also operate. The depression throughout the country deprives us of our most considerable market for the silk manufacture. The exclusion from foreign markets; but as this is the consequence of the peace, we do not repine---we rejoice to think that this, which causes our distress, causes also the happiness of others, and subserves the general interests of humanity. But there is one consequence of the peace which we cannot survey with the same complacency---and I mention it the more freely, because we are so highly honoured in one part of our attendance this day (the Ladies)---the introduction of silks of foreign manufacture. I am persuaded that the efforts and the influence of the example of this Meeting may check this cruel practice; and I am also persuaded, that no female of our country would array herself in silks of foreign manufacture, if she knew the groans and the tears it occasions in the deplorable recesses of our district. (*Loud Applauses.*) These are the causes which produce a degree of distress, utterly beyond my powers to describe. I could detain you till midnight reading scenes of distress that we have witnessed, but I hasten to a larger topic. We all have been educated in a belief, that the necessity of going to the workhouse is the last of human misfortunes to the Poor; and truly to resign their home, even with its few endearments, their liberty, their every hope of future independence and prosperity---to separate child from parent, the wife from the husband---to separate those branches from the same stem which have only entwined the more closely under the wintry blast of misfortune (misfortune often rivets more nearly the ties of natural and conjugal affection)---and to exchange these for the constraint and the fare of a workhouse, is truly heart-rending; yet such is the aggravated distress, that to get into the workhouse is an object of great desire with the Poor---that we are actually canvassed for our interest---and that the candidates for this "bad eminence," for the enviable distinction of residing in the midst of rags and ruin, are so earnest in their intreaties, that success in it is an object of congratulation. But let me not mislead you; you may imagine, from this eagerness of the Poor, that our workhouse is peculiar in its kind. I do not deny that it is conducted with every attention to cleanliness and comfort; but to prove to you that it is not an abode of luxurious entertainment, or sumptuous accommodation, I must tell you, that at a late visit to it I found, that three persons slept in each bed, and that it is now necessary to increase that number to four. My Lord, I feel more and more that I cannot do justice to the distress. I wish I could prevail upon you to see it with your own eyes. Come when you please, select almost your own street, almost your own house in that street, your own room in that house, and I undertake that in that room you will find a proof that our picture is faint and feeble. Every where are to be seen scenes of ruin, hunger, and even death. Physicians well acquainted with the district assure us, that our people are peculiarly subjected to disorders originating in deficiency of food, and that at this time multitudes of children are swept into an untimely grave by disorders, of which abstinence was the only cause, and for which food would be the only cure. But this is not all; there are scenes of deeper misery, of darker horror---scenes so sad, so dismal, so revolting, that did not imperious duty demand the sacrifice of our feelings, I should gladly bury them in eternal oblivion---scenes of actual starvation. On Friday last, I saw a man who was lately found amongst some willows in our district. There were some remains of life in him, but (I hardly know how to convey so loathsome an image,) the vermin of all kinds had already seized upon him as their prey. He was found on Saturday, and his own story was, that the last he recollected was sinking down there on the preceding Wednesday, overcome with weariness and hunger. I asked him if he had a wife? No, Sir, said he, thank God, I can suffer better than many others, because I suffer alone. I could tell you another such instance, but I must throw a veil over these scenes, too sad even for description; and, indeed, our wretchedness does not consist so much in individual instances, as in the mass, the aggregate, the immensity. It is not that some starve, but that so many are on the verge of starvation---it is not that a few suffer, but that so few escape---it is not one of those disorders that are deadly in one street, and unknown in the next; it rather partakes of the nature of those more general visitations of pestilence, which spread their disastrous contagion all around, and desolate a district, and in which the general contagion envenoms the individual taint. So it is with us: the general distress deepens the private calamity. In ordinary times the Poor are the best friends of the Poor. There is (and happy is it) a sympathy in affliction (we find it as a ray of light amid the gloom), a fellow feeling in distress, a kind of benefit society, to which all the wretched are free, a society not indeed enrolled and registered by Act of Parliament, but by higher authority, and with more awful sanction, by the instincts which Providence has implanted in the human heart; but this is a virtue that is for better times. The poor man can hardly support himself, and therefore can hardly assist others. I do not mean to say that he does not. We have met with instances which have exalted our respect for human nature---instances which recal the Widow recorded in the New Testament, who "out of her want gave all her living;"---and the Widow of Sarepta in the Old Testament, whose whole possession was "a handful of meal in a barrel, and a drop of oil in a cruise," yet she was willing to share them with the afflicted stranger. But if this proves that the Poor are not bereft of every ordinary hope, is it not a lesson to us? If the poor man, who is obliged to deny his unsatisfied appetite, and having divided sufficient from his only loaf to hide the remainder for the next day's meal, if he yet find some place for mercy in his soul, and, miserable himself, is yet impelled to share his remaining crust with the more miserable; if the strong impulse of humanity urges him to so dear a sacrifice, does it not teach the man who is clothed in soft raiment and fares sumptuously every day, to give something more than the crumbs that fall from his table to the wretchedness that surrounds his gate? (*Great applause.*) But why this superior mercy in the Poor? Because he has learned it in the school of affliction. He knows what it is to want bread, and this has opened his heart and enlivened his affections for those who are exposed to the rigour of the season, and the craving importunities of hunger---but the rich man cannot feel this. He can experimentally know nothing of what it is, when the poor man, willing to strain every nerve in labour, is denied the employment which might staunch the tears of his wife, and appease the cries of his children---when, like the wretch I have mentioned, he is willing to suffer, if he might suffer alone, firm against his own affliction, but when he looks around him, sunk to the effeminacy of tears. (*Loud applause.*) In ordinary times, too, individual charity may meet individual distress---it may discover cases of peculiar hardship and relieve them; but in this mass of misery selection is almost cruelty. You relieve one case, but then you must deny a thousand with equal claims to your compassion. Private charity found itself perplexed, confused, and baffled by the variety of applicants, and hardly knew which was right, the partiality which would select some, to the exclusion of others---or that impartiality which could give but a crumb to each. A general effort was necessary---a division of labour, a division of districts---a combination of energy, of activity, of bounty, was necessary---and this was the origin of our institution. A survey of the whole mass was taken---it was divided into thirty-eight districts---and 120 Gentlemen volunteered their services. Thus every street and every alley of this wide district is regularly visited, and would be regularly relieved, did our funds allow it. Believe me, my Lord, this system of visitation has its advantages---the Poor are seen at their own houses, the truth of their tale is ascertained---we are not so much exposed to deception---besides, where charity gives without personal inquiry, importunity often gains that which modest and unobtrusive merit cannot obtain.---Widows, for instance, who, having disposed of almost all their clothing to procure bread, are ashamed to appear in the streets. Those who have seen better times---we met a soldier, a man who had fought the battles of his country with some humble distinction, but is now oppressed by a very large family---he was one of those

"Who ask with painful shyness, and refused,
Because deserving, silently retire."

(*Hear, hear!*) There was something in his breast, be it pride, or be it feeling, but something forbad him to mingle in the herds of importunate beggary. This general visitation is part of our plan; but, besides this, we sell, or rather have sold, rice at 2d. per lb. salt fish---fish, my Lord, that would not disgrace your hospitable mansion, at 1d. per lb. Now observe the chain of good---we employ a very distressed class, the sailors---in this time of dearth we introduce food into the country; and, lastly, we distribute that food exactly where it is wanted most. This is our plan; if it proceed, it must do great good---if it fail, and fail it must, if this day does not give it vital vigour---the hopes of the Poor fail with it.

Remember, then, that the distress is urgent beyond all former occasions---that thousands and tens of thousands hang upon your decision this day. Remember that you sit in judgment upon the fate of the widow and the orphan. If unfavourable, you steep the orphan in ten-fold misery---if favourable, you will indeed make the widow's heart to sing with joy."

[This speech, the interest of which was considerably heightened by the forcible and pathetic manner in which it was delivered, was received with the loudest applause.]

Mr. Hankey next addressed the Meeting, but, we regret to say, in so low a tone of voice as not to be audible at intervals, but to those immediately near him. We understood him to describe the Poor at Spitalfields not merely entitled to public commiseration, as sufferers, but as innocent ones. The groans of a distressed and patient population had reached the ears of the Public, and he hoped that the Public would give them that attention which they merited. The poor manufacturers and others, in whose cause the Meeting was assembled, had this additional claim on public bounty---that, in the midst of their sufferings and privations, they had ever conducted themselves with the greatest attention to public order.---(*Hear, hear!*) The only appeal which they had made was of that kind which he trusted would ever meet with attention---an appeal to public humanity. (*Hear, hear!*) This, he trusted, would meet its just reward; and the present Meeting would set an example to the whole Country, and shew that the breasts of the well-disposed were much more susceptible of humanity than of fear. (*Loud applauses.*) If his voice could reach those poor suffering manufacturers and labourers, he would say to them---"Persevere in your integrity and peaceable conduct, and trust in God and the humanity of your fellow-subjects for relief, and you will not be disappointed."---(*Loud applauses.*) The Address which was before read was then put and unanimously adopted.

Mr. Hale then came forward, and observed, that at no period before the present was such distress known, as now existed. The instances which had been cited were comparatively light to those thousand other cases which might be enumerated. The instances were many where wretched mothers might be seen endeavouring to suckle their poor infants, while they themselves were actually wasted, and their constitutions nearly destroyed, through the want of food. Many plans of relief had been suggested, but until some one of them could be carried into effect, until a wise government should provide some remedy for the general distress, some temporary assistance should be afforded. As that was the immediate object of the Meeting, he should move, "That a subscription be immediately entered into, for the purpose of relieving the distressed Poor of Spitalfields and its vicinity."

The Rev. Mr. Pratt said, that, as a Minister in the district to whose distress the Meeting referred, and as a Member of an Association formed to alleviate that distress, he felt himself called upon to submit a few observations. The Ladies and Gentlemen of the Benevolent Society, with which he had the honour to be connected (as President according to our information), had within the last year made no less than 14,000 visits in order to ascertain the nature and extent of the existing distress, and to make a just distribution of the funds entrusted to the society, which funds amounted to about £2000. In the course of this inquiry, such cases of distress had been found as he thought it unnecessary to detail after what the Meeting had already heard; but he assured the Meeting, that some of these cases were still more afflicting. Yet the sufferings of the distressed were patiently borne, each sufferer being reconciled to the endurance of what Providence decreed---being willing to submit to the difficulties of his situation with Christian-like fortitude. From the visits of the Society with which he was connected, it appears that no less than 8000 persons were out of employment in the district of Spitalfields; and, considering the number of those dependent upon these persons, there was reason to believe that 45,000 individuals were actually in want of food. To relieve this want was the great object of "The Benevolent Society." Hitherto it had been often observed, that the spirit of the lower order of the People of England was so depressed, that they were not unwilling to avail themselves of parochial aid, in order to avoid the labours of industry; but at present no such observation, if at any time just, could at all be applicable---for now the most industrious sought in vain for employment, and the highest spirit was borne down by the severity of want. Thus the industrious Poor were compelled to appeal to charity, or rather to look for some portion of that fund which was virtually their own, in order to mitigate their necessities. Yet the honest Poor, who were willing to labour, were often found to turn their manly faces from the ministers of charity. (*Applauses.*) Here the Rev Gentleman stated, that the Reverend Mr. Yates had just put into his hands the contribution of £100 towards the object of the Meeting, from Mrs. Price, of Chelsea. (*Loud applauses.*) The Rev. Gentleman concluded with observing, that domestic servants should be urged to contribute towards the relief of the Poor---for those servants were known to be secure of food, while their wages accumulated, and therefore they should be called upon to assist the Poor, perhaps their own relations, in a season of unparalleled calamity. The Reverend Gentleman concluded with expressing his cordial concurrence in the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Hammett (the Banker) then proposed the following Resolution:---

Resolved---That the following Gentlemen be a Committee to apportion the said subscription to the support of the Spitalfields Association, the Spitalfields Soup Society, and the Spitalfields Benevolent Society:---

Samuel Hoare, jun. Esq.	William Hale, Esq.
T. F. Buxton, Esq.	Robert Barclay, Esq.
Edward Meyrick, Esq.	John Honyman, Esq.
John Daughtree, Esq.	Edward Lawson, Esq.
John Cooper, Esq.	J. J. Lister, Esq.
William Fry, Esq.	Peter Bedford, Esq.
John Arch, Esq.	John Sanderson, Esq.
Thomas Richardson, Esq.	William Phillips, Esq.
Samuel Woods, Esq.	

Mr. Hammett observed, that having personally visited Spitalfields, he could bear testimony to the statements which the Meeting had already heard. The object of this Meeting would, he hoped and trusted, be fully attained, for it was a Meeting which met his entire approbation. Therefore, he should have been glad to see among the Meeting those important persons, the Directors of the Bank of England, with the principal merchants of London, and also the Members of that Body of which he was a Member, in order to co-operate with the truly worthy Magistrate who occupied the chair in support of such a laudable object. He should have been more happy to witness such an assemblage, because he disapproved of what had been done in other Meetings, with a view to the object under consideration, and he disapproved particularly of the Meeting at the City of London Tavern, which of course he did not attend. He did not attend that Meeting, because he felt it absurd to propose that the Metropolis alone should meet to relieve the Country at large. The idea was preposterous. If the inclemency and cold of the winter should be superadded to the distress which the Poor were already condemned to endure, there was too much reason to apprehend, that the complaints of the People would be heard in such a way, that, if they did not shake the security of our establishments, might endanger the happiness of the Country. On those grounds, as well as from those considerations of benevolence which he had no doubt influenced the Meeting, he exhorted every Gentleman who heard him to subscribe on this occasion, and to promote general associations for the relief of the Poor, which associations must serve to convince them who were their real friends and best benefactors.

Mr. Sheriff Brydges seconded the motion, which was agreed to unanimously.

Mr. Marryat then proposed the following Resolution:---

"That the cordial Thanks of this Meeting be given to the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, for the zeal he has manifested in the cause of the Poor, the promptitude with which he granted the Egyptian Hall for the present Meeting, and for his able conduct in the Chair this day."

Mr. Alderman Atkins seconded the motion, and congratulated the Lord Mayor on the highly honourable situation which he occupied as the President of such an assembly. The object of this assembly, indeed, having in view the immediate relief of the Poor, furnished a striking contrast to any meeting at this or that field, convened only to decry the Government.---(*Hisses, and cries of "no politics!"*) The Honourable Alderman expressed a hope, that this Meeting would serve to convince the suffering Poor of the sympathy felt by their affluent neighbours, and observed that this was the first right and direct step taken for the benefit of our distressed countrymen. Therefore the Meeting had his unqualified approbation. The motion was adopted with acclamation.

The Lord Mayor, in returning thanks, took occasion to communicate the request of the Spitalfields Soup Committee, that old clothes should be sent to it, for the accommodation of the Poor. The worthy Magistrates stated, that he had made an arrangement in his own establishment, which he wished to have generally adopted---namely, that until the price of the loaf were reduced to a shilling, the making of pies and puddings should be prohibited. (*Applauses.*) Every individual should submit at such a crisis to any privation likely to promote the relief of the Poor. The worthy Magistrate concluded with calling on every person in the community to assist the Magistrates in making proper provision for paupers, and in preserving the Police of the Country.

In consequence of a question from a Gentleman, whose name we did not learn, Mr. Buxton stated, that the object of the Meeting was to relieve a district comprehending a population of 150,000; and that he hoped such Meetings would take place universally throughout the Country.

Mr. Wood read the list of the subscriptions, promptly contributed, which amounted to several thousands; and at the time we left the room, which was about half after four o'clock, the subscriptions still continued.

A curious circumstance is said to have happened in the County of Cumberland; a whole family, with the exception of one person, had died on eating a part of a cabbage which was boiled whole. On opening it, a scorpion was found in the centre.

It is stated that Mr. Newman, the keeper of Newgate, has particular reasons for preventing any written intercourse at the present moment between the prisoners and their friends.

The Waterford Chronicle.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5.

The London papers are almost exclusively occupied with details of speeches delivered at public Meetings. The details we have given are by far the most interesting which have appeared. In other cases, there is little novelty, and much repetition of common-place statements, especially on the subject of Parliamentary Reform, which, however important, has been so often discussed as to be almost exhausted. On some occasions, the most violent personality prevails, and, on others, language is used which is scarcely allowed by the laws of the Country. In the Court of Common Council of London, Resolutions, in favour of Parliamentary Reform, have been passed by eighty-one votes against three. Similar Resolutions have been passed by the Livery. On one occasion, Mr. Hunt said, that he saw no use in assembling for charity, for it would do no good. Parliamentary Reform is with him the sovereign cure of all calamities; it cannot be accomplished at once, but, in the mean time, he is perfectly willing, that the Poor shall perish through want. His principles were reprobated in the strongest manner by Mr. Waithman, and the itinerant orator called the Livery of London a "difficult beast," and "myrmidons," or "rude ruffians." He is one of the Livery, but he, of course, excepted himself from having any share in these appellations.

The Ladies of Leicester have formed themselves into a Society for the relief of the Poor. The Town is to be divided into districts, of which the Ladies are to take charge, to visit all the houses of the indigent, for the purpose of ascertaining, and afterwards removing, the want which prevails in regard to clothing. Such a design is the most meritorious that can possibly be conceived. In this City, a similar Institution has already been formed, and it deserves the most generous support and encouragement.

The Meeting at Spa-fields was to take place on Monday last; on Saturday, extraordinary preparations were made for the preservation of the public peace; troops had been stationed at their several posts; the Artillery Company, although not to be actually on duty, were to be in readiness; the Magistrates were active in arranging the *Posse Comitatus*, and it is stated, that, in the Parish of Clerkenwell alone, 400 new Constables were sworn in for the occasion. These were unquestionably prudent precautions, although it is to be hoped, that the accounts, when they arrive, will show, that no tumult occurred.

The Directors of the East India Company, with a view to alleviate the present pressure, have determined to retain in their employ 500 *extra* labourers, in addition to above 2,500 on the regular establishment.

It is stated upon authority, that, after a minute investigation into the cause of the late fire at Belvoir Castle, there has not appeared the least reason for supposing that it was occasioned by design.

The *Morning Chronicle* has stated, that Earl Talbot has been nominated to the Government of Ireland, in the room of the present Lord Lieutenant, and that Lord Granville was also a candidate, through the interest of Mr. Canning, but failed in his application. This statement is given without any expression of doubt, but the *Courier* has directly contradicted it. *Carrick's Morning Post* speaks of it's having heard, that Mr. Peel was about to resign the Secretaryship of Ireland, and that he is to be succeeded by Mr. Beckett.---The same Journal, however, admits, that it is not certain of the correctness of it's information. We cannot pretend to know any thing about the matter, but the retirement of both Lord Whitworth and Mr. Peel has been apprehended for some time. Such an event will be matter of deep and general regret. The present Rulers of this Country have acted in support of her interests with that knowledge and zeal which have been most highly honourable to their reputation, and which will be remembered with lasting feelings of esteem and gratitude.---No mail due.

It is again our painful duty to advert to outrages perpetrated in the County of Waterford. On last Saturday evening, as a Farmer, of the name of Foley, who resides near Newtown, was returning from this City, he was assaulted by four armed men, severely beaten, and robbed of about £18. This occurrence, and that which we are now to state, render it evident, that there is a party of plunderers prowling in the quarter of the country we have mentioned, who seem to be of a daring and barbarous description.

On the same night, the house of Mary Brien, Publican, who lives close by the Chapel of Ballyduff, was attacked by eight armed men. Her three sons, with pitchforks and such weapons as they could find, manifested a proper and resolute spirit of resistance. This appears to have intimidated the assailants, and they departed, after firing three shots. Next morning, a musquet ball, flattened, was found in the door of the house, thus proving more than an indifference to the lives of the inmates. On the same night, and probably by the same marauders, a countryman was robbed of a new coat.

In the midst of the atrocious transactions which are now almost daily narrated, the occurrences we have stated may appear to be of very trivial moment, but they will not be considered in that light by those who duly appreciate their character, or look forward to their consequences. The house, the person and the property of the Peasant are thus rendered insecure, and success and impunity may lead the lawless freebooter here, as elsewhere, to attempt higher achievements. The system of evil gathers strength in proportion to its duration, and it may, in the County of Waterford, as well as in other Counties, arrive at that enormous height which has caused so many deaths, so many banishments, and so many pecuniary calamities. It ought, in it's very commencement, to be encountered with active zeal, and irresistible energy. We do not say this with a view to rouse the Magistrates and Gentlemen of the County of Waterford to instantaneous exertion, for experience has borne ample testimony to their love for the common welfare, and to their promptitude in defending it: but we say it, because many of them might not otherwise hear of such transactions, and because it is as much our desire, as it is our duty, to afford all the support in our power to the same cause. The season is favourable to nocturnal depredators, and, if we be not much mistaken, they are very willing to avail themselves of the advantages which it presents. It is peculiarly alarming, that, in every instance, they appear well armed, & take their measures in such a way as denotes very special and accurate information. Whence these arms have been derived, and how that information is acquired, we cannot explain; but so it is, and we are bound so to set it forth. Another circumstance is to be taken into consideration.---Cases have come to our knowledge, in which the parties assailed ought to have been assisted in their resistance both by their immediate neighbours, and by persons under their roof at the moment of danger, but who were inactive spectators of the conflicts. This may have proceeded from a timidity not unnatural, but it may have proceeded from other causes. At all events, a perseverance in the practice cannot but be attended with the most serious mischief. It is powerfully calculated to increase the daring of aggressors, and to induce them to extend their ravages. We would call upon the Peasantry to resolve to assist each other, as they value the safety of their persons and property. If they will but do this, they will soon expel their enemies from amongst them, for such conduct would have more efficacy than all the labours of the Magistrates, and all the interposition of Government. Their protection, then, appears, in a great measure, to be in their own hands, and every motive dearest to their hearts ought to animate them to practise this paramount duty. They ought, in different districts, to combine and pledge themselves to each other, that their interests shall be common, and that they will mutually and invariably defend those interests. To resort to severe measures, will be matter of reluctance on the part of the Magistrates and Government, but, if necessity shall demand it, these measures will assuredly be adopted, and new evils will be added to former sufferings.

On the 27th Oct. the Brig *Hibernia*, Captain Walmsley, arrived at Halifax in safety; the passengers and crew were all well. Some fears as to the fate of this vessel had been idly entertained, but this intimation will fully allay them.

Some errors were inadvertently committed in publishing the list of contributions for the Sick Poor. Mr. Paul and Mr. H. M'Dougall ought to have been marked as Subscribers. The following Donations were omitted entirely:

Alexander Alcock, £2 0 0; Henry Alcock (a Subscriber), £1 0 0; John Griffiths, 10s. Since the publication, a Donation of one guinea has been received from Abraham Biggs, and another of the same sum from John Hackett.

The paragraph in our publication of Tuesday, in which the name of Alderman Sargent was mentioned, has been misapprehended by some, and misrepresented by others. In expressing our persuasion, that the yeomanry could not be concerned in the transaction which took place in the County of Wexford, we were perfectly serious; all the rest amounted to nothing more than a mere *jeu d'esprit*. Mr. Sargent was himself fully satisfied, that we would be the last to wound his feelings, or to cast reproaches upon his reputation as a Magistrate, or upon his loyalty. At the close of his Mayoralty, we spoke of his labours in the very warmest terms of approbation, and it would be strange, indeed, if, in even the most trivial respect, we should now, with glaring inconsistency, contradict that approbation. The thing, on a fair view of it, was totally incredible, and the very words we used implied anew our sense of Mr. Sargent's merit. How can the man be seriously regarded as charged with disloyalty who secures obedience to the laws of his Country? The expressions, "if it be consistent with truth," at the end of the paragraph, were decisive as to our favourable view of the Alderman's proceedings on the occasion to which we alluded, and could not bear any different construction.---The case was briefly this:---Some yeomen from the County of Wexford were in this City at the time of which we speak. When about to depart, a charge of having committed some offence was regularly laid against them before Mr. Sargent, and he immediately entered into the matter, not without personal danger, with the same spirit with which he discharged all his official obligations. The solicitation of Gentlemen present in the office, and the promise of the yeomen, that they would leave the City quietly, prevented any thing farther from taking place. We have voluntarily entered into this explanation, because we esteem and respect the Gentleman to whom it applies, and because we neither intended, nor committed, an injury.

The election of Mr. Allen, as Mayor of Cork, has been sanctioned by the Lord Lieutenant, and that Gentleman was sworn into office on Tuesday; further proceedings on this subject may be expected, as protests were to take place against the measure.

The Courts in Dublin closed on Saturday, with the exception of that of the Master of the Rolls.

On Saturday last, a man was fined forty shillings by the Mayor of Limerick, for hoarding potatoes with intent to retail them, which would tend to raise the price of that article.

Insolvent Debtors.---The columns of this Journal have been ever open to the complaints of confined Debtors, of every description---the Insolvents especially. We regret that we have to detail a plan of a most singular kind, which we learn has been most extensively put in practice, to obtain, by fraudulent means, the discharge from prison of Insolvents, without the knowledge of their Creditors. In to-morrow's Paper we shall lay this report before the Public, which is of the utmost importance to every person in trade or business in this country; and it unveils a system of fraud, forgery and perjury, without a parallel, we believe, in the annals of our Courts of Justice.---*Carrick's Post.*

There is a vast deal of charity exercised at the present juncture, privately as well as publicly, which does honour to human nature. In the mountainous places in the vicinity of Dublin, very severe distress is felt, in consequence of the want of fuel and other essential necessaries. Application was made to Government on this head---but Government in that character could neither command nor bestow the relief sought for. The benevolence of those eminent individuals, however, who administer the functions of Government, did not suffer the application to be made in vain. A subscription, amounting to £150, was soon made up, and 100 great coats, and as many pair of shoes, and other necessaries, were procured by the liberality of Mr. Peel, for the relief of those poor mountaineers.

A most numerous and respectable Meeting took place at the Commercial Buildings, Limerick, on Tuesday last, for the purpose of adopting measures for the relief of the Poor during the approaching winter. Several highly distinguished individuals delivered their sentiments on the occasion, and resolutions were entered into, to carry into effect this desirable object. After giving a detailed account of the proceedings, the *Limerick Chronicle* states, that "Upwards of £750 were subscribed in a few minutes, in the Room."

The Committee appointed for managing the above Subscription held a meeting on Friday last, the Lord Bishop of Limerick in the Chair, when a number of Gentlemen were selected to solicit subscriptions in aid of the fund. The city was divided into three districts, viz. Newtown-Pery, the English-Town, and the Irish-Town---certain Gentlemen were appointed to each district. A resolution was entered into by the Committee, "that circular letters, signed by the Bishop, as President, shall be addressed to those Noblemen who possess property in this city and county, who did not attend the general meeting, soliciting their aid for this Charity. The subscriptions already received amount to nearly one thousand pounds.

Slugs in Wheat.---A Correspondent observes, that as slugs may be found among the young wheats, in consequence of the late continued wet weather, he has ascertained by experience, that *lime* fresh from the kiln, and slacked in the evening, will be in a proper state the next morning to be taken in a cart, and spread by two men with casting shovels, carefully and thinly over the land. One hundred weight of lime is sufficient for an acre, and, besides destroying the slugs, it will also prove beneficial in other respects to the cultivator.---*Cork Intelligencer.*

Cork, Dec. 3.---A considerable quantity of Grain was in Market to-day, but without any alteration in price, which is the same as our last quotation. The weather still continues fine for all the purposes of Agriculture.

Wheat....24s. to 50s. per bag 20 stone.
Barley...30s. to 48s. per bag 36 stone.
Oats.....28s. to 30s. per barrel of 33 stone.

OUTRAGE AT DUNGANNON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEWRY TELEGRAPH.

Sir---Having seen in your paper of the 29th inst. a publication signed an "Armagh Catholic," I feel myself called upon to state, that so much of that publication as relates to the peace and tranquillity of this town and neighbourhood is a gross misrepresentation; and if the author, who appears to be a person of no inferior description, will come forward and avow himself, I pledge myself to refute all he has advanced, reflecting on the execution of the laws and the general tranquillity of this neighbourhood, which will probably be found to bear a competition with the most tranquil part of the kingdom.

W. Murray.

Dungannon, November 28, 1816.

BIRTHS.---At Paris, the Countess of Mansfield, of a daughter.---In Dublin, the Lady of Bernard Shaw, Esq. of a son.---In the same City, the Lady of the Rev. John Hussey Burgh, of a son.---At Fort Singleton, in the County of Monaghan, the Lady of Major Barton, of a son and heir.

MARRIAGES.---William Worrall, Esq. of Limerick, Solicitor, to Maria Anna, daughter of the late Peter Monsell, Esq.---At Kilkeel, the Rev. Henry Hayden, to Jane, second daughter of Abraham Chesney, Esq. of Prospect, in the County of Down.---At Paris, John Waters, of Baltinglass, in the County of Wicklow, Esq. to Catherine Anne, eldest daughter of Thomas Byrne, late of Rathdaniel, in the County of Carlow, Esq. deceased.---On the 21st of November, Ephraim Stuart Flinter, Esq. Lieutenant in his Majesty's 97th Regiment, to Mary Anne, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Kennedy, of Johnstown, County of Kilkenny.

DEATHS.---At Taplow, England, Abraham Robarts, Esq. M. P. for Worcester.---In London, John Manship, Esq. aged 91, formerly a Director of the East India Company.---Near Clonmel, Peter Doody, Gardener, aged 112. At Mallow, the daughter of Jeremiah Langley, Esq.---At Bath, Major-General Thomas Nepean, of the Royal Engineers, and son of Sir Evan Nepean.---At Lodge, County of Tipperary, suddenly, Evan Lee, Esq. Attorney.---At Stockholm, Nils Oehrberg, a disbanded soldier, in his 117th year.---Mr. Abel, of Kingham Burgh, Norfolk; he fell by the hands of his own nephew, who is insane, and who attacked him in a field with a turnip-hook.---On the 4th instant, at Kensington, in the 79th year of his age, John Paddey, Esq. whose mother, Lady Anne Paddey, was daughter of Charles, Duke of Cleveland and Southampton, son of King Charles II. The deceased was the last surviving descendant, in the third degree, of King Charles, by the Lady Barbara Villiers, daughter and heir of William Villiers, Viscount Grandison, who was slain, fighting for the King, at the Battle of Edge Hill, in 1642, and whose father was brother of the great favourite, George, Duke of Buckingham.

PORT-NEWS—PASSAGE, DECEMBER 4.

ARRIVED,

2d—Beresford Packet, Hyde, Bristol, luggage; Auckland Packet; Martha, Fisard, Plymouth, empty sacks, empty barrels, and linen cloth; Friends' Increase, Hucker, Glasgow, paint, blacking, glass bottles, &c.

3d—Union, Leader, Liverpool, white salt, lead, earthenware, &c.; Gower Packet; Sally, Bevan, Lydney, coals; Hero, Johns, Llanelly, ditto; Nouvelle Societe, Huxtable, Whitehaven, ditto; Diana, Batchelor, Falmouth, ballast; Meter, Banks, Plymouth, ballast and wrappers; Aurora, Nicholls, London, m. goods; Auspicious, Drewell, Portsmouth, ballast.

4th—Two Sisters, Webb, London, m. goods; Sandwich and Camden Packets.

SAILED,

2d—Freeling Packet.
3d—Minerva, Mills, London, bacon, butter, pork, and lard; Earl Leicester Packet. Put back—Minerva, Mills.
4th—Wind S. at 9 a.m.

POTASHES.

NICHOLAS HEARN hourly expects the arrival of 150 Barrels of New York POTASHES, of first Quality, which he will dispose of on most moderate Terms.

Waterford, Dec. 4, 1816.

TO BE LET,

TOGETHER OR IN DIVISIONS,
AND IMMEDIATE POSSESSION GIVEN,
For Six Months from the 28th day of November Instant,

ALL that and those the TOWN and LANDS of BALLYADAM, in the County of Waterford, containing 139 Acres and 24 Perches, lately in the possession of Francis Sullivan, his Under-Tenants, or Assigns; which Lands have been evicted for Non-Payment of Rent. A longer Term will be given, if not redeemed within the Six Months.

Apply to Edmond Power, Esq. Gurteen---or to Anthony M. Ryan, Sun-Lodge---or George Christian, Esq. Attorney. November 29, 1816.

CHANCERY.

John Claud. Beresford, and Others, *Plaintiffs*; The Executors & Devizees of the late Edmond Stevenson, and Others, *Defendants*.

PURSUANT to the final Decree of His Majesty's High Court of Chancery in Ireland, made in this Cause, and bearing date the 13th day of July, 1816, I will, on Monday, the 18th day of November next, at the Hour of One o'Clock in the Afternoon of said Day, at my Chambers on the Inns Quay, Dublin, set up and sell by Public Cant, to the highest and fairest Bidder, the several Properties hereafter mentioned, Parts of the Estate of the late Edmond Stevenson, of Three Stakes, in the County of Wexford, Esq. deceased, or a competent Part thereof, for the Purposes in said Decree mentioned—that is to say,

OF THE CHATTEL PROPERTY.

A PROFIT RENT of £8 per Annum, arising out of a House in the Square in the City of Waterford, held under the Dean and Chapter, with a *toties quoties* Clause of Renewal.

OF THE FREEHOLD PROPERTY.

The TOWN and LANDS of BALLYVOILE, situate in the County of Waterford, and the several TOWNS and LANDS of COOLBEG, DUCAORMICK, KILTRA, & HOLOMORE, situate in the County of Wexford.---Dated this 26th day of Oct. 1816.

WILLIAM HENN.

For Rental and further Information apply to Ball and Wilson, Plaintiffs' Solicitors, No. 7, Frederick-street South, Dublin---or to Lyle and Burke, Solicitors, No. 2, Holles-street, Dublin, and in the City of Waterford.

☞ The above Sale is ADJOURNED to Monday, the 16th day of December instant, at the Hour of Two o'Clock in the Afternoon, at the Place above mentioned.
Dec. 2, 1816. WILLIAM HENN.