

Mr. Carew Smith was accordingly called to the Bar, and underwent a long examination. The questions and answers were at times so inaudible, that we were frequently unable to catch his words.

The examination of Mr. Carew Smith continued until 11 o'clock, when Mr. Gould was called to the Bar. This gentleman's testimony had not closed until half past 12, when, on the motion of Sir Robert Wilson, the further examination of evidence was postponed until this day.

LONDON.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9. We have received Paris Papers of Saturday last. The Monitor contains an Ordinance of the King, constituting six new Peers, including those who had been deprived of their seats by the Ordinance of the 24th July, 1815.

Wednesday night, the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester returned to town from Lisibon. Yesterday, soon after one o'clock, their Royal Highnesses left Gloucester-house for Windsor.

Wednesday, March 10. The Marquis D'Omond, late Ambassador from the French Court, is still remaining here, on account of the severe illness of the Lady, the Marchioness, but which, it is hoped, is now recovering. The new Ambassador from France is expected over in a few days.

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transport, for conveying troops to South America—the Clarence, of 315 tons, and the W. Langton, of 275 tons. It is understood they pay three months in advance.

The House of Commons, last night, Mr. Griffin gave notice of his intention to bring forward, on the 23rd of next month, a motion on the disabilities affecting the Roman Catholics.

Thursday, March 11. We have been favoured with the inspection of letters from Monte Video, of the 24th and 25th Nov. It would appear by them, that the inhabitants of that place did not entertain the idea that the Spanish expedition, preparing in Spain, would make a visit there, although it was conjectured that it would make an attack upon Buenos Ayres.

Friday, March 12. The claims of the English merchants on the Court of Russia for the value of 140 vessels and cargoes under neutral flags, detained by the Government of St. Petersburg in the year 1810, are likely to be at length adjusted. It will be recollected that a D. putation, at the head of which was Mr. Alderman Rowcroft, was sent from London to the Russian Emperor, to seek compensation from the Emperor for losses sustained by British subjects.

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the neighbourhood, who was present at this horrible discovery, was so impressed with terror, that she was struck with a shivering fit, and almost instantly expired in the most terrible convulsions. The most active researches are making, it is ascertained that they have taken off about 20,000 francs, or the rubouts, in gold. They left behind them sacks of money and other valuables, which, apparently, they could not take with them. The Gentleman on foot, and it is hoped, that the wretched perpetrators of this crime will not elude justice.—Paris Paper.

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NEW AND FASHIONABLE CABINET AND UPHOLSTERY WAREHOUSE, CHRIST-CHURCH-LANE. BARTHOLOMEW FITZPATRICK begs to inform his Friends and the Public, that he has received from his Commission in the above Establishment, and wishes them to call on him at his new and fashionable Furniture Warehouse, which he has at present an elegant Assortment of the most fashionable FURNITURE, which he will dispose of at reasonable Terms.

BLEACHING. PATRICK RYAN, of O'Connell's Barrack Yard, in the County of Wexford, respectfully informs his Friends and the Public, that his BLEACHING GREEN has been extensively tried out for the Season, and is now ready for the Reception of LINENS. RYAN avails himself of the Experience of his grandfather, who has been a successful Bleacher for the very best of his time, and assures them that no Attention, Trouble, or Expense, shall be spared in finishing, as usual, in a superior style, such LINENS as shall be committed to his Charge.

CORN STORE TO LET. MARGARET SMITH will let her STORE, OFFICE, and CONSIGNMENT, on the Quay, Waterford, for a long or short time, to any Person who may be desirous of occupying the same, for the purpose of storing Corn, Flour, or any other Goods, and who may be desirous of having the same insured, at a moderate Rate. Application to be made at the Office of the said Store, on the Quay, Waterford, March 10, 1819.

ATROCIOUS ASSAULT. WHEREAS my House was violently entered on the Night of Monday, the 1st of March, 1819, and my Person and Property placed in danger—I hereby offer the Reward of Ten Guinea's to any Person, or Persons, who shall, within Six Months from the date hereof, enable me to prosecute to conviction the Offenders. GEORGE QUIN.

Wanted. A MAN thoroughly acquainted with the Fabric and Construction of all kinds of TIMBER, both for Naval and Country Purposes. ALSO WANTED. AN ACTIVE, INTELLIGENT PERSON, experienced and well versed in the Planning and Laying out of Towns, and in the Management of Traders. Some few more apply, but those who can give the most respectable References as to Character and Abilities, will be preferred. Application to be made to the Office of DUMAS, DESERT, Kilkenny (by Letter, post-paid). March 10, 1819.

FOR NEW YORK, WITH LIBERTY TO TOUCH AND LAND PASSENGERS AT St. John's, New Brunswick. THE WELL-KNOWN, FAST-SAILING BRIG MARIA, Master, 187 Tons Burden. Manner Cosgrove, Master, 187 Tons Burden.

FOR QUEBEC, THE FINE COPPERED SHIP AEOLUS, OF WATERFORD, ROBERT THOMAS, Master, 200 Tons Burden. FOR CHARLOTTE TOWN, PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, THE BRIG JANE, OF WATERFORD, MICHAEL MCGATH, Master, 280 Tons Burden.

FOR HALIFAX, OR PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, THE BRIG FOUR BROTHERS, OF WATERFORD, PATRICK HURLEY, Master, 160 Tons Burden. All these Vessels will sail early in April, and have excellent Accommodations for Passengers.

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TO BE LET, FROM THE 25th MARCH INSTANT. THIRTY ACRES OF THE LANDS OF GRACEFIELD, and from the 25th of September next, the THIRTY AND SIXTEEN ACRES OF THE LANDS OF KNOCK-HILL, as they are called by Mr. Richard Kelly. Also, the HOUSE at the Mills, lately occupied by Mrs. FINE, and TWO ACRES and a COACH-HOUSE in College-Street.

NEW STATE LOTTERY, TO COMMENCE DRAWING ON TUESDAY, THE 23rd OF MARCH, in which a Silver Medal worth £20,000. The Contract for the NEW MARCH LOTTERY is only TEN THOUSAND TICKETS.

MONEY TO BE LENT, FROM £500 TO £800. Apply to GEORGE IRLE, Waterford—by Letter, post-paid. Feb 13, 1819.

M'DOUGALL'S WOOLLEN AND HAT WAREHOUSE. P. M'DOUGALL has this Day Landed, from the Cape, a Quantity of superfine CLOTHS, CASIMERES, WAIST COATINGS, &c. &c.—which are directed from London. He has likewise received an Addition to his extensive Stock of HATS, HATS, & HOSIERY, and will dispose of them on reasonable terms, either Wholesale or Retail.

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DELIGHTFUL SITUATION. TO BE LET, FOR A LONG TERM OF YEARS, FROM THE 25th MARCH INSTANT, ABOUT THIRTY ACRES OF LANDS OF RYTHE, in the County of Wick, adjoining Newpark and Sowerby, on the River side, and immediately opposite Magyork and Broom. Such Persons as may be desirous of an eligible Situation for Building, are referred to a View of the Ground, for a full idea of its Beauty and extent of Prospect, than could be possibly conveyed by any description in the compass of an Advertisement.

FLAX AND LINEN TRADE. [FROM THE 10th OF MARCH REPORTED.] Report of the Sub-Committee, appointed by the County of Cork Linen Association, at the General Meeting held at the Linen Hall, on Monday, the 1st Feb. The principal causes, which originated the formation of the Committee, for promoting the cultivation of Flax, and encouraging the Linnen Trade in the South of Ireland, and the extreme depression of the Linnen Trade, and the consequent want of a sufficient supply of Flax, and the difficulty of finding it, in the existing state of things, a sufficiency of capital, or a population which has increased in a ratio greatly beyond the means of comfortable subsistence.

The pressure upon the more affluent classes, was naturally resulting from the distress of the Poor, has been equally severe—and the object of the Committee was, by the introduction of useful employment, to diminish the necessity of gratuitous charity, and to render that same gratuitous relief, profitable, and happy, in the same proportion that it is at present burdensome and miserable. By contributing to supply the pressing wants of our fellow-subjects, we are not only fulfilling an important duty; but by seeking to provide for their useful employment, we are also promoting their moral and political improvement, of which nothing can be more destructive than idleness.

Your Sub-Committee, therefore, conceive that they shall most effectually promote those objects which you have directed, their attention, while urging the improvement of the Linnen Trade in the South of Ireland, they keep in view rather the means of yielding useful employment to the greatest possible number of hands; than the attempt to encourage, by suggesting the investment of large capitals, a competition with the Northern Counties in the superior quality and finish of the fabric.

Having thus facilitated to themselves the duties assigned them, by limiting the range of their inquiries within that compass which the peculiar circumstances of this County seem to point out, they have come to an opinion, and simple conclusion—that all the advantages which the Committee can rationally contemplate, as likely to arise from their present exertions, will be derived, if not immediately, yet gradually and permanently, from a steady, earnest, and vigorous effort on the part of those in the County who possess rank, property or influence to promote our main object. A general and continued cultivation of Flax, if not on the land in their own occupancy, yet what is infinitely more important, among the poor and labouring classes of the presantry, over whom your Sub-Committee would most strenuously recommend that they exercise for this purpose a power which they possess in as ample a degree as they may please to exert it; not the authority of the Master over his Tenant, but the control of the guardian over his dependant. This vital point, the increased cultivation of Flax among the poorer classes, once attained, and the vigilance of the gentry perseveringly exercised in continuing the acquired habit, the improvement and ultimate prosperity of the Linnen Trade in the County of Cork must follow as necessarily as an abundant crop is the result of good husbandry and a propitious season. If the spirit of industry be thus excited and kept alive, the working classes will themselves require no further aid from their superiors; having a ready market for their goods, superior large the quantity, they will soon render all further interference in the trade unnecessary. Rather than continue to express and even to feel regret at the wretched indigence of a population deemed redundant, because, while it is putrid, it is not yet judiciously aided, let us labour to terminate those calamities we deplore; let us, by encouraging industry, seek to scatter plenty over a smiling land;—and, soon will it be ready to flourish in a nation's eyes.

Considering it, then, as admitted, that the labouring class will continue annually to extend the cultivation of Flax, if their superiors will, with a zeal and perseverance which such an effort requires, use their influence to produce a desirable effect, your Sub-Committee proceed to a detail of the means which appear to them best calculated to excite the higher orders to these ex-

WATERFORD MARKET PRICES—MARCH 17. Butter, first quality, 109 0 105 0. second, 95 0 91 0. third, 80 0 76 0. Tallow, rendered, 94 0 100 0. Lard, made, 89 0 82 0. Cakes, rendered, 74 0 80 0. Beef, 80 0 80 0. Pig, singed, 53 0 56 0. Pork, scalded, 48 0 53 0. Pork Official, 36 0 38 0. Pig's Heads, 31 0 33 0. Newfoundland Fish, 20 0 24 0. Onions, 18 0 19 0. Flour, first quality, 40 0 41 0. second, 37 0 39 0. third, 34 0 36 0. Wheat, 41 0 42 0. Barley, mashing, 29 0 27 0. Shipping, 30 0 33 0. Onions, 16 0 16 0. Potatoes, 10 0 10 0. Coal, Whitehaven, 3 4 3 10. Newport, 3 0 3 0. Fresh Butter, 2 0 2 4. Tallow, rough, 6 0 10 0. Potatoes, by weight, 0 54 0 7. Potatoes, by measure, 0 11 0 1. Butter, 0 6 0 8. Butter, 0 7 0 8. Fresh Butter, 0 5 0 5. Milk, 0 2 0 4. Milk Returns, per gallon, 11 0 12 0. Corn Returns for the Week ending on Saturday last. 95 Barley Wheat, £2 26 10 d. 95 Oats, £1 10 0 d. Averaging £1 10 4 d. 95 Barley, £1 5 7 d.

heard Mr. Swann ask Charles Lucas for his vote, and saw him take £8 out of his pocket and give it to Mr. Gooch, who counted them out to Lucas. Lucas took up the notes, and said that would not do, he must have £12; then Mr. Gooch said that he would be answerable for the other £5; then Lucas gave his word that he would vote for Mr. Swann. In page 33, W. Holland says, that "he saw Mr. Dunsford throw some notes on Mr. Trathan's table, and heard him say to Trathan, 'there was £10 for him,' and ask whether that would content him, saying further, 'he hoped that would satisfy him, and he would stand his friend to-morrow.' Mr. Swann at the same time tapped him on the shoulder. Cock next day saw Mr. Dunsford bringing Mr. Trathan by the left hand into the hall, and having him polled." In page 37, Francis Major swears, that "Abey (Abraham) Winn gave him £10 and said, 'Now, I hope you will vote for Mr. Swann and Sir Christopher Hawkins'; he said, 'No, he would do no such thing; he had given his word to Mr. Anderson, and meant to stand by him.' Well, then," said Mr. Winn, "for Swann and Anderson." He did vote for Mr. Swann and Mr. Anderson. He received two pounds after the Election from Mr. Winn. The Honourable Member called upon the House to consider that he stated facts, and hoped that they would find that he stated those facts fairly. (Hear, hear!) He would now proceed to offer some observations on the evidence produced for Mr. Swann. The first witness was John Gooch, who swears, page 43, that "Mr. Swann certainly did never give him, or count out to him, any sum of money to give to Lucas." In page 44, he denies that he had any knowledge of any conversation about the giving of money in Mr. Trathan's, although he remained there as long as Mr. Swann. In page 49, the answer of this same witness to a question about one Jenkins deserves the attention of the House.

Re-examined by Mr. Harrison, on behalf of the sitting Member—"You have been asked, whether you had any conversation with Jenkins, and whether you made any offer to Jenkins on the subject of his vote; which you declined answering, as you had a right to do. I ask you, whether you were directed by Mr. Swann to make any offer to Jenkins?" "No; I was not."

"Were you desired by Mr. Swann to make that offer; or was what you did of your own desire to promote Mr. Swann's interest, that you made that offer to Jenkins?" "Mr. Chairman, am I bound to answer that? I can explain it if it is wished."

"You are not bound to answer it; you may decline answering any question leading to any thing that may show any improper zeal on your part."—"I had rather not answer any question which relates to that transaction." In page 50, the Committee decide, that "W. Trathan was a competent witness to the general transactions of the election; but that he could not be examined to rebut the evidence of the fact of his having been himself bribed." A most material evidence was thus entirely shut out. It did not appear to him how a witness sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, could be properly so restricted or prevented from being heard in explanation or extenuation of evidence affecting himself. The decision of the Committee was final, but it was upon him to draw what inference he pleased. In page 51, the witness swears, that Mr. Anderson called upon him with Mr. Mitchell, also an attorney's clerk, and told him if he would give him ten notes, he would put him as a master of one of his company's vessels from the port of London to the West Indies. Notwithstanding the oath, he swears, "that he is sure that, while Anderson and Paul Williams were at his house, and when at his house, people were passing backwards and forwards near his house." The Honourable Member, after commenting upon these statements for some time longer, said that he was sorry to perceive, that evidence had been admitted on one side, which had been rejected when offered on the other. He could not see in what manner such a procedure was to be reconciled with justice, and was therefore unable to conjecture on what grounds it had been adopted. He then pointed out certain cases in which questions had been allowed to be put to the witnesses in one part of the examination, and not allowed in another, and contrasted certain points in which the testimony of the two parties appeared to be inconsistent. In conclusion, he stated, that in pursuing the course which he had undertaken, he had not been actuated by any party motives, for he was unconnected with either of them; but he had been impelled by a sense of public duty to propose the investigation which he now submitted. He could not help thinking that this was a case which deserved the interference of the House as much as any case which had ever been submitted to its notice. By animadverting upon it in the severe and rigorous manner which justice required, the House would show, that though it was averse to vague and visionary reform, it was not opposed to a real and tangible reform. It was his opinion, that the throwing open of boroughs so corrupt and rotten as the borough of Penryn seemed to be, would be attended with great advantage both to the House and Country; and he should therefore move as an amendment, That a Committee be appointed to inquire into the corrupt and illegal practices which took place in the borough of Penryn, at and previous to the last election.

The SPEAKER rose to order, and said that the Honourable Member's motion could not be adopted as an amendment to the present question. The question before the House was, That the Speaker do issue a new writ for the Borough of Penryn. The Honourable Member's intention seemed to be, that the writ should be postponed till some parliamentary investigation had taken place regarding the propriety of such a measure. He should, therefore, suggest to the Honourable Member, that the best method of carrying his intention into effect would be, by moving that the words of the original question, after the word "writ," be erased, and that the issue of the writ till some day to be nominated by the Honourable Member himself.

Sir C. BURRELL acceded to this proposal, and at first proposed that the issue of the writ be postponed till the day following, but afterwards (as we understand) at the suggestion of some Members near him, altered it to this day month.

The SPEAKER then put the question, when the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER rose to oppose it. He saw nothing in the Honourable Member's speech which ought to lead the House to alter the constitution of Parliament. (Hear, hear!) The Hon. Baronet had certainly shown that bribery had occurred in some few instances, but not so generally as to justify the disfranchisement of the great body of the electors. He thought that the House ought to pause before they inflicted a punishment, which would fall with equal severity on the innocent and guilty, and which would subject to equal penalties the man who had accepted, and the man who had refused, the bribes which had been offered him. (Hear, hear!) After some other remarks, which were totally inaudible in the gallery, from the low tone of voice in which they were made, the Hon. Member proceeded to argue, as far as we could hear, which was far from distinctly, that there was not a more injurious course for the House to pursue, than to appoint a second Committee to try over the proceedings of the first. It had been started in the discussion of the report, that the bribery in this borough had been general; but he could assure them, that it was no such thing; what little there had been, had been much exaggerated by idle gossiping and tittle-tattle. He trusted that this case would not be considered of such a nature as to call for so severe a step as the disfranchisement of the borough.

Sir JAMES MACKINTOSH then said, that he had listened with some attention to the few arguments which the Hon. Gentleman who had just sat down had employed in the course of his speech. By so doing he had discovered that the Hon. Gentleman had entered into many remarks which were in their tendency of much greater importance than the original question itself. That question, however, was one of the most important questions that could come before them; and in the present temper of the Country was rendered more important than ever, inasmuch as it was necessary to show the disposition of the House with regard to bribery, which such corrupt practices as had been just produced were brought before it. (Hear, hear!) He was therefore sorry to hear the words gossiping and tittle-tattle applied to facts which were so well substantiated. (Hear, hear, hear!) because they were not the words which a Minister of the Crown ought to apply to such heinous breaches of the Constitution as had been reported to the House. (Hear, hear!) He should almost suppose that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had not heard the speech of the Hon. Baronet, as he had so completely mistaken its tendency and bearing. The Hon. Baronet had not talked of disfranchising the borough; he had only told them that there was a prima facie case of bribery and corruption established against it, which called for the strictest examination, and which ought, therefore, to be investigated most narrowly and closely, in justice to the House, the Country, and the Borough which was so strongly implicated in it. As the Hon. Baronet had not said a word about disfranchisement, the arguments used against it were inapplicable, and did not require any notice from him. He could not, however, in justice to that Hon. Member, refrain from saying, that his conduct in this business had been highly laudable, and had given him a fair title to the thanks of the House and the Country, inasmuch as he had brought the question forward in a manner well calculated to reconcile the People to the laws and constitution as they existed; at present, any man who had read the minutes of evidence, must have seen that there was a complexion of corruption in the whole business from beginning to end; and the question in consequence was, whether it was such a colour and such a complexion as authorised inquiry. In his opinion it certainly was sufficient, especially when he recollected, what the Chancellor of the Exchequer seemed to have forgotten, that in the last Parliament the election of the Members returned had been avoided on account of bribery. With regard to the argument that the appointment of another Committee would be to retry the case; he maintained that it would be no such thing. The former Committee had concluded its sittings, had given in its report, had declared the sitting Member to be unduly elected, and nothing could again call it into existence. The Committee now moved for had not to retrace the investigation which the previous Committee had begun; it had only to inquire, whether the borough of Penryn had not been guilty of such corrupt and illegal practices as required the interference of Parliament; and whether its inhabitants had not betrayed the most sacred trust

which could be confided in them—the privilege of election. But then, says the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the House has not the power of examining witnesses upon oath. What then had become of those decisions which had been made previously to the passing of the Grenville Act? If the Hon. Gent. meant to say, that the House could under no circumstances administer an oath, what did he say of the proceedings in impeachment, or what in the proceedings, which he did not mean to defend, on bits of paper? To use such language was to argue in principle on which our forefathers had acted, and was calculated to bring into contempt both the justice and the jurisdiction of the House. He, therefore, must treat every objection which was founded on the principle, that the House was not able to administer an oath, as in direct to the question. The Hon. Gentleman then proceeded to argue on the necessity of appointing another Committee, because the last-appointed Committee had no right to inquire into the corrupt practices which had existed previously to the late election. Great evidence of them had come incidentally upon their minutes, though, in his opinion, it was not sufficient to disfranchise the borough of Penryn. It was, however, worth considering, whether these incidental discoveries were not such as ought to lead the House to prosecute the investigation further, and to reflect, whether they ought not to transfer the elective franchise to those who would make a better use of it than its present possessors. Such a line of conduct was most calculated to vindicate the honour and integrity of Parliament, and he should, in consequence, vote for the motion of the Hon. Baronet.

Mr. A. WRIGHT said, that very early in the Committee, so early as on the second day of the inquiry, he had heard more than one Gentleman talk as if the borough were to be disfranchised. (The Honourable Member spoke in so low a tone that we could not understand whether he opposed or supported the motion.)

The Hon. F. DOUGLAS considered the question of importance, inasmuch as it showed the practices which were only too common in many boroughs. He would go so far as to suggest the issuing of the writ; and if the Borough were found guilty of the practices imputed to it, would vote for merging the right of suffrage in the voters of the neighbouring Hundreds. He was less inclined than many Members of the House to support the cause of Reform. Because, though he saw many of the evils which existed in the present system, he was still of opinion, and he fully investigated into the nature of Government.—He was, however, anxious for investigation into all such cases, whenever they occurred, and especially when they occurred in open rotten boroughs, where it was well known that the great abuses existed. In the present case, he should consider the matter judicially as far as regarded the borough, and constitutionally as far as regarded Parliament. (Hear, hear!) He did not think it requisite, that bribery should be brought home to all the electors before a borough could be disfranchised—no such thing—such evidence had never been required in any of the precedents to which he had been able to refer. In the borough of Cricklade, though many of the electors were convicted of bribery, great numbers had actually proved not to have received any; and yet the value of their suffrage had been equally diminished to them all. In Sturton, the whole borough had been disfranchised, because one party had endeavoured to oppress the other, and he therefore could not conceive, after these cases, that the House could labour under such difficulty in the present instance. When he recollected all the particulars under which the circumstances now known to the House had come to his knowledge; when he recollected that each party only brought forward such witnesses as could speak to particular facts; when he reflected that many of the transactions had only been discovered by cross-examination of reluctant witnesses; when he recollected that meetings had been held to deliberate on the price of their votes, and that one man had even refused to vote till the price had been paid up; when he recollected the public breakfasts, and the extraordinary purposes which they were made to serve; and when he also recollected the practices which had transpired before a former Committee of the House, he could not help feeling that the House was called upon to enter into an investigation; if that investigation should be found more difficult than he expected, still (he understood him to say), under the present discoveries, he was of opinion that the writ should no longer be returned to the Electors of Penryn.

Sir F. BURDETT could not partake in the virtuous indignation displayed by the House on this question, because he had long been aware that the practices which had called it forth were as notorious as the sun at noon-day. When he recollected that, on one of the King's Ministers being accused of trafficking in seats of Parliament, the accusation was met and stopped by this declaration, he did not see what right the House had to assume so much of the pride of virtue upon this occasion. It was hard to say, and it would be still more hard to get any man in that House to believe, that the other boroughs were more immaculate than the borough of Penryn; and, therefore, when he heard such loud boasts about purity of election, privileges of Parliament, breaches of those privileges, and so forth, he looked upon them as nothing more than gaudy topics of declamation—"speaking words, or making noise." Such proceedings as were now contemplated were not in his opinion calculated to do much good; inasmuch

as they would only render those corrupt practices more secret, but not a whit less pernicious. He did not see that Mr. Swann was at all more to be trusted than a great many Gentlemen who were fortunate enough to retain their seats, nor that Penryn and its electors were at all more culpable than the boroughs and electors in many other parts of England, and especially the West. Mr. Swann might say to some of those who now censured him so severely, "Mutata nomine, the case applies to yourself—you have been guilty of bribery as well as I." (Hear, hear! no, no! order!) What pretence was there for saying, that he was more virtuous in Old Sarum, or even in Knaresborough, though represented by the Honourable and Learned Gentleman (Sir J. Mackintosh) than in Penryn? It was perfectly notorious that £100 or £5000 were taken for seats by great numbers of boroughs; and why should indignation be so vehement against a body of men, who, being their living to get, had accepted a paltry £20 a piece? On the contrary, it should seem that these individuals had been remarkably moderate in their demands, and had set an example to the rest of the tribe that might be followed to advantage, for they had given a seat for the comparatively small sum of £2500. It was ridiculous to talk of an inquiry like that; it was a mere mockery to suppose that it would accomplish any good end; the honour of the House, or if that were begged the question, (hear, hear!) at all events the sense of the Country, demanded a general and immediate investigation of the whole subject. By truth, the character of the House, and the trust that ought to be felt for it out of doors, had been lost, by idle opposition to it. (Order, order!) He could not, therefore, agree to the discharge of the writ of Penryn, or to any step that would go to lengthen it; it would be a gross act of injustice to punish an individual who had not sinned more than a great many others who were untouched, and a borough which was not worse, and probably not so corrupt as a great number of others that could be mentioned. It was well known, no Gentleman could venture to deny, that bribery had been committed in a thousand other instances; (Order, hear, hear!) and the punishment of it in the present case, instead of correcting the evil of the House, would have directly a contrary effect; it would be considered in the Country as a proceeding where injustice was backed by hypocrisy. The folly of it also was apparent, for no man would be imposed upon out of doors; no man with his eyes open would believe that it was very thing but a trick and contrivance—a pretence to induce the weak and elderly to imagine that Parliament was desirous to purge its self of corruption, when in truth it was only anxious to cover its iniquity. (Cheers, and cries of order.) For his own part, he (Sir F. Burdett) would not rather that boroughs were at once rendered legally and publicly saleable, as at an auction, because he knew that there were many honest and able men in the kingdom who would willingly give £4000 or £5000 for a seat in the House, if they could do it fairly and properly, that they might bring forward schemes which they thought would benefit and illustrate their country. (Hear, hear!) They wished, and he wished, that the system of secret nomination and secret influence should be totally abolished, and that the moral of the Country should no longer be undermined, and the character of the House impaired, by such nefarious practices. Why should not boroughs be sold as marketable, he repeated, as if marketable like any other commodity? For those reasons he protested against all measures of severity against any of the parties concerned in these transactions.

Mr. BRAND said, that he would not yield to any man, not even to the Hon. Baronet, in zeal for his favourite cause of Parliamentary Reform; but he rose to protest against the view that had been just taken of this question. (Hear, hear!) He was most anxious to witness the amendment of the existing system of representation; and he had indulged a sanguine expectation, that such an amendment would have been accomplished, until the hope was checked and blasted by wild and visionary schemes, like those which had not been noticed. (Cheers from all sides.) All those who had sincerely and strenuously, disinterestedly, constantly, looked forward to this object, had been repelled, at least for a time, by the violence and extravagance of the doctrines of a certain body of Parliamentary Reformers. He (Mr. Brand) was not one of those who, because he could not obtain a general revision of the system, would avail themselves of the opportunity of detecting and punishing the most flagrant and abandoned practices. It had been said by the Right Honourable Gentleman, that there was evidence on which the House could proceed; but it meant to be asserted, that he knew the Member in his place asserted that he knew the Member in a certain borough candidate or voter had been guilty of bribery, that an inquiry could not be instituted? Next, it had been argued, that as the House could not investigate upon oath, that all inquiry ought to be abandoned upon oath; that he ought to be recollected, that a great deal probably yet remained behind, and which had been fully excluded in the Committee, because it did not touch either of the parties; but that body had not power enough, nor sufficient cause, to enter fully into the matter, but on this very account it was more the duty of the House not to allow the matter to drop. Given was the only witness whose evidence was not unimpeached; the rest were assailed in one or another; and Mr. Peter Bradyn appeared to

have been prepared throughout. He (Mr. Brand) thought the suggestion of the Hon. Member for Sheriff (Denison) well deserving attention.—What he had thrown out was a most wholesome and beneficial species of reform, and if it could not be done in the particular case, he was sorry for it; he wished to see the right of election taken wholly from such places, and given to more populous towns, such as Birmingham or Manchester; or if the landed interest were not adequate to represent, let it be conferred upon one of the divisions of Yorkshire. As to unity in the right of voting, it was the most absurd of all absurd projects; it was a chimerical and fanatical idea, that he believed had not entered into the head of any man who had sensibly reflected on the question. One of the great advantages of the present system was, that unity of voting did not exist. (Hear, hear!) He hoped that the Right Hon. Gentleman would take time to reconsider the determination he had stated, and enable the House by unanimity in this vote to give a satisfactory answer to the Country on the question, how it had discharged its duties in a case of such flagrant delinquency. (Hear, hear!)

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER explained; but it was with difficulty we caught a single sentence he uttered. He could not obtain a hearing for some time, in consequence of the cries of "speak, speak!" and "question, question!" He explained, that he should not have objected to a short postponement of the issuing of the writ, but he intended to resist further inquiry.

Mr. BEAUFORT supported the motion for a Committee, although he was not friend to the general question of Reform.

Mr. MARLIN (of Galway) opposed the delay of the writ, on the ground that it would appear to be a continuance to the question of Parliamentary Reform. The charge of bribery had only been brought home to a few Electors, and disfranchisement of the borough would make the innocent suffer for the guilty.

Mr. BANKES contrary to the proposed inquiry by a Committee against all parliamentary practice. He agreed, that where a gross case of corruption had been made out, disfranchisement and disfranchisement was the most unexceptionable and practicable mode of reform; and that had been so in cases of Shrewsbury and Aylesbury; but they were clearly distinguishable from the case now before the House—here the Committee had laid no ground whatever for any alternative step, and the House could not proceed otherwise in the face of the minutes. At the same time, he was not disposed to exclude all remedy, by granting the writ, and though the proposed delay was rather too long, he should not object to that part of the motion. He was by no means opposed to a second system of Parliamentary Reform, but he was concerned that there were better modes of accomplishing the object, than by pulling down on one side the whole fabric of the Constitution. There was no instance in old times, but especially since the passing of the Grenville Bill, of the appointment of a second Committee after a first had concluded its labours. He did not concur in the observation, that the House could not inquire judicially, because it could not, in a case like this, examine upon oath. He was not aware that the administration of an oath to witnesses under those circumstances would be attended with any advantages. He objected to the appointment of a second Committee merely because it was not authorized by precedent, and because it would give the House too much power; it would tend to draw every thing into the vortex of the House of Commons. It was true that this was the second time Penryn had been before the House, but still he did not see his way clearly in going further than delaying the issue of the writ.

Sir JOHN NEWPORT argued, that if the former Committee were functus officio, that it was the strongest reason for appointing a new body of the same kind, and with more extensive powers, to embrace not merely matters brought home to the members or to the petitioners, but to the electors. If the House refused to investigate further, it would establish a precedent for not examining into any case of corruption, however gross, unless they were brought home to one of the candidates. (Hear, hear!) It was clear that the borough of Penryn had proceeded since 1807 not only in general corruption, but to the same system of corruption which had then been detected; it had almost been brought home by the same parties, and if the Committee had only reported against a few electors, yet at two meetings, where 80 or 100 were present, the most corrupt propositions were made for tendering themselves for sale to the non-law of a Bank Director, who could come down with a certain sum of money. Though the House would not countenance the doctrines of Annual Parliaments and Universal Suffrage—though it rejected wild and visionary plans of reform—yet it owed it to the Country, and to those who looked with suspicion upon its conduct, to show that it was not reluctant to inquire into crime, and to punish the guilty. The question was not now, what town should be substituted for Penryn, but whether it ought not to be ascertained whether it was fit that any town should be substituted? These points were quite distinct, and those who voted on the one need not necessarily pledge themselves to the other.

Mr. CAREW (we believe), as one of the Members of the Committee, begged to observe, that proof of general corruption in the borough was given; it was sworn that it had been the general practice to give a breakfast, and to pre-

sent each of the electors present with £24; that Mr. Swann had been three times returned; and that he owed his present failure to an abandonment of that good old custom, which had induced the voters to call in a third Candidate, who would give them a breakfast and £24. Mr. Anderson returned the compliment by rejecting Mr. Swann's voters; and a notice was given, that the voters on each side were thrown away. The bribery oath had not been heard of; and it was generally supposed, that if any Candidate were so popular and so impolitic as to propose that it should be taken, he would be considered in Cornwall virtually disqualified. If there were no actual precedent, he thought that the House ought to find a precedent to meet this case, which, in point of grossness, was perhaps not exceeded by any upon the Journals.

Mr. W. WYNN referred to the case of the county of Hunts, as an authority for suspending the writ at present; it was true that it had not been formally suspended, but no motion had been made for it until after the minutes had been printed, eleven days after the Report of the Special Committee had been made. The question now was, whether the House should continue to suspend the writ for Penryn; and if he (Mr. Wynn) had thought that no grounds had been laid for further inquiry, he should undoubtedly dissent from the motion for suspending the writ. (Hear, hear!) He saw many matters in the evidence already printed, requiring further investigation; but in the first place it was the strong impression of many Members of the Committee, that the subject should not here be closed. It appeared beyond question, that meetings had been held, at which resolutions were agreed to, and in consequence of which a candidate had gone down; and if bribery and other corrupt practices could not be brought home to the Members, it was of great importance that the House should know how far the electors were implicated. Some hand-bills of a singular nature were also referred to in the evidence, but they were not received by the Committee, as it was not thought that it was sufficiently shown that the candidates had any concern in them. The subject required further investigation. (Hear, hear!) It was well known, that a losing candidate would not petition the House, but would rather wish to withdraw any protest of that kind. It might very possibly be made for the House's consideration, whether it was possible to extract the path taken by the Committee, so as to enable them not only to try the matter immediately before them, but to proceed upon any case of bribery that might hereafter come out during their sitting, and during the late election; and report the same, together with their opinion thereupon, to the House.

Mr. BANKES wished to know whether this was meant to be a Committee of the whole House, or a Select Committee? His object in putting the question was, not only a wish to learn what would be the most unexceptionable means of bringing this inquiry to as quick a result as possible, but also that the House should deviate as little as possible from Parliamentary usage. In this feeling he must dissent from this motion; for the inquiry was to extend practices occurring previous to and during the election; now it would necessarily require much additional evidence and information, and many other circumstances, which it would not be advisable to proceed without, and which of course would not be available to the House, if the Committee proceeded that night. He should therefore move, that the debate be postponed till Wednesday.—He heard several cries of to-morrow behind him, and had no objection to name to-morrow; but that he feared the press of business would hardly permit it to come on.

On the Speaker's putting the question of adjournment until Wednesday next, Lord CHARLES CHURCHILL, apologised for trespassing on the time of the House; but concerned as he was for the inhabitants of Penryn, and knowing the anxiety which prevailed on the subject throughout that borough, he, for one, should deprecate every thing like delay, and dissent from the motion just submitted.

Mr. DOUGLAS, in a low tone of voice, expressed his hope that no postponement would take place. An inquiry like the present should not, he thought, be deferred for a single day.

Mr. TIERNEY remarked, that the Honourable Gentleman who had spoken upon this subject appeared to be agreed upon the necessity of instituting an inquiry; but there were two questions to be found: this being a new case. But it would be a monstrous proposition, that because there were no precedents, therefore a subject of such deep and general concern should be entrusted to a Select Committee. (Hear, hear!) The only question for present consideration was, as to the notice of the inquiry; and for himself, he must acknowledge that his mind was not yet made up on that point, as he should wish to avail himself of the discussion likely to ensue. He thought, however, the call made for an adjournment of the debate was a mere pretext for delay. To-morrow, or Wednesday, or Friday, or any other day, Members would sit down no wiser than they were at present upon this head.

Mr. BANKES observed, that a very great difference of opinion appeared to prevail in that

House as to the best course of proceeding. A calling Member had very recently moved, that his own mind was not made up, and an Hon. Gentleman on the other side of the House seemed to think a Select Committee the best course, intending to vote for that if no better was suggested. But there were other modes—for instance, disfranchisement of the borough, and examination of witnesses at the bar of the House; which latter course he remembered to have been adopted on more than one occasion, during the early part of his life. A wish to delay proceedings had been attributed to him; but he would ask, whom could he serve by such delay? He had submitted his motion, merely from a wish to proceed in a regular and Parliamentary manner.

Mr. TIERNEY never meant, for one instant, to impede delay to the Hon. Gentleman; the impression on his mind was, that delay would accrue from the adoption of his motion.

Mr. SMYTH (of Cambridge) said, that the impression produced upon him by the observations of the Hon. Baronet was one unfavourable to delay; but from some remarks that had dropped from various Hon. Gentlemen subsequently, he was induced to acquiesce in the adjournment till to-morrow; and the more so, because the period assigned for the inquiry being previous to and during the election, implied the whole time of its duration; and of course a great influx of matter was to be expected, in addition to that which had been already submitted. In his view of the case, it was necessary to inquire into the past & present state of the Borough, in order to arrive at the ultimate result; and by consequence, if they waited until to-morrow, they would be in possession of grounds sit down, as he had read, expressing his intention to support the motion, as he could see no objection to the postponement.

Sir JAMES MACKINTOSH, with great deference to the opinion of an Hon. Gentleman who had spoken not long before, must declare his determination to support the motion, and would state the principle of his determination; viz. that this was a new case in which there were no precedents; there were many difficulties regarding it still unexplained, and no resolution had been yet come to, as to the most consistent method of proceeding. In the mean time, there was no difference as to the object and propriety of the inquiry, and he rejoiced that throughout that House there was not one dissident opinion upon these great and vital points. (Hear, hear!) As it was a new case, he thought the adjournment advisable.

Mr. W. WYNN did not feel quite determined whether it would be better to proceed or to defer; but at any rate he thought it would be more proper to shape the motion a little differently, and accompany it with a clause, by which the Camerons should be restrained from receiving any farther evidence than that already before them.

Sir CHARLES BURRELL explained.

The SPEAKER then put the question, and the debate was adjourned till to-morrow.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11.
GENERAL GOUGAARD.
Mr. LAMBTON said, he deemed himself bound in courtesy to inform an Hon. Gentleman whom he saw in his place (Mr. H. Clive), that he had a Petition from General Gougard, which contained a contradiction of the assertions made by the Hon. Gentleman on a former occasion. It was his intention to take an early opportunity of calling the attention of the House to that Petition, when a Noble Lord (Lord Castlereagh) was able to attend in his place.

MR. WYNDHAM QUIN.
The Order of the Day for taking into consideration the matter of complaint against the Honourable W. Wyndham Quin having been read.—
Sir R. WILSON said, that as it had fallen to his lot to present the Petition on which the House was now about to institute an inquiry, it became his duty to put such introductory questions to the witnesses who might be called to the bar, as would serve to bring forward the facts, as far as he had been made acquainted with them, and to connect the chain of evidence which it was in the power of the Petitioners to offer. His object was to obtain truth, and that in the most explicit and expeditious manner; but he begged to say, that if he trespassed on the rules of the House, or violated the laws of evidence, he hoped it would be ascribed, not to wilful error, but to his utter inexperience in such proceedings. He was convinced that no Gentleman had come to the House to act the part of a judge, without endeavouring to direct himself entirely by the evidence; but he could not conceal from himself, that an unfair impression had been made on the minds of the House by untoward circumstances. They had nothing to do, generally speaking, with the abstract motives of Petitioners, unless when they seemed likely to influence the truth of their statements. He did not conceive that any thing which had been proved against the Petitioner or his father should induce the House to relinquish the inquiry into an alleged public office of the first magnitude. The time was now come for him to say, that neither the Petitioner nor his father had any part in the fabrication of the matter of the charge; but that it rested entirely on the evidence of a Gentleman, whose character stood as high as that of any Gentleman in the House. It would be now for the House to say whether he had forfeited that high character. He should now move, that Mr. Carew Smith be called in.