

Ramsey's Waterford Chronicle.

No. 12,891.

SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1819.

PRICE FIVE PENCE.

LONDON.

SATURDAY, MAY 1.

The Paris Papers of Wednesday last have arrived. The protracted debate upon the Liberty of the Press is becoming daily more languid. General reasoning was exhausted, in the first two or three discussions, and the quibblings about phrases, and contentions about judicial forms in administering the law, necessarily lose all interest out of France. When the Chamber arrives at the third point, which is to determine the future condition of the Public Journals, the debate will probably assume more animation and value.

"We have received," says the *Moniteur*, a copy of the following letter addressed by M. de la Fayette to the Attorney-General:

"I am informed, that M. the Attorney-General has thought proper to cause proceedings to be instituted against the authors of *L'Ami de la Royauté*, on account of I know not what passage relating to myself. During 42 years, that my life has been before the Public, I never asked any writer to say any thing favourable of me, nor gave any person any unreason for having written ill of me; and though very sensible of kindness, I have never answered calumny. M. Bellart will, therefore, permit me to refuse his protection, and, without knowing the offence, to declare, that I do not consider myself offended; I disclaim all proceedings in this respect, and oppose them with all my power.

"I have the honour to salute him,
(Signed) "LA FAYETTE."
Paris, April 27, 1819."

"FRANKFORT, April 23.—Letters from Mannheim, of the 20th instant, announce, that Saut is still in existence, but that he declines daily."

The official intelligence of the landing of Gen. M'Gregor's expedition on the Spanish Main has not yet arrived, but it is said that private accounts have been received, announcing the occupation of Santa Martha by the General and his troops at the end of February, who met with no resistance whatever, as the small garrison which was composed of the militia, immediately laid down their arms.

BIRMINGHAM, April 30.—The Prince Regent is recovering to strength daily, and in consequence the Bullion is discontinued. Sir M. Tierney returned from London last night to attend his Royal Patent, but finding his Royal Highness so much improved in health, he departed again for the metropolis at an early hour this morning.

HAMBURG PAPERS of the 24th April arrived last night. Mr. Sandford, Chaplain to his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, had arrived at Hanover on the 19th, to perform the ceremony of baptizing the young Prince, the son of the Duke of Cambridge. Mr. James, the British Consul-General in the Ports of the Black Sea, died lately. His Excellency the Algerine Ambassador has removed from his temporary residence in Delahay-street, to an elegant house in Great-street, in the Strand. On the recovery of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent, his Excellency will be introduced at Carlton House, to deliver his credentials and the very rich and curious presents he has brought from Houssein Pasha, Dey of Algiers.

We are authorized to state, that in consequence of an unexpected mistake, arising, in part, from Mr. Argenatelli's late severe illness, he has been prevented from bidding for the proposed Loans, as he otherwise would have done.

The Gentlemen of the Russia Company, and others interested in the trade to Peterburgh, in pursuance of notice, have waited on the Commissioners of the Navy with terms for the supply of a considerable quantity of hemp. The Commissioners, we understand, have contracted for 3000 tons, consisting of Riga hemp, at £48 per ton, and Petersburg clean hemp, at £44 per ton.

By the Cadiz Paper of the 6th April it appears that the plague on the coast of Africa was still continuing its ravages towards the end of March, although in Tangiers and its neighbourhood there had been a great diminution of its violence. But in Rabat 10 were dying every day, and in Larache upwards of 15. In Tetuan there had died, between the 17th and 21st of March, 357 persons; in Fez, the daily amount of deaths exceeded 130; and in Mequinez they amounted to between 30 and 50.

THE PRUSSIAN AMBASSADOR.—On Thursday afternoon, at six o'clock, the Earl of Liverpool waited on his Excellency the Prussian Ambassador, at his residence in Charles-street, Berkeley-square, and remained with his Excellency until near seven o'clock, when his Lordship took leave; after which his Excellency sat down to dinner with Sir Gore Ouseley and Mr. Morier.

Yesterday, at half-past two o'clock, his Excellency rode out upon the same horse, and in the same costume, as the day before, and was accompanied only by Mr. Morier, and Mr. Willcock, his Secretary. His Excellency returned at half-past four, and dined at six. His Excellency sends up to his faithful Circassian Lady her dinner, from his own table, by his servants in the back. It is delivered by them outside of the hick drawing-room door in which she resides to her eunuchs, who are four in number, and are the only persons suffered to enter her room. Two of these are constantly in waiting on her person. His Excellency rises every morning at six o'clock, and goes down stairs to bath in a common bath, and rises from a tin-shop. Yesterday he rode in the Park about half-past three o'clock. He was attended by his Mahomedan, Mr. Morier; Sir Gore Ouseley, and his Secretary, Mr. Willcock. His Excellency appeared to enjoy the exercise, and displayed an elegant person and good horsemanship

to much advantage. His dress was magnificent, entirely of the finest Cashmere shawl; the trappings of his horse studded with diamonds and emeralds, with a gold chain of considerable value. His grey, a beautiful Arab of a large size, said to be the favorite charger of the Shah, is a present to the Prince Regent, as a mark of his peculiar esteem.

CONSUL-GENERAL OF DENMARK.

At Philadelphia, March 1, 1819.
NOTICE TO BALTIC TRADERS.—Masters of vessels bound to the Sound, or to any of the ports in the Baltic, are hereby invited to provide themselves with bills of health from the Danish Consul residing in the port, or for the State for which they clear out, as vessel, on their arrival at the Sound, without having such a bill on board, will, immediately, without any regard to any other similar document they may possess, be ordered into a quarantine observation of at least four or five days, which delay may have unpleasant consequences for the voyage, to prevent which this Notice is respectfully given.

P. PROGRES.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF

EXCHEQUER BILLS

Outstanding on the 30th April, in each Year, from 1810 to 1819, both Years included.

30th April.	1810	1811	1812	1813	1814	1815	1816	1817	1818	1819
£	1,314,000	1,314,000	1,314,000	1,314,000	1,314,000	1,314,000	1,314,000	1,314,000	1,314,000	1,314,000
1810	1,314,000	1,314,000	1,314,000	1,314,000	1,314,000	1,314,000	1,314,000	1,314,000	1,314,000	1,314,000

Edw. H. NICHOLSON,
W. C. SMYTH.

EXCHEQUER BILL-OFFER.

27th April, 1819.

The above paper is interesting at the present moment, because we have been lately told that the Country is in a state of unexampled distress, and that this is to be in a great measure attributed to the pressure of a vast mass of Unfunded Debt. The above paper does not seem to bear out this reasoning in any degree. The outstanding Exchequer Bills on the 30th ultimo was only £1,314,000, being above Eighteen Millions less than it was only a twelve-month before, and above Twenty-two Millions less than it was on the 30th of April, 1815. In fine, the Exchequer Bills now outstanding appear to be less than they have been at any time within the last eight years; so that the connection of cause and effect must be singularly reversed, if it is proposed to be considered as producing unusual embarrassments and distress.

PLANNING A MATH.

COURT OF ASSIZES—BRUSSELS, APRIL 24.

Our readers know, that of the 11 persons arrested as accomplices in the plot against the Emperor Alexander, five were liberated the 23rd of last month, and the sixth, Laborde, formerly an officer in the French service, has fled or concealed himself. The five others appeared this morning at the bar of the Court; they were Claude Andre Piger, aged 26; Curvier Francois Xavier Berth, aged 41, a wine-merchant; Francois Dieruck, aged 35, coal factor; Adolphe Pouillot (alias La Croix), aged 33, ex-officer in the French service; and Louis Bochoz, aged 30, vinegar manufacturer. Dieruck is by birth a Belgian; the others are Frenchmen. It appears from the discussions relative to the process, that, about the end of July or the beginning of August, 1818, upon the news of the Congress at Aix-la-Chapelle, and the approaching arrival of the Sovereign in that city, a celebrated French officer, Alexander Laborde, calling himself Aide-de-camp to General Vandamme, and having been obliged, as it appears, to quit France on political grounds, conceived during his absence at Brussels the following project: It was intended, with the help of some confidants, to seize on the Emperor Alexander during his journey, either in France or the Netherlands, to compel that Sovereign to sign an address to the French, tending to proclaim Francis Charles Napoleon Emperor of the French, and the Archduchess Maria Louisa, his mother, Regent; lastly, to make Napoleon Bonaparte return from the place of his exile. It even seems that in case the Emperor Alexander had refused to subscribe to this demand, they would have done violence to his person. If the Emperor signed the proclamation, it was to be taken to France, where an insurrection, excited by the conspirators, would, as they expected, overturn the throne.

PROCLAMATION TO THE FRENCH.

In the name of the Country, and of the Emperor Alexander.

Art. 1. By a decision of our Congress at Aix-la-Chapelle, we desire that the evacuation of the Army of Occupation shall take place at the end of this month, and return each to their frontier.

Art. 2. By the said Assembly of Sovereigns we pronounce, by the declaration of our Congress, that in the name of France Napoleon shall be conveyed to France, and that Prince Francis Charles Napoleon shall be declared Emperor of the French, and Maria Louisa Empress Regent. Done at our Congress of Aix-la-Chapelle, of the date of—1818.

CONSISTORY COURT, DOCTORS' COMMONS.

FRIDAY, APRIL 30.

VALIDITY OF MARRIAGE.

Lady Herbert v. Lord Herbert.

Sir Wm. Scott, after hearing Counsel for both parties, gave judgment this day on the above extraordinary case of clandestine marriage. This was a suit for restitution of conjugal rights, brought by the Dowager Princess, Duana Octavia Espinola de Butera (daughter of the Duke and Duchess de Loraine), in consequence of a marriage solemnized between her and Lord Herbert (son of the Earl of Pembroke), at Palermo, on the 17th August, 1814, Lord Herbert being then of the age of 22, and she being 32 years.

The Learned Judge observed, there was no great incongruity either between the age or condition of the parties. Both appeared personally to the suit, without being misrepresented by their guardians.

It appeared that in 1814 Lord Herbert went to the island of Sicily, and was introduced there by Lady Wm. Buntinck to the family of the Prince de Butera, then living, whose widow this lady afterwards was, when his Lordship married her, after an ardent courtship, as appeared by the correspondence; among which was first a solemn promise of marriage, and next a letter after marriage in the following strain:

"My Angel! My Angelic Wife!—When I cease to think of you with love and affection, I hope the Almighty will that moment strike me dead! My dear Angel! I am here imprisoned for our marriage, and in a few days I find you will have to go to a Convent, and likewise be imprisoned there for five years; but I hope all will be right when the matter is brought to a conclusion. Clear up, my angelic Octavia! I have had an interview with an English Gentleman, who tells me

(though this is the law of Sicily), we shall soon be released. Be of good heart, my angelic Wife! My love and affection will never forsake you as such; while I have being, I will be your dear husband; for so you may look upon me, and with as much certainty as that I am now writing to you. Farewell, my dear Angel! Your adorable picture is suspended at the head of my bed."

It appeared that the house of this Lady was the principal resort of hospitality at Palermo, and as such frequented by the English Nobility, and that Lord Herbert had been there entertaining with great kindness and hospitality, at both their town and country house; Lord Herbert, during the life time of the husband, having shown great attentions to the Lady, and which he continued by way of courtship after she became a widow. On her telling Mr. Mather (a friend of Lord Herbert's) that she was going to contract a second marriage, that gentleman expressed doubts to her of the propriety of her marriage with Lord H.; but this was not sufficient to break off the engagement. Lord H. continued to communicate with her and her friends upon the subject, when at length the marriage took place in presence of the parish priest and two other witnesses, but which was not solemnized according to the regular church forms required by the law of that Country, so as to impress it with due sanctity. The Learned Judge was of opinion it was solemn in every respect, as a ceremony of marriage; but the question was, whether the validity of such marriage according to the existing law of that Country, which was to have effect in this? It was considered a valid marriage by the law of that Country, however irregularly solemnized, it must upon the same principle be recognized as a valid marriage by the law of this Country. The law of Sicily was to be collected from the authority of the most eminent professional men of that Country, which opinions had been produced. And it was expressly declared by a decree of the Council of Trent, which formed the Canon Law of Sicily, that this was a complete valid marriage, though the parish clergyman did not perform the ceremony, but attended merely as a witness. The Counsel for Lord H. had admitted that the validity of the marriage was too strong to be resisted. The affectionate correspondence between them in the character of man and wife, and mutual cohabitation, was proved by the servants, for several days, until a separation took place by the criminal law of the Country intervening, by which, at the instance of the Earl of Pembroke, the husband, his son, was put in imprisonment in the Castel del Marie, and the wife in like manner imprisoned in a convent adjoining, where each was liable to five years' separate confinement, for having thus solemnized a clandestine marriage.

The audience began with closed doors at nine o'clock 14 witnesses were examined, and the affair adjourned to Monday. It is thought that the sittings will not be rendered public till Wednesday.

On the 8th Nov. Piger set out for Boussa, where he arrived on the 10th at noon; he learned that Gaudri had removed to the neighbourhood of Binche; but he spoke to a female relation of his, and desired her to carry the letter to Gaudri. Then he returned to Mainz, where he was arrested on the 11th.

On the 9th, during the absence of Piger, Bochoz and Lacroix bought at Brussels pistols, powder, &c. which were deposited in the house of La Croix. For the purpose, as they have said, of giving more confidence to the conspirators. It is in fact proved, that La Croix let his accomplices know that he was in possession of the arms, and used them on occasion; and that he even endeavored to engage more persons in the plot. The same day (the 9th), Berth, who had so much contributed to the departure of Piger, disclosed the mission of the latter, and gave all the details of the affair to a person of distinction in the city, who immediately gave information of it to his Majesty the King of the Netherlands. The consequence was the arrest of the different parties.

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received these two papers from Dieruck, (revelated with satisfaction, "Now we shall smother Napoleon and Alexander into France."

It was at this time that Piger wrote, from the dictation of Laborde, the proclamation to the French (added below), to the foot of which they intended to make the Emperor Alexander annex his signature; they took into the plot another person, namely Pouillot (or Lacroix), formerly a French officer, who in his turn communicated the particulars to Louis Bochoz; the latter at this account exclaimed that it was an affair which was better than that of the Duke of Wellington; because, said he to Pouillot, "I shall do my part; this was the 23rd of November. The same day Lacroix and Bochoz appeared to the Magistrate, to whom they denounced the plot; they were ordered to watch the conspirators, and give an account of what passed; but it will be seen that they departed from the passive part which had been assigned them.

On the 7th of November it was agreed with Dieruck to suppress his first letter, and that he should write to Gaudri another letter in stronger terms, and that he should also supply some money. He wrote this letter as La Croix desired it; and when it was given to Piger, La Croix urged him to set out immediately to Boussa, to procure 40 men, most of them late soldiers in the Guard. La Croix gave him 20 guineas for his expenses; he also observed, that to inspire the smugglers with more respect, Piger ought to be armed and better dressed; in his consequence, Berth lent him a cane, the head of which was Napoleon Bonaparte, and advised him to show this rallying sign both to Gaudri and to his friends.

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On the 8th Nov. Piger set out for Boussa, where he arrived on the 10th at noon; he learned that Gaudri had removed to the neighbourhood of Binche; but he spoke to a female relation of his, and desired her to carry the letter to Gaudri. Then he returned to Mainz, where he was arrested on the 11th.

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small stills was acted upon, to which it was now proposed to recur. In the years alluded to, the numbers destroyed were as follows—

In 1810	6,558
1811	6,619
1812	6,619
Making a total of	19,796

It would thus be seen the numbers destroyed in the three years amounted to nearly 20,000. After all this, the evil, far from being diminished, emerged from the mountainous parts, to which it had previously been confined, to the plain countries, and spread itself almost all over Ireland. Ireland, in fact, seemed one scene of illicit distillation from one end of the country to the other. The revenue diminished, the legal distillers and the Chambers of Commerce petitioned the House to return to the ancient practice. The subject was referred to a Committee of that House, which finally determined in favour of a return to the system of fining townlands. The first years after this decision were certainly marked by extensive suffering, which, however, it would be gratifying to contrast with that which had been lately known, from the diminution which had taken place. The stills destroyed were as follows—

Longford	1814	80	Armagh	1814	88
1815	84	Last year but 1	1815	84	Last year but 1
1816	84	Last year but 2	1816	84	Last year but 2
1817	84	Last year but 3	1817	84	Last year but 3
1818	84	Last year but 4	1818	84	Last year but 4
1819	84	Last year but 5	1819	84	Last year but 5
1820	84	Last year but 6	1820	84	Last year but 6
1821	84	Last year but 7	1821	84	Last year but 7
1822	84	Last year but 8	1822	84	Last year but 8
1823	84	Last year but 9	1823	84	Last year but 9
1824	84	Last year but 10	1824	84	Last year but 10
1825	84	Last year but 11	1825	84	Last year but 11
1826	84	Last year but 12	1826	84	Last year but 12
1827	84	Last year but 13	1827	84	Last year but 13
1828	84	Last year but 14	1828	84	Last year but 14
1829	84	Last year but 15	1829	84	Last year but 15
1830	84	Last year but 16	1830	84	Last year but 16
1831	84	Last year but 17	1831	84	Last year but 17
1832	84	Last year but 18	1832	84	Last year but 18
1833	84	Last year but 19	1833	84	Last year but 19
1834	84	Last year but 20	1834	84	Last year but 20
1835	84	Last year but 21	1835	84	Last year but 21
1836	84	Last year but 22	1836	84	Last year but 22
1837	84	Last year but 23	1837	84	Last year but 23
1838	84	Last year but 24	1838	84	Last year but 24
1839	84	Last year but 25	1839	84	Last year but 25
1840	84	Last year but 26	1840	84	Last year but 26
1841	84	Last year but 27	1841	84	Last year but 27
1842	84	Last year but 28	1842	84	Last year but 28
1843	84	Last year but 29	1843	84	Last year but 29
1844	84	Last year but 30	1844	84	Last year but 30
1845	84	Last year but 31	1845	84	Last year but 31
1846	84	Last year but 32	1846	84	Last year but 32
1847	84	Last year but 33	1847	84	Last year but 33
1848	84	Last year but 34	1848	84	Last year but 34
1849	84	Last year but 35	1849	84	Last year but 35
1850	84	Last year but 36	1850	84	Last year but 36
1851	84	Last year but 37	1851	84	Last year but 37
1852	84	Last year but 38	1852	84	Last year but 38
1853	84	Last year but 39	1853	84	Last year but 39
1854	84	Last year but 40	1854	84	Last year but 40
1855	84	Last year but 41	1855	84	Last year but 41
1856	84	Last year but 42	1856	84	Last year but 42
1857	84	Last year but 43	1857	84	Last year but 43
1858	84	Last year but 44	1858	84	Last year but 44
1859	84	Last year but 45	1859	84	Last year but 45
1860	84	Last year but 46	1860	84	Last year but 46
1861	84	Last year but 47	1861	84	Last year but 47
1862	84	Last year but 48	1862	84	Last year but 48
1863	84	Last year but 49	1863	84	Last year but 49
1864	84	Last year but 50	1864	84	Last year but 50
1865	84	Last year but 51	1865	84	Last year but 51
1866	84	Last year but 52	1866	84	Last year but 52
1867	84	Last year but 53	1867	84	Last year but 53
1868	84	Last year but 54	1868	84	Last year but 54
1869	84	Last year but 55	1869	84	Last year but 55
1870	84	Last year but 56	1870	84	Last year but 56
1871	84	Last year but 57	1871	84	Last year but 57
1872	84	Last year but 58	1872	84	Last year but 58
1873	84	Last year but 59	1873	84	Last year but 59
1874	84	Last year but 60	1874	84	Last year but 60
1875	84	Last year but 61	1875	84	Last year but 61
1876	84	Last year but 62	1876	84	Last year but 62
1877	84	Last year but 63	1877	84	Last year but 63
1878	84	Last year but 64	1878	84	Last year but 64
1879	84	Last year but 65	1879	84	Last year but 65
1880	84	Last year but 66	1880	84	Last year but 66
1881	84	Last year but 67	1881	84	Last year but 67
1882	84	Last year but 68	1882	84	Last year but 68
1883	84	Last year but 69	1883	84	Last year but 69
1884	84	Last year but 70	1884	84	Last year but 70
1885	84	Last year but 71	1885	84	Last year but 71
1886	84	Last year but 72	1886	84	Last year but 72
1887	84	Last year but 73	1887	84	Last year but 73
1888	84	Last year but 74	1888	84	Last year but 74
1889	84	Last year but 75	1889	84	Last year but 75
1890	84	Last year but 76	1890	84	Last year but 76
1891	84	Last year but 77	1891	84	Last year but 77
1892	84	Last year but 78	1892	84	Last year but 78
1893	84	Last year but 79	1893	84	Last year but 79
1894	84	Last year but 80	1894	84	Last year but 80
1895	84	Last year but 81	1895	84	Last year but 81
1896	84	Last year but 82	1896	84	Last year but 82
1897	84	Last year but 83	1897	84	Last year but 83
1898	84	Last year but 84	1898	84	Last year but 84
1899	84	Last year but 85	1899	84	Last year but 85
1900	84	Last year but 86	1900	84	Last year but 86
1901	84	Last year but 87	1901	84	Last year but 87
1902	84	Last year but 88	1902	84	Last year but 88
1903	84	Last year but 89	1903	84	Last year but 89
1904	84	Last year but 90	1904	84	Last year but 90
1905	84	Last year but 91	1905	84	Last year but 91
1906	84	Last year but 92	1906	84	Last year but 92
1907	84	Last year but 93	1907	84	Last year but 93
1908	84	Last year but 94	1908	84	Last year but 94
1909	84	Last year but 95	1909	84	Last year but 95
1910	84	Last year but 96	1910	84	Last year but 96
1911	84	Last year but 97	1911	84	Last year but 97
1912	84	Last year but 98	1912	84	Last year but 98
1913	84	Last year but 99	1913	84	Last year but 99
1914	84	Last year but 100	1914	84	Last year but 100

It was sorry to say that in two Counties the result was different. The number of stills seized in these Counties were as follows—

Dougal	1814	178	Tyrone	1814	178
1815	178	Last year	1815	178	Last year
1816	178	Last year	1816	178	Last year
1817	178	Last year	1817	178	Last year
1818	178	Last year	1818	178	Last year
1819	178	Last year	1819	178	Last year
1820	178	Last year	1820	178	Last year
1821	178	Last year	1821	178	Last year
1822	178	Last year	1822	178	Last year
1823	178	Last year	1823	178	Last year
1824	178	Last year	1824	178	Last year
1825	178	Last year	1825	178	Last year
1826	178	Last year	1826	178	Last year
1827	178	Last year	1827	178	Last year
1828	178	Last year	1828	178	Last year
1829	178	Last year	1829	178	Last year
1830	178	Last year	1830	178	Last year
1831	178	Last year	1831	178	Last year
1832	178	Last year	1832	178	Last year
1833	178	Last year	1833	178	Last year
1834	178	Last year	1834	178	Last year
1835	178	Last year	1835	178	Last year
1836	178	Last year	1836	178	Last year
1837	178	Last year	1837	178	Last year
1838	178	Last year	1838	178	Last year
1839	178	Last year	1839	178	Last year
1840	178	Last year	1840	178	Last year
1841	178	Last year	1841	178	Last year
1842	178	Last year	1842	178	Last year
1843	178	Last year	1843	178	Last year
1844	178	Last year	1844	178	Last year
1845	178	Last year	1845	178	Last year
1846	178	Last year	1846	178	Last year
1847	178	Last year	1847	178	Last year
1848	178	Last year	1848	178	Last year
1849	178	Last year	1849	178	Last year
1850	178	Last year	1850	178	Last year
1851	178	Last year	1851	178	Last year
1852	178	Last year	1852	178	Last year
1853	178	Last year	1853	178	Last year
1854	178	Last year	1854	178	Last year
1855	178	Last year	1855	178	Last year
1856	178	Last year	1856	178	Last year
1857	178	Last year	1857	178	Last year
1858	178	Last year	1858	178	Last year
1859	178	Last year	1859	178	Last year
1860	178	Last year	1860	178	Last year
1861	178	Last year	1861	178	Last year
1862	178	Last year	1862	178	Last year
1863	178	Last year	1863	178	Last year
1864	178	Last year	1864	178	Last year
1865	178	Last year	1865	178	Last year
1866	178	Last year	1866	178	Last year
1867	178	Last year	1867	178	Last year
1868	178	Last year	1868	178	Last year
1869	178	Last year	1869	178	Last year
1870	178	Last year	1870	178	Last year
1871	178	Last year	1871	178	Last year
1872	178	Last year	1872	178	Last year
1873	178	Last year	1873	178	Last year
1874	178	Last year	1874	178	Last year
1875	178	Last year	1875	178	Last year
1876	178	Last year	1876	178	Last year
1877	178	Last year	1877	178	Last year
1878	178	Last year	1878	178	Last year
1879	178	Last year	1879	178	Last year
1880	178	Last year	1880	178	Last year
1881	178	Last year	1881	178	Last year
1882	178	Last year	1882	178	Last year
1883	178	Last year	1883	178	Last year
1884	178	Last year	1884	178	Last year
1885	178	Last year	1885	178	Last year
1886	178	Last year	1886	178	Last year
1887	178	Last year	1887	178	Last year
1888	178	Last year	1888	178	Last year
1889	178	Last year	1889	178	Last year
1890	178	Last year	1890	178	Last year
1891	178	Last year	1891	178	Last year
1892	178	Last year	1892	178	Last year
1893	178	Last year	1893	178	Last year
1894	178	Last year	1894	178	Last year
1895	178	Last year	1895	178	Last year
1896	178	Last year	1896	178	Last year
1897	178	Last year	1897	178	Last year
1898	178	Last year	1898	178	Last year
1899	178	Last year	1899	178	Last year
1900	178	Last year	1900	178	Last year
1901	178	Last year	1901	178	Last year
1902	178	Last year	1902	178	Last year
1903	178	Last year	1903	178	Last year
1904	178	Last year	1904	178	Last year
1905	178	Last year	1905	178	Last year
1906	178	Last year	1906	178	Last year
1907	178	Last year	1907	178	Last year
1908	178	Last year	1908	178	Last year
1909	178	Last year	1909	178	Last year
1910	178	Last year	1910	178	Last year
1911	178	Last year	1911	178	Last year
1912	178	Last year	1912	178	Last year
1913	178	Last year	1913	178	Last year
1914	178	Last year	1914	178	Last year

Upon the whole, illicit distillation appeared to have been reduced in the proportion of five to one. Withdrawing the two Counties he had exempted from the calculation, it appeared that in all Ireland the stills destroyed amounted to—

In 1814	2827	Last year	502
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It was gratifying, however, to find that the amount of fines had been rapidly decreasing since in all the Counties of Ireland, except Dougal and Tyrone, the mountainous nature of whose situation had always afforded peculiar opportunities for the commission of such offences. It appeared by the reports of tax officers, Mr. Coffey and Mr. Logie, high in that branch of the public service, that 21 stills had, however, been voluntarily surrendered in Donegal; that more might be expected; and that the townlands were generally willing to enter into securities, if the law were not to undergo any alteration. It was true that the Board of Excise had had the misfortune to employ a person in the first instance who had committed many unjustifiable acts in the County of Donegal, but who together with two of his assistants, had been subsequently removed. This person had been an officer in the army, and his conduct was certainly more consonant to military habits than to the functions of civil life. He was sorry to say, that much perjury was certainly committed on account of the trials for illicit distillation; but at the same time he was convinced, that it would be greatly exceeded by the quantity of perjury which would be occasioned by that species of trial which it was proposed to substitute for the present. It was clear, that if perjury prevailed under the present system, it must become still more prevalent if the prosecutions were directed against the persons of offenders, and if the liberty of individuals were at stake. Much had been said about the evils and expense occasioned by the employment of so great a military force under the present system; the House, however, ought to be informed, that under the system of 1811-12-13, when the present laws were suspended and small stills were licensed, great assistance had been derived from the military. From the Report of the Commissioners of Excise, it appeared, that during these three years, there was paid to the military and the officers of excise no less a sum than £161,000; viz. in 1811, £65,000; in 1812, £92,000; and in 1813, £41,000; while at present the average charge might be taken at £50,000 a year: so that the House were deceived if they thought that by substituting the small still system they would get clear of military hunting and legal prosecutions. It had been said, that the principle of the present system was to punish the innocent for the guilty; but, in his opinion, its general operation was to give the innocent an inducement to prevent the guilt for which they were punished; and that, indeed, was the only ground on which it could be defended. Besides, the Board of Excise had the power of remitting fines; and he was certain that whereas the parties convicted could produce evidence that they had not committed the illicit distillation, the fines would be remitted. But, from his own experience, limited as it was, he had reason to believe that the inhabitants of the townlands were almost always conscious of which he must advert. It had been said, that the system of small stills was likely to cure this evil, and the example of Scotland had been adduced in support of that opinion. In Scotland there were 39 small stills licensed, each paying upwards of £500, and yielding a total revenue of £20,000. Now in Ireland there were 12 small stills, larger indeed than the Scotch, but paying £5000 a piece, and producing a gross revenue of £115,200. There certainly was something in this which he could not understand. He

had a great respect for Scotland, and did not wish to cast any reflection on the manner in which the revenue was collected in that country; but he could not shut his eyes—he could not but observe, that the revenue derived from the Scotch stills was far less than was derived from the Irish. If the House were prepared to introduce the system of small stills into Ireland, and to renounce the revenue altogether, the only consequence would be, that they would have the country filled with smugglers with licenses, instead of smugglers without them.

Sir HENRY PARNELL contended, that the small still system had never had a fair trial in Ireland. The circumstance which principally prevented small stills from being established in Ireland was the power given to the Commissioners