

DISTRESSED STATE OF AGRICULTURE.

MELTING OF FARMING SOCIETIES AT CORK.

(From the Southern Reporter.)

On Friday the Meeting of the District Farming Societies took place at the Cork Institution House.

Lord CAHILL having been called to the Chair, he wished to decline in favour of Lord Farnham, but the latter Nobleman not being at the moment in the room, and the Meeting having repeated its call, the former took the Chair, and briefly stated the objects, as already set forth in the public prints, which they had assembled to consider, namely, the distressed state of Agriculture, and the propriety of petitioning Parliament to take that state into consideration, with a view of affording it relief.

His Lordship expressed his readiness to hear any Gentleman on the subject, but requested, in any observations that may be offered, that no extraneous topic would be introduced, which could only lead to unpleasant discussion.

A pause of several minutes having taken place, the Chairman repeated his readiness to hear any gentleman, observing, that it was necessary for some person to make a beginning, whereupon—

W. H. W. NEWSHAM, Esq. rose and said, that probably a meeting of the landed gentry of the County had never been convened under such circumstances as the present. For a considerable time, he said, they had kept in the background, not wishing to be in any way instrumental in hampering the Government, which they knew had other weighty occupations to employ its attention.

Nor would they, perhaps, come forward at the present moment, but that their silence might be construed into a total disregard of the situation and the necessities of the peasantry of the County. He wished it to be most distinctly known, that, under any circumstances, it was not intended, in the remotest degree, to come in contact with the monied interest of the County. But the agricultural interests, it must be admitted, laboured under very great difficulties at the present moment.

The plan which had been struck out for taking the averages of corn did not end in the way the Government intended; and, in consequence of an average lately taken in England, which was extremely nicely calculated, the ports were opened to the importation of Foreign Corn. This, too, was effected by a few individuals, who went to the twelve Maritime Counties of England, and purchased a great quantity of Grain, of which they had great quantities before. They then sent to the Northern parts of Europe to make purchases, and the result was, that they had inundated our home markets with foreign grain. He would wish it to be distinctly and unequivocally understood, that those who called this Meeting were not looking for high rents—but that their object was, that the farmer should have the benefit of his industry, and that he should be able to live by the sweat of his brow. Ireland was exclusively an Agricultural Country, and had nothing to subsist on but its Agriculture—and if that were depressed or depressed, what had the Country to look to? If these things, therefore, were allowed to go on as at the present moment, he (Mr. Newsham) did not know where they would end. Under existing circumstances, then, he conceived it would be proper to petition Parliament; and he moved, accordingly, that a Petition be presented to Parliament, praying that the Legislature might take into consideration and relieve the distresses of the Agricultural Interests of this County.

The Hon. Mr. HAWE observed, that the subject of the striking the Averages upon Grain was introduced into Parliament nearly at the close of the last Session, and that Mr. Robinson, in his place, assured the House that Government would give the matter the earliest consideration; and that, when the Parliament next met for business, he Mr. R. would be prepared to redeem the pledge he had made. Keeping that assurance in view, Mr. Hare said it would be well to consider whether it would not be right to wait till the Parliament met to do business, and see what would be done by Government.

Colonel HONOUR thought the reason just urged for postponing any further proceeding, on the important business for the consideration of which they were then met, was, above all others, that which should induce the Meeting to go on. If they allowed the question to go to sleep, the great Capitalists of England would in the mean time be employed in forwarding and prosecuting their own objects; and if Government meant to take up the question, as it should be taken up, a petition would only help to induce them to proceed with it. As to the idea, that the Manufacturing Interest of England would be injured by the success of the Agricultural Interest of this County, it was well understood by the former that it would not be raised by the depression of the latter; and the Shopkeeper at home also knew, that when Corn brought a higher price than it now did, he sold his goods, whereas he remained without purchasers at the present moment with his stock on hands. He (Colonel Hodder) was therefore for petitioning Parliament, and should second the motion that had been made.

J. MOORE TRAVERS, Esq. inquired if any draft of a Petition had been prepared—to which we understood the Chairman to reply, that the heads of a Petition had been considered and agreed

to, but that they were not in a form just at that moment to be laid before the Meeting. If a Committee were proposed, however, they could retire and arrange it in a short time.

GRANT-CALLAGHAN, Esq. inquired whether it was intended to apply for an alteration in the principle of the Corn Laws, or to procure a more accurate mode of obtaining the averages, free from frauds or evasions?

The CHAIRMAN answered, that the Petition was intended generally to state the agricultural distresses of the Country, leaving to Parliament to devise the means of relief.

The question that a Petition be presented, and a Committee appointed to prepare the same, was now put from the Chair, when—

Mr. G. CALLAGHAN again rose and said, that certainly, if the Agricultural Interest could make out a case of such depression, and that some specific remedy to alleviate that depression could be devised, they had a right, and were bound, to make an application to Parliament; and sure he was the application would be attended to—for he never knew the Legislature unwilling to assist any portion of the community, when it could do so consistently with the general policy of the Country.—But, after all the discussion and inquiry that had taken place, that specific remedy could not be pointed out, he asked (and he threw it out to the good sense of the Meeting), if it were not useless to proceed on such vague grounds, which would be only holding out expectations that could not be realized? Any alteration in the principle of the existing Corn Laws it would be in vain to expect, after the late experience of the numerous Agricultural Petitions; and if it were only sought to obtain an improvement in the mode of taking the averages, which he was aware was capable of much amendment, Mr. Robinson, the President of the Board of Trade, already stood pledged to that measure. Instead then of petitioning Parliament, which, unless the remedy were pointed out, could terminate in no practicable useful result, he asked whether it would not be better for the Landed Interest and Farming Societies to see whether the remedies for the contingent and temporary causes of the depression did not exist among themselves. These causes were obvious; one of them was the failure of the Southern Banks, by which an immense capital was abstracted from the circulating medium of the Country, thus limiting the means of purchasing and the number of purchasers. Another cause was the abundant harvest.—These, joined with the opening of the ports, were the immediate causes of the depression; but the least intelligent of those by whom he was surrounded must know, that the great and parent cause was in that great national measure, upon the policy or impolicy of which it was not for him to pronounce, the Bank Restriction Act. Still, with the relative value of money now, compared with what it was previous to that measure, he thought the present position of agriculture produced by no means disproportionate, and saw no reason for despondency, but quite a different feeling. Things were decidedly better than they were two years ago, and even since the commencement of the present season a great improvement had taken place in the prices; for instance, Wheat had advanced 30, Oats 15, and Barley 10 per cent. The improvement he was convinced would not stop here, if the produce were held back, and not sent to market in such quantities as to overstock it, and if the Landed Gentry, by an understanding that forbearance should be observed as much as possible, and that one man should press as little as possible on another, would contribute their exertions. Mr. C. expatiated upon these topics more at length than we can afford space to detail, and concluded by expressing his opinion, that the better course for the Meeting to pursue, would be to appoint a Committee of fourteen, to take into consideration the present state of the Agricultural Interests of this County, and to report to an adjourned Meeting the result of their deliberations.

Mr. ROSSAY, after a few prefatory observations, protested altogether against the competency of the Meeting, select and limited as it was, to assume to themselves the right of entertaining exclusively a question so vitally affecting the general interests of the community, and therefore recommended a County Meeting, where there would be better scope for free discussion. He was then proceeding to trace the depressed and ruinous state of the Landed Interest, and the many other evils of the Country, to the effects of the Funded System, the fluctuations of the paper money, and the overwhelming pressure of taxation, when he was called to order by Colonels Hodder and Roche, who protested against the line of observation pursued by Mr. Rossay, as being totally irrelevant to the object of the Meeting. Some dissent being manifested, to the opinions of these gentlemen, the Chairman said he was called upon to give expression to the general opinion of the Meeting, which he decided to be, that Mr. Rossay was out of order.

Mr. ROSSAY said he would briefly shew the connexion between the line of argument which he had taken up, and the subject under the consideration of the Meeting, but loud and vehement cries obliged him to sit down.

Dr. SWEENEY rose and said, that every body knew so well that taxation was the cause of the embarrassments, it was unnecessary for the Gentleman to give further information in illustration of the fact. (Hear, hear!) He thought, upon this particular occasion, a Committee should be appointed before any ultimate measure was resorted to.

A desultory conversation then ensued, in which it was maintained on the one side, that the proper mode of proceeding would be to present a

Petition to Parliament, stating generally the Agricultural Distress, without suggesting any particular plan of relief—and on the other, that it would be more desirable now to appoint a Committee, who should report to a Meeting to be held at a subsequent day, what steps it would be most desirable to take. Mr. Newsham maintained the former, and Mr. Callaghan the latter opinion.

Doctor BALDWIN did not think the Meeting, composed as it was of certain Members only of the Farming Societies, could take upon them to represent the entire Landed Interest of this great County; and he suggested the propriety of calling a County Meeting, to consider the important question then under discussion.

JAMES MCCARTHY, Esq. said, that as the Meeting certainly was only of the Members of those Societies, perhaps what it might determine upon would not meet the concurrence of the County at large. Though it must be confessed, that the Farming Societies formed a large portion of the Landed Interest, yet, he thought, it would tend to give more general satisfaction, if the Landed and general Interests of the County were convened together, to discuss and consider the question. (Hear, hear!) He moved, therefore, that such a Meeting should be called.

CHARLES CONNELL, Esq. seconded this proposition. Mr. MAHON then presented himself to the Meeting, and was proceeding with some observations to shew the utter inutilty of presenting any petition to Parliament, while the present momentous question occupied its attention, when—

The CHAIRMAN rose, and called the Gentleman to order. He was speaking on a subject quite foreign to the matter before the Meeting; besides, Mr. Mahon was not a Member of any Farming Society, and no others were entitled to speak. Mr. MAHON again offered to speak, but the Chairman rose and claimed the protection of the Meeting. (Cries of Chair, Chair! and hear Mr. Mahon!) If he (the Chairman) was not supported in the chair, he would leave it. It was his duty to preserve order, and to see that any person who violated it should, if occasion required, be turned out of the room. (Considerable confusion arose here, in consequence of several gentlemen having risen from their seats. We could not, therefore, collect some conversation which passed at that end of the room, apparently of an angry tenor.)

Doctor BALDWIN rose and deprecated the disagreeable scene which was going on. He considered, with the Noble Chairman, that Mr. Mahon was out of order in his observations; at the same time, he was sure that no gentleman was more capable of discussing the subject before the Meeting with talent and propriety, if—

Mr. MAHON inquired if Dr. Baldwin were a member of any Farming Society, as no others were allowed to speak? The question excited some mirth, and the answer still more, it being, that he was not. The Chairman then ruled, that Dr. Baldwin had no right to address the Meeting. (Much laughter.) The Doctor claimed to be heard as a Landed Proprietor.—He was not a member of a Farming Society. (Continued laughter.)

Dr. BALDWIN then inquired if Mr. Callaghan, who had been heard at such length, was a member of any Farming Society? The jocularity was now increased, and all fears for the peace of the Meeting were over. Mr. Callaghan, amidst loud laughing, declared he had been, but did not know whether his name was continued on the books.—Mr. James Lane, Treasurer, we believe, to the Barymore Society, here stepped forward, and stated that Mr. Callaghan was a member, and that his subscription had been paid to as late a period as any other member's.

Finally the motion for the Committee was put and carried, the report to be received next Friday.

The Committee were then appointed, viz.—

W. H. W. Newsham, Esq. Captain Hare, Esq. Colonel Hodder, Esq. Major Newsham, Esq. Justice McMorris, Esq. Major Newsham, Esq. Gerard Callaghan, Esq. Rev. Somers Payne, Esq. William Beamish, Esq. Chamberlain Croker, Esq. John M. Travers, Esq.

Lord Carbery having left the Chair, and Col. Hodder being called thereto, the thanks of the Meeting were unanimously voted to Lord Carbery, for his dignified conduct in the Chair.

REVENUE.—There was no ground for the report that our late Lord Mayor, Sir William Stamer, had been appointed a Commissioner of the Revenue. It is understood that it is the intention of Government to reduce the number of Commissioners, or consolidate the two Boards. Dublin Paper.

The Archbishop of Tuam has presented his brother, the Hon. and Rev. Charles Le Poer Trench, to the living of Grauard, Diocese of Adagh, void by the demise of the Rev. Edward Berwick. The Rev. Christopher Robinson is appointed to Ballinacross.

The Rev. J. Wilson has taken his seat as Senior Fellow at Trinity College, Dublin, vacant by the elevation of Doctor Kyle to the Provostry.—The Rev. Mr. Wray is now Senior of the Junior Fellows.

During the last week, it was currently reported in this town (Galway), that two distinguished Officers of that well-disciplined Regiment, the 77th, were put under arrest in Dublin. We declared adhering to this report, but now, as we find that charges are preferred, and there is a probability of a public investigation, we need have no further hesitation in alluding to the circumstances.—Connaught Journal.

ESCAPE OF BONAPARTE.

We insert the following extract from a New York Paper, which very safely pronounces it to be a "bungling and stupid story."

IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE—NAPOLION ESCAPED.

Extract of a Letter from St. Thomas, dated 18th September, (via Norfolk,) received this morning:—

"I hasten to communicate to you that information has just reached us, that the crew of the French frigate Junon, when off the island of Anconson, loaded by several of the officers, upon the Captain and confined him below. They immediately proceeded to St. Helena, and arrived when the 71, with the sloop of war and gunships, were cruising at some distance from the island. The Junon, having the British colours flying, was mistaken for an English frigate, and permitted to anchor on the left of the water battery. Having chosen an excellent position for taking the two lower batteries, she commenced an enfilading fire, which being as sudden as unexpected, did immense execution, and threw the garrison into confusion. Before troops were stationed and order restored, it was visible from the frigate that several officers of the garrison were killed or wounded, all which increased the confusion arising from the sudden attack.

"Napoleon not having been desirous as to the character of the frigate when at a considerable distance, (it being the same in which he sailed from Egypt) and confirmed in the opinion by the cannonade, made the best use of his time. He induced one of the guards to accompany him. In a soldier's uniform he passed the guard-house, reached the shore, and in the confusion seized a boat which was chained to the rock, and put off for the Junon; as soon as the boat was perceived by the frigate, she cut her cables, made directly for her, and took in Napoleon, two attendants, the soldier, and put to sea. This occurred on the 3d or 4th day after the Arch Angel left St. Helena. The guard-ship, a 71, and sloop, chased at a great distance till dark; the Junon threw out false lights, and changing her course, escaped, and arrived here early this morning.—These is the greatest bustle here, all anxious to see Napoleon, though few, I think, will be gratified. He remains on board; his drafts on Rothschild are offered in payment for supplies. It is understood she will sail in a day or two for the United States. There is some doubt on the subject of his reception there.

"The Junon, when she arrived, had the white flag flying; she has since hoisted the tricoloured."

YOUNG NAPOLEON.

Some time back it was mentioned in the Public Papers, that it was intended to bring up the young Napoleon as an Ecclesiastic. A letter from Paris, says, "This is so far from being the case, that I have seen, in a letter from Vienna, an account of the promotion of the young Prince Reichstadt (this is his title) to the rank of a Corporal in a Regiment which forms part of the garrison of Vienna, and into which Regiment he entered as a Private Soldier. He appears on parade with the Regiment in his uniform, goes through his military exercise with great precision, and is a very great favourite with the Soldiers."

THE NORTH WEST EXPEDITION.—The Elliston, whaler, of Hull, writes from Stromness, the 26th October, that she spoke the Hecla and Griper, in Davis' Straits, lat. 66°, long. 69°, all well, homeward-bound.

They wintered, it seems, in lat. 75° N. long. 115° W. five degrees beyond the Copper Mine River. They may be expected daily.

The following is a remarkable fact; it is a serious occurrence, not only in the history of this Country, but of Spain:—"Some members of the Spanish Cortes, at the period when its sitting first commenced, had formed the design of proposing in that Assembly the establishment of an Upper Chamber, or House of Peers, after the manner of England. The question was frequently discussed in private, and also became the subject of a lively correspondence between those members of the Cortes who espoused it and their friends residing in foreign countries, particularly England. The proposition was rapidly gaining popularity when the proceedings against the Queen commenced; when, such was the impression made on the minds of those who supported it, by the course of conduct pursued by our House of Lords, that the project was immediately abandoned, and a determination adopted never again to revive it."

The following Private Letter, which appeared in The British Monitor of Sunday, tends to raise expectations of warlike operations on the Continent:—

"VIENNA, OCTOBER 11.—The Sovereign will meet at Troppau, on the 25th instant.—Lord Stewart, as the Ambassador from England, charged with extraordinary powers, and the Marquis de Ferronnyer, the French Ambassador at the Court of Russia, will be present. Depend upon it, that the result of these conferences will be a revival of the Coalition of 1792. As a will, however, be the gainer by the war, as she will not send a single man against Spain, Naples, or Portugal. Russia has just ordered a fresh levy, by which her army will have an increase of 91,000 men. The King of Prussia enters reluctantly into the confederation."

THE QUEEN'S TRIAL.

HOUSE OF LORDS—FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3.

The LORD CHANCELLOR took his seat on the Woolstack at the usual hour, and the names having been called over, and

Lord GROSVEOR rose and addressed the House. Having, he said, attended to the vast body of evidence in this case, to the speeches of Counsel at the Bar, and the eloquence displayed yesterday by Noble Lords upon the merits of the Bill, he had to declare, in the face of God and his Country, that he did not see that those charges against the Queen, which had been so cruelly and maliciously accumulated, were at all substantiated.—He thought it a matter of duty, honour, and conscience, to utter this opinion, now that the Bill had undergone such full consideration in every point. Influenced by this conviction, and judging as he hoped to be judged on that great day when all their Lordships would have to answer for their conduct on this question, he felt himself under the necessity of declaring non-convict to the second reading of this Bill. Upon the indulgence of the House he should lay claim for a considerable time, while he entered into a statement of his reasons for determining to vote as he had intimated upon this occasion. Their Lordships had heard, from the Counsel upon the part of the Crown, most eloquent speeches. They had heard from the Noble and Learned Lord on the Woolstack, and from two other Lords, who had taken so energetic a part in favour of the Bill, very powerful evidence in support of the charges against her Majesty; and it was greatly to be regretted that the sudden indisposition of his Noble and Learned Friend (Erskine) had caused an interruption to the powerful appeal to their Lordships, which had been commenced yesterday in favour of the Queen. After all these efforts, considerable prejudice must have been raised in their Lordships' minds, and he felt alarmed at the task he was about to undertake, from a consideration of his own inadequacy to contend against such powerful talent. The House would remember that the Noble and Learned Lord on the Woolstack had declared, that he would hold the balance of Justice equally in his hands, and the House was called upon to exercise their power with the same feeling. (Hear, hear!) It had been properly observed, by a Noble and Learned Lord (Erskine), that it would have been well if that principle had operated upon the minds of their Lordships on a former occasion—for, if that had been the case, there would now exist no cause of complaint, that her Majesty's name was removed from the Liturgy.—It would also be remembered, that the same Noble and Learned Lord had said, that if the Bill should pass this House there was a question whether it was likely to pass the other House of Parliament. Against this latter position it had been stated, that it was derogatory to the dignity of their Lordships to permit that consideration to operate upon their minds. As a general principle, he certainly admitted that the probability of the manner of reception of any measure by the other House should have no effect upon them; but when they knew that the other House had declared this measure to be derogatory to the Crown and injurious to the Nation, and that the Commons had not only refused to appoint a Committee to examine the contents of the Green Bag, but had eventually shewed that filthy Bag from their table, it was impossible not to see that to persist in entertaining the Bill would cast obliquely upon their Lordships. In fact, the public opinion had been so completely ascertained to be against it, that even in a modified shape it could not be expected to be palatable, and would be sure to be rejected with scorn and indignation. They would look to the fact that a great number of the charges had been proved to be unfounded, and he hoped that if there remained on their Lordships' mind a doubt of the Queen's guilt, that doubt should operate in her favour. Never, indeed, was there a question more complicated. The gravamen of the charges against her Majesty was, that she was guilty of Adultery, not of High Treason; and still it was the general opinion that she could not be divorced—so that the actual crime of which she was supposed to be guilty was Fornication! (A laugh.) It seemed to him quite impossible that the Bill could pass at all, but certainly not in its present state. If it should be proposed to pass this Bill without the alterations he had proposed, he thought it quite impossible that any Noble Lord could vote for it. On the other hand, if the alterations which had been hinted at were made, it would no longer be the same Bill. Their Lordships would then have quite a new question to consider; but her Majesty was guilty of adultery, or of nothing else; and if they could not pass the Bill on that ground, on what ground was it to be adopted? and, if they were without sufficient evidence to find that offence proved, they might as well not on the supposition that she was guilty of murder, or any other

crime. It would, indeed, be a most extraordinary state of things if their Lordships were to abandon the only ground on which they had any pretence for countenancing this Bill, and adopt another. He knew it was said, that this was not a measure for the relief of the King, but for the benefit of the State. But, if it was to be the general opinion of their Lordships that her Majesty could not be divorced, what was the object of the Bill? As he had already said, if she was guilty of any thing, it was adultery. Was it then to be said that she was to be the wife of the King, but not the wife of the Country; that this was to be a Divorce from the State? If, however, the Bill passed in this most extraordinary shape, it would become a laughing stock to the Country. (Hear!) There was nothing criminal proved, nothing of the kind attempted to be proved on credible testimony. In the absence of proof, it was possible that there might be suspicion in the minds of some of their Lordships, but suspicion was not sufficient to warrant a vote for this Bill. With regard to what passed at Carlisle, the evidence was most abundant, and had been contradicted by respectable testimony. But it was extraordinary, that though the Noble and Learned Lord admitted this contradiction—though that case was no longer dwelt on as a proof of guilt, but was completely abandoned—yet it was singularly enough regarded as a suspicious circumstance, that a gown or cloak resembling that worn by her Majesty should be found in the bed of Bergami. Now if this absurd tale was to be believed, and if their Lordships were to decide upon possibilities, it was surely just as possible that this piece of dress had been put into the bed by some enemy of her Majesty as that she had left it there. Their Lordships had heard of Barons Grimm and Riden looking about the inn, and peeping into every corner where her Majesty had been. One of them had contended to get her Majesty into the rooms which he had previously occupied. Might not, then, one of these Grimms have left the cloak in the bed? This surely was very possible; and if possibilities were to be admitted on the one side, why not on the other? One of the Grimms, who had been seen running about, and looking into the beds, might have placed the cloak in the bed, as *l'ago dropper*, in the hands of *Bedlamona* in the chamber of *Castro*. He was afraid there were still fingers in the world, and this case would, perhaps, be considered a proof of their existence. At any rate, if conjectures were to operate on their Lordships' minds, let them operate fairly. Why should they hear in mind (those who saw him could not indeed easily forget) the air of coolness and pretence which the witness put on, to give a show of truth to his evidence. The story of her Majesty bonding over the couch, too, had been much dwelt upon; but, if true, might it not have occurred without deserting any of the guilty construction which the injurious rumours had made, he did not think the elevation of Bergami would appear at all remarkable. This individual had preferred the life of her Majesty—he had rendered her most important services, and he was a faithful servant; was it, then, anything very remarkable that such a servant should be advanced to the rank of chamberlain, and that afterwards he should receive other honours. It had been said, that Bergami was separated from his wife; there was nothing very remarkable in this; but it appeared only to be a separation of convenience, and not one of affection. Another circumstance had been dwelt upon very minutely—that Bergami had gained great possessions; that after the intrigue had taken place, he rose in power and pride; and that all the respect he had formerly paid to her Royal Highness was at an end; but their Lordships would find, on looking at the whole of the evidence, that Bergami not only treated the Princess with great respect, but also every person connected with her. Strong were the accusations made against the Queen; one attempt had been made to prove her criminality from the fact of Bergami coming to the carriage, while travelling, and asking for a bottle of wine, which she readily gave him. It was evident, in his opinion, that even supposing the bottle returned (which was extremely doubtful), it was not returned to be used again by her Royal Highness. Her Royal Highness and Lady C. Landay had previously taken refreshment. He would next mention the palaces; and he would contend that it was by no means proved that Bergami slept under the tent. There was a communication from the deck with the cabin below. The only fact really proved was, that Lieutenant Howman, on going up, found the Chamberlain in the passage, and that he had been on board the ship; and from all the circumstances, it is fairly to be inferred that it did not take place. When he (Earl Grosveor) had been on board ship, he had generally found very bright and agreeable company, and he had never seen as those brought forward for the Prosecution.

He never beheld such a set; and he must say, on the contrary, that he never saw a more respectable set of witnesses than those produced in behalf of her Majesty. The contrast could not fail to have struck any Noble Lord who looked with an impartial eye at the two sets of witnesses. The only two witnesses who bore a respectable character on the side of the prosecution were the two British naval officers, and the testimony of one of them, Capt. Bilgea, was in favour of her Majesty; it was at least a negative testimony in her favour. He declared that he had seen no impropriety in the conduct of her Royal Highness while on board the *Leviathan*, and yet their Lordships had been constantly about the person of the Queen, and came to the bar determined to do all in her power to assist her character and her life. Yet this witness had not proffered one single act of indecent or adulterous intercourse. (Hear!) The Counsel for the Bill often sought to obtain from her an accusation of this sort, but her answers always disappointed them. Much as she deposed, yet whenever they brought her to this point she always fell short of the mark. (Hear!) It was the more surprising that the witnesses for the prosecution should have disappointed their employers, considering the honours and advantages which were lavished upon them. *Madeleine* de Mont might, perhaps, have had her duty well, have had her assumed title of Countess Colombrer confirmed to her; *Majocchi*, if common-speak-ten, had already been confirmed *Chancellor of Cotton gardens*. *Sacchi* had also been rewarded so generously as to be lifted from the situation of a valet to a valet's master; *Hastill*, too, if he had not had so weak a stomach, would doubtless have come in for his share of indemnity; and as to *Gurbi*, there was every probability that he would be raised above them all.—(A laugh.) The insufficiency of the evidence—the short-sawing of the witnesses—was particularly remarkable in the case of Garguilo and Paterson, who had failed to swear to things which, if they had happened, must have come under their observation—such as the imputed charge of connection under the tent in the revel. As to Garguilo, they must bear in mind not only the remembrance which he was directly to receive, but also the indirect promise respecting the alleged balance he put in a chair for the Queen. They ought also to bear in mind (those who saw him could not indeed easily forget) the air of coolness and pretence which the witness put on, to give a show of truth to his evidence. The story of her Majesty bonding over the couch, too, had been much dwelt upon; but, if true, might it not have occurred without deserting any of the guilty construction which the injurious rumours had made, he did not think the elevation of Bergami would appear at all remarkable. This individual had preferred the life of her Majesty—he had rendered her most important services, and he was a faithful servant; was it, then, anything very remarkable that such a servant should be advanced to the rank of chamberlain, and that afterwards he should receive other honours. It had been said, that Bergami was separated from his wife; there was nothing very remarkable in this; but it appeared only to be a separation of convenience, and not one of affection. Another circumstance had been dwelt upon very minutely—that Bergami had gained great possessions; that after the intrigue had taken place, he rose in power and pride; and that all the respect he had formerly paid to her Royal Highness was at an end; but their Lordships would find, on looking at the whole of the evidence, that Bergami not only treated the Princess with great respect, but also every person connected with her. Strong were the accusations made against the Queen; one attempt had been made to prove her criminality from the fact of Bergami coming to the carriage, while travelling, and asking for a bottle of wine, which she readily gave him. It was evident, in his opinion, that even supposing the bottle returned (which was extremely doubtful), it was not returned to be used again by her Royal Highness. Her Royal Highness and Lady C. Landay had previously taken refreshment. He would next mention the palaces; and he would contend that it was by no means proved that Bergami slept under the tent. There was a communication from the deck with the cabin below. The only fact really proved was, that Lieutenant Howman, on going up, found the Chamberlain in the passage, and that he had been on board the ship; and from all the circumstances, it is fairly to be inferred that it did not take place. When he (Earl Grosveor) had been on board ship, he had generally found very bright and agreeable company, and he had never seen as those brought forward for the Prosecution.

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His Lordship conjured the House—on his knees he would conjure them—to judge of the case of this unfortunate, this unquestionably long-suffering and persecuted woman—this generous, magnanimous, and liberal Princess who had been accused in a manner not to be described by the institutions of these proceedings—that they would do by her as if the case were their own, or as if it were a wife or dearest daughter on whom they were sitting in judgment. (His Lordship sat down amid loud cheers.)

The call was now general for Lord Harewood. The LORD CHANCELLOR said, that Lord Donoughmore had first caught his eye.

Lord DONOUGHMORE said, he cheerfully gave in to the general call of the House.

Lord HAREWOOD (speaking from the Ministerial Gallery) said, it was not his intention to occupy much of the time of their Lordships in delivering his opinion. He did not mean to goat length, or indeed at all, into the details which were connected with the subject before them. In the first place he should say, that much of the evidence given at their bar had been satisfactorily contradicted—much of it also stood on very loose ground—and other parts of it, he was extremely sorry to say, remained upon a firm footing. (Hear, hear!) Upon the whole, he thought it was calculated to create some suspicion upon the subject of the inquiry. He was not a person to adopt the prejudice that persons, because they happened to be foreigners, were therefore disintituled to believe upon their oaths; such a prejudice he deemed wholly irrational, and utterly unworthy the character of the people of a civilized country. (Hear!) It had been said, that this evidence was improperly obtained; he knew not as yet in what manner it had been obtained, and therefore he could not express any opinion upon that part of the consideration. Having stated this, he must now observe, that he wished most sincerely he could look upon her Majesty as innocent, as he was of opinion this Bill was inexpedient and impolitic. (Hear, hear!) The Bill was divided into two parts. It might be said to contain but two clauses—one of them a clause of Degradation, and the other a clause of Divorce. The latter, he understood, was not to be pressed; so that the Bill, as ultimately intended, would be solely a Bill of Degradation against the Queen. There were two great difficulties in this case; and he must, as a lesser consideration, before he examined the Bill, consider the operation of the measure, if passed into a law. In this view, and looking at the result, he was persuaded that the Bill would be the cause of much inquietude. He was firmly of opinion, that this was a measure which should never have been brought forward, and particularly in its present shape. (Hear, hear!)

He was equally convinced, that, after passing this Bill, whatever might be the present feelings of the People, their good sense would always, in the end, lead them to appreciate every public character upon their grounds. Considering, then, that that would be the state of the case if no such Bill had been brought forward—he was at a loss to see the wisdom and necessity of such a measure. If there was any thing throughout the entire proceeding which could possibly create a false impression against the good understanding which the public mind was always destined to attain, it would be the means taken against the Queen by this Bill, which was meant to place her to the public view in a degraded situation, against the opinion which prevailed in the Country upon the policy of the measure. (Hear, hear!) Give the People only the fair opportunity of judging, and he would say in their behalf, that their judgment in the long run would always be found correct.—(Hear!)

He must therefore vote against a Bill attempted to be carried against what he must consider the just feeling of the Country—a feeling which he had no doubt would be better evinced for every good purpose, if the judgment of the People were left to its free exercise; far better, indeed, than by any means which could be devised on such a subject. (Hear!)

The Earl of DONOUGHMORE rose to express, in the first instance, his respect for the Noble Earl who spoke last, whose arguments must always be heard with profound attention, on account of his great weight in the scale of the Country, his extensive property, his high rank, and every other circumstance connected with his character. In reply to the Noble Earl, he must say, with great respect, that he was really at a loss to know to what point his observations tended. On the immediate question before the House, the Noble Lord had said nothing. If, indeed, anything could be fairly inferred from what had fallen from him, it was, that instead of voting against the second reading of the Bill, he should rather have voted for the second reading; for he had, in fact, stated, that he did not conceive the Queen innocent. (Hear!)

If the Queen, then, be not innocent in the Noble Earl's opinion, why not state to what measure he should have resorted in such a case? He had said downwards proposing any substitute to the Bill, and merely contented

