

The Waterford Chronicle.

This the Voluntary State that makes the Oppressor—Taxes

No 424

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1830

Price 6d

MESSRS. O'CONNELL AND WYSE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WATERFORD MIRROR.
SIR—Mr O'Connell, after the lapse of a month, in consequence of the position in which his conduct since the passing of the Relief Bill has placed him in society, now endeavours to retrieve his character, by the most audacious assertions. He has published another letter to the "Lancers of Ireland" on the Charges which I had made against him.

These Charges are of no recent date—Mr O'Connell has had full and ample time to consider on their meaning, and though it may appear strange, it is now, and only now, for the first time, after four long years' preparation, and notwithstanding his repeated threats, and oft made promises to the public, that he endeavours to remove the odium from his character, which his party to me had so justly affixed to it.

Under such circumstances, it might almost be considered an act of supererogation on my part, to reiterate the charges so often made, or in any manner revert to the past transactions between this gentleman and myself, but Mr O'Connell's letter contains so many gross and palpable misstatements, so many unjust and vicious assertions, that I consider I should be neglecting a public and moral duty were I to allow it to go forth uncontradicted.

As an individual, I can never subscribe to the strange and novel doctrine proposed by Mr O'Connell, which would protect the public delinquent from public exposure, and allow him to pursue his course of infamy, unnoticed and undisturbed. It is true, indeed, that previous to the passing of the late Act, a degree of forbearance was usually extended to Mr O'Connell, and many acts of his were indulgently passed over and acquiesced in, rather than risk the unanimity of the Catholic body by a just and well merited exposure of his conduct. But now how very different is the position in which we stand, and Mr O'Connell appears strangely perplexed at perceiving, that the rules which should govern all direct his conduct, are those which are recognised by most other individuals in society.

I shall now endeavour to reply to the statements contained in Mr O'Connell's letter, first noticing the report of the last proceedings of the Finance Committee of the Association, as published in the *Dublin Freeman's Journal*, the *London Times*, and other papers, and which, notwithstanding the qualified denial of Mr O'Connell, I distinctly recollect to be strictly and impartially correct; in confirmation of which I would appeal to all unprejudiced persons present at the meeting—to Mr Soane, to Mr Lewis, Mr Coppinger, or Mr O'Reilly. If there was a misstatement, I do believe it originated from a kind and charitable feeling towards Mr O'Connell, which that gentleman as a practising lawyer, should learn to appreciate. Dismissing the subject, I now turn to that part of Mr O'Connell's letter which more immediately refers to myself.

In Mr O'Connell's letter (paragraph No 1.) he urges as a sufficient excuse for his rejecting my claim, that such was not submitted to the Finance Committee "until they had voted away all the money in their treasury;" were this even as Mr O'Connell has stated, it could scarcely be considered as a sufficient pretext to reject the action of Mr Soane—to place my demand on the list of recognised claims of the Committee."

But such statement is a truly untrue. My demand was made upon the Finance Committee early in the last July, though not until I had seen an advertisement in the *Dublin Papers*, reciting all those who had pecuniary demands against the late Association, to forward them to Mr Dwyer, the Secretary, in order to the being forthwith discharged or settled with. My claim was submitted to the Committee, its merits impartially discussed, and the further consideration postponed to a more fitting occasion; in consequence of other pressing matters connected with the late Association interfering.

The statement of Mr O'Connell is further incorrect, as at the very time my claim was submitted to the Committee, sums to the amount of several thousand pounds had remained in their hands, which I feel very well assured the country will be surprised to learn for the first time, on the authority of Mr O'Connell, have been divided and voted away by this very said gentleman and his confederates of the Committee. Let not the half-truths and ill clothed peasant start at the announcement, or inquire where, or to what unholy hands it is gone; for him it is sufficient he should earn the noble purposes for which it was collected, and that he, as an individual, contributed his mite to swell the amount.

These holy guardians of the sacred "fund" being "voted away all the money in their treasury," refuse to recognise my claim on the ground, that their doing so "would be to place or abate first debts and claims (gratuitous & partial services) which they had already recognised and approved of."

This extreme sensibility is, no doubt, creditable to Mr O'Connell. He naturally feels a kind of sympathy for those who have shared with him in the funds which he has coveted, a large portion of which has been expended to gratify his extreme and inordinate vanity! Yet, if any of this which he has stated were really true, and that there were the real motives which directed him and those of his friends, who may be considered as possessing an interest with him in the disposal of these funds, in rejecting my claim, why would he, in a demand of £400 or £500, forward other quarters (and within the last few weeks) entertained—the claim admitted—the money probably since paid by the Committee? Mr O'Connell's next letter to the "Lancers of Ireland" may explain this affair to my satisfaction.

It is a matter to me of very little moment, indeed, the motives which Mr O'Connell may please to attribute to me in again bringing this affair before the public. Neither do I feel the least disposed to discuss or further allude to the indirect, though well understood charge he has thought proper to make against the character and high honour of my friend, Mr Soane, for proposing the consideration of my claim in the Committee. The character of Mr Soane can require but little aid from me, whilst in justice I will say, that he is equally as incapable of being made use of as a mere instrument in the hands of any individual, as that he could be compelled by "ties of kindred," or any other worldly consideration, to lend himself to a proceeding which his own natural good sense, his better judgment and experience in the world, might teach him was either dishonourable, or unworthy his high and justly earned reputation.

I shall now dismiss Mr O'Connell's "motives," those which he declares to have directed him in opposing my demand in the Finance Committee—to consider the peculiar "merits" of my claim, and in which Mr O'Connell in the 31 and 4th numbered paragraphs of his letter speaks as follows:

"The claim had no merits. The costs claimed were not incurred in defending the Catholic Association, or in supporting the Catholic Cause, or in any controversy with the Orange faction, or in the assertion of any popular right whatsoever. The claim had not one particle of intrinsic merit to support it."

On the contrary, the claim was surrounded with the most palpable merits. The costs were incurred in defending three actions for defamation, or rather libel, brought against Mr Francis Wyse for imputing to three Magistrates corrupt and profligate conduct."

It is very true that the costs claimed were not incurred in defending the Catholic Association, or in the exercise of any of those praiseworthy or laudable efforts to which Mr O'Connell so pointedly alludes, yet it is rather too much to be assumed on this account, even by Mr O'Connell, "that the claim had not one particle of intrinsic merit to sustain it."

That it had merits, and those of no ordinary kind, I am prepared to prove; whilst I deplore the necessity which compels me, in doing so, to retraced my steps, and repeat the explanation which I had on a former occasion submitted to the public, and more particularly detailed in a letter published in the *Dublin Morning Post*, July, 1825.

The circumstance which has given rise to so much public discussion, had grown out of a transaction which had taken place in the County of Wexford, and which was first communicated to me by (or on the behalf of) a man named Whelan, of excellent character, and holding a few acres of land in the neighbourhood of the town of Ennis-corry. This man was presented to me as having been forcibly taken from his home—separated from his family and children, whose sole support and protection he had been, and plunged into gaol on a charge of trespass, preferred against him, before certain Magistrates of his neighbourhood, although it had also been assured to me, that on the investigation which had previously taken place, he had offered evidence to prove he had acted under a legal advice, in peaceably asserting a right of way, which he stated was the supposed trespass charged to him.

I do not mean to give any opinion on the merits of this case of Whelan's—neither do I say it was true; but the man, supposing he was sovery and illegally dealt with, sent me a written statement of the transaction, which he requested I would submit to the members of the late Catholic Association, and ascertain if the protection or rather the interference of the laws in his behalf, (which his limited funds could not purchase,) would be extended to him, through the means of that Body. He had been with his family contributors to the Catholic Rent, to which he had, with many others, tendered his subscription, under a delusion, it is true, which had been so artfully—yet so successfully practised against him as well as others of his countrymen, and which had succeeded in extorting the hard earned penny of many an individual besides himself. He sought for and claimed the interference of the Association in his behalf—from their many and repeated promises to the people; as also on the faith of many of the public declarations of their more influential members—amongst others, Mr O'Connell and Mr Soane.

Let the people mind us and they have little to fear; let them who can, contribute, and there are few who cannot pay one farthing per week; let them come to the Catholic Association, and they will be sure of protection and redress." Extract from a speech of Mr O'Connell's delivered at a Rent Meeting at Kingstown, Jan. 30, 1825.

Again—"Why are we assembled here" (at the Catholic Association) "to give redress to those who are not sufficiently rich to purchase justice?"—Extract from a speech delivered by Mr Soane at a General Meeting of the Association on Wednesday, July 9, and which declaration was assented to by the Association with loud cheers!

It was on these grounds that Whelan solicited my interference with the Association, and it was on the faith of these, or similar pledges, so shamefully violated in this instance, that I was induced to forward the communication contained in my private letter to Mr Soane. Towards the Magistrates, I could entertain no possible feeling of hostility or personal dislike. Their public and private characters were equally unknown to me; neither do I recollect to have met any of the three gentlemen until on the very day the action was tried against me at the Wexford Assizes. I had no personal or worldly object to accomplish—

had no pique to gratify—I acted from purely disinterested, and, I trust, honourable motives—I was anxious to obtain redress for one whom I conceived (perhaps unjustly) an injured and an oppressed man; for this I was betrayed—my private confidence first sought for and afterwards basely violated. For this I was bound hand and foot, and delivered over to my opponents—and now, to find the unprovoked measure of insult offered to me by the late Association, I am now told by Mr O'Connell that my whole statement was a "fabrication," and "that I had not one particle of intrinsic merit to sustain it."

I have already declared my reluctance to offer an opinion on the conduct of the Magistrates; Mr O'Connell is unwilling to be guided by the same forbearance, and has asserted in his 3th numbered paragraph of his letter—"The charges thus made were totally unfounded in fact," and then adds this piece of legal information—the premises from which he draws the foregoing conclusion—"Had they (the charges against the Magistrates) been true, Mr Wyse might have pleaded the truth in bar of the actions, which were civil actions, and not criminal prosecutions, and, if his charges were true, he would have been entitled to a verdict and costs from his adversaries;" and then facetiously ends his fifth paragraph by saying—"it seems to me that the funds of the Association would have been misapplied if allocated to pay the costs of defending an unjust and untrue charge."

I confess, I do not pretend to understand these matters with that clear and distinct perception which Mr O'Connell does; I possess sufficient comprehension, however, to feel somewhat amused at the deceitful reasoning thus forced upon my notice. I think Mr O'Connell for the information, that for a civil action for libel either of two pleas may be pleaded in bar of action—the one of justification—the other of denial, or not guilty, or what, perhaps, is more usually termed the "General Issue." I must also feel indebted to the great legal research of Mr O'Connell, that where the truth in an action for libel is pleaded in bar, and that the charges are proved by the defendant, he is entitled to a verdict and costs. In these both our legal opinions happen to coincide.—But I do hold it as a monstrous assumption on the part of Mr O'Connell, when, in an action for libel, a defendant merely pleads "the General Issue, and a verdict is given against him, that, per se, the charges contained in such libel are both unjust and untrue." Mr O'Connell, I will reasonably admit, must have been rather pressed for an excuse to bolster up a bad cause, when he has recourse to such mean and pitiful quibbling; such is not law, neither is it sense. How does this matter really stand with regard to me?

In consequence of the treachery of Mr O'Connell's conduct to me (for notwithstanding his effort to give a false and borrowed colouring to the transaction, such I will consider it an action for libel was instituted against me by the Magistrates, in consequence of the statement contained in my letter to Mr Soane. They had already secured attested copies of my letters from the Association Rooms, but which at this period were inadmissible as legal evidence against me. They possessed no other possible proof of the publication but these said copies, which were given without my sanction, and of which my opponents held the possession without my knowledge. Under such circumstances it may naturally be supposed that Counsel should advise me trying the question under the plea of the "General Issue," and under which it was then impossible I could reasonably contemplate a defeat. I was at this time unprepared for the further treachery which was practised towards me.

I have already stated that those copies were inadmissible as evidence against me, yet how long did they continue so? It is generally admitted of human nature, that the individual who commits one act of perfidy, in pursuit of any object, will readily commit another, to attain his end. Such may apply to public bodies—such is truly applicable to the late Association. Not content with having betrayed me, and thus framing the groundwork of three distinct actions against me, they made "assurance doubly sure," and furnished evidence to convict me of the publication of my letter, by moving at a Meeting of their Body, and at the instance of Mr O'Connell, that my private letter should be publicly returned me through the hands of their Secretary, Mr Purcell O'Gorman. It may well be assumed that such an intimation was not lost upon the Magistrates, who, tracing the letter to my possession, subsequently called upon me to produce the original on the trial—my neglecting or refusing to do so converted the copy into a legal and conclusive evidence against me, and on which without canvassing the "merits or demerits" of my case—without inquiring into the "truth" of any part of my statement—a verdict was given for my opponents, with costs.

There was another and a very prominent personage who figured in this transaction—Mr Fitzhenry, but more generally recognised under the distinguished title of "Colonel" Fitzhenry, "for he had been a soldier in his youth," and fought under the banners of Napoleon, in the Irish Brigades, previous, I will admit, to the battle of Sedan. Mr O'Connell has in very truth rather unceremoniously termed him "a Mr Fitzhenry, at whose instance, or for whose benefit, the Magistrates were accused by the claimant of acting corruptly," and he has further assured the public that, at the committee of the Association, this very said Mr Fitzhenry "spoke feelingly (bless the mark!) of his high character." Now, it may not be very uninteresting for the public to know something more of this very said Mr Fitzhenry, who was a close, a very near neighbour indeed, of the above and ill-treated man, Whelan. He had a short time before purchased the interest of

half a farm in his [Whelan's] brother, and had very naturally expressed himself anxious to become finally possessed of the remainder—it would have formed a valuable addition to his domain; besides, he may have considered the plot of ground which he (Mr Fitzhenry) had lately purchased. Whelan soon after complained he had been prevented access to his land, and under the advice of Counsel, removed the obstruction.—This he declared (perhaps falsely) constituted the charge of trespass against him, and for which he afterwards made amonition in the gaol of Wexford. It is, perhaps, unnecessary I should add, I had no previous intimacy or acquaintance with this said Mr Fitzhenry, of whom I shall for awhile take leave, to meet Mr O'Connell's charge of having refused an offer of arbitration tendered to me, and on which Mr O'Connell further attempts to justify his having voted for the rejection of my claim in the Committee.

In the ninth numbered paragraph in Mr O'Connell's letter, he states, "that Mr Fitzhenry authorised Mr Soane to propose to me to refer the entire matter for arbitration, to Mr Soane and to him (Mr O'Connell)—but which he further states—I then rejected in consequence of my want of confidence in him" (Mr O'Connell). And in the next paragraph, No. 10, he adds—"this offer being rejected, Mr Fitzhenry came forward at a meeting of the open Committee of the Catholic Association," and "then offered to leave the entire matter to the Committee, or in any two or three of them, which reasonable offer Mr Wyse totally rejected."

In this statement of Mr O'Connell's, he distinctly sets forth that there were two offers on two several occasions made to me—the first by Mr Soane (or rather he should have said by Mr O'Connell himself) which "I rejected;" "Mr Fitzhenry then came forward, and attended an open meeting of the Committee, for the purpose of making a second offer," which, it is stated, I also then refused.

This is utterly untrue.—From the detail of facts which I have already enumerated, it may readily be supposed I could entertain no very kind feeling towards the Association. I attended their committee for the sole purpose of demonstrating on the uses made of my letter; and it was on this occasion Mr O'Connell proposed arbitration to me. To be himself an arbitrator! I have already written what I consider was a good and sufficient reason for my refusing this offer—none was ever made to me out of the Committee Rooms, where, I now distinctly aver, on no second occasion have I re-appeared.

Mr O'Connell having from his own fertile imagination, conjured into being a meeting which never took place, with the same extraordinary fecundity and tact as exaggerating details the particulars of what he would so gladly persuade the public had occurred on such an occasion; and having made such statement subservient to his purpose, accuses me of the many exculpations contained in his 11th and 12th numbered paragraphs, which, under such circumstances, will readily admit, are unworthy of any civil man.

His 13th paragraph, however, contains a charge of a different aspect, and strangely accuses me of being for years "the most violent opponent of the Catholic Rent."

Though I had no wish to discuss my own peculiar merits, the task being ever displeasing to me, yet, when my character has been thus assailed, when my conduct has been thus unjustly set forth and vilified, and a pretext so unjustly sought to enslave me, I consider myself relieved from all further restraint, and a duty thus imposed on me, which I shall no longer try to evade.

To the list of Mr O'Connell I could plead many an act of mine in refutation. I might also detail the public resolutions of several meetings of my countrymen, whilst for my present purpose it may be sufficient I should set forth the evidence of a body with whom I had for some considerable time acted, and to whom my public conduct is more immediately and better known. I allude to the late New Body Catholic Committee, who, by their address to the late Catholic Association, on the occasion of my letter being returned to me, speak of my exertions in the collection of the Catholic Rent in the following terms:—

"In conclusion, this Committee cannot avoid expressing their extreme regret that Mr Wyse should have cause to feel that he has been disrespectfully treated by the Association on this occasion. His public exertions and patriotic intrepidity, deserve the highest applause.—They have tended to establish the Rent in this County, the second in Ireland which set the example, and it is needless to observe what the New Body affair has done in establishing the Rent over the Kingdom, for which the public are indebted to Mr Wyse."

Having, as I trust, satisfactorily disposed of this matter, I shall offer a few observations on that part of Mr O'Connell's letter where he endeavours to excuse the treatment which my letter received on having reached his hands. "To this end he has appropriated nine measured paragraphs of his battery, and entered into a detail of his domestic arrangements, through which I feel no very great disposition to follow him. In the absence of other evidence, I must of necessity receive his statement of what he alleges to have taken place in his private study, and shall even presume correct on his supposing my letter to have been forwarded to the Association Rooms on the very day it had reached his possession.

If Mr O'Connell had had leisure for reading such letter to the Association Rooms, through the legal ignorance of its contents, he had daily and almost hourly opportunities of ascertaining the error into which such gross libel had betrayed him. And he had here a better opportunity with this reach of retrieving such error, either by withdrawing my letter to its destination, or at once peaceably returning it to my possession. A sense of propriety would have suggested the necessity of either of these courses. Did Mr O'Connell pursue either? On the contrary!

Having had full and ample time to read and ponder on each word of my letter, and having availed himself of such opportunity to ascertain and learn its contents, Mr O'Connell first gives his sanction, to have attested copies of it taken (even whilst it yet remained in the Committee) to the declared purpose of instituting proceedings against me. He then takes it to the public to the eyes of the Association, where he moves that it be publicly returned to me, attended with all the consequences I have already stated. Whilst this decision of the Committee is endorsed upon my letter in this very gentleman's hand writing! Notwithstanding Mr O'Connell's very adroit letter, I will still charge him with having acted treacherously towards me.

There is one other paragraph in Mr O'Connell's letter I should be unwilling to pass unnoticed, and in which he declares having ever acted professionally for Mr Fitzhenry, though (with a perfect consistency of conduct) he admitted at the late meeting of the Finance Committee his having given no less than five opinions, on various subjects, to the public. He now states the number to one exception, which he states in the following words—"The only professional business I ever did for Mr Fitzhenry (and which makes it at this instance the more remarkable) was that some time after the action were brought, his Attorney had a short case before me, relative to a right of way—and this 'right of way' the public will be surprised to learn, I the very same for as long which the unfortunate man Whelan staked himself to have been purchased in private—and on which, Mr Soane so artfully tricked the three actions against me were constructed.—Any objection of mine here would, indeed, be a sin against me."

I cannot conclude without expressing Mr O'Connell's execration, of my having used language of derision and law violation for his determination not to fight a duel. Such is not too much. I would a respect even in Mr O'Connell's mild and calm feelings, which would urge each and all of us to forbearance, so that I considered it to be totally inconsistent with that duty of submission and forbearance, and too of an unwelcome insult in which Mr O'Connell so frequently indulges.

I shall now end my letter abstaining from any expression of my own opinion on his various matters I have detailed. I do not intend to set the public right in the matter at issue between Mr O'Connell and myself. If I have succeeded in doing so, my object is attained. Of Mr O'Connell's conduct I shall make no further remark, leaving the public to determine how far he has succeeded in clearing away the rubbish which had been flung in his path.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
FRANCIS WYSE.

Waterford, Jan. 7, 1830.

HIGH SHERIFF OF THE COUNTY OF LIMERICK.

There is a report very generally in circulation in the last few days, which has excited much observation, and commotion of mind, namely, that the usual routine of appointing the High Sheriff of the County Limerick has been discontinued, and that neither of the three persons mentioned by the judges, and whose names were published in the Gazette, have been called on in the customary way; but that the Knight of Glan has received his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant's command to be prepared to undertake the duties of that office, and that his Grace's mandate has been accordingly accepted. We have reason to believe the above report to be authentic.—*Limerick Chronicle.*

COUNTY LIMERICK ELECTION.

Only ten polling booths will be opened at the County Limerick election, one for each barony, in consequence of the great diminution of qualified electors. Last election there were upwards of thirty, when the fortunes were in existence. The writ of election is not yet arrived, nor is it expected for some days more. This delay will render the freeholders that register at Rathkeale Quarter Session in July, eligible to vote for a Representative at the ensuing election, and of course will make a sensible difference in the state of the poll for either candidate. Those Freeholders are qualified to exercise the elective franchise after the 13th inst.

EXTENSIVE EMBEZZLEMENT.

On Thursday evening, Messrs Browne and Swaine, of Usher's quay, gave a clerk in their establishment £1,520 in Bank of Ireland notes in exchange for English Bills. The clerk has not since been heard of, and it is feared he has absconded with the money.—*Dublin Paper.*

LAW REFORM.

A correspondent informs us that very active exertions are being by the friends of law reform to establish a law reform association, and that several distinguished members of the House of Commons have already expressed their intention of becoming members of it.—*Globe.*

IRISH FISHERIES.

The various Acts passed for encouraging the Irish Fisheries will expire in a short time, and it is not the intention of Government to renew them.

TO THE PUBLIC

In consequence of the... Mr. Reade's... Mr. Hughes...

On Saturday, the 19th inst., four of the Merchants... Mr. Reade's... Mr. Hughes...

I remain, Sir, your very obedient servant, Wm. Hughes.

By command of the Right Hon. Gen. Lord Hill, Commanding in Chief.

His Majesty has been graciously pleased to appoint...

Mr. Hughes, Mayor.

Mr. Hughes, Mayor.

Mr. Hughes, Mayor.

At two o'clock the Farmers and Merchants were in attendance at the Mayor's Office...

Dean Sir—I have given the best consideration in my power to the arguments addressed by the Farmers...

It appears to me clearly, that originally the barrel, as so called, of barley was 10 stone...

I have always understood the barrel of wheat in Wexford to be twenty stone, of 14 lbs. to the stone...

Having duly weighed the matter in this case, I am of opinion that the merchants of Wexford have liberty to purchase corn at any weight they please...

Mr. Hughes, Mayor.

Mr. Hughes, Mayor.

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Mr. Hughes, Mayor.

THE ARMY. H. TAYLOR, Adj. Gen.

His Majesty has been graciously pleased to appoint...

Mr. Hughes, Mayor.

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COURT OF EXCHEQUER—Tuesday, 17th Dec. 1820.

This was an action brought by the plaintiff against the defendant, for a conspiracy to issue...

On the 21st inst. the Court of Exchequer, in the case of...

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THE CHURCH.—The Lord Archbishop of Dublin has been pleased to nominate...

SINGULAR INSTANCE OF MATHEMATICAL AFFECTION.—It happened a few years ago, that a young woman in the South of France...

A correspondence has recently taken place between the President of the Cork Chamber of Commerce...

AN HONEST FANNEY.—A respectable tailor, dwelling in Dublin, a few days ago, was in the neighbourhood of Newcastle...

Mr. Anthony Nolan was murdered on Wednesday last, in the County Mayo.

Mr. Devereux, of Clonmore, while attending a General Court from his house on the Grand Parade, fell and expired in a few minutes.

Our country friends, who have not seen, find this most delightful story at this season of the year.

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COUNTY W. We have, since satisfactory communications from the friends of the Independent, already formed in the districts of the...

Agents, and a fine young man, who was in the neighbourhood of Newcastle...

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The Waterford Chronicle

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1853.

The London Mail to Wednesday have been received—they contain no foreign intelligence of any importance.

COUNTY WATERFORD ELECTION.

Since our last, Local Committees have been formed in several other directions besides those which we mentioned. The necessary books, &c. will be sent to each Committee, without a day's delay from Waterford.

The campaign against monopoly is now commenced in earnest. It has been, all through, the intention of the Independent Interest, to have a series of political dinners through the county, for some time previous to the election. They have been delayed in consequence of the unsettled state of the internal affairs of the county. But the course of the Independent Interest being now definitely and decidedly determined upon, the first of these dinners will take place on Wednesday next, at Kiltachomna (for which we refer to our advertising columns). These dinners are not to be mere aristocratic carousings—on the contrary, their leading feature and characteristic is that they are to be attended, and numerously attended, by the respectable farmers and freeholders in the vicinity in which they take place, and by all, in general, who feel interested for the success of the popular interest at the approaching contest. They will of course, be attended by the principal gentlemen of the respective districts. In order to make them accessible to all, the price of admission is so moderate that it cannot be an object or an obstacle to any farmer, whilst at the same time it is abundantly sufficient to afford a good, comfortable, substantial dinner, and a pleasant evening. The custom of yeomanry dinners in England is one which deserves to be praised, and to be imitated. It is one by which the landlords are brought into frequent and convivial society with their tenants, and is thereby productive of much good and just feeling. The dinner on Wednesday next will be the commencement of this custom in Ireland. That it will be productive of good effects we are firmly convinced, as we are also that it will be numerously attended both by farmers and Gentlemen.

THE LIST OF FREEHOLDERS.

The lists of the Freeholders of the County, £50, £20, and £10, is now concluded, and would have been ready for our publication of this day, but that it was thought advisable to have them read over and carefully examined in order to prevent any sort of mistake or inaccuracy. They will, however, be printed off in slips in the course of this day, and forwarded, by parcel, to the several Committees. They will also be published in the CHRONICLE of Tuesday next. Instructions and suggestions will be sent at the same time to the respective Committees by post.

WATERFORD ELECTION.

All our letters from respectable and well-informed sources agree in positive anticipations of the success of Mr John Barron. The Beresfords themselves have taken the alarm. It is stated in that able and patriotic paper, the Waterford Chronicle, received this day, that Lord G. Beresford feels himself driven to the necessity of a new address, which is now preparing for publication. We have ourselves some reason to think our contemporary's information is accurate. There is another address preparing—there was another address written, prepared by Mr. Sugden, it is said, which was suppressed. The circumstance should be known. When Lord George Beresford returned from London, he brought his address with him; which was a complete retraction and repentance of his political life, and an unequivocal pledge of amendment. This would have completely committed him to popular principles. When he returned, however, he found as he thought, his agents had managed things so ingeniously, in employing Mr. Shiel and in blinding Mr. O'Connell, that he might with impunity return to his ancient predilections, and abandon the people. Hence his aristocratic address—hence his speech at Armagh. We should not be surprised if the forthcoming address would be the old suppressed one, adapted to the present exigency.

ANOTHER MURDER.

A man has been most barbarously murdered, within the last few days, between Carrick and Clonmel. The unfortunate victim, it seems, had been concerned in the taking of land from which other tenants had been evicted. We have heard some further particulars, but as they seem to want confirmation, we refrain from mentioning them at present.

We are gratified to learn that the ship Frances Mary, of this port, belonging to Mr Patrick Morris, which was some time ago seized at Cork, for a breach of the revenue laws, has been released without any fine being levied on the ship. This determination on the part of the Commissioners of the Customs, is highly complimentary to Mr Morris, and carries with it proof that he had no participation in that illicit transaction.

CATHOLIC BISHOP OF WATERFORD.

His Holiness the Pope has been pleased to appoint the Very Rev Dr. Moran, P.P. of Dungarvan, to the Episcopal Chair of Waterford, vacant by the death of the late Right Rev Dr. Kelly.

TRINITARIAN ORPHAN HOUSE.

The Treasurer of the Trinitarian Orphan House, acknowledging to have received the following sums for the benefit of the inmates:

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes entries for Mr. Morris, Esq., a donation of 25 0 0, and others.

WATERFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

This Establishment has long engaged our consideration; and if we have been hitherto silent as to the selfish and sectarian principles upon which a few individuals have, continued to manage it, our motives were these—first, matters of paramount importance commanded the exclusive use of our columns—and secondly, we expected that the growing liberality of the times would have extended its influence to the party above alluded to, and that the adoption of a liberal policy on their part, would have rendered the interference of the Press altogether unnecessary. But in this hope we have been disappointed.—The same narrow and withering spirit which framed its byelaws, continues to enjoy its pernicious ascendancy. Within the last few days an effort was made by a most respectable fellow-citizen to abrogate a byelaw which makes admission almost impossible to any individual, however useful and unexceptionable, unless he be a protegee of a certain party who consider themselves the elite of our Merchants. Mr Richard Fogarty did propose to abrogate a certain law which enabled a bigotted few to insult, on one occasion, that highly upright and honest man, Mr Carigan, who in wealth and independence is as far superior to the majority of these exclusionists as he is in liberality of sentiment; and on another occasion, our noble and valuable fellow citizen, Mr Michael Power. In the year 1813, the latter gentleman was proposed as a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He may be regarded as one of the best benefactors of trade in our City—he broke in upon a monopoly in the butter business. A ballot was given in his case—30 members were present—29 gave him white beans, but four black ones excluded him.—On a late occasion Mr Carigan was proposed to be admitted a member of their body, but how was he treated? He was a man engaged in trade—belonged to the working classes of society on account of the extensive employment which his business gave them—no objection could be made to him; yet such was the curious and bad spirit which governed the decision in his case, that out of 23 members present, 6 gave him black beans. No doubt, if you ask any of the parties who were present on the occasion, why they came to such a resolution, you will hear them, one and all, protesting that they had nothing whatever to do with it. Thus do they proclaim to the world that they attempted to give a man a stab in the dark, because they conceive that secrecy will protect them against the consequences of their own shameful conduct. It was with a view to remove altogether a source of so much mischief that Mr Fogarty made the effort we have already mentioned, and though he was unsuccessful on the late occasion, we trust that he will put on that recent relax in the laudable task he has undertaken. We promise him the support of our Press. We have often felt astonished at the miserable state in which Waterford, as a great commercial port, has always been held in the Mercantile World.—Communicating, as our river does, with so many internal counties, we may be regarded as the emporium of trade for most of the counties of Munster, and for half the counties of Leinster. How comes it to pass then that we are also low an abject in commercial importance? We answer this question by referring to the laws of our Chamber of Commerce, as embodying the principles which have ever governed the conduct of those who look upon themselves as the Mercantile Body.—We are in possession of a host of facts to illustrate this position, and in concluding this short paragraph, we take leave to announce to our fellow citizens, that if the sectarian and monopolising spirit of certain members of the Waterford Chamber of Commerce be not soon altogether destroyed, the fault will not be ours. It may be necessary to inform our distant readers that the individuals against whom this rigorous but intricate system of exclusion has been exercised, are Catholics. We thought that all feeling of religious distinction was to be banished and buried in oblivion. Those who told us so, however, probably meant that the oblivion should be all on one side, and no oblivion on the other.

TOLLS.

There was a very serious conflict between the country people and the police at the fair of Clonmel on Wednesday last, the cause of which was the extortion of tolls at the fair gate. We shall be happy to learn any further particulars.

CASTLEMARTYR PETTY SESSIONS, JAN. 4.

ILLEGAL EXACTION OF TOLLS.

Messrs. Uniacke and Davis presided. Shortly after twelve o'clock Mr Dominick P. Ronayne entered the Sessions House, and the officers were called. Mr Ronayne proved the first case to the satisfaction of the Bench, who convicted the toll men in the penalty of forty shillings. There were three other cases for trial, but Mr Ronayne's witnesses being unavoidably absent, the Bench very kindly postponed the hearing of them until next Court day.

MR. JOHN WILLIAM.

We possess this day a very popular actor takes his benefit on Monday, and we trust the public will witness to his occasion, the partiality they have hitherto manifested towards him in a more substantial way by giving him a bumper.

ANNUAL DINNER

AT THE TRINITARIAN ORPHAN HOUSE.

The annual Dinner of this useful institution took place on last Tuesday. About 110 gentlemen sat down to dinner.

PATRICK MORRIS, Esq. Presided.

When the cloth had been removed, The President, on rising to propose the health of his Majesty, congratulated the meeting on the (favourable auspicious under which they met. It is, he said, the first anniversary of this institution, since our most gracious Sovereign has placed all his subjects of every religious denomination on an equal footing. Applause. The King, from his earliest days, was the friend of Ireland and Irishmen. Meira and Sheridan were the companions of his youth. The Irish Parliament gave him the greatest proof of their affection and confidence, when Prince of Wales, in appointing him an unrestricted Regent, he did not forget the obligations which he was under to the Irish people. Almost his first public act after he ascended the throne was his visit to Ireland. The kindly feelings which he then expressed to the people and the country, and his parting admonition, must for ever endure him to the grateful recollection of his Irish subjects. Cheers. The morning of his reign blazed with the splendour of military triumph—the evening with the more glorious triumph of pure and perfect freedom for his Irish people. Applause. By this great act, he has placed his throne on the most solid foundation; he now rules not a divided, but a united Empire. Loud cheers. He has cause to feel more pride than any Sovereign that ever wielded the British sceptre; but one feeling of loyalty and affection towards him animates the hearts of all his subjects in the country; it extends from the Giant's Causeway to Cape Clear. Cheers. The Irish Roman Catholics feel proud as being admitted into the brotherhood of British subjects. To be a Roman citizen was the proudest boast in the ancient world. To be entitled to all the rights and privileges of a British subject in the modern world, a much greater cause for triumph. The Irish Roman Catholics daily appreciate its value; no portion of his Majesty's subjects will be more ready to support with their lives and their fortunes the just prerogatives of the Crown, and the other glorious principles of the British Constitution. The Chairman then gave the health of the King. Nine times nine. Air—God save the King. Applause.

The President rose and said, that Kings, Princes, Parliaments, and Lords, were the more breath of the nostrils of the people. The aristocracy, he said, may say they are the Corinthian pillars of the State; but the King may proudly boast that he is the mighty dome, and throws over it the shadow of his protection; but what a useless fabric it would be if it did not rest on the only foundation which a good Government can rest upon—the love and regard of the people. Loud cheers. The revivifying and animating breath of the people is necessary for the health of the political body, as air is to the natural body. Death ensues if you stop the current of the one, and what is a thousand times worse than death, despotism and arbitrary power ensues if you stop the current of the other.—Cheers. He would then give the People, and may be soon rivied to that scale in society for which, by their natural capabilities, nature and God have designed them.

The People. Air—Patrick's Day.

The Duke of Clarence and St. James, and the rest of the Royal Family. Air—The Halls of the Nobles. The Chairman here rose and said, that the Duke of Northumberland was appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland at a great crisis; he was armed with extraordinary powers; he was made dictator, the Empire as at that time being threatened, not by the Gauls, but by the Romans.—Laughter and applause. Notwithstanding, he has exercised his power with moderation, wisdom, and mercy. His constitutional reply to the Tipperary Magistrates, when applying for the extension of the Insurrection Act—his refusal to dine with the Mayor and Corporation of Dublin, his audacious and foolish boast should drink his merited reprieve of the man who are called the Donnellie conspirators, are proofs with many others that could be adduced now well he deserves the general character which has been given him.

The Duke of Northumberland, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Air—The Irish Volunteers.

The Chairman here said, that a great debt of gratitude was due to the Duke of Wellington and Mr Peel, by the Irish people. Ireland was governed for centuries like a slave ship on the mid sea passage, the contending factions were arrayed against each other—their matters found no difficulty in riveting their chains. At no period of Ireland's history did party spirit run so high as it did during the government of the gallant and beloved Marquis of Anglesey. Cheers. Had the Minister of England been then influenced by those democratic principles which governed so many of his predecessors, how easily he might have arrayed the contending parties against each other. They were most anxious to commence the deadly conflict when Lord Anglesey's proclamation appeared, and the Duke of Wellington ordered the veterans of the Peninsula and of Waterloo, to march with all the pride and pomp of glorious war, to separate the combatants. He exhibited an example scarcely to be paralleled in the history of the world. The movement of armies to promote peace, and to prevent the people of the same country, speaking the same language, adoring the same Redeemer, from destroying each other—the humane conduct of the Duke of Wellington and the Marquis of Anglesey, upon this occasion, claims the utmost gratitude of Irishmen. Here the Chairman said it was unnecessary to call the attention of the meeting to the inflexible resolution of the Duke of Wellington on the great question of Irish pacification. Though, continued the Chairman, his military triumphs have thrown into the shade the glories of Agincourt, Cressy, Poitiers and Hohenlinden, the laurels he gained upon that occasion are much greater; the noble rebuke he gave the impetuosity of civil war does him more honour than all his blood-stained victories. Here the Chairman said that he wished perfectly to be understood when suggesting the Duke of Wellington that he confined his observations to his home policy, and had no reference to the foreign policy of the present administration,

which he could not speak of in terms of approbation. He concluded by proposing The Duke of Wellington, Mr Peel, and the rest of his Majesty's Ministers. Applause. Air—See the Conquering Hero come.

The Chairman said, that it was the opinion of Sir John Davis, some two or three hundred years ago; that no people under the sun appreciated justice more than the Irish. The opinion of Sir John Davis is fully confirmed in the example of Sir Anthony Hart, who if not the most popular, is certainly the most respected man in Ireland. He has gained the opinion of the people by no other means than by holding the scale of Justice with a steady hand. In the words of the great charter, "by not selling, by not refusing, by not deserting right or justice to any one." Here, the Chairman took an opportunity of paying a just tribute to the other dignified individuals who grace the Irish bench—he said, that no age or country has produced greater or better men than Plunkett, Smith, Pennefather, and Bushe.

Sir Anthony Hart, Ireland's Lord Chancellor. Air—The Spirit of St. Paul.

Counsellor Walsh being called upon to return thanks for the honour conferred on Sir Anthony Hart, rose and said, that he fully merited the eulogium passed upon him. Here the Chairman said he never in his life felt more difficulty than he did on that occasion, in attempting to do any thing like justice to the character of the distinguished individual whose health he was then about to propose. However, he thought when he mentioned the name it would speak for itself. The name he had to announce to the meeting was that of the mighty Liberator of Ireland, Daniel O'Connell. Here the Chairman was interrupted by loud cheering, which lasted for some minutes. As soon as the applause had subsided, he said that it was a fortunate circumstance that the ingenuity of the people to public service must, like the Catholic, lie on air. He would then propose the health of the Duke of Wellington, and the Duke of Clarence and St. James, and the rest of the Royal Family. Air—The Halls of the Nobles.

He would then give the Duke of Wellington, and the Duke of Clarence and St. James, and the rest of the Royal Family. Air—The Halls of the Nobles. He would then give the Duke of Wellington, and the Duke of Clarence and St. James, and the rest of the Royal Family. Air—The Halls of the Nobles. He would then give the Duke of Wellington, and the Duke of Clarence and St. James, and the rest of the Royal Family. Air—The Halls of the Nobles.

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I am wholly uninfected, believe me, and say it without vanity, with any superstitious respect for names or person, however exalted in their own estimation. I am wholly free from every species of political fanaticism—I profess myself an ardent, an enthusiastic, and grateful admirer of Mr O'Connell's illustrious merits, as a lawyer, a statesman, a politician, and a patriot. Long continued cheering. Now my admiration and gratitude the less, for finding them all concentrated in such brilliant abundance in a more Irishman. Yes, I am grateful to Mr O'Connell, as much, perhaps, for what he has suffered, as for what he has done for us. Yes, I am grateful to Mr O'Connell for having taught us to struggle against the subjugation of our own habitual slavery—for having taught us to rise in the dignity of our nature, and to trample to the dust the insolence of every tyranny but that of youth and genius. Yes, I am grateful to Mr O'Connell for having broken the chain that so long and so injuriously bound us, and for having effected the brand that branded us. Cheers. I am grateful to him for having emancipated our religion; and I have and ardently pray, that he may yet live to consecrate the great enfranchisement, by emancipating our nation. I am grateful to him for all the mercy and salvation he has done for us, his presidency and protection of the orphan and most cordially to concur with your Chairman (and who does not) in blessing him for having lately rescued the lives of so many innocent men, and what, perhaps, is no less important, the character of our abused but generous country, from the foul breath of the informer, and the fouler pollution of imperialist ambition, and for having created one solitary but noble example in Ireland, of the virtue and safety of trial by jury. Hear, hear. And now, permit me to say, that I am greatly and justly gratified upon the fulfilment of your ardent wishes upon your Chairman's conduct, and his merits; but above all, let me, in the deepest sincerity of my soul, offer my profoundest and loudest thanks to God, for having ended him with so much grace, and power, and genius, and for having taught him to our country, in these our days, a model for every virtuous man, and a source for every public benefactor. Oh! had I had, and wished, ungrateful, and unwise, as the Irishman who dares to vilify his name, and thereby to rob us of almost the only glory that is left us after a long and painful struggle. Yes, yes, however noble plumes may presume to obscure themselves upon the canopy, Mr O'Connell will be the Alpha and Omega of our history. It was he who directed us in the toilsome journey, and pointing to the standard of the people's rights, which he so triumphantly bore, and on which his words were his hope, and his power, ever held on, as by his own example of ceaseless action and individual virtue, shaming the recreant, inspiring the timid, restraining the impetuous, and stimulating the torpid; and by his almost inspired judgment and wisdom, surmounting all difficulties, and subduing all foes. Yes, he it was who heard and seen in every act of our last, our brightest, and all pure and stainless as they are, I could wish to add our only wish.—But, though he has lived not almost half a century in your case, and has done much, stand by him and he will do more—hear, hear—and believe me, more, much more, remains to be done to perfect our complete emancipation. But, when I say this, I neither wish nor mean to unlearn or depreciate what has been given—on the contrary, I think it was a great boon, ardently obtained and as nobly bestowed by those who granted it.—Though dearly purchased by the best blood of the people, in the sacrifice of the 400 freeholders, I think it was the first truly philosophical and enlightened legislation that was ever granted to Ireland by England; but yet I am anxious that it should not be overgrown and mistaken, and thereby lost to us and to our country, with the blessings of which it is incomprehensible. What I then say is, that the system under which we have lived and lived, has been too rotten and unsound on all sides, and the spirit it has engendered, is as bad as cannot be cured by emancipation alone, without vigor and virtue, and vigilance on the part of the people. The restoration of caste, it is true, is abolished by letter, and a nominal equality is obtained, and that all Irishmen may be said to be free to participate in that part of the British Constitution which is vouchsafed to Ireland; or to borrow a hyperbolic phrase from a quondam agitator, but now repressed patriot, we have been raised to the "monstrous level of British citizenship." But whether that level and that citizenship be magnificent it is most questionable, for it is quite possible that both may exist in slavery as well as in freedom; and there is no question that equality is not independence—that right is not possession—that privilege is not enjoyment; nor will they even become so under our system, unless the people still combine to eradicate every remnant of the old tyranny—to watch their newborn rights with a miser's care, and be ever vigilant to guard them against the usurpation to which they are perpetually subject from ministerial corruption and aristocratic venality. Loud cheers. And this it is, I say, that emancipation, of itself, has no self-renewing power, and cannot do much good; but, on the contrary, it will do much evil if the people think so, and be thereby lulled into stupid wonder and listless inaction; and if, above all, the hyperbolic and abominable cant of "conciliation and oblivion" be successful to the extent in which they are injuriously proclaimed and sought to be pushed into the local politics of our country—hear, hear—Oh! this, this is a most pernicious doctrine, and, if successful with us, would be death and ruin irretrievable to the public safety. It is discountenanced by, and repugnant to, every principle of virtue, wisdom, and experience. It destroys and annihilates the only conservative principle of human nature, whether in nations or individuals. The individual that is twice betrayed deserves no pity. The nation that is twice sold is lost to all disgrace, and damned without redemption. But do I in this reject the conciliation and oblivion that give repose, and promise happiness, and bespeak forgiveness? No, no—I am not so stern a stoic or so rigid a moralist. Repentance in individuals has my pity—repentance in nations has my respect. But, in the cause of a nation's liberty, and the happiness of millions of my fellow-creatures, I abhor, and abhor, and denounce the cant of conciliation and oblivion.

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