

The Waterford Chronicle.

The Nationalist Sheet that unites the Oppressed.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1850

Price 6d.

No 411

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19.

The Earl of Huntingdon took the oath and his seat.

Lord CALTHORPE moved that all the petitions presented last year against the renewal of the East India Company's Charter, should be referred to the Committee on the state of our trade with India.—Agreed to.

GREECE.

Lord HOLLAND, on rising to make his motion respecting Greece, felt much disappointed in the nature of the communication made in the speech from the Throne on that subject. His disappointment was the greater, in not hearing from any of His Majesty's Ministers the principles on which the negotiations now in progress respecting that country were founded. He did not think that any Member of that House would maintain that it was not fit that, when a Government was about to be established in any nation, that nation should have the means of supporting its independence; but the subject to which he would chiefly call the attention of the House, was the nature of the Government which should be given to that country. He confessed the nature of his motion implied a distrust in His Majesty's Ministers, but he did not mean to deny that he felt strong reasons for distrusting them on this subject; at the same time he begged to have understood that he did not intend any direct hostility to His Majesty's Government. He felt very thankful to them for the great good which they had done to the country, and he hoped they would do much more, yet, notwithstanding all which, he would not promise them his support. He thought that there was something objectionable in their composition—When they saw that the sense of the country was against them, and that they had been in danger of losing their places, they most magnanimously resigned opinions which they before professed—rather—than carried a measure which he (Lord Holland) owned reflected much credit on them. Yet he could not avoid expressing his disapprobation of their foreign policy; but he repeated that he would not offer any systematic opposition to them. With respect to Greece, the Noble Lord observed that the so-called of that country could be attained with more advantage, to this country after the battle of Navarino, than it could after Turkey had been subdued by Russia. At the former period this country stood in an eminent situation; France had acceded to the treaty, Russia had consented, and made great sacrifices to settle that country. Our possessions in the Mediterranean gave us a great advantage on that occasion. The British fleet, combined with those of Russia and France, could then compel Turkey to yield to any terms which we should think proper to impose on her; but the misfortune of change in the Cabinet at that period blighted all these advantages. The speech from the throne of the opening of Parliament last year, went to stigmatize the proceedings by which we had been placed in so glorious a position, yet the abandonment from the throne in France breathed a different feeling, and implied an intention that country to improve on the advantages which they had gained. He had no doubt that if the Dardanelles had been blockaded at that period, Turkey would have been unable, and induced to accede to pacific terms; Greece had been placed in a more distressing situation on the accession of the present Ministry than she had been before. She had been promised money from the three Confederates, but the Noble Duke refused to contribute any, and he did not blame him for it; but the result of the Noble Duke's refusal was that France and Russia refused to contribute their share. It was then proposed to send troops. "No," said the Noble Duke, "I will send none." However, at last troops were sent; and to the great honour of the Commander, sent from France; he formed a treaty with the Paacha of Egypt, and succeeded in clearing the Morea. The same Government was proceeding to liberate other parts of Greece from the attacks of the Turks, when, through the interposition of this country, he was recalled. This act must reflect much discredit on Great Britain, and excite a prejudice in the minds of the Greeks against us. England manifested on that occasion a want of friendship or deceitful hypocrisy. The Noble Lord now referred to a discussion which took place on a former occasion, respecting Russia and Turkey, when the Duke of Wellington said, "that the independence of Turkey was essential to the maintenance of the balance of power in Europe, that this country would by no means consent to a dismemberment of it."—But, said his Lordship, could the Noble Duke reconcile this assertion with his tamely submitting to the invasion of that country by Russia.—Through this country had entered into a confederacy with Russia and France for the protection of Greece, and though the Noble Duke had been ready to do this confederacy, yet his Government refused to accomplish the object of the confederacy. The Noble Lord here entered into a detail of the particulars relative to the war between Russia and Turkey. He drew much from the writings of the Grand Seignior, who, though he had often a sword that he would die under the walls of Constantinople rather than submit to Russia, yet, ultimately, had no other unconditional submission. There was no point which this country preserved for Turkey, which was, that Greece should be tributary to them.—There was such a want of principle, consistency, and understanding, in the conduct of this country towards Greece, as to justify Parliament to interfere in the settlement of that unhappy country. He denied, as had been alleged, that the trade of the country should suffer from the Black Sea

being under the control of Russia. His opinion was, that on the contrary it would benefit by that clause. He looked on it as the height of impolicy to interfere with Russia in the assertion of her rights. His Lordship entertained a very favourable feeling concerning the conduct of France on all these occasions. The statements which he had ventured to make were founded on newspaper information, not being able to procure access to official documents; but he felt bound to say, that he had heard from private quarters that it was not intended to enlarge the limits of Greece at the expense of Turkey, or to show the former even all that territory which had been designated for her by the treaty of the 6th of July, 1828. If this were the case, it rendered it more imperative on Parliament to interfere. He begged their Lordships to observe what the consequences would be, if Candia should be left in the possession of the Turks; that island was inhabited by Greeks, and even at this moment he understood that they were in a state of insurrection. How was it possible that peace could be preserved in that country, while the inhabitants of that island contained disaffection feelings towards their Government. If there were any grounds for supposing that it was intended to leave Candia to Turkey, Parliament were bound to interfere to prevent the consequent evils. The Noble Lord concluded by expressing his conviction of the propriety of the House adopting the resolution which he would propose, and then read the resolution as follows:—

That there should be no pacification or settlement of Greece, which would not give that country an extent of territory sufficient to enable her to preserve her independence by land and by sea; and that no Government should be imposed on her which was not consistent with the wishes of the people.

The Earl of ABERDEEN regretted most that the Noble Lord should manifest such distrust in the honour of His Majesty's Government as to feel called on to adopt the course which he was now pursuing. The Noble Viscount (Godrich) had taken a different view of His Majesty's Speech, and expressed his confidence that His Majesty's Ministers would do that which would redound most to the honour and credit of this country. He, Lord Aberdeen, denied that Government intended to deviate from the terms of the treaty of the 6th of July. The Noble Lord (Holland) had no grounds, at least in anything which had emanated from Ministers, for supposing that His Majesty's Government had meditated to contract the boundaries originally assigned for Greece. The Noble Lord accused His Majesty's Ministers of impolicy in not having carried into effect the treaty after the battle of Navarino; but he begged to tell the Noble Lord that the object of the treaty was not to be carried into effect by a naval expedition, and that as His Majesty's Ministers had disapproved of that expedition, they could not with propriety take advantage of it. How could the Noble Lord suppose that Ministers intended to establish a Government in Greece from which free institutions should be excluded. He begged to assure the Noble Lord that this Government had no intention to do with that, as the Noble Lord himself said. The people and their Prince might form a kind of Government they should think proper to have. With respect to the war between Russia and Turkey, he disagreed from the Noble Lord in thinking that Europe would benefit by the conquest of Turkey by Russia. The contingency of Turkey being civilized by the Russians would not countenance the danger which the peace of Europe might thereby incur. Notwithstanding the assertion of the Noble Lord respecting the want of information, he (the Earl of Aberdeen) knew well that the Noble Lord had abundant sources of information, and he would refer him to those sources. He (the Earl of Aberdeen) was sure the Noble Lord would find in them all the necessary information on the subject. He regretted to hear the Noble Lord make such gratuitous assertions respecting our conduct and relations to foreign countries; but he (Lord Aberdeen) had been so accustomed to hear such assertions and imputations since he had come into office, that he had learned to hear them with indifference. He begged to assure the Noble Lord that the policy which Ministers had pursued with foreign nations, would insure to their respect from those whom the Noble Lord thought despised us. The Noble Lord concluded by entreating the House to negative the resolution of the Noble Lord, as contrary to any proceeding which had ever taken place on such subjects. His Lordship moved the previous question.

The original resolution and the amendment having been put from the Woolsack, the SPEAKER of CLANRICARDE briefly supported the original motion.

Lord MELBOURNE condemned the policy of this country respecting the war between Russia and Turkey. He regretted that many expressions which had fallen from the Noble Duke's relations to that war had been very unpolitic, as they had declared an intention inconsistent with the course which Ministers had pursued on that occasion. The declarations and acts of the Noble Duke on that subject had been entirely at variance. With respect to Greece, he observed, that if this country took an interest at all in the settlement of Greece, we should endeavour to establish it in such a form as would redound most to the welfare and happiness of that country.

Lord GODRICH—As the Noble Lord has alluded to some observations which I made as the first day of the Session, I think myself bound to make a few remarks on the present subject. I most heartily concur in the opinion of the Noble Secretary of State, that we ought to throw no impediment in the way of the Greek people, in their choice of such a form of Government as should be satisfactory to themselves. But when the Noble Secretary said that our Government would throw no obstacles in the Greeks in their

choice, I should have been more gratified if the Noble Lord had said that the Government of this country would interfere to prevent any shackles being imposed on them by others. As far as he has gone however, I highly approve of the principle of our abstaining from interfering with the choice of the Greeks as to their own form of Government. But I have my suspicions that although we may throw no impediment in their way, others may attempt to do it; and I most earnestly hope that Ministers will use all their influence to prevent, for a moment, what has been said this night. I should most extremely regret if the Greeks were to be so fettered as not to be allowed even the smallest choice in the matter. I most strongly think that we ought to hesitate before we interfere very earnestly in procuring improvements to be made in the old Government of Greece, and that it was better to allow the people and Government to settle these affairs amongst themselves. But Greece stood in an entirely different position, for there was a new Government, and we were bound to assist in the progress of that Government. Our business was not to interfere with the power of the Government of Greece, and that we thereby show to the world that we were attached to our own institutions because we were sensible of the benefits of them, and not because we were born under them, as the Noble Lord said. This is the only important principle, I think, that an opinion prevails in some foreign countries that we submit to our institutions as a grievance, rather than value them as a blessing. If by the means of England Greece should be settled on the basis of a free national Government of their own choice, it will not only be a great object gained for Greece, but will highly redound to the honour and fame of England, and will increase the influence of our country both in these regions and all over Europe. It is not so very easy a matter as we should not pass this resolution, for I do not think it necessary to enter upon any comments on the past, for that is not required, for the purpose of proving the expediency of passing such a resolution. I do not mean to discuss whether the Ministers in their previous conduct, was more or less right, or more or less in the right; what I look to is the future, and I hope the Ministers, in any attempt which should be made in any quarter to oppose the free choice of the Greeks, will be anxious to give a victory over that opposition, and I hope that the result will be favourable. What our scepter we might have to put ourselves in a position to do in the affairs of the old Government of Greece, the Greeks stand in a different situation. It is not a question of changing the form of Government; it is a new Government to be established where there was none, or next to none, before; and here, therefore, we cannot have our own copies; and I most anxiously hope that the expectations of a happy result, which have been put in my mind by the discussion of this evening, will not be disappointed.

The Duke of WELLINGTON—Although I am completely satisfied with the answer and explanation which has been given by my Noble Friend, Earl of Aberdeen, nevertheless, I yet feel desirous to say a few words in reference to what has been said by the Noble Lord opposite. The Noble Lord cannot but have observed that His Majesty, in his Speech delivered by the Royal Commissioners on the first day of the Session, states that he had conferred with the Secretary of State on the expediency of the treaty of the 27th of July, for the pacification of Greece; and His Majesty's own promises that he will shortly lay before your Lordships the documents, which will afford your most ample information as to those transactions. But what does the Noble Lord say? He says to your Lordships, don't wait for the production of the documents which His Majesty has promised to lay before you, but before you are in possession of the requisite information, come forward at once with the plan stated in this resolution, and declare that nothing else than the adoption of that plan will satisfy the Greeks, or be consistent with the honour and dignity of this country. And he calls on your Lordships to give your information whether the measures for the pacification of Greece have not been already formally concerted and finally settled on another basis. It is consistent to procure a resolution without knowing whether the matter has not been already finally arranged, so as to make it impossible to alter it? A Noble Viscount on the other side said that a resolution of this kind was a most absurd and ridiculous proceeding; and I know of nothing to justify it, excepting that the Noble Lord dwells on his want of confidence in His Majesty's Ministers, and especially in me; and in order to lay some stress of a ground for his resolution, he takes statements which he has found in newspapers, and argues upon them with an utter contempt of dates.—Hear, My Noble Friend, Lord Melbourne, if he will allow me to call him so, on the second bench, he said that we encouraged the Turks in their resistance to the Russian propositions for peace, and to send the Hatti Sheriff or Manifesto, or whatever it might be called, which showed their determination not to yield till the last extremity. But the Noble Viscount forgets that Sheriff was prepared, if not published, before Parliament, and long before I was in office; and neither by direct recommendation to themselves, nor by the language which was held in Parliament, nor by the language of His Majesty's Speech, did we encourage the Turks to resist. The Hatti Sheriff, though not published immediately when prepared, was known at Elmir before the late Ministers went out of office. To blame Ministers for that, therefore, is what I most really call to task. A laugh. With respect to the measures that preceded the battle of

Navarino, and the transactions relative to the blockade of the Dardanelles, and some other matters to which the Noble Lord has alluded, I really have no more to do with them than I had to do with the Hatti Sheriff. The instructions to the Admirals and those relative to the blockade were given by the former Government; and I think that in the latter respect they acted rightly. It was not to be a belated blockade, but a merely such a one as circumstances might require, in order to prevent the extension and continuance of barbarous hostilities. I do not reproach the Noble Lord for his want of confidence in the Ministers; but I must inform him that Ministers were not the authors of these measures and transactions, but only carried out the example of others. But the Noble Lord has accused me with reference to a variety of transactions, which it is utterly impossible to discuss at present with effect, because the proper documents and papers have not been laid before your Lordships. I can present only tell him that the documents, when laid on the table, will show that, with respect to every one of these transactions, the Noble Lord is completely mistaken; but as these papers are not before your Lordships, I will refrain from entering into a detailed discussion of the circumstances. The Noble Lord blames us for not having sufficiently urged on the Turks the policy of resistance to Russia, and for thereby having encouraged the Russian war. But he should have looked at the times before he made the charge. The Addresses of the three years are laid on the table in the House on the 10th of September, and I did not come into office till January 1, and we had no opportunity of communicating directly with the Turkish Government. But then we had the means of communicating with them through the mediation of another power, and we represented to them the injury which they had done to themselves by leaving the Hatti Sheriff, and strongly advised them not to enter into any such a transaction, so that it was not our fault that they were taken peace. This advice we repeated to the Ottoman Government in the course of our war;—I most anxiously and earnestly represented to them that which would be actually beneficial, and which, I think, ought to have been printed in the first complete, I always urged the Duke to make peace with the Russians, and he had a right to demand it, though, and by yielding to previous peace, as they were bound to do by their own war. But then, says the Noble Lord, why did you not put yourselves in arms to prevent it? Now I truly believe that, notwithstanding the promises of the Ministry, as I hope they will be, the country was never in such a high state of preparation for war at any period within my memory as at the present moment. Never in my time, was our military force, or our power and influence for foreign war greater, not even at the period when we were contending against the world in arms. Hear, hear. It was never in a state of superior preparation for war; but when the Noble Lord asks why we did not take arms to prevent the Russian war, then come the questions, would it be a just war?—I say it would not. Would it be a public war?—I again answer no. We were at that time engaged in a treaty with Russia and France for an object which we have now to a great measure attained, and it would have been impossible for them to have given up the advantages of the Russian cooperation. It would have been a breach of faith, and especially to the Russian Government, which promised to give peace and a first possible opportunity. Our taking arms against Russia would have resulted in the whole arrangement; and it would have been obviously unwise, unpolitic, and impolitic to have done so. Notwithstanding the promises which the Duke has, by his persistence, brought upon himself, it still exists as a possibility that it may yet be established, so to be able to see part in the policy of Europe.—Then the Noble Lord blames us for the measures which we adopted with respect to the Greeks, particularly with respect to having suggested to the Greeks to yield to the Turks, in order to effect the object of Greek pacification. But the principle of yielding to an enemy was the very one to which we and our predecessors are most strongly attached. It was the principle most strongly recommended by every man of sense and expedition, and it was the principle on which the treaty for the pacification of Greece was founded.—that we should not mix ourselves with the belligerents. It was for this reason that His Majesty, in his speech called the battle of Navarino, an unfortunate or unhappy event; for that battle was an act of hostility that might have had every unhappy effect on the ulterior measures for the pacification. But then, it was asked, why we had at first opposed a peace with the Greeks. It was true that the gulf of the Morea had made an arrangement for the evacuation of the Morea by the troops of the Duke of Wellington; but then that was not known when the French troops were sent. I am, perhaps, more to blame than the Noble Lord opposite for my want of recollection of dates, but the papers, when they are produced, will explain why the French troops were sent to the Morea, and why they were not sent. He at one time proposed a blockade; but that did not take place, and then the troops were sent. But I say, that in the whole of these transactions we were guided by the spirit of the treaty, and the spirit of the treaty was the pacification of Greece, and not the making a great State of it, and that object has now nearly reached a final settlement. Then the Noble Lord says, "Oh, but the Greeks ought to have the island of Candia." The island of Candia, however, was not included in the treaty, and the Noble Lord does not know if it can be included now. He says, you may now make a new arrangement, but he does not know but the affair may be already settled on the old terms.—I shall say nothing about that at present; but I do say, that if Candia is to be given to the Greeks, it

must be first conquered from the Turks, and we are not bound by the Treaty to conquer any thing from the Greeks. By that Treaty we made an arrangement for the pacification of Greece, but it was not contemplated to include Candia in the Greek territory. My Noble Friend near me has been given as an answer to all the objections of the Noble Lord as can be given at present, in the absence of the documents; and I really hope that the Noble Lord himself will see the propriety of withdrawing the resolution.

Lord HOLLAND—Perhaps, my Lords, I shall not give your Lordship the trouble of a division; but I will not withdraw the resolution, as I am anxious that it should be entered on the Journals of this House. Now, one word as to what the Noble Secretary of State says about the sentiments of Mr Fox, on the subject of the Turks. I really do not know from whom the Noble Lord has his information, about the fact that Mr Fox wished to keep up the power of the Turks, and even expressed an opinion that the integrity of their power ought to be guaranteed by this country. I had an opportunity of being well acquainted with the statements of Mr Fox; and I know, that both as a citizen of the world, and as a man who had the deepest interest in the glory and honour of this country, and no man valued his country more highly, he was most anxious that the Turks should be driven out of Europe. That Mr Fox may not have said anything to wound the Noble Secretary's inference, so some political emergency of consequence, is more than I can take upon myself to say; but, most certainly, his general sentiments were such as I have stated them to have been. Does the Noble Lord expect to know what Mr Fox's opinions were better than I do?—I know Mr Fox's opinions about the Noble Duke's conduct, and I know that the Noble Duke has done his duty; but I have hardly thought that the Noble Duke has been guilty of any inaccuracy. I think that a proposal was made to blockade the Dardanelles, and we rejected our feelings on that point, but we did not subject to it. The Noble Duke says, and I say truly, that does not go to the point. But the gist of any argument has to do with dates. To be sure I cannot produce documents and dispatches to show that the Ministers encouraged the Turks to refuse doing terms with the Russians; but what I contended was, that the more tone and spirit of the language of His Majesty's Speech, and of the language of the Ministers in Parliament, were calculated to buoy on the hopes of the Turks, and led them to take that obstinate and protracted course which has led to their present state of degraded humiliation. The Turks were fully expected that they would resist, and that they would stand firm to destruction. The Noble Duke says that the instructions to Admiral Cochrane were given by the late Ministers, but it was not they who spoke of the battle of Navarino as an unwarranted event. Then the Noble Duke found that he could not act as he was bound by the treaty, but I say that in consequence of the breaking out of the war between Russia and Turkey, we had the liberty of withdrawing from the treaty if we thought proper. We were bound only as long as the Russians withheld their right as belligerents to blockade the Dardanelles; but they did not waive them. The Noble Duke says, that to pass a resolution of this kind was absurd and ridiculous, because for anything I know, that matter may have been already arranged on a different basis; but I am willing to share in the ridicule and absurdity which was just as well mortified in 1707, by Lord Nottingham, at the head of the Tories, who proposed a resolution of much the same description, which was supported by Lord Somers, and all the most eminent of the Whigs of that day. It was a resolution for an address to the Queen about excluding the Pretender from certain territories on the Continent of Europe, particularly from the dominion of the Duke of Lorraine.—The same arguments were then used against it as were now used by the Noble Duke. The Queen had no right nor means to compel the other Powers to exclude the Pretender; and it was inconsistent with the dignity of Parliament and the respect due to her Majesty, to address her to do an act which she had no power to enforce. The Lords, however, overruled the objection, and the resolution was passed; and that such a resolution, however ridiculous and absurd in the Noble Duke's estimation, is not at least unproductive. As to the arguing on the French troops to the Morea, the Noble Duke says that I was wrong as to dates, but my argument did not depend on dates. The Noble Duke had at first proposed the expedition, and then he did afterwards agree to their being sent, and then stipulated that they should not act beyond the limits of the Morea. As to Candia, I understand it was at one time in contemplation that a line from the Gulf of Volo to Ira should be the limits of the Greek territory; and I towards heard of some other arrangement, and the one might be argued as the other; but I do say, that Candia ought to belong to the Greek State. Before we can give that island to the Greeks, says the Noble Duke, we must conquer it from the Turks, and we are not bound to conquer for the Greeks. The Noble

(For continuation see Fourth Page.)

DEBATE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

not presume to say, looking at the letter as published, that there was nothing to which objection could be taken; but he did most decidedly disclaim, in the name of the Noble Lord, any intention, by writing the letter, to produce such an effect as had been imputed to him.

Mr STEWART was of opinion, that an immediate and extensive inquiry ought to be instituted into the administration of justice in India. He especially reprobated the practice of appointing local judges in the provinces by the Government, without due inquiry into their qualifications. Those Judges were dependent on the Government, and were removable at the pleasure of Government, which gave the Government an influence over them utterly inconsistent with the impartial administration of justice.

In support of his statement, the Honourable Member read an opinion which was given two years ago by the Master of the Rolls, Sir John Leach, in delivering his judgment on an appeal brought before him from the decision of one of those local Indian Courts. He did not believe that the natives of India were averse to the introduction of the English law. He was glad to find that the Noble President of the Board of Control had at last got a copy of his letter to Sir John Malcolm. It appeared, that the first use which Sir John Malcolm made of this confidential letter, after reading it, was to send it to the breakfast table of Sir John Grant. (No, no.) He had so understood it; and he also understood that it had been sent home by Sir John Grant to his son. Yet this was the letter which the Hon. Gentleman had laboured to prove was strictly private and confidential, never intended to be made use of, and which could have been the light only by a disgraceful breach of confidence.

Of the letter itself, he would say that it was most disgraceful to a King's Minister. Hear, hear, hear. In due time the House would perhaps see the letter from Sir John Malcolm, in answer to which the Honourable Gentleman had said this private and confidential letter of the Noble Lord's was written. He should like to know by what law Sir John Malcolm was authorized to interfere with the Courts of Law in India. The Hon. Member had alluded to the first Act by which the Supreme Courts were appointed, and to the differences between the Council and the Chief Judge of Bengal. He wished the Honourable Gentleman had gone farther, and had alluded to the resolutions of the House of Commons on the subject, and the recall of the Chief Judge. In order to neutralize the animosities which prevailed between the Sovereign Council and the Supreme Court, Mr Hastings appointed Sir Elijah Impey, in addition to his office of Chief Justice of that Court, Judge of the Sudder Duaness Adalut. The consequence was, that the subject was taken up by the House of Commons in 1782, and certain resolutions were agreed to by a majority of 53, declaring that it was highly improper that the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Judicature should hold any other office or appointment. This was followed by an address to the King to recall Sir Elijah Impey, in order that he might answer to the charge preferred against him, and he was recalled accordingly. There certainly might be cases in which the interference of the Indian Government with the Courts might be expedient; but he denied that the case under consideration was one of them. In the charter of the Supreme Court of Bombay, all persons in authority, civil and military, were enjoined to be aiding and assisting the Court in enforcing obedience to its authority. Had the governor and council of Bombay complied with this injunction? On the contrary, Sir J. Malcolm wrote a letter to the Judges, requiring them to abstain from exercising their authority, and expressing his intention to resist it. The Supreme Court was wrong, and the question was whether the Government was right. He wished for the appointment of two committees—one to inquire into the trade between India and China; the other into the trade between India and Great Britain. The trade from England to India was not altogether a monopoly, but that to China was.

Mr BANKES said he had been misunderstood. All he meant to say was, that he did not know from whom Sir J. Grant received the letter. It was marked "private."

Mr HUME—How did the Hon. Member know that that was correct?

Mr STEWART explained.

Mr LITTLETON wished to know if the committee was to report its opinions to the House?

Mr PEEL had expressly stated that the House would reserve to itself its judgment.

Mr HUSKISSON said he should not forget to the few observations he had to make, that neither the transactions at Bombay, nor the letter written by a Noble Lord, were before the House; but that the sole question before them was, whether they should refer to a select committee, an inquiry into the commercial and financial concerns of the East India Company—hear. As, however, the letter of the Noble Lord had been mentioned, he must protest against its being received as a private communication only, for as it was sent to a person holding a high station, and as it related to most important matters, it ought to be fit to come before Parliament—hear, hear. He would say no more upon that letter now; but if it ever came before them regularly, he hoped they would vindicate themselves from the imputation that they meant to lower the dignity and the independence of the judges—hear, hear. Certainly nothing could be less compatible with dignity and independence than for a learned judge to be placed in a situation in which a wild elephant was placed when such an animal was led away between two tame ones. Hear, and laughter.

At least this was true, if he might depend upon the descriptions given by those writers who had witnessed the ceremony of leading a wild elephant between two tame ones. With respect to the question before them, he thought that his Right Hon. Friend (Mr Peel) had fairly redeemed the pledge which had been given in the last session of Parliament. No person could doubt, after the speech of his Right Hon. Friend, that this inquiry was to embrace every question connected with the subject; moreover, he hoped that it would be probed to the bottom. For instance, when they came to deal with the finances of the company, he hoped the committee would not

confine their inquiries to the income and expenditure of the company, but to how the revenue was collected, and from what it was derived. He was glad to perceive that the committee was not to receive any preconceived notion of the Government on the subject of their inquiries. He agreed with his Right Honourable Friend, that in making alterations they ought to proceed with care and caution; but, at the same time, he should have been better pleased if his Right Honourable Friend had not exhibited so strong a bias towards retaining too much of the present machinery. He should be sorry that any impression should go forth that the government had a bias towards retaining every thing as it was, and that it was the opinion of Government that there ought not to be those changes which the public voice, out of doors, had said ought to be made. He hoped that he had mistaken the views of the Government as he had gathered them from the speech of his Right Honourable Friend; but that unfortunate letter, which had been so often alluded to, had already produced the same impression abroad, and it was desirable that it should be contradicted. To the committee would be opened a fearfully extensive field of inquiry; and he perfectly agreed with his Right Honourable Friend, that the House at large, and not the committee, ought to decide upon those great branches which spring out of the question. The extent of the subject inclined him to agree with the Honourable Member near him, who suggested that the appointment of two or three committees would be preferable to the present course. He would detain the House no longer on the subject; but upon another subject he wished to ask, if the Government were not disinclined to furnish it, for some information. He begged to ask of the Government if they meant to deal with an inter great charter, which would expire about the same time with the charter of the East India Company, and which was of equal importance, in the same manner in which they now proposed to deal with this?—he had hardly said that he alluded to the charter of the Bank of England—cries of "Hear."—When he spoke of the charter of the Bank of England, he must say, that out of the use, not to say the abuse of that charter, had grown most of the evils and difficulties under which the country now laboured. No man could look dispassionately at the history of the last 30 years without seeing that the powers vested in the Bank of England had affected the property and pursuits of every man in the country, even to a greater degree than the highest prerogative of the crown—the prerogative which placed the country in a state of war or in a state of peace. Hear, hear. He thought that the charter of the Bank of England, subject to such modifications, ought to be continued; but he was of opinion that there ought to be an inquiry first, because much good would result from such a course.

Gen. GASCOYNE said, he would leave others to judge how far the speech of the Hon. Genl. opposite, Mr Bankes, had removed the impressions which the letter of the Noble Lord was calculated to produce. He must say that he was not satisfied with the committee, nor with the mode of its appointment. It appeared to him to be selected with certain views and for certain purposes. There were one or two resolutions from certain towns, and some gentlemen connected with the landed interest on the committee. Where was the member for Hull, and those belonging to various other commercial towns of great importance? There were none from such places as Bristol. Who was Mr Wyn O'Brien? He was member for Ennis, but he wrote a pamphlet in favour of the East India Company, and he supposed he was appointed on that account. Ennis was no more entitled to be represented in the committee than Hull. The impression on his mind was that ministers had previously determined to renew the charter. He doubted much whether the manufacturing interest would be satisfied with the committee. They were quite unrepresented, and he thought they had more to do with the question than the landed interest. He was glad that his name was omitted. He should have much preferred the appointment of a committee by ballot in the usual way.

Mr Secretary PEEL said he had no objection that the Hon. Gentleman should enter his protest against the committee, but he expressed at the same time a suspicion that government were previously resolved to renew the charter with all the existing privileges. He, Mr Peel, had before stated that the government had not entered into or sanctioned any arrangement with the company upon the question of the renewal of their charter. That declaration he now repeated on the part of the government, and the house would judge whether he was entitled to more weight than the suspicions of the Hon. Member.

Mr ASTELL said that as he was a Director of the East India Company, he did not intend to have made any remarks on this question. All he had to complain of, and in that complaint he was supported by his brother directors, was, that the inquiry had been so long delayed. Hear, hear. After the full exposure made by the Right Hon. Gentleman, and when they should have heard the report of the Committee, it would be for the House to say whether the duties imposed by law upon the Directors could be otherwise discharged than they were at present. He could assure the House that the Directors never shrunk from inquiry; on the contrary, they wished for it; and they deprecated that ignorance which now existed respecting the relations between the country and our Indian possessions, and which was the cause of considerable prejudice against them, and which had been made the means of misleading the people on this subject. When the documents should have been examined, and when the whole question should have been sifted to the bottom, things would then be better understood, and the House would see that under the management of the Directors the greatest portion of happiness had been secured to the people of India; and they would, at the same time, see not merely whether the present system could be improved, but whether, indeed, it could be altered without great disadvantage to the native inhabitants. He was willing, if he could, to give every assistance to the Committee in the inquiry.

Mr BARING observed, that it were true that his Right Hon. Friend had any distinct intention with regard to the measures that were to follow the appointment of this Committee, the sooner the House were made acquainted with such intention

the better. He almost doubted whether the extensive subjects within the grasp of one committee. The importance of all the subjects connected with it was so great that each of them might almost require a separate consideration. The rights of millions of men—the state of the institutions—the nature and character of the inhabitants of India, and its vast dependencies, together with the extent of trade, the finances of the Government, and the administration of the law, were all to be the subject of inquiry by this committee. The immense distance of the country whose affairs were thus to form the subject of discussion was another difficulty in the way of inquiry. The difficulties of an investigation into our own affairs were known to be sufficiently great; and though the commission of inquiry into the courts of law was composed of some of the most qualified men, they had hardly been able to look into one court. Yet this duty, in addition to all the inquiries relative to the trade, the finance, and the government of India, were to be submitted to one Committee. He must confess that it was with some apprehension he should approach the debate on all these varied and important questions; and he should go into the discussion with a strong impression that the task imposed on the committee was beyond their power. He thought the committee would have fully enough to do, if the question of the trade with India and China was alone submitted to them, leaving the trade, coinage, and the laws, for future consideration. The question of the extent of the liberty of the press—of the character of the rights of the people—and of the expediency of admitting some of the chief men of India into the subordinate departments of the government, might be well assigned to one committee; while the matters of trade and finance, of the form of civil government ought to be submitted to another. This committee ought to have power to make separate reports, for they wrote points on which, if that committee was to be of use at all, they must report from time to time; for, if they were at the end of their labours, to throw a great mass of papers on the table of the House, their appointment would have served to little purpose indeed. They ought to state what was the financial condition of the country, and to what extent the China trade was profitable, and what was the effect of the difference in the quality and value of tea with regard to consumers in this country. The opinion of the committee, *in modum quantum*, ought to be stated—and not merely their opinions, but the reasons on which these were founded, in order to enable the House to come to a conclusion upon them.

After a few words from Mr BRIGG and Mr P. THOMPSON, Mr PEEL said that the financial and the general condition of India were so connected, that he did not know how they could be separated, or made the subject of inquiry by separate Committees; but if in the course of their investigation the Committee should be appointed, should see the expediency of such a course, they could recommend it, and from time to time might call the attention of the House to such detached points as they might see necessary.

The question that the Committee be appointed was then put and carried; and the Speaker had commended reading the list of names of those who were to compose it, when Genl. GASCOYNE expressed his intention of moving, in the course of a few days, that it be a special instruction to the committee to take into consideration in the first instance, the state of the trade with China. The committee, as already named, was then put, and the list read accordingly.

On the motion of Mr Hume, Mr J. Stuart was added to the Committee.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS. Mr ALDERMAN WATFMAN then rose to make the motion of which he had given notice, for a comparative account of the declared and official value of various exports and imports since 1798. The Hon. Member proceeded to show, in nearly the same manner as upon the occasion of a similar motion last Session, that the present mode of estimating our exports and their official value was extremely erroneous, and tended to mislead the public as to the real condition of our foreign trade, moved as follows:—

An account of the exports of British manufactures and produce, from the year 1798 inclusive, to the 1st of January, 1814, specifying the official and real value, with the increase and decrease in each year, as the same may be, of the real as compared with the official value, and the gross amount.

A like account of the exports of colonial and foreign produce.

Like accounts of the exports for Ireland.

Like accounts of the imports for the same periods.

An account of the exports of coin and gold from the year 1811 inclusive, to the 31st January, 1820, specifying each year the increase and decrease of the real as compared with the official value.

A like account of the exports of printed cotton goods, with the amount of duties received and drawbacks allowed each year upon the same.

Mr Hume seconded the motion, in a long speech.

Mr ATWOOD maintained that a sudden transition from high to low prices was inconsistent with the prosperity of any country. The Hon. Member here pointed out the distinctions between official and real value, alleging that though the official value of our country's exports during the last year exceeded that of any former year, yet the real value was much less than that of many other years.

The Marquis of BLANDFORD rose, and said that the distress of the country was so great, and the declarations of his Majesty's Ministers were so vague, that he opposed, in *limine*, the great of one bill to his Majesty till their grievances were redressed. He moved, therefore, "That this House will not vote any supply to his Majesty, until the grievances and distress of the people be taken into consideration, and redress be granted."

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER was not prepared for this motion. He had understood that it was to have come on with another motion on Friday. In the present state of the House, if the Noble Lord thought proper to propose the motion to a division, the effect would be to delay the rest of the business of the evening. He hoped the Noble Lord would forego the interruption.

The Marquis of BLANDFORD—I am no party to any understanding as to any motion on Friday. If Honourable Members are not prepared to do their duty to the people, it is no fault of mine. Here and I do my duty. I shall divide.

A division then took place, when there being only 28 Members present (4 in favour of the resolution, and 24 against it), the House, in consequence, adjourned at a quarter past twelve.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. WEDNESDAY, FEB. 10. The House of Lords only was to adjourn, there being no business before their Lordships.

HOUSE OF LORDS. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER postponed the dropped order on Supply till tomorrow.

Mr HOBHOUSE reminded the House that a Select Committee on Select Vestries had been granted him last year, which, being unable to finish its labours, had recommended the removal of the Committee this year. He therefore moved, "That a Select Committee be appointed to examine into the Select Vestries of England and Wales." Agreed to.

Mr WODEHOUSE moved for an Address to his Majesty, praying for a copy of the Estimates of A. Baring, Esq. before the Privy Council, in April, 1820, on the subject of coin. Agreed to. The House then adjourned at half-past four.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. THURSDAY, FEB. 11. No business of importance came before their Lordships. After sitting for a few minutes only, the House adjourned to next day (Friday).

HOUSE OF LORDS. THURSDAY, FEB. 11. BOROUGH OF EAST RETFORD. Mr N. CALVERT moved for leave to bring in a bill to prevent bribery and corruption in the Borough of East Retford, and to extend the rights of voting to the hundred of Baswell.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned at half-past 12 o'clock.

MEETINGS IN ENGLAND. On Saturday last, a meeting of the freeholders and inhabitants of the county of Suffolk was held at the Cornhill, Ipswich, for the purpose of petitioning Parliament for "a remission of the duties on beer and malt, with permission of unrestricted sale of the former, and for the severest retrenchment in every part of the public expenditure."

The meeting was attended by about 4000 persons, among whom were the county members, Sir William Rowley, Bart., and Sir Thomas Sherlock, Goch. We also observed Sir William Parker, Bart., Sir Robert Harland, Bart., Sir Edward Kerriker, Bart., Sir W. F. P. Middleton, Bart., Sir Charles Broke Vere, &c. &c. The petition is to be presented to the House of Lords by the Duke of Grafton, Lord Lieutenant of the county, and the Earl of Strathmore—to the Commons by the county members.—Essex Herald.

A meeting of the noblemen, freeholders, justices of the peace, and magistrates of the town of the county of Hereford, took place at the County Hall, Hereford, on Thursday so-nigh, for the purpose of discussing the propriety of petitioning the Legislature to take into consideration the distressed condition of the whole country. Mr Maxwell, the Member for the County, took the Chair, after which several resolutions were proposed by Sir William Napier. These resolutions state that very great and general distress prevailed throughout all ranks of the community, especially among the operative classes, and that it arose from the insufficiency of their wages. They proceeded to recommend the remission of the duties affecting the necessities of life, particularly those on sugar, malt, and beer, and assert that the repeal of these duties would in a very high degree benefit the people. The resolutions having been unanimously carried, an additional one was proposed by Mr Speirs, and adopted, to the effect that, at the present period of distress among all classes, and affecting every interest, it would be advisable to adopt every means so all calculated to alleviate the general pressure. Several speakers made statements, tending to show that general distress existed, and a petition to the House of Commons, founded upon the resolutions, having been agreed to, the meeting adjourned. In the course of the proceedings, Mr Wallace, of Kelly, alluded to the currency, and read an estimate, from which it appeared that in 1819, it had been raised in value about 10 per cent; that before the end of 1822 another rise of 10 per cent, and the old standard was restored, and that since that time, in spite of the over issue of small notes in 1823, it has maintained the same average value. According to this estimate, the total amount of the depreciation appears to have been 261 per cent.

TOLENS-BARRAN QUAY POLICE OFFICE, DUBLIN. FEBRUARY 10, 1830. Counsellor ROMAYNE, on the part of Mr McDermott, applied for two summonses against the collector of May-lace pig market, for having charged one penny on a pig leaving said market unrolled, and having charged same without a roll having been erected in said market. The first complaint was founded on the 4 a. e. 8; the second upon the 57 G. 3. e. 103.

Counsellor Herbert submitted the first case would come to whether the sum was charged as toll on the price of accommodation; as at the second, no toll board had ever been erected in Smithfield, and on principle May-lace was part of Smithfield.

Counsellor Romayne submitted that the words of the statute, "toll, custom, or duty," comprehended any charge. A long discussion on the law took place between Counsellors Herbert, Romayne, and Mr Cantwell, in which triumphed that the object of the complaining party was, to put the case in a situation to have the judgment of the Court of King's Bench upon it.

At the request of Counsellor Herbert, the application was postponed until the following day, when a full bench would be present.

Banns of marriage between a French gentleman of the name of M. and Miss H. the daughter of the Rev. Sir John H., have been published at the Church of St. Philippe du Roule, under strange circumstances. A British officer now here, was paying his addresses to the young lady in question, and with her father's approbation. He discovered, however, that she had a Frenchman, Monsieur M., whose disqualification in the estimation of the Rev. and Reverend was want of fortune. He being also that the possession of 100,000 francs would remove all objections to the favoured son (Captain D.)—with a rare generosity she advanced the money, and thus proved in a way which cannot be questioned, that the happiness of the object of his affections was dearer to her than his own.—Paris Paper.

His Majesty has been pleased to grant a charter to the Royal Bank of Scotland, on the authorizing an addition of £500,000 to the capital, to be paid up within five years. When the last addition of £500,000, was made to the capital of the Bank, it was divided amongst the proprietors, and the whole sum paid from the undivided profits, without the proprietors being called on for any part of it.—The North Briton.

Pyramids of Cheops.—Of the Pyramids of Egypt, the largest that of Cheops, is a square of 740 feet, and its height 481, being 21 feet higher than St. Peter's at Rome, and 117 feet higher than St. Paul's. The quantity of stone which it contains is calculated at six millions of tons, which is three times that employed in the breakwater at Plymouth, and has been calculated by a French engineer to be sufficient to build a wall round the whole of France, ten feet high and one foot broad. Its area at the base is, as near as may be, that of Lincoln's Inn-Balds.

No 44
EMPER
HO
FR
The Earl of
his seat.
Lord CALY
tions presented
the East India
referred to the C
with India.—Ag
Lord HOLLA
tion respecting
in the nature of
speech from the
disappointment
from any of his
on which the re
speaking that cou
think that any
maintain that it
verament was ab
tion, that nation
porting its inde
which he would
House, was the
should be given t
the nature of his
Majesty's Minist
that he felt strong
this subject; at
it understood the
hesitancy to his
felt very thank
good which th
try, and he hope
notwithstanding a
than his support
something object
When they saw th
against them, an
of losing their pla
recounted opinions
laughter—and ear
Holland, owned r
Yet he could not
tion for their tor
he would not off
them. With resp
observed that the
he attained with n
After the battle o
Turkey had been
former period thi
situation? France
Russia had consen
to settle that con
Mediterranean ge
occupation. The B
of Russia and Fra
to yield to any t
proper to improve
changes in the Cal
these advantages
on the opening
to stagnate the
had been placed
the announcement
breathed a differ
tation in that cou
tances which they
that if the Dardan
period, Turkey w
induced to accede
been placed it w
the accession of th
been before. S
from the three C
Duke returned to c
blame him for it;
Duke's refusal was
fused to contribute
posed to send to
Duke, "I'll send
were sent; and
manly, sent from
with the Pacha
clearing the Mire
proceeding to libe
the attacks of the
tion of this count
most fleet much
will excite a prej
anxiety. English
wholly friendly
Noble Lord here
took place on a
Russia and Turkey,
too wild, that it
was so essential to
of power in Europe
no means consent
to it. Hear, said his Lo
speculate this as
to the invasion o
through this count
dracy with Russia
of Greece, and th
party to that conf
to assist in accomp
of easy. The Nob
deputy of the part
between Russia and
on the vanishing o
though he had atte
under the walls of
submit to Russia, y
unconditional sub
which this country
was, that Greece
There was such a
towards Greece, as
fire in the settlement
He denied, as had
this country should

