

9-1116 Brewery
The Waterford Chronicle

The Waterford Chronicle

To the Voluntary State that makes the Oppressor. T. B. S.

No 455

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 1830

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IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT. HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MONDAY, MARCH 16.

THE BUDGET.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER rose and spoke as follows:—Mr. Speaker, I avail myself of the opportunity now afforded to me to bring before the House the view of His Majesty's Government with respect to the financial concerns of the country; and I do so, Sir, not more in deference to the wish that has been expressed by the House, than from my own sense of the justice and the propriety of the course which I am now about to pursue. I feel, Sir, that in the present depression which prevails in the mind, and the general anxiety which exists among all classes, as to the measures to be adopted by Parliament, that the House of Commons have a right to know the views and determination of Government. I feel, Sir, perfectly assured, that at a time when there is such a general anxiety, when there is on the part of some persons exaggerated expectations, as to the means of relief which Parliament possess, and on the other hand an anxiety to give credit to Government for every feeling of sympathy or assistance it can afford, that it is desirable on every account to bring measures before Parliament which will show distinctly how little there is of justification, either for exaggerated expectations or unfounded anxiety. Sir, when I last had the honor of addressing you upon a similar subject, I alluded to the state of distress in the country which prevailed in the course of the last year. I then ventured to express a hope that those embarrassments were of a nature not to continue long. I, Sir, am bound to confess that the hope I then expressed has not been realized. Hear, hear. But circumstances have occurred to prolong those difficulties, and to increase the pressure on the greater part of the population. I do not intend, Sir, on this occasion, to enter into a discussion of those particular circumstances which have aggravated the difficulties of the country. Hear, hear, hear. I am anxious, from personal feelings, to disavow the present statement of every thing which can at all obscure it, and as every account deserving the most attention, I think I shall best consult my own feelings, and the wishes of the House, by not entering into it at length, on the present occasion. But, Sir, when I take that course, I may be permitted to state on behalf of myself and colleagues, that I do it more for the purpose of preventing any misunderstanding upon a subject which I am now about to enter. I do not, therefore, put the question of the distress of the country aside, because I do most deeply sympathize in the sufferings of those who are at present labouring under the heaviest embarrassments. I shall give the best evidence in my power for feeling for them, in the course of the year, which it will be my duty to make to afford them relief. Sir, without preface, I propose to enter into the questions more immediately the subject of consideration before us. I most certainly cannot do so, however, without, in the first instance, calling the attention of the House to the state of the revenue expenditure of last year. I am anxious to do so, partly in conformity to the statement which I before submitted to Parliament upon them, and partly, because I think the House will bear with some satisfaction the state of the revenue and finances in which the country stands. It will be in the recollection of many present that in estimating the revenue of 1829, I took it at an amount considerably less than that of the year preceding. I made allowances at that period for what I conceived to be the probable defalcation of the revenue. I then stated to the House, and I expressed a confident expectation, that the revenue of that year would amount to fifty-one millions three hundred and forty thousand pounds. It has turned out, Sir, as will appear by the reference of any gentleman to the paper annually presented to the House, that the produce of the revenue as estimated has fallen short of the estimate made by £580,000. And here, Sir, I may be permitted to observe, though the defalcation in the estimate appears to be to that amount, part of it arises from a different appropriation of some part of that sum which I had applied to the revenue of the former year—I mean a sum obtained from the Civil List of £133,000, which has not been applied to the revenue of the service of the year, as I stated it was my intention to apply it. The result, therefore, shows that at which I made the estimate, must be taken to be £600,000; and that when the House consider the particular circumstances which have occurred since I last addressed the House, they will see no great cause to blame, as extravagant, the estimate I then formed, or to impute blame to me for the deficiency that has occurred. That deficiency has occurred on an article over which the state of a harvest—before we had powerful influence. I estimated that the usual duty of the last year would fall short of the preceding year, £600,000. But it has been £580,000, to which must be added £200,000 on the article of beer. Sir, it would not be right to conceal from the House that upon other articles also of the Excise there has been a deficiency. But I would guard the House against supposing that the deficiency is altogether attributable to causes which imply any diminution of consumption upon one of the articles on which that deficiency arises. The Right Honourable Gentleman then stated that on the 1st of January there had been a very considerable deficiency of £130,000. But this deficiency had not arisen from a deficiency in the consumption, but from the reduced price of the article, the tea duty being an annual duty. In other articles there was a deficiency in the year, as compared with the preceding year, of £1,500,000. With respect to the customs, there was a defalcation upon them, in which a defalcation was to be made from the estimate. Sir, it was to be the estimate of

the revenue for the last year, and look at the production of it, we shall see matter of congratulation of no ordinary description. During that period the surplus applied in redemption of the debt was £2,490,000, and that was not an imaginary surplus made of surplus on the one side, and none on the other, but an actual surplus applicable to the redemption of the debt, after payment of every sum for which this country was liable. With these observations I propose to enter upon the statement of the estimates for the ensuing year, and in doing so I must claim the indulgence of this House; and I am satisfied that, when the House will take into its consideration the difficulty of making an accurate calculation upon a subject of that kind, and the early period at which my anxiety to lay that statement before the House, compels me to make that calculation, that that indulgence will be liberally extended to me. I can assure the House that I have spared no pains in arriving at a just conclusion; and if I have formed a wrong estimate of the resources of the country, I am sure I shall receive from the House that consideration which the difficulties I have alluded to entitle me to. Cheers. The House has been acquainted by the speech from the throne of the existence of distress in the agricultural and manufacturing classes; but if that statement had not been made to the House, the personal knowledge of each individual Member, and the petitions laid before the House, would be sufficient to prove the existence of that distress. Such being the state of things, it became the duty of ministers to give to the subject such consideration as would enable them, if they should still feel bound to refuse the prayer of the petitioners, to show that they acted from a sense of the expediency or impossibility of granting their prayer, or that they should feel it their duty to grant the concession to show that in doing so they were not unmindful of the prayers of the people. Hear, hear, hear, and cheers. Those petitions not only stated the distress, but did that which was by no means unusual, pointed out means of relief from taxation. It therefore became incumbent upon those to whom the affairs of the nation were entrusted to show to what extent relief could be afforded. In doing so there were two modes open for consideration. One was to afford relief to the utmost practical extent to those parties whom the taxes were immediately affected, without imposing any fresh taxes upon the other classes of the community; and the other was to make up the deficiency occasioned by the repeal of those taxes, by imposing taxes upon those classes who are not supposed immediately to suffer. Hear, The Right Hon. Gentleman then said that his intention was to repeal the whole of the duty on beer, upon which the consumer paid the revenue about three farthings a pot, and although the defalcation in the revenue by such a repeal would not exceed three millions per annum, yet the relief to the public would be, including the expenses of collection, little short of 4,500,000. What, therefore, I propose for is, to repeal the whole of this duty from the 10th of next October. Hear. Perhaps the House may consider that I should state some reason for fixing that date. It will not be possible to bring that measure into operation until the period when the licenses are granted. If Government were to repeal that tax at the present moment, in what situation would they place those who were not apprehensive of any of such reduction—those who have paid their duties on large stocks. Hear. We cannot give them relief without paying to them an enormous amount of their stocks. By the reduction of this duty there will no doubt be an increased demand in the commodity. Among the other advantages that would attend the repeal of this commodity, there is one that will be considered by all as important in a great degree, namely, the removal of the tax on cider, a tax, Sir, which amounts to no less than between 25 and 30 thousand pounds; a tax collected under circumstances of difficulty and oppression. There was also another thing on which the remission of taxation would be most importantly felt. That was the tax on leather. The taxation on leather was to a great amount. The reduction of that tax would affect to no inconsiderable degree the interests of the agriculturist as well as all classes of men. I need not conceal from the House that among the many projects which are agitated among the many schemes which have been offered to the consideration of His Majesty's Government, a proposal was suggested, as one which might be satisfactorily improved, for the purpose of relieving the country from other taxation. Hear, hear. It is also related to proceed from the House that the subject has received the most attentive consideration of His Majesty's Government, and that they have weighed well the advantages of such a measure against the disadvantages which the circumstances of the time at which the scheme has been proposed present; and the result has been, that with reference to the other great financial measures which have been thought expedient to adopt it has been deemed more advisable to have recourse to the other mode of proceeding, without, however pronouncing any opinion either for or against the abstract principle of a property tax; and they have come to this conclusion from the consideration that such a course would be much preferable to transferring the charge from the shoulders of one party to those of another. In considering, then, in what mode it would be most advisable to afford relief to the people, we have constantly borne in mind two great principles; the one to afford the utmost relief in our power to the lower orders of the agricultural and manufacturing classes because we believe that on them, of all classes of the community, the pressure weighs most severely. Hear, The other principle—and not an unimportant one either—was to act on the plan of reducing those taxes which while they gave the greatest relief to the people, produced by their removal the least loss to the

revenue of the country; for in the taxation of this country, the degree in which the revenue is productive and pressure inflicted is extremely different. In some, the amount received is just that imposed on the people; in others the amount falls short; and occasionally other taxes have been imposed, in levying which no benefit has accrued to the public. Hear, hear, hear. Taking, then, these two principles for my guide, the tax which appears to me to call for the revision of Parliament is the tax upon beer. Cheers. Beer, I am sorry to say, of latter years, has become almost a luxury to the poor. There was a time when beer was reckoned as one of the necessaries of life, and when the enjoyment of that beverage was looked upon, not as a refreshment for holidays and feast days, but as a refreshment always to be found at the peasant's table. Hear. I hope that the measure which I have this evening proposed may be the means of restoring to the present that enjoyment which he long enjoyed and which that enjoyment may return those habits, and that order and sobriety, which by the introduction of other beverages, have been destroyed. Cheers. Beer, at present, is most heavily taxed for the purposes of Government. On each quart of beer of that strength which is usually the standard in London, the duty to the public is not much less than three farthings a quart; and when we consider in the ordinary consumption of a family in the lower ranks of life how much of this beverage enters into its annual expenditure any gentleman with a moderate knowledge of arithmetic will be able to ascertain the extent of its taxation on this head. But it is not only the tax which is paid to Government that beer has to encounter; like all other taxes which are raised for the service of the state, the steps which are requisite for its collection are necessarily subject to various restrictions, which operate against its manufacture. Among others may be instanced, that while a man may brew one specific quantity of beer, he may not brew another. So he is prohibited from varying its strength, but in certain degrees, besides other circumstances to which I need not now revert, which in themselves impose upon the article of beer an amount of duty which may be supposed to be represented by the degree of inconvenience and restriction to which the whole combined give rise. But there is still a heavier duty on beer which I have yet to mention; and that is, the system under which it is permitted to be retained to the public—cheers. It would be difficult for me to estimate the amount which is thus added to the Government duty, but I believe that it will be found to be very considerable. Hear, hear. I am not afraid to estimate it at the very least at one-third of the whole amount of duty paid to the state; and therefore we may assume that, if we repeal the whole beer duty of three millions, we shall give to the country a relief little short of four millions and a half from the measure. Loud cheers. In considering the mode in which relief may be given to the public in the charge upon this article, three courses present themselves by which we may proceed. We may either remove the whole duty on beer, which is what I propose to do in the present case; or we may remove the whole duty on malt, leaving the beer as it now stands; or we may make a compromise between the two, by taking half off the one, and half off the other. I have preferred to adopt the first of these three modes—hear. And I have done it on the firm conviction that by so doing I shall best afford relief to that class which I am most anxious to relieve; and that I shall not be injuring those to whom the other mode of proceeding might be supposed to have been much more advantageous. Among the causes which have induced me to make the election that I have, is the evident inequality of the tax. The man who can brew for himself is altogether exempt from its incidence. Hear, hear. It is worthy enough to possess the requisite machinery, but only to drink beer at a price lower than the peasant who has to purchase the beverage itself. And I think, therefore, that this is a circumstance which, under the proposed facilities of the country, should recommend the course that I propose. In the next place, by taking off the whole of one tax, instead of a portion of two, we shall be able to save the whole of that superannuated weight which the restrictions, while existing, impose upon the country—cheers—so that in this way we shall have the means of making a still further saving, as it will enable us to make some reduction in the establishments. I think also that the tone will increase that taking beer at the standard of strength at which it is ordinarily drunk, the remission of the duty on beer will afford a relief far larger than a similar remission on malt. In the case of London porter, a charge of one million on malt, and therefore, in affording relief to this particular class, it stands to reason that the remission of that which imposes the heaviest charge is the best. Even to those who are disposed to press the remission of the malt tax in preference to that on beer, I think that I can afford some satisfaction for I am able to state to them that, in fact, the very repeal of this duty will secure to the maltsters of the country an advantage equal to it not greater than that which would accrue from a reduction of the beer duty. I must say that they will necessarily depend on the repeal of beer. Cheers. From all that I have seen of the proceedings of the Committee which is now sitting, I am confident that a great sale of that article is absolutely essential to the advantage of the community—cheers—and still more certain is it, that if this tax is removed, it will be essential for the health and comfort of the lower classes that the trade should be opened. At present, while the tax still exists, in the vigilance of the Excise and the activity of its officers, there is a constant sort of security against the adulteration of that beer; but if this safeguard be removed, and

the monopoly be still suffered to exist, there will no longer be any protection against the use of drugs noxious to the health of those who use it. Cheers. I propose, therefore, to repeal the whole of this tax from the 10th of next October.—(Murmurs.) I will explain to the House my reason for proposing this delay. In the first instance, the House will remember that, having in our minds determined that the repeal of this duty should take place in conjunction with an opening of the trade, we found that it was not practicable to bring these two measures into joint operation until the period for renewing the licenses of public-houses should arrive. If we were to repeal the duty at the present moment, in what a situation should we place those who, not apprehensive of any such reduction, have paid their duty on large stocks. Hear. Besides these considerations, one great object will be obtained by delaying these steps till October—for it is to be observed that, although the tax on beer will not cease till that period, there will be an indirect operation in favour of the consumer immediately. Hear, hear. Those who are engaged in the manufacture of this article must necessarily anticipate what I myself have anticipated—that is to say, that there will be an increased demand for beer, which cannot fail to influence the brewer in increasing the quantity of the subject. Among other advantages which attend the repeal of this particular tax, is one which, though not calculated to be generally felt, will no doubt be appreciated in some quarters; for in addition to the removal of the tax upon beer, I shall be able to take off that upon cider. That duty amounts to from 25,000 to 30,000; but though the amount is small, it is collected under circumstances of difficulty, and occasional oppression; a great number of vexatious proceedings are the consequence—distinctions are made between cider for sale and for home consumption—between cider made for purchase and fruit grown on a man's own grounds; all which tend to involve the parties in endless difficulties, and to give encouragement to all sorts of fraud. Another subject to which I have now to call the attention of the House, is the revision of a tax which is not in its operation limited to any particular class; it refers to an article which though not so obviously apparent as that which is under consideration, yet appears to me to deserve the attention of the House, both as regards the pressure it causes on the people and the burthen it imposes as compared with the amount of revenue derived from it. The subject is one which has frequently been the subject of discussion in this House. The tax in which I am now alluding is the tax on leather. Cheers. The present amount of revenue derived from that tax is about 400,000, a tax heavily felt by the agricultural population. In the course of the long and contested debate on the subject in this House, it was asserted by a Noble Friend of mine—if I may be allowed to call him so—that the greater the distress experienced amongst the labouring agriculturists, the more heavily did the tax fall upon them. In removing this tax, therefore, Sir, I shall remove a tax which is now felt to press with a peculiar severity on a large class of the people. Moreover, Sir, an abolition of the tax altogether, and then doing away the restrictions that are now laid on the manufacture of the article, which compel the manufacturer to manage the business differently from what he otherwise would, which compel one man to be a tanner, and another to be a dresser of leather; in removing these restrictions, we shall give a relief to the people as well as by the reduction of the duty—hear, hear. At present these restrictions about the manufacturers injuriously, and are useless to the revenue—hear, hear—and in doing away with them, I calculate that we shall give additional relief to the public equal to the amount of the tax. It is with that object that I propose the abolition of the whole tax. Hear, hear, hear. What would the public gain by taking off one half? While the government would lose some revenue, the price of the article would scarcely be reduced, and little or no relief would be given. Cheers. It is for this reason that I do not propose the reduction but the abolition of these taxes. Hear. If I had done that, the restriction must have been continued on the trade—an establishment must be kept up for collecting the tax—and reducing the duty one half would have appeared like doing nothing. Hear, hear. In acting on this principle the government has not looked to keeping up a large establishment, and it has deferred to what has been considered necessary by the House. Hear, hear, hear. The amount of the three duties which I thus propose to repeal will be—on beer, £3,000,000; on leather, from 340,000 to 350,000; and on cider, 25,000; making together one million, speaking in round numbers, of 3,475,000. According, Sir, to my calculations, this reduction will give positive relief to the people, amounting, at least, to 3,400,000; and it will, moreover, if the show I take be correct, give them relief indirectly to a considerable amount; so that in fact we shall give the people on the whole, relief which cannot be estimated at less than 5,000,000 a year. We shall not throw away this relief either, Sir; we shall not give up anything to speculation and chance, but as it appears to me, we shall presently apply the resources of the country to the relief of these particular classes, the agricultural and the manufacturing; classes which labour under the most distress and have the strongest claim to the sympathy of Parliament, and we shall adopt the most decisive and efficacious method of relief that is in our power. I have stated, Sir, the amount of taxation which it is proposed to reduce; and I now come, Sir, to consider the estimated revenue of the present year, limited as that will be by the amount of relief I have thought it my duty to afford the people. I calculate that the diminution of the revenue during the present year, arising from the loss of the beer duties during one quarter, will be

7,500,000; and I calculate it at this, because, though I am aware that there will be some diminution of the trade in the mean time, in expectation of the reduction of the duty, yet, if I do not miscalculate, there will be a great increase in the operations of the maltster, which will be a compensation to the loss on the beer duty. Taken at a fair calculation, then, I consider that the loss of the revenue from the abolition of the tax on beer will be about 760,000. I shall take the loss arising from the abolition of the duty on leather, which will begin in July, at two hundred thousand pounds, making, with the duty on cider, a diminution in the revenue for the present year of 980,000. Thus, Sir, is the amount of the reduction for which, at giving the subject the most attentive consideration possible, it appears to me Parliament will have to provide, in making those abatements of taxation which are necessary to give relief to the country. Hear, hear. I have, however, Sir, that taxation has been reduced to the greatest extent we think possible—with a view of giving relief to the people. In doing so much, some gentlemen may perhaps consider that we have overstepped the bounds of prudence; and that we do wrong in wanting to diminish our future resources; but when the House bears in mind the grounds on which I rest my hopes of our future recovery, and on which I recommend the course to be adopted, it will not think that our determination to afford relief, after attention had been called to the subject, has been carried too far. Sir, I calculate the revenue of the present year by the accounts of the revenue of the year which has passed. In the first place, I propose to take the amount of customs, according to the amount of last year. I do this, Sir, after examining the subject in all its bearings, and after giving it the best consideration in my power, looking at the state on hand last year, and comparing them with the state on hand at present; and seeing that the diminution of all articles is very considerable, as compared to last year, I feel led to believe that there will be a very considerable importation, and demand for various articles, which will make the amount of customs at least equal to last year. I am bound also to observe, that in this estimate I make allowance for a considerable saving in the expense of the Customs establishment, and in various branches of that department of the public service. What may be the exact amount of the reduction, I cannot estimate; but I am not able precisely to say, but I estimate that £80,000, which though not a great sum, is not to be overlooked in our present difficulties. Moreover, during the present year, there will be a termination of some duties, which will give additional relief to the amount of £20,000. Taking all these circumstances into consideration, I cannot estimate the probable amount of the revenue for the next year at less than during the present year at £17,200,000. This estimate I do not propose to take as a profit an additional amount last year. I feel I might be justified in asking the amount as a large sum, for I have been assured, by those on whose authority I can rely, and who are conversant with all the details of the excise, likely in turn a course of opinion—I might be justified in asking the amount of as large a sum as last year, but I prefer being on the safe side, and, therefore, for the produce of the excise during the next year, I propose as compared with the produce of last year, to make a reduction of £210,000. According to the view of many able and skilful men conversant with the revenue, I might estimate it higher; but I prefer the lower estimate, in order that I may not disappoint myself nor disappoint others. I know, Sir, according to the returns on the table of the House, that there appears to be a considerable diminution in the revenues of the excise; but Sir, I also know, that according to these returns, the great diminution took place in consequence of the eight weeks' severe weather at the close of 1829 and beginning of 1830, which caused a diminution of 340,000. Hear, hear, hear. That severe weather prevented many of the operations of the articles on which duties were paid; but since the weather had become milder, those operations were renewed with increased activity and vigour, and a corresponding augmentation had taken place in the excise duties. I see in these facts no cause for any alarm as to the future produce of this branch of the revenue, and I think therefore, that we may take the amount of the excise for the next year at 19,200,000. The stamp revenues I calculate this year at the same amount as last year. There is no appearance of defalcation in this branch of the revenue; I see no cause to expect a diminution; and I propose to estimate the stamp duties at the same amount as last year, 7,100,000. The assessed taxes have suffered little or no variation for two consecutive years; though the amount has rather increased than diminished; and in particular, there is rather an increase of duty on articles of luxury. I propose, therefore, to take the assessed taxes at the same amount as last year, or 4,900,000. With respect to the post office, I expect the revenue will be more productive, and I am confident that arrangements now in progress will diminish the charge, and increase the revenue. I propose to estimate the post office revenue, therefore, at 1,300,000. The small branches of the revenue are subject to little variation, and they may be taken the same as last year, at 300,000. The miscellaneous branches of the revenue may also be taken at the same amount as last year, though there was then a sum of 7,000, paid in to that account, being the amount of fees repurchased in the Court of Exchequer in Ireland; but I will take the estimate of these miscellaneous branches at 290,000. The whole estimate, then, for the present year, will be 30,480,000. I will now

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DISFRANCHISEMENT OF THE FORTY SHILLING FREEHOLDERS.

On Monday, there was a meeting held at the... of the forty shilling freeholders to Ireland.

Mr. Steele, after expressing his high sense of the distinguished honour done him by the citizens of Dublin, in calling on him to preside in their chair on such an occasion, requested permission to address a few observations to the meeting before the moving of the intended resolutions.

Mr. J. J. Murphy was requested to act secretary to the meeting.

Mr. Lawless, upon addressing the meeting, said that before he should say one word of the petition he had in his hand, he could not but thank those present for the selection they had made in their chairman.

Mr. Redmond concurred with his friend, Mr. Lawless, as far as his petition went, but he thought it did not go far enough.

Mr. Lawless, after pronouncing an eulogium upon the character of the Irish forty shilling freeholders, proposed a petition, praying for the restoration of their rights.

Mr. Barrett would second, with pleasure, the amendment of Mr. Redmond. In the resolution moved by Mr. Lawless, however, he fully concurred, as far as it went.

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Irish, Ireland was sacrificed; and wherever the question was between the rich and the poor, the poor were sacrificed.

It is believed that those persons, differing from each other, as honest men will, upon the extent to which reform is necessary, have been prevented from co-operating with one another by such differences of opinion.

It is desirable to lay down a basis for co-operation so broad, as to include as many sincere friends of reform as possible, and at the same time so framed as to be capable of assuming either a more restrictive or a more comprehensive form, should discussion and further consideration render such alteration useful.

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LORD LIEUTENANCY OF IRELAND.

On Tuesday, a meeting was held in the Royal Exchange, in pursuance of a requisition presented to the Lord Mayor, to consider the propriety of petitioning Parliament against Mr. Humo's proposition for the abolition of the office of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

The Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR in the chair.

Mr. Kelly (Seneschal of St. Sepulchre's) was appointed secretary to the meeting.

Rev. Dr. Gregory first presented himself to the meeting. The question, he said, that they had that day met to discuss, was one of vital importance to the citizens of Dublin, and the kingdom at large.

Mr. Finn concurred with the views of Dr. Gregory, and hailed with delight the sentiments to which that gentleman had given utterance.

The Lord Mayor said, that on the day that the requisition had been handed to him, he had ordered a hundred proclamations to be printed, and had advertised the meeting in all the Evening Papers of that day.

Mr. Lawless objected to the adjournment.

Mr. Lawless, he said, sorry, as a citizen of Dublin, and as a country gentleman, to be present at this discussion.

Mr. Robert Kinahan proposed the first resolution.

Mr. Hume, in seconding the resolution, said that after the consideration of public feeling which would be exhibited on this occasion, he hoped Mr. Humo would not persevere in pressing a measure upon His Majesty's government.

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Ireland would be made to pay handsomely for their absenteeism.

Sir David C. Roose moved a resolution for a petition to Parliament against the motion of Mr. Humo.

Mr. Lawless objected to this proposition; he should never humiliate himself so much as to sign a petition against the carrying of a measure which he had no hesitation in declaring would be high treason in any minister who would attempt to bring it into operation.

Mr. Finn stated, that the only thing Parliament was bound to notice was a petition, and that a petition such as they would now send forward would give to their Irish members the opportunity of commenting upon the growing evil of Ireland.

Mr. Kelly spoke in favour of the petition. He was, he said, a personal witness of the consequences flowing from the non-removal of the Duke of Northumberland and the charity of his noble consort.

Mr. Fitzsimon did not, he said, consider it necessary to throw away much time upon the question, as to whether they should petition or not; but he could not at all understand why they had been summoned to petition, and then not agree to it.

The question was then put, as to whether Mr. Lawless's resolution should be adopted in preference to the petition. The meeting upon a division decided in favour of the resolution.

Mr. Finn then moved that the Lord Mayor should be instructed to communicate the result of the meeting to the Lord Lieutenant, and the Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Mr. Robert Kinahan proposed the first resolution.

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No 13

We stated a still, ship a... pose of... reg... It is true for the hire of... of the...

George Beresford... spiced... who were... but by his... progress... hire... Di... clearly... present were... Henry Whiston... Longan, and B... charged with... of the... on the part of the mob.

The following were convicted... Edward Power... John Wall... Mr. Finn stated, that the only thing Parliament was bound to notice was a petition, and that a petition such as they would now send forward would give to their Irish members the opportunity of commenting upon the growing evil of Ireland.

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