

# The Waterford Chronicle.

No. 509.

TUESDAY, JULY 27, 1830.

FATE OF GENIUS.

## DINNER TO MR. O'CONNELL.

The CHAIRMAN, after a suitable panegyric on Lady CREMORNE, and complimenting highly the family of the MUSGRAVES, on whose hearts, he said, liberty and liberality were engraven, proposed—

Lady CREMORNE. (Cheers.)

Sir RICHARD MUSGRAVE, his Brothers, and the Independence of the County of Waterford. (Cheers.)

Mr. DOMINIC ROYANE being called on, said that, however unequal to the task of returning thanks in such manner as he wished, he felt indescribable pleasure in having an opportunity afforded him of testifying the high sense he entertained of the goodness and patriotism of the MUSGRAVE family. His inability would, however, be compensated by the perfect knowledge they had of those virtues which it was not necessary for him to eulogise in that place. Although the interference of the Catholic Clergy, in political questions, was held by some to be incompatible with the discharge of their spiritual duties, he, for one, was of a different opinion. He never could forget the valuable assistance they had given their countrymen, in the various struggles which had ended in the enfranchisement of the people. He never could forget the patriotism of that good man who was the ornament of that very room in which they were then sitting, nor the strenuous and decisive support he had brought to the cause of his country. (Great cheering.) The Catholic Clergy never forget that they were citizens as well as priests. (Cheers.) Of the MUSGRAVES, he would say, that as laudators they had no rivals. In their public and private characters, they were equally estimable. When he had felt it to be his duty to consult them as to the choice of a representative, the three brothers declared at once for O'CONNELL. (Great cheering.) He, therefore, felt highly honoured, and was exceedingly grateful for being called upon to return thanks for a compliment paid to gentlemen who were identified in feeling and in principle not only with the County of Waterford but with all Ireland. (Cheers.)

Minister of England. His (Mr. KENNEY's) professional avocations brought him every day in contact with the poor, and he could declare that he never knew greater misery to exist amongst them. Yet the complacent spectator of the immortal Navy's immolation pretended either to know nothing at all about the matter, or when asked to say what the Government intended to do for the starving poor in Ireland, he answered that indeed the distress was but temporary—that it always occurred at this season of the year—and that his Majesty's Government did not intend to vote any sum of money for the relief of the Irish poor. He (Mr. KENNEY) would ask, if the Irish people had honest representatives in the House of Commons, whose perpetual importunities for justice must exert it even from an iron-hearted Minister, would Ireland be in the degraded, impoverished, and deplorable condition in which she was placed this moment? Some of these state empires had said that Ireland was prospering! Was it, he would ask, in Caffraria, or in central Africa, these wise men had spent their latter years, which might justify their ignorance of the real state of Ireland? He would assert that the affairs of Ireland were neglected in the House of Commons—that there was no feeling displayed for the distresses of the country—and that there was no sympathy shown for the sufferings of the people—although their representative (Sir JOHN NEWPORT) had asserted the contrary. He particularly meant to ask the Hon. BROUGH some questions touching these matters upon the hustings, when he next had the pleasure of seeing him there. (Cheers.) The people must see that nothing could improve their condition but a determination to return honest, incorruptible, and hard-working men to the House of Commons; and they must know, in this County, that they were able and willing to send that man to Parliament who had before represented him who was said to be the competitor of NAPOLEON. (Cheers.) Could he (Mr. KENNEY) or they ever forget the Herculean labours of that man who had, in behalf of Ireland, approached the sun of Liberty with eagle flight, and, like the bird of Jove, steadily gazed upon it with an eye that never winked, and borne by a plume that never tired. (Great cheering.) We are told (said Mr. KENNEY) of privileged orders, and of the paramount rights of the aristocracy—and that the people should give way to and be led by them, even on such rights as the aristocracy. When he saw the list of omnipotence issuing from Heaven—when he saw the sign-manual of the Deity stamping the aristocracy with the characters of genius, and knowledge, and virtue, and patriotism—he would acknowledge their superiority—but never until then. The truth was, that the virtue, and talents, and patriotism of the present age, were all with the people; and the man must be wilfully blind who did not see it. (Cheers.) It was not the aristocracy that composed the Spartan band in the House of Commons—that band to which such men as JARVIS and HUME belonged—whose adherence to O'CONNELL never should be forgotten, when he was attacked by that gentleman, Mr. O'DONOGHUE, who, on a former occasion, had "showered himself in his sensibilities."—These are fine words—I wonder where he stole them. (Laughter.) Mr. KENNEY here gave a ludicrous description of the Whigs and Tories—the latter of which he said were determined to uphold the temporality of that Church Establishment which sat like an incubus on the prosperity of Ireland. We often see (said Mr. K.) accounts in the newspapers of some terrible robbery committed on persons by the peasantry, and large rewards offered for the apprehension of the thieves; but when the pot, or blanket, or griddle of the peasant is carried away, by the cess collector or the rate proctor, we never hear of a reward being offered for the person that robbed the peasant. (Laughter.) Mr. KENNEY concluded by saying that he would call upon them to fill for another organ of the public feeling, to which their Club, and the Independent Interest of the County, were deeply indebted—he meant *The Waterford Chronicle*. (Hear, hear, hear.) If *Waterford* had achieved its independence in 25, one of its most powerful engines was that able, and honest, and unimpeachable Journal, *The Waterford Chronicle*. (Cheers.) If *Waterford* was now again about to achieve its independence, it would still find the *Waterford Chronicle* the same unchanged and powerful engine. (Hear, hear.) That Journal had suffered, and suffered severely, in the case of the people, but it was still steady to their cause, and never once flinched, or even complained. Mr. KENNEY then proposed—

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The CHAIRMAN said, that though the struggle in the County of Waterford might be local in its character, it would be universal in its consequences. On its result, the way in which Ireland was to be governed hereafter would mainly depend. It would give a new tone to parliamentary proceedings in relation to Ireland. It would strike terror into the oligarchy when they saw O'CONNELL at the head of the poll. (Cheers.) It would deter the absentees from voting with the Minister on every corrupt job. The Independent, however, must take especial care that their proceedings should go forth to the Empire on the wings of the press. There was no question in this County whether one or the other family should have preponderance. The question was, whether the people, as the third estate, should have that political weight which was intended by the Constitution, or that their rights should be usurped by Lords and Boroughmongers? (Cheers.) Mr. BARRON concluded by proposing—

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May the Independent Interest of the County Waterford be successful in the approaching contest. (Great cheering.)

Mr. PETER KENNEY being loudly called on, addressed the meeting. He said he was not very loth to address the meeting on the present happy occasion; and besides they knew that a suppression of speech was not a disease under which he laboured. (Laughter.) Even if it were, the events of the last few days were of such a cheering character as to inspire the dullest mind, and teach dumbness itself to be eloquent. (Cheers.) He felt the most perfect conviction that their cause, and the Man of the People, must triumph in the County of Waterford. Every man who detested oppression—every man who loved the Liberator of his Country—would now come forward, and present his heart as a faithful mirror of public feeling and national gratitude. (Cheers.) In the awareness of that day they would find the surest passages of success. Gentlemen who had, on former occasions, differed, *velo celo*, from Mr. O'CONNELL, when asked whether their old opinions would influence their present conduct, had nobly declared that they should not—for that, as long as gratitude held a place in the estimation of Irishmen, O'CONNELL was entitled to the support of every man who wished to see his Country prosperous and happy. (Cheers.) He (Mr. KENNEY) did not entertain the slightest doubt of Mr. O'CONNELL's success, and he had, by this time, some reason to be acquainted with the constituency of the County Waterford. The people must look about them—for the country was almost rained by a set of corrupt traffickers, who had, in many instances, purchased by retail, from a degenerate constituency, what they sold by wholesale to an unprincipled Minister. (Cheers.) He trusted that, on the present occasion, *Waterford* would blaze forth as the morning star of Irish independence, and that when they had placed the independence of their own County on an imperishable basis, they should call for a repeal of the Union, for the people would never forget that wholesome and indisputable axiom—that no country should ever submit to be a province that had strength to be a nation. (Great cheering.) If the honest men in the County, who had been distressed, could now poll for O'CONNELL, he would have 500 votes out of every 1000. With his other qualities, the honest and ever-sincere openness of his aspect, and that Hybl's honey of eloquence which flowed from Daniel's tongue, made impressions which insured him a gracious reception from his enemies. (Cheers and laughter.) The assembly from all parts of the state of Ireland were such as present as to penetrate the heart of every humane man in society, but it could not penetrate the heart of that man who was Prime

Minister of England. His (Mr. KENNEY's) professional avocations brought him every day in contact with the poor, and he could declare that he never knew greater misery to exist amongst them. Yet the complacent spectator of the immortal Navy's immolation pretended either to know nothing at all about the matter, or when asked to say what the Government intended to do for the starving poor in Ireland, he answered that indeed the distress was but temporary—that it always occurred at this season of the year—and that his Majesty's Government did not intend to vote any sum of money for the relief of the Irish poor. He (Mr. KENNEY) would ask, if the Irish people had honest representatives in the House of Commons, whose perpetual importunities for justice must exert it even from an iron-hearted Minister, would Ireland be in the degraded, impoverished, and deplorable condition in which she was placed this moment? Some of these state empires had said that Ireland was prospering! Was it, he would ask, in Caffraria, or in central Africa, these wise men had spent their latter years, which might justify their ignorance of the real state of Ireland? He would assert that the affairs of Ireland were neglected in the House of Commons—that there was no feeling displayed for the distresses of the country—and that there was no sympathy shown for the sufferings of the people—although their representative (Sir JOHN NEWPORT) had asserted the contrary. He particularly meant to ask the Hon. BROUGH some questions touching these matters upon the hustings, when he next had the pleasure of seeing him there. (Cheers.) The people must see that nothing could improve their condition but a determination to return honest, incorruptible, and hard-working men to the House of Commons; and they must know, in this County, that they were able and willing to send that man to Parliament who had before represented him who was said to be the competitor of NAPOLEON. (Cheers.) Could he (Mr. KENNEY) or they ever forget the Herculean labours of that man who had, in behalf of Ireland, approached the sun of Liberty with eagle flight, and, like the bird of Jove, steadily gazed upon it with an eye that never winked, and borne by a plume that never tired. (Great cheering.) We are told (said Mr. KENNEY) of privileged orders, and of the paramount rights of the aristocracy—and that the people should give way to and be led by them, even on such rights as the aristocracy. When he saw the list of omnipotence issuing from Heaven—when he saw the sign-manual of the Deity stamping the aristocracy with the characters of genius, and knowledge, and virtue, and patriotism—he would acknowledge their superiority—but never until then. The truth was, that the virtue, and talents, and patriotism of the present age, were all with the people; and the man must be wilfully blind who did not see it. (Cheers.) It was not the aristocracy that composed the Spartan band in the House of Commons—that band to which such men as JARVIS and HUME belonged—whose adherence to O'CONNELL never should be forgotten, when he was attacked by that gentleman, Mr. O'DONOGHUE, who, on a former occasion, had "showered himself in his sensibilities."—These are fine words—I wonder where he stole them. (Laughter.) Mr. KENNEY here gave a ludicrous description of the Whigs and Tories—the latter of which he said were determined to uphold the temporality of that Church Establishment which sat like an incubus on the prosperity of Ireland. We often see (said Mr. K.) accounts in the newspapers of some terrible robbery committed on persons by the peasantry, and large rewards offered for the apprehension of the thieves; but when the pot, or blanket, or griddle of the peasant is carried away, by the cess collector or the rate proctor, we never hear of a reward being offered for the person that robbed the peasant. (Laughter.) Mr. KENNEY concluded by saying that he would call upon them to fill for another organ of the public feeling, to which their Club, and the Independent Interest of the County, were deeply indebted—he meant *The Waterford Chronicle*. (Hear, hear, hear.) If *Waterford* had achieved its independence in 25, one of its most powerful engines was that able, and honest, and unimpeachable Journal, *The Waterford Chronicle*. (Cheers.) If *Waterford* was now again about to achieve its independence, it would still find the *Waterford Chronicle* the same unchanged and powerful engine. (Hear, hear.) That Journal had suffered, and suffered severely, in the case of the people, but it was still steady to their cause, and never once flinched, or even complained. Mr. KENNEY then proposed—

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The *Waterford Chronicle*, and the Independent Press of Ireland. (Great cheering.)

Mr. PHILIP BARRON, in obedience to the general call of the room, rose to return thanks. He was happy to find that the *Waterford Chronicle* had merited the confidence and approbation of the people, and he had candour enough to admit that he did not entertain much doubt but that it would continue to possess that confidence. The history of his connexion with that Journal was short and simple. When they were preparing for the great contest of 1821, he very soon perceived that they were unguarded in an most important point—that they had not a public press to which they could look for the strenuous and unflinching advocacy of their cause. He learned at that time that the *Waterford Chronicle* was to be disposed of, and, in fact, that it was on the eve of falling into hostile hands. He urged upon some gentleman in the County the great importance of securing an engine which would be so powerful in promoting their object, and without which all their exertions would be comparatively unavailing. (Cheers.) They all agreed that it was a most important point, but none of them, however, could be induced to take it. (Hear, hear.) They were pressing upon them—the great battle was just approaching—the most important business was unoccupied—it was even in danger of falling into the hands of his enemy, and might have been secured to themselves the next day. Under these circumstances, he took the post, and having taken it, he was determined to maintain it. (Laughter.) In the furious contest which afterwards ensued, it was true, that he did not come off without





