CUT CABLE.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,
ON WEDNESDAY (THIS DAY),
AT TWELVE O'CLOCK,
FOR ACCOUNT OF WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

ABOUT SIXTY FATHOMS of CUT CABLE, belonging to the Brig *COSSACK*, from St. Andrews, and now on board said vesel at the Parade.—Terms, Cash.

JOHN P. GALWEY, Auctioneer.

Waterford, Jan. 8, 1826.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION,
For the benefit of whom it may concern.

ON TUESDAY, the 14th Day of FEBRUARY Instant, at the STORES of J. M. GALWEY, Esq., DUNGARVAN,

About 8000 DRY COW and OX HIDES.
400 SALTED, do.

Saved from the Wreck of the Brig ESTHER, Stranded in Dungarvan Bay, on her passage from California to Liverpool.

Terms—Cash.

Sale to commence at ELEVEN o'Clock.

Dungarvan, Feb. 3, 1826.

N.B. The above Sale will be worth the attendance of Tanners from any part of Ireland.

THE POSTMASTERS-GENERAL

ARE ready to receive Proposals for the conveyance of His Majesty's BRITISH MAILS, and the DUBLIN and BYE MAILS reciprocally, between WATERFORD and DUNMORE EAST, in a MAIL CART drawn by ONE HORSE, carrying a Driver and Guard, and travelling at the rate of 7 Miles per Hour, for One Year certain. To commence as soon as arrangements can be made for the purpose.

By Command,
EDWARD S. LEES, Secretary.

Gen. Post-Office, Feb. 6, 1826.

CHAMBERLAIN'S OFFICE,
Dublin Castle, Jan. 31, 1826.

THERE will be a LEVEE at the CASTLE on MONDAY, the TWENTY-SEVENTH of FEBRUARY, at TWO O'CLOCK; and Another on MONDAY, the SIXTH of MARCH.

There will be a DRAWING-ROOM at the CASTLE on THURSDAY, the SECOND of MARCH, at NINE O'CLOCK; and ANOTHER on THURSDAY, the NINTH of MARCH.

PORT NEWS, PASSAGE, Feb. 6.

ARRIVED,

3d—Rose Macroon, Thomas, Newport, coals (for Ross).
4th—Little Ann, Merchant, Lisbon, salt and fruit.
6th—Trio, Leslie, Cork, timber, &c.
The *Severn*, Capt. Parker, a new steam packet from Liverpool to Cork, put into Dunmore at noon for shelter; she left Liverpool on Friday morning.

SAILED.

3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th—None.

ARRIVED FROM WATERFORD.

At London, Jan. 30th. Eclipse, Davis. 31st, Fame, Miller. Feb. 1, Rapid, Fowler.
At Liverpool, Latona, Askew; Vertumnus, Kirkaldy; Robert Lovely, M'Guffie; Herefordshire, Lowday; Quebec Packet, Day.

SHIP NEWS.

Yesterday morning a vessel was wrecked at Carnsore Point, and another near Cullenstown. The crews of both are safe, but the vessels and cargo are totally lost. One of them was a Spanish vessel, laden with fruit.—*Wexford Herald of Saturday.*

The *Caledonia*, Hanley, from Newfoundland, for Liverpool, has put into Kilrush, to repair, having carried away her foretopmast.

MARKETS.

Waterford Markets.—*British Currency.*—We had a middling supply of Corn at Market yesterday, for which the demand was tolerably good; Wheat, 27s to 29s and in some cases 29s 6d; Barley, 15s to 16s 6d; Oats, 11s to 11s 5½d per barl.; Oatmeal, 14s 4d to 15s per cwt. by retail; Flour, 2nds, 39s to 39s 6d, and in a few instances, 40s; 3ds, 30s to 31s; 4ths, 18s 6d to 24s per bag; Butter, 79s 5d per cwt. for best qualities; weighed at the Crane on Monday, 40; yesterday, 27 firkins; Pigs (singed) 34s 7d; do, (scalded) 26s 6d to 30s 0d per cwt. Other articles without alteration.

DUBLIN CORN MARKET NOTE
Week ending Feb. 3. British Currency.

	From s.	From d.	To s.	To d.	M. P. s.	M. P. d.
1836 Wheat, per barrel..20 stone..	30	0	37	0	33	5
518 Bere, per barrel..........16 do..	14	0	17	0	16	0¾
1259 Barley per do...........16 do..	15	5	21	6	19	0¼
1426 Oats per do...............14 do..	11	0	16	0	12	2
8309 Flour per cwt..........	10	0	26	0	00	0
720 Oatmeal per cwt..........	12	0	20	0	14	11¼
0 Wheaten Meal, per do..	00	0	00	0	00	0
Sold to Bakers only.						
5734 Cwt. of Flour..........	18	0	26	0	19	3

Wheat and Flour to form the Assize of Bread, 50s 0d per Sack 20 Stone.

Receipts of Flour.....11,137 / Sales of Flour........8,309 — 1st, from 24s 0d to 28s 0d; 2d, from 14s 0d to 22s 0d; 3d, from 10s 0d to 10s 0d

PRICE OF BREAD NEXT WEEK.

Quartern Loaf..........................9½d
Half-Quartern..........................4¾d

CORK MARKET, Feb. 6.
Price of Butter.

To the Merchants....	80s	76s	66s	56s	46s	00s
To the Country.......	70s	66s	54s	44s	34s	00s

CARLOW MARKETS Feb. 4.

Butter, first (British)..........	78s 0d to 80s 0d	per cwt
——second..........	68s 0d to 70s 0d	
——third..........	58s 0d to 00s 0d	

Clonmel Markets, Feb. 3.—Butter, 1st quality, 80s 0d; 2d, 77s 0d; 3d, 73s 0d; Oatmeal, 15s 0d to 15s 6d; Bacon Pigs, 35s 0d to 36s 00d; Rendered Lard, 40s 0d to 41s 0d; Raw Hides, 46s 0d to 47 0d per cwt. Flour, 2d quality, 40s 0d to 42s 0d; 3d, 35s to 36s 0d; 4th, 26s 0d to 28s 0d per bag. Bere, 15s 6d to 16s 0d; Barley, 17s 6d. to 18s. 0d, Coals, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 0d. per barrel. Wheat, 20d. to 20½d.; Oats, 10d. to 10½d; Potatoes, 5½d to 6d. (Irish)

London Corn-Exchange, Feb. 3.—Although the demand for all kind of Grain continues very limited, still what few sales of Wheat were effected this morning were at the prices of last Monday. Barley is also dull, but Foreign was rather in demand, and fully supports its price. The Oat trade is very dull, and Monday's prices with difficulty maintained. In Beans, Pease, and other articles, there is no variation.

MARRIED,

On Saturday last, in Clonmel, Edward Phelan, Esq., M.D., to Maria, eldest daughter of the late Thomas O'Kearney, Esq., of Newcastle, Co. Tipperary.

John Drew Atkin, of Cork, Esq. to Georgina, youngest daughter of the late Sir Thomas Roberts, Bart., of Britfieldstown, in that county.

On Thursday, in Cork, J. Wheeler, Esq. R.N., to Harriet, daughter of the late Thomas Biggs, Esq. of Bandon.

DIED,

Yesterday, at the Waterside, Mr Smith, sen., stone-cutter.

On Wednesday last, at her father's lodgings on the Mall, in this city, aged eight years, Mary Ann, daughter of Pierse George Barron, Esq.

On the 29th ult. at Scribblestown, the residence of his son-in-law, William Rathborne, Esq. the Rev, Henry Bayley, Rector of Nenagh, in his 69th year.

On the 29th ult. at Dullingham house, Cambridgeshire, the Dowager Viscountess Gormanstown.

In London, Thomas Campbell, Esq., late a Master in Chancery, and at the time of his death Accountant-General, an office said to be worth from 10 to 12,000l. a-year.

In Carlow, on the 5th instant, sincerely lamented, Mr. Francis ......, an eminent composer and teacher of music.

On the 16th of July last, at Prome, in the Burmese Empire, after a few days' illness, of a fever, Henry Parsons, Esq. Captain in his Majesty's 47th Regiment.

The Mail.

"This is not the Cause of Faction, or of Party, or of any Individual, but the Common Interest of every man in Ireland."

Vol. III.—No. 51. WATERFORD, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1826. Price 5d.

THE "GRAND NATIONAL FESTIVAL."

Dublin, Feb. 4.—It is an established and a notorious truth, that the most *illiberal* men alive—the narrowest in mind, and the vulgarest in their designs—are the open, blatant bellowers about *liberality*; and that, if there be any very extreme degree among the declaimers of this order, it may be most successfully sought for among the *Leaders* in the *Catholic Association.* The conceit of a *grand* National Festival originated with those theatrical schemers—and a precious exhibition they made of it! Those men would scarcely be heard of, were it not for the public Press; and to none do they owe so much for their beloved *notoriety*, as to the Gentlemen belonging to the Reporting department of it. The fair and even merits of those industrious members of the periodical literature, entitle them to attention upon all public occasions, which they uniformly receive, and they are always to be found among the invited persons to all public entertainments. The tailors of the *liberal* tribe, however, could not find in their hearts liberality enough to invite the Reporters among their guests—it would be too expensive—miserable representatives of Irish feelings!—and so the Gentlemen of the Press paid their way—eat, drank, and were merry, like other men. But the elocution of the occasion—it is shrouded in eternal obscurity:—not a pen was moved, not a pencil stirred, to record any part of it; and so much trash, thank the fates! the world is saved from. The conduct of the Reporters was that of men of spirit—and of good nature too; for, if they were implacably vindictive, they would publish the revolting nonsense of this wretched burlesque on *a parish dinner.—Correspondent.)*

(From the Freeman's Journal of yesterday.)

"National Dinner.—The grand Catholic Dinner to the friends of Civil and Religious Liberty took place yesterday, at Hayes's New Rooms, in Dawson-street. About two hundred persons (fifty of whom were guests) sat down to a sumptuous entertainment at seven o'clock. Lord Gormanstown, the Premier Viscount of Ireland, and a Catholic, in the Chair. The following were amongst the Protestants present:—Lords Portarlington, Bective, Leitrim, and Riversdale; Sir Marcus Somerville, Mr. Latouche, M.P. Colonel Crosbie, M.P., Colonel White, M. P., W. W. Beecher, Esq. M. P., and to the left of Lord Killeen sat John Willis. The dinner and wines were excellent, and most abundant, and served up with great elegance."

It was currently mentioned yesterday, at the west end of the town, and at some of the Subscription Houses in St. James's-street, that Ministers calculated on being able to get through the business of the Session so as to dissolve the Parliament in May next.—*Morning Herald of Friday.*

The Archbishop of Cashel has presented to the Parish of Bansho, vacant by the death of Deane Bagwell the Rev. Mr Lawrence, nephew to his Grace, and brother-in-law to Arcbdeacon Cotton, his Grace's son-in-law.

It is said that Sir George Murray, Commander of the Forces in Ireland, will be succeeded forthwith by General Sir Thomas Hislop, and that Sir George is to be appointed Adjutant General in England.

There are letters in Dublin, from Paris, which mention that the Bulls for granting the jubilee to Ireland have arrived there from Rome; they also state that Leo XII. had recovered so far, that, according to ancient usage in performing the stations of the Jubilee, his Holiness went to the several Churches bare-footed and bare-headed.

Royal Canal.—It is with much satisfaction we announce to the public, that a boat-load of iron arrived yesterday at the Broadstone, brought by the Royal Canal, from the Arigna Iron Works upon the river Shannon, and that more is hourly expected.

Clonmel, Feb. 4.—Our monthly fair, on Wednesday last, was not a very crowded one, owing, we suppose, to a fair being held the same day at Ardfinnan, in this county; but all kinds of cattle that appeared for sale were in brisk demand, and carried very smart prices, 10 guineas being given in some instances for milch cows of but a very middling description, and proportionably smart prices for such sheep as were purchased. There were some good looking horses, but few sales of them were effected.—*Herald.*

There are at present in our county gaol upwards of 206 prisoners for trial at the approaching Assizes, for various offences.—*Clonmel Herald.*

(From the Limerick Chronicle Feb. 4.)—On Tuesday night last, about 10 o'clock, a gang of fellows attacked the house of Denis Mackey, a poor farmer, near O'Brien's Bridge, forced in the door, and took away his daughter, after beating the inmates violently. A party of fellows attacked a farmer's house, named Patrick Griffin, on the lands of Ballylopin, about two miles from Charleville, on Monday night last, it is supposed to take away Griffin's daughter. They met with such resistance from John Griffin, son to the farmer, who behaved uncommonly well, armed with a pitchfork, that they set fire to the house, which was totally consumed, with every article of clothing and furniture the poor woman had. One of Griffin's sons made his escape through the thatch of the house at the time it was attacked, and went to Samuel Maxwell, Esq. a Magistrate, to give information; but unfortunately, from the darkness of the night, he he lost his way, and did not reach Charleville until four o'clock on Tuesday morning. The police from Charleville were on the spot in less than twenty minutes—they found the house and every article of furniture, consumed they also found a sledge which the fellows attempted to break the door with.

Extract of a letter from Moate, Co. Westmeath:—"This county is in a frightful state; it is in possession of the Rockites from night-fall to sunrise, as regularly as the town of —— is in that of it's garrison. They paid a quiet visit to this very house on Wednesday night last, at eight o'clock, but I did not know until a few minutes after that they were close up at it's windows; they subsequently visited or rather held visitations, at a great number of houses; they seem to be in regular training."

EDUCATION of the POOR of IRELAND.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE KILDARE-PLACE SOCIETY.

On Thursday the Annual Meeting of the Society for promoting the Education of the Poor of Ireland was held in Kildare-place. At half-past twelve o'clock the Marquis of Downshire was called to the Chair.

His Lordship, having taken the Chair, said, that he felt great pleasure in taking the Chair of that Society, as he had reason, and indeed, from recent events, increased reason, for thinking that the Kildare-place Society was one best calculated for advancing the interests of Ireland, and of society in general, in the best possible manner.

Mr Joseph D. Jackson read the Report of the Committee. The Report adverted to the Commissioners of Inquiry, appointed to investigate into the education of the people of Ireland, and the approval of the Commissioners, of those schools under the jurisdiction of the Society which came under their observance. The Report adverted also to the leading principles of the Society—the appointment of governors or teachers, without reference to their religious tenets, and the requiring the Scriptures, without note or comment, to be read in their schools. The Report also adverted to the many excellent books published by it, for the purpose of excluding those works which had been heretofore generally used throughout Ireland. It also adverted to the many charges which had been made against the Society, which charges were never brought forward when there was a competent tribunal to entertain and decide upon them. It stated the present number of schools now under the direction of the Society to be upwards of 1,500—the scholars 100,000—the teachers, both male and female, 1,171. With respect to the North, the Report gave a satisfactory detail of the progress of the Society there, and mentioned, that on the estate of the Noble President there are thirty three schools, containing 4,000 scholars.—*(Applause.)* Notwithstanding the opposition that was at present made to them, and the political agitation, and the misrepresentations which had been spread abroad concerning the Society, they trusted to the progress of truth, and the exertions of a free Press, to establish the truth, the propriety, and the excellence of their Society, and the purity of its views. Mr Jackson having read the Report, concluded by moving that it should be adopted as the Report of the Society, and that it be printed.

The Right Hon. George Knox seconded the Resolution. He most cordially approved of the excellent Report which had been just read to them. He was happy to have the opportunity of recording his sentiments of approbation respecting the Society; he would say this on every occasion, but it was particularly incumbent on him to say it on the present. When the storm threatened and the sky lowered, it was the duty of every man, no matter how weak, to spring upon deck.—*(Applause.)*

Mr Jackson's motion was then put from the Chair, and adopted unanimously.

[We insert here the several resolutions as they were agreed to:—]

Resolved—I. That the Report of our Committee, now read, be received and adopted, and that it be printed, with the accounts and necessary appendixes, under the direction of the Committee, to be now chosen for the ensuing year.

II. That, after the experience of so many years, and mature consideration of the valuable mass of information produced by the labors of the Commissioners of Inquiry, we are more than ever convinced of the soundness and wisdom of the principles on which the Society was founded, and of the efficiency of the system on which it acts, and that those principles, and this system, are peculiarly adapted to the wants and circumstances of Ireland.

III. That we cannot consider any system of education as deserving that name, which should not seek to lay the foundation of all moral obligations in religious instruction, and that we are persuaded that it is only by training up the youth of all persuasions in habits of early intercourse and attachment, that we can hope to establish among them those reciprocal charities upon which the peace and harmony of society must depend.

IV. That we are therefore deeply impressed with the excellence of that part of the system of education adopted from the first by the Society, which provides that the children of all persuasions, who have attained a suitable proficiency in reading, shall be united in the reading of the Sacred Scriptures, whilst the further and more particular religious instruction is left to the Parents and Pastors of the several denominations of Christians out of school hours.

V. That it appears to us to be essential towards maintaining a wholesome and efficient system of National Education, that the resident Nobility and Gentry throughout the country should be as much as possible engaged and interested in the support and conduct of the Schools in their respective neighbourhoods, and that with this view it is expedient to abstain as much as possible from all unnecessary interference with the local managers in the appointment of Teachers, or in the details of management of the school.

VI. (Appointment of Committee, Auditors, and Trustees, for the ensuing year.)

Mr Serjeant Lefroy rose to move the second Resolution. He thought that the present Meeting was one of the utmost importance, as it concerned the Education of the people, of Ireland.—He congratulated the Meeting on having the Chair so filled, as it was that day; and he congratulated his Lordship on having such a Meeting, as was then before him, to attend to the proceedings of the Society; they were not assembled here, merely for the support of any Society, or the cause of any Society; they were not met for the support of any party, or the purposes of any party—no, they had assembled on the most important and vital question for Ireland, and that was, the great question of National Education. If the Resolution, said the Learned Serjeant, which I hold in my hand, be well founded, and if the propositions it contains be established, it will go far to prove that our system was just, and our principles fair. The Learned Gentleman then read the Resolution, which went to state, that after the experience of so many years, the Meeting considered the system of Education adopted by the Kildare-street Society, as one peculiarly well adapted to the wants and circumstances of Ireland. If what the Resolution asserted were well founded, the Society had then attained the most important object of which every friend of Ireland had been in quest. The propositions which it contained were not to be assented to lightly, nor should they be brought forward as the vehicle for any man to get up and make a speech. It would be his duty to demonstrate that they are founded upon that, on which they may rest as safely as on a rock, namely, evidence on oath, taken by a commission established by Royal authority, and given by impartial witnesses. It must have been observed, with what abstinence this Society had conducted itself with respect to the Report of that Commission. They had not, either collectively or individually, given an opinion on the subject. But it became the duty of the Committee, on going out of office, to enter on that Report of the Commissioners, fully, fairly, but at the same time temperately; on the whole, he would say, he rejoiced exceedingly that that Report had been made—for in it he found all that could be said or collected; first, on the general subject of Education in Ireland; and next all that could be said in favor of any other Society of a similar nature. In it was to be found all that could be objected to them. By it he was enabled to put the Society, and its principles, as it were, into a crucible, and enable the Parliament and the country to decide which system was best calculated for the wants and circumstances of Ireland. Before he touched on that Report, he thought it necessary to advert to the charges made against the Society. The existence of the Commission afforded an opportunity of bringing forward every charge made against the Society, and by the silence of those who had made those charges, exhibited the erroneous and false assertions urged against them. This silence could not be construed into any thing but a consciousness of the falsehood of the charges made against the Society. The Resolution asserted, that the Society was more than ever convinced that the principles on which they had hitherto acted were framed in wisdom and soundness of judgment, and that the system it has adopted works efficiently and well. What are those principles, and what that system, on which the Society acted? The principle on which the Society was established was, to give education to the youth of all classes, all professions, and all creeds. Not only did the Society do that, but they were willing to afford to any seminary, not connected with their Society, every communication and assistance that they could afford, without diminishing their funds. Are these principles, he asked, founded in soundness and wisdom, or are they not? This system was not a novelty. It was acted upon from the year 1786, in a large School established at that time, and conducted to the satisfaction of all. That principle was now the guidance of the Society, and at the very outset they had had the sanction of experience in recommendation of the mode they had adopted. This fact was stated in a former Report of an Education Commission, and they had not only the sanction of that Commission, but of the latest Commission and the latest Report for the principles on which the Society had acted. He referred to pages 89, 91, 95, of the Report of the Commissioners. Those pages approved of the habits of early intercourse among the youths of all sects, and declared that there could be no system of education, which should not combine literary with moral and religious instruction; such was the basis and ground-work of the Kildare-street society. The Commissioners also pointed out the mischiefs of separating literary and religious instruction.—To this the Society was also opposed. They agreed in principles, but differed in non-essentials.—Thus they had not only the sanction of the Commissioners, but also the wants of the people and their wishes for instruction.—All had heard of the lamentable ignorance of the people. The report of the Commissioners states, that among them were many ignorant even of the existence of the Word of God. (Hear.) The Society merely says, "we'll teach, but not interpret the Scriptures, let others interpret as they like." The more he reflected on this subject, the more he admired the principles of the Society, at once so sound and so comprehensive. At first he thought the Society should go further in religious instruction, but he was now convinced the system of this Society was the only practicable one for Ireland. As a principle of religious instruction, it was the safest, the wisest, and the best. That Society, although it rests on the basis of teaching the Scriptures, does not say, "teach nothing more;" was that, or any other Society, to wrest from all the Clergy their proper provinces? They say to them, "do this as you please;" those principles would be found to have won their way in this country. It had commenced in 1816 with a single school. In nine years they had 727, in 11 years 1,490; in twelve years 1595! This was authenticated by evidence given on oath before the Commissioners. The children amount to 100,000, and they began with—none.—Thus it has won its way in practice, and recommended itself to the public upon trial; feeling the full value of that report, they came there merely to make the use of it which it was the interest of Ireland they should make. There was a competition to take the children out of their schools, without apprentice fees; if he had made out that the system was calculated for the wants of Ireland he had discharged his duty. He then commented on the Report in detail. They, he said, pleaded guilty to the charge of the Society's not giving universal satisfaction; they never expected it; but they had the valuable testimony of one of the heads of our church, that as a part of a system of education they were a useful society; they had also the testimony of Dr. Cooke, moderator of the Synod of Ulster. He informed them that the Presbyterians felt a great interest in the proceedings of the Society, and the people are every day becoming more sensible of the advantages derived from the system pursued by the Society. With respect to the remaining great body, namely the Roman Catholics of Ireland, it has been stated that three hundred and ten Roman Catholic Schoolmasters, nay, a larger portion, were educated by them. This was evidence that they had given a portion of satisfaction at least. The foundation of their dissatisfaction rests on this, that the object of this Society was proselytism, because some connected with it are members of other societies that may propose to convert. Did they ever imagine they would not have to encounter prejudice? No; but the Society has won its way although it may not have given universal satisfaction. Was it not, then, wisdom to persevere, and to trust to time to vindicate their principles against prejudice? They knew that every thing good in itself had prejudices to encounter and overcome, before it was successful. The Christian religion had prejudices, and strong and powerful ones to encounter, throughout the world; but they have he thanked God, yielded; although he was free to confess that even the Christian religion had failed to give universal satisfaction. He then read the following extract from the Report:—"Upon the whole, it appears to us, that while the Society have succeeded beyond their own most sanguine expectations in some of their objects, they have failed in others. They have certainly failed in producing general satisfaction; and it is observable, that while in matters which they consider of lesser importance—for instance, the issue of books, the arrangement of the Model School, the training of Masters and Mistresses, their system of rewards, and their directing the public mind so powerfully to education, they have conferred the most extensive and undoubted benefits on Ireland—the three points which they distinguished from all others, as being fundamental and indispensable, are those in which their failure, to a certain extent, cannot be denied. The compliance with these three funadmental rules, we are convinced, is in many cases, merely nominal—the use of the Scriptures is frequently a matter of form; Catechisms are taught as freely in many of their Schools as in any others, merely by the fiction of treating the appointed times as not being school hours; and the selection of Masters and Mistresses, though nominally uninfluenced by religious considerations, are truly and practically confined to Roman Catholics, when the patrons are the Roman Catholic Clergy, and to Protestants, when the Schools are in connexion with the Association for Discountenancing Vice, or the Patrons are Clergymen of the Established Church." He applied himself to other passages in pages 58 and 92 of the Report of the Commissioners.—Were they not, he asked, to give learning, because at first the children may not comprehend the Scriptures; but at first, did we comprehend our grammar? It was stated that bad books had their bad influence in the country; but was it to be stated that the Scriptures would not produce a good influence? They would not give notes and comments in school books—notes and comments were good, but peace, harmony, and brotherly love, were just as good—(applause)—consistently with their system, they may teach all catechisms in the Schools. This was treated as a fiction? but particular religious instructions may be introduced, and it was the beauty of their system, as well as its recommendation, that they may be introduced without scism or ill will. In their Model School they have a most valuable Roman Catholic Master—was it to be urged they should not select him? He came to the last topic. He trusted the Meeting would agree with him, it was a cause of great importance, and a day of great importance also. He read from page 92 of the Report, "To the proper hands & guides the interpretation of the Scriptures is left—all that is fundamental they supply, leaving all the rest to those who are more adequate to the task." He adverted to the new plan of instruction proposed to remedy the objections made to the Society; two days for the instruction of Protestant and Catholic Children separately. This would produce—what? Four half holidays! A mark would be thus put on all the religions of the Children in these Schools. Each little band, under his leader, would march forth to point out the difference of faith between them. This was to be done four times a week. This was a fiction, and it seems that which is objectionable in an old system is to be exceedingly good in a new one. Then, it is said, the Scriptures are never to be introduced into these Schools; that sacred book must be wholly excluded—but with respect to the volume proposed to be compiled in lieu of it, why, it is a volume composed by the four Archbishops of the Roman Catholic Religion. Could any one Church give universal satisfaction on this point? The Masters and Mistresses, it was also proposed, are to be appointed by the Catholic Archbishops, but would this system succeed? It would fail assuredly in giving satisfaction to the Members of other Communions. Then they proposed that the reading of the Scriptures should be reserved for separate religious instruction; they were to be brought together, indeed, for the purpose of literary instruction. On the whole, whether they looked to the evidence furnished by that Report, or their system, its soundness and peculiar adaptation to the wants of Ireland, or to that proposed to be substituted, he trusted there would be no difficulty in arriving at this conclusion, that their system was the best calculated for the peace, information and harmony of society. They would find the benefits of the Society, whenever the question arises of having recourse to our population, for usefulness; and, he trusted, the Society would be perpetuated for the cause of Education and the Country, and not for the interest of any Committee, or any other Society whatever.—(loud applause.)

Mr J. D. Latouche seconded the Resolution.

Lord Cloncurry rose to make a few observations, before the Resolution was submitted to the meeting. He would intrude but a short time on the notice of the Society. He had but an unvarnished tale to tell, and he took this opportunity of raising his voice in behalf of his Roman Catholic Countrymen, and his countrymen at large. He could not he thought begin better, than by quoting a text from that book to which all looked up with hope, but which unfortunately, in this country had been converted into a source of bitterness and dissension. He (Lord Cloncurry) would say, in the words of that volume, "If you would that your offences should be forgiven, you must forgive those of others." If he should unintentionally offend, he trusted that, in the spirit of that sacred advice, he would be forgiven. (Hear.) Since the times of his earliest life, when he came to know himself, and his country, the things which he saw most wanted by the people of Ireland, was education on the one hand, and employment on the other. And he might say, without suffering the accusation of vanity, that the exertions of his life had been incessantly devoted to encouraging the facilities to both. It was, perhaps, a knowledge of these his sentiments, which had induced the original formers of this Society, to make application to him for pecuniary aid, to forward its objects.—They thought him benevolent, and accordingly did apply to him; for he sought them not, they on the contrary sought him. He therefore came amongst them an invited guest, and not as an intruder.—(Hear.) The Noble and distinguished Chairman, in the part of the Country where, fortunately for those around him he resided; among a population capable of appreciating the great merits and goodness of his heart had been also instrumental in forwarding the Education of the people. When he (Lord Cloncurry) had been thus applied to for a subscription in aid of the means of this Society, he did consider its object to be the promotion of the education of the people of Ireland, and he willingly gave his mite into the hands of men whom he respected for their intentions, and who would,

he thought, have used their judgment, and the liberal means placed in their hands, in educating the great portion of their Irish fellow-countrymen, who were most in want of instruction and relief—he meant the Catholics of Ireland. After thus associating himself with the Society, his first step was to establish schools on his estate, and on those of other gentlemen. When he had such Schools built in his own vicinity, he applied to this Society for books and slates, or some other assistance towards its objects. In return to these applications, the Society transmitted to him a series of Queries to be filled up. These he immediately sent to the persons who had undertaken the management of the school in his immediate vicinity; these were the Protestant Vicar, and the Roman Catholic Priest. The Vicar was a man of the most excellent and valuable character, but he was not much in the habit of attending the School, as was generally the case where the majority of the pupils were Catholics. Among the answers returned by the Priest, who replied to the queries transmitted from this Society, it was stated, that the Bible, without note or comment, was not read in the School.—The consequence was, that the Society refused to afford him any aid whatever.' He had then endeavoured to do away with part of the objections on both sides: he solicited from the Society, that the Bible should not be put into the hands of children as a school book, but be reserved as a sort of reward to those of a more mature proficiency in scholastic learning; and he also endeavoured to induce the Catholic Clergy to allow some portion of the sacred volume to be read. In thus acting he (Lord Cloncurry) could have had no sinister object; his only wish was, that the object of the Funds of the Society should be accomplished. It was not now necessary for him to state the differences which arose on the subject, or their termination. For himself, he took no other part than endeavouring to promote a reconciliation of their conflicting opinions. Those endeavours were, unfortunately, unsuccessful, and the consequence was, that he, (Lord Cloncurry) and the predecessor of the Noble Chairman, (he meant the Duke of Leinster,) determined to quit the Society. That illustrious Duke did so from a conviction, that he ought not to lend the support of his name any longer to the Society, when they performed not that for which they had obtained Parliamentary aid—the Education of the Irish People. Lord Cloncurry then read one of the original Resolutions of the Society, declaratory of the principles on which they meant to act; that Resolution had his entire concurrence, and it was it which induced him to subscribe to its Funds. His Lordship then adverted to the Resolution, regarding the reading of the Bible without note or comment in the Society's Schools, and said that he did not know whether all the Resolutions or Regulations were written at the same time, but this he would say that he had not known at the period of his joining the Society, that it was to be a fundamental rule of their operations, that the Bible should be read without note or comment. If he had known it, he would say, that regulation is in direct opposition to another of your fundamental Resolutions and nothing could have induced him to join the Society; for he well knew that the Catholic Clergy would not suffer the Bible, without notes, to be read as a school book, nor by persons under the mature age of discretion. Now, it was futile for the Society to think of conquering this objection; and unless they settled on some plan which would not be opposed by the Catholic Clergymen, the Society could never establish a general and beneficial system of Education for the People of Ireland. They were now fourteen years in existence, and they stated they had 1500 Schools. Was this a sufficient number for a Population, amounting to six or seven millions? He was glad to find that an alteration had been made in the publication of the letters received by the Society. Hitherto the correspondence was published in a most extraordinary manner,; they were all anonymous letters; they came from nobody of no place at all. (A laugh.) The learned Serjeant who had just sat down, would inform the Meeting, that anonymous letters were punishable by law. These anonymous letters would do well enough, if men could be above suspicion; but they must themselves allow, that they had a very suspicious appearance. He found in one page of this Report, the names of 36 Protestant Masters, and only twelve Roman Catholics. They must themselves know, the great disproportion between these two sects, particularly when they considered how much more numerous the Catholics of Ireland were than the Protestants; and whatever the wishes of the Society might be, it demonstrated that they had failed. The People were panting for information, and to the credit of the Catholic Clergy he would say, they yield to that anxiety for information wherever they could. (Applause.) This country would be happy and content, if the People were of one religion—he wished they were; but when that wish could not be gratified, why should we be miserable by keeping up the unhappy divisions that at present distract us?—He regretted to see some of those great and good men, who were around him, keeping by their conduct, those dissensions alive. He would tell them a circumstance strongly proving the anxiety of the Catholic people for Education. The present Archbishop of Dublin insisted that the Schools, which the law obliged the Incumbents of Parishes to keep, should be established. This circumstance was highly creditable to his Grace, and he (Lord Cloncurry) felt very great pleasare in recording it. (Hear.) In one of these Schools, which was kept in his vicinity, the Catholic children are allowed to go, every Sunday after Church service, for instruction. (Applause.) He regretted, very sincerely, that the Catholic Clergy should feel it a matter of conscience to oppose the operation of the Society; and he also lamented that the Society should refuse to give aid to any School, except on their own terms. But the fact was as he stated, that the Catholic Clergy do refuse; and he believed they did so conscientiously, and from a sense of religious duty. The Quakers would not take oaths, although oaths were considered so necessary by the Legislature as to be required on almost every occasion—and were the Quakers for this reason to be deprived of their rights? Surely every one would answer in the negative; and yet the Kildare-place Society say to the Roman Catholics, you shall read the Bible as we direct, or you shall receive no education. His Lordship had been absent from the Society for a year and a-half, and did not well know how they had gone on in that interval. He now appealed to the Society once more, in the most solemn manner, to acknowledge openly and honestly, that they had not attained their object. The fair course for the Society to adopt would be, to assist those who want and are willing to accept of their aid—or honestly admit that their objects were unattainable. In England, the people thought this was a Society for the education of the Irish Catholics, and that was the reason why they at all countenanced their operations. "For my part," said the Noble Lord, "I find throughout the country, generally speaking, fewer of the common people, as they are called, who know how to read and write now, than when I was boy."—(Loud cries of "no, no," mingled with hisses and calls to order.)

The Secretary rose to order. He did expect that every person would be heard with that order which should characterize their proceedings. The Noble Lord whom they had thus interrupted, was an early Member of the Society.

Lord Cloncurry resumed—He was not in the habit of intruding. Whenever he appeared at a Meeting of his Fellow-Countrymen, he was generally well received. He was not to be answered by ungentlemanly disapprobation. His Lordship concluded by saying, that he should wish the Society to send some of their books equal to the amount of his donation to a Poor Man's Institute, which he had formed in his neighbourhood, for the purpose of keeping his poorer neighbours from the ale-house. He saw the inefficacy of their Society, and he would declare that inefficiency on every occasion.

The Resolution was then put from the Chair and carried; and Lord Cloncurry was about to retire, when

The Secretary requested his Lordship to remain, until he should hear a reply to the objections which he had made to the Society.

"I thank you," said Lord Cloncurry, pointing to the quarter of the room from whence the hisses had proceeded—"I have been already answered." Lord Cloncurry then retired.

The Marquis of Downshire said, that as he had the honor of being their Chairman, and held the situation of President of the Society, he felt it his duty to declare, that it was the right of every Member of the Society to be heard when he rose to address the Meeting. It was also the right of the Meeting to convey their disapprobation or approbation of any Speaker, in the manner best calculated in their opinion to convey it. But with respect to the manner in which the speech of the Noble Lord who had just retired, had been received,—he could only say, that it had his (Lord Downshire's,) most unqualified disapprobation.

Mr. Edward Scott rose to move the next Resolution, which went to declare that the Meeting could consider no system of Education as deserving of the name, which should not seek to lay the foundation of all moral obligation on religious instruction. He then addressed the Noble Chairman and the Meeting at considerable length, In reply to the observations and objections made to the Society, and the principles of the system on which they acted, he said they would never depart from the principles they had originally laid down. He replied to Lord Cloncurry's two objections, and asked was it right Lord Cloncurry should come forward and ask them to do that which he himself had concurred in thinking wrong? It was true his Lordship had come forward most handsomely at the formation of the Society, and given a donation of £20, which constituted him a life member. But the propositions which he made, the Society could not comply with, for they could not take £20 out of the public funds placed in their hands, for public uses, to repay his Lordship the sum which he had originally presented to the Society. The only way in which they could do so, was by giving that sum to the Noble Lord as a pecuniary grant for the establishment of a lending library in his neighbourhood. If Lord Cloncurry pledged himself that the sum should be appropriated to that purpose, he should have the £20 with great pleasure. (Hear.) He (Mr. Scott), however, was very sorry his Lordship had gone away without waiting to hear a reply from some of the Society's Members. For, notwithstanding what Lord Cloncurry said, there are now 100,000 children drinking from the fountain of the living waters of life. He alluded to the recommendation of the Commissioners, to select two masters for the Schools; he thought they should have recommended one liberal Master; all opposition to that principle should be denounced. He feared this would lead to arraying parties against each other—the Protestant band and the Catholic band—they must become red hot with opposite principles; but would such a system as that ever succeed? No, it must produce general disunion and general discord. He recommended their adherence to a known and successful system, in preference to one never tried, and never yet put to the test. The Parliamentary Commissioners had scrutinized the conduct of the Society with reference to unfounded accusations made against them in other places, and produced a verdict of honorable acquittal—they might therefore, consign the voice of their maligners to the grave. He who, hereafter, would bring forward similar charges must be encompassed in a case of tenfold brass. (Applause.) Should they be again so assailed, they need only again refer to the Commissioners' Report. Mr. Scott concluded by proposing the Resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Hamilton, and carried unanimously.

Mr Warren, K. C. rose to propose the next resolution (for which we refer the reader to our previous columns.) The hour was, he said, so late, that he could not think of long trespassing on their attention. It appeared to him of extreme importance that the attention of the Society and of the public should be directed to the resolution which he had the honor to propose. He apprehended, that as a general proposition, it would scarcely be doubted or denied that it was of great importance to the well-being of society, that children of a suitable age should be made acquainted with that Sacred Volume which unfolded to mankind the will of an Almighty Being. This should be done without any distinction of sect, creed, or religion. It was then the duty of this Society—formed as it has been, for the best of all human purposes, no matter what suspicion or distrust they might excite, to carry this generally admitted maxim into the fullest effect. Thus would they fix the attention of the growing people of Ireland on that solemn and holy bond which should keep all indissolubly together, and make mankind, as it were, the members of one great family. (Hear.) Mr Warren adaerting to the plan recommended by the Commissioners of Education in their Report, that the children of each religion should be instructed in the Bible separately, asked what would be the consequence of such separation? Would it not make the contrast more striking, when the children themselves perceived, that they united for the general purposes of education, yet that they were dissociated when the greater purpose of salvation were to be entertained. It would say to them, in language which they could not misunderstand, that though united in this world, their fate and destinies hereafter were to be different. From whom, he would ask, had the opposition to the proceedings of this Society proceeded? They had not been opposed by the Protestant, the Presbyterian, or the Quaker, but he would admit, by the Roman Catholic Hierarchy, who, however, when pressed on the subject, could make no specific objections to them. They opposed them only on vague assertions and barren generalities. This point had been put, in the most distinct manner, by the Commissioners of Education, to Dr. Murray, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Dublin; and when he was pressed on the matter, his reply was, that "serious difficulties" existed in the way of the arrangement recommended by the Commissioners. In this view the other Roman Catholic Archbishops concurred—but they did not, however, state what were those *serious* difficulties. But this Society was well aware when they undertook the great task in which they had been so eminently successful, that they should have serious difficulties to encounter. They knew they should not educate the people without meeting, aye, and overcoming those alleged difficulties. What great object, he would ask, had ever been accomplished without meeting difficulties? At the outset of the Society's labours they had to encounter obstacles on the part of the Clergymen and Members of the Established Church, who had since become their supporters and friends. The obstacles they had met at first from the gentry no longer existed, on the contrary; and they were met by the kindest feelings of gratitude by the people—they had, it was true, been assailed in certain quarters by individuals who had ransacked the vocabulary of Billingsgate language to revile them—by those generously minded orators, who have made a noble sacrifice of the common courtesies of life, and brought forward charges when they were not present to defend themselves, but he, and they were totally indifferent to what was said by such men, in such places. (Loud cheers.) The Noble Lord (Cloncurry) who had recently taken his departure, read to the Society in 1823, a document sanctioned by Dr Murray and the Bishops, then in town, which stated that they only objected to the reading of the Scriptures by children in schools, because it was opposed to the principles and doctrines of the Catholic church. But it was notorious that the Commisioners had not found a Bible in any Catholic school, not connected with or receiving support from this Society.—He (Mr Warren) thought that instead of yielding despondently, the Society should take courage from the success they had hitherto met, and might confidently anticipate that their future labours would be attended with the same blessed results. They should persevere in the straight forward path of duty, from which he was proud to say, they had never deviated.

The Rev. Mr Daly of Powerscourt, seconded the resolution.

Mr Commissioner Burrowes proposed the next resolution, recommending to the resident Nobility and Gentry of Ireland to co-operate with this Society in the establishment of Schools. He had so often expressed his opinion of the principles on which the Society acted, that it would be now quite superfluous to say any thing in commendation of them. But they had arrived at a most important crisis—a crisis in which every Member of the Society should reiterate his adherence to the principles and opinions which had induced him originally to enter into it. He had lived long in this country, and with regret he had witnessed the divided and feeble state to which it had been reduced by religious distinctions and sectarian animosity. He had long desired to see an Institution similar to that of Kildare-place established in Ireland. He hailed its establishment with sincere pleasure, convinced that it would tend to remove much of the irritation that existed amongst us. With what delight did he see the members of a profession all-engrossing, come forward to foster it in its infancy, and cradle it in its childhood. Though he saw it commence its existence under such flattering hopes of permanent success, he yet feared that the attempt was too noble to be successful. But he thanked God he lived to see it succeed almost to his wishes. The idea of keeping this country in ignorance has been totally abandoned. The world is becoming more enlightened, and it is no longer considered that ignorance is the surest guarantee for obedience, or that prostration is the only safe attitude of loyalty. (Hear, hear, hear.) This body assembled at a period of general discontent and dissension; he (Mr Burrowes,) was not one of its original founders. For at the time he did not expect that this Society would carry their principles of liberality to the extent, which, from after experience he found to be the fact, and to which he felt confident they would stedfasdy adhere. Any man who had lived in this country, previous to the operations of the Society, must have perceived the total want of liberal feeling which was, he regretted to say, unfortunately too perceptible. They must have witnessed the writhing of that great national malady—bigotry and illiberality—which choked up every good feeling and prospect of the happiness of the country. That malady grew out of religious distrust and distinction. He, himself, remembered a period when such was the state of Sectarian feeling, that in the mutual estrangement which prevailed, there could be nothing like intercourse, and when proximity was any thing but neighbourhood. As long as such a state of things continued, the malady must have gone on increasing. But by the effects of this Society, aided by the blessing of the Beneficent Ruler of man, that state of things was materially done away with, and the system of united education adopted and adhered to by this Society, must go far to establish its permanency. The Learned Commissioner, after some further observations in reply to the objections urged against them, that their concealed object was proselytism, concluded by moving the resolution.

Mr Scott, K.C., rose to second it. He said with reference to the Report of the Education Commissioners, that the Kildare Place Society had failed to give universal satisfaction; that they had never represented their system as likely to secure the good wishes of all; they had never described it as complete and perfect in all its parts. The Learned Gentleman paid a high compliment to the labors of the Commissioners of Education; these labors had been most valuable to the country, and the public felt deeply indebted for what had been done.—They had discharged their functions with impartiality to the public, and with credit to themselves. They had, in a word, conferred the greatest benefits on all. But he could not help saying that they were charged with failing to attain what was not attainable. (Hear.)

The Chairman stated his entire concurrence with the Resolution. He also took the present opportunity to express his approval of the Report of the Commissioners of Education.—He was deeply impressed with the great difficulties which they had had to encounter in a country like Ireland, torn, as it has been for centuries, to pieces, if he might so express himself, with religious distinctions. It was a most arduous task to undertake, with one stroke of the pen, the healing of animosities which had existed for centuries. He should be sorry that the Commissioners should imagine that any thing said this day was intended to cast the slightest imputation on them. He also stated his intention not to pledge himself to adhere to any Society, for he did not think it impossible that the Commissioners and Parliament might yet strike out some plan which would be acceptable to all who sought the Education of the People.

Mr E. H. Orpen rose to move the re-appointment of the Committee of last year, with the single addition of the name of Mr Anthony Lefroy. Carried.

The Marquis of Downshire having left the Chair, the Right Honourable George Knox was called thereto, and the marked thanks of the Meeting being returned to his Lordship for his dignified conduct in the Chair, the Meeting broke up.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS, FEB. 2.

THE KING'S SPEECH.

This being the day appointed for the opening of the Session of Parliament, the necessary arrangements took place for the purpose. The ceremony on the present occasion, was performed by Lords Commissioners, his Majesty having previously signified his intention of not being present.

At twelve o'clock the customary inspection of the cellars, &c. about the House of Lords, in the presence of Lord Gwyder, the Lord Great Chamberlain, Sir T. Tyrwhitt, the Usher of the Black Rod, and a party of the Yeomen of the Guard, &c. took place; but as the King did not attend the House, they were not in full Court costume. The particular cellar that went by the name of "Guy Fawkes's cellar," the one in which that conspirator was discovered, no longer exists, having been demolished in making way for the new buildings, committee-rooms, library, &c, recently erected for the House of Lords.

It will be in the recollection of our readers that, in the year, 1824, a Royal Commission passed the Great Seal, which appointed Lord Gifford to act as Deputy Speaker of the House of Lords, in the absence of the Lord Chancellor. We sincerely regret to state that the continued indisposition of the eminent person who has so long, so ably, and so courteously presided in their Lordships' House, should have given rise to such a contingency, and Lord Gifford officiated yesterday. At twenty minutes past two o'clock, The Earls of Westmoreland, Shaftesbury, and Harrowby, and Lord Gifford having taken their seats, as his Majesty's Commissioners, the Deputy Usher of the Black Rod, was ordered to require the attendance of the House of Commons below the Bar. In a few minutes, the Speaker appeared, accompanied by a large portion of Members.—The Royal Commission appointing these Noble Lords to act being read, the Deputy Speaker, Lord Gifford, read the following Speech:—

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"We are commanded by his Majesty to inform you, that his Majesty has seen, with regret the embarrassment which has occurred in the pecuniary transactions of the country, since the close of the last Session of Parliament. This embarrassment did not arise from any political events, either at home or abroad: it was not produced by any unexpected demand upon the public resources; nor by the apprehension of any interruption to the general tranquillity. Some of the causes to which this evil must be attributed, lie without the reach of direct Parliamentary interposition, nor can security against the recurrence of them be found, unless in the experience of the sufferings which they have occasioned. But to a certain portion of this evil, correctives at least, if not effectual remedies, may be applied; and his Majesty relies upon your wisdom to devise such measures as may tend to protect both private and public interests against the like sudden and violent fluctuations, by placing on a more firm foundation the currency and circulating credit of the country. His Majesty continues to receive from his Allies, and, generally from all Foreign Princes and States, the strongest assurances of their friendly disposition towards his Majesty. His Majesty, on his part, is constant and unwearied in his endeavours to reconcile conflicting interests, and to recommend and cultivate peace both in the Old World and in the New. "His Majesty commands us to inform you, that, in pursuance of this policy, his Majesty's mediation has been successfully employed in the conclusion of a Treaty between the Crowns of Portugal and Brazil, by which the relations of friendly intercourse long interrupted between two kindred nations, have been restored, and the independence of the Brazilian Empire has been formally acknowledged. His Majesty loses no opportunity of giving effect to the principles of Trade and Navigation, which have received the sanction of Parliament, and of establishing them as far as possible, by engagements with Foreign Powers. His Majesty has directed to be laid before you, a copy of a Convention, framed on these principles, which has recently been concluded between his Majesty and the King of France; and of a similar Convention, with the free Hanseatic cities of Lubeck, Bremen, and Hamburgh. His Majesty has like wise directed to be laid before you a Copy of a Treaty of Amity, Commerce, and Navigation, concluded between his Majesty and the Republic of Colombia, the ratifications of which have been exchanged since the close of the last Session. For the carrying into effect some of the stipulations of this Treaty, his Majesty will have need of your assistance. His Majesty regrets that he has not to announce to you the termination of hostilities in India; but the operations of the last campaign, through the bravery of the forces of his Majesty, and of the East India Company, and the skill and perseverance of their Commanders, have been attended with uniform success, and his Majesty trusts that a continuance of the same exertions may lead, at no distant period, to an honorable and satisfactory pacification. His Majesty's attention has been directed to the consideration of several measures, recommended in the last Session of Parliament, for improving the condition of Ireland. The industry of that part of the United Kingdom, his Majesty has the satisfaction of acquainting you, is in a course of gradual and general advancement—an advancement mainly to be attributed to that state of tranquility which now happily prevails throughout all the Provinces of Ireland."

"GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

"His Majesty has directed the Estimates for the Year to be prepared and laid before you. They have been framed with an anxious desire to avoid every expenditure beyond what the necessary demands of the public service may require. His Majesty has the satisfaction of informing you, that the Produce of the Revenue, in the last year, has fully justified the expectations entertained at the commencement of it.

"MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

"His Majesty deeply laments the injurious effects which the late pecuniary crisis must have entailed upon many branches of the Commerce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom. But his Majesty confidently believes, that the temporary check which Commerce and manufactures may at this moment experience, will, under the blessing of Divine Providence, neither impair the great sources of our wealth, nor impede the growth of national prosperity."

The Commons then withdrew, and the Lords Commissioners retired to disrobe.

THE ADDRESS.

The Earl of VELURAM rose to move the Address. The Noble Earl observed that in rising to move an humble Address to his Majesty, he considered it a task of an easy nature which he had to perform. He felt no difficulty in addressing their Lordships on the present occasion, when there was no domestic calamity of an alarming nature to deplore—no foreign warfare to contend with. He had to congratulate their Lordships upon the situation in which his Majesty's Message and their Lordship's own conviction showed the country to be in. With respect to the late difficulties in pecuniary transactions; man was born to trouble, and it unfortunately happened on the present occasion that his Majesty had to allude to the temporary difficulties, which must be of short duration. The first was the extraordinary and unlooked for panic which suddenly seized the people. This panic was the more extraordinary, as money was more plentiful last spring than he had ever known it to be. This very abundance was in a great degree instrumental in producing the late embarrassments in the commercial community. Capitalists were not satisfied with the low rate of interest, and they were led away into wild speculations, which ultimately produced no return. It became necessary for those adventurers to meet other engagements, and in their efforts to sustain this stretch of their credit distrust commenced. The Bankers were drawn upon, and the alarm spread through the country.—Parliament, he hoped, could devise some measure to correct, if not to check, the dangerous tendency of incautious speculation. This was the main cause of the late panic, which, like a torrent, for a time carried desolation with it. His Majesty had recommended to their Lordships to devise some measures to remedy the evil, and he was certain the appeal would not be made in vain. He would remind their Lordships of the manly and spirited manner in which the pressure was felt by bankers, merchants, and other individuals, and by his Majesty's Government, also, to sustain the credit of the nation in the hour of trial. These were causes of congratulation and triumph. Such exertions and partial sacrifices would restore and improve public credit, and place it upon a more solid basis than ever, whilst the unfortunate experience of past calamities would correct the wild extravagance of speculators, and teach them lessons of wisdom and moderation. His Majesty had also occasion to allude in terms of regret to the necessity of continuing the war in India; but it was consoling to reflect that it was not originated for the purpose of extending empire, but from necessity, and the determination to sustain the national character for that pre-eminence which always distinguished it, and which would always be her best safe-guard against aggression. It was necessary for the security of our dominions in India to establish our pre-eminence there. A sincere subject of congratulation was the friendly assurances which his Majesty continues to receive from foreign Powers, who appear anxious to extend the blessings of peace to the whole world. With respect to the treaties and conventions which his Majesty had directed to be laid before the House, they could not fail to meet with their Lordships' concurrence, as the object of the negociations had been to carry into effect those very measures which they had sanctioned last year. The state of Ireland naturally attracted the serious attention of his Majesty, and it was pleasing to observe the rapid improvement of that country. Education and the late improvements in the administration of justice, tended much to the permanent tranquillity of the country. His Lordship said that he could not better conclude his Address than quoting the last paragraph of his Majesty's Speech, which was expressive of the confident hope that "the temporary check which commerce and manufactures at this moment experienced, will, under the blessing of Divine Providence, neither impair the great sources of our wealth, nor impede the growth of the national prosperity." The Noble Lord then moved an Address to his Majesty, which was, as usual, an echo of the Speech,

Lord SHEFFIELD seconded the Motion.

Lord GIFFORD having read the Address,

Lord KING said, his Majesty had stated that embarrassments had occurred in the pecuniary affairs of the country. This was most certain, but why not state the true cause of these embarrassments? He would state his own opinion upon the subject. These difficulties were in some measure owing to the Government, partly to the country bankers, and partly to the Bank of England, whose monopoly was injurious to the best interests of the country. Government had lent themselves to that monopoly. The tendency of all the measures of the Government, as connected with the Bank, was to create an excess of credit, which led to those fatal speculations. The object of Government was to reduce the rate of interest, and they commenced by reducing the interest upon Exchequer Bills.—The Bank had greatly aggravated the disorder of the currency. The Bank of England was too vast for the control even of Government, and it was established upon principles contrary to common sense. The Directors had no direct interest in the management, but have they no indirect interest? They had by their increase of issues in the years 1823, 1824, and 1825, encouraged those wild speculations they now condemned. It would not appear on the face of the Bank Returns that the issues had increased; but by reading a book just published, entitled "Considerations on the state of the currency," by Mr Tooke it would be seen that the average issues of the three years were as follows:—

1823—	£17,750,473
1824—	19,011,575
1825—	20,881,123

The fact was, the Bank was too strong for the Noble Lord opposite. But it was to the country gentlemen that the Government yielded most. To please them high prices were kept up, and he should like to know whether there was any prospect of reduction in the prices of provisions? With the view of ascertaining this, he would put a question to the Noble Earl opposite at what time are the Corn Laws to be revised?

Lord LIVERPOOL.—I shall answer that question by and by.

Lord KING.—This subject brought to his Lordship's mind that signal defeat of the Ministry last year upon the Canada Corn Bill.—Then the Government were obliged to yield to the country gentlemen. The Bill was carried in the House of Commons, but when brought up to their Lordships it was lost. This was a bad way of supporting Government. In fact the whole system of the Corn Laws was a gigantic job. It was impossible that it should continue. According to all the rules of justice and sound policy it could not continue. That was, he believed the only assembly in which the necessity of cheap food was not admitted, and if such were the case, he could only say that the House enjoyed a very bad distinction. Their Lordships were sufficiently sharp-sighted in putting down those who employed themselves in the destruction of machinery, because machinery saved labour, and upon machinery depended nearly all the wealth of the kingdom. By its means they were enabled to have every thing at the cheapest rate, and therefore were its destroyers crushed: but corn, which of all things ought to be the cheapest their Lordships seemed to think, should continue to be grown with much labour. He was told that the welfare of the agriculturalist required a protecting duty, and that if unrestricted importation from the continent were allowed, it would be his utter ruin. He (Lord King,) was however prepared to deny that their Lordships had any right to prevent its importation, or in proportion as the agriculturist might gain by such a measure, in such proportion would be the loss of the consumer, and in such proportion also would they proclaim their own injustice to the world. He remembered a passage in the life of that celebrated voyager, Lemuel Gulliver, who, at the Court of Brobdignag, had given an account of that august assembly, their manner of administering justice, the purity of their views, and, amongst other matters, stated that their first and primary object was to protect the agriculture of the country. Their Lordships would perhaps recollect the comment of monarch of that country upon the description given by the traveller of their mode of procedure. "You are," said he, "the most contemptible race of beings upon the face of the earth, and your rulers the most despicable." (Loud laughter.) He felt so imperiously the necessity of a revision of the laws regarding the importation of Corn, that he should move as an amendment that words to the following effect be added to the concluding paragragh of the Address—"That as the best means of securing and extending the prosperity of the country, it was requisite that the Corn Laws should undergo the revision of Parliament."

Earl GROSVENOR said that it was not his intention to go the full length of supporting the amendment, but at the same time he thought it advisable that the question should undergo an early discussion before their Lordships. He sincerely regretted that his Majesty was not enabled personally to attend the opening of the Session. He had heard that his Majesty was to have done so, and he feared that he was prevented by indisposition. The speech which their Lordships had that day heard was of a very different description from all the speeches which they had hitherto been in the habit of receiving. There was nothing in the state of the country either gratifying or satisfactory, and it was highly creditable to his Majesty's Ministers to have advised so humble an Address, and it was also creditable to them that they had not attempted to mark that state of affairs which bore an unpromising aspect by prominently setting forth every circumstance which could form a subject of congratulation. There were, however, one or two points which had not been adverted to by either the Noble Mover or Seconder of the Address, upon which he wished for some explanation. It was recommended in the Speech that the currency of the country should be placed upon a firmer foundation. He wished to know upon what firmer basis it could be placed than that at present by law established? It would be very satisfactory to the country to be made acquainted with the intention of his Majesty's Government upon that subject. It was also stated, notwithstanding the unfortunate state of the country, that the Revenue had answered the expectations of the Ministry. He presumed from this that the Ministers did not anticipate, on the whole, a larger revenue than in the preceding year, in consequence of the duties taken off in the last Session of Parliament, or else that its failure to a certain extent had been calculated upon in consequence of the embarrassments of the country towards the close of the year. He had for many years advocated the propriety of adopting and adhering to a strict system of economy, as the only means of relieving the distresses of the country: and he now more than ever wished to impress upon their Lordships the necessity of forcing such a system upon the Government. If it had been earlier adopted the distresses which they now deplored might never have existed.—An immense saving of expenditure might have been effected by the reduction of the army, for in time of peace there was no reason on earth why so large a military establishment should be kept. This was a question of great importance in a constitutional point of view, as well as respecting

system of national economy. There was no necessity for so great a military force, and those reasons which had been advanced were the most fallacious imaginable. The meeting of the radicals at Manchester was the largest that had ever taken place in the kingdom, and was held at a time when angry feelings were at their highest pitch, and yet that meeting had been dispersed by a mere handful of yeomen. With regard to a war in India, if the resources of the country had been properly husbanded, it would have been found much easier to meet the vast expences of that war; and here he wished to observe, that those who commenced that war, and those who continued it, had much to answer for before their Lordships, and would, he trusted, be called upon for a clear statement of every circumstance which led to those hostilities. The state of Ireland formed another plea for keeping up a military force, and indeed in that country, which he could not allude to without emotion, three-fourths of the infantry of the nation were dispersed. He thought their Lordships had much to answer for in disappointing the hopes of the Catholics, and he was convinced that if their prayers were acceded to, that force at once might be withdrawn, and the country thus relieved from one great source of expenditure. Their Lordships were at this moment more than ever called upon to economise, for it was impossible to foresee the extent of distress which the present panics might give rise to.

Lord TEYNHAM opposed the amendment.

The Marquis of LANSDOWN said that he felt it to be quite unnecessary then to enter upon the discussion of such a subject as the currency, without the requisite information to enable their Lordships to arrive at any satisfactory determination. He felt, indeed, that it was impossible to enter upon such a complicated question as to how far the nature of the circulation—how far the particular measure of issuing one and two pound notes—how far the departure from the system of circulation adopted by Parliament, or how far the nature of the monopoly of the Bank, or the spirit of speculation, might have operated in producing that evil which was admitted to exist. All that he then wished was to claim a reserve upon his own part of any opinion as to the possibility of applying a corrective, as his Majesty's Government had suggested. What he gathered from the Speech was, that the evil existed, and that Ministers were disposed to correct it. He did not wish to ask the nature of the correctives in contemplation, because the Address, to which he gave his full and cordial assent, did not pledge the House to their adoption. Upon the Corn Laws, after mature deliberation, he had formed a decided opinion; but he did not feel disposed to pledge the House to any measure respecting them, unassisted by the information which Government was endeavouring to procure upon that question, the whole of which must be considered with reference to the state of currency and prices. It was utterly impossible to separate them from each other, or to separate all from the principles of free trade. All must be considered in their relative bearings upon each other. The Noble Marquis concluded by alluding to the situation of Ireland, which he was happy to observe had not been overlooked in the Speech from the throne.

The Earl of LIVERPOOL said, he should feel that he was intruding on their Lordships' time, if he attempted to dwell upon the various topics of importance introduced into the Speech. At the commencement of the Speech allusion was made to the embarrassments which had lately occurred, and which every one must conclude to have produced some effect on the general manufacturing interests of the country. After what had fallen from the Noble Marquis, he should not enter into any minute discussion of a subject so delicate, at the same time, that he felt it of too much importance not to state the general nature of the correctives which Government intended to propose. (Hear, hear.) Before he did so, however, he would take occasion to say, that the convulsion, by which the pecuniary transactions of the country were agitated, was not unexpected by him, for, as early as the month of March, in the course of the last Session, he had alluded to the rash spirit of speculation which was then gaining ground in the country, and had troubled their Lordships with a few words, in order to signify to the speculators, that the same remedies which had been applied upon former occasions, would not be applied to such evil as there was then reason to apprehend; so that if the parties were driven to distress by their own rash conduct, they need not expect any relief from Government. (Hear, hear.) It would be in vain to attempt upon that day to enter fully into the causes of the events which had arisen; but there was one cause so obvious in itself, and of such great magnitude, that though he did not mean to deny the probability that other causes might conspire to aggravate the evil, there being scarcely any transaction of human life referrable to one simple cause, yet the one to which he alluded was sufficient in itself to account for every thing that had occurred. Their Lordships must all recollect the general spirit of mad speculation which had gone abroad at the period he alluded to. "At the period to which I just referred, I stated, that one of the reasons for giving that notice was, that the same spirit was extending from the Metropolis to the country, and was infecting the country banks. It did so, and I will now state the progress of the circulation of the country banks. It is difficult to state accurately what the circulation is at any particular period, there is, however, a document which is sufficient for the purpose of general reasoning. Your Lordships are aware that all country bank notes must be stamped, and therefore it is easy for the Government to call for an account of the number of stamps used each year. In the years 1821, 1822, and 1823, the reputed value of the country bank notes in circulation amounted to four millions, and some one or two hundred thousand pounds. There may have been a variation in one year of a few hundred thousand, but nothing that could not be easily accounted for. In 1821, when the speculations I have referred to first began to be agitated, it increased to about six million. In 1825 it increased to eight millions. That is, within the last year the circulation of country bank notes doubled what it was in the years 1821, 1822, and 1823. Now, my Lords, I ask you whether this is not of itself sufficient to mark the fact of the progressive increase of the circulation of country bank notes, to account completely for the effects we have seen? I do not deny, and I know it will hereafter be brought forward in argument, that there was also a similar increase in the paper currency of the Bank of England. (Hear, hear.) But I must add, that it bears no proportion in the general circulation to that of the country banks. I have stated this, as a circumstance sufficient to account for all the consequences that have been produced upon the pecuniary transactions of the country. The Noble Lord on the other side of the House (Lord King) has accused the Government of a desire to lower the rate of interest for a certain financial object. If Government had taken measures to lower the rate of interest violently, it might be chargeable with a great portion of the embarrassment in the pecuniary transactions of the last year; but such was not the fact. They had only yielded to the influence of regular causes. The continued peace and growing prosperity of the country had diminished the rate of interest, and enabled Government to save £1,800,000 of taxation, and so reduce the interest of the National Debt £1,400,000. So far from constituting an offence on the part of Government, it was their duty to take advantage of the rate of interest when it took place; not by any trick of legislation, but in the natural course of things. It is true, that the rate of interest fell, but not by forced means, but by the natural course of commercial prosperity. (Hear, hear, hear!) He had very shortly stated these points, because he might have occasion hereafter to go more into detail, when it would be his duty to endeavour, in some degree, to point out a remedy for the present state of things. He agreed with that part of his Majesty's speech which stated, that for the effects of over-trading, and rash speculation growing out of the prosperity of the country, no cure could be found in legislation, and that it was only to be found in individuals having a sense of the danger and inconvenience to which they exposed themselves by such acts. But he likewise concurred with the declaration in the Royal Speech that correctives and palliatives might and ought to be applied to present distress. It was no fault of his Noble Friend near him (Lord Bexley), or himself, that the measures which it was the intention of his Majesty's ministers to bring under the consideration of Parliament had been adopted. He would give their Lordships a short description of them. The measures which would be brought forward were none which had not been proposed before. They had, on former occasions, been under the the consideration of the public. From what causes they failed, was a question which at that moment it was not necessary to discuss. It was sufficient for him to show that they were not new ideas drawn out for the first time by present circumstances. The putting of some check, in one way or other, on the issue of small notes, was a plan suggested by his Noble Friend; so likewise was an arrangement with the Bank of England, having for its object to alter the situation in which that establishment stood with the public. He had no difficulty in stating what it was intended to propose on the present occasion. Indeed, he thought it better that no uncertainty should prevail on the subject, for it frequently did more misehief than a full knowledge of the general purport of the measures which Government meant to adopt. He had therefore no difficulty in stating, that one of the measures which Government thought proper to submit for the consideration of Parliament, was a regulation by which the one and two pound Bank notes would be gradually withdrawn from circulation, and a metallic currency substituted for them. Another measure which Government would propose, had, he was perfectly satisfied, become of essential importance to the interests of the country. He did not mean in any degree to join in the reflection which the Noble Baron (Lord King) had cast upon the Bank of England; but he was perfectly satisfied—and those who knew his opinions were aware that he had entertained the conviction for years—that the country had grown too large, that its concerns were too extensive to allow of the exclusive privilege of the Bank of England. (Hear, hear, hear.) The privilege of the Bank might have been highly useful in the early period of the history of our commercial transactions, but he was convinced that the country was now too large for any one such exclusive establishment. (Hear, hear, hear.) The Bank of England's privilege operated in a most extraordinary, and, he thought, a most unfortunate manner for the country. Any low person, any tradesman, a cheesemonger, a butcher, or a shoemaker, might open a country bank; but a set of persons with a co-fortune sufficient to carry on the concern with security were not permitted to do so. That was the actual operation. He was old enough to remember the time when there was scarcely such an institution as a country bank, except in great commercial towns, and when the transactions of the country were carried on in Bank of England notes and money obtained from London. But now, when such a mode of conducting the transactions of the country was no longer practicable, it ought to be the policy of Parliament to place all country banks on a solid foundation, and to amend a state of law which he would not say allowed of the establishment only of Banks which were not solid, because, he believed that the greater proportion of the country banks were substantial, but which certainly prevented the establishment of those which, from the nature of their constitution, must be most solid. It was however, necessary to deal with the existing charter of the Bank of England, which would not expire till 1838. But if the bank could be induced to give up so much of their exclusive privilege as related to country banks, and if they would accompany that surrender by a measure which he thought would be desirable for their own sakes—namely, the establishment in some parts of the country, of branches of their own institution; the effect on the general circulation of the country would be, he thought, be most beneficial. (Hear, hear.)—Such was the general nature of the measure which Government would feel it necessary to propose at the present moment. He had considered it better to make this general statement than to leave the intentions of Government involved in any obscurity or doubt. He did not mean to say that there were no difficulties to be contended with. The whole question must be a subject of discussion hereafter. To enter upon that discussion at the present moment would be improper. With respect to the question put to him by the Noble Baron, on the subject of the Corn Laws, he had no difficulty in repeating what he stated last Session.—namely, that his opinion was, that sooner or later it would be highly desirable to revise the general system of the Corn Laws. There was, however, a variety of circumstances to be taken into consideration with regard to time. He had no difficulty in stating that it was not his intention, nor that of any Member of his Majesty's Government, to bring forward any proposition with regard to the general question during the present Session. He saw no circumstances connected with the present situation of the country which rendered it the imperative duty of Government to bring that question under the consideration of Parliament. He had spoken particularly of the general question, because a detached measure with respect to Canada corn, which was passed last year and would expire in 1827, it might, in his view, be necessary to re-consider in the course of the present or of the next Session. Upon the point whether it would be expedient to review that particular measure during the present Session, he would reserve himself; but he wished it to be distinctly understood, that Government did not consider it necessary to bring forward the general question during the present Session. A Noble Lord had alluded to the absence of his Majesty. He was at a loss to imagine what could be his object in introducing such a topic. He had, however, no objection to state that his Majesty's absence was owing to indisposition.

Earl GROSVENOR, in explanation observed, that the observation he had thrown out relative to the absence of his Majesty, was perfectly constitutional, and there was one point he begged still to press upon the attention of the Noble Earl, and which he considered as requiring some further explanation,—what was it that was meant by the term gradual withdrawing from circulation? In what time did the Noble Lord propose to remove the one and two pound notes wholly from circulation?

Lord LIVERPOOL begged to remind the Noble Lord that there had been a time, and that not long since, when the one and two pound notes of the Bank of England had been altogether taken out of the circulation of the country. As to any further explanation upon the subject of the specific time for carrying the proposed measure into effect, he thought it would not be quite fair in the Noble Lord, after what had been already stated, to press for an immediate answer.

The Earl of CARNARVON said, that the difficulties which the country at present suffered under were not to be so easily got rid of by the expedient that had been proposed. They were attempting to pay in gold a debt which was contracted in a currency of depreciated value, and they would find themselves in difficulties, which they had flattered themselves they were freed from some years back. He hoped, when the question was discussed, that it would be looked to in all its bearings, and a more perfect system adopted.

The Earl of LAUDERDALE said, that it appeared to him that the evil had been too much attributed to the currency. He had always thought that a paper currency convertible into gold at sight, was the safest which a commercial country could adopt. They had had such a currency ever since the resumption of cash payments. There were causes enough for the evils which existed without seeking them in the state of the currency. Let any man look, not at the projects which had started up, but at the new demand for capital which had been raised, then let him say whether the country could answer such a demand. There had been found new employment for £17,000,000. When in the last year of the war a loan of only four millions was raised, they might remember the convulsion it occasioned in the money market. What mattered it whether it was for war or a rail-road, if a demand for merely four millions had occasioned such a pressure as they had seen, could they be surprised that a call for seventeen millions, would have the same effect.

The Amendment was then negatived, and the Address carried without a division.—Their Lordships, at half-past seven, adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE ADDRESS.

The SPEAKER having read his Majesty's Speech,

Mr. STUART WORTLEY, jun. (attired in full military costume) now rose for the purpose of moving that an humble Address be presented to his Majesty, thanking him for the gracious Speech which this House has just read. Upon taking a view of the state of things during the past year, it would be found that period had not passed without considerable important occurrences. There was one circumstance, however, which deserved most particularly the attention of Parliament—namely, the great shock recently felt throughout the mercantile world.—In mentioning this occurrence, he could not but refer with pride to that part of his Majesty's Speech from the Throne which did not pass by and endeavour to evade so startling a subject, but openly and without the least reserve avowed the matter as it appeared upon the most serious inquiry. The better to understand the state of this occurrence, and fully see its most prominent features, it would be necessary to recur to another period of our history during the years 1795 and 1798. In both these years an extensive failure prevailed throughout the country. The year 1793 was the commencement of a tremendous war, which could not fail to make heavy and pressing demands upon the resources of the nation. In the year 1798, every thing presented an alarming appearance, with respect to our affairs abroad. During both these periods, in adverting to the sources of the evils which then existed, he knew some difference of opinion prevailed; but with respect to the recent occurrences, very little difference could exist, their nature being such that no Government could possibly foresee or prevent them;—no foreign alarm of any kind to affect us had in any degree prevailed; no wars, no drawing upon national resources; all quietness; all peace. When, however, we examined more minutely into the state of things, we should quickly be able to discover the causes of such effects. The beginning of last year was marked by a redundance of capital; money was in abundance, and every thing seemed to present a great abundance of private wealth. A few concurrent failures of some provincial banks, it would be found, had after all led to this panic so much to be deplored. But whatever might have led to the primary cause, there was one eminently prominent, and that was the general state of the banking system as it now stands; in the year 1793, small notes, had not got into circulation. In the year 1798 small notes it would be found, had been issued through the country. The law, as it stood at present, placed no restriction upon the amount of paper money to be issued by a private banker, neither were banks obliged to offer security against their failure. The coin was therefore applied to other purposes than those of payment, while the proffered value of paper only existed as long as the confidence between the public and the individuals who issued it remained unshaken. The system of Country Banking could at present be looked upon by the disinterested spectator as little more than a mere pretence for issuing a greater quantity of paper than the individuals were possessed of real worth for.—In improving the present state of things, as they refer to the banking system, it would upon the whole be a matter of some difficulty to devise in what way Parliament should meet the exigency. These events were, however, serviceable in some things, inasmuch as the Bank of England had gained considerably in credit since the last failures; and his Majesty's Ministers were highly to be applauded for having so timely invoked the advice of Parliament on behalf of these measures. Much of the present misery could be attributed to an immoderate indulgence in the freedom of commercial speculations. If many of the companies had but withdrawn themselves from those absurd speculations which so generally pervaded society at large, much advantage might have been reaped from their valuable assistance in other ways. Another evil to be mentioned which occurred in the past year, was the combination of workmen; most of these combinations hung upon one body of men called Clothiers; whose union did not terminate until thirteen weeks after their first commencement. Notwithstanding all these evils, the country had still retained great hopes of permanent and tranquil security, nor could the evils be in any manner chargeable upon the general system of the country at large. Since the commencement of the struggle between the South American colonies and Spain, fifteen years had passed away, and that period, as well as the consequences of its events, had finally led to the establishment of great commercial treaties. With regard to England's acknowledgment of the independence of South America, it must be acknowledged that this country held a high station of dignity in having preceded Spain in performing that act of grace which should have been broached by Spain herself before England had interfered. The Hon. Mover likewise adverted to the Treaty of Hamburgh and its great commercial advantages, and also to the several commercial treaties which materially affected the interests of England. Europe was disturbed in only one quarter, and it must be admitted we were not without our anxieties respecting an amicable adjustment in that quarter. With regard to Ireland there was evidently a greater spirit of industry and good order diffused among the inhabitants, than had been observable hitherto; and there appeared not a doubt but its affairs must terminate according to his Majesty's hopes. Taking all these happy prospects into consideration, he could not but anticipate in moving the address to his Majesty, the unanimous vote of the whole House on the occasion. The Hon. Gentleman then concluded by moving an Address of thanks to his Majesty for his gracious speech, and expressing the entire concurrence of the House in the measures proposed, and the line of policy recommended to Parliament.

Mr. GREEN seconded the motion of his Hon. Friend. Alluding to Ireland he said, whilst these temporary embarrassments had occurred in the commercial transactions of England, it was pleasing to turn to the Sister Country. Every true Englishman felt a natural attachment to the interests of Ireland; and would be gratified on finding that the House was no longer called upon to pass an Insurrection Act, or enforce the payment of tythes; whilst education had spread rapidly over the face of that country. It appeared also that every recommendation of the Government had been attended to, and there was every readiness to inquire into the state of that country. Manufacturers readily placed their capital there, and soon the great Landed Proprietors would have cause to rejoice in its prosperity, and partake of its benefits at home. With regard to South America, England felt satisfied with her connection with the existing Governments in that quarter of the world. Though she had never any apprehensions, still she avoided every thing that could possibly be deemed rashness, or which might by possibility lead to a war with any other Power. A nation must act upon safe, upon permanent principles; and England, as far as respected these States, appeared in her usual dignified and proper character. The Hon. Gentleman then adverted to the state of our National Revenue, which, notwithstanding the drawbacks upon it, occasioned by the recent commercial distresses had nevertheless, on the whole, not disappointed the expectation which had so rationally been formed respecting it. He then paid a high and just compliment to the great ability and assiduous attention of the Chancellor of the Exchequer; and glancing at the general state of the country; he observed, that its trade, though partially embarrassed, had on the whole decidedly flourished; whilst its finances were highly prosperous. Ireland had advanced in industry and prosperity; and to whichever quarter we turned, the prospect of future happiness delighted our fond view. It could not be said that our national resources were otherwise than in a prosperous state; notwithstanding the late occurrences, the attendant evils of which were purely temporary—unproductive of any consequence that could ultimately prove injurious to the interest of the country. The Hon. Gentleman concluded by seconding the Address.

The Address having been read by the Speaker, Mr BROUGHAM rose. He regretted that it was now become irregular to adjourn the discussion after the reading of the Address. The ancient practice was certainly more desirable than the modern, inasmuch as it afforded time and opportunity to all inside and outside the walls of Parliament to contemplate at leisure the important topics which the Members were called upon to discuss. In the present instance, when matters of such importance were before the House, the disadvantage was sensibly felt of entering upon immediate discussion, if discussion it could be called, when not so much as half an hour was allowed for consideration of the various details which his Majesty's Speech embraced. The only alternatives now left for him, whereby to express his dissent, were, either to resist the Address by an amendment, or to give discussion the go-by by moving an adjournment. In the present instance he would resort to neither of these means; but in not opposing the Address, he protested against the inference that he concurred in its spirit, or was committed to the support of the doctrines which it suggested. These doctrines he reserved to himself the right of opposing at a future period, and his present acquiescence was merely a matter of respectful courtesy. This cautionary observation was the more necessary, as it might otherwise go forth to the public that the Address passed with the unanimous concurrence of the House. He was astonished to perceive that the Speech embraced so slight a notice of the distress at present so universally prevailing. From it one would be led to suppose, that public embarrassment was entirely confined to pecuniary transactions; but for his part, he thought very differently. He was convinced that distress pervaded our commercial interests in their widest relations, and notwithstanding its great present extent, it had not yet reached its full height, and would last longer than Hon. Gentlemen seemed to imagine. He insisted that the distress of the country was by no means attributable to the liberal and wise policy of the commercial system introduced by the late enactments. There might be some reason for such a supposition, if difficulties were experienced in only one branch of trade; but such an idea could not be admitted when the distress was obviously universal throughout the commercial system. The Silk Trade was not the only suffering one. Our manufacturers of wool, cotton, and other materials labored under a similar state of depression.—Hence it was clear that there was no connection between the distress and the law of the country. It could not be said, that an experiment had been tried, and that, after a trial of its merits, it had failed, inasmuch as public calamity was the consequence. In reply to such an assertion, the Hon. Gentleman would say, that the law not having yet come into operation no experiment of its utility had yet been made—that consequently it had not failed, and therefore that public distress was not its result.—When the law came into operation, its effects would prove that the commercial interests of the kingdom had not been disregarded in its enactment, and that the duties it imposed on importations, from foreign countries, would abundantly protect our manufactures at home. The causes of distress might, in part, be traced to late times, when new fields for trade had been opened in the South American States, which led to a system of overtrading, productive of many failures. One effect of the rage for traffic was, that goods were purchased in London at a profit, after a re-importation from Holland. He trusted that there could be no difference of opinion in the minds of rational men, whether inside or outside the House, as to the wisdom and policy of the late measures; and he hoped it would not be attempted to put in jeopardy a beneficial system before an opportunity was afforded the public to estimate its advantages by the test of experience. Perhaps it had been better if there were a change in the manner of carrying those measures, but it might not now be fair to complain of the manner, where the matter was so unobjectionable. He now adverted to three topics which seemed to have been considered as beyond the controul of the House—namely, the Debt, the Currency, and Ireland. The first of these indeed, was beyond their reach;—the two latter were not. Ireland was stated to be tranquil and prosperous at the present period, but could the House forget the cause of present tranquillity in Ireland. Its quiet rested on the expectation which its inhabitants entertained of what would be achieved for their advantage during the present Session of Parliament. Peace was maintained in that island, solely by the hope of further relief; and if those hopes were disappointed—if an appeal was made in vain to the justice of Parliament, in vain would England look to Ireland for assistance at the time of need—in vain would Parliament expect a continuance of Irish tranquillity.—He also attributed much of Ireland's quiet to the acts and exertions of the Catholic Association. While that Association was firm and obedient to law, whether approved of or not, it was an able organ, constituted for the best purposes, and during its existence they ought to hope for success. The House had just heard of the late commercial relations which had been established between Great Britain and the States of South America; and it was put forward as a sort of merit that England bore no part in accomplishing the independence of those States. True; England bore no such part. To the honour of the South Americans be it said, that they fought unassisted, and worked out their own liberty. That we now had Colombia among our commercial allies, and that we might hope soon to embrace other South American States in the same relation, must be matter of the purest delight to the mind of every Briton. A word as to our treaty with Brazil. He had read the convention before he had read a translation of the treaty; that treaty he hoped had not been ratified, and, what was more, he hoped it never would. Against one article of it in particular he would most solemnly protest, viz., that by which the parties mutually bound themselves to give up each other's subjects, not merely those charged with murder, robbery, and bankruptcy (which was a usual provision) but also to surrender persons impeached of high treason—that is to say of any political offence, which a Government not much accustomed to regard popular rights might construe as high treason. Nothing could be more preposterous than thus to perpetuate the worst law on the Statute Book—namely, the Alien Bill. In alluding to the Bank of England, without meaning to attach blame to individual directors, he had no hesitation in expressing his earnest wish that the whole system was at an end, for he deemed it utterly inconsistent with safety that any twenty-four men, whether a private club, or a recognized public body under any other designation, should possess such powers as were entrusted to the Directors of the Bank of England over the commercial concerns of the nation. It was competent for them, as matters now stood, to alter the rate of public interest at their discretion—to raise or lower discounts at pleasure. These were powers inconsistent with public safety, which he deprecated, not from any distrust in the individuals possessing them, nor from any suspicion of the motives by which they were actuated in the exercise of their authority, but from a full conviction that they could not, by any possibility, possess all the foresight, the wisdom, and even the spirit of prophecy necessary to guard against the mischievous effects, which independently of such enlightment, must result from their acts. The remedy for this evil was obvious: let the Bank of England have rivals, let their power be divided with other similar establishments. Then, and not till then, would it be safe for that body to exist. In conclusion, the Honourable Gentleman distinctly repeated the assertion with which he commenced—that, in not opposing the proposed Address to the Throne, he merely made a courteous acquiescence, but reserved his right of opposition to its topics at a future period.

Mr. ROBERTSON called the attention of the House to the severe distress which just now pervaded the nation, which he attributed mainly to the acts of our Commercial Government.—Honourable Gentlemen would recollect that, on a former occasion he implored the House to save the country by the adoption of proper measures from the distress, which having since actually arisen, confirmed the opinions he before delivered. He had anticipated public distress, because he clearly saw its causes, and subsequent events shewed that he was right. He therefore hoped that the House would now listen with attention to the reasons which swayed his long formed opinions. The cause of our calamities was of ten years standing. And unless the House would now protect our commercial and manufacturing interests he saw no hope of safety for either. The present burst of distress might perhaps pass away, a temporary calm might succeed, but if timely remedies were not applied, permanent and aggravated mischief would succeed. He held in his hand a document of vast importance. It was a pamphlet published some fifteen years since by the President of the Board of Trade; and its last edition came out in the year 1819. On the grounds stated in that work, he could shew at once the cause, and the alarming magnitude of the evil which he sought to alleviate. It contained a detailed statement of the excess of the exports over the imports of Britain, and truly observed that this excess, while it proved the expenditure was no proof of the prosperity of the nation. In this principle the Hon. Gentleman fully concurred, but he differed altogether from that which followed it, namely, that though such excess was not inferential of prosperity, it was not necessarily injurious. On the contrary, the Honourable Gentleman was persuaded that such a case was pregnant with the most destructive consequences. Since the termination of the last war with France, the excess of our exports over our imports had been 189 millions, for which we had nothing in return. During the last year the excess was no less than 24 millions. Now was it to be supposed that we could bear without harm this unceasing drain—this constant abstraction from our wealth. How differently did our commercial concerns stand in the time of Mr Pitt. At one time not a single pound was sent out from Britain without an equivalent return, and from the year 1797 to 1803, our exports did not exceed our imports by more than about five millions and a half. It was not difficult to account for such excess in time of war; but in a season of peace it was quite unnatural, and the disaster was to be traced to wrong measures. The capital of a country must increase with its population, else danger was to be apprehended; now, notwithstanding a great increase in our population, our capital was on the decline from its liability to exhaustion. The system of exporting capital from England to the Continent, and from Ireland to England, he contended, was injurious to both countries. He therefore recommended the Legislature to protect our manufactures as the surest, the only means of keeping capital at home. Free trade admits the introduction of foreign capital in goods here, which teems with pernicious consequences to our manufacturing classes. It might indeed be objected, that we had it in our power to compete with the Continent—that we might even acquire a monopoly in our manufactures. But the idea of competition with the Continent was perfectly vain. Our circumstances essentially differed from theirs. In this country we had no combination, such as might exist in France. And if that once took place, we were altogether at the mercy of the foreigners, France was in possession of the market, and England was for ever excluded. The conduct of Ministers was most extraordinary in a late commercial grant:—A Company, with a capital of one million sterling, had a charter granted them by the Crown (similar to that by which the East India Company was incorporated), for the cultivation and throwing of silk—and a strange melange of persons constituted this Company; the object of which he would say was a vile job. He supported the Government of the country; but not indeed its Commercial Government, nor the advocates of free trade. The East India Company set out with a capital not exceeding £72,000, which had already grown up to their present enormous capital. If then the Silk Company should be allowed to start with so large a sum as a million, what ruin must it not cause to individuals now engaged in the same trade, and ultimately entail upon themselves, from some future competition raised upon similar principles. He was reluctantly compelled to name the Members of this Company—they belonged to both sides of the House. At its head was the Marquis of Lansdown. There were, also, the Earl of Liverpool, the President of the Board of Trade; and among the Directors were to be found Messrs. Brougham, Wilmot Horton, and Pasco Grenfell. Strange and inconsistent, indeed, it appeared in Mr Huskisson, to bear a part in such a transaction, who in his pamphlet adverting to the French plan of forcing manufacture of sugar from the Beet-root, and the cultivation of cotton, pronounced it to be founded in ignorance and detestable policy, which incurred a vast expence for the purpose of raising a little bad cotton. We too, he said, were pursuing a similar bad plan, with the sanction of Mr Huskisson himself, incurring a vast expence for the purpose of raising a little bad silk. He could not be brought to agree that the ills of the country were beyond the reach of relief from the House, and he deemed that a very sufficient remedy might be afforded by putting an end to the foreign trading system. In the measures which he now advocated he was opposing his own interest as a foreign merchant; but he felt bound to utter his sincere sentiments unrestrained by any selfish regard, on a subject which he felt to be of vital importance to the public good. He therefore earnestly entreated the House to keep capital within the country—that was at once within their power, and a certain remedy for the evils under which our population now laboured.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, he did not exactly comprehend the argument of the Hon. Member for Grampound, and he could not, therefore answer him. It certainly, however, contained something very startling; inasmuch, as if acted upon, it would lead to the extinction of all foreign commerce, and all home industry. These would be the results if his system were followed, for he argued at one time, that ruin would follow from excessive exports, and at another, from excessive imports. How to reconcile such seeming contradictions, he must leave to the ingenious and speculative mind of his Hon Friend. As to the facts produced, and the crimes to be alleged against the Government, at first he felt perfectly astounded—he could not conceive what he himself, or his Right Hon. Friend had been about, to tion—he quite trembled at were to follow. But lo! guished persons had lent their one of the most innocent on foot. As to the success of the Right Hon, Gentleman, I profess myself incompetent to deliver an opinion. I know nothing of its prospects—though others, with whom I stand connected, have not refused their names as patrons or directors; yet am I neither the one nor the other. As respects my Right Hon. Friend, the President of the Board of Trade (Mr Huskisson) I must take this opportunity of stating that he too stands perfectly aloof from any such connexion. Such an imputation—if an imputation it could be considered was destitute of the slightest foundation, and as little to be relied upon as the charges against him of an inconsistency between the principles which he at present advocates, and those which are maintained in his able pamphlet upon the bullion question. There is another point on which I should gladly disabuse the mind of the Hon. Member. I can assure him that the Silk Company have not the most distant idea of forcing him or any other British subject to plant mulberry trees for the food of silk worms, or otherwise to make compulsory any measures for the promotion of the trade in silk. Surely, if any were so visionary as to entertain such a project the example before their eyes of the miserable failure of those efforts made by Bonaparte for a similar purpose, could not fail of deterring them from such a wild experiment. Before I proceed further, I wish to avail myself of the present opportunity of explaining to the House the views of his Majesty's Government respecting the present state of the country; but previous to doing which, I wish to express my sense of the modest and candid tone adopted by the Hon. and Learned Gentleman opposite (Mr. Brougham); but while I cordially give him credit for that, I cannot let pass the charges with which he has been pleased to assail us in reference to the spirit in which he supposed us to have viewed the consequences of the existing calamities, and the manner in which he assumed us to have treated them, and their probable consequences. He charged us with having spoken of them in a way too light and unbecoming for a subject of such deep and alarming importance. I at least can conceive no charge more entirely groundless. I can assure the Hon. and Learned Gentleman, and I feel confident that the House will give me credit when I do so, that nothing could have been further from the sentiments of my Right Hon. Colleagues and myself, than to treat a subject so grave and distressing, with any, the most distant, approach to levity or indifference—(Hear.) The most indisputable proof that we were actuated by sentiments of a very opposite character is, that the subject is not thrown into the back ground, is not placed in any obscure situation, no inferior topic gains a preference over it; the public distresses form the subject which stands forward in the very front of the speech. Of what materials can he suppose us to be made, if he will imagine us capable of witnessing the scenes which have occurred without deeply sympathising with those who have suffered? The attention of Parliament has been called to it in a manner the most marked; we have given it the most attentive consideration, and our most earnest desire is, that it should receive the earliest attention of Parliament, in the hope that such measures may be devised and carried into effect, as will afford relief for the present, and supply just grounds for expecting that in future the country may be saved from the recurrence of events so disastrous. At the same time I cannot help observing, that a very unseasonable outcry had been raised, for it was beyond question that many of the causes by which the commercial difficulties had been produced, were, in their own nature, inevitable, and far beyond the control of any executive government, as must be obvious to any one who thought proper to give the subject an attentive consideration. It required but the most moderate acquaintance with the subject to be aware that the operating causes of those difficulties are entirely beyond the control of the most strenuous exertions which the Government of the country could make, for in the circumstances that had arisen, nothing for their prevention or removal had been left undone, which could be effected without producing more mischief than sprung out of the existing evils themselves—evils, which are in a great degree inherent in every frame of human society. But the main consolation for these distresses is to be found in the fact, that periods of commercial difficulty are quickly and unerringly followed by periods of prosperity and greatness. Witness the period of 1816, and the rapid re-action, and the great prosperity, which in subsequent years, distinguished the commerce of the country. I will now take leave to ask, was this the result of forced measures, for the introduction of an unnatural and artificial system? Quite the contrary, a fact which, if any additional proof were wanting, would establish beyond controversy the truth, that though some of the causes of this state of things are within our reach, yet no small portion of them lies beyond all human control. Any one who presumes to legislate with the expectation, that all those causes would yield to his enactments, must proceed upon the assumption, that all those engaged in trade, will uniformly proceed upon wise and prudent principles; and this, even supposing the currency to be preserved on the soundest system, through variety of circumstance, still more would it be difficult in a country like this, where the currency may be in a great degree considered as existing in a mixed state, and where the amount of paper in circulation so far exceeds the quantity of specie. The increase of private bankers' notes during the last five years was such as, if fully ascertained, would, I have no doubt, astonish the House. It is a subject of considerable difficulty, for we have no exact data from which to form an estimate of the amount of those notes in circulation; there are no precise criteria whatever, but we make an approximation to something like accuracy. From the returns at the Stamp Office, we have the amount of stamps issued for three years, the average period which, I believe, notes are usually estimated to circulate. Now, if the amount be multiplied by three, it gives a result near the truth. In the year 1820, the amount was 3 493 901£; in the following year, it was 4,438,548l. From that time it continued to increase, and in the year 1825, it amounted to 8,755,000. The House will observe in what a short period it had so risen, and also will not overlook its effects—the raising of prices, and the excitement of commercial speculation in an inordinate degree; but these were the last of the ill effects of such a system of banking, as that notes of such an amount should be issued, for they are confined principally, almost exclusively, to the poorer classes, and when, with a large proportion of their paper in such hands, a bank fails, thousands upon thousands are left penniless. Whatever advantages commerce may derive from such a system—whatever advantages the agricultural interest may enjoy under such a state of the currency—whatever benefits may accrue to the country at large—whatever real good

...ood, I would still resist, to the ...hich keeps up the continual ...ery the most helpless class of ...bear,) There is no possible ... such a state of things, and ...ble that Parliament should in ...mply apply ... the consideration of some means of affording adequate security to the humbler classes of the community. At the present moment it is impossible for me to enter into any lengthened detail of the views I entertain on this subject, but to a certain extent I may at least speak without intruding too long upon the attention of the House. My persuasion certainly is, that the process should be gradual, in order to be ultimately effectual; and here I would observe, that I cannot help feeling much regret that the plan which in 1822 was proposed, had been abandoned, as I am convinced that had it not been so given up, we should not now, in 1825, have had the same difficulties to struggle against. My view at this moment is, that the objects which we look to accomplishing require preliminary concessions of considerable importance. What I allude to was asserted to by an Hon. and Learned Gentleman opposite, in reference to some of the exclusive privileges of the Bank of England. I cannot conceive how any one can contemplate the immense extent of our transactions, without being perfectly satisfied that the single charter of one company is by no means adequate to the banking purposes of the country at large, especially in those districts remote from the Metropolis. In such districts the effect of the exclusive privileges enjoyed by the Bank of England has been, that banks have sprung up in those places that have proceeded on any thing rather than the solid principles of banking. This truth has made so deep an impression on the minds of his Majesty's Government, that their earnest wish is not to lose a moment in supplying a remedy, efficient, at least so far as the circumstances will permit. Some time ago, a negociation was opened with the Bank of England, for the purpose of ascertaining to what extent that corporation might be induced to forego some portion of its exclusive privileges. It appeared that the Bank would be willing to make the desired concession, provided an extension of their charter were granted them for a period of ten years, in addition to their present term. Their charter will, if not extended, expire in 1833. The compensation they required for giving up the necessary portion of their privileges, was, that their charter should be extended to the year 1843. It was felt by Parliament, and it is no matter of surprise that it should have been so felt, that it might have been impolitic thus to prolong the existence of their exclusive privileges. Doubting whether the benefit to be obtained by this advantage would at all compensate for such an evil as a further extension, it was wisely resolved not to acquiesce in it. It was perfectly natural that the Bank Directors, acting on behalf of their constituency, should seek to obtain the best possible terms, and should be unwilling to commit themselves to any thing specific, until they should have an opportunity of communication with their Court of Proprietors. His Majesty's Ministers had, however, recently thought it their duty again to submit to the Bank Directors the propriety of their acceding to the proposed alteration, and that body, convinced that by so doing, they would best promote the interests of their constituents, as well as contribute to the general security and prosperity of the country, had, highly to their honour, waved that which they insisted upon as a *sine qua non* before, and consented to submit to the Court of Proprietors upon an early day, an acquiescence in the proposition which had been made to them upon the part of Government. (Hear, hear.) The result of this negociation would be, that the Bank of England would be placed upon the same footing as that upon which the Bank of Ireland at present stood. By the Charter of the Bank of Ireland, it was provided that Country Banks might be established with any number of partners at any distance exceeding fifty miles from the Metropolis, while, by the proposed arrangement with the Bank of England, the distance was to extend to sixty-five miles. There is one point on which I must certainly do justice to the principles of the Bank, before I pass from this part of the subject; for, whatever may have been my opinion of their conduct on former occasions, I cannot deny that they have recently evinced the strongest desire to promote the general interests of the country—to meet the pressing emergency, generously to throw themselves in the breach—they gallantly came forward and saved the country from evils of the greatest magnitude. It would be monstrous injustice not to bear testimony to their conduct on that occasion. Now, with reference to the plan for establishing Country Banks with an unlimited number of partners, and situated at a distance of sixty-five miles, at least, from London, I wish to say, that at a very early period I shall feel it my duty to submit to Parliament a plan for that purpose, when the whole may be discussed, and all its details investigated; but for the present, it is unnecessary further to enlarge upon the subject. He had thus, in general terms, adverted to the measures which it was in the contemplation of his Majesty's Ministers to pursue, reserving himself to a later period for a more detailed exposition of those measures. He should only add, that in framing them his Majesty's Government had not had in view the application of a nostrum or specific which might perhaps effect a temporary cure of the evil; their object was to apply such a remedy as would go at once to the root of the disease, and effectually prevent the recurrence of difficulties similar to those under which the country had been labouring. He had now only two other branches to advert to, in one of which he was himself peculiarly interested. His Majesty in his speech had, in adverting to the Revenue, stated, that the Revenue of the present year was in as flourishing a condition as that of the last year. It would be found, that instead of there being any exaggeration in this statement, it had in fact fallen far short of the mark, as the Revenue of the present had far exceeded the most sanguine expectations which he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) had been induced to form at the close of the last Session. Upon that occasion he had anticipated that the Revenue of the year 1825 would be less than that of 1824 by 5 or 600,000*l.*, added to which he had proposed a repeal of taxes to the amount of £600,000, additional. So that by his calculation, if the Revenue of 1825 was less than that of 1824 by £1,200,000, it would have come up to his (the Chancellor of the Exchequer's calculation.) In addition to the direct loss of revenue, a duty to the amount of £1,080,050. had been returned to the silk manufacturers upon the stock in hand. Notwithstanding all these drawbacks, the revenue of 1825 amounted to that of the preceding year within 5 or 600,000. Therefore he felt himself borne out in the assertion, that instead of their being any exaggeration, the King's speech had in this respect fallen below the mark. (Hear.) He had now only one topic more to advert to, to which, perhaps, he would not at present allude, if he did not feel strongly upon the subject. He alluded to those measures with reference to free trade, to which it was the determination of his colleagues and of himself to adhere, and which they never would abandon. While on this subject, the Right Hon. Gentleman said, I beg to thank the Honourable and Learned Gentleman opposite (Mr. Brougham) for the uncompromising manner in which he declared that his Majesty's Government should not be diverted from the sound principles of commerce under which they are emancipating the foreign trade of the Empire. It has been said that we are not cordially supported in these views at our own side of the House. This I altogether deny. It is not the fact. It has also been said, that the support of Hon. Gentlemen opposite renders suspicious the character of those measures. I think quite the contrary. I set the highest value upon their support on those points, for they can have no motive to give their approbation, except that which arises from the obvious merit of the themselves, I am pledged to the support of this system, and I should disgrace myself, did I slacken my efforts in the slightest degree; it is therefore peculiarly satisfactory to me to enjoy the approbation of those from whom I usually differ. It is an additional gratification to me to reflect, that the principles of trade which we maintain are not the doctrines of any sect or party; they are the cherished sentiments of the most eminent amongst all parties; and were I not myself one of their most strenuous advocates, I would say that they were supported by all the wisest men alive. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. ELLICE expressed his concurrence in the measures to which the Right Hon. Gentleman had alluded, as far as the alteration in the banking system was concerned.

Mr. HUME expressed his concurrence with many of the opinions contained in the Chancellor of the Exchequer's speech, but thought the Hon. Member did not carry his financial statement to a period sufficiently distant. That general concurrence he acknowledged, without considering himself bound to approve of the King's Speech.—Much had been said in praise of the Bank of England, and of its great exertions in alleviating the late commercial distress; but he would no more thank that establishment for its conduct on that occasion, than he would the incendiary, who, after he had set fire to a house, should bring buckets of water to extinguish the conflagration which he himself had created. That establishment, by its system of advancing money upon mortgages and other unavailable securities, had shewn a pernicious example to the country banks, a practice that brought down ruin upon them in its consequences, and which, if that establishment had been exposed to the same shocks as the country bankers had been, would have shaken its boasted solidity to its foundation. The Bank had proved that they profited nothing by their experience in 1795; they still betrayed the same want of caution and prudence that had ever characterised them. As to the limitation of the new plan to the distance of 65 miles from London, he could not at all agree in it; it was wanted in London more than in any other part of the kingdom. (Hear, hear, hear.) He could not allow the faculty of prescience claimed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, relatively to the promised reduction of taxes. Were the reductions made? Were the burdens to be lightened? Was there any hope of a diminution of taxes held out in the Speech from the Throne? Was there a promise of any reduction of that large and extravagant military establishment, whose continuance all honest men deplored; an establishment large for any occasion, but monstrous for a time of peace.—In 1793, but four millions and a half were expended on that branch of our establishment, while now, in profound peace, the annual expenditure amounted to ten millions. What could be the reason—what could be the object—of keeping up such an excessive establishment in these times of tranquillity? In the year 1793, the amount of taxes did not exceed eighteen millions, yet now it was not less than fifty-five millions. Misery was stalking through the land; whence did it proceed—from the want of one-pound notes? No, rather from a superabundance of them—an excessive quantity of paper currency issued through the country by men of no responsibility or property, who having thus acquired fortunes without difficulty or risk, indulged in habits of expence and extravagance (easy come, easy go); and having lost the confidence of the public, terminated their course by the ruin of themselves, and all who trusted them; but the one pound notes did not work all the mischief. The real cause of the general distress was the extravagance of his Majesty's Government—(Hear, hear!)—The Hon. Gentleman proceeded at considerable length to complain of the establishments now kept up, and of the policy pursued by the Government with respect to Ireland. As to our colonies abroad, they were a burthen to the country, not an advantage. Their Governments swelled the list of Ministerial places; they were retained for the sole support of Ministerial favorites and courtly minions, and too often the reward of political delinquency. If we turn our eyes to the east it would be found, and it was a subject of regret that the King's Speech did not disclose a correct view of it. The reports laid on the table relative to that country were little better than blank paper, they contained no information. Every penny wasted on public objects in that country, was taken out of the pockets of the people of England. The Government must eventually take India into their own hands. The war added daily to the debt, and the people of England will thus be required to pay taxes for the payment of that debt. But what is the state of India? Victory after victory is announced; the British army gains the same glory now that it was used to win when I knew it. But what is the course of the war? (continued the Honourable Member)—Are there engagements? Does the army fight? Are there defeats? No; they cannot find an enemy; there are no conflicts, no victories; detachment after detachment is commanded to march to pestilential marshes, and arrives in them but to perish. Who is to be blamed for the waste of human life? The Ministers—the Ministers who first sent out an incompetent Governor, and then supported him in his incompetence, and that against the voice not only of India, but even of the Court of Directors; for he has lost even the confidence of that most confiding body. The Government that has supported all the improper, imbecile, injurious measures of Lord Amherst, is remotely guilty of all those measures, and responsible for their consequences. I call upon the Right Hon. the President of the Board of Control to contradict my assertions, and to justify the facts. Whether the Board of Control is the culpable party in this, or the Court of Directors alone, or both conjointly is difficult to be ascertained. But, at all events, the statements in the King's Speech, relative to India are inconsistent with the real facts of the case, and the most heavy responsibility lies on those who advised them. As to the currency, the entire system ought to be revised and improved—none should be allowed to issue notes but men of undoubted solvency. Eight or ten millions of taxes ought to be repealed; that measure alone would remove more evils than all the rest put together.

Mr. T. WILSON contended, that the Silk Trade was different from all others, both in the length of time necessary to create it, and in the greater facility of smuggling the material. He would not then enter into an argument upon the subject, but gave notice of his intention to bring it under the consideration of the House, unless some alteration were made in the Corn Laws. When an alteration was being made relatively to the duties on imported silk, an alteration in the Corn Laws was promised—that promise ought not to be forgotten.

Mr. J. SMITH was of opinion that the imperfect statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, if not more fully explained, would increase the alarm among the commercial classes. He differed from many of the Right Hon. Gentleman's opinions. He was convinced that the country banks had produced much misery to the poor. He had in the course of his profession seen irresistible proofs of it. The plan of Joint-Stock Banking Companies would have the effect of creating confidence in them, and of diminishing the credit of old establishments. He regretted that the Right Hon. Gentleman did not state the time of the commencement of his plan, whether in a week, a month, or two months. This certainly would tend to bring back the late panic. On the system of establishing Joint-Stock Banking Companies he should give his support to the Right Honourable Gentleman, provided he gave no privileges to particular persons. Though he was a partner in an old established bank, and was aware that the intended plan would affect existing banks, still he should give it his support.

Mr CANNING supported the views of ministers, in a speech of considerable length, which we reserve for another opportunity.

Mr CALCRAFT congratulated himself that he had, so far from being a supporter, or a party of any of the new schemes to which so many of the present calamities of the country might be fairly ascribed, had steadily opposed them. He vindicated the country Bankers generally from the imputation of having, in any considerable degree, contributed to the production of the present distress, and animadverted on the inconsistency of ascribing the deplorable condition of the mercantile world to excessive issues of paper, and at the same time proposing as a remedy measures, the manifest tendency of which was to increase such issues.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER explained.—He had never stated the issue of small notes as one of the remedies for the distress.

Mr GRENFELL rose merely to add his tribute of applause to the Bank, both for its spirited and energetic interference at the moment of greatest alarm, and for the concession it had just consented to make. As he had frequently thought it his duty to animadvert with some warmth upon the conduct of its Directors, he could not be silent upon the present occasion.

Mr ALEXANDER BARING trusted the Right Hon. Gentleman opposite would take the earliest opportunity of laying before the House the full details of his plan. He did not see what objection could exist to a short bill, compelling Country Bankers to make a return of the amount of their paper in circulation. This could not hurt their credit. It was not as if they were called upon to give an account of their assets. The Hon. Gentleman deprecated any thing like precipitation in applying the remedies which he thought it might be necessary to adopt, whilst the fever of anxiety still agitated the public mind. It had long been the opinion of the Hon, Member that the Bank of England itself did not risk, on so broad a base of capital, as the function it had to perform, and the altered situation of the country required. It was not now in proportion to the great private fortunes of individuals so powerful as it had once been. The determination of Government to have the basis of currency gold, when other nations had been content with silver, against the policy of which the Hon. Gentleman had frequently protested in that House, greatly increased the dangers of a paper currency. There were capitalists in the money market of sufficient power, if their interest should at any time prompt them to make the attempt, greatly to obstruct and embarrass the Bank in procuring the necessary supplies of gold if a war or any other public calamity should concur with their efforts. To remove this danger the Bank should be rendered more powerful by an increase of its capital. The Hon. Gentleman in adverting to the condition of the silk manufacturers, considered it right for Ministers to speak at once decidedly their determination on the question of foreign importation. It was at least fit that the poor creatures so deeply interested in that question should be kept in no suspence. For his own part he differed from the view generally taken of the subject. He did not believe that in that particular article England could compete with France, but thought on the contrary, that the experiment now about to be made, would operate the entire destruction of the British manufacture.

Mr. HUSKISSON had listened with great satisfaction to the excellent speech of the Hon. Gentleman. He felt in common with the House, that the experience on all subjects connected with commerce, possessed by the Hon. Gentleman, entitled his opinion to the greatest attention. At that hour, and on that occasion, he would not trouble the House at any length. He would beg leave, however, to say, in answer to those parts of the Hon. Gentleman's speech, in which he repeatedly and urgently called for the speedy exposition of the details of the plan of my Right Hon. Friend, that the question of the surrender of the Bank Charter to the extent to which the Directors had agreed to it had yet to be discussed by the Court of Proprietors; that the discussion could not take place before to-morrow; and that, therefore, no imputation of unnecessary delay could attach to Government. The Right Hon. Gentleman was sure that no procrastination would take place. His Right Hon. Friend had introduced that night a statement which he was happy to find had met with the concurrence of every Gentleman in the House. The intention was not as his Hon. Friend had stated, to withdraw suddenly from circulation a large portion of the country paper. In the case of a sudden deprivation of the country notes, he admitted much difficulty might occur. It was necessary to take care the measures proposed would not have the effect of annihilating the paper currency circulated in the country. It was not intended to adopt any means by which the circulation of country paper would be totally suspended. He agreed with his Right Hon. Friend that withdrawing eighteen millions of country paper would, during the present state of commerce, be productive of much inconvenience, but the object was only to withdraw gradually from circulation one and two pound notes, which could not exceed eight millions. If notes to that amount were withdrawn from circulation, there must still be observed caution and care in the mode by which they would be withdrawn. It was therefore proposed to withdraw the notes gradually, and supply the deficiency by a metallic currency. His Hon. Friend's view of the removal of these notes, was not to legislate upon the subject, let the country paper, without any new enactments, wear itself out. His Hon. Friend also conceived that some new and important project was in hand for altering the banking establishment, and it was suggested that a measure should be adopted with respect to the period at which the Bank of England would promote an alteration in the banking system. He could not understand the change contemplated to be a new banking establishment. It was not the establishment of joint stock companies, but to remove an obstacle thrown by the law in the establishment of banking concerns. It was illegal for any number of partners exceeding six to carry on a banking concern, and by enabling Liverpool, Manchester, and other trading towns to strengthen their Banking Firms must be highly advantageous, inasmuch as property would receive more protection. The Right Hon. Gentlemen would see any danger in the proposed measure, but at the same time he should say it would be desirable to allow some reasonable distance from the passing of the Act to the time it shall take effect. It would be necessary to give the Bankers the power to make new banking establishments, and allow their creditors time to wind up their accounts. It certainly would not be prudent to distress those who had running credit with their bankers. The Right Hon. Gent. thought six months from the passing of the Bill to the time it came into operation, would be ample to give every body an opportunity to avoid inconvenience. If all persons who had stood in the situation of creditors to bankers were compelled to wind up their accounts before the end of six months, it might be felt as an inconvenience. He had risen for the purpose of giving this explanation to the House, and his hope was that that measure, when proposed, would be adopted. He had no intention to touch on the general topics of his Majesty's Speech; wishing to reserve himself for particular subjects, when regularly brought under discussion. His Hon. Friend had alluded to confusion which might occur. He could only say that it was intended not only to avoid confusion, but to strengthen and preserve confidence. The Rt. Hon. Gent. was desirous of adverting to some observations which had been made relating to a project for a joint stock company, instituted to the injury of the silk trade, and represented as a scheme of overwhelming magnitude. What was the history of this? In the course of last year some persons connected with Ireland were of opinion, there was an opportunity of raising silk in that country by planting mulberry trees. They also thought it might open a new branch of commerce, and benefit Ireland. They came to the Right Hon. Gentleman and made the proposition to be established by charter. The parties in Ireland thought they might adopt the plan with success. The Right Hon. Gentleman and others, particularly a Noble Earl, and a Noble Marquis. Peers of Parliament, considered the plan applicable to the colonies. It was thought it might be worth the consideration of the Planters. It might be better than the growth of produce which required the employment of slaves, and advantageous to those colonies which complained of distress. The scheme was considered one of experiment, and that it was derirable to try it. The promoters of the scheme were unwilling to expend their means without a charter, and they communicated a desire that a charter should be granted. They obtained a charter, and applied to a Noble Marquis (Marquis of Lansdowt) himself and others to become honorary members of the company. A letter was also addressed to the Right Hon. Gentleman and the Noble Marquis, to hold a number of shares. The answer to that letter was—they had no other motive in promoting the experiment than the benefit of the public; and as to any share in it, that might be bought, it was out of the question. They took no shares. The Right Hon. Gentleman gave this explanation, because these transactions were subject to misrepresentation.—(Hear!)

Mr. BARING explained.

The Question was put from the Chair, and carried *nem dis.* The usual Committee was then appointed to prepare and present the Address.—Adjourned at ELEVEN O'CLOCK.

SPEECH of the KING of FRANCE.

The French Chamber opened their Session on Tuesday, (31st. ult.) The Speech of his Majesty Charles X., has not much in it, upon which politicians can comment. With the exception of the declaration, that his Most Christian Majesty continues to receive, from all his august Allies, assurances of their amicable dispositions, the topics alluded to are nearly all of a domestic character, and relate to matters purely of a national concern. The Speech commences by stating that there existed no necessity, in the judgment of his Majesty, for anticipating the period originally fixed, for calling the Chambers together; and his Majesty therefore expresses the satisfaction he feels, at not having "abridged the repose on which they were allowed to depend." The death of the Emperor Alexander is briefly deplored, as the loss of "one of the most magnanimous;' of his Majesty's allies. The Convention concluded with Great Britain, for the purpose of rendering more uniform the condition to which the reciprocal navigation of the two kingdoms, and their colonies is subject, is described as a measure from which his Majesty anticipates happy results for the maritime commerce of France. The fate of St. Domingo being fixed, it is intimated that one of the subjects to which the Chambers will have to direct their attention, will be a law for the division of the indemnity, which has been reserved for the ancient planters. His Majesty assures them that the progress of the national prosperity will allow of the reduction of those burdens which press most on the people; but it is also intimated that increased allowances will be proposed to the Ministers of Religion. The most important part of the Speech is that which relates to the law of primogeniture, and the intended modifications of the existing laws as affecting the distribution of property.—*Courier.*

IMPORTANT MEETING AT THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

A very numerous and highly respectable meeting of proprietors of Bank Stock took place on Friday morning at the Bank of England, for the purpose of receiving an important communication from the Directors on the subject of the correspondence which had taken place between them and his Majesty's Ministers relative to the proposed alteration in the currency of the country. At twelve o'clock the chair was taken, and the Secretary immediately proceeded to state the ject of the meeting, and to read the correspond in question, with other papers connected w it. From a summary of these documents, it app ared that Ministers had requested the Bank of England to waive the privilege of their charter, whic prevent the establishment of Country Banks more than six partners in each firm, reser so much of the restriction as may limit the a onment to a distance exceeding sixty-five mi from London. It being the wish of Government to prevent a recurrence of the evils which have arisen from the existence of ephemeral banks, to abolish country notes of one and two pounds value within the space of two or three years, and to introduce a metallic currency. This proposal, after due deliberation, was acceded to by the Court of Directors, who, however, at the same time urged an extension of their charter, but without success, the First Lord of the Treasury and the Chancellor of the Exchequer having stated that they saw no prospect of such an application being attended to by Parliament. The Court of Directors then requested to know whether any opposition would be offered by his Majesty's Government to the establishment of Branch Companies of the Bank of England in the country. The reply to this was quite satisfactory to the views of the Directors, it being understood that Ministers would view such establishments with a very favourable eye.—Under all the circumstances of the case, the Court had signified their ass t, and now would submit to the Court of Proprietors, a resolution to the effect, that the recommendation of Government, for the abandonment of so much of their privilege as has been already stated, should be complied with. An attempt to carry an adjournment for ten days was subsequently made, and an addition to the original resolution—namely, that an application for an extension of their Charter to a period commensurate with that of the Bank of Ireland moved; but both were negatived, and the original motion carried by a great majority.

THE FUNDS.

London, Friday evening.—Neither the proceedings in Parliament last night, nor the meeting of the Bank Proprietors to-day, have produced any material alteration in the Funds, which declined about ¼ per cent. in the prices of the morning.—They left off as follows:—Reduced, 80⅞; Consols, 79⅜; do. for Account, 75⅝; 3¼ per Cents. 89; 4 per cents. 96¾; Exchequer Bills, 1 dis.; Bank Stock, 213.

The eminent banking and manufacturing house of Crewdson and Co. of Manchester, stopped payment on Saturday last.

A meeting of the Creditors of Mr. Whitaker the bookseller, was held on Thursday, by which it appears that the debts of that gentleman amount to £271,011 2s. 8d., and his assets to £246,354 0s. 3d. It was resolved at this meeting that the arrangement of the affairs should be confided to trustees, to whom the property should be conveyed.

PRICE OF IRISH STOCKS—FEB. 4.

	India	&c.	Wednes	Thurs.	Friday	Sat.
Bank Stock..	—	—	247	—	—	—
Irish 3pCt Cons	—	—	80⅜	80¼	—	—
Do. do Reduced	—	—	80⅜	—	—	80
Gov Deb 3½pCt	—	—	91⅛	91⅛	—	90⅝
Do Stock 3½pCt	—	—	89¾	88⅝	—	89⅛
Do. New 4p Ct	—	—	99⅜	97⅝	—	97⅝
G. Canal L 4pCt	—	—	—	—	—	—
Do. do. 6 pCt.	—	—	66⅔	—	—	—
R. Canal Stock	—	—	28½	28½	—	28⅜
Nat. Insur. pm	—	—	5 dis.	—	—	5½
Royal Irish..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Patriotic.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
St Patrick's In C	—	—	1½ dis	—	—	—
R Irish Mining	—	—	¾ pm.	—	—	1¼ pm
Imperial Min..	—	—	—	⅜ pm	—	—
Min. Co. of Ir.	—	—	¼ pm.	—	—	—
Hibernian Bank	—	—	4¼ dis.	—	—	4 dis
Provincial Bank	—	—	—	—	—	—

The Mail.

WATERFORD, FEBRUARY 8.

Our readers will perceive this publication that THE MAIL has been considerably enlarged—and from the important matter received since our last we are glad it has been in our power to fulfil the engagement made, earlier than we had anticipated. The addition made amounts to two columns of the former measure, making with the greater quantity used of a small type, in the week, a full *page* beyond the former contents of this Journal.

While we point out this unsolicited advantage given to our readers, we cannot forbear calling the attention of advertisers to the peculiar advantage they derive from advertising in a Journal which now circulates, we will venture to say, more widely than any Provincial Paper in Ireland.

The great length and importance of the articles inserted in this day's publication, prevent any comments of our own, and compel us to defer several of local interest to our next.

MR. GOODMAN'S SECOND BALL.

Mr. Goodman's second Ball took place, as announced, on Monday night, and it gave us infinite pleasure to observe was honoured by a numerous and most fashionable company. Mr Goodman's exertions to provide for the pleasure and entertainment of his visiters have been eminently entitled to public favour, and we feel doubly gratified in observing, that on this occasion, when those exertions were pre-eminently conspicuous, they were rewarded by the presence of the Marchioness of Waterford and Lady Sarah Beresford, Field Marshal and Lord Geo. Beresford, and a highly distinguished assembly. The extreme severity of the night, during almost the entire of which it blew a tremendous storm, prevented so very full an attendance as otherwise would have taken place: but we are happy to learn that Mr. G. shortly intends giving another ball, and that the Marchioness of Waterford has most kindly consented again to honor him by becoming a lady patroness, when we anticipate, in this respect, a more favourable result. Her Ladyship's distinguished party remained till four o'clock, and by their condescending affability and amiable courtesy, left the most lively impressions on the company. Among the company we noticed the Mayor, Mr. and the Hon. Mrs. Cox, Mr. and the Misses Congreve, Mrs. Dean Lee and Miss Lee, Mrs. R. P. O'Shea, Mr and the Misses Christmas, Madame Buonaparte Wyse and Miss Wyse, Mrs. Barron, Belmont, Mr. Power, Bellevue, Mr. and the Misses Humble, the Officers of 29th Regiment, Mr. and the Hon. Mrs. Mears and sister, Major and Mrs. Alcock, Mr. G. Bushe, Mr. A. Power, Kilfane, Geo. M. Wall and sons, &c. &c.

To the Editor of the Waterford Mail.

Sir—A letter having appeared in the Waterford Chronicle of Saturday last, and also in the *Mirror* of yesterday, signed Edmond Sheehan, I request of you to insert in your paper the following reply, in which I shall confine myself to some passages in Mr E. Sheehan's letter, which affect to discredit my former statement.—The first paragraph which I shall take occasion to notice, is thus expressed—"In 1823, I paid his Proctor, Mr Barron, £6. In 1824 he was paid £4"—from this it would seem to insinuate that a sum of money was now demanded which had been already paid. In refutation of which I subjoin the following letter, which I have received from Mr Barron:—

"Waterford, Feb. 4.

"REV. SIR—Having seen a letter in the *Waterford Chronicle* of this day, signed Edmond Sheehan, stating that I have been paid ten pounds for Tithes; as you might imagine that that sum or part thereof, was for Patrick Sheehan's Tithe, due to your father—I beg leave to state that *that* ten pounds was for three years' Rectorial Tithe, due to Lady May, and no part thereof for him. I also settled with Patrick Sheehan for his Tithe due to your father (namely for the years 1820, 21, 22, 23, and 24,) for £6 10s, which sum he has many times promised to pay.

"I am, Rev. Sir,
Your obedient servant,
"JOHN BARRON."

"To the Rev. John Cooke, jun.
Westland, Tramore."

I now come to a paragraph written in italics, on which I suppose the writer lays great stress—"I distinctly deny that my father solicited still further time, or that he expressed his grateful thanks." To this denial, so positively made by Mr Sheehan, (although not present at the time) I as positively repeat what I before stated. With the Church Wardens, whose conduct I have neither the power nor the inclination to screen from the public view, I certainly will not identify my father; they can answer for themselves, and will, I trust, wipe off those vile aspersions attempted to be cast on them by the Messrs. Sheehan. I am glad to find that Mr Edmond Sheehan does not deny the assault and rescue, and that I have no occasion of producing the records of the Court to prove that a true bill was found against his brother for them, by a Sessions Grand Jury.

With respect to the motives which induced the prosecutors to abandon their proceedings, and which he says could not have arisen from a submission or apology by the offending party, as none such had been ever "offered or made," I beg leave to submit the following affidavit:—

"County of Waterford to wit. } "Thomas Morgan, one of the Church Wardens of the Union of Drumcannon, maketh oath and saith, that a few days previous to the Quarter Sessions in which the assault and rescue case (alluded to in a letter addressed to the *Chronicle*, and signed "EDMOND SHEEHAN,") took place, that one of the sons of Patrick Sheehan called on deponent at his house, and then and there made an apology for what had been done, and requested him, the deponent, to give up the prosecution.

"THOS. MORGAN. "Sworn before me this 6th day of Feb. 1826.
"HENRY ALCOCK."

In reference to a passage, in which the writer (speaking of the Rev. John Sheehan) says, "His family have been persecuted on account of him, and he is sought to be wounded by dragging his family before the public." I beg leave to deny that his family have been "persecuted" either on his or any other account; on the contrary, much forbearance has been uniformly evinced towards them.

I remain, Sir,
Your obedient humble servant,
JOHN COOKE, jun.

Westland, Feb. 6, 1826.

We shall not offend our readers by noticing the low scurrility of the *Chronicle* of yesterday—it is of a piece with the valuable subject which it takes for the head; but we must observe that from beginning to end we never perused even in that respectable print such stupid and unmixed trash.

PUBLISHED BY WILLIAM DART.