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IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

House of Commons—Wednesday.

Mr. GRATTAN said, seeing the noble lord the Secretary for Ireland had taken his seat, he was very anxious to put a question to him on a subject of the utmost importance connected with the administration of justice in that country. A report had got abroad, and was pretty generally believed, that the time for commencing the circuits had been altered, after having been once fixed, some of them four days, and one even so much as a week. The reason given for such an extraordinary occurrence was a very strange one; it was said that a grand ball was to be given by a well known establishment in Dublin, and that it was found that the time fixed for it and for commencing the circuits was so near as materially to threaten the enjoyments of the bar. It was said, in fact, that the time for holding the circuits had been changed in order to allow the lawyers to dance at the ball. He wished to ask the noble lord whether the report was true?

Lord ELIOT said, if notice of the question had been given him, he would have been prepared to give a more circumstantial answer than he was then enabled to do. He was quite prepared, however, to say that he believed he might state that there was no foundation for the report—(hear, hear.) He was quite certain that no official communication had been made, or authority given, to postpone the circuits, and he felt certain that the judges never could have postponed them on the ground alleged.

Mr. GRATTAN said there had certainly been an alteration in the time fixed for the Munster circuit—(hear.)

Lord ELIOT said that, whatever alteration might have taken place, there was no foundation for the statement that that alteration was made in reference to the ball allued to.

Sir ARTHUR BROOKE presented a petition from the county of Fermanagh against the Irish poor laws.

COL. STODDART AND MR. CONOLLY.

Dr. BOWRING, seeing the right hon. baronet had just entered the house, hoped he would allow him (Dr. Bowring) to put the question of which he had given notice, whether the government had received any official account of the murder of Col. Stoddart and Mr. Conolly at Bokhara?

Sir R. PEEL said that the latest accounts the government had received on the subject to which the hon. gentleman had called the attention of the house, were contained in a despatch from Colonel Sheil, dated Teheran, the 12th of November. In that despatch Colonel Sheil stated several grounds that made it almost impossible to draw any other conclusion than that Colonel Stoddart and Mr. Conolly had been murdered by the Ameers of Bokhara. There was to the despatch a postscript, dated the 23d, in which Colonel Sheil said that he had seen an Affghan gentleman, commonly called Koomsedda, who had been formerly attached to Mr. Conolly, and who had arrived direct from Bokhara. The information brought by this person confirmed the report of the murder. All the interest that the representative of the Emperor of Russia possessed was exercised to save Col. Stoddart and Mr. Conolly, but in vain. He (Sir R. Peel) feared there was every reason to believe that the report was but too well founded.

DISTRESS OF THE COUNTRY—ADJOURNED DEBATE.

The order of the day having been read for resuming the adjourned debate,

Dr. BOWRING made statements descriptive of the great distress prevailing in Bolton, which he attributed to the restrictive system. If haste were not made, legislation would be too late. He only wished that the Premier and the Vice President of the Board of Trade would give effect to their own words, and put in practice the free trade principles which he professed. While the members of that house were revelling in luxury, would they tell the wretched people that nothing should be done for them? The opponents of free trade were doing as much injury in France as in this country. A relaxation was necessary, to take advantage of the terms of the Chinese treaty.

Mr. STUART WORTLEY condemned the violent and inflammatory language of the preceding speaker, and denied that the corn laws were the cause of the dearth and destitution that prevailed. If the corn laws were repealed to morrow, the price of bread would fall, but greater evils than the present ones would accompany the fall. The learned member ought not to reserve all his sympathy for those who were not engaged in cultivation, and to bear in mind that two thirds of the population were dependant on agriculture—(hear.) The hon. member then said he should oppose the motion for a committee, because he thought it would not effect the proposed object, and instanced other causes, exclusive of the corn laws, to account for the falling off in the American trade.—Her Majesty's government, by making relaxations with a view to the improvement of our external trade, and effecting what alterations could safely be made in the corn laws, had taken the course, a continuance in which would do more for the people than motions like that of Lord Howick.

Mr. WALLACE, in supporting the motion, enlarged upon the distress prevailing through the country, pervading all classes of society, and affecting every species of property. He read a variety of documents relative to the trade of Greenock, the depression of which it was impossible to attribute to the derangement of American finances, for it had not any connexion with that country, and concluded by calling on the house to enter upon this inquiry into the means of relief.

Mr. ESCOTT said that if any one would show how the committee could be made instrumental to relieve the distress, he would vote for the committee. But the mover had not stated what was his object; indeed, he had carefully abstained from stating even whether he was for a fixed duty or total repeal, apprehending that if he had proposed the former, he would have missed the support of the extreme Liberals, and if the latter he would have missed the support of the Whigs. This motion was brought forward on the chance that dissatisfaction might arise out of agricultural distress before the next general election; but the farmers would not fail to see that if the measures of the government, necessary for restoring the commercial interests, had consequently benefitted, as it was their nature to benefit, the country at large, their own interests must eventually be advanced by the policy which the government had so adopted. To the anti corn law league he would not impute improper motives; but he would remind them that when such combinations were once called by a noble lord the safety valves of the constitution, the answer had been that they were the boilers which excited the steam.—The party of the people at large, which belonged to neither extreme, was moderate and temperate, and desired that whatever might be at one time resolved on, should be effected with temper and caution.

Mr. C. WOOD supported the motion as one rendered necessary by the state of the country. The enormous increase of pauperism and insolvency in Leeds, and elsewhere, the falling off in wages, the increase in the proportion of deaths, and the spread of distress in the agricultural districts, proved that a state of more severe and general pressure was never before known in this country. The hon. mover had no party object; if such had been his view, his motion would have been for a committee on the state of the nation. The present course was in strict conformity with parliamentary precedent, and had not been adopted until after an explicit declaration from the minister that he himself had no intention of proposing any measure of relief. Much was said about the necessity of keeping up the home demand: but it was not to any want of home demand that the depression of trade had been owing; for the home buyers, the agriculturists, had for several years been obtaining good prices for their produce. They must look to foreign demand; they must carry the principle of last year's tariff a great deal further. Twelve articles, producing a revenue of £17,000,000 sterling, had been left by the tariff altogether untouched. In many of those on which the duty had been remitted, there had been already an increase of our import trade; and why, when the experiment had so far succeeded, was it not extended to other items also? Above all, he contended for the repeal of the present corn law, for the sake of the working classes, whose condition was always most prosperous when bread was cheapest. At present their condition was so bad, that great numbers of them, reduced to pauperism, were thrown back upon the rural districts of their settlements, aggravating the pressure of the surplus labour already existing there. From this burden the country parishes would be relieved by any fresh impulse to manufacturing industry. He contended that the sliding scale had failed to work the benefits promised from it, and that public opinion was advancing in favor of fixed duty as a fair basis for a compromise which might probably be permanent.

Sir J. GRAHAM said he believed when this motion was first placed on the paper that it was intended as a direct attack upon the existing government; and, notwithstanding that the noble lord (Howick) who brought it forward had disclaimed any such intention, yet the hon. member for Halifax had contrived by his speech to leave the matter once more in considerable doubt. The hon. member for Belfast (Mr. Ross,) who wished the government to proceed in the course pursued last session, might perhaps pause if the government in following out that course were to allow a free importation into Ireland, and, in order to sustain a falling revenue, were to impose the income or the assessed taxes upon that country. The right hon. baronet read some tables, showing the extent of mortality in the autumn quarter of 1842, in various towns as compared with the mortality in the corresponding quarter of the three preceding years, in the same towns, proving that in the year 1842 the number of deaths was less than in those antecedent; from which fact it might be inferred that great as was the distress last autumn it was nevertheless greatly exaggerated. It was his belief that among the concurrent causes of distress none was more fatal than an unsound system of credit (hear)—combined with the stimulus given to the use of machinery, a stimulus not the creation of industry, but having its rise in a false credit given to persons undeserving of it, and who, on winding up their accounts were only able to pay five shillings in the pound (hear). Honourable gentlemen opposite pretended to say that this was not a question for the repeal of the corn laws—that that question was reserved for the hon. member for Wolverhampton on another night; but the hon. member for Wolverhampton, the steady and consistent advocate of an entire repeal, was warned from the benches immediately opposite him (Sir J. Graham,) that an entire repeal would not be agreed to in that quarter; and that a fixed duty was the remedy there intended. They talked of a fixed duty; but the hon. member for Halifax had introduced something of a sliding scale even into his fixed duty; first he began with a moderate duty, then he proceeded to a small—(no, no, from Mr. Charles Wood.)—Oh! he begged pardon; the hon. member began with moderate, proceeded to reasonable, and then slided down to a small fixed duty (laughter, and no, no, from Mr. Charles Wood.) He did not desire to enter into a controversy with the hon. member as to the words he had used; but unless he (Mr. C. Wood) had disclaimed them, he (Sir J. Graham) would have felt very confident that the hon. gentleman had said, "I am prepared to vote for a moderate, reasonable, small fixed duty (laughter).

Mr. C. WOOD was understood to say that he might have used the words, but not in the sense attached them.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM—Oh, yes! It was quite probable that even to a moderate, reasonable, small fixed duty the leaders of that great and united party were not prepared to pledge themselves (cheers and laughter.) The hon. gentleman was then pleased to say that the tariff of last session was an inadequate measure, and the honourable member for Sheffield had called it "a miserable pittance of commercial reform;" but many honourable gentlemen on the other side of the house had spoken more fairly, and formed a more just estimate of that measure; and had done his right honourable friend and the government the justice to say that it was not only a step in the right direction, but a large and important step (hear, hear). He doubted whether, in the commercial history of this or any other country, so great a change had ever before been made in its tariff in so short a time. He would refer shortly to the measures effected by that tariff. With hardly a single exception prohibitory duties had been abolished; the duty on articles of raw produce, speaking generally, had been reduced to five per cent., and on half manufactured articles to a maximum of ten per cent, and on manufactured articles to a maximum of from 15 to 20 per cent.—Our colonial system, too, underwent a most material alteration; and foreign products might now be imported from the colonies at a duty varying from four to seven per cent. The export duties on all articles had been swept away—(Lord Howick—All articles!)—oh! the coal duty was still rankling in the bosom of the noble lord; but his right hon. friend the Vice President of the Board of Trade had demonstrated that that, as a measure introduced for purely fiscal purposes, had been completely successful without at all injuriously affecting the trade. The debate, however, in the hands of hon. gentlemen opposite naturally glided to the budget of 1841; and, with reference to the timber duties, the right hon. gentleman opposite had attempfed to establish some inconsistency in the conduct of the government; and, in the distress of his case, he had said "Upon these questions let the late government be tried by their language and conduct during the time they held office." Now, as to language, he knew not to what the hon. gentleman particularly referred, unless, when talking of the total repeal of the corn laws, he referred to the declaration of Lord Melbourne, that "Of all the conceptions which ever entered into the mind of man, the most mad was the total repeal of the corn laws" (hear, hear.) Again, as to the language of the late government, they had still to hear the amicable explanation between the noble lord the member for the city of London and the hon. member for Stockport, who had charged the former with being a monopolist, because the noble lord refused to support the total repeal of the corn laws (hear.) And both those noble lords adhered to their opinions to the present time, as appeared by the letters which they had recently addressed to the anti corn law league—(hear, hear.) Now, as to the conduct of the government—the right hon. gentleman opposite had been a member of the late government, which had been in office for eleven years; and instead of referring to the acts passed by them during that period, he had contented himself with a repetition of the threadbare argument against the timber duties; the alteration of which by the late government, it was said, had failed in consequence of a combination of parties on that side of the house. As to the remarks made upon the propriety of more freely admitting foreign sugar, what would be thought of the sincerity of this country if, after what was going on with France and Portugal, she took any step that could be construed into the most indirect encouragement of the slave trade? As to the corn laws, he desired to meet that question candidly and fairly. He had heard with satisfaction the speech of the hon. member for the county of Durham. They had been bandying all sorts of crimination and recrimination as to free trade principles. Who were the authors of them—who had sustained, and who deserted them? But, in fact, they were not much in dispute in that house—(hear, hear)—they were the principles of common sense—(hear, hear)—the time had long gone by when this country could exist as a pure agricultural country (hear, hear.) We were a commercial people—(hear, hear)—and whilst this country remained as she was, the mistress of the seas, she must be the emporium of the commerce of the world (hear, hear)—and here he was quite satisfied that agricultural prosperity, independent of commercial prosperity, could not long exist (cheers.) He went further, and agreed with his right hon. friend that, with a population increasing by about 320,000 souls per annum, it was subsequently necessary that extension should be given to the fields of our commerce—and that no party was more interested in that extension than the landed interest (hear, hear.) The tendency of population was always to press upon the means of subsistence. That population must be employed—it could only be employed by the payment of wages—wages could only be paid out of profits—and profits could only arise out of an effective sale of the products of labor (hear, hear.) The hon. gentleman said these were his principles—they were the principles of every man of common sense in the kingdom (hear, hear.) Without discussing the idle question on which side of the house these principles most prevailed, he would ask, what was the duty of a statesman? He conceived that it was the duty of a statesman to apply general principles to particular circumstances—(cheers)—and the particular circumstances of this country required this difficult, but not unattainable object to be aimed at—that there should be the greatest possible field for the export of British commodities consistent with the least possible derangement of native industry (hear.) The honorable member for Manchester, then, admitted what he had said—(no, no)—then he (Mr. M. Gibson) would proceed, reckless of consequence, to derange everything—(hear, and cheers.) He could conceive nothing more fatal to the interests of those whom the hon. member represented than a serious derangement of the home market (hear, hear.) He had one more authority which he thought hon. gentlemen opposite would not dispute; for it was the authority of the great apostle of free trade, the Coryphoeus of modern philosophers, who had lately been admitted a member of the French Institute, Mr M'Culloch, and from the last edition of his "Political Economy."

Mr. M. GIBSON—Take the first edition.

Sir J. GRAHAM—Antiquated notion. (laughter.) This was Mr. M'Culloch's new light upon the subject; and he said, a population depended so much upon the wages of manufacturing labour must be seriously liable to have its interests compromised, not only by seasons of scarcity, and by derangements of the home market, but also by changes and the operation of varying circumstances on the foreign markets; and a population so situated is in a perilous situation, and yet we seem as if we had done little more than enter on this hazardous career. Our manufactures are extending on all sides: it has been estimated that 220,000 individuals are annually added to the manufacturing population; perhaps, in the end, this was an unfortunate state of things, perhaps it would have been better long since to have admitted measures to moderate and check its growth. He (Sir J. Graham) did not say that—(hear)—but he entirely agreed with what followed:—"But, at present, nothing of that sort can be thought of; whether for good or evil, we are too far advanced to think of retreating—(hear, hear.) But if I am right in these statements, the important inference which must be drawn from them is this—that manufactures should be regarded as subordinate to agriculture and other more staple occupations of capital; and that there is good reason to believe that they have a far less salutary influence when they constitute the paramount interest in the country. Because it was desirable to extend our manufacture in cotton, woollen, and hardware, it did not follow that our cotton, woollen, and hardware manufactures might not be disproportionably extended, in the same way as the safety of the largest and best built ship may be endangered by crowding too much sail"—(hear, hear, hear.) These were sentiments which demanded caution in their progress upon this subject; and in his (Sir J. Graham's) opinion, any great and sudden change in the domestic economy of this country could not be consistent with its permanent prosperity—(hear, hear.) The idea was well expressed in the lines—

"A tampering world is subject to this curse;
They physic the disease into a worse."

The right hon. gentleman, the member for Taunton, however, had said that when the ship was in danger there was no objection to a chance passenger taking the helm.

Mr. LABOUCHERE—When the regular pilot would not.

Sir J. GRAHAM—Yes, but for that, one thing is necessary—to dispossess the pilot of the rudder—(laughter.) Now, really he should be glad if he could induce any gentleman opposite to tell them frankly what was their purpose. His right hon. friend said that he was not prepared to abandon the helm; he admitted the peril; he saw the danger on every side; he proposed to adhere steadily to the course which he had marked out; and he was confident that in so doing, he could steer the vessel safely through the storm—(hear.) A chance passenger wishes to possess himself of the helm—(loud cheers and laughter)—let him, then, frankly avow his purpose—(cries of hear, hear.) If they had no confidence in the government, let them see whether their own House of Commons, elected under their own auspices, was prepared to revoke the decision to which they came fifteen months ago, and to declare that they had no longer any confidence in the present government; that was an intelligible proposition; quite parliamentary—perfectly legitimate—but if they would not avow that purpose, he entreated them not to disturb, for no good purpose, those questions, and urge upon their successors a stroke of their own policy, remarkable for its facility to disturb anything—(hear)—and no less famous for its incapacity to settle and establish anything—(cheers.) On the other hand, let them consider the difficulties which they had to meet—consider really what they had done within the last fifteen months. It had been admitted before them that the position of the country was irretrievable if there was not some reduction in the price of the principal article of consumption; and though he did not claim for the government the whole credit of that reduction—a bountiful Providence having by an abundant harvest done more than man could—(hear, hear)—yet it could not be denied that, indirectly, their measures had had a beneficial effect. In China they had brought war (as he thought most unfortunate in its commencement) to a victorious close; in India they had retrieved great disasters; in Canada they had given contentment, and established a government which enjoyed the confidence of the united provinces; with the United States of America that had advanced far in the settlement of all those questions which had endangered the peace of those two great countries; in France they had succeeded in soothing that ascerbity of feeling which the interruption of friendly relations had created; and on whatever issue they put it, unless government had forfeited the good opinion of the house by some act of which he was not aware, that doubtful motion, unworthy of the position and character of him who brought it forward, would be marked with the disapprobation of the house by a decisive and commanding majority—(loud cheers.)

Mr. WALLACE said a few words in explanation.

Mr. P. BORTHWICK moved the adjournment of the debate—(cries of "Go on, go on.") He would readily give way to any other honourable member, but he could not think of troubling the house at that hour.

(Several calls were then made for Mr. M. Gibson.)

Mr. M. GIBSON said that he would not trespass upon the house at that hour.

The debate was then adjourned, upon the motion of Mr. BORTHWICK.

The forgery of exchequer bills bill was brought in by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and read a first time.

The house then adjourned at twelve o'clock.

House of Lords—Thursday, Feb. 16.

MISAPPREHENSION AND MISTRANSLATION.

Lord BROUGHAM was extremely anxious to restate what he had, on a former evening, mentioned with respect to the negociations which had been carried on between this country and America, as regarded the question of right of search, because it had been misapplied by those who considered the French as correct in resisting all right of search because the Americans did. They said the Americans had resisted it successfully, because they had succeeded in getting the word "America" struck out of the treaty. Now, the Americans succeeded to this extent only, that on their coast the right of search was not to be practised, just as the coast of England, Ireland, and Scotland were exempted in any other transaction. But the American vessels on the coast of Africa or the West Indies suspected of being engaged in the slave trade were liable to be searched by our cruisers. Now he was on his legs he might as well mention a misapprehension of what had fallen from him, which had given great offence in France. He had been represented in the French papers as having asserted that a million of persons in that country were friendly to slavery, whereas, in point of fact, he said that there was not one in a million—(hear)—a very wide difference.

The LORD CHANCELLOR thought it was a mistranslation.

Lord BROUGHAM believed that it was so.

On the motion of Lord CAMPBELL, leave was given the select committee inquiring into the state of the law of libel and defamation to report the evidence taken from time to time.

Some petitions were presented.

In answer to a question put by Earl FITZWILLIAM, whether any account was ready to be produced of the money received under the authority of the Queen's letter of last year, and the way it was applied.

Lord WHARNCLIFFE said he would make an inquiry and give an answer tomorrow.

Adjourned at half past five.

House of Commons—Thursday, Feb. 16.

A conversation occurred between Dr. Bowring and Mr. Ferrand respecting a correspondence which had taken place between the latter gentleman and certain individuals in Glamorganshire, charging the learned doctor with reaping exorbitant profits from a truck shop. The doctor said there was not the smallest foundation for the statement.

Sundry petitions were presented and notices of motions given.

An interchange of facetiæ, upon the differences between "new mills" and "new persons," ensued between Sir J. Graham and Mr. M. Gibson. The former stated that he meant "new constructions," by the new mills mentioned in Inspector Hornet's report, as having been erected in 1842 in the district of that officer.

Mr. LABOUCHERE wished to know whether it was the intention of government, in the course of the present session, to alter the duties upon corn imported from Canada to this country?

Lord STANLEY said he was quite prepared to give the answer which the hon. gentleman desired, although he thought the papers on the table of the house might have rendered it unnecessary. As the law now stood corn imported into Canada, and there converted into flour, was considered as colonial produce, and was admitted into this country at a duty, the maximum of which was 5s and the minimum 6d. In the course of the last session, in reply to a motion submitted by the hon. member for Limerick, (Mr. J. O'Brien,) the purport of which was to admit colonial wheat at a nominal duty, he (Lord Stanley) said the government had already written to the governor general, for the information of the Canadian legislature, that there was much difficulty in legislating upon the subject, because of the free importation of American wheat into Canada, and he had no hesitation in saying that the despatch alluded to bore upon the face of it the distinct admission that if that objection were removed by the imposition of an equivalent duty upon the importation of wheat into Canada, there would be every disposition on the part of her Majesty's government to consider the importation of all wheat from Canada as its own produce. The legislature of Canada had acted upon the suggestion, and passed a law which would come into operation in July next, if fully approved of. He had written for further details. Admitting the principle, he wished to guard against fraud; and he expected that the information would reach him before April, when he would lose no time in laying his proposed measure before the house. In conclusion, he would say that the Canadian legislature had put a proper construction upon the despatch alluded to.

Mr. G. PALMER moved for a select committee to inquire into the shipwreck of British vessels, and the means of preserving the lives and property of shipwrecked persons.

The motion was agreed to, and

Captain GORDON stated that since the late shipwrecks of a convict and a transport ship at the Cape of Good Hope a new mode of surveying had been adopted.

DISTRESS OF THE COUNTRY—ADJOURNED DEBATE.

Mr. BORTHWICK resumed the debate and declared himself opposed to Lord Howick's motion. If that noble lord was aware of any legislative remedy for the distress complained of, why had he not as a member of the house, and *a fortiori* as a member of the late government, propounded that remedy long since? Nay, why did he not propose it forthwith to the house, instead of calling for a committee! If there now appeared a dawn of returning prosperity, nothing would so much tend to overcast it as a compliance with the present suggestion. All that the noble lord intimated was a desire to advance in the direction of free trade; but he and his friends would come to no agreement at all among themselves about the length to which that advance should extend.—(Hear, hear.) Great as was the present distress, the government were entitled to say that it proved nothing against the ultimate virtue of their measures, which though they augmented the outward symptoms of the disease, were yet perhaps steadily working out the cure; but meanwhile the state of agriculture was very unprosperous, insomuch that a farmer with a large capital could not obtain even seven and a half per cent. as the joint fruit of his investment and his labor, while the merchant and the manufacturer expected 25 per cent. The partisans of these interests, while they railed against class legislation, talked as if there were no class but their own, and inflamed the passions of the people against the agriculturists by false allegations, such as that of Dr. Bowring's poetical rhapsody about the bread tax stalking from hovel to hovel and spreading a mass of misery, with which in sober truth it had not the remotest connection. Mr. Borthwick, after ridiculing the moderate philosophers and their notable discovery that two and two make four, enforced the policy of cultivating the good feeling of foreign countries, and negociating commercial treaties, instead of tampering with the protection of agriculture at home. Even if the repeal of that protection were just, he would not grant it to the agitation and the threats by which it was now demanded.

Sir C. NAPIER considered the statements of Sir James Graham respecting the diminution of mortality in the last year, as tending to the extraordinary conclusion, that the more the people suffer from starvation the longer they live. He urged a remission in the high duties on the wines of Portugal, both for the sake of the British consumer, and as a necessary condition of obtaining from that country a treaty favourable to our own commerce. The distress among the shipbuilders was, in his opinion, mainly attributable to the growth of steam. He called for a reduction of the sugar duties, condemning the imposition of a general burden for the sake of the particular class of West India proprietors, and he contended, in a jocular strain, for a compromise on the corn question, in the shape of a fixed duty.

Mr. COCHRANE, admitting the present distress to be not less than even that of 1817, yet scouted the notion that the corn law was the only or the main cause of it. He found one of its chief causes in the rapid increase of our population. He condemned the tone of the Anti Corn Law League. True, they only spoke daggers, they used none; but their language would rouse other and braver men, who would use such weapons. They foretold ruin if their councils were not followed; and it certainly was easy for men who carried a torch to prophesy destruction. He believed that a great part of the existing evil was owing to the want of confidence in the permanence of the present corn law. During a state of uncertainty as to the law regulating the production of corn, how could the occupier venture to plant or drain? Nothing would do so much to re-establish a wholesome state of things as a distinct assurance from the minister that the present protection should be maintained.

Mr. VILLIERS said the market for our produce was not equal to our powers of production. Sir R. Peel admitted the principles which would lead to an enlargement of the market, but stop short in effectuating them. It had been urged by Mr. Gladstone in support of protection, that it had existed for centuries, under a succession of often-changed laws. But what did these frequent changes of law demonstrate? Why, that in no shape had the principle succeeded. It was the same principle as that of the people in the home counties, petitioning against the improvement, lest they should lose their monopoly of supplying the metropolis. He ridiculed the idea of trying treaties and other remote means; it reminded him of the man who had a lean horse, and complained to his friend, that though he had tried many receipts, he had never been able to bring the animal into condition. The friend just asked him, "Did it ever occur to you to try corn?"

Lord SANDON enlarged on the advantages of a home trade as compared with a foreign one. Gentlemen opposite seemed, however, to think that the word trade was applicable only to dealings with foreigners; and wholly forget that agriculture is itself a trade, and the greatest trade of all. Much was said about the probable benefit of getting corn from America in exchange for British goods; but if the corn trade were thrown open, the supply of grain would come hither, not from remote America, but from the nearer Baltic. The advocates of repeal talked as if our difficulty in getting payments from America arose from our refusal to take her corn; but the American debtors of England were not the corn growers, but the merchants.—This was a vain, unprofitable debate, and seemed to have no object except a vent for the fixed air which has been pent up during the recess. To adopt the now suggested remedy would be but to sacrifice a great interest and a certain trade for a contingency and a hazard.

Mr. MUNTZ did not approve of this motion; it was not straightforward and English; but knowing how much the people were distressed he should vote for it. Sir R. Peel had reduced some duties, but the country was very little the better for it. The wages of the laborer were kept too low in proportion to the price at which bread was maintained. Gentlemen viewed these questions through Tory spectacles, or Whig spectacles, or Radical spectacles, but never through natural ones.

Mr. PATRICK STEWART questioned the accuracy of the indicia of improvement adduced by Sir James Graham, and asserted the unabated continuance of distress. According to the practice of this house, it was not a valid objection to a motion for inquiry into any evil, that the mover proposed no specific remedy. There were three great causes of distress—the artificial price of bread, the taxes on the consumption of the poor, and the complication and confusion created by the laws affecting trade. He inveighed against the existing corn laws, which he thought too like its predecessors to be permanent; and quoted an article in a recent review, supposed to be from the pen of Mr. Gladstone's speech in this debate. He appealed to the conscience of members, and warned them, lest, when they returned to their constituents, they should be unpleasantly reminded that "party is the madness of many for the gain of a few."

Mr. COLQUHOUN ascribed our difficulty in the American, French, and German markets, to the high duties imposed there, and quoted eminent commercial authorities in confirmation of that opinion. However largely you might talk of free trade principles, you would not persuade other nations to forego their domestic protections. They would still point to our success, and continue their endeavours to rise by the means to which, rightly or wrongly, they ascribe the commercial greatness of England. He entered into evidence to show that among the great causes of the present distress are excessive competition and over production; and he pointed out the additional disadvantage sustained from the derangement, perhaps unavoidable, of our foreign relations which, during several years of the late government, had excluded us from many important markets. And now, to compensate the loss of these branches of commerce, it was proposed to strike a blow at the home trade! He would resist such a proposal, not solely for the sake of the agriculturists, but also for the sake of the manufacturers themselves, whose goods the home trade at present consume to the amount of £138,000,000 per an. He gave some calculations to show the great benefits produced by the tariff to a workman earning £50 a year, and explained and praised the caution with which the tariff had been constructed.

Mr. ROBERT BARING apprehended that the ministerial party, little satisfied with the previous course of the debate, had put up the home secretary on the preceding night to make a stout speech; and that right hon. gentleman had treated this motion as a party proceeding, intended to turn out the government. But the motion was, in fact, brought forward with no such purpose. Then it was objected that nothing specific had been proposed; but if a member of opposition must not bring forward such a motion without his specific proposals and details—his sugar duties or his corn duties—why really the thing was over.—(This *naivete* was received with bursts of laughter.) It was admitted that the principles of free trade were the principles of common sense, and he and his friends therefore called on the government to advance them. The government answered, "We made great changes last year, and we don't like to disturb the subject again so "suddenly." Now, it was true that to disturb a subject was an evil, when that subject was in a settled state; but was there now any settled state of any of these subjects? Not of the sugar question; Jamaica had had an intimation that changes were in the wind respecting that matter. Several other duties, such as that on cheese, had been last year acknowledged to be indefensible, and must therefore be deemed now unsettled. Further changes yet were indicated in Mr. Gladstone's contribution to the Review. Was the corn question settled? Did any body, farmer or other, believe that it could very long be left in its present state? After the way in which the government had disappointed the farmers, the most explicit declaration did not inspire an absolute confidence; but, in fact, their declarations were not very explicit. There was nothing like finality professed. It was the bounden duty of the government to take some step for the relief of a distress like that which now oppressed the government.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that he had listened with great attention to the course of the debate, and to the speech of the right hon. gentleman who had just sat down, and who, he was bound to say, had contributed much to the amusement of the house (hear, hear, and a laugh.)—but he was still entirely at a loss to understand what useful object was contemplated by the motion of the noble lord (hear, hear.) The right hon. gentleman began by adverting to the form of the motion; and he denied that which had been hinted at by the hon. member for Taunton, that this was a vote of want of confidence; but how had the right hon. gentleman described it? It was a motion, he had said, calling on the government to take the proper remedies for the relief of the existing distress. If the motion were taken in that sense, and the opposition were to prescribe to the government the course which he was to take, what did that amount to but a vote of want of confidence? (hear, hear, hear.) Now he should like to know what course was to be pursued, supposing the noble lord carried his motion. What was to follow the appointment of the committee?—a resolution on the corn laws? and if so, was it to be the fixed duty of the right hon. gentleman who had just sat down—"the moderate, reasonable, and low" duty of the hon. member for Halifax, or the total repeal of the hon. member for Wolverhampton? (hear, hear.) Would they, or either of them, afford any relief to the distress of the country? What probability was there that any one of those proposals could be carried in the conflict of opinions which existed upon the subject on the other side of the house? None; and the committee would have to take refuge in the measures of last session; and yet the right honorable gentleman said that they could not settle the corn laws (hear and cheers.) He was perfectly well aware that after so material an alteration as that of last session, it was not difficult for parties who were so disposed, and who chose to employ their talents in decrying the existing law by pursuing their plans with ingenuity and labor, and by agitation, to create an uncertainty as to its effect upon individual interests (hear, hear.) But, if that system were pursued, there was, of course, an end to all settlement.—

(Hear, hear.) It had been said that it was convenient sometimes for a government to object to the form of a motion; but there was also, on the other hand, a convenience of proposing a motion which led to nothing, could lead to nothing and, because it led to nothing, all the conflicting elements of a party could join in supporting it; and if, therefore, there was any shirking of the question, it was rather on the part of those who proposed than of those who refused to entertain such a proposition (hear.) The right hon. gentleman had compared the present with Lord Chandos's motion in 1834, but that was a distinct proposition, that the duties affecting agriculture should be the first considered; but, on the present motion, he defied any man to say what was to be the next question on which they were to decide in committee (hear, hear.) In proportion as he felt deeply the distress of the country, so was he averse to any proceeding so utterly futile as the present: which appeared, indeed, little better than an insult to the distressed manufacturers (hear, hear.) The right hon. gentleman had claimed the whole merit of the principle of extending our markets by mitigating our commercial restrictions; but he confessed that he did not recollect an occasion when that principle had been disputed in the house; an indiscriminate repeal of duties had been sometimes objected to, but never that general principle; and the tariff of last year was the best evidence of the disposition of the government on that subject. It had now become a fashion to ridicule that tariff as insufficient; but if they called to mind the feeling with which it was in the first instance received, how many there were who declared that it went beyond their expectation, few would be found still to persist in its insufficiency (hear, hear). The honorable gentleman said there were many articles of the tariff to which no reduction would apply. He (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) admitted that fact, and that, under the necessity under which this country was placed of keeping up its revenue, it was impossible to deal rashly with the main branches of the revenue to satisfy the demands of free trade. The right honorable gentleman had asked what further alterations the government intended to make? But the right honorable gentleman knew well that declarations with regard to the revenue were those the most likely to excite apprehensions in the public mind, and that therefore he (the chancellor of the exchequer) would never bind himself, either at present or at any future occasion, to regulations with respect to trade, until the time arrived for making them. He would not undertake to say whether they were in contemplation, or whether they would be brought into execution, because such declaration would be most likely to involve the country in additional agitation (hear.) The right hon. gentleman adverted especially to the subject of sugar and corn. He had said that the government had not announced the course they would pursue with respect to sugar. But the sugar duties being in the nature of temporary duties, he would reserve himself until the time came for making any change in them, should such be hereafter deemed necessary. The right honorable gentleman objected to the present state of the law, and contrasted it with that which he proposed in his budget of 1841. But he should remember that whatever advantages had been anticipated by him from his proposed alteration, had been more than obtained by the rejection of that proposition, for sugar was now at a lower price to the consumer than would have been possible for the right honourable gentleman to have effected under his system of duties (hear.) The consumer, too, reaped this advantage without any violation of those principles of anti slavery for which Parliament had so long contended (cheers.) He (the chancellor of the exchequer) contemplated with the greatest satisfaction the fact that the government had not yielded to the proposition made by the right hon. gentleman; for they had been engaged since in negociations with foreign powers, and how would they have been able to make any representations on the subject of slavery if they had consented, for the sake of some pretended, not real, financial arrangement, to what would tend to the extension of the slave traffic?—(cheers.) The government had, however, adhered to those principles for which this country had during years spent its energies and its wealth, and by so doing they had secured to the country sugar at a price considerably under that which was anticipated by the right hon. gentleman under a different principle. At that period of the evening he would not touch on many points which had been urged by hon. members during the debate which he otherwise might notice, but he would content himself with merely stating that he objected to the motion of the noble lord, because it was calculated to deceive the people, and would, instead of relieving their distress, add to the poignancy of their sufferings the further evil of disappointment. He objected to it, because he could not admit it possible to adopt that universal freedom of trade which had been eulogised by hon. gentlemen at the other side of the house, and because, in whatever extension might be given to our trade, it was necessary to respect the financial arrangement of the country. He objected to the motion because it would convey the intention of some immediate alteration in the corn law, and he would not consent, with respect to an arrangement recently made with the general consent of those most interested, to shake their confidence by giving rise to the opinion that that measure was now again to undergo alteration. For these reasons he would entirely resist the motion made by the noble lord; and he doubted not that the house, in its state of uncertainty of the object of the motion, and of yet greater uncertainty as to its results—he doubted not that the House of Commons would concur in rejecting the motion submitted by the noble lord—(cheers.)

The house adjourned at a quarter past twelve.

House of Lords—Friday.

The Duke of WELLINGTON laid on the table certain additional papers relating to Affghanistan.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE said he was obliged to the noble duke for the papers he had produced.

Lord WHARNCLIFFE, in answer to a question put to him yesterday, touching the sums of money collected in consequence of the Queen's letter, said the money had been handed over to a committee for distribution.

Earl FITZWILLIAM approved of the manner in which the noble lord had made his statement.

Their Lordships adjourned to Monday.

House of Commons—Friday.

Mr. WARD presented petitions praying for a repeal of the corn laws and against the income tax.

Mr. EWART gave notice that on Thursday week he should bring forward a motion for the final settlement of the corn laws.

In answer to a question from Lord PALMERSTON,

Sir R. PEEL said, that the supposed missing letters from General Nott would, he thought, be found in the correspondence laid before the House.

Sir R. PEEL laid on the table a copy of the resolutions which he intended to move on Monday for a vote of thanks to the Indian army and Lord Ellenborough.

The Forged Exchequer Bills Bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Monday.

The Personation of Voters Bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Wednesday.

On the order of the day being read for resuming the adjourned debate on the distress of the country,

Sir A. L. HAY rose and addressed the house at some length. He considered the motion of the noble lord the member for Sunderland had not been fairly met by her Majesty's Government.

Mr. C. RASHLEIGH said he should give the motion his most decided opposition, as he believed it was intended for the purpose of obstructing the measures of her Majesty's ministers, and evidently for party purposes.

Capt. LAYARD supported the motion.

Mr. BLACKSTONE said he felt imperatively called upon to oppose the motion.

Lord H. VANE and Mr. DARBY opposed, and Mr. BROTHERTON supported the motion.

Mr. M. ATTWOOD could not vote for it.

Lord F. EGERTON admitted the distress.

Mr. COBDEN denied that it was a party motion, and said that Sir R. PEEL was individually responsible for this state of things.

Sir R. PEEL said he would never be influenced by the menaces of the hon. member.

Mr. COBDEN said he did not mean personal responsibility, but in virtue of his office (great confusion, cries of order, chair, yes, no.)

Sir ROBERT PEEL said the menaces of the hon. member should not influence him in the discharge of his public duty.

Mr. COBDEN explained.

Lord J. RUSSELL was too ill to make any extended observations.

Lord HOWICK replied, when,

Mr. FERRAND having withdraw his amendment.

The house divided, and the motion was defeated by a majority of 115, 306 to 191; the house then adjourned to Monday.

DECREASE OF DISSENT.—The Bishop of Chester has had, during the last few months, upwards of thirty applications from dissenting ministers for admission into holy orders. Few facts could be more expressive.

UNITED STATES—CANADA.

ARRIVAL OF THE CALEDONIA MAIL STEAMER.

IMPROVEMENT IN COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS.

We have received files of New York papers to the 1st, Boston of the 2d, and Canadian to the latest dates, by the Caledonia Mail Steamer, arrived at Liverpool on Friday. She has brought over sixty two passengers—a very large number making the passage across the Atlantic in mid winter.

The most gratifying feature in the United States papers is, the announcement of a decided improvement in Commercial affairs, which, we trust, may soon be favourably felt in England. The following, from the *New York Express*, of Jan. 31, is the latest Commercial report:—

This being the day of closing the mail for the steamer, business operations have been unusually animated.

The fact, too, that the New York capitalists have, unaided, taken the balance of the Federal Loan, (amounting to 5,700 00), Jan. 1,) has given great animation to the stock market.

The annual statements also of the New York banks, showing the surprising amount of specie in them, as compared with their circulation, creates an impression of strength, and imparts liveliness to all monied operations.

The steamers take out two items of news of some importance; 1st, the entire and utter defeat of the Exchequer scheme; and 2d, signs of the gradual growth in popularity of the project to assume the state debts.

As money is abundant, many are purchasing exchange to import specie, as the transaction will pay very well.—Some persons estimate that five to eight millions of dollars in specie will be received in this country within the next sixty or ninety days. The Caledonia, it will be remembered, brought over more than half a million in specie.

The State of our Stock market continues to improve, and the greatest confidence is felt that the lowest point has been passed. New York Sevens rose ½ to day, and are held firmly at 105. Sixes of 1862 have advanced 2 per cent. since the last sale at the Board; Five and a Half per Cents. advanced ½; Fives, ½; Ohio Sixes of 1860, 2 per cent., closing at 70, firm, which is an advance of 8 per cent., within thirty days; Kentucky Sixes have also advanced to 84—an advance of 1½ per cent.; and Indian Fives, 1½ since the last sales of the Board. Treasury Notes are held at ¾ per cent. prem.

The favourable change had affected the price of land as well as general investments. The *New York Tribune* of Jan. 31, says—

As an indication of a change from the despondency of the last few years, we notice a statement of a leading auctioneer, that sells at least 15 to 20 per cent. higher than he did six months ago.

The demand for cotton had improved; but prices had not advanced. No material change in the Grain or Flour markets.

LATE AND IMPORTANT FROM TEXAS.

By the steam ship Neptune, arrived this morning, we have later intelligence from Texas. It appears that a portion of the invading forces, after capturing the town of Meir, were attacked by a large party of Mexicans, who after a desperate conflict retook the town, and captured two hundred and fifty Texans. It is further stated, that 400 Mexicans were killed during the engagement, but only *two* Texans escaped.

The following, from the *Houston Morning Star*, gives the news more in detail,—

"Since our paper went to press this morning, we have seen Mr. Needham, who arrived last night, direct from Bexar. He states that Gen. Somerville, with a portion of the army that remained under his command, about 200 men, had returned to Bexar. Another portion of 300 men left the command of Gen. Somervile, elected Colonel Wm. S. Fisher commander, and went down to Mier, and captured the town; but a shower of rain came up just after they had captured it, so that they could not use their rifles to advantage, and the Mexican army arrived after a desperate engagement retook the town, and captured about two hundred and fifty of our troops. During the engagement our troops captured seven pieces of artillery, which were retaken by the Mexicans.

About 400 Mexicans were killed in this engagement—only *four* Texans were killed. It is not known upon what terms the Texans surrendered, Only two Texans escaped, who were found at Gonzales by our army when it returned and it is from these two men that Mr. Needham derived this news. The names of these two men are Chalk and Sinclair. They say they secreted themselves in some canes in or near the town, while the Texans were fighting in the stone houses, and they left in the night after the firing had ceased. They say, also, that the fight lasted from twelve o'clock till two p.m. the next day, and during all this time only four Texans were killed, and four hundred Mexicans were killed. This story seems quite too incredible for belief. The army under General Somerville heard nothing of it until they reached Bexar. Mr. Needham says Sinclair reported that the Mexicans were commanded by General Ampudia and Canales, and that the whole Mexican force was 1,500 or 2,000.

"Mr. Needham mentions that our army, after the capture of Laredo, moved down on the east bank of the Rio Grande to the mouth of the Salado, and found Canales with 300 men, ready to dispute the passage, but our troops crossed without difficulty, and he retired without firing a gun. The troops then proceeded to Guerrero, and encamped near the town, the alcalde came out and informed the general that the Mexican troops had fled, and that he would furnish any articles they required.

"The general made a requisition for the articles most needed by the soldiers, and they were promptly furnished by the alcalde. General Somerville, believing that his force was too weak to proceed further, gave orders for the army to return to Bexar. This gave dissatisfaction to a large body of the troops, and in consequence the division was formed, and the party under Col. Fisher refusing to obey orders, left the command as before mentioned, and went down the river to capture the small towns above Metamoras."—*New Orleans Bee*, Jan. 18.

APOLOGY FROM SPAIN TO FRANCE.

The *Messager* (Paris journal) contains the following:—

"The King's government having demanded of the Spanish government the disavowal of the imputations made by the ex-political chief of Barcelona, M. Gutierrez, against the French consul, M. de Lesseps, the official *Gazette* of Madrid of the 10th instant contains this disavowal, under the form of a letter addressed to the Minister of the Interior by the Minister of War, and of which the last paragraph is couched in the following terms:—

"'Consequently the government of her Majesty, which ever acts with justice and impartiality, deems it just to declare that the assertion of the political chief was not accurate, and had not, without doubt, any other foundation than the rumours circulated by persons flying from Barcelona—rumours which the inquiries of the Captain General had dissipated.'

"PERPIGNAN, FEB. 10.—The Regent has ordered to be remitted to the city of Barcelona the remainder due of the war contribution.

"The journals of the 8th contain General Seoane's letter to the municipality and the Chamber of Commerce announcing this fact."

A singular case came before the magistrates at the County Waterford Petty Sessions, last week. A poor man, having sold some pigs to a farmer, and being unable to get paid for them, processed and obtained a decree for the amount about £6. The farmer desired him to meet him at a certain public house, where he would pay; and accordingly both proceeded there.—The farmer produced two notes, which he told the man were £3 notes, and received from him some change. The poor man hastened to pay his rent; and, insisting that the notes were £3 notes, his landlord sent for the police, when it appeared that each note was formed of half a three and a half a one pound note. Informations were taken against the farmer.

ACCIDENT TO THOMAS QUINN ESQ.—We are happy in being enabled to state that this gentleman, whose accident while riding, we recorded some time since, is now going on well. In a short time after the accident, the Surgeon General, Sir Philip Crampton, was sent for, and with that promptitude for which that eminent and skilful physician and surgeon is proverbial, he lost no time in proceeding to Redmondstown, Mr. Quin's residence, where on examining the injury, he gave Mr. Quin every reason to hope, it would not be as serious as his friends anticipated at the time. Sir Philip with the greatest kindness vol unteered a second visit to Mr. Quin, and brought down the apparatus which was necessary for the injured part and applied it in person.—The attention and kindness which the Surgeon General evinced on this occasion, will be long remembered by Mr. Quin and his numerous relatives and friends.—*Tipperary Constitution.*

BRITISH FUNDS—SATURDAY.

Bank Stock ..		New 3½ per Cent. ..	101¼ ½
3 per Cent. Consols	95	India Stock	
Ditto for Acct ..	95 ⅛	India Bonds	64
3 per Cent. Reduced	95⅝ ¾ ⅝	Exchequer Bills,	63 65 premium.
3½ per Ct. Red ..	102⅛ ⅛		

PRICE OF IRISH STOCKS—MONDAY.

Bank Stock	179
3 per Cent Consols	94⅞ 5
3½ per Cent Stock	100⅞ 1
3½ Debentures	93⅜

The Mail.

WATERFORD, WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22, 1843.

The protracted debate on Lord Howick's motion, which appears at considerable length in our columns, has at last come to a close, and left Ministers in a glorious majority of 115 over the impatient candidates for their places. The importance of this division in favour of Sir Robert Peel, and the policy pursued by the Cabinet during the last session, cannot be over-estimated. The motion implied a vote of censure—the rejection of it a vote of confidence. A large majority of the House—a majority five times greater than ever the Whigs could boast of—has given a formal approval to the entire policy pursued with respect to the Corn Laws, the Tariff, and the imposition of the Income Tax; and Ministers have now to thank the Opposition for placing them on a footing of confidence with the country, which either their own modesty or their official position would have prevented themselves from seeking or asserting. After such a defeat, the Whigs must know they have but little chance of unseating Sir Robert during this session—and it is highly probable they will not venture on any more divisions this year. His own party have little reason to be grateful to Lord Howick; but he, too, is a "crotchety creature," and will have his own way.

The last night's debate is chiefly remarkable for Mr. Cobden's Anti-Corn-Law violence, and the spirited rejoinder of Sir Robert Peel. The Right Hon. Baronet will not be intimidated from his duty, although the Leaguers hold him "*personally responsible* for the distresses of the country." If there were any doubt of the meaning of this *personal responsibility*—if it could be supposed that it was not exemplified in M'Naughten's attempt to shoot the Prime Minister (for whom he mistook the Secretary), the honest and warm-hearted speech of Mr. Roebuck would put an end to the question, and proved that the assassination was the result of a conspiracy, and that that murderous conspiracy had its origin in the Corn-Law League.

"He (Mr. Roebuck) now felt it his duty to perform one of the most painful tasks which had ever been imposed upon him by reading the following:—'The Rev. Mr. Baily (speaking of the people of Sheffield having refused to communicate their distresses to him, stating that they meant only to petition parliament,) the Rev. Mr. Baily said it was not words that would move parliament, but force they should have if they did not change their system. He had heard of a gentleman—(a gentleman!)—who in private company said, that *if a hundred persons had cast lots together, and the lot should fall upon him, he would take the lot to deprive Sir Robert Peel of life.*'"

Is it, after this, too wild a conjecture to suppose that the murderer, now awaiting his trial, was the man *on whom the lot* had fallen?

On Saturday morning Head Constable Wray, of Parsonstown, King's County, arrived in this city by her Majesty's mail packet, Jasper, from Pembroke, *en route* to Tullamore, having in custody Michael Meara, charged with the murder of Mr. Roberts, near Moneygall, on the 17th of April last, since which period Meara eluded the utmost vigilance of the police. He had been for seven months in Wales, and would, in all probability, have ultimately made his escape from the kingdom, but for the intelligence and activity of Head Constable Wray, who arrested him, on private information, at Pembroke. To Mr. Wray, who, a short time previously, arrested an accomplice of Meara's, named White, for being concerned in the brutal murder of Mr. Roberts, the utmost praise is due for his conduct on this, and, in fact, on every occasion wherein his services are required; and we trust that, in common justice to a most meritorious and efficient officer, as well as to serve as a stimulus to the exertions of the other members of the corps, his services will meet with that notice in the proper quarter which they so eminently deserve.

On Sunday evening Meara was transmitted from the county jail to Tullamore.

The particulars of the murder of Mr. Roberts have already appeared in the *Waterford Mail.*

With respect to a paragraph which appeared in the *Waterford Chronicle* of Saturday last, we have authority for stating, that the two persons of the name of Crawford, who are said to have conformed to the Roman Catholic faith, in Ferrybank Chapel, do not belong to the Abbey parish, and that they were for a very short time permitted to remain in a respectable household there. We also state upon the same authority (which we shall give to any person who requires it) that the other person mentioned in said paragraph is a firm and consistent member of the Established Church.

It affords us pleasure to state that our respected townsman John C. Firth, Esq., has been appointed by Sir Robert Peel to a situation in the Customs at this Port, vacant by the promotion of William M. Alcock to the situation of Landing Waiter.

The Sisters of Charity gratefully acknowledge the receipt of £5, the bequest of the late John Hoarne, Esq., per Miss. Quan; also a donation of £1, per Alderman Carroll; £1 from a Friend, per Miss E. E. Browne, and £1 10s from Alderman Sherlock, for the benefit of the poor. Rev. T. Dowley thankfully acknowledges the receipt of £5 for the Magdalen Asylum, from Alexander Sherlock, Esq., of Kilaspy.

NEWS FROM SIR J. ROSS.—Intelligence has just been received by Lieutenant M'Murdough, of the Terror, from Captain Sir J. Ross, who has, it appears, penetrated the Antarctic Circle to 71 40. He has surveyed the coast discovered by him along its western boundary, and has proceeded to do the same along the eastern line.—*Falmouth Packet.*

COUNTY TIPPERARY SESSIONS.—Clonmel, April 1; Tipperary, 10; Thurles 17; Carrick, June, 17; Nenagh, July 3; Clonmel, Oct. 11; Cashel, 20; Thurles 28.

Mr. John Flanagan, was on Thursday last, elected Clerk of the Nenagh Poor Law Union.

WATERFORD MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

A subject relating to the great moral revolution, now extending its benign influence throughout the various communities of the civilised world, and especially among the people of Ireland, was brought under consideration on Friday evening last by Doctor Keogh, a resident medical professor of this city. The topics selected for the debut of the present session seem to be particularly appropriate.—*Education* and *Temperance* are essentially related, and should, therefore, always go hand in hand: if these be duly regarded, other blessings will follow in the train, and materially conduce to our social prosperity. We are happy to find that gentlemen of talent, respectability, and influence seem inclined to put forth their energies for the maintenance of principles which cannot fail in their operation to promote the best interests of mankind.

The lecturer opened his address with a facetious allusion to an interrogatory put by Boswell to Doctor Johnson respecting the sensual character of man. He then went on to state that it was almost impossible to determine when the use of wine was introduced: some notice had been taken of it in Scripture, and a tradition was in existence which traced it to the forbidden fruit. There was little doubt but that the grape was known to the Antediluvians; for Noah, we are told, was the first that planted the vine. According to historical record it would appear that the first people who cultivated it were the Persians; and from that time to the present the attachment of this nation to the plant has continued unabated. Some of the ancients were accustomed to dilute their wine with a large proportion of *salt water.*—This would appear strange; and it might be asked how came they to do so—was there not something most unnatural in such a mixture? He replied that the act was fully accordant with nature, as the practice now resorted to, of adulterating the liquor with numerous deleterous substances. Formerly much legislative opposition was given to the use of wine—this was the case amongst the Romans and other nations—even edicts were issued against it. The quantities taken by those who drank it in olden times, as a beverage, were enormously large, but then it was not pure, or they could not have consumed so much. The inclination for intoxicating liquors seemed to be diffused over the whole world. It was doubtful whether the ancients were acquainted with *distillation.* The Greeks and Romans were ignorant of the art, although it was probably known to the Indians and Chinese. The Arabians borrowed it from the east. Among the Africans of the present day, distillation was not generally adopted; but along the coasts of the continent, in many places it was practised, and particularly by the Turkish states, notwithstanding the strict prohibition against spirituous liquors, pronounced by the founder of their religion, Mahommed. The discovery of distillation was ascertained in consequence of an attempt to find out the elixer vitæ, whereby, at the commencement of chymical research, it was imagined that the baser metals might be transmuted into gold, and human life eternally perpetuated. Lord Bacon himself thought that such a thing might be effected, and Sir Humphrey Davy, who denied the possibility of lighting a town with gas, subscribed to the same absurd doctrine. It was said that the baneful partiality to ardent liquors was occasioned by rigour of climate, and that it more especially pervaded cold countries than warm; but this was not true, for the habits of the Persians afforded a practical contradiction to the statement. A very striking resemblance subsisted between many of the customs of eastern climes, and those of civilised Europe.—For instance, the festive rejoicings at wakes were widely prevalent amongst the Orientals. The Ashantees were wont, whenever they transacted business, or changed money, to wind up such occurrences with drink; toasting, also, was practised by that people, as well as by other communities. It was usual to toast according to the number of letters in a person's name; hence the ceremony in vogue with us of drinking three times three, and nine times nine, &c. If we looked to the history of Europe, we should find that the grape was cultivated at a very early date. In France, not less than four millions of acres of land were devoted to that species of production. The Irish had been branded with the vice of inebriety; they were represented as notorious for drunkenness, but the truth was, they could not be more deeply criminated in this respect than other nations—pernicious practices, when abandoned, were generally overrated. The English and Scotch, though better versed in the art of concealment, were equally, if not more, addicted to this debasing propensity. The English drank wine profusely, and also took enormous quantities of ale and porter; and the Scotch, a people reputed for their temperance, made use of double the amount of fermented liquors consumed in Ireland; but these both indulged their appetite in a way so as ordinarily to exempt them from detection; they drank small portions privately, and with frequent intervals of suspension. Whereas the evil amongst the Irish arose partly from some good qualities in their nature—their love of social intercourse—and their native hospitality: the moral improvement which had taken place, however, in this people was unexampled. As for France and America they stood prominent amongst the nations for the immediate consumption of intoxicating liquors; the inhabitants drank them under all conceivable circumstances; no matter how situated they were disposed to tipple. The French were said to be the only people possessing a perfectly pure wine, and this was commonly known by the designations Champagne and Burgundy. Notwithstanding the bad qualities of port, immense quantities were purchased by the British. At Bourdeaux, various sorts of wine were mixed, and sent to us under the general name of claret. Some might suppose that the low duties upon this article in France would occasion much injury by making it easy of access to all classes; but he thought otherwise, for if high duties were imposed, adulteration and illicit distillation would be practised. In his opinion every commodity of consumption should be sold at as low a price as possible, and it would be much better to effect a reformation in the habits and morals of the people, the only efficient mode of removing any social pestilence. He was not aware that he had noticed in the discussion of the subject, whether the ancient Irish were acquainted with the use of inebriating drinks. His view of the matter was decidedly in the affirmative, and he was corroborated therein by the positive testimony of the most authentic documents. It was an acknowledged fact that Ireland stood high in the scale of civilization and refinement when the other European nations were in a state of barbarism: it was the distinguished seat of literature and the arts when true philosophy had almost fled from the face of the earth. With reference to its great productiveness and the exuberant fertility of its soil, it might well be styled "a land flowing with milk and honey; a land of brooks and fountains; a land of wheat and barley, yielding bread without scarceness, and wherein there was no lack of anything."—The early history of the Emerald Isle was well worthy of regard, and would furnish a most interesting topic for some future lecturer.

It should be remarked that the address of the Doctor was enlivened and rendered increasingly attractive by the interspersion of several amusing and monitory anecdotes. Upon sitting down the speaker was greeted by his respectable auditory with the usual tokens of applause.

MRS. WOOD, THE VOCALIST—WAKEFIELD, FEB. 14.—I hasten to acquaint you that Mr. Wood has determined to place Mrs. W. in the "Retreat," a superior place for persons afflicted with aberration of the mind, at York, under the care of the Society of Friends, I believe; and I understand she is now placed there.

[The foregoing is from the correspondent of *Saunders*: and refutes the assertion that Mrs. Wood had become a convert to the Roman Catholic faith; and having separated from her husband was about to take the veil. The above may be considered as a correct version of the affair.]

The Queen Dowager has subscribed £100 towards the fund for the late Bishop of Meath's family.

We very much regret to find that her Majesty's government intend to propose the continuance of the law for the protection of usurers, which was brought in and carried by the Whigs. We are aware of the inconvenience of changes in regulations regarding money; but it is to be borne in mind that the law which it is proposed to continue was a temporary suspension of the law against usurious interest—a sort of experiment in legislation, which the present government will stamp with its approbation by the act of which it has given notice. We admit that this free trade in money is consistent with the rest of the policy which ministers have sanctioned; but it is one of the odious features of this free trade system, and we should gladly see a Conservative government free from the disgrace of going so far with a system which corrupts the heart of the country, and loads every joint and muscle of its industrial exertion.—*Morning Post.*

CAVAN ELECTION

The Hon. James P. Maxwell, Captain in the 56th Regiment, was on Friday elected representative for the county Cavan, without opposition, in the room of the late Colonel Clements. The gallant officer was proposed by Robert Burrowes, of Stradone, Esq., and seconded by the Rev. Marcus G. Beresford.

COLERAINE ELECTION.

At the close of the poll on Thursday evening the numbers were—

Boyd	66
Bruce	64

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17.—The polling commenced this as on the preceding morning, at nine o'clock, and at eleven it was evident that the day was Doctor Boyd's. However, as more than twenty persons had polled, the booth did not close until five o'clock. For a considerable time previous, Sir Harvey Bruce was not able to bring up a tally, with the exception of a few of the freemen of '98, whose votes were rejected. At about six o'clock the Sheriff announced the state of the poll to be—

For Dr. Boyd	106
For Sir H. H. Bruce	84
Majority for Dr. Boyd	22

SATURDAY, FEB. 18.—Although the polling was over yesterday, still the booth was kept open until five o'clock this evening, when the Sheriff declared the state of the poll to be the same as he had announced yesterday, namely—

For Dr. Boyd	106
For Sir H. H. Bruce	84
Majority for Dr. Boyd	22

He then declared Doctor Boyd to be duly elected to serve in parliament as the representative of the borough of Coleraine. This announcement was received with loud demonstrations of applause on the one side and disapprobation on the other.

MONAGHAN ELECTION.

MONAGHAN, FRIDAY.—At twenty five minutes after 11 o'clock, Charles Powell Leslie drove into town in a chariot and four, followed by the carriages of Henry George Johnston, Esq., of Fortjohnston; Wm. Irwin, Esq., of Mount Irwin; and Henry Mitchell, Esq., Glasslough. The moment Mr Leslie's carriage entered the Diamond, he was received by a loud and hearty cheer by an immense concourse of the people, who filled the square. Mr. Leslie drove to the court house, which in a few minutes, was filled to suffocation by the electors and several of the leading influential gentry of the county.

At 10 minutes before 12 o'clock Mr. Leslie entered the court, and was greeted by an enthusiastic cheer, which lasted for several minutes, and was joined in by the gentry on the bench and about, as well as the humble classes that filled the court.

George Foster, Esq., proposed Chas. Powell Leslie, Esq., of Glaslough, as a fitting representative to serve in parliament for the county of Monaghan—(loud and long continued cheers.)

Jas. Hamilton, Esq., of Cornacassa, seconded the nomination of Mr. Leslie.

The Sheriff—Is there any other person has a candidate to propose? If there is, let him come forward, and he will be heard,

No other person appearing, the Sheriff declared Chas. Powell Leslie duly elected, after which the cheers lasted several minutes.

Mr. Leslie briefly returned thanks.

The High Sheriff adjourned the court, and Mr. Leslie left for Glasslough, which, we have heard, was brilliantly illuminated at night.

Thus ended the act which has driven the nail into the coffin of Radical hopes in this county. The club is a defunct body, having died without the benefit of clergy, and it is said will be committed to the tomb on the day Mr. Leslie takes the oaths and his seat.—*Northern Standard.*

THE MILLION TITHE FUND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EVENING PACKET.

SIR—Permit me, as one of "the Suffering Clergy," to inquire what is in contemplation respecting the payment of any further instalment of our arrears? We were promised 15s in the £1. We have received, after a long interval, about 6s 10d. When the late government were in power, they were charged by Sir R. Peel and Lord Stanley with a breach of faith to the clergy, in not distributing the £100,000 which had been taken from the million and lent to the board of works, who had previously lent that sum to the ecclesiastical commissioners. The answer then given was, that the money had been spent, and could not be recovered. Since then I understand £40,000 of it has been repaid, and there is no difficulty anticipated in getting back the remaining £60,000. What, then, are our clergy about? Why do they not assemble and call upon their parliamentary friends to bring forward their just claims? There can be no possible justification of this sum being obtained and appropriated to different purposes from those originally intended by Parliament. I trust the subject will be zealously taken up, and petitions forwarded without delay to the proper quarter. The members of our University have now an opportunity of showing their concern for the interests of, certainly, the majority of their constituency; and I am confident will, without delay, avail themselves of it.

I remain, sir, yours, &c., &c.,

CLERICUS.

Dublin, Feb. 15, 1843.

The clergy should bestir themselves on this subject. By every principle of justice and right they are entitled to the £100,000 abstracted from the Million Loan Fund. Owing to the perfidy or botchery of the Whigs, no provision was made in the bill for lending the money, to have it restored to its proper place; and the £40,000 paid back by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners has consequently gone into the sinking fund, from which it cannot be drawn without a new act of Parliament. The new representative for our University could not employ his time more usefully than in framing and bringing in a bill for the accomplishment of the object in view, and he would meet with no opposition to the measure. The clergy should at once communicate with Mr. George Alexander Hamilton, who will have the assistance, if necessary, of the city members, Messrs. Grogan and Gregory.—*Evening Packet.*

THE PRESBYTERIAN MARRIAGE QUESTION.

The arguments in the case of Millis, which involves the legality of Presbyterian marriages in Ireland, were brought to a close on Friday in the House of Lords, after which their lordships put certain questions for the judges to consider, founded on the facts of the case. Lord Brougham expressed a hope that the judges would give their opinions as soon as possible, considering the anxiety felt on the subject.

In the case of the Queen *v.* Carrol, the Lord Chancellor inquired what the Attorney General had to say to what appeared a defect in the special verdict, and which was fatal to the writ of error? In the special verdict it was stated that the Presbyterian minister "married James Carrol to Sarah Robinson according to the rules of the Presbyterian church," without stating what those rules were. The Attorney General was at a loss to account for the omission, and the Lord Chancellor said the judgment of the court below must be affirmed.

DEDUCTION OF POOR RATE FROM THE TITHE RENT-CHARGE.

A correspondent complains that, in some instances, the portion of the tithe rent charge deducted by landlords from the clergy has not been actually paid to the collector of poor rates, and that it is in fact a bonus to the former parties.—Should this ever occur, the remedy for it is simple, and is in the hands of every receiver of tithe rent charge. No deduction need be submitted to, except the poor rate collector's receipt be produced.—*D. E. Mail.*

THE AFFGHAN WAR.

The following are the terms of the resolutions for thanks to the Governor General of India, and to the Officers and Men, employed in military service, in Affghanistan, intended to be proposed on Monday evening in both houses of parliament:—

"Resolved—That the thanks of this house be given to the Right Honourable Lord Ellenborough, Governor General of the British possessions in the East Indies, for the ability and judgment with which the resources of the British Empire in India have been applied to the military operations in Affghanistan.

"Resolved—That the thanks of this house be given to Major General Sir George Pollock, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Military Order of the Bath, to Major General Sir William Nott, G.C.B., to Major General Sir John M'Caskill, K.C.B., to Major General Sir Robt. Henry Sale, G C.B, to Major General Richard England, and the other officers of the army, both European and Native, for the intrepidity, skill, and perseverance displayed by them in the military operations in Affghanistan, and for their indefatigable zeal and exertions throughout the late campaign.

"Resolved—That this house doth highly approve and acknowledge the valour and patient perseverance displayed by the non commissioned officers and private soldiers, both European and Native, employed in Affghanistan, and that the same be signified to them by the commanders of the several corps, who are desired to thank them for their gallan behaviour."

FREEMASONRY—GRAND CHAPTER OF PRINCE MASONRY.

On Saturday last this most ancient and highly respectable chapter, held one of its customary meetings in Dublin, at Jude's Hotel, Grafton street, upon which occasion several brethren of known masonic worth were admitted to a participation of the honours and mysteries of that pre eminent degree. After the beautiful and imposing ceremony of the initiation of four candidates was performed, and other business transacted, the chapter partook of an elegant entertainment, supplied in the most superior style, by the spirited proprietor of the establishment. The usual loyal and masonic toasts, 'The Queen," 'The Grand Masters of England, Scotland, and Ireland,' were given with effect from the chair; and at an early hour this intellectual and delightful feast was closed in fraternal harmony.

It must prove a source of much gratification to all who feel a true interest in the prosperity of our masonic institutions, to find that the science of prince masonry is thus extending itself under the auspices of this distinguished chapter—the traditions have been preserved—deducing its descent from the old Kilwinning of Scotland. The parent chapter being the only source of genuine prince masonry, and numbering among its members in later times the names of the late grand master, the Earl of Doncughmore, of Lord Valentia, of the celebrated Pierce Boardman, and many other lights of the masonic world. The successful exertions which it has made within the last few years, in promoting the true principles of masonry, and in upholding that social and moral order to which these principles tend, are too well known to require any comment; yet we cannot close our notice without congratulating the Freemasons of Ireland upon the important services which this celebrated chapter has from time to time rendered to the craft, and upon the splendid example of disinterested zeal which it continues so effectually to display, for the dissemination and support of the sublime principles and practice of masonry.—*Evening Packet.*

DEATH OF HENRY SEYMOUR, ESQ.

This gentleman who was the predecessor of Sir William Gossett, the Sergeant at Arms of the House of Commons, died on Monday week, at Woburn, in his 63d year. He was the only son of the late Lord Robert Seymour and cousin to the Marquis of Hertford.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO MAJOR CHARLES JONES.—Yesterday afternoon, Major Charles Jones, residing with his family at No. 33, Upper Montague street, Montague square, was suddenly deprived of life by the accidental discharge of a pistol under the following circumstances:—From strict inquiries made, it appeared that the deceased gentleman, who had served throughout the whole of the Peninsular war, in which he had on several occasions distinguished himself, was subsequently appointed Aide de Camp to his Majesty the King of Hanover, from which he seceded some time since, and about two years ago he took up his residence as above. Having recently received an invitation to the Court of Hanover, he was about proceeding to that country, and Saturday next had been fixed upon for his departure. Yesterday afternoon, about two o'clock, he took from their cases two holster pistols which had been loaded upwards of five years, and drawing the charge from one (being then in his bed room), took it to pieces and gave it to his man servant to clean, at the same time laying hold of the other and saying, "I suppose I shall have some trouble with this, as it is loaded with large shot."—The servant then went down stairs, and shortly afterwards hearing a loud report proceeding from his master's apartment, he rushed thither, and reached the door just in time to see deceased falling to the floor on his face. Immediately raising an alarm, D. M'Clean, Upper Montague street was sent for, who promptly attended, and pronounced the unfortunate gentleman to be quite dead. The contents of the pistol, which was a three quarter of an inch bore, had entered his left breast, inflicting a frightful orifice and shattered his heart to atoms. It is conjectured that the deceased, having placed the butt end on the table (at which he undid the other pistol) and put the muzzle to his breast, was in the act of unscrewing the lock, when the pistol, from some cause went off. The deceased was about sixty years of age.—*Times of Saturday.*

Mr. Hall, the leader of the orchestra at Newbury theatre was stabbed in the back on Tuesday week by his wife, formerly Miss Rogers, an actress, who it appears is jealous of him. The curtain had just fallen when the unfortunate woman inflicted two severe wounds in his back, and he fell covered with blood.

The Commission will open in Clonmel on Saturday the 4th March. The civil business will commence on the Monday following.

As much as a hundred sovereigns have been offered for the bullet which killed Mr. Drummond.

A rumour prevails in military circles that Sir Robert Sale will be appointed to the vacant Colonelcy in the 44th Regiment, but we have been unable to trace any foundation for such a report. Should the authorities desire to integrate this regiment, and purge it of the foul stain which at present attaches to it, they could not adopt a better course than that of appointing this mirror of chivalry to its command. We should hardly care, however, to see such a task imposed upon Sir Robert Sale; nor can we believe that the appointment is contemplated. It is, however certain, that Sir. Robert Sale will succeed to one of the earliest vacant Colonelcies that may occur.—*United Service Gazette.*

Mr. Webb, Postmaster of Cork, is suspended, and R. Vaughton, Esq., Deputy Surveyor, placed in charge, during an investigation of fraudulent defalcation in the money order department of that office. One of the chief clerks was in custody; and James Kendrick, Esq., Post Office Surveyor, conducts the inquiry, which is secret, before Messrs. R. Coppinger and T. Bagnell, magistrates. It appears the deficiencies exceeded £5 a day, and one day amounted to £20. The case will come on at the Cork assizes.

The Lords of the Admiralty have notified to the Directors of the West India Steam Company that the future non fulfilment of the company's contract with the government will in every case of omission be peremptorily followed by an enforcement of the penalties. The hired steamer Trident, belonging to the General Steam Company, is the next expected from the West Indies. The engagement of this vessel is at £50 per diem, exclusive of wages, coals, &c. On her leaving Falmouth she was to proceed to St. Thomas, and come home thence direct with the immediate return mails.

The Archbishop of Armagh and Lady Beresford are not expected to arrive in London for the season until the third week in April. The Rev. Lord John Beresford left his Grace's mansion, in Charles Street, St. James's, London, on Wednesday, for Glasslough, Monaghan, where his lordship will lead to the hymeneal altar, on Monday next, Miss Leslie, sister to Charles P. Leslie, Esq., the new member for that county in the room of Lord Rosmore. The Lord Primate will perform the ceremony, and the Marquess and Marchioness of Waterford and a family circle will also be present.

A troop of the 10th Hussars, under the command of Capt. Williams, marched in yesterday to occupy barracks here.—*Tipperary Constitution.*

The Directors of the Clonmel National Bank of Ireland having declared that a dividend, at the rate of per cent. per annum on the paid up Capital, should be paid to the Shareholders out of the Nett Profits for the half year ending 31st December, 1842.—Warrants for the payment of said dividend were issued on the 20th instant, and is payable to the shareholders at their Bank Offices in Cashel, and Thurles.

It is rumoured that, in consequence of indisposition, Sir C. B. Vere is about to retire from the representation of East Suffolk. Lord Rendlesham is named as his successor.—*Chelmsford Chronicle*

Mr. Sergeant Warren goes circuit in place of Baron Pennefather, who we regret to say is suffering from illness.

The papers illustrative and explanatory of the military operations in Affghanistan have just been laid before parliament. They extend to 433 folio pages, containing no less than 547 letters.

Last week a fine young man named Fitzpatrick, a private in the 4th Dragoon Guards, deserted from the service, taking with him his arms and accoutrements. He was on guard at the Lower Castle yard, when the whim seized him.

A meeting was held at Midleton last week, the Earl of Shannon in the chair, when a petition was adopted, in which while the necessity of a poor law was admitted, the unsuitableness of that in operation was set forth upon various grounds, and praying for an inquiry with the details and working of the act, with a view to its amendment and alteration.

At the Fair of Bruree, last week, about 5,000 fat pigs appeared, 4,450 of which were readily purchased by buyers from Cork, Limerick, Waterford, Clonmel, and some from England, at an average of 22s to 25s per cwt A large number of stores were bought by feeders, at an advanced price.

PRICE OF OATMEAL.—A commercial letter from Liverpool states that Oatmeal is lower in price there than it has been for thirty years. The writer adds—"It would appear as if the means of consumption were diminishing to an extent totally unprecedented in this country."—*Evening Post*

James Sexton of Coonagh Esq., is appointed to the Commission of the peace for the County of Limerick.

On Sunday last, about the hours of Divine service, a fellow named William Hogan entered the house of Edward Hodgins, of Clashnavin, who was out at the time, and demanded of his wife what arms were in the house, and, upon being told there were none, he drew from under his coat where he had it concealed, a piece of a scythe, and threatened to have her life if she uttered a word, and then proceeded to an inner room to make a search, upon which Mrs. Hodgins locked the door and had the fellow secured inside—but while she went to call her husband he broke it open and effected his escape, but from the description given of him Constable Solomon Wallace, of Ballylymackey, succeeded in apprehending the above named person, who is fully identified and committed for trial.—*Tip. Constitution.*

On Sunday, the 12th instant, two young men solemnly and publicly renounced the errors of Popery in the church of Pettigo, and subsequently received the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, for which they had been diligently prepared for some weeks previously. We understand they had been for some time under a serious inquiry, and weighed the subject seriously before giving up their former opinions.—*Erne Packet.*

INFANTICIDE.—On Wednesday last, the body of a new born infant was found in the river near Two Mile Bridge with its head nearly severed from the body. An inquest was held in the court house yesterday before William Ryan, Esq., coroner, and a verdict of wilful murder, against some person or persons unknown returned. This is the second case of infanticide which has occurred in the vicinity of our town within the last week.—*Tip. Constitution.*

Among the *on dits* in circulation at the leading political clubs, is, that Sir James Graham, Secretary of State for the Home department, is likely to be selected to succeed Lord Ellenborough as Governor Gen. of India. We mention the rumor, but vouch not for its correctness; still the circulation of the report is in circles which ought to command the best information.—*M. Herald.*

Some days since, whilst the Wesleyan Methodists of Mountcharles, county Donegal, were holding a missionary meeting in the market house of that place, and which has been occupied as a Chapel of Ease by the minister of the Established Church, some evil disposed person fired a shot through one of the windows, breaking fourteen panes of glass. Providentially the assembly were at prayer at the time, or, in all probability, the lives of many would have been in danger, as the shot passed over them and struck the opposite wall. This wicked outrage is a proof that the very spirit of satan is abroad among the deluded class which has for ages thus marked its hatred to the spread of vital Gospel truth.—*Derry Standard.*

The Medal of the Royal Agricultural Society of Ireland for the best Essay on Manures, has been awarded to Mr. J. Sproule, editor of the *Irish Farmers Journal*, and author of the well known "Treatise on Agriculture," &c. We shall anxiously look forward to the appearance of the essay in question, being assured that it will prove interesting to the farming community of Ireland.

An arrangement has been concluded by the Spanish government and the banking house of H. O'Shea and Co., of Madrid, for the payment of the last instalment due the British Auxuliary Legion. The funds for the purpose will be immediately transmitted to London.

CHATHAM, FEB. 16.—It having been determined on by the Secretary at War that a reduction shall take place in that portion of the army, nearly 60 regiments of the infantry of the line are to be gradually reduced to their original establishment. An official order arrived in this garrison yesterday from the Horse Guards, dated the 11th of February, naming the following regiments that are to undergo the reduction. The following is a copy of the circular letter:—"Horse Guards.—It having been determined that a reduction shall take place in the infantry of the army, the following regiments are gradually to be reduced to 740 rank and file each—1st (1st and 2d Battalions,) 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 11th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 24th, 26th, 27th, 30th, 32d, 33d, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 41st, 43d, 44th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 52d, 53d, 54th, 56th, 59th, 60th, (1st and 2d Battalion), 61st, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 72d, 73d, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 79th, 81st, 82d, 83d, 85th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 92d, and 93d. The service companies to be 540 and the depots 200 rank and file. The 19th, 90th, 95th and 1st battalion, Rifle Brigade will remain as heretofore at 800, their service companies being 600 and the depots 200 rank and file. The 2d, 3d, 4th, 9th, 10th, 13th, 17th, 18th, 21st, 22d, 25th, 28th, 29th, 31st, 39th 40th, 50th, 51st, 55th, 57th 58th, 62d, 63d, 78th, 80th, 84th, 86th, 94th, 96th, 98th, 99th, are to remain at 1000 rank and file. The 12th, 20th, 23rd, 42d, 45th, 71st, 91st, 97th, and the 2nd battalion of the rifle brigade will remain at 1200 rank and file. 100 supernumeraries will, however, be allowed to all regiments serving in India or China, and 30 to those serving in all other foreign stations, and the recruiting of those regiments will be regulated accordingly. The standard for the infantry of the line (with the exception of those regiments serving in India, China, and New South Wales) will be raised to five feet six inches and a half for men not exceeding 25 years of age, and five feet six inches for growing lads under 18 years of age. Regiments serving in India, China, and New South Wales, may make recrutits at five feet six inches, but not under 18 years of age.—J. M'Donald, Adjutant General.

MORE MATRIMONY.—We shall astonish and amuse our readers at the same time by apprising them of an alliance in high life about to take place, the preliminaries of which have been adjusted. Who does not know the ex Private Secretary to Ireland's ex Public Secretary—the political *Pylades*, Mr. Norman Macdonald, to the oratorical *Orestes*, Lord Viscount Morpeth? Who does not know that he is as pleasant, intelligent, and good a fellow as ever sailed between Holyhead and Howth, and who will deny that he is entitled to select a wife in every way worthy of him? So much for the bridegroom. Now, then, for the bride—Who does not know *the, the, the* Dowager Countess of Essex? And who does not know that she was the charming Kitty Stephens, first vocalist of her day—a lady of unsullied virtue, fascinating manners, and of great personal attainments. Well, Mr. Norman Macdonald and the Countess Dowager of Essex are forthwith to be united in the bonds of wedlock. We wish them, as all the world must wish them, every imaginable happiness.—*Age.*

1

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Waterford, Feb. 20th, 1843.

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SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

The Island hounds throw off on the following days:—Wednesday, February 22, Clobemon Hall; Thursday 23, Camolin Park; Wednesday, March 1, Movilla Gate; Thursday 2, Farmley Gate; Saturday 4, Charlesfort; Monday 6, Oulart Hill; Wednesday 8, Clohamon Bridge; Saturday 11, Cranford.

At half past ten, a.m.

The Killinick harriers meet on the following days:—Friday 24, Rathmacknee; Tuesday, 28, Mayglass; Friday 3, St. Margaret's; Tuesday 7, Rathaspeck; Friday 10, Tacumshane; Tuesday 14, Butlerstown Castle; Friday 27, Lightwater.

At half past ten each day.

Should bad weather prevent the hounds going out on the day appointed, they will meet at the same place on the day following.

The Tipperary Fox Hounds meet on the following days,—Wednesday, 22d February, Drumwood; Friday 24th, Kilbrides Glen, Tuesday 28th, Killough Hill; Thursdays 2d March, Anacarty; Saturday 4th, Grove; Monday 6th Newpark; Thursday 9th, Donegal; Friday 10th, Nine Mile House; Saturday 11th, Grove.

At Eleven c'clock.

PROMOTIONS AND EXCHANGES.

WAR OFFICE, FEB. 17.

12th Regiment of Foot—Ensign Richard Atkinson to be lieutenant, by purchase, vice Carige, who retires; Robert Seymour Walpole, gent., to be ensign, by purchase, vice Atkinson.

19th Foot—Lieutenant Robert Sanders to be captain, by purchase, vice Dillon, whose promotion has been cancelled.

33d Foot—Assistant Surgeon William Mish Murphy, from the West India Regiment, to be assistant surgeon, vice M'Donald, promoted in the 1st West India Regiment.

46th Foot - Surgeon James Duncanson, M.D., from the 1st West India Regiment, to be surgeon, vice Michael Galeani, who retires upon half pay.

64th Foot—Ensign Wm. Parker to be lieutenant, by purchase, vice Jenney, who retires; Wm. Stephens, gent., to be ensign, by purchase, vice Parker.

76th Foot—George Burdon, gent., to be ensign, by purchase, vice Smith, who retires.

1st West India Regiment—Assistant Surgeon John M'Coy M'Donald, from the 33d foot, to be surgeon, vice Duncanson, appointed to the 46th foot.

3d West India Regiment—Lieut. General Sir Charles William Maxwell to be colonel.

SHIP NEWS.

The *Prince of Wales*, the *Ocean*, and *Severn* steamers, which left Cork for Liverpool on Saturday, could not make any way against the head wind from East, and were obliged to put into this port on Sunday. A few of the pigs died from the inclemency of the weather, and the steamers went to sea again on Moeday morning with fair weather.

PORT NEWS—PASSAGE.

ARRIVED.

17th—Ann, Jones, Bridgwater, bricks- Betsey, Richards, Swansea, culm, for Ross—Comet, Griffiths, Cardigan, slates—Alexander, Nicholls, London, ballast—Osprey, (steamer) Burgess, Bristol—Speculator, Rotherough, Youghal, flour and pigs—Supply, Volk, Runcorn, coals, for Ross.

18th—Ruby, Jones, Cardigan, slates—Eliza, Griffiths, Youghal, ballast, for Carmarthen—Ellen, Sheil, Wexford, grain, for Glasgow—Liverpool, Whelan, Llanelly, culm—Wilton, Wilson, Savinella, dye stuff, for Liverpool—Liverpool, Stagg, London, m.g.—Hope, Farren, Dunkirk, flax and flour, for Belfast—Comet, Richards, Youghal, wheat, for Liverpool.

19th—Prince of Wales, M'Neilage, and Ocean, Pile, (steamers) Cork, gen. cargo, for Liverpool—Caurleon, Bryant, Bridgwater, bricks, fot Dublin—Lady Bassett, London, gen. cargo, ditto—Star of Brunswick, Hearson, Bideford, pipe clay, for Liverpool—Severn, (steamer) Moffatt, Cork, gen. cargo, ditto.

20th—Peace, Lewis, Llanelly, culm.

SAILED.

17th—Sally, Carey, Youghal, ballast—Prudence, Angel, London, provisions—Elizabeth Hogan, Phelpin, Milford, flour—Charlotte, Ryan, Arundel, grain.

19th—Resolution, Gibbons, Dungarvan, ballast, from Ross.

20th—Three Cork steamers above mentioned.

At Marlborough Street Police Office, London, on Thursday, *Joshua Jones Ashley*, member of the Junior United Service, and several other clubs, and formerly one of the members of the firm of Ashley and Son, the bankers and army agents, of Regent Street, was placed at the bar, charged with stealing plate belonging to the Junior United Service Club. A number of witnesses were examined, and the prisoner was remanded until Thursday next. It was stated that the prisoner is a member of five or six of the clubs at the west end of London, and that most of them have lost plate, but could never fix suspicion upon any one individual. The butler of the Reform Club lost £70 worth of spoons and forks in one year.

BLANKETS & WOOLLENS.

4 TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION
On WEDNESDAY next, 22d Inst.
AND THREE FOLLOWING DAYS,
AT THE COMMERCIAL SALE ROOMS,
90, CUSTOM-HOUSE QUAY,

THE FOLLOWING GOODS, Consisting of 300 Pair of Kilkenny Blankets, of different qualities and Sizes; Pilot Cloths; Petershams; several Pieces of Blue Frieze; Blue and Green Flannels, and a variety of other Goods not necessary to mention—the entire of which will be sold without reserve, being the property of a person retiring from business.

Sale to Commence each day at 12 o'Clock.

M. HENEBERY, Auctioneer.

AUCTION AT

5 **BALLINDUD FARM,**

IN THE LIBERTIES OF THE CITY OF WATERFORD.

Extensive Sale of a Valuable Farm, Thorough Bred Stock, Farming Implements, Dairy Utensils, Household Furniture, about Twenty Boat Loads of Prime Manure, &c. &c. &c.

JOHN CLEARY

HAS the honour to announce to the Nobility, &c., of this and surrounding Counties, that he has received instructions from

MRS. ANASTATIA CARIGAN,

To Sell by Public Auction on the Premises, on MONDAY, 27th Feb. Inst., and following Days, her Interest in that valuable Farm of Ballindud, situated within 2 Miles of this City and Four of Tramore, upon which stands a Cottage in good repair, with Garden, Out Offices, &c., together with a large Farm House, Cow House for Thirty Cows, Barn, Stables, Dairy, fully furnished; together with Farming Utensils, and all other requisites for a Farm Yard.

The Farm, which is in the highest state of cultivation, and tastefully planted with about 3,000 registered Trees, is held under a lease for 31 years from 25th day of March, 1823, consisting of Fifty-six Acres, Three Roods, and Three Perches, or thereabouts, Five Acres of which are laid down in wheat, and subject to a rent of £2 1s 5d per Acre.

The Cottage is a most desirable residence for a respectable family, beautifully situated, having a commanding view of the City of Waterford and neighbouring Counties.

THE STOCK

consists of Twenty-eight Thorough-bred Cows, in Calf, well bred Yearlings, and Two Year Olds. Two Thorough bred Bulls; a well bred Brood Mare in Foal, to Doncaster; a year old Filly, by Barkston; several Working Horses; a lot of prime pigs, a good Mule, and two Donkeys.

The Farming Implements are of a very superior kind, and on the newest principle, chiefly comprising Ploughs, Harrows, Carts, Cars, Potato Cutter, Four Sets of Tackling, nearly new.

In the Dairy will be found Cream Tubs, Keelers, Churns, Milk Pans, &c. The Farm House is also well supplied with every requisite. The Manure will be put up in Lots to suit Purchasers; several Tons of prime Hay; some Straw; and about 300 Barrels of Potatoes.

The Farm Stock, &c., may be viewed any day previous to the day of Sale.

JOHN CLEARY, Auctioneer,
58, Merchants' Quay.

Waterford, 8th February, 1843.

Approved Bills will be taken for any sum over Fifty Pounds.

COUNTY OF WATERFORD.

6 TO CIVIL ENGINEERS, ROAD MAKERS, AND ARCHITECTS.

TENDERS and PROPOSALS for the Execution of the following Public Works will be received by the Sec. Grand Jury of the County of Waterford, on or before the 27th of FEBRUARY, 1843:—

To Build a Bridge over the River at Bonmahon, on the road from Dungarvan to Waterford.

To Build a Protecting Wall on the road at Abbeyside, between Mr. Edward Galwey's store, at Abbeyside, and the road at Mr. Wm. Keane's house.

To make 240 perches of a New Line of Road from Waterford to Passage, in the Barony of Gaultier.

To make 1053 perches of a New Line of Road from Dungarvan to Stradbally and Bonmahon.

To make 544 perches of a New Line of Road from Stradbally to Clonmel.

To make 2039 perches of a New Line of Road from Ballyvoile to Clonmel.

The several Maps, Plans, and Specifications relating to the foregoing works, as proposed by the County Surveyor, can be seen at the Secretary's office, Mall, Waterford.

MICHAEL MORTIMER,
Secretary.

February 20th, 1843.

MUNSTER DISTRICT.

7 **NOTICE TO BUILDERS.**

Office of Ordnance, 14th February, 1843.

THE Principal Officers of Her Majesty's Ordnance hereby Give Notice, that they will receive Proposals from such Persons as are desirous of entering into Contracts from the 1st APRIL, 1843, to 31st MARCH, 1846, inclusive, for the performance of such Services as may be required in the undermentioned Trades—at the several Stations in the Munster District, which are named, viz.:—

1st—Carpenter's Work, including Ironmongery, Smith's and Iron Founder's Articles.
2nd—Bricklayer's, Mason's, Stone Cutter's and Pavior's Work.
3rd—Slater's Work.
4th—Plaisterer's, do.
5th—Painter and Glazier's, do.
6th—Plumber's Work.
7th—Repair of Locks.
8th—Repair of Pumps.

In all cases the Eight Trades are to be in One Tender for each Station.

CORK, with 10 per Cent. in addition for all works performed at Ballincollig.
CORK HARBOUR, viz:—Cove, Haulbowline, and Rocky Island, with 10 per Cent. addition for Spike Island, and 20 per Cent. in addition for Camden and Carlisle Forts.
WHIDDY ISLAND, (BANTRY BAY,) with 15 per Cent. addition for Bere and Garnish Islands.
BANDON, with 5 per Cent. in addition for Clonakilty.
CAHIR, with 5 per Cent. in addition for New Inn.
CARRICK-ON-SUIR.
CASHEL, with 5 per Cent. addition for Fethard and Tipperary.
CLARE CASTLE.
CLONMEL, with 5 per Cent. in addition for Clogheen, and 10 per cent. addition for Ballinamult.
FERMOY.
KINSALE, including Charles Fort.
LIMERICK.
MALLOW, including Buttevant, with 10 per cent. addition for Mill Street.
MITCHELSTOWN.
NENAGH.
NEWCASTLE.
ROSCREA.
LOWER SHANNON FORTS, viz.:—
CARRICK FORT.
DOONAHA, Do.
KILCRADANE, Do.
KILKERRAN, Do.
SCATTERY, Do.
TARBERT, Do.
TEMPLEMORE.
TRALEE.
WATERFORD.
YOUGHAL, with 5 per Cent. in addition for Dungarvan.

The Contracts to be determinable at any period after One Year, on either party giving to the other three months' notice in writing.

Persons desirous of Tendering may obtain every information respecting these Contracts on application at the Royal Engineer's Offices at Cork, Clonmel, and Limerick, or to the Barrack Master at the several Stations herein named; and Printed Schedules of the Prices, with the terms of Contracts and Letter of Tender, for the several descriptions of Artificer's Work; upon making a deposit of £1 for the same; which deposit will be returned to those Persons who propose, or when the Schedules are returned.

N.B.—It is strictly enjoined that no alterations whatever be made in the Schedules, nor any observation be written upon them; for if any manner defaced, the offers of the Persons proposing will not be attended to; nor will the sums deposited for the Schedules be returned.

The Letter of Tenders to be Sealed and Delivered on or before the 6th day of March, 1843, at the Ordnance Office, London, addressed to "The Secretary to the Board of Ordnance," and endorsed "Tender for (as the case may be)."

THE MARKETS.

WATERFORD. FEB. 21.

Wheat, millers	24s 0d	to 25s [illegible]
Ditto, inferior	00s 0d	to 00s [illegible]
Ditto, shipping	22s 0d	to 23s 6
Barley, malting	10s 6d	to 12s [illegible]
Ditto, shipping	9s 0d	to 10s [illegible]
Oats, black,	8s 0d	to 8s [illegible]
Ditto, white,	7s 6d	to 8s [illegible]
Oatmeal, (by retail) per cwt.	10s 0d	to 10s [illegible]
Flour (superfine)	36s 0d	to 37s [illegible]
Fines,	34s 0d	to 35s [illegible]
Seconds,	30s 0d	to 32s [illegible]
Thirds,	24s 0d	to 27s [illegible]
Fourths,	18s 0d	to 21s [illegible]
Bacon Pigs, per cwt	26s 6d	to 27s 6
Scalded ditto	21s 0d	to 23s 0
Heads, ditto	16s 0d	to 17s 0
Offal, ditto	14s 9d	to 16s [illegible]
Tallow, P.Y.C., per cwt.	49s 0d	to 00s [illegible]
Scotch Herrings, per barrel	18s 0d	to 19s 6
Newfoundland fish, per cwt.	8s 0d	to 14s [illegible]
Newport Coals, per ton	15s 0d	to 00s [illegible]
Cardiff ditto, ditto	13s 6d	to 00s [illegible]
Hay, per ton,	45s 0d	to 50s [illegible]
Straw, per ton, (wheaten)	30s 0d	to 34s [illegible]
Cork Whiskey, per gal. by retail	7s 5d	to 7s 8
Potatoes, per stone, 14lbs.	0s 1½d	to 0s 3
Mutton, per lb.	0s 4½d	to 0s [illegible]
Beef, per lb.	4½d	to 0s 5
Veal, per lb.	5d	to 00s 6d
Pork, per lb.	4d	to 0s 5

Firkins weighed at the butter market.

	Firkins	s. d.	s. d.
Saturday	12	80 0	to 90 0
Monday	2	80 0	to 84 0
Yesterday,	0	00 0	to 00 0

Firkins weighed at Mr. Curtis's yard.

	Firkins.		
Saturday	7	75s 0d	to 84s 0
Monday,	0	00s 0d	to 00s 0
Yesterday,	3	75s 0d	to 84s 0

CORK BUTTER, FEB. 18.—To the Merchants—88s—82s—68s—58s—54s—42s. To the Country—79s—73s—59s—49s—45s—32s.

Saturday's corn sales at Cork market were—12 brls. white wheat, at 23s 0d to 25s 0d; 147 brls. red wheat, at 22s 0d to 25s 0d, average 24s 0d; 157 brls. barley, at 10s 3d to 12s 0d, average 10s 3d; 1376 brls oats, at 6s 6d to 9s 8d, average 7s 10d per brl.

LIMERICK BUTTER, FEB. 18.—74s—66s—56s—46s—00s, and 3s paid over for prime.

Wheat, 13½d to 17½d per stone. Oats, 6½d to 7¾d per stone. Barley, 6½d to 8½d per stone. Bacon Pigs 23s to 25s; Scalded ditto, 18s to 20s per cwt. and 1s brokerage.

CLONMEL, FEB. 17.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Butter	78 0	84 0	Barley	10 0	12 0
Oatmeal	9 6	00 0	Wheat, per st.	1 3	1 3
Bacon Pigs'	23 0	25 0	Oats, per do.	0 6½	0 6½

WEXFORD, FEB. 17.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Butter	72 0	75 0	Beans	13 0	13 6
Wheat	22 0	25 6	Oatmeal	11 6	00 0
Barley	10 0	11 9	Pork, per cwt.	24 0	25 0
Oats	7 0	9 0			

CARLOW, FEB. 17.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Butter	86 0	88 0	Oats	8 6	9 0
Wheat	29 0	00 0	Oatmeal	11 0	00 0
Barley	11 0	12 0	Flour	31 0	00 0

DUBLIN CORN EXCHANGE—FEB. 17.

We had a dull market this day for all descriptions of grain, and previous prices were barely supported.

White wheat	27s 0d to 30s 0d	Oats	8s 3d to 10s 0d
Miller's red	25s 0d to 28s 6d	Oatmeal	9s 0d to 11s 6d
Inferior	00s 0d to 00s 0d	2d Flour	15s 0d to 16s 0d
Barley	11s 0d to 14s 0d	Rapeseed	00s 0d to 00s 0d
Bere	0s 0d to 00s 0d		

LONDON CORN EXCHANGE—FRIDAY.

The supplies are very moderate this week of every description of grain, the largest arrival being that of barley. Wheat finds a very languid sale at the prices of Monday. Barley has met with no material variation in value, but the sales of this grain are with difficulty effected. Oats, beans, and all other articles are in very moderate demand, at prices altogether unaltered. The trade for other articles is quite of a retail character, with a very thin attendance of buyers.

GENERAL AVERAGE PRICE OF BRITISH CORN
(Which Governs Importation.)

For the week ending Feb. 11, 1843, made up from the Returns of Inspectors in the different Cities and Towns in England and Wales.

Per Imperial Quarter.

	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Wheat	47 5	Oats	16 11	Beans	27 5
Barley	27 1	Rye	30 1	Peas	30 1

Imperial Aggregate Average of Six Weeks preceding.

	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Wheat	48 1	Oats	16 11	Beans	27 7
Barley	27 0	Rye	29 7	Peas	29 11

Duties on Foreign Corn.

	s. d.		s. d.		s. d.
Wheat	20 0	Oats	8 0	Beans	11 6
Barley	9 0	Rye	11 6	Peas	11 6

LIVERPOOL CORN EXCHANGE—FRIDAY.

The duties on foreign peas is 1s, and colonial 6d per qr. higher, which are the only changes noticed in the average returns received to day.

This day's market presented no new features; the attendance of actual buyers was limited, and sales of wheat, both foreign and Irish, proceeded slowly, at much the same prices for the former, and, on account of the short supply, at the full rates of Tuesday for the latter description. The farmers being occupied with field labour during the present fine, dry, frosty weather, scarcely a sample of country wheat was shown to day.

English and Irish flour was in fair request at the currency of Tuesday last, but in American parcels we had little doing.—The few arrivals of Roundland and chevalier barley were cleared off at 33s to 34s per quarter, and other sorts in proportion. There was also rather more inquiry for the common description of this grain.

In malt, beans, and peas, no alteration, either as to demand or value.

We experiencrd a better sale for mealing oats, and in the absence of any adequate supply, our extreme rates were more easily obtainable. Scarcely anything, however, was done in oatmeal, holders still requiring 21s 6d, and there being no buyers in any quantity above 21s per 240lbs.

LIVERPOOL PROVISION MARKET—FRIDAY.

Owing to the very cold weather which has set in, there is greater confidence in the minds of holders of Irish butter as regards prices; nevertheless the trade is very flat and dull, and the article difficult to move in any quantity; this may be traced to the dullness of trade generally, which prevails in every quarter of this seagirt isle. Bacon, hams and lard are in very moderate request, as well as beef and pork for ship stores. The prices are nominal.

LIVERPOOL CATTLE MARKET—FRIDAY.

Cattle imported into Liverpool from the 6th to the 13th of Feb.:—

Cows, 619—Calves, 8—Sheep, 1574—Lambs, 10—Pigs, 5051—Horses, 6.

BIRTH.

February 11, at Chester, Mr. Blayney, of Paradise row, of a daughter; on Sunday morning, of a son; and on Monday morning of another son. The mother and infants are doing well.

MARRIED,

Feb. 16, James Light, Esq., of Dublin, to Sarah, second daughter of W. J. Douglas, Esq., of Kilkenny.

At Burnchurch, John Hawkesworth Harden, of Summerhill, in the County Tipperary, Esq., to Elizabeth, fourth daughter of the late John Anderson, of Prospect, Co. Kilkenny, Esq.

On Friday last, Miss Macnamara, of Chapel Lane, Nenagh, to Mr. Michael Mullanphy, of Portroe, County Tipperary.

The fair of Parsonstown, on Saturday last, was well attended; there was a good supply of stock, fair prices were obtained for all kinds of stock; sheep were on the fall; good milch cows obtained high prices; pigs rated as low as twenty two shillings per cwt., the show of horses for sale was very bad.—*Leinster Express.*

ROLLS COURT—DUBLIN, THURSDAY.

IMPORTANT.

Gimlet *v.* Parker.

Davis *v.* Parker, and several other causes.

Mr. Henn, Q.C., moved, in the first cause, that the plaintiff's amended bill should be taken off the file with costs, on the ground that it had been irregularly filed, without entering the rule to change the solicitor to the original bill. It appeared that on the 3d November, 1841, the original bill was filed by Mr. Julian, as solicitor, on a judgment obtained against Captain Henry Parker, R.N., and no proceedings were heard on that bill. In May, 1842, John Robert Parker, Esq. the father of Captain Parker, died, leaving him considerable property, and to pay the defendant's debts.—Difficulties had been experienced in carrying the trusts of this will into execution, and accordingly it became necessary for the trustees to act under the direction of a court of equity; and in December last a bill had been filed by Mr. Murdock Green (who was the confidential solicitor of Captain Parker,) at the suit of Mr. Davis, a judgment creditor of the elder Mr. Parker, and who had also purchased the assignment of a judgment against the son. This suit was instituted at the desire of the trustees of the will and of Capt. Parker himself, to carry the trusts of the will of John Robert Parker into execution. Notice had been served on Mr. Gimlet pursuant to the usual rule, as a judgment creditor; and in reply to this notice Mr. Bagge, solicitor, served a reply for Mr. Gimlet, declining to become a party; but on the 20th of January, Mr. Bagge put a long amended bill on the file, without entering any rule to change Mr. Julian as solicitor. It was also stated in the affidavits in support of the motion, that after the death of J. R. Parker, Mr. Bagge had offered his services to the trustees of the will, to act as law agent to the estates (although in his answering affidavit he denied this statement.) This offer had been refused in June. In that month Mr. Bagge, without any notice or demand, filed a bill at the suit of his sister, on a judgment assigned by himself to her for £142. In a few weeks this judgment was paid off, to stop the proceedings of that suit, and Mr. Bagge's partner, who acted in that cause, furnished his costs at £92. Several other bills were also filed to administer Captain Parker's assets amounting altogether to six in number. The applications were meant to stop these proceedings, but his lordship decided that he had no power, but expressed his regret that he had not. In the present case there was a clear irregularity, and his lordship was asked to take the bill off the file, as the proceedings were oppressive, and all the creditors could have their demands settled in the one suit of Davis *v.* Parker, instead of having the property wasted by a number of bills filed, the cost of which might swallow up a property now more than ample to satisfy every demand.

Mr. Brewster, Q.C., resisted the application. The present was an attempt to cast off Mr. Gimlet, who was a judgment creditor of the Parker family; for Mr. Julian, in whose name the original bill was filed in 1841, never took any steps on foot of it, and now his lordship was asked to take the amended bill off the file, because the gentleman who was not active in the affair had not been changed as solicitor by a formal rule of the court. The original bill was filed in the name of Mr. Julian, but in reality at the instance of Mr. Greene, and now the client was to be defeated, because Mr. Bagge, his new solicitor, took those steps which the former one had neglected to adopt.

Master of the Rolls—Is your proceeding regular.

Mr. Brewster—It would be absurd to say a gentleman was a solicitor to a party who took no active step as such.

Master of the Rolls—His name appears as solicitor to the original bill of Mr. Gimlet, and he still appears as acting in such capacity.

Mr. Brewster observed that Mr. Greene, the friend of Mr. Julian, was the person interested in having the bill taken off the file.

Master of the Rolls—By his mouth, and in his heart, he shows an anxiety to stop six suits instituted against the defendant, the expense of which would be excessive.

Mr. Brewster said that if the original suit of Gimlet had been prosecuted, Mr. Gimlet would not be placed in the difficulty of which he now complained; and Mr. Greene had no right to make it as a grievance that five other bills were on the file by creditors, for the bill of his own client, Mr. Davis, who was his brother-in-law, made the sixth.

The Master of the Rolls—If you are irregular in your proceedings, I must order the bill to be taken off the file.

Mr. Brewster—We may put it on again the next day, and perhaps your lordship would consider it as filed *nunc pro tunc*.

Master of the Rolls—I do not mean to give indulgence to any of those bills.

Mr. Brewster submitted that on the merits Mr. Gimlet was entitled to retain his amended bill, and not to take his chance in the suit instituted by Mr. Davis against the defendant.

The Master of the Rolls observed that he had a duty to perform in protecting, as far as he could, the estates of debtors from the oppressive proceeding of those who might choose to institute different suits, when they might have their rights secured in one.

Mr. Brewster submitted that the rule of the court as to the formal charging of the solicitor did not apply to the present case, for the object was only to give notice, and such notice the parties had.

The Master of the Rolls—You refused to be a party defendant in the case of Davis *v.* Parker, and then you file an amended bill when there was one on the file of a most extensive kind, which provided for the claims of all the creditors, including those of your client.

Mr. Brewster—It is sworn they are not *bona fide* proceedings.

Mr. Henn—And we swear most positively they are, and for the benefit of all parties.

The Master of the Rolls—I must take them to be *bona fide*, and they relate to all of the debts.

Mr. Brewster observed that Mr. Davis had purchased up a judgment debt of Mr. Parker's to enable him to file a bill.

Mr. Butt said that Mr. Davis was the largest creditor of old Mr. Parker, £2,200 being due to him, and he was advised to purchase up a judgment against the son.

The Master of the Rolls considered this a prudent course to adopt. The bill of Mr. Davis was of an extensive frame, so as to include the claims of all other creditors, but Gimlet's was otherwise, and could not well work out the general objects of the creditors.

Mr. Brewster said that this could be easily remedied by amending the bill.

Master of the Rolls—If you had no right to file your amended bill in the name of Mr. Bagge, without changing the former gentleman, I will take it off the file.

Mr. Brewster was proceeding to discuss the merits of the case, when

The Court observed that it was quite unnecessary to go into voluminous affidavits, as there was a strict legal objection to be decided.

Mr. Brewster said that Mr. M. Greene had gone into a history of other suits in his affidavit.

Master of the Rolls—Mr. Bagge has proved himself to be more than a match for him in that, as his affidavit is three times as long.

Mr. Brewster observed that personal imputations had been cast on Mr. Bagge, which he had to answer line by line.

Mr. Burke followed on the same side, and urged that the rule, as to the changing solicitors, relied on by Mr. Henn, did not apply, as by the original bill no one had been brought before the court, and therefore there was no one to serve with notice of the change of solicitors, which was the object of the rule.

Mr. Butt replied, contending that the case was within the rule of 1770, and that there was a clear irregularity in filing the bill without entering the order to change the solicitor. In ordinary cases the court might allow this technical defect to be obviated by entering the rule to change *nunc pro tunc*; but in a case of oppression like this his honor would not give this indulgence to advance the purpose of heaping useless costs on the estate of the defendant.

The Master of the Rolls then gave judgment in this case. The present was a very important motion, and the objection taken to the plaintiff's proceedings was, that he had filed an amended bill with the name of a solicitor different from that of the solicitor to the original bill, no one having been entered to change. In ordinary cases, if an application like the present was made, the court was disposed to avoid as far as possible doing anything to prejudice the solicitor whose proceedings were impeached; and although the bill would be taken off the file it might be put on again the next day, and without fixing the party with the costs of the motion; but in the present instance a most oppressive course had been adopted No less than six suits had been instituted by different creditors of the defendant, when their rights might have been secured in one.—Upon the previous day, when an application had been made to stay several of these suits, the court felt it had no power to take such a step; but he (the Master of the Rolls) wished to have it distinctly understood, that from a conviction of the injurious consequences to the administration of justice, and to the rights and properties of the parties arising from the filing of many useless separate bills by creditors, he would take care to have a conference with the Lord Chancellor, in order to see if the court had not in its power some means of checking the mischief. Although such suits could not be stopped until the obtaining of a decree, and persons as a matter of right had the power to institute a cause, yet the costs of such proceedings were in the discretion of the court, and costs being withheld, when suits had been improperly instituted, would be likely to prevent a great scandal being inflicted on the administration of justice. His lordship then adverted to the objection taken on the rule of 1770, and held that the rule applied. The original cause of Gimlet was in court, and notice ought to have been served among others on the solicitor who was to be changed, as he might have a claim for costs. He was therefore of opinion that the amended bill should be taken off the file, and he would make the plaintiff pay the costs of the present motion.

Mr. Brewster asked his Honor to name the sum they were to pay as costs.

His Honor said £5

Mr. Greene observed that the costs of the motion exceeded that.

The Court considered that two counsel were proper in the case, and he would allow £10.

The parties in the other causes intimated their consent to give up their suits, and to come in to prove their debts under the decree in Davis *v.* Parker, and the same rule was applied in the first case of Gimlet *v.* Parker, the costs of the motion already awarded not to be claimed by the defendant.

THE PRIESTS' TARIFF!!

(From the Mayo Constitution.)

The resolution amongst the people to make the Priests submit to the new tariff of fees for the discharge of their spiritual duties, is still general and strong. Whether they will abide in that resolution remains to be seen. The Clergy will not give up without a vigorous and prolonged struggle, as with all their meekness and piety they don't like to resign any portion of their revenue. Yet they affect to be altogether disinterested in the matter, and tell the people that the conspiracy has for its main object to entrap themselves! Such is also the tone of the press which so incessantly bepraises every act of their Reverences. Will this logic prevail with Pat? If he can be persuaded that a saving of ten or twenty shillings, in his marriage money, of more than one half in the amount of the baptism fee, of the abolition of legacy money, &c., &c., with the discontinuance of the holding of confession in his house—if he can be convinced that all this is calculated to injure or ruin him, the Clergy will be the gainers, and the piety of their people will be put beyond question. But a large portion of the peasantry are yet unconvinced by the logic and unmoved by the threats and entreaties of their Reverences. We have heard of some cases in which parties went to some of them to get married, and offered the reduced fee of 10s., which was indignantly refused, no more would be given, and the parties retired, saying they would get married by a Protestant Clergyman. We think that their Reverences will be forced to reduce their charges somewhat, at least. They had better make a compromise with the people in time.

(From the Sligo Journal.)

The new agitation against the exorbitant fees of the Roman Catholic Priesthood is progressing, and promises, ere long, to be as general as the Temperance societies. The resistance has reached our neighbourhood. The parishioners of Skreen and Achonry have agreed to adopt the new rules. In the parish of Dromard the Roman Catholics turned out in opposition to the missionaries from Skreen, and we have heard that dreadful rioting took place. Near Achonry, a young man married a girl, and having paid the old fee, £1, he was carried off by a party, and his bride remains in maiden loneliness. A great many of them have also had their children baptised by the Church Clergymen, rather than pay the former fees to the priest.

THE LATE MR. WALL'S WILL.

(From a Correspondent.)

Although the death of Mr. Wall, the late resident dancing master of this town, is well known, still the circumstances connected with his last will and testament, and the fortunate event that placed his money in the hands of his relatives, instead of being deposited in the coffers of the "Church," are not very generally known to the public. I learn from good authority, that he left a sum of 800 or £1000 which he disposed of in a singular will he made sometime previous to his death. He was a great enthusiast in religious subjects, and made a pilgrimage to the shrine of some saint in Rome some years ago. After his death, some of the Roman Catholic clergy were quite sure of his cash, and accordingly a meeting took place at his lodgings, which the poor relatives attended. The will was opened, and it appears every farthing he was worth was bequeathed to the "Church" whether to say masses for the repose of his soul, or for some charitable objects, I did not learn. The priests were in high glee—when they came to that part of the will where he took care of the Church, and committed his sisters to the protection and safe keeping "of the saints"—leaving them some trifling sum as a memento of his attachment to them—but lo! on looking at the bottom of the will, the testator's name was not attached to it, he having forgotten to have it duly executed. Here was a check to the pious aspirations of the "Church," and in proportion as its interests became depressed, the merits of the relatives rose higher and higher. Nothing daunted, the representatives of the "Church" commenced their examination of the deceased's papers, and on the discovery of a parcel carefully and elaborately sealed, the hearts of the poor people failed them, and they gave up all their future hopes as lost—believing this contained the precious document. It was opened but it contained nothing but a lock of the late Dr. Doyle's hair, and thus the "Church" was for once undone, for the deceased having died intestate, his family took possession of his property; but whether the masses will be performed, or the month's minds faithfully kept, is a question I am unable to solve. The family are more fortunate than the relatives of the late Michael Nolan, whose property, amounting to some £14000, was *clutched by his confessors*. The Sisters of Charity obtained another *haul* by the death of Nolan's sister, and I never heard the relatives obtained a farthing of the sum—although they are reduced to the last stage of indigence, and were unable to proceed against the executors to set aside the will on the alleged ground of incapacity to execute any legal deed at the period it was said he signed it. Perhaps these facts will induce respectable Roman Catholic families to pause before they permit their clergy to take charge of the temporal affairs of their dying relatives.—*Carlow Sentinel.*

The Sardonic laugh is that beneath which the severest uneasiness is concealed, "Sardinia," says Solinus, "produces an herb which has this singualr property, that whilst it destroys whoever eats it, it so contracts the features, and particularly the mouth, into a grin, as to make the sufferer appear to die laughing.

M. DE TOCQUEVILLE AND LORD BROUHAM.

(From the Morning Herald.)

The following is the translation of a letter from M. A. De Tocqueville (member of the Chamber of Deputies,) to Lord Brougham:—

"Paris, Feb. 10.

"My Lord—In presence of an illustrious assembly, before which your lordship was well aware that it was not in my power to reply, you lately affirmed that I had shown marvellous ignorance of the question of the right of search. I do not hesitate to appeal, my lord, to all those who heard my speech in France, or who may have read it in England, and I leave them to judge as to whether there exists the slightest foundation for this attack. As it cannot be supposed that your lordship, a most distinguished member of the Institute of France, is not familiar with the French language, I must conclude that you neither heard nor have read my speech, and that an erroneous or imperfect idea of it has been conveyed to you. I take the liberty, therefore, of forwarding a copy of it to your lordship. I hope, my lord, that you will not reject the opportunity now afforded of forming a just opinion respecting it. Amongst other things you will perceive, by perusing it, that the very passages which you misquote, in order to prove that I am unacquainted with the most elementary facts connected with this question, prove that these facts are known to me. If this be true, my lord, on which side, allow me to ask, is this 'marvellous ignorance' to be found? The courtesy that I always wish to observe, more particularly with respect to a foreigner, prevents me from saying more on this head; but I may be permitted to assert without fear of contradiction, that so far from my not having understood the question of the right of search, it is your lordship who has totally misunderstood my speech. If, however, my lord, you had confined yourself to accusing me of what you are pleased to style my 'marvellous ignorance,' I should not have thought it incumbent on me to reply. But certain journals assert that you went further, and that you declared, or gave it to be understood, that I, actuated by party spirit, sought to envenom the unhappy differences now existing between the two nations. This, my lord, cannot be allowed to pass as a mere pleasantry, and although your lordship seems in your own country to have acquired by long habit a sort of immunity in the employment of injurious language, it does not follow that foreigners must recognise any such privilege. If, then, my lord, you have, in reality which appears doubtful, cast upon me this odious imputation, I must tell you plainly that it is a sheer calumny. It is not true that I endeavored to increase the mutual irritation between our two countries. I flatly deny so hateful a thought. On the contrary, I have, in several parts of the speech of which you have spoken without understanding it, said that I deeply deplored that irritation, and that my object was to find a means of calming it. My language throughout, I venture to affirm, bears the stamp of this conciliatory spirit. I doubt not that, after having read the accompanying document, you will yourself perceive this truth; but would it not have been at once more equitable, and more becoming your lordship's high position, to have taken the trouble of making this discovery before you spoke?—I have the honor, &c.,

(Signed)

"Alexis De Tocqueville."

(From the Standard.)

We have been honored by permission to publish Lord Brougham's reply, which is as follows:—

"Grafton street, Feb. 14.

"Lord Brougham presents his compliments to M. De Tocqueville, and he begs leave to assure him that he mentioned M. de T. in his speech with great personal respect, while he felt it his duty to expose the very great and mischievous errors into which he had fallen—errors which, in themselves and in their connection with the remarks made by M. de T. upon the relations between the two countries, led directly to the support of hostile feelings, and the greatest danger to peace.

"Lord Brougham referred to the very passages which he finds given in the corrected copy of M. de Tocqueville's speech, which he has been kind enough to send. That correction does not at all remove the impression from Lord Brougham's mind.

"M. de Tocqueville cannot surely mean by the paragraph in page 11, at the foot, to refer merely to indemnity as M. Berryer does; first, because it is not in the least applicable to indemnity; and secondly, because without any treaty—by the common law of nations—all the questions arising upon indemnity have at all times been judged by the tribunal of the nation doing the injury; and, consequently M. de Tocqueville never could have meant to call any such universal and long established right '*une disposition singuliere extraordinaire inouie.*' But his remark would be perfectly applicable in all respects to an arrangement by which slave traders should be taken into the port of the visiting vessel, and there judged.

"As to the ignorance of the American treaty of 1823, which M. de Tocqueville says he was acquainted with, Lord Brougham retains firmly his former opinion that M. de Tocqueville expressed himself in a manner clearly to show that he either was not aware of that treaty, or had entirely forgotten it, because he describes the right of search as unlike anything ever before known, and wholly extraordinary and unheard of. Now, it is quite immaterial whether the American treaty was ratified or not, because the fact of America having agreed to a right of search, much stronger than the one in question, and having even pressed the adoption of that right upon England, France, Russia, Portugal, Belgium and Columbia, is a complete proof that there was nothing so new and unheard of in the right now under discussion. Mr de Tocqueville says 'these treaties are like some others. Is the treaty of 1834 not a treaty, though it was not ratified? Is it not a treaty containing right of search? Was not America anxious to ratify it? Did she not ratify it? Was it not England that refused the ratification? America signed and ratified a treaty containing right of search. England objected to a part of it. This alone prevented its full ratification and execution. M. de Tocqueville seems, to assert that he was aware of that treaty. It is very extraordinary, then, that he made no allusion to it. It was, Lord Brougham will venture to assert, wholly unknown to every other person in France until Lord Aberdeen transmitted a copy of it, after the debate in the Chamber. But M. de Tocqueville might have been expected to know it, as having resided in America, and visited England. Therefore Lord Brougham regrets that, knowing it, and being the only person aware of it, he did not refer to it; and, indeed, Lord Brougham is wholly unable to comprehend why he did not, if his desire was to maintain good understanding and friendly feelings between the two countries. For certainly nothing could have better tended to that most beneficial end than showing the French nation that what they were so much offended with, and deemed so insulting to their flag, had been not only submitted to, but proposed by the Americans, whose example the enemies of the treaties 1831-1833 were constantly citing as a proof that France had been ill treated.

"Lord Brougham has to repeat, that he accompanied his remarks upon M. de Tocqueville's conduct, with expressions of respect and even esteem. He believed M. de Tocqueville to have been extremely ignorant of the question, which is familiar to all lawyers in this country. He supposed him to have acted under the influence of party feelings as well as national ones. He followed the examples of all times since there were debates in France as well as in England, that example having been set him by the statesmen both of France and of England, who have never failed, when the occasion required, to refer mutually to what passed in each others chambers of parliament. He is sorry that he has given offence to M. de Tocqueville, and he is very far, indeed, from daring to imitate the abusive and unbecoming style of his letter."

The White Quakers.—On Saturday Mr. Mullen, Governor of the Marshalsea, received an application from Joshua Jacob "for liberty to go forth into the city to do the work of the Lord," but with this request he very unequivocally refused to comply. He then begged to be allowed to attend the Catholic chapel, promising "to be a silent spectator, unless an overwhelming impulse of the spirit came upon him." Mr. Fenny, Deputy Marshal, wated upon him on Sunday morning by the directions of Mr. Mullen, to state that this application would be acceded to, if he gave an unconditional promise not to create any disturbance. He made no immediate reply, but after staring at the deputy for about twenty minutes, exclaimed, "Thou art like unto a dead man before me by the power of the Lord God." But persons in Mr. Fenny's position are exceedingly bad subjects to work upon. They know nothing of nervousness, and have the least possible quantity of those sympathies which may be operated upon by such personages as Mr. Jacob. Instead, therefore, of falling down stone dead, as no doubt the deputy governor *ought* to have done upon the delivery of this speech, he cooly turned away, and went about his business. But Mr. Jacob did not attend the Catholic chapel, and was not therefore, overwhelmed either by the "spirit" or by water.—*Freeman.*

PIOUS FRAUDS.

Popery, said the advocates of emancipation, is not what it was. Some explained the meaning of this oracle by saying that Rome had shared in the general enlightenment of the world; others, by showing that the Pope had become an old woman.

Without entering upon the question as to whether Popery is better or worse than it was, we may assert that it is as bad as ever.

The example with which we are about to confirm our opinion is so extravagant, that we approach it with considerable doubt and fear—doubt, whether we ought to make our columns, even at second hand, the vehicle of an impious fraud—and fear, lest in so doing we offend the just reserve and rational sensibility of true Christians on such subjects. But we believe that imposture is best counteracted by being exposed to the daylight of truth, and hence that the duty devolves on us of quoting from the *Freeman's Journal*—the acknowledged organ of the Roman Catholic priests and bishops of Ireland in the nineteenth century—the following pretended miracle, obviously manufactured in a foreign loom for the use of the Irish market:—

(From the Freeman's Journal of Thursday.)

"The *Univers* of the 12th February instant, contains the following remarkable statement.—

"'The accounts from China attest facts of another description, and which, to Christians, will explain those we have above announced. The silence we have preserved during the last fortnight will be a guarantee to our readers that if we speak out to day, it is on testimony the most weighty and worthy of belief. A letter which we received yesterday from Rome contains the following:—*Authentic letters from the Chinese missionaries confirm the astounding miracle of the apparition of our Lord in the presence of a vast number of the faithful and unbelievers.*"

"The *Univers* states it has received other details, but contents itself with quoting some observation from the *Gazette du Simplon* of the 8th of Feb. Our letter (adds the *Freeman*) confirm its details:—

"'Intelligence of undoubted authority has arrived from the apostolic vicariate of China, stating that a great multitude of Christians and Pagans belonging to that nation saw in the air, the heavens being serene and clear, the image of Christ Jesus crucified.'"

We really resist the indulgence of an impatient desire to comment on this audacious forgery; for we could not trust ourselves to comment upon it with the reverent feeling in which such themes should be discussed. But we cannot forbear calling attention to the course of fraud which seems to be the universal policy of the church of Rome at present—namely, the lying miracles inherent in their church. The Chinese impostor, however, puts to shame the invention and credulity of all modern Shrewsburys, and throws the *Estaticas* and *Addoloratas* into the shade. —*D. E Mail.*

PRESBYTERIAN MARRIAGE CASE.

HOUSE OF LORDS—WRIT OF ERROR—TUESDAY, FEB. 14.

The judges were summoned to attend the hearing of the following case, and the following judges attended:—Lord Chief Justice Tindal, Justices Patteson, Williams, Colbridge, Maule, Erskine, and Cresswell; and Barons Parke, Anderson, and Rolfe. The lords present were, the Lord Chancellor, and Lords Brougham, Denman, Abinger, Cottenham, and Campbell.

The Queen v. *George Millis.*

The hearing of this case was resumed this morning, when

The Attorney General, in support of the writ of error, proceeded with his address; at the close of which—

The Solicitor General, also in favour of the writ of error, addressed the house. He cited a variety of cases, among which were the case of "Dalrymple v. Dalrymple," in which Sir William Scott held, that by the common law of England a contract *per verba de præsenti* constituted marriage; the case of "Reid v. Parker," in which Lord Kenyon considered an agreement between two parties, *per verba de præsenti*, was *ipsum matrimonium*; that of "Rex v. Pidding" (10 East, 288,) in which Lord Ellenborough considered "that a contract of marriage *per verba de præsenti* would have bound the parties before the marriage act; the case of "M'Adam v. Walter" (1 Dow. 175), where Lord Eldon adopted the language of Lord Stowell in "Dalrymple v. Dalrymple;" the case of "Latour v. Teesdale," where the same doctrine was held. Blackstone, in his *Commentaries*, said that "our law considers marriage in no other light than a civil contract; the holiness of the matrimonial state is left entirely to the ecclesiastical law, the temporal courts not having jurisdiction to consider unlawful marriage as a sin, but merely as a civil inconvenience. The parties must not only be willing and able to contract, but actually must contract themselves in due form of law, to make it a good civil marriage. Any contract made *per verba de præsenti*, or in the words of the present tense, and in case of cohabitation *per verba de futuro* also between parties able to contract, was before the late act (the marriage act) deemed a valid marriage to many purposes, and the parties might be compelled in the spiritual courts to celebrate it *in facie ecclesiæ*; but these verbal contracts are now of no force to compel a future marriage." The same doctrine is laid down in Storey's *Conflict of Law*. He said—"Marriage is treated by all civilised nations as a peculiar and favoured contract; it is in origin a contract of national law; it may exist between two individuals of different sexes, although no third person existed in the world, as happened in the case of the common ancestors of mankind; it is the parent, not the child, of society—*principium urbis et quasi seminarium reipublicæ*. In civil society it becomes a civil contract, regulated and prescribed by law, and endowed with civil consequences. The common law of England considers marriage in no other light than a civil contract." As regarded the canon law, Sir John Davis said that "the decretals were not entirely and absolutely received and obeyed in any part of Christendom, but only in the temporal territory of the Pope, which was called by the canonists *patriæ obedientiæ*; but, on the other part, several of these canons were utterly rejected and disobeyed in France and England, and other Christian realms, which are called *patriæ consuetudinariæ*." Bracton, who wrote at the time when England was remarkably under the Pontifical sway, stated that the customary law of England controlled the canon law. The learned counsel went on to contend that the marriage act had not altered the common law with respect to the marriage contract. He next proceeded to cite a passage "Comyn's Digest," where he said the wife could not be endowed *ad ostium ecclesiæ*, until the marriage was solemnised, but that was a subject entirely for the ecclesiastical courts; it would not affect the validity of the marriage. He next cited the case of "Haydon v. Gould" (1 Salk. 117), where a marriage contract was entered into between two persons, and the husband claimed administration, which was refused by the Ecclesiastical Court, though the canon law held that the marriage was good, but by the statute law the husband was entitled.

At a few minutes past four the case was adjourned for further hearing to Thursday, when the Solicitor-General would resume his argument, not having concluded his speech.

Character of Englishmen.—Lords and Commons of England, consider what a nation it is whereof ye are, and whereof ye are the governors; a nation not slow and dull, but of a quick, ingenious, and piercing spirit; acute to invent, subtle and sinewy to discourse, not beneath the reach of any point, the highest that human capacity can soar to. What wants there to such a towardly and pregnant soil, but wise and faithful labourers, to make a knowing people a nation of prophets, of sages, and of worthies?—*John Milton.*

The National Assurance Company has paid Rush and Palmer, of Galway, £1200 for damage by fire to their mills; and to P. M. Lynch, Galway, £574, on shipment of a cargo.

POOR LAWS—FIXITY OF TENURE.

A special committee of the Ennis Board of Guardians met on Monday last, to take into consideration a series of resolutions submitted by Mr. Butler, one of the guardians. [The resolutions have already appeared in this paper.] On the resolution relative to the fixity of tenure, considerable discussion took place. Several of the guardians contended that the question ought not to be entertained by the committee. Sir Lucius O'Brien adduced several instances to show that what was called fixity of tenure, would, in fact, amount to confiscation of property, and transfer the estate from the landlord to the tenant; and showed that, instead of advancing, it would retard the improvement of the country, as the language of the landlord would be—You may farm my land, but beware how you make the smallest improvement, do not venture to drain or fence, or level, or add to the buildings, leave the land exactly as you find it. For these reasons it was that he was anxious to have this question excluded. Ultimately, the sense of the meeting was taken whether the motion should be withdrawn or not, when there appeared for withdrawing 8, against 2.—*Abridged from the Clare Journal.*

A Clergyman Shot by his Step son.—Gloucester, Monday.—This morning a young man, about 19 years of age, of genteel appearance, was brought to the county jail, in this city, charged with having intentionally shot the Rev. Hugh Percy Rennett, perpetual curate of Norton, a parish situated 4 miles from this city, on the road to Tewkesbury. The circumstances under which the outrage was committed are reported to be as follow:—Mr. Rennett, who is related to the Northumberland family, married a Mrs. Clarke, the mother of the young man committed this day to our county jail. The marriage was a very unhappy one, scarcely a day passing without some brawl or other occurring. As was natural, the young man took part with his mother, and it is alleged that the combined power of the mother and son was too powerful for the single handed vicar. On Friday night there was a quarrel, and on Saturday night another, in course of which the vicar threatened to strike his wife. This, it is said, roused the passions of the son to an ungovernable pitch, and, seizing a loaded pistol, he fired at his step father. The ball entered the neck, and the serious nature of the wound becoming instantly apparent, surgical aid was sent for, and the most persevering efforts made to extract the ball, but without effect. Wm. Cother, Esq., surgeon, of this city, was sent for express on Sunday, and ascertained that the ball, after penetrating the throat, through the centre of the stock worn by the unfortunate gentleman passed by the larynx, taking an oblique direction towards what is called the painter's muscle, and then descended downwards towards the shoulder. As may be supposed, the rev. gentleman remains in a very precarious state.

Taking of Fire Arms.—On the night of the 10th, two men with their faces blackened and armed, entered the house of Rich. Coughlan, of Ballymackey, and demanded fire arms. There were sitting by the fire at the time two women and three men over whom one of the Rockites, who was armed with a gun and bayonet, stood sentry; ordering them not to stir or he would blow them to eternity. The other man then searched the house and possessed himself of a gun and a pistol, and a horn nearly full of powder. Not being able to find any more, both he and the fellow who stood sentry then departed, having first secured the door outside so as to prevent any one of the inmates from watching their movements.

Attempting to shoot.—Some short time ago, a notice was served on Pat. Delany, steward to Caleb Going of Traverston, Esq., threatening him with the death of Mr. Hall. Delany, did not attach much importance to the notice; until a few nights ago as he was returning from his own house to his master's, which is about a half a mile distance, he was met in the fields by two men who challenged him. One of them, who was armed, discharged a shot at him, Delany fell not from a wound for he was not touched, but from terror, and the two miscreants fled fully satisfied that they had completed their diabolical intentions.—*Nenagh Guardian.*

Incendiarism.—The house of William Kearny, of Lisbough, Holy Cross, was maliciously set on fire, and would have burned to the ground were it not for the timely and extraordinary exertions of the neighbours. A reward of £10 has been offered for the conviction of the person or persons concerned in this outrage.—*Nenagh Guardian.*

Providential Escape.—Tuesday, two young ladies, who, with their mother, had been on a visit to some friends in Mallow, were walking on the banks of the Blackwater, near to Quartertown, when Mr. Henry Croker, who happened to be convenient, was alarmed by the fearful shrieks of a female. Proceeding to the direction from whence the cries issued, he discovered a lady lying against a tree, and unable to speak. Judging that some accident had occurred, he moved towards the banks of the river, when he perceived something floating on the surface. Mr. Croker instantly leaped into the water after the object, and having grasped it, discovered it to be a lady's muff.—He returned in search of the owner, when, after some time, he observed, stretched at the bottom of the river, a lady apparently lifeless, whose body was shaded by a bush which overhung the bank. He dived after her, and, after some exertions succeeded in bringing her on shore. Every assistance was afforded at the moment, and, after some time both were conveyed to their friends in Mallow, where through the instrumentality of medical skill, the young lady was recovering from the effects of the imminent danger she had been placed in. Great praise is due to Mr. Croker for his intrepidity on this as on former occasions, this lady being the fifth person he has rescued from a watery grave.—*Cork Constitution*

Only 11 mail coaches now leave London daily for the country. A few years since, before railways were formed there were nearly 30 that used to leave the General Post office.

Thirteen large vessels are at present fitting with the Archimedean screw, among which may be mentioned the Great Britain, now building at Bristol, a vessel of more than 3000 tons burden, the Rattler Government frigate, and three French ships of war.

Orders to limit recuiting for the army have been prepared, but not issued, in consequence of our affairs in Sinde and the Punjaub having assumed a warlike aspect. It was however generally believed that neither the Ameers nor Shere Singh would resist any demands made on them by Lord Ellenborough, except by words. The peace of India may be said to be at least secured.

We are sorry to learn that Miss Mitford, the celebrated authoress, is in straitened circumstances; so much so that her friends have deemed it necessary to open a public subscription in her behalf.

Paganini still Unburied.—It appears that the renowned Paganini is still doomed "to adorn a tale," if not "to point a moral," even after his demise. The Bishop of Nice—so say the continental journals—holding to the extraordinary bigotry which denounced the artist when dead, of whom, when living, the Romish Church made such liberal use, has denied permission for the entrance of Paganini's remains into consecrated ground. The body, now embalmed, is said to be lying in state in a house appropriated to the purpose, while the affair is under discussion at Rome.

The anti corn law gang of conspirators at Manchester are printing tracts, to be distributed in packers, at the rate of three and a half tons weekly, more than half of which, it is calculated, are made waste of without being read; this will cost £35,000! and the remaining £15,000, of the fifty thousand pound fund (when they get it) is to be devoted to contingent expense!! Fine fun this for the "printers;" "It is an ill wind that blows good to no one!"—*Newcastle Journal.*

Waterford:—Printed and Published for the Proprietor by R. Henderson, on the Mornings of Wednesday and Saturday—Wednesday, February 22, 1843.