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THE
ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BOMBAY
Town Hall, Bombay.

AMENTARY ABSTRACTS;

CONTAINING

THE SUBSTANCE

OF ALL

IMPORTANT PAPERS LAID BEFORE

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HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

DURING THE SESSION OF 1825.

LONDON:

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ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Papers contained in the ensuing volume, although sold separately, for the accommodation of persons who may not desire to purchase the whole work to which they belong, form part of a publication, entitled the "PARLIAMENTARY HISTORY AND REVIEW," the design of which is to afford an annual record of the proceedings of the British Parliament, together with an examination of the principal topics discussed in that assembly, and of the manner in which its functions are performed.

The wealth and power of Great Britain—the rank which she holds in the scale of national intelligence—and the freedom of speech for which her legislative assemblies have been so long celebrated,—render British history a matter of no ordinary interest and importance; and for this history the two Houses of Parliament must supply the most authentic as well as the most instructive materials.

It is surprising, therefore, that the debates of the British Parliament have never yet been arranged for the purpose of examination or reference;—that they are only to be found in the chaotic miscellany of daily reports;—and that they have been subjected to no periodical comment more systematic or accurate than the brief and hurried remarks of a newspaper editor.

The conductors of the present work have endeavoured to supply this remarkable deficiency in our periodical literature; and if they have only in a moderate degree succeeded in carrying their design into execution, they will have produced a work as novel as it is important. Some now living remember the sensation produced by the first appearance of the ANNUAL REGISTER; and if that work was deemed to have formed an epoch in the annals of literature, it is hoped that the present will be esteemed at least as striking an accession to the means of diffusing political knowledge.

In the first volume, all the debates on a given subject, after having been carefully revised and collated, have been collected under the general head to which they respectively belong; nothing being omitted but mere conversations, of no interest except at the moment of utterance; such as discussions regarding the day or hour at which a given debate should be entered on, questions of order, and the like.

At the end of the debates, is a careful examination, as well of the measures discussed as of the arguments adduced on both sides of the question, and of the conduct of Parliament with reference to the matter in hand.

Of these critical essays it is not for the conductors of the work to say much; but they can safely affirm, that they are and will be exempt from vehemence or invective, and impartially directed to what ought to be the only end of legislation—not the predominance of a particular party, sect, or portion of the community—but, the greatest happiness of the greatest number.

Next to the Debates of the Parliament itself, the most interesting and instructive documents, as well for the man of business of the present day as for the historian of future times, are the papers annually presented to both Houses in the shape of Reports

of Committees, Minutes of Evidence received by them, and Returns made on official authority.

These form annually nearly fifty folio volumes, which are printed solely for the use of members; and whether we consider the expense, the labour, or the space required to render them available to public use, they may be said to have been hitherto almost inaccessible.

The substance of all of these which possess any general interest, as well as the whole of the more important Reports of Committees, have been condensed and arranged in the ensuing volume, which is now presented to the public, printed uniformly with the Debates and Review contained in the first. To the merchant, the manufacturer, the lawyer, the statesman, and the man of letters, these documents are now rendered accessible at a small expense, and are so arranged that they may be referred to almost without the aid of an index.

To foreign nations, particularly France and the United States of America, the whole will afford a view of British affairs, more clear, comprehensive, and authentic, than any which can be obtained elsewhere.

Such is the present work, and such its claims to public favour.

Even if feebly executed, it cannot be of mean assistance to the progress of knowledge and improvement;—but as neither expense nor labour has been spared to its completion, the conductors are not without hopes that the execution may in some degree correspond with the design.

The difficulty and extent of the undertaking have doubtless rendered unavoidable, at the outset, many defects, but for these it is hoped some allowance will be made, when it is

stated that the work was not projected until July last, and that in every future Session the conductors will have the advantage of nearly a whole year for the preparation of the materials it may afford.

The work will in future appear on the first of January in every year.

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PARLIAMENTARY ABSTRACTS.

SESSION OF 1825.—6th GEO. IV.

IRELAND.

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE.

An Account of the Gross Receipt of the Revenue of Customs in Ireland; distinguishing the Amount received (in British Currency) at each Port for the following Years; the Year ending 5th January 1802, 5th January 1822, 5th January 1823, 5th January 1824, and 5th January 1825.

Ports	Years ending 5th of January,				
	1802.	1822.	1823.	1824.	1825.
Belfast	£ 304 0 0	£ 796 16 7½	£ 1,138 7 5	£ 633 18 4½	£ 966 8 10½
Belfast to the Continent	211,127 9 11	353,689 16 5	352,960 11 0½	326,594 11 10½	346,079 19 4
Coleraine	4,565 7 0½	4,076 7 3½	4,978 16 4½	3,395 4 4½	4,308 7 11½
Cork	254,673 15 2½	228,746 0 7½	243,006 11 2½	217,698 5 2½	206,165 4 11½
Donaghadee	987 13 2½	2,196 16 2½	635 15 8	622 9 0½	254 18 1½
Drogheda	6,650 12 11	15,591 16 2½	14,393 5 2	12,511 17 7½	13,651 16 10
Dublin	836,695 5 11	1,151,416 11 3	1,107,286 18 4½	983,410 4 5½	850,217 7 6
Dundalk	12,353 1 8½	13,151 9 1	14,515 17 3½	15,364 1 7	16,121 9 10
Galway	16,749 19 4	27,070 12 6½	11,162 3 5½	19,608 10 10	21,709 7 1½
Killybegs	3,251 14 7½	3,867 12 11½	4,160 5 0½	2,648 6 2½	3,914 6 10½
Kilrush and Clare	212 16 8½	7,006 19 0½	1,716 4 7½	733 12 0½	331 16 1½
Kinsale	3,608 12 10½	2,969 12 7	3,391 16 6½	4,743 18 2	2,141 16 0½
Larne	3,073 11 10	11,308 14 8½	15,468 7 4	16,519 11 1½	22,369 0 9
Limerick	54,809 9 5½	64,027 18 3	69,907 0 1	54,474 0 7½	61,784 13 5½
Londonderry and Ballyraine	74,578 17 1½	66,530 13 4½	70,506 10 10½	62,642 13 0	66,650 4 6
Newry and Strangford	50,922 16 3½	60,013 7 3½	73,859 16 3	57,506 17 4	67,512 4 9
Sligo	12,653 16 11	27,492 6 11½	20,671 15 9½	23,619 2 7½	31,207 14 1
Tralee and Dingle	876 19 2	7,428 15 4½	3,326 0 9	2,189 15 7½	2,189 11 3
Waterford and Ross	89,782 5 4½	105,708 12 11	116,086 18 6	97,597 10 0½	105,251 18 10
Westport and Newport	4,868 13 3½	4,431 11 1	2,189 9 7½	3,757 19 10	2,377 10 5
Wexford	3,405 2 0½	7,439 9 3½	7,232 5 0	7,738 16 2	6,401 0 1½
Wicklow	1,513 12 4½	4,310 4 8½	1,722 19 2	1,489 12 6	1,853 16 0½
Youghall	2,001 10 11½	6,368 11 2½	5,562 4 6½	4,214 0 6	5,206 1 3
Total	£ 1,676,496 18 0½	£ 2,184,118 17 2½	£ 2,146,680 17 6	£ 1,918,455 12 2	£ 1,847,630 2 7½

A RETURN OF THE GROSS RECEIPT OF

Distinguishing the Amount received at each Port or Collection, for the Years ending

PORTS OR COLLECTIONS.	YEAR Ending 5th January, 1802.			YEAR Ending 5th January, 1822.			YEAR Ending 5th January, 1823.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Armagh.....	15,010	2	8½	41,757	14	1	29,553	6	6½
Athlone.....	12,021	8	10½	19,487	9	4½	31,381	3	3
Baltimore.....	5,421	1	6½	6,706	12	7½	3,922	5	4½
Ballyraine.....	1,935	10	3½	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cavan.....	6,856	12	0	8,666	19	9½	7,834	17	6½
Clonmell.....	19,871	9	4½	68,690	19	9½	60,280	10	9½
Coleraine.....	5,761	1	0	14,382	9	4½	11,918	10	8½
Cork.....	53,635	4	6½	248,816	15	8	244,812	5	1
Dingle.....	4,623	18	8½	5,363	0	7	5,156	2	4½
Donaghadee.....	2,361	9	11½	...	...	...	...	...	...
Drogheda.....	9,229	1	9½	55,879	7	9½	55,606	16	8½
Dublin City.....	73,260	12	2½	318,223	8	10½	301,679	10	10½
Do. County.....	31,214	13	8½	310,956	12	6	323,887	9	11
Dundalk.....	11,244	13	1½	81,373	13	0	69,384	2	10½
Ennis.....	4,156	5	10½	4,307	4	5	3,839	10	10
Foxford.....	6,022	9	1½	7,844	14	9	7,657	15	0½
Galway.....	4,302	10	6½	19,314	10	10½	20,662	4	1½
Killybeggs.....	4,772	17	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kilkenny.....	9,094	12	0½	18,308	16	3	...	...	...
Kinsale.....	5,541	5	10½	7,049	2	4½	...	...	...
Larne.....	2,974	15	2½	...	...	...	...	...	...
Limerick.....	13,310	0	4½	75,913	7	10½	89,831	19	10
Lisburne.....	16,554	0	10½	174,652	19	8½	163,608	9	8½
Londonderry.....	8,841	12	6	48,200	4	3½	46,106	14	10
Loughrea.....	10,031	17	2	10,594	16	10½	8,869	3	3½
Maryboro'.....	18,343	13	5½	76,197	1	0	59,917	13	11
Mallow.....	12,208	3	8½	18,586	7	4	16,020	3	9½
Naas.....	13,837	0	4	61,768	11	0½	45,215	3	0½
Newry.....	5,883	7	1½	70,381	3	4½	68,181	16	10½
Ross.....	5,475	9	7½	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sligo.....	6,070	18	1	25,389	17	3	18,904	18	6½
Strabane.....	7,332	8	11	7,593	14	4½	5,640	2	3½
Strangford.....	7,280	4	2½	7,306	14	2	10,286	5	11½
Trim.....	12,960	5	10½	12,678	19	9½	5,687	9	10½
Waterford.....	16,816	7	7	71,844	1	7	85,447	13	6½
Wexford.....	18,587	15	5½	88,440	8	8½	67,269	0	8
Wicklow.....	4,718	17	7½	9,673	12	5½	6,841	12	2½
Youghall.....	8,168	14	11	10,862	8	5½	...	...	...
Total.....£	475,732	13	7½	2,007,234	0	5½	1,875,405	0	4½

THE REVENUE OF EXCISE IN IRELAND,

5th January 1802, 5th January 1822, 5th January 1823, 5th January 1824, and 5th January 1825.

YEAR Ending 5th January, 1824.			YEAR Ending 5th January, 1825.			OBSERVATIONS.
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
29,416	15	3½	76,103	0	6	
27,545	12	4½	37,518	6	9	
4,785	1	4½	1,569	12	10½	Consolidated with Cork Collection, from 5 April, 1824.
9,161	7	0	4,481	18	7½	... Do. ... with other Collections, 1807.
61,174	18	9½	68,536	1	10	... Do. ... with Dundalk, from 5 April, 1824.
13,232	15	10½	21,935	8	9½	
233,962	4	7½	253,446	15	0½	
4,832	2	8½	6,721	13	4	... Do. ... with other Collections, 1807.
48,356	14	4½	54,237	8	4½	
60,529	1	9½	...	...	...	} Do. ... 5 April, 1823.
471,474	10	5½	552,375	14	1	
52,878	5	1½	94,333	8	9½	... Do. ... with Limerick, 5 April, 1824.
4,121	19	6½	1,445	10	5½	
8,137	14	8½	9,743	10	6½	
25,107	2	9½	46,795	19	4½	... Do. ... with other Collections, 1807.
...	...	...	25,551	8	8½	... Do. ... with do. 5 December, 1821, and re-established from 5 March, 1824.
...	...	...	...	...	...	... Do. with Cork Collection, from 5 December, 1821.
...	...	...	...	...	...	... Do. ... with other Collections, 1807.
87,332	11	9	108,113	6	1½	
181,718	19	1½	187,955	19	5½	
54,043	18	2	64,274	0	11½	
8,726	4	3½	2,532	19	0½	... Do. ... with Foxford and Galway from 5 April, 1824.
49,309	0	9	58,155	2	1	
17,326	2	7	24,367	8	9½	
39,793	3	3½	41,736	10	0½	... Do. ... with Armagh, from 5 April, 1824.
46,276	6	3	15,493	5	5½	... Do. ... with other Collections, 1807.
23,055	13	3½	27,090	10	4	
5,268	11	5½	3,012	10	3½	... Do. ... with Londonderry, from 5 April, 1824.
11,976	1	9	6,372	5	3	... Do. ... with Lisburne, from do. do.
89,967	6	8½	94,291	1	6½	... Do. ... with Athlone and Drogheda, do.
62,692	11	3½	73,998	18	0½	
7,144	0	0½	2,702	7	10	... Do. ... with Naas and Wexford, do.
...	...	...	...	...	...	... Do. ... with Cork and Waterford, from 5 July, 1821.
1,739,346	18	5½	1,964,873	3	9½	

EDUCATION.
Substance of the REPORT of the Commissioners of Education in Ireland, for the Year ending 25th of March, 1825.

AFTER detailing the steps which they have taken with respect to the schools of royal foundation, especially Enniskillen, Banagher, Carysfort, and Dungannon, the Commissioners, advert to the state of the diocesan and district schools, express their regret that many of the grand juries of counties have declined to present money for the building and outfit or repairs of such schools, and observe that, until the clause of the existing act, imposing upon grand juries the duty of providing for the support and establishment of these schools, shall have been amended by the legislature, so as to render it imperative on them to present for such purposes, they entertain no sanguine expectation of aid from the grand juries for those most useful classical seminaries. From this remark, however, they except the grand juries of Antrim and Down, who have each presented 1000*l.* for the building of district schools in their respective counties; and the grand jury of Monaghan, who have presented 500*l.* for a similar purpose. The Commissioners state, that no endeavours have been wanting on their part to place the diocesan and district schools on a proper foundation; but that they have not authority to enforce a compliance with their suggestions.

Substance of the First REPORT of the Commissioners of Irish Education Inquiry.

THIS report is confined to the investigation of the general state of education of the lower classes in Ireland. After detailing, at considerable length, the particulars of an elaborate examination of the various existing institutions for the education of the children of the poor in that country, the commissioners thus state the opinion which that examination has induced them to form.

Having explained, as fully as the limits of a report of this nature will permit, the distinguishing characters of the different institutions which are now in operation in Ireland, for the purpose of promoting the education of the lower orders there, it becomes our duty to shew the grounds of the opinion which we have formed, that none of them provide a system of general education suited to the peculiar situation and circumstances of Ireland.

In a country in which such marked divisions exist between different classes of the people, as are to be found in Ireland, it appears to us that schools should be established for the purpose of giving to children of all religious persuasions such useful instruction as they may severally be capable and desirous of receiving, without having any grounds to apprehend an interference with their respective religious principles. In expressing this opinion, we have the satisfaction

of finding that we entirely concur with the views of the Commissioners of Education who preceded us, as stated in their 14th Report.

It is apparent that this important object has not been fully attained in any schools hitherto established. The present system is the result of an accidental combination of various institutions, some of which were formed for other purposes and with different views than can now be entertained. Some indeed are more nearly adapted to the wants and the circumstances of the times than others, but none of them have ever been placed on such a footing as to obtain the cordial and general support of all classes.

In the view which we have already taken of the different institutions, the merits and imperfections of each must have become in some degree apparent. It is necessary, for this purpose, again briefly to advert to them, in order to shew that, neither separately nor collectively, can they be held to have effected the object which appears to us so desirable to accomplish.

The parish schools, though in their original institution they were clogged with no regulations which would have prevented them from being of general utility, became, by the events of the Reformation, strictly Protestant; and when the act of William the Third prohibited Roman Catholics from teaching in schools, these, being wholly under the direction of the clergy of the Established Church, could never be likely to afford a system of education to which children of all persuasions could resort without distrust or jealousy.

The charter schools which came next in succession were long looked upon as instruments by which the children of the Roman Catholic peasantry were to be educated in the Protestant faith; as such they have from the first institution of the society been the objects of suspicion and aversion to the Roman Catholics; and though the original object has been in some degree abandoned, they still possess a character decidedly exclusive, and are never likely to undergo such modifications as could render them generally and extensively beneficial.

The respectable class of schools which are under the care of the Association for discountenancing Vice, though far more extensive in their operation and more liberal in their character, can hardly be expected to inspire the Roman Catholics or the Presbyterians with confidence, being under the immediate superintendance of the clergy of the Established Church; the doctrines of which they have always consistently and avowedly taught to all who would consent to learn them. The education of the children of any other persuasion is so entirely an accidental and secondary object, that Presbyterians and Protestant dissenters, as well as Roman Catholics, view this class of schools with some degree of distrust to its effects of instruction.

The Society for the Education of the Poor, more commonly known by the name of the

9. Kildare-street Society, which was selected and assisted by parliament, in the hope that it might provide instruction for all, without interfering with the religious opinions of any, has not fully succeeded in effecting that desirable object. We have already noticed the objections made to it by the Roman Catholic clergy. From our communications with them upon our respective tours, we can state, that the opinions entertained by them are generally the same as those of the Roman Catholic prelates whom we examined, and whose evidence is inserted in the Appendix. We found that an opinion prevailed generally amongst all orders of the Roman Catholic clergy, that a combined and systematic attempt was making on the part of several societies to effect the conversion of the Roman Catholics to the Protestant faith. They believe that not only the Bible, Tract, and Missionary Societies, and the Society for promoting the Principles of the Reformation, are decidedly aiming at this end; but that the London Hibernian, the Baptist, and even the Kildare-place Society, have also the same object in view. We found that they made little or no distinction between these several societies, although some of them in their character and their intentions widely differ from others. This confusion has in some degree arisen from the circumstance, that the same persons in several instances take a prominent and active part in the management of more than one of these societies, and the Roman Catholics have hence concluded, that their objects are alike in all.

It forms no part of our duty to notice any of these societies but such as are connected with the establishment of schools; and of that class we found that the London Hibernian and Baptist Societies were so conducted as to excite a greater degree of distrust on the part of the Roman Catholic clergy than any of the others. It is true, indeed, that general directions are given by these societies, that no attempt shall be made in their schools to instil Protestant doctrines into the minds of the Roman Catholic children. The chief object is to give them scriptural instruction. They are required not only to read the Scriptures in the schools, but to commit considerable parts of them to memory, for which purpose it becomes necessary that they should take the book to their respective homes. Scripture reading by the children of all ages is the predominant and almost the sole object of instruction; and it is the avowed wish of the directors, that the children should thus obtain for themselves an acquaintance with the doctrines of Christianity, without reference to any particular form of creed or worship.

The opinion which is formed by the Roman Catholics of the character and intentions of the London Hibernian and Baptist Societies, must naturally be the result of a consideration of the whole, and not of a part of their proceedings; and in this view it is important to observe, with re-

spect to the London Hibernian Society, that the circulation of the Holy Scriptures generally in Ireland is one of the declared objects of the society, and that it also employs a class of readers who are constantly engaged in travelling through those parts of the country which are inhabited by Roman Catholics, and in reading and expounding to them the Scriptures. So likewise with respect to the Baptist Society, its declared object is not only to establish schools, but “to promote the gospel in Ireland,” by the employment of itinerant preachers, and by the distribution of Bibles and tracts, either gratuitously or at reduced prices.

The anxiety and apprehension which we found to prevail amongst the Roman Catholic clergy, with respect to proselytism, induced us carefully to inquire whether many children had in fact been converted from the Roman Catholic faith through the immediate instrumentality either of the schools of the Kildare-place Society, or of the other societies with which it is connected; and we have no reason whatever to believe that the conversion of any children has taken place in any case in which it cannot be sufficiently accounted for by the religion of one or other of the parents. The Roman Catholic clergy, however, do not rest their opposition to these societies on the ground that proselytism has actually been effected by them, but on an allegation that such is their object, that such is the tendency of their schools; and that such might be the effect of their system if it were allowed to prevail. Whatever may have been the nature of the opposition which the Roman Catholic clergy have given, we had abundant opportunities of seeing that it had been very generally exercised, and its effects were apparent at the time of our inspection, in the altered state of by much the greater part of the schools. That their exertions to remove the children are not made with equal success, or with equal resolution in all cases, is naturally to be expected; but that they have been to a great degree successful, and will to the utmost be persisted in, we are led seriously to apprehend.

Having come to the conclusion that none of the existing establishments, whilst they continue to act on their present rules, can provide such a system of education as shall be cordially adopted and generally supported, it was our duty to consider in what way that important object could be best attained.

The complaints of the Roman Catholic clergy, that the bounty of Government was not intended to be exclusive, but that it was rendered so by rules which individuals had the power of applying to its distribution, attracted our serious attention; and, referring to the petition of the Roman Catholic prelates, we, in the first instance, considered, whether it was desirable to recommend a grant of money in aid of schools, to be founded and directed by some Roman Catholic body, to be selected for that purpose.

We had, in the course of our inspection, paid particular attention to three classes of Roman Catholic schools; we mean the schools of the brothers of Christian doctrine, the schools of the nuns, for the instruction of females; and the Roman Catholic free Lancasterian schools, generally attached to chapels. These three classes appeared to be severally capable of extension, and to admit of the possibility of forming the basis of a system of education which might readily be made to comprehend a great majority of the Roman Catholic children.

We entered into the consideration of this subject, however, with our minds deeply impressed by the inexpediency of establishing a system of separate education. We had observed, in our examination of these schools, that they possessed a character so peculiar and distinct, that though Protestant children were not systematically excluded, very few of them had ever been known to attend. In the practice of these schools, religious and general instruction are so blended together, that unless the course of teaching should be wholly changed, they could never afford any other than a strictly Roman Catholic education, inculcated through the medium of a series of catechisms; and in not more than one or two of these schools did we find that the Scriptures had ever been used. In many instances the schools of the latter class appeared to be inadequately furnished with books and other requisites; and an anxious wish was very generally expressed, by their conductors, that these deficiencies might be supplied by the aid of Government. On examining the books, however, we generally found them to be such as would be used only by Roman Catholics.

Were we to recommend a grant of money in aid of such schools, the result would be, that they would be eagerly supported by the Roman Catholic body, their numbers would increase, and the masters would be better paid, the schools better supplied, and the instruction rendered more effective; but its character would still remain the same. The Roman Catholic children would also, no doubt, universally withdraw from every other description of schools, and from every opportunity of being associated with Protestants; and after a short time, two systems would be established in the country, in which the children of the two persuasions would be so educated as to be more than ever estranged from each other.

The evils with which separate education is evidently pregnant, necessarily fixed our attention on the benefits which would result from a contrary course. A system of united education, from which suspicion should, if possible, be banished, and the causes of distrust and jealousy be effectually removed, under which the children might imbibe similar ideas, and form congenial habits, would tend rapidly to diminish instead of increase the distinctness of feeling which is now but too prevalent. We were led

therefore anxiously to seek for the means of establishing a system of united and general education.

We had learnt, in the course of our inquiries, that no system could obtain a general and cordial support in Ireland, which should not, in addition to elementary knowledge of a literary character, afford the opportunity of religious instruction to persons of all persuasions. We so fully concurred in this view of the subject, that our objection to most of the systems at present in operation is, that they both attempt and effect too little upon this important point. The principle hitherto acted upon by the Kildare-street Society, in particular, is to omit altogether the points of religious doctrine and belief upon which a difference of opinion exists. For this purpose it has been found necessary to exclude all catechisms, and to forbid all comment or explanation of the Scriptures; the children of the most advanced classes, are taught to read the New Testament, and are left without guide or assistance to discover its meaning. It is not to be denied that some children may frequently obtain much knowledge in this imperfect manner; but it was evident to us, in the opportunities which we had of examining the children in these schools, that they too generally comprehended but little of the meaning of the portions of Scripture which they had successively read. The system appeared to us to be one in which very much of what was useful was sacrificed to the hope of excluding every thing on which disagreement could exist.

In the schools of the Association for discountenancing Vice, this compromise is not carried to the same extent as in the schools of the Kildare-place Society; for in them the catechism is regularly taught to the children belonging to the Established Church, though none others are compelled to learn it. We were led also to observe, that the principle of withdrawing the attention of the pupils from all points on which religious difference existed, had been thought very objectionable by some of the Protestant as well as the Roman Catholic clergy; and it is, we believe, the opinion of most persons of the Established Church, and other Protestant communions, as well as of the Roman Catholic clergy, that explanation and comment upon the Scripture, and a certain degree of catechetical instruction, are necessary to religious education.

We had, in the course of our inspection, been much struck with the state of many schools, in which the pupils paid for the instruction they received, and in which there appeared to be perfect harmony amongst children of all persuasions. These schools were carried on as objects of private speculation, and not supported either by public funds or by the aid of societies. Each child was taught the religion which its parents wished it to learn; and the master, who depended for his livelihood on giving satisfaction to his employers, was content to impart as he could the instruction necessary for each. In this manner

we frequently found the same master teaching the catechism of the Church of England to one child, the Roman Catholic to another, and the Presbyterian to a third; according to a mode which is well described to us by Mr. Cooke, the moderator of the Presbyterian Synod of Ulster. Although we do not mean to approve of the same master teaching different and conflicting religious doctrines, the state of these schools led us to the conclusion, that it was at least possible that both religious and general instruction might be communicated in establishments, in which children of all persuasions should be taught together.

The modern practice of mutual instruction, wherever it has been introduced, has created the necessity of adopting a more precise uniformity of reading, than existed in the unimproved schools to which we have alluded, and in which the study of one child has little or no connexion with that of another. According to the course now so general, the children, who are divided into classes, read successive passages out of similar books, and the difficulty of avoiding the conflict of religious differences is thereby considerably increased.

On the fullest consideration which we have been able to give to the subject, we are of opinion, that it is desirable to unite children of the different religious persuasions in Ireland, for the purpose of instructing them in the general objects of literary knowledge, and to provide facilities for their instruction separately, where the difference of religious belief renders it impossible for them any longer to learn together.

We proceed to examine in what manner religious instruction can most effectually be given to children of the Protestant faith in Ireland. It appears from the returns made by the Protestant clergy, that of 137,570 Protestant children, stated to be now in the course of education, 91,026 are of the Established Church, 43,236 are Presbyterians, and 3,308 are dissenters of various denominations.

It has been satisfactory to us to learn, that though differences of opinion exist among persons of these respective classes of Protestants, there is nothing which would prevent them from receiving religious instruction from persons of their respective communions in the same schools, if such an arrangement should be found convenient, nor would there be any difficulty in their reading the Scriptures together. The authorized version of the Bible is used by all classes of Protestants, and the exercise of private judgment in the interpretation of Scripture is recognized by all; there is no objection therefore to their reading together in classes, neither is there any objection to the children of the different denominations of Protestants being taught their respective catechisms, when they are assembled for the purpose of receiving religious instruction.

Various opinions are entertained with respect

to the time which it is necessary to devote to religious instruction, and in the different schools now in existence the practice is also various; we collect, however, that portions of two days in each week would be fully sufficient.

It becomes our next duty to inquire in what degree the clergy of the Established Church can or ought practically to take charge of the superintendence of the religious education of their flocks.

Upon this subject we proposed the following questions to his Grace, the Archbishop of Dublin:

Q: "Laying for the present out of consideration any obligations which the statute law may impose upon the clergy, would your Grace be so good as to state what you conceive to be the extent of the duty of the parochial clergy of Ireland, with respect to the instruction of Protestant children of the Established Church within their respective cures of souls?"

His grace's answer was as follows:

"I conceive it to be their duty to find out, in all the families within their respective spiritual charges, what children will receive from them religious instruction; and contrive the best means of giving it. I conceive it is the bounden duty of every clergyman, in every parish, to go from door to door to know the young persons of the families, and to learn if they can procure their attendance at any proper time and place, so as to give them religious instruction. It is their bounden duty to seek after them, and give them what you are now prescribing modes and facilities to effect."

The following question was then submitted to his grace:

"Of course, if any considerable portion of the Protestant peasantry of their respective parishes were collected in parochial schools at specific times set apart for that purpose, there could be no doubt it would form a part of the duty of the clergy, in your grace's view of it, to discharge that duty, even laying out of consideration any obligation under the statute?"

To which his grace answered, "Yes, most certainly."

We then inquired his grace's view with respect to the obligations imposed by statute law upon the clergy with respect to parochial schools.

His grace's answer was as follows:

"My view of the duty of the clergy, as growing out of the act of 28th Henry Eighth, is, that there is no obligation imposed on the incumbent of a parish to keep a free school. The law, as it appears to me, has become obsolete, or rather is virtually repealed, respecting certain duties enjoined to the clergyman, such as telling the beads in English, &c. because these duties themselves have passed

“away. But the duty of keeping or causing to be kept an English school, I conceive to be still in force under the statute. The mistake that has prevailed on this head seems to be, that the clergy are bound by this act, and the oath prescribed by it, to keep a free school; whereas the act expressly describes the school to be kept not as a free school, but, on the contrary, as one in which a stipend is to be paid by the scholars resorting to it, conditioning only that the stipend shall be such as is usually paid by scholars in English schools in that district of the country; at the same time I conceive that the clergy are to the utmost of their power bound to keep, or see that there be kept, an English school for the instruction of the poor, although they are not bound to see that it shall be a free school. The true intention of the law I consider to be conveyed and enforced in the act of the 7th of William Third, intituled ‘An Act to restrain Foreign Education.’ In this act it is declared that the clergy shall, in their respective parishes or districts, keep English schools, or cause them to be kept, according to the true intent and spirit of the act of Henry the Eighth; and this, I conceive, sets aside all those minor considerations growing out of the change of times, and brings the matter to the fair honest equity of the case, that the clergy were intended to be the guardians of the education of the country, and to promote it in every fair and practicable way. I have always felt it as such, and considered that the oath imposed on the clergy at institution bore broadly upon this, without entering into the minutiae of the legal consideration which admit of, and have led to, a great deal of special pleading; but which, when gone into, even with a liberal interpretation, seem decidedly to preclude the idea that the clergy are bound to keep free schools.”

It is obvious to us, that the intention of the statute of Henry Eighth was not pecuniary contribution, but superintendence, and that it did impose the latter duty. This act, after reciting, amongst other things, “the importance of a good instruction in the most blessed laws of Almighty God;” and further reciting His Majesty’s disposition and zeal, that “a certain direction and order be had, that all we his subjects should the better know God, and do that thing that might in time be and redound to our wealth, quiet, and commodity,” proceeds, after a variety of enactments tending to the suppression of the Irish, and the introduction of the English language and customs, to require an oath to be administered to every clergyman at ordination, and another at institution, that amongst other things “he should keep, or cause to be kept, within the place, territory, or parish, where he shall have pre-eminence, rule, benefice, or promotion, a school for to learn English, if any children of

“his parish come to him to learn the same, taking for the keeping of the same school such convenient stipend or salary as in the said land is accustomedly used to be given.”

We cannot see in these provisions, that the obligation is limited to the mere teaching of the English language. It appears that the better knowledge of God and the civil and moral duties of the people, were equally the objects of the legislature. Although the Reformation subsequently rendered obsolete the direction, that the clergy should “bid the beads in English,” we see nothing to annul the obligations imposed by the other provisions of the act. But whatever doubt might be entertained, if the question rested upon the construction of the act of Henry Eighth alone, we agree with his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, in thinking, that any such doubt is removed altogether by the act of William Third, which enjoins the strict execution of the act of Henry Eighth, with respect to schools.

Every clergyman accordingly is still required by law to take an oath at institution to that effect, which is in the following terms:

“I do solemnly swear, That I will teach or cause to be taught an English school within the vicarage or rectory of _____ as the law in that case requires.”

Under these circumstances, a responsibility is imposed on the clergy, which is the more inconvenient, as its limits and nature are but imperfectly defined, though it certainly exposes them to the liability of being deprived of their benefices, if convicted a third time of not complying with the provisions of the act. We therefore recommend, that this uncertain duty should hereafter be limited to their personal superintendence of the religious instruction to be given to the Protestant children of the Established Church in the public parochial schools which we shall hereafter recommend to be established.

The careful instruction of the children in the Bible, not merely by making them read it, but by fixing their attention to its doctrines and precepts, and by exercising their minds in the perception of their true force and meaning, is the first and most important object of Protestant religious education. In addition to this, the teaching one catechism to the children of the Church of England, and one also to the Presbyterians, is the course which appears to be approved by persons qualified to form an opinion on the subject. The mode of giving religious instruction, by teaching in succession a variety of catechisms, has been condemned to us by high authority, and has, we believe, deservedly fallen into disrepute.

It is stated by Mr. Daly, as the result of his practice in the schools superintended by him in his parish of Powerscourt, that he finds the children who attend to the comment and explanation of a limited portion of the Scriptures, which are given by him at certain periods of

the week, make more progress in religious knowledge than others who range through a greater extent without the advantage of exposition. The nature and extent of the religious instruction to be administered to the children of the Established Church will, however, be more properly arranged by the clergy, under the direction of their respective diocesans.

In many parts of Ireland it would occur, that a very large proportion of the Protestant children in attendance on the schools would be of the Presbyterian church; the care of the Protestant children would, in these cases, respectively devolve on the clergymen of the Established Church, and the Presbyterian ministers, whose inclination we are assured it would continue to be, as it now is their practice, to attend particularly to the instruction of the children of their flock, in their catechisms and other religious exercises. To afford facilities for this purpose, we recommend, that in those parts of Ireland where the Presbyterians are found in considerable numbers, provision should be made in each of the public parochial schools of united general instruction, for the appointment of a teacher of that communion; who, besides his services in the common instruction of the school, may assist in the separate religious instruction of the Presbyterian children; under the superintendance of the minister.

Having thus far explained our views as to the religious education of the different classes of Protestant children in Ireland, we now come to the consideration of the religious instruction of the Roman Catholics. We had learnt that they not only wished that their children should receive instruction in the doctrines of their faith, but were also anxious that such instruction should not be left in the hands of persons professing a different belief. In the reasonableness of this desire we could not but acquiesce.

We therefore felt it necessary to have an interview with the four archbishops of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland, for the purpose of ascertaining their opinions in what manner religious instruction ought to be provided for the children of Roman Catholics. The substance of our conference will best be understood from the minute made upon the occasion, which we shall here insert.

Minutes of a conversation between His Majesty's Commissioners of Education Inquiry, and the most reverend Dr. Murray, one of the archbishops of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland.

Board of Education Inquiry,
Dublin, Thursday, 16th December, 1824.

The Commissioners being desirous of ascertaining the views of Dr. Murray, and of the Roman Catholic clergy in Ireland, on some important points connected with a general plan of education, stated to Dr. Murray that they were anxious to establish

such a system as should unite children of all religious denominations in the same schools, except when it should become unavoidably necessary to separate them for the purpose of religious instruction.

They observed, that they considered this a point of great importance to the interests of the state, as it was only by training up the youth of all persuasions in habits of early intercourse and attachment, that they could hope to establish among them those reciprocal charities upon which the peace and harmony of society must depend.

The Commissioners then stated, that they could not consider any system of education as deserving that name which should not seek to lay the foundations of all moral obligation in religious instruction; and that with respect to the religious instruction of Roman Catholic children, they were anxious to ascertain the sentiments of Dr. Murray and of the Roman Catholic clergy.

They therefore inquired whether there would be any objection to common literary instruction being received by Roman Catholics, as well from a Protestant as a Roman Catholic master; and whether religious instruction could be given to Roman Catholics by a Roman Catholic layman approved of by the proper Roman Catholic pastor.

Dr. Murray stated, that there could be no possible objection to Roman Catholics receiving literary instruction from a Protestant, nor to their receiving religious instruction from a Roman Catholic layman approved of by the proper Roman Catholic pastor; and he added, that the providing of proper persons for such purpose would be a great relief to the Roman Catholic clergy.

The Commissioners then suggested, that schools might be established, in each of which there should be both a Protestant and Roman Catholic lay teacher, by whom education in common might be administered; so that the children, united in the same classes, should learn from the same masters, and use the same books; that for the remuneration of such teachers, adequate means might be provided; that the Roman Catholic teacher might assist in the general literary instruction, and might give separate religious instruction to the Roman Catholic children, subject to the direction of their pastors; and that the school-room, for a reasonable portion of time, on one or two days in the week, might be appropriated exclusively to that object.

In these suggestions for uniting Protestant and Roman Catholic children in literary, and separating them only for religious instruction, Dr. Murray expressed his concurrence.

The Commissioners then observed, that separate religious instruction should not commence until the difference of religious

“ belief should make it impossible for instruction any longer to be received in common ; and they inquired whether it would be objected to, on the part of the Roman Catholic clergy, that the more advanced of the Protestant and Roman Catholic children should, at certain times during school hours, read portions of the Holy Scriptures together, and in the same classes, but out of their respective versions, subject to proper regulations, and in the presence of their respective Protestant and Roman Catholic teachers ; suggesting, at the same time, that opportunities might be afforded to the teachers of each persuasion to explain to the children separately the portions so read.

“ Dr. Murray answered, that serious difficulties would exist in the way of such an arrangement ; and in lieu of it he proposed, that the Holy Scriptures should be used only when the Roman Catholic children should be taken apart for the purpose of receiving religious instruction, and he said, that there could be no possible objection to the Roman Catholic children then reading out of the sacred volume itself, the gospels and epistles of the week : he added, that no objection would be made to an harmony of the gospels being used in the general education which the children should receive in common, nor to a volume containing extracts from the Psalms, Proverbs, and book of Ecclesiasticus, nor to a volume containing the history of the creation—of the deluge—of the patriarchs—of Joseph—and of the deliverance of the Israelites, extracted from the Old Testament ; and that he was satisfied no difficulties in arranging the details of such works would arise on the part of the Roman Catholic clergy.

“ The Commissioners then stated, that they considered it of the utmost moment that no books or catechisms should be admitted either in the course of the literary or religious instruction, containing matter calculated to excite contempt, hatred, or any uncharitable feeling in any class towards persons of a different religious persuasion.

“ To this Dr. Murray cordially assented.

(Signed) “ D. MURRAY, Abp.

“ T. FRANKLAND LEWIS.

“ J. LESLIE FOSTER.

“ W. GRANT.

“ JAMES GLASSFORD.

“ A. R. BLAKE.”

“ 7th January, 1825.

“ The Commissioners having had an interview this day, with the most reverend Doctors Curtis, Murray, Kelly, and Laffan, the four archbishops of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland, the minute of the 16th of December last was read ; and it was explained, that the passage which related to

“ the separate religious instruction of Roman Catholics meant, that the proper Roman Catholic pastors should have the right of being present on those occasions, and giving such religious instruction as they should think proper, and that what was said of masters applied also to mistresses. The archbishops who were not present on the 16th, expressed a wish to consider the matter until to-morrow.”

“ January 8th.

“ The Roman Catholic archbishops mentioned above, having met the commissioners this day, expressed their concurrence in the views already expressed by Dr. Murray.

(Signed) “ PATRICK CURTIS, D.D.

“ OLIVER KELLY, D.D.

“ ROBERT LAFFAN, D.D.”

After a careful review of the whole of this subject, the delicacy and embarrassments of which are exceeded only by its importance, our minds have been led to the conclusion, that no better system for providing a general and united education can now be adopted than that which we proceed to recommend. It is not possible for us, in the present Report, to define every part of its details ; it will, we trust, be sufficient to point out the leading principles on which the system should rest.

We propose that public schools of general instruction shall be established, one at least in each benefice, in which literary instruction shall be communicated to children of all religious persuasions ; that two teachers, to be appointed by the general superintending authority, (the establishment of which we shall subsequently recommend,) shall be employed in each school, where the extent of attendance shall be sufficient to justify the expense ; that they shall each of them be laymen, and that one of them shall be a Roman Catholic, where any considerable number of Roman Catholics are in attendance on the school ; and that a Presbyterian teacher shall be provided in those schools, where the number of children belonging to that communion shall render such appointment necessary or expedient ; that on two days in the week the school shall break up at an early hour, and the remainder of the day be devoted to the separate religious instruction of the Protestants, the clergyman of the Established Church attending for the purposes at once of superintendence and assistance ; and the Presbyterian minister likewise, if he shall so think fit, for the children of his communion. That on two other days of the week the school rooms of general instruction shall in like manner be set apart for the Roman Catholic children ; on which occasions, under the care of a Roman Catholic lay teacher, approved of as mentioned in the minute which we have given, they shall read the epistles and gospels of the week, as therein mentioned, and receive such other religious in-

struction as their pastors (who may attend, if they think fit) shall direct. It may be right to notice, that in the Roman Catholic church there are epistles and gospels appointed, not for Sundays only, but for almost every day in the year; and they comprise altogether a large portion of the Old and New Testament.

If the attendance on a school should be so limited as to render both a master and usher unnecessary, the master might be permitted to take charge of the school of general instruction, and be also the religious teacher to the children of the same persuasion as himself. In such a case, however, a person of a different religion, duly qualified and properly remunerated, might attend at those periods in the week when the school is set apart for the religious instruction of children of a different persuasion from the master, and perform, under proper superintendance, the duty of religious teacher to those of his own communion; and it might be possible for the individual appointed to this duty to take charge of the religious instruction in more schools than one in a parish or district. We suggest this arrangement, however, as one which is possible rather than desirable; and express our opinion, that the establishment of parochial schools, sufficiently large to occupy a master and usher, is much the most eligible course.

We think it further necessary, that means should be provided for supplying Testaments, according to the authorised version, for the Protestant children. With respect to the Roman Catholic children, an edition of the New Testament for their use has been submitted to us by the Roman Catholic prelates. The text of this edition is the Douay version; almost all the notes, however, originally annexed to that version have been omitted. We find, in fact, that there are only sixty-three notes altogether to the four gospels; and these, with the exception of an inconsiderable number, have no peculiar reference to the doctrines of the Roman Catholic church, as distinguished from those of the Protestant churches; and such as have this peculiar reference are expressed in a manner which ought not, we think, to be offensive to any description of persons. The summaries prefixed to the different chapters are in like manner, as it appears to us, unobjectionable. To this edition is also annexed a table of the epistles and gospels throughout the year, specifying the portions of the Scriptures appointed to be read for those purposes by the Roman Catholic church.

Deeply impressed with the importance and necessity of introducing the Scriptures into all institutions for the education of the people, as a fundamental part of the instruction, we recommend that copies of this edition of the Testament, omitting the address thereto prefixed, but retaining the notes, should be furnished for the religious instruction of the Roman Catholic children, in every school established upon the

system proposed. It will be the Roman Catholic clergy to supply such other books for the purpose of religious instruction as they may desire. We would suggest, however, that many forms of catechisms are now in use amongst the Roman Catholics in the different districts of Ireland, and that it would be expedient that some one or two should be selected or compiled for general use.

It will be necessary also to provide* a volume compiled from the four gospels, in the manner adverted to in our conference with the Roman Catholic archbishops. Such a book, together with the Book of Proverbs, and the work containing the history of the creation, the deluge, and other important events, extracted from the Pentateuch, may be profitably used in the schools during the period of united and general instruction. We by no means intend such works as substitutes for the Holy Scriptures, although we propose that the reading of the Scriptures themselves should be reserved for the time of separate religious instruction.

The means by which a system of general instruction can be properly enforced and administered are hardly of less importance than the system itself. That object has not hitherto been accomplished by any one of the institutions which have been supported by the public funds in Ireland.

The members of the Incorporated Society, the Association for discountenancing Vice, and the Society for the Education of the Poor, all distribute the money granted to them under rules laid down by themselves, the execution of which, it does not appear to us, they have adequate means of enforcing. The latter society, by the employment of inspectors; have done more towards the accomplishment of this object than the others. Their schools, however, as we have already observed, are often in connexion with other societies, which establish rules incompatible with a strict compliance with their own, and practical evasions of their rules are daily occurring. Of the talents, industry, and integrity of the gentlemen who compose the acting committee of the Kildare-street Society, we entertain the highest opinion; but we think they have not the power to effect all the objects which they are desirous of accomplishing. We are of opinion, that any society consisting of a large and fluctuating body of subscribers, who are

* A work of this description, entitled, "An Evangelical Life of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, forming an Harmony of the Four Gospels," sanctioned by the Roman Catholic prelates, has been examined by us. It consists of the text of the four gospels, according to the Douay version, interwoven into one consecutive narration. The order pursued is chronological. Where any particular occurs in one gospel that is not to be found in the others, it is inserted. Where the same particulars are stated in two or more, the statement is inserted from that gospel in which it is the most full.

The notes, originally annexed in an Appendix to this work, have been omitted in an edition which we have examined.

bound by no other rules than those which they impose upon themselves; cannot permanently be the most proper instrument for directing and controlling a system of general education, maintained principally by the public money, in a country which unfortunately abounds in distrust and jealousy on account of religious opinions.

For the foundation and management of such schools of general instruction as we recommend, we think that a distinct Board should be appointed by Government, of persons responsible for the execution of the duty committed to their charge; and who should be invested with sufficient authority to control the application and expenditure of the public money appropriated to the purposes of general education. The Board should, we think, appoint inspectors, who should be enabled to examine upon oath. The schoolmasters, also, we think, should be sworn to conform to the rules laid down by the board for their guidance. It will be necessary for this Board to have the entire control of all money to be applied to the maintenance of the schools under their care, from whatever sources it may be derived; — to have a legal right to the school-house, either by a permanent grant in the case of a parochial school, or by possession being transferred to them, for a period not less than a year, in the case of a school belonging to a private patron receiving aid from the Board. They should have the sole power also of appointing and dismissing all masters and assistants, and of admitting or rejecting all books or papers which may be read in their schools.

The establishment of such an authority, for the purposes we have mentioned, renders it necessary to consider what course should be adopted with respect to the societies now supported or assisted by public grant.

The first which presents itself to our notice is the Incorporated Society. It has been our duty to give so detailed an account of the schools under its direction, that little more can be now necessary than to state our conviction, that no care or anxiety, however great, on the part of the many benevolent and distinguished persons concerned in its management, can ever successfully counteract the defects inherent both in its plans and constitution; and we are therefore obliged to suggest the expediency of gradually withdrawing the public aid from that Society, and of leaving it to the management of its own funds, which we conceive considerably exceed £7,000 per annum.

We think that these schools are now to be judged of, not as institutions for conversion, but rather as places of education: and as such we are clearly of opinion that, under all the circumstances which it has been our duty to detail, they ought no longer to derive aid from the public revenue. The course which we think should be pursued with respect to the reduction of these schools, is, first, that all children who are fit to be apprenticed should be disposed of with

as little delay as may be; and, secondly, that there should be no new admissions of children until the total number be so far reduced that the establishment can be maintained by its own private funds. It will then be for the Society to judge in what manner they can most usefully apply the large revenues which have been entrusted to them by the donation or bequests of charitable individuals, and to decide whether it be still expedient to maintain boarding-schools at so large an expense, and, as we think, to so little purpose. They have already acted upon the principle of establishing day-schools; and if hereafter they should determine to extend their application of that principle, the superintendence and management of the schools maintained by them might readily be brought under the powers of the Board which we have recommended to be established. A more desirable course, and, perhaps, still more conducive to the interests of the Established Church, would, in our judgment, be an application of their funds to the assistance of the Association for discountenancing Vice, in the distribution of religious books, and the promotion of catechetical instruction.

We have next to consider of the course which it is desirable to pursue, with respect to the Association for discountenancing Vice. Of this society, the objects are threefold: to promote catechetical instruction; to distribute Bibles, Prayer-books, and other books of religious instruction; and to give assistance to schools established by the clergy. We have already stated our opinion, that the obligation of providing schools should be removed from the clergy, and that they should be charged only with the duty of personally superintending the religious education of children of the Established Church, in their respective schools of general parochial instruction. With that duty, the distribution of Bibles and Prayer-books, and the promotion of catechetical instruction, strictly conform; and we think the Association would constitute a most useful auxiliary to the clergy of the Established Church in those objects. With respect to their present schools, we think it desirable that they should be transferred as much as possible to the general control and inspection of the new Board, and that every facility should be given for that purpose.

The Kildare-place Society directs its attention to the publication and sale of cheap and useful books, a model-school for the training of masters and mistresses, and to the maintenance of schools for instruction. The selection and arrangement of the books have been extremely well conducted, and we have no doubt, that the various works which they have prepared are as well calculated as any can be for schools of general instruction, from which every thing is to be excluded which can offend the religious tenets of any persuasion of Christians. We think, therefore, that the arrangement and circulation of such books for the use of schools, and the sale

and distribution and grants of school requisites, may still remain with the Society, subject to the approbation or rejection of the Board of Superintendence, as to all schools under its management. With respect to the model-schools also, and the establishment for training masters and mistresses, we find them to have been extremely well managed; and as the maintenance of such an establishment must, for a considerable time at least, continue to be highly desirable in Ireland, we think that the superintendence and direction of that Institution may, with great advantage, be left to the care of the Society. The schools under their management, we think, form a separate and highly important subject for consideration. It appears to us, in the first instance, to be expedient for the Society to withhold all grants to schools in connexion with, or deriving aid or assistance from, any other society; and that for this purpose all schools, that derive aid from other societies, should be called upon to decide to which they will continue to belong, and the aid from this Society continued to such only as reject that of others.

We recommend also, that after the appointment of the new Board, the establishment of which we have suggested, the Society should not make any new grant of money in aid of building any school-room, or undertake to pay the master or mistress of any school, which is not at this time in connexion with them, or to which they are not already engaged, but refer all applications for the building of new schools to such Board.

Every facility and power should, we think, be granted both to the Society and to private patrons, to transfer their schools to the care and superintendence of the same authority.

We cannot entertain the plan of destroying any existing class of schools, which are useful to a considerable extent, though not so much so as, we hope, they may be rendered. We are, however, of opinion, that if, after the lapse of a certain time, the schools of general instruction which we recommend should be found to answer their purpose, any schools continuing to belong to other societies, and refusing to transfer themselves to the management of the new Board, should gradually cease to receive any public aid.

In seeking for the means of establishing in Ireland an adequate number of such schools as we have described, it is hardly necessary to state, that a most zealous wish to promote education exists on the part of a great number of private individuals, who are ready to sacrifice to this object a portion both of their time and property.

In addition, therefore, to the parochial schools of general instruction which we have proposed, we have no doubt that individuals will continue to contribute their assistance, by founding schools under their own immediate care. A part, therefore, of the necessary means for the establishment and maintenance of such schools may be confidently expected from private con-

tributions; and such schools, we propose, should be liberally assisted by the new Board, upon condition of submitting themselves to its jurisdiction. As to the funds for the maintenance of the new Parochial Schools, we recommend that they shall be derived partly from the State, partly from parochial assessments, and partly from payment by the pupils. Looking to the results of our own personal examination into schools of all descriptions, to the practical effects of the system so long and so beneficially in operation in Scotland, we are satisfied that the schools should be founded on the principle of *pay schools*, and that the payment should go to the Master and the Usher. At what sum the rate of payment should be fixed, must depend upon local circumstances. By appointing, in certain situations, a higher rate of contribution, a most eligible class of schools may readily be provided with instruction suitable to a better description of persons. Although in all cases payment by each scholar should be the rule, we recommend that there should be lodged, in certain individuals, a power of dispensing with the payment, and of admitting, as an exception, certain free scholars. Payment, however, should be the rule, and gratuitous instruction the exception.

By the gradual reduction of the charter schools, and by the transfer of a part of those which are now maintained by the Association and the Kildare-place Society, a large amount of the public funds at present granted for education will become available for the new schools of public and general instruction. The plan which we have recommended cannot be put into full operation without the aid of powers which can only be obtained from parliament. We think it, however, desirable to attempt, with as little delay as possible, to establish schools upon the system we have recommended; and we think the grant to the Lord Lieutenant for the general purpose of aiding schools should at once be made applicable to this object. We have already shewn, that, according to the present management of that fund, it may be so applied as to assist schools of any description whatever. We recommend that the Commissioners should be enabled, out of the grant made in this session, to fulfil such engagements only as they have actually entered into, and that the remainder of the fund, with such addition as may be thought sufficient, should be applied, under such directions as any new authority to be erected for the purpose may think fit, to the establishment of schools of the description which we have proposed.

In the early part of this report, it has been stated, that we addressed, a form of return to the parochial clergy of the Established Church, to the Roman Catholic clergy, and also to the several Presbyterian ministers. The form of this return will be found in the Appendix. The information thereby obtained from these several authorities is extremely important. It is, how-

ever, so voluminous, that it will require a separate report for its elucidation, and we propose to devote to it our earliest attention. At present, we shall merely state the general result. According to the returns made by the ministers of the Established Church, the total number of schools in Ireland (Sunday-schools excepted) is 10,387, and they contain 498,641 pupils. According to the Roman Catholic returns, the number of schools is 10,453, and the number of pupils 522,016.

In the enumeration we have excluded Sunday-schools on both sides, as the children in attendance upon them are almost universally to be found in the day-schools also. The total numbers in education are, according to the Protestant returns, thus distributed:—

Of the Established Church	91,026
Presbyterians	43,236
Protestants of other denominations	3,308
Roman Catholics	357,249
Children in education, whose religion is not stated in the returns	3,822
Total in education, according to the Protestant returns.....	498,641

The numbers, according to the Roman Catholic returns, are as follow:—

Of the Established Church	83,180
Presbyterians	33,709
Protestants of other denominations	3,794
Roman Catholics	397,212
Children in education, whose religion is not stated in the returns	4,121
Total in education, according to the Roman Catholic returns ...	522,016

In the year 1812, it appears by the Fourteenth Report of the Commissioners of Education, to which we have so often had occasion to refer, that at that time the number of schools in Ireland might be estimated at 4,600, containing about 200,000 pupils. It follows, that during the last twelve years the number both of schools and pupils has considerably more than doubled.

It must not be forgotten, however, that education is still in a great degree administered in the pay-schools of the country unconnected with societies, and, generally speaking, not subjected to any particular control or superintendence.

We cannot more fully express the conclusion which we come to upon this part of the subject, than in the words of the Report above quoted:—

“ Were it, therefore, even admitted that the benefits of education are not to the lower classes of the people as great as we conceive them to be, yet the necessity of assisting in obtaining it for them in this country would not be diminished, but increased; for such

“ education as has been objected to, under the idea of its leading to evil rather than to good, they are actually obtaining for themselves; and though we conceive it practicable to correct it, to check its progress appears impossible—it may be improved, but it cannot be impeded.

“ T. FRANKLAND LEWIS. (L. S.)

“ J. LESLIE FOSTER. (L. S.)

“ W. GRANT. (L. S.)

“ J. GLASSFORD. (L. S.)

“ A. R. BLAKE. (L. S.)

“ London, 30th May, 1825.”

To this Report there is an Appendix, containing the examination of witnesses; and numerous documents.

FISHERIES.

Sixth Report of the Commissioners of the Irish Fisheries (commencing the 6th April, 1824, and ending the 5th April, 1825).

In their Report of last season, the Commissioners gave a short sketch of the different projects which seemed to them best calculated to give effect to that section of the 59th of the late King, c. 109, which places at their disposal the annual sum of £5,000, for the promotion of the coast fisheries of Ireland. Amongst the measures most likely to advance this object were the construction of *small piers, quays, and safety harbours*; the building of *hookers, smacks, and small boats*, suitable to the fisheries of the different districts; the *repairs of poor fishermen's boats*; and the promotion of *small fishing companies*, so as to give an impulse to more important establishments of this nature. On the first head (the erection of *small piers, &c.*), the Commissioners beg to observe, that some of those works have been since completed, and others in progress; but the difficulty of procuring the necessary contributions from those whose private interests must be promoted by their erection, has tended in some measure to retard the progress of similar works, which, if executed, must prove of equal utility to the coast fisheries of Ireland. On the next head (the building of *hookers, smacks, &c.*), proceedings for carrying this measure into effect have been taken, and the project seems to promise very satisfactory results. As there is, however, a material difference in the principles laid down for the application of the funds allocated to the *hooker and smack building*, the Commissioners beg leave to enter somewhat into the detail of the arrangements decided on for their construction and ultimate application. The arrangement laid down for the building of *hookers* (a species of boat peculiarly adapted to the southern fisheries), was a grant of *one-fourth* their estimated cost to such adventurers as were disposed to build the same, conformable to an approved plan, and to supply the remaining three-fourths from their own private means. The arrangement for

the *smack* and *small boat* building was formed exclusively on the principle of *loan*, repayable by instalments at stated times, so as that the whole may be liquidated at the expiration of a certain period, when the boat will become the property of the fisherman. In the mean time, the proceeds of each instalment are to be applied to similar uses, thereby adding annually to the number of boats, and consequently multiplying the means of employment and food. On the third head (the *repairs of poor fishermen's boats*), the Commissioners beg to observe, that loan funds for this desirable object have been established in many of the maritime counties, and essential benefits experienced from them in those quarters where local difficulties have not tended to impede their prompt operation. Those difficulties are, however, every day diminishing; and as the principle on which this species of aid is given renders repayment by easy instalments absolutely necessary, the benefits arising from such loan funds become thereby perpetuated. With respect to the fourth head (the encouragement of *small fishing companies*), the Commissioners entertain sanguine hopes that the speculative spirit of the times will tend to the establishment of fishing companies on a more extended scale than was originally contemplated by them. By such associations the productive fishing banks which surround the coasts of Ireland may be fairly tried; but which, from want of capital and suitable craft, have hitherto been but imperfectly ascertained, and only casually visited. The Commissioners have to state, with much regret, the diminution which has taken place in the *white* fishery of the last year (particularly on the southern coast), and without any apparent cause, save the uncertainty which must ever attend the return of such fish as periodically visit the coasts of this country. The success, however, of the preceding years, justifies the hope of a more abundant fishery next season; and the Commissioners expect that the measures they have adopted for the encouragement of the *hooker* and *smack* building will tend materially to render the hake fishery (the chief fishery of the south) a more productive source of industry than heretofore. It is, however, with unfeigned satisfaction the Commissioners have to state the gradual increase in the *herring* fishery of this season; the excess over last season amounts to 13,776 barrels. With respect to the *coast survey*, adverted to in former Reports, much additional progress has been made, and a good deal of interesting information obtained as to the fishing banks along the western coast. The Board have, however, directed a suspension of its further prosecution for the present, until they shall have given a due portion of attention to the information it contains, and the suggestions held out in it. Although the regulations adopted by the Board for the peaceable and legal prosecution of the fisheries have tended much to the attainment of

that object, yet a spirit of outrage will at times break out, and call for the interference of the powers vested in the Commissioners under the act of the 59th of the late King, c. 109. Were it not for the occasional exercise of those powers, that vast and productive fishery, which periodically occurs on the western coast of Ireland, would be rendered of little moment, by the turbulent spirit which, prior to the formation of this establishment, had nearly destroyed the once flourishing fisheries of the Bay of Galway. A similar spirit had lately evinced itself in the south, at *Dungarvan*, and would have probably produced the most serious consequences, were it not for the timely interference of the Board, aided by the local magistracy of the place, and the very judicious conduct of Mr. Barry, the inspector-general of fisheries for the southern province, whom the Board found it necessary to send there for that especial purpose. In order to enforce their regulations for the protection of the southern fisheries, the Commissioners were compelled to hire the services of a small-decked boat for the better portion of the summer, and found the measure of great benefit in maintaining order, and preventing illegal and destructive modes of fishing. The Commissioners have much satisfaction in perceiving the improvement which has taken place in the fisheries of some parts of the coast, where the districts (originally too extensive) have been divided, and the duties of the officer confined to a reasonable extent of shore, more immediately within the scope of his powers to manage. The following extract of a letter from the Lord Bishop of Killala will prove satisfactory on this head: "When in Dublin, you were pleased to furnish me with all the papers necessary to explain to the people here (Killala) the encouragements given to the fisheries, and the regulations to be observed. On my return to Killala, I made the undertaking a subject of conversation with the gentlemen of my neighbourhood, had the papers sent from house to house, that all might read them, and then to the merchants of this town. The people also, who go out in the boats, had full information. The efficient officer of the Board has duly attended, and the consequence has been such as must prove satisfactory to them—to me it is very gratifying. I am also assured by many, that more herrings have been taken this year than in the twenty years preceding; that, besides the local supply, abundance was sent into the interior of the country, many miles distant; and by the return of your officer, it will be seen that a large quantity of well-saved fish is in casks ready for exportation. Such a thought never occurred to the people here before, and this is their first attempt. I contemplate with pleasure the probability of its leading to a far more extended fishery, when the proper vessels for the deep sea, and tackle, shall be acquired. Certainly a multitude of people has

“ been greatly benefited by what has been done, report of their last year's proceedings (season “ &c. &c.” The Commissioners observe with 1823), was 49,448. The number given in the much pleasure a further increase in the number present report is 52,482, being an increase of of men engaged in the Irish fisheries, as taken 3,034 men. The following is the substance of the more from the local officers' customary returns to the 5th April last. The gross number stated in the important returns annexed to the Report.

An ACCOUNT of the total number of VESSELS cleared out for the White Fishery of 1824, on Tonnage Bounty; distinguishing the number of Tons, the number of Men, and the number of Bushels of Salt.

Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Bushels of Salt.
61	1,836.	437	9,140

An ACCOUNT of the total number of VESSELS entered inwards from the White Fishery of 1824; distinguishing the number of Tons, the number of men, and the number of Cwt. of dried Cod, Ling, Hake, Haddock, and Conger Eel, landed from each Vessel, and marked for Bounty, with the amount of Bounty allowed thereon.

Vessels.	Tons.	No. Men.	Cwt. Cod.	Cwt. Ling.	Cwt. Hake.	Cwt. Haddock.	Cwt. Glassen.	Cwt. Eel.	Amount of Bounty.
61	1,836	437	748½	2,586	1,099	2½	7½	3,090	£ 2,637 s. 4 d. 11

An ACCOUNT of the total number of VESSELS cleared out for the Open Sea Herring Fishery of 1824; distinguishing the number of Tons, the number of Men, the number of Square Yards of Netting, the number of Bushels of Salt, and the number of Barrels.

Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Square Yards of Netting.	Bushels of Salt.	Number of Barrels.
161	5,246	982	1,833,631	25,400	7,409

An ACCOUNT of the total number of VESSELS entered inwards from the Open Sea Herring Fishery of 1824; distinguishing the number of Tons, the number of Men, the number of Barrels of Herrings landed; also those gutted with a knife from those otherwise gutted, and the amount of Bounty allowed.

Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Barrels of Herrings.		Amount of Bounty.
			Gutted with a knife.	Otherwise gutted.	
161	5,246	982	7,368½	-	£ 17,390 s. 7 d. 2

An ACCOUNT of the total number of Cwt. of dried Cod, Ling, Hake, Haddock, Glassen, and Conger Eel, which have been marked for the production Bounty of 4s. per Cwt. in the year 1824; and the amount of Bounty allowed.

Cwt. Cod.	Cwt. Ling.	Cwt. Hake.	Cwt. Haddock.	Cwt. Glassen.	Cwt. Eel.	Amount of Bounty.
2,934½	2,645½	9,500½	322½	1,339½	610	£ 3,825 s. 3 d. 3

An ACCOUNT of the total number of Barrels of HERRINGS, which have been marked for the Bounty of 4s. and 3s. 6d. per Barrel, in the year 1824, granted by the Act of the 1st Geo. IV. c. 82; distinguishing those gutted with a knife from those otherwise gutted, together with the amount of Bounty allowed.

BARRELS:		Amount of Bounty.
Gutted with a Knife.	Otherwise gutted.	
34,201½	63	£ 6,726 s. 6 d. ½

An ACCOUNT of the number of Barrels of Pilchards and Mackarel, which have been branded for the Bounty of 3s. per Barrel, under the 59th Geo. III. c. 109 ; and the Amount of Bounty allowed.

B A R R E L S :		Amount of Bounty.
Pilchards.	Mackarel.	
- - -	14	£ s. d. 2 5 6

An ACCOUNT of the number of Barrels of Cod, Ling, Hake, Haddock, Glassen, and Conger Eel, cured with Pickle, which have been branded for the Bounty at 2s. 6d. per Barrel, under the 1st Geo. IV. c. 82. sec. 18 ; and the Amount of Bounty allowed.

B A R R E L S :						Amount of Bounty.
Cod.	Ling.	Hake.	Haddock.	Glassen.	Conger Eel.	
178	48	116	- -	11	- -	£ s. d. 46 8 11½

An ACCOUNT of the total number of Tuns and Gallons of OIL, extracted from Whale and other Fish, that have been produced, for the Bounty of £3 per ton ; and Bounty allowed.

Q U A N T I T Y :		Amount of Bounty.
Tuns.	Gallons.	
4	140	£ s. d. 14 15 5

GROSS NUMBER of Barrels of HERRINGS, cured for Bounty, both by Vessels engaged in the Tonnage Bounty Fishery, and not so engaged ; distinguishing each.

Barrels of Herrings cured by Vessels and Boats engaged in Production Bounty.	Barrels of Herrings cured by Vessels engaged in the Tonnage Bounty Fishery.	Total Barrels.
34,264½	7,368½	41,633

An ACCOUNT of the total number of Barrels of Herrings, Pilchards, Mackarel, and Pickled Fish, with the total number of Cwt. of Dried Fish, that have been exported for the Year ended the 5th of April, 1825 ; distinguishing the Stations from which Exported, the Quantity exported to Great Britain, to other places in Europe, and to other places out of Europe.

STATIONS.	Barrels. Herrings.	Barrels. Pilchards.	Barrels. Mackarel.	Barrels. Pickled Fish.	Cwt. Dried Fish.	To where Exported.
Carlingford - -	11	- -	- -	- -	- -	Scotland. Do. West Indies and America. Liverpool.
Ardglass - -	1,357	- -	- -	- -	- -	
Belfast - -	325	- -	- -	- -	- -	
Westport - -	- -	- -	- -	- -	269	
Totals - -	1,693	- -	- -	- -	269	

An Account of the Total Number of Deeked and Half-Deeked Vessels, together with Undeeked or Open Boats, of every description, registered and employed in the Fisheries; also their Tonnage and Number of Men employed therein, in the Year ended 5th April, 1825.

Aggregate Number of Deeked Vessels.	Aggregate Quantity of Tonnage on Do.	Aggregate Number of Men employed in Do.	Aggregate Number of Half-Deeked Vessels, of 12 Tons and upwards.	Aggregate Quantity of Tonnage on Do.	Aggregate Number of Men employed in Do.	Aggregate Number of Open-Sail-Boats, under 12 Tons.	Aggregate Number of Men employed in Do.	Aggregate Number of Row Boats.	Aggregate Number of Men employed in Do.	Total Number of Men employed.
377	13,035	2,416	446	7,182	2,371	2,562	13,071	7,497	34,296	52,482

GRAND JURY PRESENTMENTS.

Abstract of the Accounts of Presentments of the Expense of Roads, Bridges, Gaols, Police, &c., made by the Grand Juries of the several Counties, Cities, and Towns in Ireland, pursuant to Act 4 Geo. IV. c. 33, § 18, in the Year 1824.

	£	s.	d.
County of.....Antrim	36,813	6	8
.....Armagh	24,239	17	8
.....Carlow	6,150	8	0
.....Cavan	24,539	19	1½
County of the town of Carrickfergus	471	17	6
County of.....Clare	23,904	15	10
.....Cork	72,803	12	11½
City of.....Cork	29,893	12	4½
County of.....Donegal	25,528	8	9½
.....Down	32,025	8	2
County of the town of Drogheda	1,177	13	0½
County of.....Dublin	19,959	8	1
City of.....Dublin	26,892	13	7
County of.....Fermanagh	13,525	5	4
.....Galway	33,995	5	11
County of the town of Galway	3,384	2	5
County of.....Kerry	18,128	10	2½
.....Kildare	15,410	13	0
.....Kilkenny	20,776	13	6½
City of.....Kilkenny	1,947	14	3
King's County	14,322	11	0
County of.....Leitrim	13,028	13	11½
.....Limerick	31,195	10	6
City of.....Limerick	4,970	5	8
City and County of Londonderry	24,890	16	6
County of.....Longford	10,830	7	7½
.....Louth	13,522	9	4
.....Mayo	18,157	1	4
.....Meath	25,529	3	5½
.....Monaghan	19,128	1	2½
Queen's County	16,235	8	7
County of.....Roscommon	16,684	10	5½
.....Sligo	17,811	14	10½
.....Tipperary	46,046	5	11
.....Tyrone	31,365	6	0
.....Waterford	16,751	18	4
City of.....Waterford	4,995	12	3
County of.....Westmeath	17,640	6	11½
.....Wexford	22,430	11	4½
.....Wicklow	15,587	10	11½

LINEN TRADE.

First Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to consider the Laws which regulate the Linen Trade of Ireland, particularly such as relate to Foreign Linen Yarn, and Foreign dressed Flax.

1. Resolved,—That it is the opinion of this Committee, That it is expedient to place the Irish manufacturers of linen on the same footing in respect of the free use of British mill-spun yarn, and foreign yarn, with the English and Scotch manufacturers.

2. Resolved.—That it is the opinion of this Committee, That it is expedient to repeal or lower the duties on foreign undressed flax, dressed flax and yarn.

6 May, 1825.

Second Report from the Select Committee on the Linen Trade of Ireland.

1. Resolved,—That it is the opinion of this Committee, That Ireland has claims undoubtedly strong upon the Parliament of the United Kingdom, for every aid and encouragement necessary to the maintenance and support of the linen manufacture, at least to the extent of the Annual Parliamentary Grant made and confirmed under circumstances detailed in a document in the Appendix, numbered 1.

2. Resolved,—That it is the opinion of this Committee, That the laws which relate to this important branch of the public industry of Ireland require revision and amendment, and many of them that were wise and necessary at the time of their enactment, and under which the manufacture in its origin thrrove, would, if now enforced, produce much inconvenience, if not a serious injury, in many particulars, to the interests of the manufacture; and such laws ought therefore to be repealed.

3. Resolved,—That it is the opinion of this Committee, That, proceeding in the consideration of those laws according to the order in which they affect the manufacture, it appears to this Committee, that it would not be expedient to alter the system of the inspection of flax-seed previous to the first of July, 1826, before which

time the policy of continuing that inspection may be further investigated.

4. *Resolved*,—That it is the opinion of this Committee, That Irish flax would be in very extensive and increased demand for exportation for the use of the British manufacturers of mill-spun linen yarn, if brought to market in a clean regular made-up state, and would thus be equally applicable to and sought for by those manufacturers, and answer all the purposes of their manufacture, as any foreign flax whatsoever; but they supply themselves to a comparatively small extent with Irish flax, in consequence of the dirty imperfect state in which it is offered for sale, to the injury of the growers and vendors of the article, to the amount of from twenty-five to thirty per cent on the value.

5. *Resolved*,—That it is the opinion of this Committee, That it is therefore expedient to provide, that flax fraudulently made up for sale in public market shall be punishable by small fines, recoverable before a magistrate on the complaint of a purchaser;—And it is further the opinion of this Committee, That the attention of the Linen Board ought to be very particularly directed to the best practice of making up flax for sale, to the most effectual method of giving publicity to that system, and of encouraging the dealers in flax to adopt it.

6. *Resolved*,—That it is the opinion of this Committee, That the further advancement, prosperity, and success, of the linen manufacture in Ireland will very much depend upon bringing into general use the improved description of scutch-mill for dressing flax, and upon establishing mill-machinery for spinning linen yarn, which will not, in the opinion of this Committee, interfere with the interests of the spinner of hand-spun yarn, as both mill and hand-spun yarn are required, and in great demand, for different parts of the manufacture of linen.

7. *Resolved*,—That it is the opinion of this Committee, That it is expedient that Irish yarn, exposed for sale in public market, be subjected to regulations respecting length and count, and equal quality; such regulations to be enforced (not as at present, by the forfeiture of the yarn, but) by small fines, recoverable before a magistrate.

8. *Resolved*,—That it is the opinion of this Committee, That it is expedient to exempt foreign and British yarn, imported into Ireland, from any regulation, or by any inspection of any public officer.

9. *Resolved*,—That it is the opinion of this Committee, That all brown linen exposed to sale in a public market, shall be subject to the present legislative regulations in respect to the lengths, breadths, measurement, sealing and inspection of said linens; such regulations to be enforced by small fines, recoverable before a magistrate; but neither Irish yarn nor brown linen cloth shall be subject to any legislative rule

or restriction, unless when brought to public fair or market for sale.

10. *Resolved*,—That it is the opinion of this Committee, That a fund being provided for the encouragement and advancement of the linen manufacture of Ireland, and legislative enactments for the regulation of that manufacture being necessary, together with officers appointed responsible for the execution thereof, some superintending authority is required to make due application of such fund, to control the conduct of such officers; to receive and decide upon the claims of those taking interest in promoting the manufacture, and in hearing and redressing the complaints of parties concerned in or connected with the trade:

11. *Resolved*,—That it is the opinion of this Committee, That the distribution of the small utensils, consisting of wheels and reels, heretofore placed at the individual disposal of the members of the Linen Board, may be discontinued for the future, without any injury to the linen trade.

12. *Resolved*,—That it is the opinion of this Committee, That the linen trade having acquired a degree of advancement in the north of Ireland highly beneficial to the industry, wealth, and moral habits of the people, a most zealous attention ought to be exerted for the purpose of extending that trade into the other parts of Ireland.

13. *Resolved*,—That it is the opinion of this Committee, That the rooms, buildings, and premises, in the Linen and Yarn Halls of Dublin ought to be let for any term not exceeding seven years, to the factors and others engaged in the linen and yarn trade of Ireland, or to persons concerned in any of the other manufactures of Ireland, for their accommodation, and for the storing the produce of these manufactures.

14. *Resolved*,—That it is the opinion of this Committee, That the Chairman do report these Resolutions to the House; and move for leave to bring in a Bill grounded thereon.

7 June, 1825.

An Appendix to the foregoing Report contains an account of the origin and particulars of the Annual Parliamentary Grant for the maintenance of the Linen and Hemp Manufactures of Ireland.

Third Report from the Select Committee on the Linen Trade of Ireland.

AMONG the many parliamentary inquiries which have lately been made into the internal condition of Ireland, your Committee feel that the subject referred to them for investigation is amongst the most important; inasmuch as the linen manufacture (tracing it through all its various stages, from the culture of the flax to the weaving of the linen,) affords employment and support to a far greater portion of the people

of that country, than any other branch of public industry, and is intimately connected with the peace and prosperity of Ireland:

Your Committee accordingly entered on the subject submitted to their consideration, with an anxiety proportionate to its importance; and called before them several witnesses well informed in the business of the linen trade, as it is carried on in Ireland; and some persons also, who are extensively engaged in it in England and Scotland. Your Committee have thereby been enabled to compare the different habits of pursuing the same manufacture in different parts of the same empire.

The evidence of these witnesses is annexed to this Report, together with an Appendix, containing a document illustrative of the origin of the manufacture in Ireland, and its continued claim to parliamentary support; also returns shewing the present extent of the trade; the expense of the establishment under the direction of the Linnen Board; and the appropriation of their funds. Your Committee have likewise subjoined several Resolutions, containing their opinions upon some of the principal divisions of their inquiry, which have been already reported to the House; but in presenting them again as a part of their final Report, they deem it necessary to accompany them with a few observations.

In considering the laws relating to the linen trade of Ireland, your Committee found that many of them, which were deemed wise and necessary at the time of their enactment, have become inapplicable to the present usages of the trade; and if now enforced would produce great inconvenience; and ought therefore to be repealed; and as others of them required much revision and amendment, your Committee have therefore thought it expedient to propose the consolidation into one Act of all such provisions as are found to be necessary for the future regulation of the trade.

A bill for this purpose has been accordingly prepared, which does not, however, notice the duty on the importation of foreign dressed flax, a reduction of which duty, already recommended by your Committee in their first Report, has been adopted and provided for in the Customs bill.

The inspection of foreign flax seed by a public officer on importation, for the purpose of ascertaining its soundness and fitness for sowing, had hitherto been carefully provided for by law. The necessity of such inspection has, however, been lately questioned; and, pursuant to a recommendation of your Committee, the bill provides for the repeal of such inspection from and after the 1st of July, 1826; by which time the policy of continuing that inspection, in respect to which there exists so much diversity of opinion, may be further considered; and investigated. It has appeared to your Committee, that the preparation and management of Irish-grown

flax are extremely defective, and very injuriously so to the cultivators and manufacturers, and ought to be brought to public market in a state perfectly free from any fraudulent mode of making it up, that could impose upon a purchaser; and it has been made clear to your Committee, from the evidence of intelligent persons, that Irish-grown flax, if properly managed and judiciously made up for sale in a clean and uniform state, would eventually supply the British manufacturer of linen, and thus become a branch of very profitable export.

With respect to foreign and British yarns, your Committee recommend that they should be henceforth exempted from all examination by a public officer; but that the existing regulations, in regard to the sale of Irish yarns and brown linens, should be continued under certain modifications and diminutions of penalties; but with this provision, affecting each of these three different branches of the trade, that none of these regulations shall affect any Irish flax, or Irish yarn, or Irish brown linen, except such as shall be exposed to sale in public and open market; leaving, at the same time, all persons free to sell at other times and places, when and where they may think most convenient.

But while, from an unwillingness to force any hasty changes upon the settled habits of a people long engaged in an established manufacture, your Committee thus recommend to the Legislature the policy of continuing to give a legal sanction to some parts of the system of regulation by which it has been governed, they still hold it to be their duty to this House, as well as to those who are engaged in the linen trade of Ireland, to state unreservedly their own opinions upon this most important subject.

The system of conducting the linen manufacture in England and Scotland, as described to your Committee by the witnesses from those countries, appears to be in many instances preferable to that which is pursued in Ireland. The different branches of the trade in Great Britain are divided among different persons, each of those branches becoming a separate business in itself; and this division of labour necessarily leads to a better economy of time, and the production of more even and better fabrics, all which advantages might be gradually introduced into Ireland; and it is only by gradual measures these improvements can be obtained.

Your Committee abstain from offering any opinion on the policy of collecting the peasantry into towns or villages, or disturbing their present habits of mixing agricultural with manufacturing occupation.

With a view to the introduction of this improved division of business, your Committee would chiefly direct the attention of the Linnen Board to forward, by every means in their power, all possible improvement in the cultivation and the dressing of the flax. The efforts

which the Board have already made towards encouraging the erection of flax mills, should therefore be followed up with increased anxiety, so as to have the flax brought to market in the cleanest condition and at the cheapest rate.

Your Committee are disposed to dwell upon this subject, as it is of considerable importance, not merely to the interests of Ireland, but to those of the empire at large; for so long as we are obliged to import from foreign countries this elementary part of the linen manufacture, so long must those countries who engage in that manufacture themselves possess an advantage over our own; and there is every reason to believe that Ireland, by an extended cultivation and improved treatment of her flax, might, without at all encroaching upon the quantity necessary for her home consumption, supply the demands of the British market.

Next in importance to the dressing of the flax, is the spinning and sale of the yarn, which, from the evidence before your Committee, are carried on in Ireland in a way very capable of improvement. It has been stated to your Committee, that the Irish spinner too often endeavours to get the greatest possible length of thread out of a given quantity of flax, without any regard to what may be the quality of that thread when produced. Thus, four to five hanks of yarn are often spun out of that quantity of flax, which, to make good cloth, ought not to have been spun into more than two. A poor raw thread, incapable of producing a good stout fabric, is thereby sent among the weavers, to the great injury of the manufacture. But the evils of this branch of the trade do not end here. Almost the whole of the spinning is carried on by poor people, who naturally look with anxiety to the time the market-day comes round, for which they seek to provide themselves with as much yarn as they are able, gathering it up from every member of their own families, sometimes from those of their neighbours, and always more anxious about the bulk of their bunches, than desirous of sorting them according to the different grists of the different yarns that compose them. Thus the two things essentially necessary to enable a weaver to make good linen are too often denied to him; namely, good and even yarns well assorted. Towards accomplishing these important objects, your Committee look forward to the introduction of the spinning by machinery, and the establishment of yarn greens, to be kept by persons who would buy up the yarn from the hand spinners, and bleach and assort it, and prepare it for the weavers, so that each man who came to buy from them might be able at once to provide himself with as much as he wanted of that particular kind of yarn, unmixed with any other, that was suitable to the particular quality of linen he was preparing to weave. It appears from the evidence before your Committee, that considerable improvements have been made in the

last twenty years in Great Britain in the machinery for spinning yarn. Mill-spun yarn, about twenty years ago, could not be made finer than fifteen cuts to the pound; but within that time it has been raised to near fifty, and very considerable advance in the fineness of mill-spun yarn is still further expected.

In recommending the establishing of the spinning mill, your Committee do not apprehend any injury to the hand spinners. Every thing that tends to improve and cheapen the manufacture, will increase the demand for it; and therefore, instead of fearing any want of employment for them, an increased consumption of their yarn is rather to be looked for; and the more so, if greens for the bleaching of yarn shall be established.

With respect to the business of weaving, your Committee are of opinion, that it is now carried on more beneficially in England and Scotland for the weaver than in Ireland, who is generally the owner of the cloth he makes, mostly performing all those previous processes in his own imperfect way, each of which would be better executed if made a separate business in itself, and carried on with better means and more intelligence than the weaver is found to possess. It will, however, be the duty of the Linen Board, so long as the present system lasts, to assist the weaver by procuring information for him upon every improvement adopted in Great Britain; such as models of the newest fly shuttles and most approved looms, with which he ought to be made familiar.

Your Committee do not, however, recommend the weaving business in Ireland to be assimilated to the better system of Great Britain by any interference of the Legislature, which never should concern itself, except when it was absolutely necessary, with the internal management of any manufacture. This system has already begun in the North, and it is chiefly through that intelligent portion of the country that we can hope to establish any great improvement of this kind. A very well-informed witness, who carried on the linen trade in Scotland, says, "The best sheeting that I have ever seen made in Ireland, is made by a manufacturer who employs a number of weavers, and which cloth never came to the brown market, but was sold directly to the blenchers." This is by no means a single case, as there are extensive manufacturers who buy and give out the yarn to weavers to be woven into cloth, and have become a numerous class of persons in the North; and the more they increase, the more it will be for the benefit of Ireland. The weaver, who works for another, must save all that time which he now consumes in going to and returning from market; and all those fluctuations in the price of linen, which now fall upon himself, would in that case fall upon the person who employed him. Thus the situation of the working weavers would be improved without necessitat-

ing any change in their numbers, or in their dispersed residences throughout the country parts of Ireland, or any alteration in their local comforts in any way whatsoever.

Your Committee have endeavoured thus shortly to offer their views of the present state of the linen manufacture, which is of such essential importance to Ireland, together with their suggestions for its improvement; and beg leave to state, that the continuation of a superintending authority to regulate its concerns, so long as they shall be affected by legal provisions, is, in the opinion of your Committee, necessary, as well as to make judicious appropriation of the annual grant of Parliament, still usefully voted for the encouragement and advancement of the state of the manufacture of Ireland.

22 June, 1825.

To this Report are attached Minutes of the evidence taken before the Committee. The number of witnesses examined was seventeen. The following is the substance of the evidence given by a few of the principal witnesses.

Substance of Evidence.

Mr. GEORGE GRIER examined. — Lived at Lurgan, in the north of Ireland. Up to last year was an extensive manufacturer of diaper, damask, and sheeting. Was also a linen bleacher. Had been in the habit of purchasing linen yarn, the manufacture of Ireland, to a considerable extent, which he gave out to weavers to be wove for him. Was in the habit of employing from one hundred to one hundred and fifty weavers. The Irish manufactured yarn that he purchased, answered for the different descriptions of linen he had wove on his own account. The yarn that he made use of hitherto was exclusively of Irish manufacture. In fact it was necessary it should be so; for he bleached the cloth of his own manufacture, and they got a drawback on the ashes that they used, on the potashes and the barilla; and they had to swear that the cloth they bleached was made of yarn of Irish manufacture, otherwise they would not get the drawback. Was not aware of the quality of foreign linen yarn made use of in Scotland and in England. Could not say, therefore, how far it was better or worse, for the purpose of carrying on his manufacture, except from the linen; the damask and diaper that he saw here, manufactured in Scotland, was of a superior quality to the Irish, which he attributed to the yarn. He thought, as a manufacturer, he should derive advantage from having the facility of making use of foreign yarn. One of the impediments to his making use of foreign yarn at present was what he mentioned before, with respect to the drawback on the materials made use of in bleaching. He was aware that there were regulations that would subject foreign yarn, if exposed to sale, to be seized. He did not conceive that that would operate with him as a large manufacturer, but it would operate in

a material degree against the general trade of the country. The manufacture he was concerned in was a different one from the general manufacture of the country; which was, that every man wove for himself, bought his yarn in the market, brought his cloth, and exposed it for sale: now those regulations were quite sufficient to prevent foreign yarn being exposed; for according to the order of the Linen Board, which he believed was the law of the land, all yarn must be made up in a particular manner. The effect which would be produced upon the home-manufactured yarn of Ireland, by doing away the regulations that prevented the sale of foreign linen yarn in the country, he should think would be to reduce the price of it something, by creating a greater supply. He did not think the regulations to which the home-manufactured yarn in Ireland was subjected, could safely be abandoned; because he thought all the linen yarn exposed to sale in the markets, every piece of it, the hank, as they called it, should contain a certain quantity, that was a certain length; all the weavers had been in the habit of buying it of that certain length, and they knew the degree of fineness of it; and in the manufacture every hank of each particular fineness must be sorted and put together; and there would be no check on the sale of that hank of yarn, if it was not known to contain a certain quantity; of course the price could not be fixed. He was of opinion, that subjecting the linen yarn of Ireland to regulations was eventually for the advantage of all parties. He was not clear that the trade in general had a greater interest in admitting freely foreign yarn; but his opinion was, that as it was admissible into England and Scotland, it should also be into Ireland. He should think it of more advantage to Ireland, if it was not admitted into either country. He conceived that the free admission of it into Great Britain gave that country great advantage over Ireland. The weaver of the north of Ireland had not been in the habit of using the foreign yarn. In some very fine yarn they had had some partial experience; very fine French yarn had been imported from time to time in small quantities in the neighbourhood of the town he lived in, and it was preferred to the home-spun. The finest yarn he had ever seen was not French-spun yarn. He had seen hanks of yarn that had been exposed for curiosity — Irish linen yarn. The yarn of commerce in Lurgan, some ten or twenty years ago, was made of the very finest kind; but then there was an alteration in the duties on French cambrics, which knocked up their fine cambric trade: since that, none of their yarn of commerce had been made so fine. When he said that he conceived it would be better if foreign yarn were excluded from the United Kingdom, he conceived that, so excluding foreign yarn, the trade of the United Kingdom would be able to compete with Germany and Russia in the

foreign market; for the Irish competed with them now in the American market. He did not think that such an exclusion would have a tendency to raise the wages of labour at home. Ireland was capable of growing a much greater quantity of flax than it did at present; and with the addition of spinning-mills, it would, he thought, produce sufficient yarn of its own manufacture. He thought that it might be desirable, for the purpose of improving the Irish manufacture, to give the Irish manufacturer the facility of having foreign yarn; but he was afraid it would operate very seriously against the very poorest class of females in Ireland, who were the spinners, and who were mainly supported by it. According to the present price of flax, a female spinner could earn in Ireland from 4d. to 6d. a day; and perhaps, two years ago, not more than half that. With respect to the improvement that would be the consequence to their home-spun yarn, if it was permitted to be rivalled by the introduction of foreign yarn, he did not see that there could be much, except in the mill-spun yarn; the great defect at present of the yarn was that they spun it too fine by hand. He believed that the foreign yarn was spun by hand. That being so, he did not know why the Irish spinner should not improve; but so it was; he did not see any improvement in the yarn these last twenty-five years. The introduction of a better specimen must certainly have a tendency to improve the home-made yarn. Yarn was not spun in Ireland any where, to any extent, by machinery. There were some persons who did it; but they chiefly manufactured what they spun themselves. Mr. Crosthwaite spun a good deal of yarn. The present system he conceived to be precisely the interest and convenience of both the buyer and seller: Supposing it not enforced by law, he did not think the practice would continue of making up their hanks of an exact measure, on account of the interest the spinner would have in consulting the weaver's convenience; but thought they would attempt to commit frauds. Was decidedly of opinion that frauds would increase but for the regulations. Not near so much fraud existed subsequently to the regulation; in fact, very little now the hanks were generally fairer made up. He had been in the habit of having his yarn bought in all the intervening district, from Armagh to Strabane and Derry; the chief quantities from Strabane. He formerly found the county of Donegal yarn most unfairly made up, but it was better now. The yarn that was sold in the market of Strabane, was principally the manufacture of the western parts of Ireland. He believed that the spinning of yarn in the western districts of Ireland, was the occupation of almost all the population that lived in the country;— and he always understood that it was the principal support of the female part of that population. He thought that in a partial degree

allowing foreign spun yarn to come into the market of Ireland, might so far increase the trade as to throw out of employ the women who now spun the yarn; but he thought the introduction of the cotton manufacture much more likely to employ the spinners than the weaving of linen; cotton being much easier wove, and a much lighter manufacture. He thought that if the Irish manufacturers had the same yarn as the Scotch, they could make the cloth equally good; and therefore that it was essential to their manufacture, in some way or other to give them a better description of yarn than what they had been in the habit of using. In the part of the country from which he came, the trade in the finer description of cambric had very much diminished; which he attributed exclusively to a diminished demand, in consequence of French cambric coming into this country. He apprehended that if we had a foreign yarn of as cheap a quality, and of as good a quality as the yarn employed in France, we should be able to weave as good an article as they wove in France. He also apprehended that the introduction of foreign yarn into Ireland might have a tendency to restore that part of the trade which had been lost. When he spoke of the Irish linen, as compared with the Scotch and English that he had seen, he spoke of hand-wove linen exclusively; he was not comparing English hand weaving against machinery. There was some wove by machinery. Upon general principles, he thought the introduction of foreign yarn into Ireland might lower the price of home-spun yarn; a greater supply would reduce the price, if an increased demand did not take place. An increased demand for weaving, in consequence of an increased supply of foreign yarn, might tend to support the price of home yarn at its present rate. He could scarcely conceive how any foreign yarn could be supplied much cheaper than the Irish yarn; the price of labour could not be much cheaper on the Continent than it was in the west of Ireland. He had heard that the price of foreign yarn was sometimes cheaper, sometimes dearer, in the English and Scotch market, than Irish yarn in the Irish market; and that the English and Scotch had the power of taking advantage of whichever was the cheapest market. He did not know how it was at present. Sometimes the Scotch got their flax from Ireland, and sometimes from the Continent. If therefore there was an equality in point of price, he thought there could be no danger, as concerned the home trade, in admitting the article, if the price of labour were as cheap in Ireland as on the Continent. He considered the regulations affecting the weaver as necessary as those regulating the yarn market. So far as unbleached linen, exposed in the public market, was concerned, he considered the regulations relating to all branches of the trade as necessary to its correct management. He was apprehensive that the free introduction of foreign

yarn would throw a large portion of our spinners out of employment, notwithstanding the advantage of their turning to weaving cotton. Nor did he think that the increased weaving might more than counterbalance that evil, for he did not think the spinners of linen yarn in general capable of weaving linen. He should certainly consider it of advantage to have the price of yarn not subject to fluctuations. To admit foreign yarn when it became the interest of the weaver to buy foreign yarn, would certainly have a tendency to keep the home-spun yarn nearer upon an equality of price; but there had been very little fluctuation in the price of yarn for several years back, little or none. The improved quality of our linen, by the introduction of foreign yarn, might extend our market, and increase the demand for the article; but he did not conceive that that increase of demand would be calculated to keep up the rate of spinning; for when it became yarn the flax had undergone a considerable part of the manufacture; very nearly half, from the time that the flax was pulled till the full completion of the manufacture; the spinning was nearly half of it, as it appeared to him. The home-spun yarn was made of the best quality in Strabane; the coarse yarn and the very fine yarn were confined to Lurgan, and a few miles round. The coarse yarn of the north-west of Ireland was better in quality than that of the north. The best was that of Derry and Strabane. He had never made use of any of the county of Down and the county of Antrim yarn. In the county of Down or Antrim they were not in the habit of spinning yarn of so coarse a quality as in the westward; but they were in the habit of spinning yarn of from four to five hanks in the pound. The yarn from Strabane was better than the yarn of a similar description from the westward; which he attributed to their not taking so much yarn out of the same quantity of flax; they put a greater body of flax into the yarn, and spun it more carefully. He believed that the flax was made up in a very dirty and imperfect state in the Irish market, which prevented very considerable export of it. The dressing of flax in Ireland was, he believed, improving considerably, just now, owing to the competition with the English and Scotch market; and he thought that a competition with the foreign market would have a tendency to improve it more rapidly. He was certainly aware that if the flax in Ireland was prepared with more precision and more cleanness, it would be in greater demand in the English market than at present; but he did not think they could compete with the foreign, without a protecting duty. He did not know what was the duty that foreign dressed flax was subject to now; he thought it should be pretty much the same protecting duty as corn, and any other product of the soil; he should not fear a competition with the same protecting duty ad

valorem. Foreign flax was not at all exposed in the Irish market. He was not aware that the duty upon foreign dressed flax, into England, amounted nearly to a prohibition; he should conceive it extraordinary, if it did, that there should be a duty to exclude flax, while yarn was admitted on merely a nominal duty. He was most certainly of opinion that it would be for the interest of the Irish trade that it should be put altogether upon a footing with the English and Scotch trade, far as regarded the regulations with respect to the introduction of foreign yarn and flax; and he was also decidedly of opinion that the trade in general were in favour of the regulations by inspectors and brown seal masters.

Mr. WILLIAM MARSHALL examined.—Hold the situation under the Linen Board of Ireland of inspector-general of the province of Ulster. Was aware of a correspondence having taken place between Mr. Currie, the secretary of the Linen Board, and several gentlemen connected with the trade, upon the subject of linen yarn. Had seen that correspondence. In addition to the correspondence, there were some statements from the different branches of the trade. The duty upon foreign dressed flax coming into the English market amounted to a complete prohibition. Could not see the least reason why the duty on foreign dressed flax should not be reduced as low as the duty upon foreign yarn. He could not conceive why it ever was originated. The yarn was advanced in manufacture considerably beyond the flax. In answer to the question whether he thought that the dressing of flax in Ireland would be considerably improved by competition with foreign flax, he said, foreign rough flax would be the means of shewing the farmers the state in which it was sent to market; but he did not conceive that from foreign dressed flax they would derive any advantage. There could be no objection to admit the foreign dressed flax into the Irish market. It came into the Irish market at present. So long as foreign yarn was admissible into Great Britain, he conceived it was equally necessary that it should be admissible into the Irish market. He was not aware of the fact of the difference of price between foreign yarn and Irish yarn. Foreign yarn fluctuated very much in price; he had always understood so; and it greatly depended upon the demand for the British manufacture; that raised the price or depressed it. He did not see that there could be any danger, as concerned the preparer of Irish yarn in Ireland, in admitting it into the Irish market. If it were cheaper, of course there would be a considerable advantage to the Irish weaver; it would extend the manufacture, and of course that would equally assist the Irish spinners, as a portion of their yarn would go into manufacture with the foreign. With respect to the ability of Irish linen to contend successfully at present in the

foreign market with the English and Scotch linen, so far as regarded the coarse heavy linen, the British had the preference; but the Irish had it in the fine qualities. The foreign linen came cheaper into the foreign market than either the British or Irish. In the South American market our linens were finding their way where the foreign formerly went; it certainly very much increased the trade. He attributed the preference that the foreign linens had found in the American market, to the trade being originally connected more with foreign countries, and their receiving them made up in a particular manner. He could not say that the foreign linen was supposed to be a superior article, as our linen was more fairly manufactured and made up. As to whether the yarn of which it was made was supposed a superior article to the home-made article, he had not seen so much of foreign yarn as to be able to form an opinion; he knew that the foreign yarn was imported into Great Britain for the inferior part of the manufacture: there were two classes of yarn in a piece of linen; one was superior to the other: the warps were made of British yarn; the wefts were all supplied by a foreign low-priced yarn. He was not prepared to say that the foreign linens in the American market were cheaper than the Irish linens; the Irish linens were in considerable demand in the American market. He certainly conceived that one of the things that made every manufacture either dear or cheap, was the dearness or cheapness of the raw material out of which it was made. He certainly conceived that if foreign yarn could be imported into Ireland cheaper than home-spun yarn was produced, it would have a tendency to increase the linen trade in those markets where it came into competition with foreign linen. He certainly conceived that the benefit which the weavers would thereby derive would fully compensate for any disadvantage the country might derive from the manufacturers of yarn being undersold in the Irish market. If we could not spin, it would be better we should manufacture it than do neither. Taking the question of the admission of foreign yarn as referring to the trade altogether, if the yarn were raised in price on the continent by bringing it to the supply of Ireland and Great Britain, it would raise it upon the manufacturer on the continent, and put the two countries on the same footing. He knew it was stated that 10*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* per hundred was the duty now upon foreign-dressed flax. If foreign-dressed flax, by the duty being taken off, were permitted to come into the country, he did not think it would have any effect upon the home-grown and home-dressed flax, with regard to the general demand for it. He did not think it would have the effect of lowering the price that the people in the country were charged for hiring land for the purpose of sowing the seed. Admitting foreign-dressed flax in addition to the undressed flax at

a reduced duty would not have any effect. He did not think it would have the effect of lowering the price that the sower of flax paid when he hired an acre of half an acre of land, because he had his doubts, from what he had heard of the trade, whether foreign-dressed flax would be imported at all. If a considerable import of foreign-dressed flax took place, it would have that effect; but he did not expect that any considerable import would take place; and he would give the reason why: the import of rough flax was to a very great extent, and exclusive of that, they imported now largely from the continent the tows of the dressed flax, leaving the dressed article at home. The dressed flax remained to be manufactured on the continent. He did not think that that was in consequence of the prohibitory duty; because you could, at a low duty, by importing the raw, have both articles; and we dress flax in Great Britain, from every thing he had heard, better than they do on the continent. He was not prepared to state what the relative value of foreign and Irish linen was at present in the Spanish market, or what it was some years ago. He was aware that foreign yarn was admitted now in Scotland. That might have enhanced the price of foreign linens. He thought that allowing that yarn equally to be imported into Ireland would have a tendency to enhance the price of yarn on the continent, and so bring the yarn of Ireland nearer upon an equality with foreign yarn. He did not conceive there would be any falling off of the spinning trade in Ireland in consequence of the introduction of foreign yarn. He did not conceive the importation of foreign flax would give a considerably increased employment to the spinners in Ireland; the manufacturers prepared their own flax themselves. As much as came into the Irish market would have to be spun; but he did not conceive that in proportion to the supply of foreign flax into the Irish market, would be the increased employment for the Irish spinners; inasmuch as though we might import some foreign flax into the Irish market for a particular purpose, we exported largely of Irish flax at present. There was a considerable improvement in the management and dressing of flax within the last six years; which he attributed to the exertions that had been made for improving the machinery of the mills, and directing them how to manage and prepare their flax. In his opinion, the principal cause of the deteriorated manner in which the flax was brought to the different markets of Ireland, was the ignorance of the people in every stage of management; from the first sowing of the seed until it was brought to market. The worst part of it was the mode the country farmer took previous to its going to the mill; the improved mills relieved them of one part of the process. There had been a considerable improvement, within latter years, made in the construction of flax-mills, occasioned by the

er and well-constructed scutch mill, belonging to any party carrying on the manufacture of Ireland, or to any person engaged in that trade, to be the proprietor of a scutch mill; the object was to assist the farmer in the growth and preparation of his flax. The scutch-mill was to be the farmer's part of the process of preparing flax. In parts of the country where mills had been erected, where they were erected, that immediately produced a very great increase of growth of flax in that district. He did not think, unless some assistance had been first sent, the assistance of the Board given, and the attention of the Board called to it, that the improvement would be generally introduced. The growers of flax were generally people that, many of them, did not know a great deal more than they could do; and they thought their mills and their mode of treating the flax equally good with those in Great Britain: the British purchasers of flax came over examined their mills, and they were obliged to inform themselves respecting the quality of the Irish flax; and it was their representations that drew the attention of the Board to it. He did not think the subject was of the class of persons that were usually the proprietors of the flax scutch mills of the country; they would have enabled them to go to the proprietors of the improved scutch mill. Speaking generally of the flax mill proprietors at large, they were generally a poor and ignorant class of persons; and the object was to interest a better class of persons to undertake those mills, by making them on an extended scale, and by drawing their attention. Although the country had already had a practical proof of the advantage of those mills, he certainly thought that some assistance remained for the Linen Board giving premiums upon that subject. If the Board were to give that encouragement them, which was now given by the Linen Board, it would certainly preclude the necessity of the Board's attention to the subject. If they had made to see the advantage of it generally, and should take it up themselves, there was no one thing that would be of more advantage to their estates, or pay them better. The landlords, in all grants of the Linen Board, for some other party, contributed a considerable portion of the expense; the Linen Board, he supposed, did not contribute more than about one-third of the expense. The Linen Board had certainly extended their attention to other parts more particularly than to the north. The introduction of flax mills, by the aid and encouragement of the Linen Board, had tended to introduce the linen trade into parts of Ireland which it did not before exist to any extent. The erection of those mills was the only mode by which it would introduce the growth of flax into that district of the country with advantage. He was fully satisfied that the advantages given

in that way by the Linen Board had produced an extension of this manufacture at a much earlier period in many parts of Ireland than it could have taken place by individual exertions, or the progress of improvement: he meant in those parts of Ireland that were most deficient of improvement, and requiring encouragement most; the south and west. The disposition of grants by the Linen Board had considerably tended to call forth individual aid and exertion on the part of proprietors, in co-operation with those grants; it had directed the attention of many proprietors to the thing that never would have thought of it. Similar improvements to those that had taken place in the scutch mill had been introduced by the encouragement of the Linen Board, in the wheel, the reel, the hackel, and the loom; and those improvements had been latterly very useful to the country; for they had been the means of establishing, through many districts of Ireland, societies for bettering the condition and giving employment to the poor; by going along with the Board in giving aid to them, and providing them with those implements. Not having been in those districts, he was not prepared to say that the establishment of such associations, in co-operation with the Linen Board, had tended also to extend the regulations of the trade in those districts where they were not enforced; but he should conceive it had. The principle by which the Linen Board determined the proportionate quantities of aid to be given to the different provinces of Ireland was this: the three different officers, of whom he was one, assembled, and met the Board at a particular time of the year, when the funds were voted by Parliament, or about that period; after consultation they gave their opinion to the trustees, what proportion of that sum should be applied to the different objects in view, and how it should be apportioned between the different provinces of Ulster, Munster, Leinster, and Connaught; that was taken into consideration by the trustees, and according to their report, they, in some degree, appropriated that sum for the different purposes. He conceived, that if the landlords of Ireland knew their interest, there was nothing that they ought to erect sooner than those scutch mills; and he strongly recommended it to their attention. He believed that it would most amply pay them. It did not appear, however, that such an impression on the minds of the landlords was sufficient to induce them to erect those mills, without the interference of the Board at all. He did not, however, believe that the gentlemen thought that that business was in the hands of the Board, and therefore, gave it up themselves,—they must go along with the Board; he conceived their attention was drawn to it by the premiums held out, and that the consequence was an inquiry, by those gentlemen, about it: they had frequently consulted him, what advantage would it be if they

erected, in such a place, a flax mill; he examined the situation and the district of country, and gave his opinion whether it would be desirable to erect a flax mill there or not. No doubt a thing of that kind could be settled by a gentleman, without advice from the Linen Board, or from an officer of the Linen Board. Supposing three gentlemen made application to the Board for assistance to erect a scutch mill, the mode, which the Board took to decide to which of the three gentlemen the grant should be made, was by ascertaining, by the situation from which the application was made, whether there was a proper supply of water to work it during all seasons; whether or not it was a part of the country where there were flax mills already erected; and they gave a preference to that district of country which appeared best adapted, and in which flax mills were not in general erected. That statement was made to the Linen Board by the Inspector General of the district, upon whose report they, in almost every instance, acted exclusively. There were individuals who would seek for a grant where probably the inspector would conceive the mill would be useful for only three or four months in the year: the object of the Linen Board, and the object of their officers was, that where a mill was to be erected, it should be in a place where it would be useful and convenient to the public for as many months of the year as possible: that was one of the reasons upon which the preference was given. The Linen Board did not, in any one instance, pay more than about a third, sometimes not more than one-sixth, of the expense of the mill. There was a constant expense attending the keeping up of a mill. To the question, whether it was likely that a private individual would wish to erect a mill, subjecting himself to the original expense of the erection, and the expense of keeping it up, unless he considered that he should derive profit from the mill? the answer was, that from the information he obtained, before he thought of erecting a mill, he ascertained that he must derive a profit. To the question, whether if he were resident on the spot, he was not fully as able to judge how far erecting a mill on a particular spot would be advantageous, as the Linen Board were? the answer was, he might, or he might not. The annual profits resulting to a person from a scutch mill, on which he had expended 200*l.*, might be in some instances not 5*l.*, in some instances 60*l.* or 80*l.* to 120*l.* per annum. If the greater annual profit were certain, it might be sufficient encouragement to induce the erection of scutch mills without any assistance from the Linen Board. There were a few other mills than the Board's erected on the improved plan. When the Board made those grants, they always called in the aid of an officer, locally acquainted with the district, in order to determine how far the preference of one grant to another would contri-

bute to the promotion of the manufacture. There had never been an instance, since he had been an officer of the Board, in which there had been a grant made without an inquiry and report. Notice was given by the Linen Board, that on or before such a day they would receive proposals for the erection of scutch mills; each person so applying was directed to make that application to the Inspector General, in a particular form: previous to the day on which the notice was delivered, or subsequent to that day, the Inspector General viewed in the different districts those situations for which application had been made, and he reported to the Board the situations which he thought were most deserving of their encouragement. He had never known the Linen Board give any grants of that kind upon private application, without reference to the officers. The machinery of all those mills had been considerably improved of late; and even the most common ones were improving. Unless the Excise Board could be called a Distillery Board, he had never heard of a Distillery Board in Ireland. He dared to say, that the distillers of Ireland might be trusted to find suitable situations for the erection of their buildings for themselves. But he thought the Linen Board, or some such thing as the Linen Board, absolutely necessary for upholding and improving the trade of the country, which was in the hands of the lower class of persons, who were not in the way of getting information of the improvements made in the different parts of the country, as the established manufacturers of Great Britain were. He conceived, that the improvement which he contemplated would be likely to be promoted, not by a competition with the foreign article, but by introducing improved machinery, which the manufacturers in general were incapable of, without the assistance of the Linen Board. He did not think that individuals in the trade would be interested in introducing that machinery without the assistance or encouragement of the Linen Board, nor did he think that, in general, they would have the knowledge of it; there was an improvement in machinery at that moment in operation by the Linen Board, unknown to the weavers in the north of Ireland, which might be of the greatest advantage to the diaper and damask trade.

Mr. JAMES TWIGG examined.—He resided in Dublin, and was a factor in the Linen Hall. His situation gave him an opportunity of corresponding with the various people in all parts of Ireland who were concerned in the linen trade. He took consignments of linen. There was considerable consignment of yarn from the country parts of Ireland to Dublin; but he was, not at all, in that trade. Generally, he knew the regulations to which the Irish yarn was subjected at the different markets. He served his time in the north of Ireland, near Armagh, at a bleach-mill there. Before he

came to settle in Dublin as a factor, he purchased linen for the people he served his time with, which gave him an opportunity of attending the different markets in the counties of Armagh, Tyrone, and Monaghan; sometimes Derry and Cavan, but very seldom. Foreign linen yarn imported into Ireland could not be sold. In answer to the question, "If he were sufficiently acquainted with the manufacture of linen cloth in Ireland, to tell the Committee whether it would be advantageous to the weavers to have an opportunity of using foreign linen yarn in their manufacture?" he said he had no hesitation in giving as his opinion, that they should have an opportunity of getting foreign yarn and English mill-spun yarn, to purchase, whichever they found was the cheapest. The advantages the linen weaver would derive from that, would be to give him an option of the cheapest yarn; there were now considerable quantities of cloth made of mill-spun yarn, wetted with Irish or foreign yarn. That mill-spun yarn was spun in Yorkshire and in Dundee; a great deal of fine mill-spun yarn was made in Leeds, some of which was imported into Ireland; but that for sale, clandestinely. He could not form any opinion as to the extent, to which the English mill-spun yarn was made use of in Ireland; it must be very trifling, on account of the difficulties in the way of bringing it. But as he understood, whatever was made use of, was so clandestinely. The superiority of the mill-spun yarn over the Irish manufactured yarn he considered to be for particular manufactures; for strong duck cloth and dowlas. The particulars in which he considered that the British mill-spun yarn was superior to the Irish hand-spun yarn were, that it was of a heavier quality, and suitable for making heavier kinds of cloths, such as dowlas cloths and sheetings; some of the fine mill-spun yarn was used for damask cloths. He had never seen any of it, therefore, what he had stated was second-hand information, certainly. The greatest number of hanks to the pound he had heard of mill-spun yarn being brought in, was fifty cut yarn; but there was a gentleman coming from Ireland that could inform the Committee very particularly upon that subject. He was in the habit of daily intercourse with the manufacturing part of the trade throughout the kingdom, north, west, and south. He thought it absolutely necessary to the interests of the trade to admit foreign linen yarn and British mill-spun yarn into Ireland. His reasons were, that it was cheaper, and suitable to particular manufactures; and he thought it very doubtful whether we could spin so cheap as they could on the continent: our flax must always bear a comparative value with wheat; it was sown upon the same description of land, and so long as wheat was kept up by the present regulations, so long must flax be grown upon dearer ground; and if the trade were to extend,

he thought we must get in foreign and mill-spun yarn and foreign flax. Flax was generally grown upon land that wheat might be grown upon. He considered that it would be wise to introduce foreign yarn, without the imposition of duty, quite free. In explanation of his opinion, that the price of flax would be regulated by the price of wheat, he observed, that the land that flax was grown on would grow wheat, generally speaking. His opinion, therefore, was, that if the system of law contributed to raise the price of wheat higher than it naturally would be, if there was no law to restrain importation, the effect of raising the price of wheat must be always to raise the price of flax. Whatever cause raised the price in so very general an article as wheat, must, in his opinion, raise it in all the other articles grown upon the soil. In his opinion, it would contribute to the extension of the cultivation of flax in Ireland, and to the affording flaxen yarn to the linen trade at a cheaper rate, if the corn-laws were repealed. Although he looked on the corn-laws as most beneficial to Ireland, the doing them away would facilitate the growing of flax, and make it cheaper. He served his time in Tyrone; and having been in the habit of attending the markets in most of the counties in the north of Ireland, he had seen, of course, as a casual observer, the crops usually adopted in those counties. The county of Tyrone he did not consider at all a wheat county. Derry he had not so much knowledge of. He did not believe he ever was in Donegal; but the county of Armagh had, within his recollection, increased in the growth of wheat considerably. Antrim had always grown wheat considerably, about Killiad; although it grew barley, oats, and flax. When he said he considered it necessary that facility to the introduction of foreign yarn should be given, he meant all kinds of yarn, as they might happen to be cheaper abroad, which varied at different times; and as in England and Scotland they had an opportunity of making that selection, so he said the Irish manufacturer should have the same opportunity of selection, wherever he could get yarn cheapest and suitable to his purposes. Under the present circumstances, in which the Scotch and English spun yarn, they had a decided advantage over the Irish manufactures; also foreign yarn was better sorted. He understood the people who imported it, whether they were agents or importers of it he could not tell, gave long credits to people that they found worthy of it; that facilitated the introduction of it very much. There were some kinds of foreign yarn which were dearer at present than Irish yarn, and some cheaper. He thought the statement that foreign yarn had at any time been cheaper than Irish, as much as twenty-five per cent, was an erroneous statement; but it might be in some particular kind for a short time. Some particular branches

of the coarse trade had decreased materially; the sheeting trade, and the heavy trade almost of all kinds, such as dowlas, huckabacks, toweling, and coarse damasks and diapers. The trade in similar articles was increasing in England and Scotland. It was his opinion, that if the laws were left as they were with respect to yarn, the coarse linen trade would decrease, for these reasons: that the English and Scotch manufacturer had an opportunity of importing either our yarn or the foreign yarn; and his system was, in his (the witness's) opinion, a great deal better. He meant his system of manufacture, and his system of having a large manufactory was, for many reasons, he thought best. He meant the Scotch system of giving out yarn and employing weavers was better than the Irish system of leaving the weavers to buy their own yarn, and of making the cloth at their own houses; and for this reason, that the large manufacturer had by him such a quantity of yarn as that he could so sort and match it that it would make the cloth that was intended properly, from beginning to end all alike; any person conversant with the Irish linen trade, in the coarser kinds, would at once see how very variable the Irish manufacture was. If, therefore, the weaver had the advantage of purchasing the yarn regularly and accurately sorted for him, he would thereby derive a benefit. The weaver in Ireland was not obliged to collect his yarn together by going to different markets; but there were very poor women who brought but a hank or two to market, and there were some very poor weavers who purchased them, on account of getting those small quantities of yarn cheaper. That produced uneven bad cloth. He must remark here, that that was only applicable to the coarse trade; with respect to the fine trade in the counties of Antrim and Derry, he knew no manufacturers that could surpass them in judgment. When asked "in what way he would propose to supply the Irish weaver with the means of obtaining yarn better," he answered that he knew no statutory regulation that would do it; he thought the best means would be to introduce foreign yarn that was better sorted than ours. The way in which he would propose to remove the difficulties that at present existed in using foreign yarn, was to allow it to be sold by the pound or bundle, as it was imported. The present regulations on selling Irish yarn ought to be modified; yarn that was exposed in public market by numerous people, ought to be subject to inspection and regulation; for it was quite necessary to the manufacturer to have some general rule by which he might know the quantity of yarn, or the length of the thread that was in the particular thing that he was buying; but, on the other hand, he thought the inspection might cease after the yarn got into warehouses or halls; there, he thought, it was vexatious and injurious in a great degree,

to have the hall or the store subject to the visits of the inspector. Of inspection by the officers of the yarn that had been purchased in the market, there was one memorable instance by a seizure in a linen hall about six or seven years ago, when a large quantity was condemned. To the fact, of whether or not it was, in the country parts of Ireland, the practice or the habit of the public officers to follow the yarn into the merchants' warehouses after it had been purchased by them in the market, he could not speak, but he never heard that it was, except at the time that the seizure was made in the linen hall in Dublin. He thought the examination of the yarn that the various spinners brought into the market, necessary to secure to the purchaser a fair article. So far from knowing, that that inspection taking place in open market was not followed by any examination afterwards when that yarn so purchased in market went into the store of the merchant, he knew of no such thing; for the inspector might, according to the laws, go and examine it, and seize it, if found irregular; the law, he thought, stated so. The law allowed an inspector to search the premises for yarn on suspicion. With regard to the question how, if foreign yarn were to be introduced, and the Irish linen regulations, with regard to the sale of yarn, were to be continued, he would provide so that the two sorts of yarn might be distinguished; he thought, according to the regulation he had in some measure stated, that only yarn exposed in public and open market should be subject to inspection, but that the warehouses and the hall should not; he did not know how the foreign yarn could be subject to inspection in open market, for in itself it was not regular, according to their own scale of winding; the foreigners having a different reel and count to ours. He had heard that foreign linen yarn was subject to inspection in foreign countries. Foreign linen yarn was hand-spun. He had never heard of any such thing as mill-spun foreign yarn. He thought that, in consequence of the foreign yarn not being regularly made up, as to reel and count, it must be sold by the pound, which would be a sufficient protection to the purchaser. He understood that all English and Scotch yarn was now sold by the pound. It was sold in bundles of twenty hanks; the person knew by the weight of the bundle the fineness of the thread. He could not himself see any objection to introduce the same rule of sale into Ireland for Irish yarn; but the yarn dealers should know better than he. Certainly the Scotch linen manufacturers had also an advantage, in consequence of their system of carrying on the manufacture, in being able to introduce improvements more quickly than the manufacturers could in Ireland. An intelligent man, who had large property, who could go about and could learn what was going on in the way of machinery, had a great advan-

tage over a poor manufacturer that was hardly able to buy a wheel, a loom, or a reel. He had not seen the fly-shuttle in use in England or Scotland, generally; but he knew that very strong linens had been wove with it, and with great advantage. It was not used in Ireland by the lower orders at all, except for a kind of light cloth; it was used for three-quarter widths. The observations and the evidence that he had been hitherto giving to the Committee were applicable to the coarse linen trade. He had not had, in the course of his evidence, in contemplation any manufacture of linen above 1s. 3d. a yard; from that downwards. The effect which he thought it would have upon the spinners of the country, if the foreign linen yarn were freely admitted into Ireland for general use was, that it must be of material consequence to them, unless they could spin so as to meet the foreign spinning; it was a very material question indeed; the increased value given to the flax of Ireland by the hands of the women in it was a very material thing indeed; the flax, he should think, generally speaking, must be doubled in value by the spinners. It might be that the free admission of foreign yarn, throughout those parts of Ireland with which he was acquainted, would cause very general dissatisfaction among that class of people; but the question came to this, if we could not compete with the people who had an advantage over us, we must either get the same advantage, or quit the manufacture; and if the Scotchman or Englishman could get the yarn cheaper, the Irish spinner would not be called upon for spinning at all. He was aware that that manufacture of from 15d. a yard downwards, manufactured in England and Scotland from foreign linen yarn, drew a bounty upon export. When asked, "If the effect of permitting foreign linen yarn to come free into Ireland, to be made use of in the manufactures there, would not be to give it an advantage over home-spun linen yarn, to the extent of the bounty received upon going out of the country?" he answered, that as soon as the two yarns came together, they were upon the same footing. He had strong hopes that if the foreign yarn was admitted freely into Ireland, the Irish spinners would be brought to equal that yarn. It was quite possible for the people in Ireland to grow flax to spin as good yarn as any foreign yarn he ever saw. Nor did he think it would in the mean time have the effect of throwing a great many of those spinners out of employment; the difference of price was not sufficient to create such a concussion as that. By act of parliament, foreign yarn was subject to seizure as soon as it came to Ireland, and was offered for sale. He believed that the act of parliament that allowed foreign yarn to come into the united kingdom, did not make any distinction between England and Scotland and Ireland, in regard to duty; 1s. a hundred weight was the

duty upon the importation; he understood that the distinction was, that you might import it for your own use; but if you offered it for sale, it was then liable to seizure. It might be imported, under a general law, into Ireland, and could not be seized, unless you took it into the market for sale. Therefore, in point of fact, the difficulty that arose in the way of using foreign yarn in Ireland did not consist in the general law of the land in any way prohibiting the importation of foreign yarn, but altogether in the Irish act of parliament for regulating the sale of yarn, and declaring that no yarn be exposed for sale, but agreeable to a particular reel and count. That law did not say that no foreign yarn shall be imported into Ireland; you might import it for your own use. A manufacturer might import foreign yarn, paying only 1s. a cwt., and manufacture that yarn without its being liable to seizure. The difficulty, therefore, consisted in the importer not being able to bring it into the market for sale. He was not aware that the cambric trade in the north of Ireland had declined considerably of late years; but it was a branch of the trade he would not take upon himself to speak of; he had more knowledge of the coarse trade. He had heard of four or five establishments in Ireland for spinning yarn; Mr. Crossthwaite had one at Luccan near Dublin. The Irish mills were capable of spinning yarn finer than they attempted, because when they attempted any thing beyond certain fineness, it became a great deal too high for common manufacture. They spun now that which would make dowlas, thirty inches wide, worth 11d. and 1s.; it was possible to spin yarn a great deal higher, to make it useful for some particular purposes. What existed, in point of fact, in Ireland at present, was mill-spun yarn, suited for dowlas and what was called Russian ducks, and that kind of sheeting, worth 15d. or 16d. a yard. There were but a few of those mills. He had not seen the yarn turned out from those mills, so as to have an opportunity of comparing it with similar grist yarn of foreign importation; and his information was not that of a person of knowledge; he had not sufficient knowledge of the yarn trade to give an opinion, as to the exact comparative merits. He did not think the introduction of foreign linen yarn would materially interfere to lessen the quantity of home-spun yarn; in some instances it would use up some of ours; and they might import English mill-spun yarn and use Irish welfs to it. The warp was the most important part of the web. The best description of yarn was required for the warp. The warp might be of foreign spun yarn, and the Irish yarn might be made use of for the welf. The effect of allowing foreign yarn to come in and to be used in that way, with Irish yarn, would, he thought, be, to encourage and increase the manufacture of Irish yarn; and to increase the manufacture of the coarse cloth he had been speaking of.

He did not think it would have an injurious effect upon those establishments which he had named, the spinning-mills. Suppose a manufactory, a new establishment, was about to be formed for spinning upon an extensive scale, he did not think it would discourage the persons from undertaking such an establishment. He much doubted if there would not be the same quantity of flax grown in the country if the foreign import was free. If foreign yarn was allowed to be used in Ireland, it might lead to a competition between the Irish yarn and foreign yarn, which might contribute to improve very considerably the Irish yarn. He had always understood that Irish flax was ill dressed, worse dressed than the foreign. If the foreign yarn was to obtain, in the first instance, an advantage over the Irish yarn, and to contribute to drive the Irish yarn out of the market, the Irish yarn would, he thought, recover its ground by their taking more pains in dressing the flax. He did not apprehend any reduction of the spinning business of Ireland, worth speaking of, in consequence; and if it should happen to be so, he expected it would recover again; but he did expect an increase of the manufacture of cloth by an opportunity of free importation of foreign yarn. He knew little of the counties of Ireland that yarn came from. He knew that, universally in the province of Ulster, yarn was grown in every county. He was aware that, in the province of Connaught, the counties of Mayo, Galway, and Sligo were great yarn counties. He was aware that the yarn was spun in almost every cabin in those counties. There was no other mode by which those spinners had an opportunity of selling the produce of their wheels than by attending the different yarn markets. He apprehended it would not be practicable, from the extended manner in which the trade of spinning was carried on, that it could be expected that those who wished to purchase yarn should go round to the cabins of the different people, to look at what they had for sale, and buy it up. From the very great extent to which the spinning of yarn had gone, he considered that regulations in the open market, where it was brought for sale, were essentially necessary. The weaver could inspect the yarn for himself; the merchant had not time: but the object of an inspector in those markets where yarn was offered for public sale was, that no yarn should be brought there but what was agreeable to the general rule; that every person in Ireland might know what he was getting. A woman spinner might earn by the day, by her wheel, from 2*d.* to 3*d.* A considerable proportion of the Irish spun linen yarn was exported to Great Britain; but there was considerably more foreign imported into England. The ports from whence it principally went were Dublin, Drogheda, and he believed Derry. His opinion with regard to the expediency of allowing the free importation of foreign-dressed flax was, that if

the present duty on it, higher than what was on undressed flax, were done away, he understood the importation would principally continue in undressed flax. He understood that foreign-dressed flax was a better prepared article than Irish dressed flax. The opportunity of getting it, he thought, ought to be given. He conceived that the state of the law which allowed foreign undressed flax to come in free, and foreign yarn to come in free, was such as to give a premium upon foreign spinning; on account of the operation of the bounty on the export of linen. The foreign yarn was wove into cloth, and bounty received upon it, upon exportation to foreign countries. He did not apprehend that the importation of foreign-dressed flax would be injurious, to any particular extent, in diminishing the demand for labour in Ireland for preparing the materials of the linen manufacture. He thought it would be found, that the flax would be imported undressed; he did not think it would make any alteration in the spinning. He thought the people would wish to dress it to the state that they wanted themselves, for the purposes intended; the mill-spinners, he believed, would import it undressed. He was of opinion, that foreign flax was better dressed than home flax, in consequence of the information he had received from people who had been dealers in the article, and who had seen it. He was, from his experience of Ireland, aware that to a very considerable extent the culture of the different patches of flax belonging to each of the farms, in the country was chiefly depended upon by the tenantry for the payment of their rents; that was pretty universally the case in the flax counties. The rents, he understood, were in the north of Ireland more regularly and better paid where the linen trade existed; which he attributed to the linen manufacture, and the industry of the people. He did not attribute the better payment of rents in the north of Ireland to the exclusion of foreign-dressed flax. When asked, if, as he had said, foreign-dressed flax would not be very much resorted to, even if the duty were taken off, it would be desirable to produce that anxiety that would necessarily be created, if those connected with the growth of flax were to understand that the legislature passed a law to enable them to be rivalled in the growth of that article? he answered, that he thought that that rivalry should be given, and the opportunity of importing dressed flax should be given, the same as undressed flax. Certainly the weavers paid their rent out of their earnings; the land was in many places not worth the rent, and the rent was paid out of the labour upon the cloth. The produce of the land in general would not pay the rent; and therefore, it must be paid out of the labour of the manufacturer. He thought there was a higher rent paid for land in the north, by the weavers, than was justified by the actual value of the land, according to the produce of it. He

conceived that it would be better for the occupier of the soil that his rent should be proportioned to what he raised off that soil, and not from the precarious thing of a manufacture. By his last answer he meant to declare it to be his opinion, that it would be better for the interests of the country that the weavers should be a separate class of persons from the farmers, and be congregated into villages. The division of labour was one reason. His opinion was, that the two things ought to be separate, farming and manufacturing. His reasons were, the want of experience in a person that was half farmer and half manufacturer; a want of experience in adapting himself to all the improvements going on; he was a merchant as well as manufacturer; he bought his own yarn, and he sold his own cloth: he would be much better off, in his (the witness's) opinion, if he received that yarn from a large dealer in it, got it properly sorted to his hand, so that he lost no time in going to market, buying and preparing it, but commenced weaving as soon as one web was out and another in the loom. It must certainly be a great advantage to employ the females of his family in spinning yarn, that otherwise would be doing nothing. If he were to go and buy all his yarn, although he might in that case employ his family in spinning, it would not be for his own particular use. He could see no advantage in separating the businesses of spinning and weaving. He did not admit that the principle he had just suggested, namely, the principle of division of labour, went to shew that the process of spinning and the process of weaving would be better conducted if they were carried on altogether distinct from each other: he did not see the connexion between those two parts, as the women might continue to spin in the same house with the weaver, weaving cloth for another person. He thought the principle of the division of labour would contribute more to further the interests of the linen trade, by the weaver not being a farmer, than if he joined the two businesses of weaving and farming. He did not think that one of the causes of the cheapness with which linen was produced in Ireland was to be found in all the different parts of the manufacturer's family taking a share from the earliest period of life in some one process or other of the manufacture, from the time it exhibited itself in flax in the field, till it went out of the loom in the shape of the web; he thought it were better carried on separately. He did not think the cheapness of it mainly attributable to that mode of its being carried on. According to his plan of congregating manufacturers into villages, for the purpose of carrying on the manufacture, it would require capitalists to employ them. It might be better for their morals that the manufacture should be carried on in the country rather than in the town; but the thing could be produced cheaper the other way. He had no doubt that the

manufacturers in the country were a better race of people; that they had better health. He had not read any recent works upon the health of manufacturing towns, in which the point was denied that they were less healthy than agricultural districts. He thought that the linen manufacture might be carried on cheaper in towns, by capitalists employing a number of manufacturers in those towns, than it was carried on now in the country, in the dispersed manner in which it was; because experienced manufacturers would supply the people with yarns properly sorted; when improvements took place in looms, in the tackle of those looms, and the various things concerned in, he could furnish them, and put them upon a proper method of going through the manufacture, which they now knew nothing about; the article being produced cheaper by extensive manufacturers engaging in it. It was weavers he would bring to live in towns; the women might spin. In small towns they would not be at a much greater expense for their lodgings than they would be if they lived at some distance in the country. He had already said he would not separate the spinning from the weaving in the same house; and he was aware that the children actually, from the age of four years old upwards, were employed in houses where the manufacture was carried on in assisting in some branch of it from the earliest stage. He did not, however, contemplate any such thing as that a capitalist establishing this manufacture in towns should be obliged to pay for the labour of all parts of the family which took a part in it: the capitalist would merely pay the weaver, and the rest of the family might employ themselves as they pleased for him. He did not think that that alteration, and the bringing families to live in towns, would necessarily have the effect of depriving all the younger branches of the family of those earnings which they now obtained by carrying on the manufactures in the country; the families of labourers throughout the country, women and children, would still be employed in spinning and dressing flax; while the labourer was employed for some large manufacturer, the women of the house, and the children, would still be employed in spinning and dressing flax. He should suppose, that if the weaver lived in a town, and had no farm, and passed his whole time altogether in the business of weaving, he would have more money in his pocket for the purposes of his family, than if he lived in the country, and paid a rent for land so high as to be obliged to pay a considerable part of his earnings towards that rent. He thought the manufacturer that employed that weaver, under those circumstances, would get the work done cheaper, on the whole, than if the circumstances were different from what had been described. In point of fact, the system he had described, of capitalists employing weavers living in vil-

lages, and occupying their whole time in weaving, was, he had heard, the system that now prevailed in Scotland, though not entirely. There might be a description of persons in Scotland who were partly manufacturers and partly farmers. He had had opportunities of knowing the manner in which the linen manufacture was carried on in Scotland, by conversing with people there in the trade. The tendency of the conversation had been to acquire a knowledge of the manner in which it was carried on there; and he thought that, in a general way, he was acquainted with the manner in which it was carried on. With respect to the two methods of carrying on the manufacture, the Irish and the Scotch, the Scotch had the superiority, he thought. He conceived that superiority to consist in the manufacture being in the hands of large and experienced persons, ready to make improvements, and to adopt them as soon as known. The large manufacturers supplied the weavers with sorted yarn, wefts, and warps. The weaver in Scotland was a person who merely received wages for his work, and was in no degree connected with the buying of the yarn or the selling of the cloth. It being a cheaper mode of production, he conceived that if Scotland persevered in its system, and Ireland persevered in her system, that in the end Scotland would gain considerable advantages over the linen manufacture of Ireland. He believed that there was some hand-spinning in Scotland; but there was a great deal of mill-spinning, and a great deal of foreign yarn imported; they got yarn from Ireland too. The principle of the Scotch manufacturer was to obtain the material in the cheapest possible way. He did not care where he got it; he got it as cheap as he could. He had stated in a former part of his evidence, that he conceived it necessary that the inspectors of yarn should be continued, for yarns exposed in open market; the reason that induced him to think that that officer was necessary between the buyer of yarn and the seller of it, was that it was necessary that some one general rule and regulation, with respect to the wind and count of yarn, be enforced throughout the kingdom. If they adopted the plan of selling by weight, he thought that inspection would still be necessary, that people should know the count and reel, and the length of thread. He did not think that its being sold by weight would do away the necessity of having any reference to count and reel; if there was no law to enforce a certain reel and count, it would vary very considerably, and the manufacturer's would find a great difficulty in working up the yarn. He meant that that difficulty would arise in working up the yarn into warps and wefts. The present system of inspection made the accuracy of count and reel better than it would be without it, but the yarn was still not accurate. It was not positively correct all through the kingdom; but he thought

it would be worse without the inspection. He did not think it would be possible for the buyer of yarn to secure, by his own exertions, the making up of the yarn in any particular way that was desirable for his own purpose. The inconvenience to the Scotch buyers of yarn, or the English buyers of yarn, from there being no such officer in Scotland or in England, could not operate there to the same extent at all, because there it was either mill-spun yarn or foreign yarn, which was according to some particular count. There might be some spun in England and Scotland; but the principal quantity was either mill-spun or foreign yarn imported. He did not mean to say that the duty of the office of inspectors in Ireland was so accurately, honestly, and ably discharged, as to secure the object of the act of parliament, namely, that every hank shall contain the exact number of threads prescribed, and shall be wound exactly of the same length of which it ought to be wound; the inspection had not gone the length of making it so accurate as that. There were constant complaints of the neglect of inspectors. He did not know himself that there were different rules prevailing in different parts of Ireland, governing the conduct and the way of managing the business and duties of inspectors; but if that were the case, it was irregular; they acted all under one law, and it should be enforced throughout the kingdom. As to whether the experience of any regulations of this sort afforded any grounds for justifying the opinion, that any system could be introduced to enforce the regular discharge of the duties of such officers; he did not know how far they could be made to make the thing perfectly accurate; he did not think it possible; but to approach as near perfection as possible he thought necessary. He conceived that the inspectors were necessary, in order to prevent frauds on the part of the makers and sellers of yarn. He thought there was a disposition to commit frauds to that extent, on the part of the sellers of yarn, as to justify the interference of a public officer: even under the inspection there were irregularities; and, in his mind, there would be still more if there were no inspection. From the frauds of that description of persons who commonly sold yarn in the markets, the weaver might protect himself that had but little yarn to buy, only as much as would make a web of cloth; but the yarn-dealer that came a great distance, and bought a quantity to take to another market, it was very important to him that he purchased yarn in a state that he could sell it again, and without the trouble of counting every hank. He conceived that the office of inspector protected the buyer, in point of fact, from frauds. The ground upon which he supposed this inspection to be necessary, was the quantity a buyer had to purchase in one market; and from such a number of poor people, whom he might never see again. When asked,

“Suppose the law was altered, and that that part of the law was repealed which requires all yarn to be sold in open market, and that the buyer could buy in his house every day in the week, or at any place he thought proper to go to look for yarn, could he not, by affording the people who make yarn an opportunity of coming at their own time to him, be able to buy any quantity of yarn, in such a manner as to secure honest yarn, and yarn made up as it ought to be in regard to reel and count?” his answer was, that he did not think it would be a practicable plan. He did not conceive that the seller of yarn had a right to complain of having his dealings placed under the control of a public officer; for if there was nothing wrong, the officer could not seize. When asked, “if he did not conceive that it was a great hardship upon any man who earned his bread by his own industry, to be compelled by act of parliament to bring his goods and place the value of them in any degree under the control of a public officer?” his answer was, that he thought it would be a hardship if that person was a respectable person; but if he were a pauper, that the buyer might never see again, he thought that the person might be made subject to the interference of a public officer. They were obliged to go before a magistrate before yarn could be forfeited. He thought that the effect upon the minds of those who were connected with the trade, if the public officers were altogether removed, would be an apprehension of irregular yarn. He did not know that yarn was obliged to be sold in open market; if so, it was an injurious restriction. He was not aware that the law absolutely prohibited yarn from being sold, except in open market, and between certain hours on each market day. It might be that all dealings with respect to the purchasing of yarn were not carried on altogether in a manner so as to be free from a certain understanding between the buyer and the officer; but he had no knowledge of any private understanding between the officer and the yarn buyer. He had never heard of an instance of a collusion of that kind taking place between the public officer and the manufacturer, to his own knowledge. If there was no officer, and the purchaser was obliged to examine the yarn himself, the buyer could not buy the same quantity of yarn on a market day that he could do now; and that was one of the reasons why he thought there ought to be inspection. The yarn was bought, in point of fact, in open market, from a number of small people. When asked, “if he had ever heard of yarn being seized in consequence of a few threads being wanting in a hank?” he answered, that there was a small number of threads, he believed, allowed; he could not be accurate as to that. There were twelve cuts in a hank, each cut 120 threads, of two yards and a half each. He thought that the present system of coming to market gave a much

greater facility to the buyer to meet the people there; and was much less expensive than going round the country, and making contracts with the sellers in their houses. When asked, “if the buyer was a person who had a regular demand for large quantities of yarn, and it was known that all yarn brought to his office at his residence would be purchased at a fair value, if it was made up in an honest manner, and according to the rules that are laid down, would he not be able to obtain any quantity of yarn in the country he wished, without any trouble of going round and collecting it?” his answer was, that he thought the people would prefer going to market. As to linens, the generality of buyers had agents employed to purchase for them in the market towns; but as to yarns, he thought not. When asked, “if he meant that the people would prefer going to market instead of going to a regular office, where there was regular payment and fair dealing, to such a degree that such buyer would not be able to get the quantity of yarn he wanted to purchase?” his answer was, that if there was an office open at such a place, he dared say a great deal would be brought; but he thought the present taste of the people would be to go to market. If the yarn were not subject to the inspection of a public officer, the purchasers would inspect it themselves; they could inspect it as well as any officer, if they had time to do it. It would be worth while for a buyer to a great extent to have a person in his employ capable of examining yarn, in the way it is now examined by the public inspector; but he knew of no seller to that extent. He thought it was possible for the inspector to keep the market sufficiently regular. He was not of opinion that those various regulations about the selling of yarn in markets, and the power of inspectors to seize, if the yarn was not made up in that method which the law required, operated to check the extension of the making of yarn throughout those parts of Ireland in which it had not been yet introduced to any extent worth speaking of; there might be particular prejudiced parts of the country where they would continue obstinately in old methods, and would not conform to those that were conceived necessary for the general advantage. If a farmer were disposed to grow flax, and to spin it into yarn, in a district of country where the yarn spinning had not been introduced, he might be in some degree intimidated and prevented from pursuing his inclination by reading the rules that were printed and circulated by the yarn inspectors; at the same time, the rules and regulations were necessary for the general advantage. He thought there was no regulation that any person of common intelligence could not conform to at once; all they had to get was a reel of proper dimensions, to give it so many turns, and when they came to a cut to put a

thread found it. He knew the prejudices of the people so much, that he allowed it to be very difficult to get them to conform to rules of any kind; but it was necessary that some one rule be established all over the country. He therefore did not think the removal of the public officers would be an expedient measure. He had said that he thought the inspection of yarn was a necessary thing in open market; he considered it a very great hardship indeed for either halls or warehouses, or mill-spinners, where there were responsible people, to be subject to the visit of an inspector. He knew nothing about the woollen trade. The woollen trade was very unimportant, in point of magnitude, as compared with the linen trade of Ireland; although he believed there was a great extent of spinning of wool throughout the southern parts of Ireland. The bounties upon coarse linen had created a system, in which he thought it would cause an unavoidable convulsion to take it off suddenly; but he did not approve of the system of bounties; he thought it had brought the trade into a precarious state. The bounties upon coarse linens must have increased the growth of flax, and the consequent manufacture of coarse linens in the south of Ireland, certainly, for most of them were exported. He did not remember when the bounties were first granted. He did not think that the improvement that had taken place in the trade was altogether owing to the bounties; for he thought himself the bounties had militated against Ireland in one respect, namely, in the great encouragement that the English and Scotch manufacturer had had in manufacturing cloths exactly to get the bounty. The bounty was taken upon Scotch and English linens as well as upon Irish. There was nearly three times as much bounty drawn for English and Scotch linens as for Irish. Upon the whole, it was his opinion that the practical operation of the bounties had been against Ireland, and in favour of Scotland and England. As to whether, as far as the interest of the linen manufacture of Ireland was concerned, it would be of advantage to get rid of the bounties; it was a different thing not to put on a bounty and to take one off; after the system had been carried on for such a number of years, when the bounty had raised the price of land and every thing else, the withdrawing of the bounty must be felt on the trade severely. He did not think that the withdrawal of the bounty could be effected more quickly, without inconveniences to the trade, than was arranged last year by the new regulation; ten years was a long time; but he thought it was right to do it gradually. When asked, "if he could suggest any measure that would be of service to the linen manufacture of Ireland, with regard to the existing duties upon the materials made use of in that manufacture, coals and other articles?" his answer was, that he certainly thought, with respect to duties, that

the duty upon dressed flax should be taken off, and that all duties that could possibly be dispensed with upon bleaching materials should be made as light as possible, owing to withdrawing the bounties, the trade would have very hard work indeed; and in some situations the duty upon coal was sufficient nearly to prevent bleach greens being erected; for instance, in the neighbourhood of Dublin the duty was excessive. The effect of that duty upon coals in Dublin, and of some regulations of the Irish laws, was to require brown linens that were brought from the west and south of Ireland to be sent down to the north to be bleached, and afterwards frequently to be brought back to Dublin for sale. The house he was concerned in did a great deal in that way; getting linens from Cork and from Mayo, and all that part of Ireland, and sending them down to the north, and getting them back bleached. Do the remark, "if the duties on coals were removed, the prohibition that existed against bleach yards being established in the neighbourhood of Dublin being removed, those linens would be all bleached in Dublin, by which the expense of sending them to the north would be saved;" he replied, that he did not think they would get it done cheaper; he thought it would be worth while to carry them to a greater distance, to a part of the country where there were greater falls of water for mills, and where there was turf. The bleaching could not be carried on as cheaply in the neighbourhood of Dublin as in the north, if the duty on coals was taken off; he knew of no falls in the neighbourhood of Dublin, and if steam was used it would come much higher. The trade were very much against the proposed alteration of the duties on ashes; through the withdrawing of the bounties, and the various circumstances that were pressing on the trade, it was very doubtful whether the trade would increase under them all; there were considerable duties on bleaching materials, on smalts, and on ashes, and on sulphur used in making vitriol; all of which came to a great deal on a year's bleaching. If, on the one hand, those duties were taken off, and, upon the other, the bounties were repealed, the linen manufacture would be benefited by such an arrangement; because the one might be permanent, and the bounties must be withdrawn in the course of nine years. If the operation of having no duty upon bleaching stuff or coals could be obtained for the withdrawing the bounty, that must be withdrawn in nine years, he conceived that would be an advantage. He certainly felt it absolutely necessary that the Irish manufacturer should be placed upon an equal footing with the English manufacturer, with respect to the raw materials; yarn, dressed flax, and every thing. No injury would arise to the trade from such a proceeding.

at Headingley, near Leeds. Was a spinner of flax. The raw material that they consumed was about two thousand tons a year. It was all mill-spun. His mills were at Leeds and Shrewsbury. He had been engaged in that business since the year 1790;—thirty-five years. The practice of mill-spinning flax had improved very much indeed in that period. He was one of the first that began the spinning of flax by machinery, perhaps the first that brought it to any perfection. They were still making very material improvements in the manner of spinning. As to the fineness of the yarn they spun, what they were now spinning averaged about thirty cuts in the pound. It was fit for fine sheetings and drills, and shirting cloths, and some of their damasks. The raw material was obtained principally from Flanders, France, and Holland, and some from Ireland. The bulk of the yarn was sold in Yorkshire; some in Scotland, and some in the north of Ireland. The foreign flax that they made use of was all dressed by machinery. They got it in a rough state, and dressed it themselves. They should prefer that mode of proceeding, in place of importing dressed flax, supposing the duties were taken off, for they dressed it much better than it was done abroad. He meant that they dressed it in their own house better; and he believed it was dressed much better by the English manufacturers in general as well as by them. The flax they got from Ireland was, in point of goodness, scarcely equal to the average of Flanders flax. Which generally came cheapest depended entirely upon the season; sometimes they were buying almost entirely in one market, and sometimes in another. On the average, the Flanders flax had been the cheapest for the last three or four years. The flax was better dressed in England considerably than it was in Ireland. They never got any dressed from Ireland; he had seen it in Ireland dressed; it would not answer the purposes of their mills; they could not spin it in the way it was dressed; it was so badly dressed. They therefore bought it in a rough state, and dressed it themselves. He could not exactly say, when linen yarn was spun to thirty cuts to the pound of shirting, what price by the yard that would produce. They were merely spinners; they manufactured nothing. It would not answer for that degree of fineness of web that he himself was in the habit of making use of for shirts. The finest they spun was fifty cuts, which was about the coarser quality of damasks that were made use of. He did not know what the average quality of damask would sell for by the yard; and therefore could not give the Committee any accurate account of the price of the cloth that the finest of his yarn might be manufactured into. The yarn he spun would answer only for about the middle quality of Irish shirtings. He did not think that much of the linen cloth that his yarn might be manufactured into was exported; al-

though it was finer than that which would draw the bounty, if exported. The Yorkshire and Scotch weavers would give a higher price for their yarns, by ten or fifteen per cent than for the hand-spun yarn. Continued improvements were taking place in the mill machinery for spinning linen yarn; and it was now very much improved from what it was thirty years ago, or ten years ago; at which time they did not spin more than fifteen cuts to the pound; but now from thirty to fifty. He thought it was probable that, in the next thirty years, machinery would be just as much improved as it had been within the last; he thought it would continue improving; they had always improvements in hand. They employed about one thousand six hundred hands in the whole process of dressing flax; in the different processes in the mill-spinning, about nine hundred, or one thousand. They had four different mills; all worked by steam; about three hundred horse power. There were several mills similar to theirs at Leeds; perhaps eight or ten; and one at Shrewsbury. None of them were half as large as theirs. There were a great many on the eastern coast of Scotland; Mr. Maberly's was the most extensive; but at present the weaving of linen yarn was not carried on by machinery to any extent; Mr. Maberly was now building a large mill for weaving linen yarn. The experiment had been made in England of weaving by machinery. They had themselves wove by machinery; they had now given it up, and confined themselves to spinning. They gave it up because they wished to have only one thing to attend to—they thought the spinning was sufficient. He had no doubt that it was likely to be successful in making a good and saleable manufacture; but it had not yet succeeded to any great extent; not to any great saving of labour or expense. It was not in consequence of its not succeeding to their expectations that they abandoned it; they adopted it merely as an experiment, for the sake of introducing it to the manufacturers that bought their yarns; they adopted it on a very small scale, for the sake of experiment, not with the intention of going into it largely themselves. He believed that it was likely to be adopted as a mode of weaving linen yarn, in preference to the common loom, in the course of ten or twenty years, but not much sooner; for it was not, in its present state, very profitable, although susceptible of great improvement. One reason for his saying, although it had not been successful with them upon the experiments which they had made, that it was likely, in the course of twenty years, to be generally adopted, was, that Mr. Maberly was now adopting it on a large scale; and from their own experience, if they had been manufacturers of linens, they should have adopted it themselves on a large scale. Mr. Maberly had ascertained by experiment that it would answer, and he was now in progress of going to a large extent in

buildings and machinery. He believed that yarns of any fineness might be woven by machinery; to what extent of fineness he did not indeed know; perhaps 3s. or 4s. a yard, of yard-wide linen, was as fine as had yet been woven by machinery. He was not accurately acquainted with the manufacture of linen-cloth; but he should suppose their finest yarn would be about the price of 3s. or 4s. per yard, yard-wide, when manufactured. He could not give any accurate opinion upon the comparative cheapness, as contrasted between the machine-woven linen and the loom-woven linen; to which the machine-woven linen would be reduced; the machine-woven linen would cost less in wages. He could not speak with any accuracy as to how much it would lessen the price. The difference between machine-spun linen yarn and hand-spun linen yarn, of the same grist, in price, was from 10 to 15 per cent. The machine yarn sold at the higher price. And yet the weavers in Yorkshire were contented to pay that additional price for the mill-spun yarn; but only for their warps. For the wefts they used the hand-spun yarn principally; German and Prussian yarn for the wefts. The German and Prussian yarn was all hand-spun. The price of mill-spun yarn was from 10 to 15 per cent higher than the hand-spun yarn, because it was spun of a much better material. The superior quality of the mill-spun yarn over the hand-spun yarn consisted in its being much stronger, on account of the material from which it was spun, and the evenness of the yarn. There was considerably more care taken in preparing the flax for mill-spinning than for the common spinning; it was better dressed, and better hackled. A great part therefore of the rough flax went to the tow; to the refuse; and the flax that would be spun by the hand to one hundred cuts they spun to forty. With regard to the difference of produce that there would be between two equal quantities of rough flax, the one being spun by hand, and the other by machinery, he thought the produce in yarn of the hand-spinning would be twice as much in length as the mill-spinning; in the finest sorts it certainly would; but not in the coarser sorts of flax. The amount of capital which would be required, including buildings and machinery of every description, to put an establishment of such an extent as their own into full work, would depend a good deal upon the mode in which the flax was purchased. If they purchased the flax as they did, it required a capital of 250,000l.; they purchased their flax of the growers at the time it was brought into market in the winter, which supplied them for the year to come; any manufacturer who should purchase his flax of a merchant on credit, would, of course, require a smaller capital; the buildings and machinery would require about 100,000l.; not in addition to the 250,000l., but as part of the 250,000l. They bought from the foreign growers. The seven or eight other mills in the

neighbourhood of Leeds would altogether probably occupy as much capital as he had been describing. They spun a coarser sort of yarn, and they purchased upon credit, generally of the merchants of Hull; the importers of flax from Russia. To manufacture five hundred tons of mill-spun yarn of a coarser description would require a capital as great as theirs, if they conducted their business in the same manner; but if they purchased their raw material upon six months' credit; and sold the yarn for money; they would require no floating capital; they would require only the capital that was expended on the mill and machinery. They did not transact any business with the importing merchants for flax; they sent out their own agent to purchase in the country where it was grown; in the interior of Flanders. They imported all themselves; their agents paying with cash in the country. Their agents bought the flax in the country at the markets, and also at the farmers' houses. There were many other mills than those he had described (the seven or eight at Leeds, and the one at Shrewsbury) in different parts of England; some in the north of Yorkshire. The introduction of those mills had nearly extinguished the hand-spinning in Yorkshire. Heretofore the hand-spinning was conducted by women. He believed the young women were now employed in weaving cotton in the north of Yorkshire, instead of spinning. A great deal of the finer sorts of yarns in Scotland was entirely spun by hand. He believed the spinners did not grow their own flax, or scarcely any; the flax was principally Dutch and Flemish flax; it was hackled by the manufacturer, and sent out in that state to different parts of the country to spin. The manufacturer supplied the spinner with flax; and took the flax back in the shape of thread, paying the wages for spinning. They sold some yarn for the use of the manufacture of linen in Ireland; but not to much extent. When they sent yarn to Ireland, they reeled it purposely the same as the Irish reel, otherwise it would be liable to seizure. If the regulations were removed which at present made it liable to seizure, it might, in some degree, increase the demand for the English mill-spun yarn in Ireland; but he should think not materially. The Irish regulation formed some impediment to persons willing to purchase English mill-spun yarn, because it obliged the spinner to reel it purposely for that market, which was not liked in the English market. Yarn was sold in England by the bundle, containing a certain number of yards. There was not any regulation by act of parliament respecting the sale of yarn in England; the trade was perfectly at liberty in all respects. It was sold in England according to a certain weight and a certain length; it was sold by the length, but the weight was also specified. In ascertaining the value, the length was more depended upon than the weight; therefore the bundles were all

of the same length, and the price varied a little, in proportion to the weight, but not materially. The exact weight, and the exact length, were preserved, and the whole transaction went on between the buyer and seller without any legislative interference. He was not sufficiently acquainted with the state of the trade in Scotland to give an opinion respecting it. It was probable that in cases where yarn was made by the peasantry generally through the country in Ireland, it might be necessary to have rules to secure that that yarn should not be made up fraudulently, which would not be applicable to manufactories upon a large scale; but he was not a judge of that. He should certainly consider their character as responsible for the description of yarn that they sent, bearing their name, or coming from their manufactory. He should think their character responsible for the yarn being of the full count that they described it, and the full quality. They sold their yarn not in any market, but to manufacturers. He considered selling the yarn by length a more eligible mode of selling it for the purchaser than selling it by weight. The value of yarn depended upon its length; the same length was nearly of the same value, although of different weight, and therefore the sale, by length was much more accurate. If a bundle of yarn were made up, weighing a certain weight, he did not think that a portion of it might be of a certain fineness, and the remainder of a much coarser quality, without the purchaser being able to discover it, if he bought it by weight. The difficulty of selling by weight was, that the weight varied according to the state of the atmosphere, as much as five per cent. A regulation might certainly be made, allowing British yarn to come into the Irish market as British yarn, bearing the name of the manufacturer, still allowing Irish yarn to be sold in the Irish market under the existing regulations. He thought, however that it would be difficult to distinguish British yarn from Irish yarn, if the former were to be admitted into Ireland; it would be, perhaps, difficult to keep the regulations respecting Irish yarns. There would be some difficulty in distinguishing mill-spun yarn from hand-spun yarn; but not much. He thought it would be the interest of the Irish manufacturer to admit yarns of every description. Their mill-spun yarn, after it was spun, was made up in bundles, containing two hundred cuts, of three hundred yards each. Their yarn was spun upon a bobbin; and when the bobbin was full, it was cut off. It was reeled in cuts of three hundred yards. That was the custom of the trade; the Irish cut was three hundred yards as well as that of the Irish was one hundred and twenty threads of two and a half yards long, and theirs was one hundred threads of three yards long. His reason for thinking that if the British mill-spun yarn were admitted into Ireland he did not believe that it would be imported in any great quantity, was, because, the

price was higher than the Irish yarn; and he should suppose the English manufacturer would weave it as cheap as it would be wove in Ireland, and therefore the English manufacturers would have the advantage, if they bought their yarns, over the Irish manufacturers; supposing they both used the same yarns. The English manufacture had increased very considerably within the last ten years. The Scotch manufacture had also increased considerably. It promised to become still more extensive. Unless spinning machinery were introduced into Ireland, he thought that the British manufacture would increase. Comparing the state of the manufacture between Ireland and England and Scotland; it was his opinion that it was likely to make progress in England and Scotland, and to fall off in Ireland; unless the same mechanism were introduced into Ireland. The management of the Scotch and English manufacture, especially of the former, was, he thought, superior to the Irish. In his opinion, that arose principally from the flax being grown in Ireland, and purchased and spun in small quantities by the country people, which he thought a great advantage which Ireland had over Great Britain. The manufacture, particularly the weaving, would be carried on to much more advantage in Ireland if the manufactures were upon a large scale, than as it was at present. It would be better that a large capitalist should employ a number of weavers to weave for him, than that the weavers should individually weave on their own account, and take their work to the markets. The Scotch were more upon that plan, and it was better, he thought. His reason for entertaining that opinion was, that it was by a superior division of labour; the process of subdivision could take place to a greater amount in a manufactory, than when the manufacture was divided over the face of the country. Probably the want of capital might prevent the manufacture getting into the same state in Ireland that it was in Scotland; but he ought to say that it had been brought into the state in which it was chiefly from the flax being grown in Ireland, and small quantities being huddled and spun by the country people. He was not at all acquainted with the regulations that the legislature had enacted on the subject of the Irish trade. As an abstract question, he would account for the circumstances he had stated to exist more from the poverty of the country, and the want of capital, than from any legislative enactment. Formerly weavers used to get a good deal of yarn spun by hand. The yarn was never exposed in the markets, it was always sent by the manufacturers to be spun, giving certain wages for spinning it. He should suppose about twenty thousand tons of flax were consumed in manufacture in Ireland within a year. As to the quantity consumed in Scotland in a year in manufacture, he did not know the difference between Scotland and England; in

Great Britain; he believed, there was above thirty thousand tons. Much the greater part of what was manufactured in Great Britain was consumed at home. He had no means of exactly informing the Committee what quantity of flax was used in Great Britain about twenty years ago; he should suppose about from twenty to twenty-five thousand tons. He was of opinion, that the general circumstances of Ireland were not so favourable to the establishment of mills for the spinning of yarn as those of England or Scotland; on account of the difficulty of procuring and managing machinery. He alluded to the workmanship of the machinery, the people not being sufficiently skilful in Ireland. There had been machines sent from Leeds to mills in Ireland, but they had never succeeded much. There would not be any difference but the expense of carriage; and getting people sufficiently skilful to put up that machinery. The difficulty would be to obtain sufficiently skilful workmen afterwards. He was not prepared to say what proportion of the thirty thousand tons of flax, which was now manufactured in Great Britain, was manufactured by machinery; he should suppose that half of it was spun by machinery; or more than half. The existence of regulations in Ireland, by which all yarn was forced to be sold in open market, and was liable to seizure if not made up in a particular way, would contribute to deter English capitalists from undertaking to establish spinning-mills in Ireland: it would be a great inconvenience, because the spinners would generally wish to sell it to the large manufacturer in large quantities; but he did not know that the reeling would make any difference. If it was necessary that it should be inspected and sold in open market, it would be a great disadvantage to the spinner; they should certainly find it a very great inconvenience to themselves. He believed that hand-spun yarn, from the same quantity of flax, would produce, in the finer sorts of spinning, double the length to mill-spun yarn; and he had had that calculation in his mind when he said that the mill-spun yarn was 15 per cent dearer than the hand-spun yarn. Yet, notwithstanding that difference of length, there was only a difference of 15 per cent between two yarns of the same length; because the expense of spinning was less by machinery than by hand; it would employ ten or twelve times as many hands to spin the quantity of yarn that they spun. He believed that, at present, not two thousand of the thirty thousand ton of flax used in Great Britain for the manufacture was grown in Great Britain; the rest was obtained chiefly from Russia. Of that thirty thousand ton, on the average, he should think about two thousand was produced in Ireland. He certainly thought that mills, similar to those he was in the habit of employing, could be advantageously employed in Ireland, with the same skill and workmen. He did not find any disposition

among those individuals with whom he was conversant, principally those in the same line of business with himself, to go over and embark their capital in the construction of those mills; he apprehended that the spinning could be carried on to more advantage in England than in Ireland, notwithstanding that the wages were higher in England, merely on account of the skill and experience of the workmen. He did not think that if those manufactories were established in Ireland, the skill of the Irish would be very soon equal to that of the English; in time it would be equal, no doubt. A considerable length of time was necessary to train good workmen to such a business as he carried on. He thought that if all the regulations in Ireland were removed, it might be possible for the buyers of yarn so to conduct the process of making their purchases as to protect themselves from frauds, without any legislative interference whatsoever; not however if it was sold in the same way that it was now in the markets; but in a short time he thought the trade would be put into another channel. The necessity of inspection, in his opinion, arose from the law making it compulsory to sell yarn only in open market. He understood that in general the Irish weaver carried his web to market, and sold it there, and purchased in the same market his yarn. He thought compelling the yarn to be sold in that way was a great inconvenience to the trade. In his opinion the Scotch plan, of carrying on the weaving by persons of capital, and giving out the yarn to weavers, and employing weavers for the sole purpose of weaving the cloth, was considerably better than the Irish system. He thought it would produce the article cheaper, from the division of labour. He thought the Scotch manufacturer had an advantage over the Irish manufacturer, and the Scotch linen manufacture had an advantage over the Irish linen manufacture, particularly now that they were introducing machinery to a large extent. He had been in Ireland. He had been in the north of Ireland. He had paid attention to the manufacture of linen, from the first process of sowing the flax-seed till it was manufactured into the web. He had also observed the appearance of the people there. He by no means thought, taking them as a peasantry, that their condition and appearance was superior to that of those people who were engaged in large towns in the manufacture of cotton and linen in England and Scotland: they were very superior to the people in the middle and south of Ireland, but not to the English manufacturers, he thought. He was not aware that their happiness, and health, and robustness, and that natural vivacity which attended health, was much superior to that of persons confined in close manufactories in England. He was unable to say with precision whether the Scotch linen was superior to the Irish linen; he thought it was generally supposed to bear rather a higher

price, on account of the yarn being better spun; spun from a better material, perhaps; it was better hackled, he should think. Generally speaking, he thought that the Scotch linen was superior to the Irish, the fine linen particularly; the fine sheetings made at Edinburgh were superior to the Irish. He should think the manufacturers were quite as healthy and as happy when they were in large bodies, where they were employed together in manufactories, as when they were combining the trades of manufacturer and farmer, as in Ireland. He did not know whether they were as moral; they had a different class of vices certainly, but upon the whole, he should think they were as moral; they were certainly better informed. Supposing two countries possessed an equal facility of producing or of purchasing the raw material of the manufacture, and supposing that in one country that manufacture was carried on entirely in large buildings and manufactories; and in the other it was carried on by a population half agricultural and half manufacturing, he had no doubt that ultimately that country which carried on the manufacture in manufactories would very considerably undersell the other; and therefore he thought that Ireland certainly had reason to expect that the trade would increase in Scotland much more than in Ireland. No means occurred to him by which that could be remedied or prevented from occurring, except by pursuing the same system that they did in England. He thought the regulations relating to the sale of yarn, and the sale of linen, the establishment of inspectors of yarn, seal masters, and other officers, and a general code of interference with the manufacture, must naturally contribute to the continuation of the Irish system, and to the prevention of the introduction of a superior system. In his opinion, they were extremely prejudicial, and in fact prevented any manufacture being established upon a proper scale. A repeal of those regulations respecting the stamping and sealing, and selling in the market, would necessarily throw the trade into a different channel in some degree; larger manufacturers would spring up; and they would be able to carry on the trade to a greater extent than they now could do. He was aware that the linen manufacture had been established since the year 1632. He was aware that it had always been carried on precisely in the same way. He admitted that it would be a very difficult thing to give up those habits which had been generated by years and by centuries, for the purpose of introducing a new mode of manufacture, and that it could be done only in a length of time; but the first thing to do was to remove the obstruction to the trade being carried on differently. Speaking of the manufacture of linens, he should object to all regulations. He was aware that the land in the greatest part of the north of Ireland, where the linen manufacture existed, had been, by course of years, very much sub-

divided. He was aware that in that part of the country there existed very little of what could be called agricultural capital. He should not expect that altering the laws would have any effect in removing the population from where they were, but merely upon the system of carrying on the manufacture. He did not contemplate any removal from the soil; he imagined the first effect of the restrictions being removed would be, that some of the present small manufacturers would purchase the flax, and hackle it in a better way than it was done, put it out to the spinners, and pay them for the work they did. What he contemplated was, that there would be an improvement arise out of leaving trade wholly to itself; that there was no necessity to do any thing to induce it to take a spirited course; but that the greatest benefit would arise from leaving it to its own course. He anticipated no damage to the agricultural interest from such a circumstance; he thought the man who grew his flax, instead of selling it in small quantities, would sell it to a large manufacturer who would keep men to hackle it, and would put it out to spinners and weavers. In his opinion, if there were a more complete subdivision of labour, and a more complete distinction between the agriculturists and the manufacturers, there would be a better chance of the introduction of capital; and better farming, in consequence of the exclusive attention of the farmers to agricultural pursuits. That would always be the effect of it. He should suppose that, conducted as the linen trade was at present, it would be possible to remove all the restrictions with safety to the linen purchaser; but he was not aware of the particular regulations. He was aware that the linen was manufactured entirely by the peasant, or the farmer, at his own house. He was aware that he afterwards took that linen, so manufactured, to market; and that he offered it, among thousands of other manufacturers, for sale to the linen factor, who, perhaps, came from a great distance to purchase publicly in the market. He was aware that a linen factor bought large quantities in a short time. In the present state of the trade, it would be difficult, unless there was some regulation which obliged the manufacturer to submit his piece of linen to the inspection of an inspector, for the linen factor to guard against the impositions that might be practised on him by any dishonest manufacturer, when he bought so much in a short time; but he apprehended the trade would get into a different state if those regulations were removed; that instead of a manufacturer bringing two or three pieces to market, he would employ several other weavers, and bring forty or fifty. He was not acquainted with the regulations; probably they might be required to be removed gradually. If one of the regulations was, that all linen must be sold in open market within certain specified hours in the course of a day, he thought that

the necessity of buying so many pieces in so short a time might arise from that particular regulation; and therefore that the grounds upon which an inspection might appear to be necessary would be removed, if the law were to allow linens to be sold in the offices of the buyers on every day in the week, according to the will and pleasure of the buyer and seller. He should suppose that what was meant in Ireland by the offices of the buyers, was the warehouses or places where they received the goods. He was aware that the linen webs, at the different markets in Ireland, were purchased by the linen bleachers; and that those linen bleachers were very numerous over the country. He was aware that the individuals who collected and purchased for those linen bleachers were in the habit of attending the different markets in Ireland, at the distance even of thirty, forty, or sixty miles from each other. He was also aware that the weavers who attended the markets came from various distances, inasmuch as the habitations of the country were interspersed, to sell those webs. He could not, however, see from that state of things that there would be great inconvenience to the linen buyer, as well as to the weaver, if it was required, instead of selling in open market, that they should take their chance of going to different bleach-yards, to sell their webs as they might be able; but he should think it might be a great accommodation to both the weaver and the bleacher. He thought the weaver would have the same chance of getting a fair price for his web, by going to a bleach-yard, where there was no competition, as he would have in open market, where there might, perhaps, be from sixty to an hundred buyers; because he had also the choice of taking it to open market if he could not get the price that he demanded. He did not see the necessity for abolishing the safe at open market; but he would let the weaver have his choice. It would certainly be advantageous to the Irish weaver to have the option of selling at either the market or the bleacher's green. He was not aware that one benefit which he had said he contemplated from a change of the system, viz: the weaver employing several persons under him, practically existed in many parts of Ireland at present. He had been in the county of Down. He had merely passed through the neighbourhood of Banbridge and Lurgan. He knew, however, that there were several dantask manufacturers, under the existing laws, who employed weavers to work under them. But the existing laws retarded that practice very much. He thought that it would take place to a much greater extent if the present laws were repealed. He wished to constitute a class of individuals whose character would be a degree of security to the bleacher that he was purchasing a good article; in fact, whose name would be as good a security as the stamp that

was now put on by the seal masters. He was not able to judge of the frauds that might be committed, and the injuries that the trade might sustain in the mean time. His impression was, that recent inquiries into the subject had contributed to shew that the general state of health of manufacturers living in towns was equally good with the state of health of people living in the country. He thought that, in point of fact, there appeared to be reason to come to a conclusion that the contrary opinion was not altogether well founded. As far as he had made observations with regard to the state and condition of manufacturers living in towns in England, it was quite clear that their condition was in every way superior to the agricultural classes living in the country, with respect to their habits, and particularly with respect to their information and intelligence. He thought the opinion unfounded, if it ever existed, that more immorality was to be found where males and females were brought together in manufactories in very great numbers. He believed there was as much immorality in the country villages in England as in any of the manufacturing towns. As far as he was acquainted with the Irish character, the parallel that he had drawn with respect to the manufacturers of England and Ireland, was drawn with a fair view of what the different position of an Irishman and an Englishman was. The repeal of the linen laws of Scotland had not been attended with any bad consequences; he believed quite the reverse, as far as they were repealed. He conceived the same system applicable to trade in every country, as far as he was able to judge. He had read books on political economy; he had attended Mr. McCulloch's lectures. He was of opinion that in order to the general establishment of the principles of political economists, it would be worth while to sacrifice a little, but not a great deal of present interest for that purpose, in trade and manufacture of every kind. He had turned his attention much to the study of the science of political economy; and as far as any experience he had had went, he certainly found that, in point of practice, the adoption of the general principles of that science was advantageous to the public interests. The repeal of the regulating laws with respect to the woollen manufacture had been generally considered serviceable by the manufacturers. He believed the Scotch manufacturers considered the repeal of the Scotch linen laws as serviceable. He believed that the principles of political economy were founded upon the consideration of numerous, constant, and uniform facts, bearing upon the subjects to which they related, or were made applicable. He was aware of the manner in which the woollen trade was carried on in the northern districts of England. Pieces of cloth were certainly brought to market by individual manufacturers, and exposed for sale as

pieces of linen were in Ireland on market day, but to a much less extent than they were ten or twenty years ago; the small manufacturers were very much reduced in number, and the large manufacturers were very much increased. The security which the purchaser of those pieces of cloth had that they were perfect articles throughout, was that he examined them at his own warehouse; he measured and examined them himself. He believed that there was not now any stamp of the cloth to guarantee the fact of their being perfect; there had been, but he thought that had been abolished; because they found it troublesome and of no use, and every man examined his own cloth. The trade was getting into a different channel entirely. He was not aware that there were any laws now remaining for the regulation of the sale of woollens; but he was not particularly acquainted with the trade. He believed that when the pieces of cloth were offered to the trader to purchase, he marked them; said he would take them at a certain price; then examined them, and if he found any imperfection in them, he returned them. He should think the system was much the same now in Ireland. With reference to the woollen trade at present, there was a very small part of the trade carried on by individual weavers; twenty or thirty years ago a great part of the manufacture was carried on by men who brought a few pieces of cloth to sell, and who employed a small number of men; but now the trade was very much altered; it was carried on in large establishments. That must undoubtedly require a superior capital; but that capital could always be obtained when the profits were good: the regulations which were repealed were merely an obstacle to its introduction. He did not altogether attribute the improved state of the woollen manufacture to the repeal of those regulations which formerly existed, similar to those which exist on the linen trade in Ireland; those regulations were a very trifling obstacle; they were not numerous; but they were an obstacle as far as they went. The system of inspecting linen before it was brought to market was useless, as far as he was able to judge, supposing that the weaver was permitted to sell it in any way that he pleased. Supposing that the trade was conducted in open market, it would be necessary, when on a market day many hundred webs were sold to a vast number of buyers, for the purchaser to have the quantity of yards in each web previously ascertained and certified to him, in a way so responsible as to secure to him that he had the quantity he bought. He understood that the trade, as now conducted in Ireland, was confined to open market; but if the weavers had the choice of selling either in open market or to the bleacher, inspection, he thought, would not be necessary. He was not aware that any kind of advantage could be derived from the compulsory sale of the linen webs only in open

market. He should think that it lost a great deal of time to the weaver that he might employ much better at home. He should suppose that if a weaver was an honest man, and made his goods regularly well, he would sell them constantly to some bleacher, and the bleacher would say, "I will give you such a price for all the goods you bring me;" he would have no trouble or loss of time in selling his goods. By making the trade free, he thought there would be that system of confidence between the buyer and the seller, that there would be no delay or difficulty whatsoever in making their bargains for the goods in question, and that would save a great deal of time. He thought it very profitable, in the end, that the bleacher would purchase the flax and dress it, and put it out to the spinner and weaver; and being a man of superior intelligence, and being a man of more capital, he would naturally be able to discover all the improvements in the trade, and would be able to introduce them among the weavers whom he employed; and that in this manner he would confer upon that mixed population of weavers and agriculturists, almost as much advantage, as they could derive from being employed constantly in a manufacturing house, till machinery was introduced. Such a system would, he believed, contribute to improve the dressing of flax as well as the spinning and the weaving. He should not apprehend that if the weavers in the country were not obliged, by regulation, to bring their webs to open market, but were left to take their webs to the bleach-grounds, there to make the best bargain they could, that the consequence would be, the introduction of a system of money-lending by the bleachers to the weavers, and actually mortgaging their labour. He was aware that in Ireland there existed very little of what was called the second class of society; that they were all either gentlemen, or a poorer description of people. He thought that it would be of great advantage to introduce some persons of a rather higher class, who would give out the yarn to the weavers, to whom they would pay wages. He also admitted that the existence of a second class would correct that natural jealousy which existed between the highest class of society and the lowest description of society; and by so doing, would prevent many of the convulsions that were frequently heard of taking place in Ireland. He thought it probable that to some extent, if the laws were so altered as to open the trade, the bleacher would transact that part of the business which related to supplying the weaver with yarn and finding a market, by giving out the yarn to the weaver to weave, and by paying the weaver for weaving; and thus take away from the weaver the character of a linen merchant; but perhaps it was more probable that some of the more industrious men among the weavers would begin to employ others besides themselves, and would purchase the yarn and

were to be sold in large quantities. He had certainly heard of a Board in Ireland called the Linen Board; but he did not know particularly the constitution of that Board. He had seen premiums that had been offered. As a political economist, he should think it a very disadvantageous thing if a Board were established to protect the linen manufacture in England. The Board might have been of very great use formerly, but he should not apprehend that such a Board could be of any use in England. The question, if he thought that a Board of Trustees, consisting of seventy gentlemen, who knew nothing of the intricacies of the manufacture, who never attended the sittings of the Board, who had no other interest whatever in the continuance of the Board but the distribution of a certain number of utensils, was absolutely necessary for the encouragement of a great manufacture, which exported some millions annually from the country, could have no reply, but one, that it was not. He was not aware that there was any Board constituted in the manner described to him in the last question, in existence. He knew that the Linen Board in Ireland was constituted of a number of trustees. He understood that those trustees were usually selected from the higher classes. He did not know whether they were principally individuals exercising weight and influence in the country, or whether they were people peculiarly connected with the linen trade, and conversant with it. A Board, constituted of trustees, such as he had alluded to, might have been very advantageous to the trade formerly, but in the present state of the trade he should doubt its advantage. To England such a Board would be a great disadvantage. Inasmuch as those trustees might themselves have peculiar local interests to attend to connected with themselves, such a Board might be extremely apt to degenerate into a system of favouritism; but he was not at all acquainted with the circumstances of the Board. He was not acquainted with the circumstances of Ireland so as to give any opinion as to the advantage that the continuance of the Board might be of. He was not prepared to give any opinion upon the subject. He should not apprehend that any Board was requisite to secure the prosperity of the linen manufacture of Ireland; but it was a question that he did not wish to give any opinion upon. He was not of opinion that it could be useful to the manufacture that legislative provisions should exist, giving to any body of persons powers to prescribe the exact length, the exact breadth, the exact thickness, the exact fineness, and the method of folding, all linens brought to market. As far as he was able to judge, such a Board, possessing such powers, and having a large establishment of inspectors of flax-seed, hemp-packers, inspectors of yarn, brown-seal masters, and white-seal masters, must be detrimental to the linen manufacture of Ireland.

He should consider the mode of constituting such a Board in England to look after or suggest improvements in the woollen manufacture, as it would be perfectly useless in any shape, a matter of indifference; but if it were necessary to have such a Board, the class of society out of which he should find the most useful members of it, would certainly be the class that understood the manufacture. He did not conceive that individuals engaged in the trade would feel any great confidence in a Board constituted of peers, bishops, and members of parliament, for directing the concerns of the trade; but he thought the Board so useless as to prevent the possibility of its being made more useless. He certainly could not see any sound reason to justify parliament in voting annually a very large sum of money to be applied by this Board for the protection and encouragement of the linen manufacture of Ireland. If upon a vacancy at the Board, applications were made by twenty members of parliament to government to fill up that vacancy with their names, those gentlemen being totally unconnected with the linen trade, of course he should think it was more likely to be the desire of having the patronage connected with the Board, than for the sake of encouraging the linen manufacture. (When he said, "of course") he did not at all doubt the public spirit of the gentlemen of Ireland. His answer applied to what he might suppose would naturally influence any public Board. He did not think the gentlemen of Ireland would be less public-spirited without the Board than with the Board. The importation of Irish linen into England to its extent, did not, that he knew of, interfere with the interest of the British manufacturer. Undoubtedly the supply offered to the consumer in England was exactly so much more with the quantity imported from Ireland; but the Committee were aware that the same sort of linens would be imported from Germany or Silesia, if they were not from Ireland. The German linens had been almost prohibited by the high rate of duty at which they might be imported; but they would not be now, in the scale that Mr. Huskisson proposed; he believed if no Irish linens were imported, the British manufacturer would be able to obtain higher prices. He admitted that those higher prices might in a considerable degree lead to the use of cotton in preference to linen. The higher profit that the English manufacturer, in the first instance, acquired by excluding the Irish, would be reduced by the manufacture being extended in England. If the prices of linen were raised by the exclusion of Irish linen, that would in some degree lead to the use of cotton; and it would also be the cause of increasing the linen manufacture in England. He was aware that there was a manufacture carried on in Great Britain, consisting of a mixture of cotton and linen, intended to imitate linen; cotton

was used for the warps, and linen for the wefts, which gave it the appearance of linen. He believed the purchasers frequently were not aware that there was any mixture of cotton in it. He believed that the manufacturer, mixed as he had described, of linen and cotton in Great Britain, was not exported from Great Britain, drawing bounty as if it were entirely linen; but he was not aware whether it was or not because the price of it would be above the bounty-price. A cheaper article of linen and cotton mixed, pretending to be linen, than of pure linen, could be made in the finer articles, but not in the coarse articles. He believed that it might in some degree be done so as to bring the article under eighteen pence a yard; but he was not aware at all that it was done. He thought that the bounties upon the export of linen ought to be removed, but very gradually: after a trade had been cherished and encouraged, the encouragement should be taken away very gradually; that the manufacturer might not receive any sudden check. He should suppose that Great Britain and Ireland, at present, derived pretty equal advantage from the system of bounties upon export of linen. That must certainly depend upon the extent to which the export took place of the manufacture of Great Britain or of Ireland. He was not aware that there was a much larger export of British manufactured linen drawing bounty than Irish; he thought it had not been very different. The principle by which he considered the continuation of a gradually diminishing bounty as necessary for the British linen manufacture was, that it might be able to compete with the manufactures of foreign linens, those of Russia and of Germany, in foreign markets. He was a member of the Committee of the Linen Trade, and they had had several meetings lately, with the view of comparing the German and Russian linens with the articles of British manufacture, and the result of their inquiries had been, that the protecting duty of twenty-five per cent, which Mr. Huskisson proposed, would not at all bring the foreign linens to the same price as theirs; that it would require on some articles a duty of forty or fifty per cent to bring them on a par with the price of British linens. He believed that that observation, as to the necessity of a higher protecting duty, applied exclusively to foreign linens intended for the consumption of Great Britain; but it proved that foreign linens could be manufactured much cheaper, and brought to market cheaper than British linens. If the foreign linens were imported without duty, they would some of them be nearly half the price of a similar article of British linens. He supposed that the same comparative difference of value would exist between those linens, if sold at New York. He was of opinion that it would require as long a period as ten years to get rid of the bounties upon linen. Undoubtedly, if those foreign linens could be

imported so cheap, it would be the interest of the great body of consumers that they should be so imported. He did not think that a system of importing linens, and a system of exporting cottons, would be to the interest of the manufacturer; it would be the interest of the country at large, and of the consumers of linens, to buy them wherever they could buy them the cheapest. Such a system being the consequence of opening the ports to foreign linens, would, undoubtedly, have the effect of checking the linen trade, and therefore, of compelling some of the linen manufacturers to leave their establishments, and enter into other concerns. He thought it would be very unfair, by such coercion, to drive one set of people out of a trade, in which they had embarked their capital, and under which the country was prospering; in order to make them adopt another that might be fancied better for them, upon mere speculation. He had no doubt that, if any quantity of capital were turned out of the linen trade, it would find occupation in some other department of industry in this country; but at the same time it would be a great injury to those in the linen trade. He conceived that a middle system might be adopted without injury to any party; by admitting the foreign linens by degrees. That, however, would be a great injury to the Irish manufacturer; which, considering the situation of Ireland, with an immense population so imperfectly employed as it was, would not be justifiable. Conforming to general principles upon that particular question of allowing foreign linens to be imported, would be for the decided advantage of all consumers of linens in this country. The Committee of the linen manufacture he had spoken of, conceived that a duty of twenty-five per cent upon foreign linens was a very insufficient protection for the generality of linens; and were making out a schedule to submit to government.

Mr. THOMAS CROSTHWAITÉ, examined:— Was one of the proprietors of spinning-mills at Lucan, near Dublin. They were extensive; but not so extensive as in England. They employed about five hundred hands, and worked up about five or six tons of flax a week; but it depended greatly upon the quality of the flax. It was fifteen years since those mills were established. They did not spin very fine yarn; about two hank and a half to the pound was the finest. They did not sell any of the yarn; they manufactured all into linen, except some fine yarn, which was twisted. The general cloth they made was a kind of dowlas, and they confined themselves very much to that manufacture. It sold for 11d. the yard, of twenty-eight inches in width. He could not say that he found the trade answer, so as to induce him to form an opinion that spinning by mills was likely to become an extensive business in Ireland. He got into the trade; he did not know any thing of it; and he had gone on with it.

They bought a great deal of their flax in the north of Ireland; and sometimes imported it, when they could do so to advantage, and to answer their manufacture. They always bought it undressed, and dressed it themselves. He could not conceive any other way that a manufacturer could use it. He had read the memorial of the factors, and he did not know what they meant by deriving an advantage from importing dressed flax. The law prohibited its coming in; but if the law were removed, he did not think it would be imported. It was impossible to buy dressed flax in Ireland in large quantities. It was not to be had in the quantity he wanted; and he would not buy it for another reason; when the flax was made up and dressed, if he wanted to use it, he should have to open it; and as it was made up with a knot, he reckoned that the opening it would be almost half the trouble of dressing it. The person who dressed the flax for sale would always dress off as little of the tow as he could, which was against the spinner. He required to dress it so as to adapt it to the particular manufacture he wanted it for; but he thought the argument was conclusive, that it would not be imported, from the circumstance that it might come into England, and was not imported. They had purchased yarn in Ireland; but they usually did not do it. He was aware of the regulations under which yarn was sold in Ireland. He believed that, in point of fact, they prohibited the use of foreign or English mill-spun yarn. The law in Ireland was imperative respecting the hank, that each cut should be three hundred yards, and the inspector had the power of seizing any yarn that was not so made up. It was certainly not injurious to the Irish manufacturer to have the hank rightly reeled, and in that state the yarn was of more value to him; whether the law had been effective or not was another question. About the year 1816 the yarn factors memorialised the Linen Board, that they should put the law in force, and of course seize all the yarn that was not properly reeled; saying that the trade suffered very much by fraudulent reeling: the Linen Board did, he believed, direct the inspectors to look more closely to the yarn trade, and in 1818 they made a seizure. He did not think that it was the object of those linen manufacturers to prevent the use of foreign yarn; they complained that Irish hand-spun yarn, going to England, was deteriorated in value, from not being rightly reeled; and the enforcing the law was left with the Linen Board; and they called upon the Linen Board to have that law enforced: in 1818 they did enforce it, and some yarn was seized; whether the yarn had been since better reeled or not he could not say. He should think the linen manufacturers of Ireland suffered injury from the use of foreign yarn being prohibited: if the foreign yarn could be imported into England and Scotland, and not into Ireland, it was perfectly clear that the Irish manufacturer was

deprived of an advantage. He knew of no other regulation that interfered with the sale of mill-spun English yarn, or foreign linen yarn imported, than its being required to contain three hundred yards; it could be seized when offered for sale, if it was not of that measure. With regard to the regulations respecting the reeling of yarn, it was for the advantage of the manufacture to have it rightly reeled; but a difficulty arose when a jobber went down to the country and bought a certain quantity of yarn, if the yarn came up to the factor's hands, and it was not rightly reeled, it could be seized: it was clear, then, that the factor having yarn once seized, would not willingly advance money on it any more. It was, he believed, at the suggestion of the yarn factors that the linen yarn that he spoke of as having been seized in Dublin was examined; the yarn factors gave a memorial to the Linen Board, requesting them to enforce the law; and the Linen Board, although not at the time, yet within two years, did enforce the law; and therefore he conceived the factors had no right to complain when the law was enforced, provided it was not partially done. The statement of the memorial to the Linen Board required the law to be enforced in consequence of disadvantages in the sale of the yarn having been found to exist when it came to England. He could not say whether that had the effect of obliging the Irish spun yarn to come to market more regularly prepared; for he had not lately bought any. The original principle of that regulation was this; the only way that you could calculate how to make linen was by the length of the thread that was required for the warp and weft; when the hank was regularly reeled, the calculation was easily made, and there was a direct check against the weaver. For the sake of the manufacture of yarn into cloth, it certainly ought to continue to be required that every hank of yarn should contain three hundred yards. It did not however signify whether there were three hundred yards or not, so that there was a certain quantity; the law with regard to linen yarn made it imperative that you should have one hundred and twenty threads of ninety inches circumference, and no more, in every cut. It would be next to impossible to reel it exactly; for as the woman turned her reel round, if she missed a thread, she could not go back, and it might be seized for being one or two threads deficient or too much. The law required the inspector to seize and destroy the yarn. The penalty was too heavy; but the regulation was correct. It was certainly his opinion that in that respect the law ought to be altered, and that there ought to be a discretion somewhere. He believed the yarn could not be forfeited, unless it was brought before a magistrate. With regard to yarn, a person took a certain quantity of flax, and spun it according to what he thought proper, which determined the quality; but he knew no way

that the manufacturer could buy it advantageously, without it was put into a certain length; because if he did not buy it in that state, he would have to reel it himself, and he must then buy it at a proportionate price. He did not believe that there was any law of that nature in England; the manufactures were quite different. In England and Scotland it was generally carried on in manufactories; and instead of a person reeling one hank, he reeled twenty hanks at a time; he had a wheel at the end of his reel, by which he exactly put the number of threads in the hank, and thereby checked the work of his mill, and put the yarn into the very best shape for the manufacturer, who had only to give to the weaver the number of hanks required to make a piece of linen. The English producer of yarn never varied the quantity in a hank, although he believed it was optional with him to vary it or not. Supposing it was left optional in Ireland, he did not think the yarn producer there would be regulated by what he found the most convenient quantity in a hank for the manufacture of linen; nothing would be convenient for the manufacture which did not establish a certain quantity in length. The reason that he thought that in Ireland the producer of yarn should be obliged by law to have a certain quantity in a hank, while in England it was left to the convenience of the yarn manufacturer to regulate the quantity for himself, was that he conceived that in England, it being carried on there by large responsible people, they did exactly what was right, because they were forthcoming in case there was any fraud committed: it was quite different in Ireland; perhaps if he bought one cwt. of yarn, it might be spun by one hundred different women, and how were they to understand what was for the good of the weaver? they were not responsible persons; they wanted to get their money, and they would sell it in any way they pleased, and perhaps looking to present advantage. There was, he understood, a difference of a sixth, exactly, between the English count and the Irish count in the hanks of mill-spun yarn. The Irish statute reel was ninety inches in circumference; that was two yards and a half; one hundred and twenty threads to each cut, and twelve cuts to the hank, made it three hundred yards. The foreign, he believed, was very varied. He believed that in point of fact, it was owing to the circumstance that foreign yarn, if imported into Ireland, would come into the market reeled in a way which was not according to the regulations of the Irish act, that it was seizable; and though he would not buy it himself, he thought it a loss to the trade. As to English mill-spun yarn, he could not conceive why it was excluded. With respect to what was produced in Ireland, some regulation was necessary, but the penalty was too severe. He knew very little of the trade in the north of Ireland. The spinning of yarn must be in the

hands of the low description of people he had described; he did not know who else would sit down to spin but the very poor class of persons; the wages or gain being very moderate. He had heard of such a thing as a person of capital giving out flax, and paying people for spinning it; but it was only for a very particular kind of yarn for thread, or for some particular purposes, but not for making linen. He did not believe it would ever be possible for any capitalist, from the extended manner in which the spinning of yarn was scattered all over the country, to give out flax to those people who were now occupied in spinning it by hand. In Scotland it was almost all done by mills. He understood there was some spinning by hand; but he was quite ignorant whether whatever there was was conducted by persons giving out the flax and paying people for spinning it. He thought last year there was sown in Ireland about sixty-four thousand hogsheads of flax-seed, which would produce about thirty-eight thousand tons of flax, of which about two thousand tons were exported in the raw state; the remainder was entirely manufactured in the country, and it was a very important question, how far they would, under those circumstances, loosen the regulations of the trade. He understood that coarse manufacture was declining in Ireland; but he thought it arose not from the system of the laws, but from the increase of the manufacture in Great Britain. He believed they complained, amongst the trade in Ireland, that the coarse manufacture was on the decline. Scotland was better situated for the linen trade, during the time of peace, than Ireland; because they were quite opposite to Russia, where they got flax at least 2*l.* to 3*l.* a ton cheaper than in Ireland; and he believed they spun cheaper than in Ireland. He certainly thought the coarse trade of Ireland would go to Scotland. He knew no other cause than the extreme lowness of wages in Ireland that enabled the linen trade to get up at all; and that was the very reason why he thought no individual could undertake it by paying wages to the hand-spinner. The whole freight of flax from Russia to Ireland might be about 4*l.* a ton. They got a great deal from Armagh, and it cost them within 1*l.* 10*s.* a ton as much to get it from Armagh as it cost to get it from Russia. In getting flax from Petersburg to Aberdeen, or in getting it from Petersburg to Dublin, or to the north of Ireland, there would be at least 2*l.* a ton in favour of Aberdeen; that was, to say, that the freight and charges from Petersburg to Aberdeen would be at least 2*l.* a ton less than the freight and charges from Petersburg to Dublin; of course that was an advantage of 2*l.* a ton. He did not know that they had any advantages in point of paying smaller duties. There was a duty of 4*d.* a cwt. on flax, which was a mere nothing to the revenue. Flax was an article that would not bear to be

tossed, and it was very subject to wet; and if he imported a cargo, it must be weighed to ascertain that trifling duty, which was a great inconvenience, and often, on open quays, was attended with loss. He did not know to what the duty amounted in a year. As to the question whether, supposing some capitalists to employ a number of spinners to make yarn, he did not think that it would ultimately lead to a more improved system of machinery and wheels amongst those people, than if they went on upon their present system, he did not know how the common wheel was to be improved; it had been tried very much in Ireland; the system was totally different from that of machinery. As far as he could see of flax machinery, there must be some very great improvements before it could ever be adopted for spinning fine yarn. Even supposing that were the case, the machinery would go on, because if it were prohibited in Ireland, it would be used in England and Scotland; and, therefore, it might as well be used in Ireland. He thought that in Leeds the spinning was as high as four or five hanks, but that was used for particular purposes; he thought they (in Ireland) might spin two and three hank yarn. They spun by hand as far as thirty-five, and even to sixty hanks. Fine foreign yarn was all made by hand; but the flax spun by machinery to make about two hank and a half, and three hank yarn, the hand would spin to eight or nine hank. Two and three hank yarn was the highest they spun to. Twice as fine as that could be spun by some of the mill-machines in Ireland. He did not know if the machines in England spun nearly as fine as they wove. He had very little experience in the foreign fine yarn. He thought some of the Flanders flax was better than the Irish, but there was remarkably good flax in Ireland. The machinery they now made use of was not the same that they first set going; they were erecting a third set now; they destroyed the first set, and then got an improved set; and now they were destroying the second set. There was no question whatever that it would require six or eight times the number of people to do by hand the same work that they did. In point of fact, the linen trade was not carried on at all there before they established it. It was much easier to weave mill-spun yarn than hand-spun. The difference between mill-spinning and hand-spinning was, that when they gave any thing to be spun by a machine, they were forced to have the flax very good; but in spinning by the hand, as the spinner was merely using the fibre with the most sensitive part of the body, the fingers, he might use inferior flax for the same size of yarn, for he did not unnecessarily distress the thread. He decidedly thought that it would be very impolitic in the Legislature to offer any encouragement or discouragement to spinning by hand or by mills; and that it was better to leave it to the interest

of individuals to determine it themselves; but, as he had already stated, the peculiar circumstances of the hand-spinner required some regulation; and when he considered the capabilities of the south and west of Ireland, he believed the growth of flax and saving the seed might be advantageously encouraged. They did not weave by machinery; he did not know any way as yet that linen yarn could be wove by machinery to advantage. They had weavers living in the country about; they gave them out a certain quantity of yarn as warp, and so many hanks for weft, and paid them for weaving when they brought in the web. The wages that a good weaver made by the week must vary very much, for they all worked by the piece. Supposing a diligent weaver to be at constant work, and to work constantly, he might earn 12s. or 14s. a week. They paid in proportion to the fineness of the seed. Manchester was the chief market for the cloth they wove, but they sent it to a great number of places; they exported some. He thought that the principal part of what was manufactured by them was sold for home consumption. They wove their cloth in the neighbourhood of Lucan; paying by the piece. The weavers lived round the mill in the neighbourhood. They employed about one hundred and fifty, or one hundred and sixty, in pretty constant work. The men they employed were not farmers as well as weavers; they were exclusively weavers. He thought they were able to live in comfortable circumstances; it depended greatly upon the man himself, whether he was provident or not. They lived about the village; for some of them they had built tenements; for which they paid rent. They (the masters) never interfered with their time; they got out a piece to weave. The weavers did not follow any other profession. Occasionally, on Saturdays, they had a meat market there. He thought they were clothed well; they were evidently improved in their clothing. Almost all their families being in the neighbourhood of the mill, any man that had decent children they had employment in the mill. He had gone through the north of Ireland. He thought the habits of the people in the north were much more provident than with them. He thought the northern weaver lived as well, ate as good food. He had made it a rule never to interfere further than ascertaining that the weavers were paid a fair relative value of wages, and that immediately on delivering their work. He had no experience in buying hand-spun yarn, and giving it out to weavers; but he understood that in the north the process was quite different; that frequently a farmer or weaver sent his wife to market to buy a pound or two of flax, which they spun; and they might be a long time in weaving that, or a short time, according to what other engagements they had. The trade did not at all exist in his neighbourhood before he set up his ma-

chinery; it was merely having the water-power that induced him to commence it. He doubted very much if he had his money out of the manufacture whether he would put it in again; it was quite a different story putting money in and taking it out, or even limiting the extent of an established manufacture. They could not by machinery make as cheap yarn as they did by hand, therefore it was entirely matter of quality; they made better goods. He did not know what quantity of goods could be sold, or what quantity the market would take. In the process of spinning by machinery they must have every fibre in a straight line; when a woman came to spin by hand, she did not care whether she had it crooked or not, provided she could put together as many crooked fibres as would make up the size of the thread she was going to spin; but if he were, in spinning by machinery, to produce in any part a crooked fibre, it would end in a knot, or lump, to avoid which he was forced to hackle the flax a great deal finer for the same size of yarn than was necessary for spinning by hand. He was quite aware that one of the greatest advantages in a manufactory was the minute subdivision of labour. He thought that by the subdivision of labour a very great saving must be made. There must be a subdivision in a manufactory. In Ireland a woman would spin when she would otherwise be unemployed; but it would be a very difficult thing to pay her for that time, and for that very reason they could not be employed in manufactories spinning by hand, because now they were content to sit up in the evening without a light to spin, and charge little or nothing for it. Speaking with reference to his own experience, he did not think it a profitable manufacture, as compared to other modes of laying out money. Undoubtedly, the cotton manufactory had been brought to perfection by machinery, by the subdivision of labour in different parts of the manufacture of cotton goods; but he thought the two manufactures were quite different: the hand, as compared with machinery, could not touch the cotton; the hand, in fine yarn, could beat the mill-spun yarn, which was a material difference. Cotton could be spun by hand, but not in any comparison with machinery. It was formerly spun by hand; but he believed not now. He believed that the women in Ireland, if they occupied themselves in spinning cotton wool, would get a great deal more for the cotton before they spun it than afterwards. He thought that the subdivision of labour in the linen manufacture was carried on to as much advantage in the country cabins in Ireland, as it could be if the manufacturers were collected into large towns; some very great alteration must be made in the mode of spinning by machinery before hand-spinning could be put down. Whether, if the present mode were put down, and another substituted in its place, it would be of any advan-

tage to the linen manufacturers, or to the poorer class of people in Ireland, must depend on the system introduced. It would be very hard to state what capital would be requisite to the establishment of spinning machinery, to the extent that his machinery was employed so: it would be a very large capital. He had been bringing his up by degrees to its present extent and capability of working; but supposing an establishment of mill-spinning, capable of doing as much work within the year as his, was required, he did not think that any man could set it to work and carry it on under 40,000*l.* to 50,000*l.* His machinery was all worked by water. He thought that, comparing it with horse-power, they were working about fifty horse-power. He had no doubt that all the finer descriptions of the linen manufacture in Ireland were quite incapable of being carried on by machinery. He could not say what proportion the produce of fine manufacture bore to the coarse; in point of value it bore an immense proportion, but in point of weight it did not. He knew where the different mill-spinning machineries in England were, but he had not seen many of them; they were very tenacious of shewing them. He had never heard of any exertions made by the larger capitalists, engaged in the mill-spinning machinery, to put down those who had started upon smaller scales. They bleached all their yarn. It did not lose nearly so much in weight after it was bleached as the hand-spun. He understood that the process that the Irish weaver adopted now, was that of going to market and selling his web, and purchasing yarn there to make a fresh web. The weaver would certainly save a great deal of time if, instead of being obliged to adopt that process, a respectable individual, possessed of some capital, were to employ a great number in his neighbourhood of the weavers to make cloth, and then for that individual to send it to the market, and to dispose of it without the weaver being obliged to go to the market at all; but he had always understood that the parties carrying on the trade in Ireland had other avocations, and that they merely filled up a proportion of their time with manufacturing. He did not think that by any arrangement of the kind, which had been alluded to, they would have linen cheaper. As far as he had ever understood, with reference to the north of Ireland, the mode adopted there was the very best possible for cheapness. When asked,—"Suppose a change to take place in the state of things of this kind; that, for instance, an individual possessed of a certain capital, say 4,000*l.* or 5,000*l.*, laid out a great portion of that in the purchase of flax, and gave it out to weavers, paying the weavers a certain sum for manufacturing the linen, the weaver being in no degree responsible either for the price of the flax, or the money that the linen was to bring him afterwards; would not that

“be a better state of things than the present?” his answer was, that he did not think the manufacture would be carried on so cheap. He did not think it at all applicable to the present state of a great part of Ireland; it might be done in some parts. He did not know in what manner the inspectors of yarn discharged their duty in the west and south of Ireland; the inspectors had a right to inspect their (the witness’s) yarn, but they did not do it. They did not make an examination of it; he believed they had a right to do so; they certainly would inconvenience their trade if they did do it. He believed the law gave the Board a power, and their officer a power, of searching premises where they suspected yarn to be. He thought the trade, as it was carried on in the north, would be injured by a total repeal of the linen laws. He thought that, with reference to the brown seal (he ought, perhaps, to say, that he never bought a piece of linen in his life), the Linen Board had a right to seal the linen with a brown seal, for which the seal-master got a penny for every twenty-five yards; he had a right to ascertain that the weaver had his name marked on the piece, and to measure it. This was done previous to the market, which it facilitated; but if that were not the case, how could a person buy three or four hundred pieces of linen within a short space of time? The breadth and length being certified by the Linen Board inspector, if there was a fraud committed, the purchaser went to the inspector who had marked it, and he was responsible. The penalties were certainly too high, because in every instance there was confiscation of property, which might be ruin to a poor man. If, by placing a responsibility of character upon the individual exposing that web in the market, he could effect the object of securing to the public the absence of fraud, he should be very happy. He thought that selling linen in open market was the best way that linen could be sold. When asked, “Suppose the law was altered, and that in place of forcing seven thousand or eight thousand pieces of linen to one market, the bleacher was able to buy every day in the week at his own residence, and that the person making the linen had an opportunity of taking the linen to his residence, might not such a system of buying and selling linen be introduced, as that there would be a responsibility of character upon the individual weaver?”—he answered, that he doubted the possibility of depending on the responsibility of the weaver’s character; and if that was not established, the purchaser would only pay a price for the piece of linen sufficient to cover the risk of its being unmerchandise. He thought there was no way so fair to both parties as the public market. In all public markets that he had seen, there were twenty or thirty purchasers, and the seller was not forced to go to any one in particular; if he did not like the price which one offered,

he went to another. He had his web ready marked with the brown seal, without any delay or question as to its being properly made; if the brown seal were abolished, the purchaser would have to ascertain where the seller lived, and to examine the piece before he paid for it, and thus much time would be lost. He was sure that the seller of linen got a better price in consequence of selling his linen in a market, than he could do if it was left free from all legislative restraint; but he believed there was no law to prevent him selling in his cabin, if he pleased, provided it was marked. He conceived that selling it by private contract, in the way alluded to, would take away from the weaver quick information as to any rise of price. If the prices rose in England, the purchaser, by his eagerness to buy, discovered the advance, which was soon ascertained by the weavers. Wheat was generally sold in a public market. The only market for wheat with which he was much acquainted was the Dublin market; and he believed the only law regulating the transaction between buyer and seller, referred to fraud in the sack. If any part of the sack of corn was not of equal quality, the fraud came under a particular act of parliament. There was not any inspecting officer. The law, therefore, was in the nature of a remedy when fraud was committed, or intended to be committed. He did not think that if the law was repealed that at present required linen to be sealed, and the bleacher was at liberty to purchase linen wherever he pleased, that he would have any difficulty in obtaining any quantity he thought proper to purchase; but he thought it would be placing the weaver at the mercy of the buyer. The piece of cloth that was subject to the inspection of the seal-master, was placed under his judgment only as far as regarded the wearing; the law only said, that in whatever way the weaver had begun his piece he should finish it, making it even all through; that he should use in the entire the same kind of yarn for web, and that he should not commit any kind of fraud. The weaver had an appeal to the magistrate. He did not think the right that the weaver possessed, to sell his cloth in any way he thought proper, materially interfered with, by placing him under the necessity of having that cloth brought before a seal-master. If he went to a weaver who had his piece of linen for sale, he must at some time ascertain that it was properly wove, as well as its length and breadth; and, in ascertaining those points, he must do what an intermediate, uninterested person, the seal-master, did for him; and must, by whomsoever it was done, cost something. He did not think that course of proceeding, of ascertaining the length of the cloth, could be as effectually done by a voluntary arrangement between the parties; because it was now all done before the market; therefore the weaver and the purchaser lost no time. The butter

trade was also under regulation. The market for the sale of webs of cloth generally occupied, from its commencement to its close, only a short space of time; but it would require an entire day, if the measure and quality were to be settled at the same time. The weavers that attended those markets came from a distance of many miles; and there was another advantage arising from the use of the brown seal;—the web having been inspected, a weaver might send any person he pleased to sell it; but if it were not inspected, he must go with it himself; for it would be quite unfair that the buyer should examine it when no competent judge was present. The weaver could not be at the mercy of the measurer. He believed that brown seals were sometimes given to respectable manufacturers, if they required them. He had never heard of any complaint against the present system of brown seals, but that the penalties were too severe; none, he believed, as to the exercise of power. He did not think there would be any necessity for brown seals if the trade were all carried on in large establishments, but he did not think that practicable; they might be able to weave a piece of linen as fine by machinery as was done by hand, but it would be at an enormous expense; improvements might take place in the machinery. The regulations respecting yarn were good; but it was a more difficult subject to know how far they were advantageous, if the law was not or could not be enforced. He doubted whether it could be strictly enforced. He did not think any regulations necessary with respect to the establishment of mills for the spinning of linen yarn in Ireland, so as to supply the coarse trade with the quantity necessary for the carrying on their manufacture. He was sure those mills were increasing. He thought that, after a person had obtained a knowledge of the manufacture, he might have a fair remuneration on the capital so employed; but he doubted very much whether, were he ignorant of the manufacture, he would direct his attention to it in preference. He was convinced there were other lines of manufacture that were much more profitable. It was very hard to look back, and say what he might do under certain circumstances; but the money he had expended in the linen manufacture would have been employed more profitably if he had put it into other manufactures. Although he thought the remuneration for the capital employed in the manner he had employed it, was a fair one, the cost of machinery, and the necessary alterations and improvements, added to the risk, and reduced the profits. He did not think the linen manufacture as lucrative as others; he thought there was a wide field of other manufactures that were more lucrative, and he would rather, being ignorant of manufactures, take up cotton. The introduction of machinery into Ireland would go on progressively, and all existing establishments, if pro-

fitable, would increase; those establishments would branch out into larger ones. He conceived that was the natural and safe way of increasing manufactures. There was one thing very much against any new establishment being made in Ireland, arising from the extreme difficulty of getting machinery. Flax-spinning machinery was four or five times as expensive as cotton, and it required four or five times the power. There was no expense in procuring linen yarn spinning machinery from England, other than the mere bringing it from England to Ireland; but the machine-makers were so much employed in England, that they could not immediately execute orders; he had orders lying in England for these ten months past. He begged leave to observe to the Committee, that he understood the legislature were going to allow the export of machinery at the very time that the home demand could not be supplied; consequently nothing would be exported but a machine to copy from. It was, he conceived, telling the foreigner, "We cannot supply you, but there is the machine to copy from; and now go you and set up a manufacturing factory to make it yourself." There was one regulation with regard to the linen laws which he thought should be abolished; that was, prohibiting the bleaching by lime. The bleacher could not by law use lime, and yet in coarse goods it was universally used. He could not see any necessity for legislative enactments to regulate the mode of bleaching. The law might prohibit the use of an article which, by improvement and chemical combination, had almost become necessary to the bleacher. There were also very great doubts entertained of the expediency of branding flax-seed. He was quite convinced that in one case it was not necessary; that was to say, when it came in bulk for crushing. As to whether, if that which was brought in bulk for crushing was permitted to go into store without examination, for that purpose only, that seed which was imported as sound, and intended for sowing, ought still to undergo examination; he thought it would be quite sufficient if the importer was only required to brand the package with the date of the year imported; and that it was illegal to alter that brand, or sell for sowing but in the original package; and to give a certificate, with the date of the import, and the place from whence imported. The greatest proportion of the flax-seed brought into Ireland for sowing this year had certainly been imported under a monopoly. He could only state what he had heard. A company, or some persons, bought up all the flax-seed that was in America; they bought up as much as they could get in Liverpool, and other places; they then imported the whole of it, and, as he understood and believed, they retained a part of it in America, declaring that they would sell it in America in the month of May; of course, it could not then be available

for sowing in Ireland. The result of the whole was, that, with an ample supply of flax-seed, he supposed the country would pay four guineas to 4*l*. 15*s*. instead of paying 3*l*. 6*s*. which was the price last year. When asked, whether, if this same company that had bought up all the flax-seed that could be obtained in America, and imported it into Ireland, this season, had found it their interest to send an inferior quality of seed a regulation for the examination of that seed upon import would not have been calculated to secure the purchaser against a bad article? he answered, that the regulation would have prevented the sowing the seed would not have been branded; and, of course, there would not have been any sowing seed except English or Irish, for sale. Branding would only have made the seller not liable to the law. He believed the law stood thus. If he sold a hoghead of flax-seed which was not branded, and did not give a certificate of the growth and date of import, and that the seed did not produce a crop, the persons sowing the seed could come upon him for damages. He thought no man in his senses, importing flax-seed to Ireland, would intentionally import bad seed. He conceived that it would be only done from accident, or, perhaps, from some particular negligence on the part of the importing merchant, or from its happening to be such an unfavourable year that he could not get good seed. In the event of the merchant importing bad seed, he thought an individual who had been in the habit all his life of sowing seed, would be as good a judge of it as the inspector. No regulation existed for securing the farmer from fraud relative to seed corn. He thought an individual selling seed corn might have an equal advantage and benefit in selling bad seed corn, as an importing merchant of flax-seed might have in importing bad flax-seed. In either of those cases there was a similar principle to prevent fraud taking place, which was the interest and character of the individual selling. He had already, however, stated that he conceived some regulation necessary; and the cost of branding was not much, being only 3*d*. the package. As a general proposition, he certainly conceived that the more every trade was left to be carried on by the intelligence and interest of those engaged in it, the better. As far as he had seen, he thought the purchaser depended on the brand, as far as related to the place imported from, and the date; but if he went upon the quay, where there were a number of casks lying, he never would be content to purchase till he had taken samples of them, exercising his own judgment as to the quality. He could not therefore see any very great utility in the present system of branding, except as far as he had stated. He had seen some of the home flax-seed. He had no doubt that every but if proper arrangements were made, and premiums given in the south of Ireland, a sufficient quantity of flax-seed for the supply of the

country would in time be produced. Home flax-seed was not subject to any inspection whatever. He was not at all acquainted with the mode in which linen inspectors were appointed. He just knew the general construction of the Linen Board. The members of that Board were generally noblemen and country gentlemen. When asked, if he thought that the Linen Board was very advantageous to the trade? he answered, that he thought a power must be lodged somewhere. It would be very hard to form a Board in any better way, because the members were all interested for the good of the country. He reckoned that the power must be vested in some persons; there must be some set of officers; there must be some persons to carry on correspondence for the general arrangement of the trade; they must vest a power somewhere. When asked, if, for instance, the different laws respecting brown seal masters, and the various other laws to which he had alluded, should be considered necessary for the prosperity of the trade, could not that matter be carried on as well by general constant regulations existing, as by a constant communication with the Board frequently altering them? he answered, that he did not think they did alter them. As to the necessity, if the regulations were never altered (supposing the officers to exist), for communication with the Board, there were various matters and particular cases to decide upon; there might be persons that were not doing their duty; or inspectors to remove and appoint. When asked, if those matters could not be as well carried on by the government of the country, without the interference at all of a Board, constituted of a number of landed proprietors? he answered, that the executive would, he thought, make another Board, and he was clear that it could only be done by persons that were disinterested; the trustees got some little trifle of wheels and implements, but they were not interested in any other way, except in the welfare of the trade. Under the existing circumstances of the country, he thought that necessary, and that the Linen Board was as well constituted as such a Board could be; there must be a Board; he thought it would be an advantage if they could make the same members attend constantly. At the meetings of the Board, if there was any particular measure to be taken up, requiring continued discussion, there was rarely, he believed, the same set of members constantly in attendance. Suppose a law was to pass by which all existing laws relating to linen in Ireland should be repealed at the expiration of two years, he did not imagine that Ireland would lose the linen manufacture. What he thought would happen with regard to the method in which yarn would be bought and sold, and linen would be bought and sold, and the business generally carried on,

was; that they would continue to follow the present regulations and mode of carrying on the business. The purchasers of yarn would certainly become sufferers for want of the assistance of legislative regulations, if the result was that yarn was badly reeled. If they were sufferers, they would discontinue to purchase, or they would pay a lower price for the yarn. If they discontinued to purchase, the persons making the yarn would cease to find purchasers, and lose their market for the produce; or correct themselves, and come back to the right mode of reeling. As to the mode in which, in his opinion, the business of buying and selling of linens would go on, he should suppose that the parties, where there was a considerable market, must arrange a brown seal; he did not know any other way; they must make some arrangement. The interest on the part of the weavers to sell cloth, and the necessity on the part of the buyer to buy cloth, might lead to such an arrangement between the parties, that the business of buying and selling might be as extensively carried on as it was at present; but he was clear they would follow pretty closely the present arrangement, because it appeared to him a good one. The first result of repealing the laws would be, in his opinion, a going back of the trade; whether they would then, afterwards, make those regulations that would bring it on again, he could not say; but he thought in the first instance the trade would go back, because he thought many parties would commit frauds which might not be found out till a month or a year, or perhaps a year and a half afterwards. He did not think that the detection of frauds would lead to reformation, and to the settlement of a regular system of transaction between buyers and sellers, till a great deal of mischief had been done. It would be very hard for buyers to make regulations for themselves. He did not know how they could do it without having some legislative enactment. He did not know how they could make a regulation forcing persons to bring their linen to market in a particular way, and to reel the yarn regularly. He did not know how a purchaser could always take care that he did not buy fraudulent yarn; he must take it upon trust. He conceived that the yarn would be deteriorated if it were not for the existence of the inspectors; if the yarn was not rightly reeled, it lost in value. He believed that there had been, this last year, above forty-six millions of yards of Irish linen cloth imported into Great Britain from Ireland. That manufacture was the principal one that gave employment to the poor of the north of Ireland, undoubtedly. He thought it would be a most dangerous measure to repeal the linen laws at once. If he were to suggest any mode, it would be to repeal such of the linen laws as were obsolete, and retain those that appeared essential to the welfare of the manufacture; and at the end of a certain period,

the question could be again investigated. But, although the trade might betake itself to the same regulations, as it was carried on by a number of poor persons, who had a very bad insight into their own interests, he thought there would be great danger in the immediate repeal of the laws. The reason why no regulations were necessary in England and Scotland was, as he conceived, that the trade was carried on in those countries by mills, and not by hand. He did not know any way that the trade could be carried on so cheap as it was at present. In his opinion the tendency of the laws or regulations ought to be directed by the legislature to encourage the growth of flax in the south and west of Ireland. As to the present system of manufacturing, he did not conceive that, with regard to the fine linen, they had any thing to do but to regulate the trade as it was. With respect to the linen laws, he should suppose the shortest way would be to repeal all the present laws, and enact a new one, reducing the whole of the linen code into one act of parliament, and leaving out all that was unnecessary and obsolete. Selling linen yarn by weight instead of by length was, he thought, rather a disadvantageous way for the manufacturer; a great quantity of Irish yarn was sold by weight; it was called pound yarn. The English mill-spun yarn was sold in England all by weight; but then the bundle contained a certain length, and from the weight of it you knew exactly the size of the yarn. He did not know how the foreign yarn was sold. In Russia the flax was bracked, which was merely sorting it into three or four different kinds, and that was done by a sworn bracker under the government. All the foreign flax that came in, came in accurately classed under some one or other of those kinds; each class had some variety of qualities. He thought that was advantageous to the purchaser in this country: for he did not know how else they would arrange it: the flax was often bought on contract, under a given denomination; the sworn bracker, on the delivery, determined the denomination between the buyer and the seller. He was not aware whether the foreign linen yarn was subject to any of those regulations. He did not know any thing about foreign yarn; the great argument for Ireland getting foreign yarn was, that it came into England, and they used it; and if it was of advantage for them to use it, why should not the Irish manufacturer have a similar advantage? There were three points, on the propriety of which, he believed, all those interested agreed—the admission of dressed flax, of foreign yarn, and of English mill-spun yarn.

Mr. LEONARD HORNER examined.—Lived in Edinburgh. Was concerned in the linen manufacture; principally in the fine trade, that branch which was known in the trade by the name of Scotch holland. That description of cloth was made by him at Edinburgh. They

imported the flax, and sent the article in a finished state to the market. The flax was imported in the rough state, and they hackled it and prepared it. To get it spun they sent the dressed flax to agents in different parts of Scotland, and they gave the flax out to the spinners, and returned it in the shape of yarn. The expense of spinning varied according to the fineness of the yarn. In the finest species of yarn that they spun, it would require a very good spinner to earn 6*d.* a day. The rate of earnings for coarser descriptions was about 3*d.* The difficulty in getting as many spinners as they wanted to carry on their trade varied at different times of the year. A great deal of business was done in the north of Scotland in the same way of spinning. It was a very frequent practice to get spinning done in that way. He was not aware that the practice prevailed of the farmers growing flax and spinning it in their own families in Scotland, except in the Highland districts, where they grew flax; and in some instances they spun the yarn, and sold it in the state of yarn, but it was of very inferior quality. He did not conceive that he could get as good an article as he now got by the method he pursued, under such a system of making yarn as that which he had just described; because to make good yarn required very great care in the selection of the flax, that it might be adapted to the particular fineness of yarn that was intended to be made. He conceived that the dressing in their way was more perfect than in the way it was carried on by the poorer description of people. The value of yarn depended chiefly upon the quality of the material that was used, combined with good spinning. That quality would secure that evenness which was necessary for making good cloth. When yarn was made in the way he described in the Highlands, he did not think it possible for a spinner to make that selection of flax which was so necessary. Hand spinning was carried on to a very considerable extent in the north of Scotland. There were persons in the north who confined their attention exclusively to that trade; they imported the flax from Holland, dressed it, and gave it out in the same way to spinners, and sold the yarn to manufacturers. There were two or three houses they had a correspondence with when they wanted to buy yarn occasionally; they bought it but rarely. If the dressing abroad were cheaper, and as well done as in this country, it would be a great convenience to their particular manufacture to be able to import dressed flax from abroad, because they did not use the tow. From forty to sixty per cent of the flax they now imported in an undressed state was made up of tow. That added to the freight and insurance of the raw material, and they must sell it at the best market they could find: the value of their dressed flax, technically termed lint, in Scotland, was regu-

lated by the price they got for their tow. There was much flax-seed sown in some districts of Scotland. It was sown for the purpose of making yarn for some particular trades: there was a great deal of flax bought in Scotland which was dressed to make shoemakers' thread. He believed that there was much grown for the linen manufacture, for the inferior description of linen; but he was not particularly acquainted with that subject. It was grown principally by the farmers, he believed; as a separate business, totally independent of spinning. When the farmers grew it, they sold the produce principally to persons who made a trade of dealing in raw flax. There was a house at Newcastle that dealt very extensively with a flax agent at Bathgate, in Scotland, who dealt very largely in Scotch flax, and it was principally made into shoemakers' thread. It was always sold in the raw state; he meant in a scutched state, ready for dressing. In that part of the country they did not manufacture it themselves. The yarn was made up on a reel of ninety inches in circumference, the same as the Irish reel precisely, and contained twelve cuts, of one hundred and twenty threads each cut. That was universally the practice in Scotland. Yarn was sold in Scotland by what was termed the spindle, or, as it was called in Ireland, the spangle. The spindle was supposed to contain four hanks, of twelve cuts each, containing, in all, fourteen thousand four hundred yards. The buyers of yarn had no difficulty in ascertaining the quality of yarn. They ascertained the quantity by taking a hank, and if they had any suspicion of it, counting the number of threads in a cut. In the Highlands there might be yarn made by small people, and brought into market for sale, but he could not say. He believed that in some districts of the Highlands there were markets for yarn somewhat similar to the markets in Ireland, and that the large dealers in yarn attended those markets, and bought it up from the Highland cottiers. That was a system carried on by people who had nothing else to do, who would be perfectly idle unless they had that employment during the winter months. The way in which the persons who gave out flax to spin, checked the spinners, and protected themselves against fraud, was this; they gave out a certain weight of lint, and they must get back a certain weight of yarn; if they did not know the parties, they required a deposit; but that deposit might be very small, not exceeding the value of a single hank, and that did not exceed perhaps 6*d.* at any time. In point of fact, their agents that managed this business knew the people thoroughly in small villages. The spinners lived chiefly in villages and small towns. They came, perhaps, two or three miles to the spinning agent, to get their flax and bring back their yarn. There used to be yarn spun in Edinburgh on the same plan; and there it was the invariable practice for the

spinners to leave a deposit. The spinners were chiefly the wives and daughters of day-labourers; farmers' servants; it was merely what might be termed a by-job; rather than sit idle, they spun; and, of late years, they found in some districts, better employment by sewing muslins, and other occupations of that sort. The way in which the weaving was carried on in Scotland was by sending the yarn prepared for the weaver to agents in country towns, who employed the weavers, and returned the cloth wove. The earnings of a weaver would vary, according to the skill of the workman and the nature of the cloth, from 6s. to 15s. a week. They had no laws whatever now in Scotland for inspecting yarn or linen. They had till very lately. There were yarn inspectors, who had the power of going wherever yarn was sold, and ascertaining whether it was of the proper number of threads, and of a uniform quality; and if it was not so, they had the power of seizing it. They had not found the least inconvenience from the repeal of those laws. While in force, they were very little acted upon in those parts of the linen manufacture that he was acquainted with; he never recollected an instance of a yarn inspector ever coming near their manufactory. By the old regulations, linen pieces were required to be stamped in the white state, before they were sold, in order to ascertain the soundness of the cloth, and also to fix the length upon the piece. But the total repeal of those laws, which took place two years ago, had been attended with not the least inconvenience or injury to the trade. That he believed was universally the opinion of the manufacturers of Scotland. The description of persons who wove for them were men who had been brought up from their childhood to the trade. They lived in different parts of Scotland; their (the witness,) manufacture was chiefly in Berwickshire and Roxburghshire. He should imagine that in no instance, or very rarely, they were people that occupied land as farmers, as well as employing themselves as weavers. It was not at all the habit for weavers to live in farm-houses, as labourers. They pursued the profession of weaving singly. He had been in Ireland; in the north of Ireland. He had been acquainted with that department of the linen manufacture, which was carried on in the counties of Antrim and Down, and the district around Belfast, for some years; but two years ago he went to Ireland for the express purpose of inquiring minutely into the manner in which the linen manufacture of Ireland was conducted in those districts. His opinion with regard to the growing and preparing of flax in Ireland, the manner in which it was produced and prepared, was, that where the weaver grew the flax, and had it dressed by an itinerant hackler; and had it spun in his family, and afterwards wove up, the system was very defective for the production of good cloth. The defect was; that he

thought the weaver could not make a good selection of the flax for making his yarn; he must have various qualities of flax growing upon the same spot; and it very often happened (and he believed the practice prevailed to a very great extent) that he would endeavour to get as great a length of thread as possible out of a given weight of flax, without regarding what was the quality of the thread when produced: he would very often spin flax to four or five hanks, which, to make good cloth, ought not to be spun further than two hanks. That arose from his not having the power of sorting, from his small quantity of flax, and from his desire to get as great a length of thread as possible. When a weaver required more flax than he grew himself, he apprehended that he bought the yarn in the markets to make up the quantity. That yarn varied very much in quality, not only in the same market, but in different districts. He should imagine that the quality of the yarn varied in the hank itself very rarely. The weaver always took care to match his yarn as nearly as he could; if he obtained all the yarn at home, he (the witness) doubted whether he would be able to make so good a selection of the yarn as would be desirable to make a good article of cloth. He was not particularly acquainted with the mode of managing flax in Ireland. The hackling and dressing was performed, he thought, in a very slovenly way; they were bad workmen any that he had an opportunity of seeing. He understood there were itinerant hacklers who went about. On the whole, that flax was certainly, in most cases, dressed in a very inferior manner to the manner in which he dressed it himself. He believed that that defective method was general in a very large proportion of the linen trade of Ireland. He never heard of any instances in which dressed flax was given out to be spun in the way in which it was managed in Scotland. He conceived that such a practice, if introduced into Ireland, would be an improvement in the linen manufacture; inasmuch as he thought it would ensure a better supply of good yarn. The present spinners would be able to obtain quite as good earnings, he should imagine, and less liable to fluctuation. The fluctuations in the price of linen would principally fall upon the capitalist, and not upon the labourer. With regard to the weaving in Ireland, they made excellent cloth, as far as the weaver was concerned. As to what a weaver could earn, in the year 1823, in the month of July, while he was there, he inquired into that subject particularly; and the result of the information he collected from the best sources that were open to him, was this; that for a weaver employed upon the finer fabrics of yard-wide linens that were sold in the Belfast market, after deducting the expenses to which he was subject, of loom-rent, dressing, candles for working in winter, and so on, the clear sum he had to expend on himself

and his family did not exceed 1s. a day, and that also included the work of the person who wound his web. He was in the market of Monaghan, and saw a quantity of cloth sold, and in two or three instances, after the web was sold, he got hold of the weaver, and looked at his piece: from his knowledge as a manufacturer, he knew what quantity of yarn must be in the piece, and the expenses of weaving it that he would be subject to, and he asked him what time it had taken him to weave that cloth; and he found that, working at the rate of twelve hours a day, the utmost that was left in several instances was about 2s. 6d. a week. He asked them, in other instances, how much they made in the week, and the answer uniformly was, "A very poor work, indeed, sir; I do not think we get more than 2s. 6d. or 3s." That was a description of cloth of a low price. The weavers seemed to him not to have a very robust or healthy appearance; on the contrary, the impression that was left upon his mind was, that they appeared squalid, and as if they had not had a great deal of good food. He did not know that it would be better if they were collected in towns; the impression upon his mind was, not; he did not see how that would mend their condition. He did not examine into their habits of life, further than as he passed through the country seeing the cabins they lived in, which were very humble. His object in going to Ireland was, to investigate the whole process of the linen manufacture, as a piece of general information connected with his business; with a view to endeavour to account for the low price at which Irish cloth was sold; and generally to see the mode in which the manufacture was conducted in a country where it was carried on to a great extent. He had no object of obtaining the transfer of labourers from Ireland to Scotland. He did not make any proposal to any of the Irish weavers to come and settle in Scotland; nor had he any such intention. He had no impression when he went to Ireland, that the manufacture had such a preference over the Scotch as that he might derive benefit from investigating the nature and extent of it, and the manner in which it was carried on; unless in Scotland they could get labour as cheap as in Ireland. He did not see any thing they could borrow from Ireland but cheap labour. He knew of nothing that could enable Irish linen to undersell Scotch of a similar description, except the cheapness of labour. If Ireland were to employ as good material for the manufacture of the linen as was employed in the Scotch holland manufacture, he did not see that the latter would have any preference whatsoever; inasmuch as the Irish labour was cheaper than the Scotch, they would undersell the Scotch. A weaver that would be making in Scotland 12s. a week, would not make, according to the rate of payment that he saw in Ireland, above 6s. He was not aware, from what he saw in Ireland,

that in any respect the manufacture was carried on there upon a better principle than in Scotland. He did not conceive that the system pursued in Ireland of growing the flax, and spinning the flax, and weaving the yarn, all by one family, was calculated to produce so good an article as the system followed in Scotland. He was not aware how far the system followed in Scotland would be applicable to the circumstances of Ireland; but he did not know any circumstances in the condition of Ireland that should prevent that system being carried into effect with great advantage. He conceived that the higher price of those articles of Scotch manufacture that had a preference in the market over Irish, entirely depended upon the material that was employed in making them. The superiority of that material depended upon, first, getting good flax; then, hackling it properly; and then, adapting the dressed flax to the particular kind of yarn to be made, all of which was carried on by the Scotch capitalist in a preferable manner to what it was by a small Irish farmer. The Scotch manufacture of fine linen was an infinitely small quantity in proportion to the Irish; which, to a considerable extent, he attributed to cheapness of labour. If the manufacture was conducted by capitalists, his impression was, that the manufacture would be generally improved, and that the condition of the labouring classes would be improved, because they would have more steady wages; whatever those wages amounted to, they would be less liable to fluctuation than when the weaver had to take the risk of the market in selling his web. Generally speaking, he did not conceive that there was any circumstance that should prevent the linen trade in Ireland being carried on to the same extent, and with every possible benefit that it had at present, if it was more in the hands of great capitalists than it was at present. All that he had in view was only an extension of what at present obtained to a great extent; the best sheeting that he had ever seen made in Ireland was made by a manufacturer who employed a great number of weavers; and which cloth never came to the brown market, but was sold directly to bleachers; he was a very extensive manufacturer; his name was Smith; he thought it was Seapatrik, in the county of Down. He had never been at Mr. Smith's manufactory; but he had seen his cloth, and bought his cloth. The cloth that he had seen was such as would sell in the market; in the bleached state, in six quarter sheeting, he supposed as high as 3s. 6d. or 3s. 9d. a yard. When asked, "if he was not of opinion then, if the manner in which Mr. Smith had conducted his business proved to be advantageous, it would be the best mode for the interest of the manufacture to let individuals connected with it take an example from the success of Mr. Smith, and such like others, without any legislative attempt to alter the whole system per force of law?" he said, that

he did not feel himself competent to answer the question. He thought the advantages of Mr. Smith's system were so great, that were it not for the obstacles that stood in the way of the manufacture in Ireland, it would have been carried to a much greater extent before this time. By those obstacles he meant the regulations with regard to forcing the article to be sold in open market, and the inspections of yarn. He had always understood that it was forced by law to be sold in open market; and he always understood that that was the custom, under certain regulations of the law. If no such practice prevailed, if there was nothing to interfere with the perfect freedom of the manufacturer, from the first buying of his flax to the sending out of his linen, he did not conceive it would be necessary to make any alteration of the law. In his visit to Ireland he heard of an extensive manufacturer at Belfast, who followed the system of employing a number of weavers in his neighbourhood, giving them out yarn, and receiving cloth made in return; but whether it was entirely confined to linen, or what particular description of linen, he could not say. He understood that that manufacturer gave out the yarn to the weavers. He conceived that all his opinions went to the producing of a better quality of cloth; and in the answers he had given he had spoken entirely with that view. He did not think that there was any part of Great Britain where there could be better workmen than there were in Ireland. If a system were established in Ireland, that large capitalists should direct the trade, giving out yarn to weavers, he thought the weaver's condition would be much benefited, because, he would save all the time that he consumed in going to market. He did not conceive that if the present system of carrying on the linen trade was continued in Ireland, that ultimately Scotland, from having her trade directed by capitalists, must gain a great advantage over Ireland in the fine linen trade; because although machinery was applicable in the coarse linen trade, it had not yet been found to be so in the fine linen trade. One cause to which he attributed it, that the fine linen trade was more established in Ireland than in Scotland, was its being a more exclusive object of attention to the people of the north of Ireland: it had been the staple trade of the north of Ireland, and fine linen was not a staple trade of Scotland. He knew of no circumstance in the mode in which the trade was carried on in the north that encouraged fine linen in preference to coarser linen. He was of opinion that quite the same extent of manufacture might be produced by capitalists as was produced in the present way, in which the manufacture was carried on. That being the case, the reason he conceived why the trade in Scotland, which was superior, in his opinion, to the Irish manufacture, did not very considerably increase, was that the Scotch fine linen manu-

facture, as he had said before, was only superior to the Irish by their using a better kind of flax, and it was dearer thereby; and a dear article was much more limited in its consumption than one of a low price. As to whether the Scotch and Irish were at that moment rival trades, the Scotch could hardly be said to rival the Irish in the fine linen trade; there was but a very limited demand for that superior article of cloth that was made in Scotland; there was nothing that should in the least degree excite any idea of rivalry on the part of the Irish manufacturer. They would certainly carry on their trade in Scotland to much more advantage to themselves than they did, if they could have weavers and labourers at such wages as they earned in Ireland, instead of such as they paid them in Scotland. He did not get any knowledge of the trade, whilst he was in Ireland, that operated in any instance to improve the manner in which he conducted his own. He was only three weeks in Ireland. He had been there once before, with the same object, in the year 1809, when he staid about the same period in Belfast and the neighbourhood. He should not think that if Irish weavers were brought over from Ireland to Scotland, they would work in Scotland for less wages than the Scotch weavers worked for. He conceived that labour was entirely regulated by the demand for it, and the supply, and by the value of provisions. If a single Irish weaver was to come over, he would probably get the same wages as the Scotch weaver, because his coming would produce no effect upon the market; but if five hundred weavers were to come over, and there was not a demand for five hundred additional weavers, if they were willing to work, the effect would be a reduction of wages. He should not conceive, if five hundred did come over, that there would be a demand for their work immediately in the fine linen trade; if there was an increase, it would be gradual; if five hundred weavers were to come over to Scotland to any one district, they would not be able to find employment; it would certainly lower the wages. When asked, "If it was from a three weeks' visit of observation in Ireland, that he had undertaken to suggest the prudence of such a vast change as would be operated if his opinions were to prevail?" he answered, that, with great submission, to the Committee, he had not suggested any alterations; he had merely said what his opinion, as a manufacturer, was; how the Irish linen manufacture might be carried to still greater perfection than it had reached at present. He did not know any circumstances that should prevent the linen manufacture in Ireland from being carried on to its present extent by capitalists in that country, instead of being carried on in the manner in which it now was. With respect to the operation of the present regulations, connected with yarn and linen, as a discouragement to persons

having reasonable capital going over and carrying on the linen trade, or to persons already resident in the country carrying it on, he should conceive, if he were to go to settle in Ireland, that if he had to consult any person whatever with regard to the mode in which he should carry on his manufacture, it would be a considerable impediment to his carrying his scheme into execution. He thought that it would be impossible to do away with some of the regulations under which the trade was now carried on in Ireland, unless there was a complete change of system; for instance, if the cloth was sold in open market, in the brown markets he meant, in the way it was done at present, and with the astonishing rapidity with which the buyer must make his bargain, he should conceive it absolutely necessary that there should be some officer to stamp the length and the soundness of the cloth, otherwise he should conceive it would be a very difficult thing for the purchaser, after he bought his linen, if he found it defective, to come upon the man who had sold it to him. But if he supposed the linen trade to exist in this way,—that there should be persons of capital, employing, perhaps, a hundred or two hundred weavers in their neighbourhood, and sending the productions of those weavers, stamped with their name, and affixing their character of responsibility to it,—he should not imagine that there would then be the same necessity for the existing regulations that there now was. He should imagine that the success of the manufacturer in his trade, and his character, would entirely depend upon his sending out a good and sound article. He was not aware of the practice existing in any part of Ireland of manufacturers employing weavers, and sending their goods into market in the manner just described; it might, however, exist. If that law were altered, and if goods might be sold in Ireland any where, and at any time, he should not then conceive that the present regulations and the interference of officers would be necessary. When asked, “Whether, as a Scotch manufacturer, he was of opinion that if there was a disposition amongst Scotch capitalists acquainted with the linen manufacture, or English capitalists, to take advantage of cheap labour in Ireland, and to transfer their capital to Ireland for the purpose of carrying on the linen manufacture, they would be in any degree deterred from such an undertaking, upon learning what the regulations were with respect to the linen manufacture of Ireland?” his answer was, that he should hesitate himself, certainly. The coarse linen manufacture of Scotland had been an increasing manufacture, to a very great extent; and he thought the coarse linen trade would be. When he visited Ireland, he took the whole manufacture in detail, from the supply of the flax to sending it out in a finished state; and he had an opportunity of seeing some of the most extensive

bleachers in the north of Ireland, and some very intelligent workmen; and the inferences that he had drawn, and which he had stated to this Committee, were from the information of those persons. He took pretty copious notes, and he submitted his notes to a very intelligent and extensive Irish bleacher, Mr. Archibald Barklie, of Larne, and he asked him whether he thought that his information was correct with regard to the way in which the trade was conducted, and he said that it was: Mr. Barklie pointed out some little matters where he was inaccurate, and he corrected them. His principal object in the inquiry was general information respecting a great branch of trade connected with his business; and he conceived, with great submission, that a person going into Ireland, with the previous knowledge that he had as a manufacturer, and with the sources of information that were open to him, was perfectly competent, in three weeks, to ascertain all the facts connected with the trade. When asked, “If he did not think that an alteration of the system at present carried on in Ireland, and the introduction of the Scotch system, would cause a great convulsion in the trade?” his answer was, that he did not think it would be possible to alter the existing laws in Ireland that related to the stamping of linen in a market, while the trade was carried on as it was at present: if the bleacher in Ireland had it in his power to go to a great manufacturer, and buy the cloth that he wanted upon the responsibility of that manufacturer, he did not conceive that in that instance the intervention of a stamp-master or inspector was necessary, because the character and success of a manufacturer depended upon his selling a sound article. In the present circumstances of Ireland, he thought that the Scotch system could be introduced, with safety to the capitalists, only very gradually. In point of fact, if there was a change of the nature referred to, it would be a mere transfer of capital, unless the trade was to increase. It would be the same capital, he thought, more judiciously applied. He conceived that if the capital that now existed in Ireland for carrying on the linen trade, and which was now diffused over a great number of hands, was concentrated more, it would be more advantageously applied. He did not see that that concentration would drive all the small capitalists out of business. What he meant by a concentration of the capital, was with reference to the present existing facts: to produce the linen in the brown market, there were now several operations; the farmer who grew the flax employed a capital, then there was the capital of the spinner, who bought the flax, and there was the capital of the weaver who bought the yarn; thus there was a portion of capital employed in each branch. A weaver that was employed by a capitalist did not require any other capital than his loom. He did not see how the effect

of introducing the Scotch system into Ireland would be to raise the price of weaver's wages, and consequently the price of Irish linen. He was aware that a vast quantity of Irish linen went to Scotland annually for sale, and was disposed of there. A great deal more of fine Irish linen went to Scotland, for sale in Scotland, than was produced by Scotland itself. When asked, "How it came to pass that he could be of opinion that it would be prudent to interfere with that which gave a superiority to the quantum produced in Ireland?" his answer was, that he went no further than saying that he thought the manufacture was capable of great improvement. He did not conceive that the bleach of Ireland was in some respects so good as the Scotch bleach. There was formerly, as he had already stated, a regulation in Scotland, with respect to reeling yarn, pretty much the same as existed in Ireland; but it did not exist now; there was no regulation in Scotland with regard to the inspection of yarn. Hanks of yarn were made up in Scotland precisely in the same way as in Ireland. It was an immemorial custom, he did not know whether there had been a statute, that all Scotch reels should be ninety inches. He understood that the yarn in Ireland was required to be all brought to market upon a uniform reel, the same number of threads in a hank. As to the question, whether he thought the trade in yarn could be carried on in Ireland without such a regulation, he thought the interest of the manufacturer requiring, when he had a certain quantity of yarn to buy, that it must be prepared in a certain way, would be quite sufficient without any regulation.

JAMES CORRY, Esq., examined.—He was secretary to the Linen Board of Ireland, and had been so very near thirty years. His attendance had been almost unremitting there. Being required by the Committee to state his views of the laws that at present existed for the regulation of the linen manufacture of Ireland, and how far they required amendment, Mr. Corry answered as follows:—"I will state them as briefly as I am able; and first, I would say generally, that the less any manufacture is encumbered with legislative regulations, the better. They are only necessary in cases where a manufacture employs the poorest classes of the people, who do not always see that it is their own interest to abstain from any imposition upon those who purchase the product of their labour. It is wise, therefore, and often necessary, on their own account, to constrain them by legal regulations to the observance of probity in their dealings. But when the manufacturer emerges from that low grade of life, and acquires with property a sense of the value of character, a motive of action arises infinitely stronger than legal obligation, and law becomes unnecessary. Referring the linen manufacture of Ireland to that test, I would say, that inasmuch as it is a poor man's trade, legal regulations are, in some respects,

necessary. What those are, it will be for the Committee to determine. I have said, in a former evidence, that the prosperity of the linen trade of Ireland is mainly attributable to the wisdom of the laws by which it has been governed, and from that opinion I do not mean to recede. The earliest act, and probably the most important in its effects at the present day, was one that passed in the third year of the reign of George the Third, in the year 1763. It was founded upon suggestions made by a Committee of the Linen Trade, to a Committee of the Linen Board. The representative of the Linen Trade was Mr. John Williamson, of Lambeg, in the county of Antrim, a very intelligent linen merchant and bleacher, and the father of a gentleman who was examined here yesterday. The representative of the Linen Board was the late Lord Chief Baron Foster, the father of the present Lord Oriskany; and both gentlemen conducted themselves so much to the satisfaction of those for whom they acted, that each received from his own body an acknowledgment of their thanks. Many acts have arisen since; some of them out of local and temporary causes that have long since passed away, and others with adverse and conflicting provisions; so that the whole code presents, at present, a perplexing mass of confused and contradictory enactments, calling loudly for revision. The laws that are most in operation may be classed under the following heads. I will state them in the order they affect the manufacture. *First*, the laws that relate to the examination of *flax-seed* upon import. *Flax* is not the subject of legislative regulation, and probably it is to be lamented that it never has been: we must pass to yarn therefore. *Secondly*, the laws that relate to the making up and sale of *yarn*. *Thirdly*, the laws that relate to the length, breadth, quality, measuring, stamping, and sale of *brown* or *unbleached* linen. *Fourthly*, the laws that relate to the same particulars with regard to *white*, or *bleached* linen. *Fifthly* and *lastly*, the laws that relate to the different aids that are given to this manufacture in the shape of a foreign linen import duty, a native linen export bounty, and a Linen Board, with funds at their disposal to maintain and promote it. Beginning with the first of these heads:—I consider that the laws that relate to the examination of flax-seed, at the place of import or elsewhere, may be dispensed with. The object of the legislature was to prevent seed unfit for sowing from making its way into the interior, and being sold and sown there to the injury of the country; but if the farmer, who buys to sow, and for whose protection the law was made, be as good a judge of the quality of the seed as any officer who may have previously examined it, no such officer is necessary; and it is quite inconsistent to suppose that the Irish farmer should understand seed-oats, or seed-wheat, or seed-barley, or any other seed he sows, and be ignorant of flax-seed. I therefore say that those laws appear to me to be unneces-

possibility, so far at least as regards the inspection of the quality. Probably it may be wise to retain the existing regulation, that requires the place from whence imported, and the year of its growth, to be inscribed on the sacks; but any inspection of the quality of the seed, by a public officer, appears to me to be unnecessary. A case occurred, with regard to flax-seed, in the year 1809, which induces me to think that those laws are equally useless with regard to the import merchant as they are to the grower. The case I allude to was briefly this: In the year 1809 there was an alarming deficiency of flax-seed in Ireland, following, I believe, to some interruption to our intercourse with America. The present Lord Orriel, who was then Chancellor of the Irish Exchequer, with all that anxiety which he has ever shewn for the trade, conceived that a supply of seed might be got in the crushing mills of England that would answer the purposes of sowing; and accordingly he directed inquiries to be made into that fact, and also whether the sowing price in Ireland, which was considerably raised by the deficiency of seed there, so as to greatly exceed the crushing price here, might not tempt some of the holders, in the spirit of the trade, to export their seed to Ireland. The result of those inquiries shewed that both was the case. Not willing, however, to take the statement of the oil-merchants with regard to the quality of their seed, he sent for three of the most intelligent of the flax-seed inspectors in the service of the Linnen Board, who came over to Dublin, and examined and branded as sound a great deal of this seed, which was forthwith exported to Ireland, and sold and sown there. It afterwards happened, however, that a considerable portion of this flax-seed failed in its growth; and actions were brought, or at least threatened, on the part of the farmers, against the persons from whom they purchased, who threatened in their turn the persons who had sold to them, and so on successively till the wholesale merchants in the city of Dublin, who were the first purchasers, took notice of these actions. They presented a memorial to the Linnen Board on the subject, in which they stated their situation to this effect: We are vendors of an article, the quality of which you will not, by law, be allowed to be judged. We bought this seed upon the assurance of your brandy and under your authority we guaranteed the soundness of the seed to the persons to whom we sold it; and we are now threatened with ruinous and vexatious actions, and we pray your interposition to save us from the consequences to which they may subject us; for the magnitude of the misfortune is beyond the reach of individual remedy, and can only be provided for by public means. The Linnen Board conceived that to notice the prayer of this memorial would be letting in a very dangerous principle; and they accordingly rejected it. And therefore I will say led to the opinion with which I set out,

“ that the laws appear to me equally useless with

regard to the merchant, as they are with regard to the grower. In the year following this occurrence, that is, in the year 1810, an Act was brought in, with a view, as it were, to quiet the right of action. It is an Act which I do not well understand; but as it is very short, I will read it: For the prevention of fraudulent Practices in respect to Flax-seed and Hemp-seed, sold in Ireland for sowing, be it enacted, and so forth, That no action or suit shall be brought in Ireland whereby to charge any person to answer damages for having at any time, after the passing of this Act, sold or sown, mixed, bad, or damaged flax-seed or hemp-seed, or flax-seed or hemp-seed unfit for sowing, unless the warranty, in which such action shall be brought, or some memorandum, or note thereof, shall be in writing, signed by the party to be charged therewith, or by some other person thereunto lawfully authorised, any law, statute, or usage, to the contrary, notwithstanding. Provided, always, that nothing in this Act contained shall extend to any action or suit relating to any flax-seed or hemp-seed sold in any smaller quantities than two bushels. That Act was brought in for the purpose of barring those actions which had been so threatened; but it always appeared to me, that by its giving an impunity to the sale of bad seed, except under the circumstances there stated, it placed the whole system of inspection on a footing of more questionable propriety than before. He had heard it stated that the inspection of the flax-seed officers, that year, was directed to be less rigid, with regard to the quality of the seed, with a view of giving a supply to the sowers, which they had no other chance of obtaining but from the stores of the merchants who had flax-seed for their purpose of crushing therein; but it was not by the Board, or any member of it; and he should be sorry to be understood, in the statement that he had made, to reflect in the slightest degree upon the officers of the Linnen Board, employed on that occasion, one of whom was at present in attendance on the Committee, and was, he conceived, one of the most intelligent officers in their service. When he said that the establishment of flax-seed inspectors might be removed without, as he conceived, any injury to the interest of the trade, it was not with reference to the expense of the establishment that he spoke. The value of the seed imported into Ireland, calling the quantity 50,000 hogsheads, at 3*l.* or 4*l.* per hogshead, might be said to fluctuate between 150,000 and 200,000*l.* and the whole charge of the officers, some of whom occasioned many expenses to the Linnen Board, was not more in the last year than about 1,000*l.*, which they received in fees of 3*l.* a hogshead from the import merchants, and 6*l.* upon such as lay over from the former year; so that it was not from any view of the expense of the thing, that he was induced to form the opinion that he had stated; but rather upon principle. He was told that there was a duty paid

upon flax seed coming into Ireland of 5d. a bushel, but he did not know the fact. He believed that the farmers in the interior of the county in Ireland were supplied with flax seed by jobbers, who attended the ports of import, and conveyed the seed to different towns in the interior for their supply; but, admitting that they felt a confidence from the seed having been previously inspected, it did not follow therefore that the officer was necessary, unless it was supposed that they could not judge for themselves. If the Committee did not think with him that the Irish farmer could be as good a judge of the state and quality of flax seed, under any circumstance, of preparation that could be supposed, as the officer himself, then the opinion he had given must of course fall to the ground. By desire of the Committee, Mr. Corry proposed as follows to the laws that regulated the making up of home-spun yarn for market:—“I believe the existing regulations to be necessary, because yarn is bought and sold in the crowded markets in Ireland, where there is little time or opportunity to examine its condition; and where the purchaser generally buys from the seller in the belief that the yarn exhibited to him is in a regular state of twist with regard to reel and count, or that the seller would otherwise have been afraid to expose it for sale; but I would humbly suggest, that the laws with regard to yarn ought to be totally altered; all those regulations should be confined to the sales in public markets, and any persons who manufactured yarn, and wished to sell it elsewhere than in public market, should be left at liberty, without the interruption of any law, or any officer, to carry that yarn to any place, or any person, or that he pleased. Another material alteration to these laws is, advisable—there should be no thorough mitigation of the penalties exacted, which are infinitely too severe; and no forfeiture of yarn should in no case be allowed. I am free to admit that regulations left to be enforced by officers are subject to this objection, and it is an inconvenience strongly felt with regard to the yarn trade of Ireland, that the business is differently done in different places, as the officers differ in diligence or probability; in the north of Ireland, where from the least improved habits of the people the market is in the best state, the best officers are to be found; but in the south and west of Ireland, and particularly in the west, where good officers are most wanted, they are of a very inferior description. No care also must be taken to prevent those instances of petty tyranny, which I am afraid occur oftener than we hear of them. I am led to this opinion from looking to the number of officers employed, and the income they would receive. The county inspectors of linen and yarn in the service of the Linen Board are 35 in number. They have each a salary of 400 l. a year, and they have a set of

deputies under them without salary. Those deputies, by a ~~word~~ lately made to me, amount to 158 in number, making together 493 persons. Now according to ~~the~~ returns made to me, the whole income which those principal inspectors and their deputies derived from fines and seizures of linen and yarn, in the year ended the 5th of January, 1825, amounted only to the sum of 926 l. which would afford so very insufficient an annual allowance for the whole class of persons employed in the inspection of yarn; that, more, I am afraid, is levied than we hear of, particularly in the west of Ireland, to which province I particularly allude, and next to Munster, but least of all to the north, where the officers are of a better description. The yarn trade of Ireland is not perhaps in that state which is best calculated to serve our linen manufacture. A description of this trade is given in a letter addressed to me by one of the Dublin factors, who was examined before this Committee, and if they will indulge me I will read it. Comparing the state of the Irish with the English and Scotch manufacturers, he says: “The Scotch and English manufacturer is a man of capital, who can buy his yarns where he can get them cheapest; he adapts his manufacture to some particular object, which is a more material thing than many, not conversant with the trade, would believe; and he can sort his yarns exactly to the purposes they suit. Contrast this with our Irish system: the poor spinner comes to market, in many cases, with but a few hanks of yarn, as poor a weaver buys them, and so on till he gets sufficient to make a web; this mixture of yarns is made into cloth, and easily accounts for the unevenness of our coarse manufacture; a matter of most injurious consequence to it. It is chiefly by machinery that we can hope to introduce the manufacture of even yarns for those fabrics to which mixtures are applicable. A good assorting of yarns could also be had by the establishment of intermediate agents, who would buy from the spinner, and assort and sell to the weavers; but all this must be the work of time. Some of the Committee, who are members of the Linen Board, may remember, that between the years 1805 and 1810 the Board endeavoured to encourage the spinning of yarn by mill machinery, by offering bounties at the rate of 30s. a spindle, for every spindle erected. The experiment has been successful to a certain extent; but it has not led to that general establishment of mills, which they had reason to hope would have attended their efforts. It is under certain situations, was forfeitable to the trustees. He would remove that power altogether, which was often commuted for excessive fines; in short, he would, by the mildest system of legislation, lead the spinners to the observance of regularity.

The poor people employed as deputy inspectors of yarn had remunerated themselves by the forfeiture of the article. He had already said that the deputy inspectors had no salary whatever. As to whether he believed that they exacted penalties which they did not make returns of to the Board, the Committee would observe that it was the principal who made the return, not the deputy; and it was perfectly consistent with the supposition of integrity on the part of the principal, that a deputy should exact, and that the exaction should be unknown to him, and therefore that his return should be true, in his opinion, though calculated to mislead the Board. All his observations on this head applied to the deputies. The amelioration of the yarn laws altogether would deprive them of the means of severe exactions. He believed that it was imperative upon a magistrate, according to the present law, where fraud was detected against the seller of yarn, to order the forfeiture of the yarn. A small fine, or any thing, would be a better substitute to prevent fraud than the absolute forfeiture of the article. All yarn found irregular ought to be made regular, and given back to the owner, upon paying a moderate fine, and the expense of making it regular; the fine to be at the discretion of the magistrate. When asked, "Whether he would not recommend that every fine, of every description, that was imposed should be put on record?" he observed, that according to the printed form of quarterly returns prepared by him, to be furnished by the county inspectors, it was expected and hoped that all fines and forfeitures levied should have been recorded; but he had already stated to the Committee, that many of the deputies, according to his apprehension, made seizures and received fines without the knowledge of even the principal, and that therefore the return of the principal was, without his knowledge, often incorrect. He was but a poor judge of the various processes for making yarn pursued even in Ireland, and much less of that abroad; but he had often heard that our own process was defective compared with that of other countries; he did not know the fact. The belief that a better system prevailed in the Netherlands with regard to the steeping of flax, induced the Linen Board, not long since, to send an experienced officer, to that country for the purpose of learning their habits. When asked, "If the method of managing the yarn business was changed in Ireland, and the Scotch method was introduced, would not that alone contribute to the having all those processes carried on in a more perfect manner, by each particular process being carried on upon a more divided principle of labour?" he answered, that a better division of labour might lead to better general results. The present regulations by which yarn was sold in the markets might have the effect of obstructing the introduction of the Scotch system, by deterring

capitalists from embarking in it; but he was not able to see how. A capitalist wishing to spin yarn by giving out flax, might be deterred from undertaking it by finding that all his yarn must be sold in open market; the laws, as they now stood, were calculated to create such an apprehension; but mill-spinners, being people of capital and character, would make their yarn conformable to regulation, and should not therefore fear. He was aware that Mr. Crossthwaite, and others of those who had established spinning yarn mills, were not subject to the necessity of sending their yarn into open market; but that arose from their course of trade. If Mr. Crossthwaite wished to sell the yarn he manufactured in public market, his yarn would be subject to the inspection of the officer there; but Mr. Crossthwaite wove a great deal of his own yarn, and sold the rest by private sale, and therefore he did not feel the practical inconvenience that the Committee would point at. No mill-spinner of yarn, who manufactured the article with a view to sell it in public market, would like to embark in the trade if his yarn would be necessarily subject to inspection, which he would consider a great inconvenience; not that he should fear any seizure, if his yarn was regular; but an inspection by a petty officer, and that person his inferior, would tease him. When asked, if he imagined that it would be worth the while of any capitalist to establish a mill for spinning yarn for the purpose of selling the yarn without manufacturing it? he replied, that he was bound to believe that such yarn-spinners might be found in Ireland, as well as in Scotland, where there were some very affluent and extensive mill-spinners, who sold all the yarn which they made. The highest rate of bounty offered by the Board for mill-spun yarn was 30s. per spindle. The largest sum that appeared to have been received by one house in one year was 1,191*l.*; that was in the year 1809. It was the house of Crookshank, Kennedy, and Company, at Buncrana, in the county of Donegal; he believed they were still in business. He had already said that the efforts of the Board did not produce the extended benefit that had been expected. He knew of no instance in which a capitalist had been prevented embarking his capital in consequence of the regulations which required the exposure of his yarn in the public market for sale only; he had spoken only of the probable effect of the present laws upon any person having such an intention, so far as those laws required a sale in public market. Mr. Corry then proceeded as follows to the next head of his statement. "The next head relates to the laws which regulate the breadth, quality, measuring, stamping, and selling of brown or unbleached linen. I cannot contemplate, without serious alarm, any repeal of the laws respecting a stamp on brown linens: such a repeal would be calculated to abolish the brown linen markets of

Ireland; and that would be little short of a
 revolution in the ancient habits of the people;
 but still I think that a considerable improve-
 ment may be made in them. I would, in
 respect to these laws, as with regard to yarn,
 suggest, that all the regulations should be
 confined to linen sold in public market; and
 that no weavers or manufacturers who wished
 to sell their linens in any private way, or in
 any other place than public market, should
 suffer any interruption from any law or any
 officer. Some of the trade will tell you that
 brown linen, sold even in this private way,
 should be stamped. With regard to the
 stamping of brown linen, the situation of
 what is called the brown seals illustrates the
 position that I have already laid down;
 namely, that where persons emerge from the
 lowest grade of life; they rise above the ne-
 cessity of legal restraint. For instance; the
 measuring and stamping of linen is differently
 conducted in different parts of Ireland. In
 parts of the north, and the whole of the south
 (and west, where the persons employed in the
 manufacture are of the poorest class, the
 measuring and stamping of linen is confided
 to public officers; but in some of the northern
 counties, where the fine trade prevails, as in
 part of the county of Antrim, and the whole of
 the counties of Down and Armagh, the seals
 are in the hands of the manufacturers. In short,
 wherever the parties know each other, there is
 no necessity at all for the intervention of a
 public officer. Thus, in the latter places the
 manufacturer is himself the ostensible person;
 he puts his own stamp upon his own linen; and
 the purchaser, knowing him to be a respon-
 sible man, deals with him without reserve; for
 he knows that he can resort to him, in case the
 linen he buys shall not answer the account
 given of it by the external marks; with respect
 either to the length, or breadth, or quality; but
 where buying and selling takes place between
 persons that are strangers to each other, and
 particularly where the seller is a person of
 inferior situation in life, the buyer must look
 to the stamp of the public officer as the only
 guarantee under which he can with safety
 part with his money. The public seal-
 masters in Ireland were ninety-five in number,
 and the manufacturers who had seals were three
 hundred and ninety-one, making together four
 hundred and eighty-six brown linen seal-mas-
 ters. A manufacturer who had a seal, ought
 not to use the seal for any other person's goods
 but his own; but even supposing he should use
 it, still his name made him as responsible for
 the linen that had his name on it, as for that
 which was bona fide his own property. The
 seal was granted by the Board to the manufac-
 turer. Security was taken. The manufacturer
 passed a bond, the condition of which was,
 principally, that he would conform to the regu-
 lations of the Board, and would pay all such

fines as should be legally imposed on him; the
 form of the appointment would shew that care
 was taken to select a fit and proper person. It
 very seldom happened that the Board proceeded
 against parties for breach of their bonds. Gene-
 rally speaking, he had been satisfied with the
 conduct of the public seal-masters; but not
 every where. In the year 1821, he took a very
 extensive tour through the whole of the province
 of Ulster, under the directions of the Linnen
 Board, visiting every linen market in it. The
 result of that inspection, which occupied very
 nearly four months, was the subject of a very
 voluminous report, and the Committee could by
 reference to that report, if they had it, see that
 he found in some places great cause of complaint
 on the part of the weavers against the charges
 made on them, as exceeding the rate required
 by the law; and in other places a great want of
 accommodation for the poorer classes of them;
 but he found also, that much misrepresentation
 had been made with regard to the sentiments of
 the buyers upon the system of public seal-mas-
 ters. The persons appointed public seal-masters
 were, in general, of a respectable class. The
 object of refusing seals to many, and confining
 the stamping to one, was for the purpose of
 making that one a respectable person. The
 public seal-masters were therefore, in almost
 every case, persons of sufficient security in point
 of circumstance; and he should hope in point of
 character also. They were appointed by the
 Linnen Board on the recommendation of the
 most respectable members of the trade, the buy-
 ers of linen. He had reason to believe that the
 present arrangements were in every respect
 satisfactory to the trade. The public officers
 were all men who were considered by the buyers
 to be trustworthy persons; and there was no
 manufacturer, he believed, at least he should
 hope there was none, who, in point of situa-
 tion or circumstance, were entitled to receive
 a seal on his own account, had not got one.
 He did not believe that in the county of Tyrone
 there were any seals in the hands of private
 manufacturers. They were entirely confined
 to public seal-masters there. The buyers or
 bleachers were necessary parties to the recom-
 mendation paper, upon the authority of which
 the seal was granted; and he believed that the
 buyers of that county were not able to agree
 among themselves as to any manufacturer who
 was in their opinion of that description which
 should entitle him to a seal. He was aware
 that there were some individuals attending the
 market of Dungannon, and other markets in
 that county, who felt considerably dissatisfied
 that the system was so exclusive there; and that
 the door was shut against them; but according
 to the arrangements of the trade themselves,
 the consent of the buyers, for whose use the
 seal was instituted, was necessary to the ap-
 pointment of a manufacturer; and it was only
 where the buyers refused to sanction the issue

of a seal to a manufacturer; that the seal was withheld by the Board. He had stated, that previous to the year 1821 there were great complaints of misconduct of the public seal-masters in many instances; no such complaints were made now; the present inspector-general for the province of Ulster had almost, in every instance, acted upon the recommendations of his (Mr. Corry's) report; and wherever he found illegal or excessive charges, he had reduced them within the legal limit. He would not say that the manufacturers were satisfied with the present system in those counties in which public seal-masters were continued, but the buyers were. When a manufacturer had a seal, and manufactured linens in large quantities, it was the general practice for him to bring them to open market. A good deal of linen which was bought, in the first instance, in open market, after it had accumulated with the first purchasers of it, was bought while in their hands by persons from England, before such linens made their way to the Linen Hall of Dublin, or the Linen Hall of Belfast, and often before even the process of bleaching was completed. Nothing could be more moderate than the legal charge on measuring linen; it was only a penny for every twenty-five yards; it was established so long ago as the year 1763, and had not been increased since. In all cases where the purchasers of linen expressed a desire that any weaver should be possessed of a seal for himself, the seal was uniformly granted. From his knowledge of the manner in which the linen webs were sold at the different markets, it was an indispensable regulation, for the convenience of both buyer and seller, that the web should have been previously measured and stamped. To disturb the arrangement of the measuring and stamping of brown linen would be, in effect, to annihilate the present linen markets of Ireland. The buying and selling of brown linen could not proceed, as it did now, in crowded places, and in a limited time, unless the purchaser had the guarantee of a public stamp; but whether a better system might, or might not exist, was matter of other consideration. The law was necessary to the market as it was now constituted; and perhaps, on the other hand, the nature of the market created the necessity of the law; they went together. If complete facility were given to the weaver to take his choice of selling, either in open market or by private contract, at the bleach-green, or establishment of the buyer, he thought such an arrangement must satisfy every description of manufacturer. After delivering in two accounts, the one of the brown linens sold in Ireland during the last four years, and the other of the number of brown linen seal-masters in the service of the Linen Board, Mr. Corry thus proceeded to state his fourth head:—“The fourth division of the subject relates to the length, breadth, quality, measuring,

stamping, and sale of white linen. I am induced to think that the whole code of the laws that relate to the white linen trade might be safely dispensed with; and if the Committee will allow me I will state to them my reasons.—I have already said, that in respect to yarn markets, and in respect to brown linen markets, legal regulations are necessary, because the buying proceeds in a crowd, and in a hurry, and passes between persons who are strangers to each other; but the white linen trade is differently conducted; it does not go on in crowded market, and is entirely confined to persons of a higher description, who know each other, and with whom the interference of the law, or of an officer, is wholly unnecessary. Nothing can be more absurd than the state of the white linen seals. There has been no revision of them since the year 1782, that is, forty-three years ago; and the half of the seals that are now in use, are the seals of men who have been long since dead. The buyers of linen, it has been said, attach a great credit to certain stamps; so will men in money dealings attach a credit to a particular firm, though none of the name exist in it. All I mean to say is, that I cannot see the reason why this stamping should be the subject of Linen Board regulation. Suppose the law withdrawn, a man might still continue to stamp his linen as he pleased; but the whole of the present system is a deception, though perhaps a harmless one. For instance, bleachers do not always bleach their own linens, they sometimes bleach for others, and many of them have a description of seals in their possession, that is, seals taken out in the name of their servants, which, according to the language of the trade, are called *second seals*, and those seals they put upon linen belonging to others, for the quality of which they do not intend to make themselves responsible, so that, between the *dead man's seal* and the *second seal*, the whole sealing of white linen is a piece of absurdity, to which I would not object if it did not affect to be under Linen Board regulation. The purchasers, it is said, believe that those seals afford a public guarantee for the value of the linen bearing them, through the security given by white linen seal-masters; but their security is the same, varying only in amount, with that given in the case of brown seal-masters, namely, that they will pay any fines which may be legally imposed on them. If fines be levied, it does not of necessity follow that those fines are to go into the hands of the purchasers, nor do they look for them; for disputes between buyers and sellers of white linen are generally settled between themselves, without any reference to the Board.” When he spoke of the seal-master of white linen, he thereby meant that each

linen bleacher was uniformly his own seal-master. He was perfectly aware that on the first introduction of the white linen seals, the assistance of a seal might have given confidence to purchasers in England; but that was not inconsistent with the opinion he had given that they were now no longer necessary; and he begged leave to add that the circumstance of the owner of the linen being the seal-master, was another case which illustrated the position that he first stated, namely, that where a trader rises to a higher situation of life, he was above the necessity of legal restraint. Thus, the very circumstance of his being a respectable man, induced the grant of a seal to him, although the law referring merely to the language of it, would seem to suppose, that a seal-master of white linen was intended to be like the seal-master of brown linen, a public officer; whereas, in point of fact, they never were any thing else, from the first introduction of the law in the year 1782; but proprietors, and he should, with the permission of the Committee, state another instance why the white seal was not altogether a necessary part of the system of the linen laws. It had been actually dispensed with by the 6th (of the reign of the late king, cap. 127, which removed the necessity of stamping Irish or Scotch linen exported from Ireland or Scotland to foreign countries, with a view to favour the imitation trade. When asked, “if it was his opinion, that the linen bleachers, who were their own seal-masters, should be left without any provision of law to oblige them to conform to any particular regulation with regard to stamping or certifying their white linen webs?” he answered, that the linen bleacher might with safety be left, in his opinion, to himself with regard to the stamping of his own linen. Perhaps it might be wise to introduce some regulation to prevent one man from using the stamp of another, or practising any other species of outward deception; and yet the law of the land would be sufficient for that purpose. He was of opinion that all legislative regulations, directing the mode of bleach, or the materials to be used in bleaching, ought to be dispensed with. Mr. Corry then proceeded as follows to his fifth head:—“The fifth head comprehends the foreign linen import duty, the linen export bounty, and the Linen Board. The first of these subjects being under the consideration of Government at present, I have nothing to offer to the Committee with respect to it; nor do I wish it, nor do I feel myself competent to speak on it. With regard to the linen export bounty, the Committee are very well aware that that bounty is in progress towards its total cessation, and perhaps it would be as well to leave it to expire gradually, as now arranged; but from what I have heard on the subject, I am disposed to think that if it were to cease even at an earlier period than the law has

fixed, it would be of no injury to our Irish trade. I am led to think so, because I am told that there is a considerable quantity of foreign yarn imported into Great Britain of a better quality, and at a cheaper rate, than our own, with which yarn a cheap article is manufactured, and that that article is exported upon bounty, greatly to the injury of the coarse linen trade in Ireland; so that really, as I view the subject, but I may view it incorrectly, the sooner the bounties cease, the better for Ireland. The Committee must be aware, however, that I am more conversant with the domestic government of the manufacture than with the foreign policy of the trade. Being on the subject of this bounty, I have to mention a circumstance that just now occurs to me: there is a class of our officers belonging to this branch of the business, who, according to a late revenue regulation, might be dispensed with, even if the bounty were to continue for its appointed time; namely, the port inspectors, provided that part of the linen laws which requires their interference be hid aside. They belong to the Linen Board, and are appointed by them; they are, in number, but five persons, and the whole of their united salaries amount to but the moderate sum of £230; it is not therefore with reference to the expense that I speak, which is nothing, indeed compared with their services; but I will explain. The law by which those officers were appointed, strange to say, imposed a duty upon them quite different from that for which one would suppose the legislature would have thought them necessary. The officer is to inspect the linen claiming bounty on export; now the bounty is an *ad valorem* bounty, and therefore the duty of the officer should be to examine the value of the linen; inasmuch as the rate of the bounty depends upon the value; but the duty which the law assigns to the officer, is only to examine the merchantable quality of the linen. A very astute officer of this class in the service of the Board, one too fond, perhaps, of objections, not long since remonstrated against his being called upon, on a particular occasion, to certify to the value of some linen intended for export, and claiming bounty at his port: possibly he thought that the representation made by the merchant was not correct, and it occurred to him, perhaps, that the best way to avoid an unpleasant discussion upon the subject, the merchant having already sworn to the value, was to say, I will not certify the value, because I am not required to do so by the law; he did remonstrate to that effect, and I referred his remonstrance to the local Commissioners of Customs in the port of Dublin, saying to them, that inasmuch as our port inspectors, although appointed by us, were in point of practice revenue officers,

"I had always required our inspector to certify to the value, and to embody his certificate in that printed form which in revenue practice is called a bounty paper, thereby making our officer one of the necessary parties to certify the bounty to be paid; I therefore referred to them, saying, that without their concurrence I should not like to recommend to the Linen Board to depart from the instructions they had already given to our officers. The answer that I got from the Customs Board, a few days before I left Dublin, was to this effect: that they conceived our officer had been called upon to do what was not required from him by the law, and that, for their part, they would rather such an instruction was not given to him by us, inasmuch as it might lessen the vigilance of their own shipping officers. The Commissioners of Customs in Dublin thereby intend, I presume, to assimilate the check on the claim for bounty in Ireland to what it is in England. For my own part, I differ from them with great respect, conceiving that so long as there exists an *ad valorem* bounty, there ought to be an *ad valorem* examination and certificate; but as the matter now stands, the law does not require it, and the English officer says, he conceives it to be unnecessary." The only intelligible motive that the legislature could have had in creating the port inspector was for the purpose of furnishing to the department of the revenue from which the bounty was to be received a person cognizant of the value of linen, to assist the revenue officer, who was not a person necessarily supposed to be acquainted with the value of linen; and yet, strange to say, the law did not call upon him to do that which alone could have made his office useful. He did believe that the port inspectors of Ireland in the service of the Linen Board had executed their duty most advantageously for the public, by a strict examination of the value as well as the quality of all linen claiming bounty, although the law, it appeared, required no examination of the value. There were no similar officers in Great Britain. He had heard it so generally stated, that linen exported from Great Britain on bounty had to a considerable extent drawn bounty fraudulently, that he could not doubt the fact. He was told, that a mixed manufacture of linen and cotton, purporting to be linen alone, had been exported from Great Britain, and had drawn bounty. With regard to England, supposing fraud to exist there, that fact, coupled with other reasons which he had already assigned, would operate as a strong inducement to withdraw the whole of the bounty immediately; but the vigilance of the officers had prevented such fraud in Ireland. He had always understood that there was at the same time a description of very low-priced linens, peculiarly the manufacture of the south and west of Ireland, of that

description that the manufacture itself might be lost to Ireland unless it did receive bounty, and those parts of Ireland should of course be considered. Linen under the value of 5*s.* received a *halfpenny* per yard bounty; of the value of 5*s.*; and under the value of 6*s.*, *one penny*; and of the value of 6*s.*, and not exceeding 1*s.* 6*d.*, *three halfpence*. When it was in the contemplation of Government, a year or two ago, to withdraw the bounties at once, apprehension was expressed, particularly in the south and west, of the injury likely, in their opinion, to arise from the sudden ceasing of the bounty. He was bound to suppose that their representations had their share of influence in producing the course of the gradual reduction of the bounties. He dared say that some local injury might be felt in the southern and western provinces from a sudden ceasing of the bounty; and it was fair to look to those provinces with an almost partial anxiety; but still he was led to think, perhaps erroneously, that the bounty might cease without injury to the general interests of the Irish coarse linen trade; and he had already said, that he had formed his opinion upon the alleged circumstance of British linen being manufactured to a great extent from foreign yarn, and being exported on bounty; but if that were not the fact, then Ireland did not encounter the disadvantage he apprehended from the continuance of the bounty. He thought there now existed less anxiety for the continuance of the bounties than there did formerly. He had heard that several intelligent persons, who signed the petitions to continue the bounties, would now be disposed to a more rapid repeal of the bounties. The linen made in the south of Ireland was a cheap linen, and was sold principally in South America. Ten years was the time named by the law from last year, for the cessation of the bounties. About 20,000*l.* a year in bounties was paid upon Irish linen, exported from Ireland; about 70,000*l.* a year upon Irish linen exported from England, making together 90,000*l.* a year paid on Irish linen exported from both countries, and he believed about 200,000*l.* a year upon British linens exported from Britain. Supposing Government were to act upon this principle, namely, to repeal the bounties more rapidly, and in proportion that they saved the public expense; to diminish some of the public burthens and taxes that fell upon the materials of the linen manufacture, a beneficial arrangement both for the interests of the Treasury and the interests of the manufacture might be practicable under such circumstances. When asked, "If he conceived the bounty could be readily repealed upon the coarsest kind of manufacture without doing great injury to that branch of the trade?" Mr. Corry answered, that the merchants engaged in the export of those coarse goods to foreign markets apprehended that an injury would be felt in the

southern and western parts of Ireland, which he admitted should be viewed with anxiety, from the sudden ceasing of the bounty; but, as far as he was capable of understanding the subject, the general interests of the coarse linen trade of Ireland would not be injured, but otherwise; that was, if he was founded in the fact, that much of the foreign yarn imported into Britain was manufactured into bounty linen. He was not sufficiently conversant with the foreign trade, to speak with any confidence, but he was disposed to think, that in a general view, the bounty did not produce the advantages assigned to it. He spoke with great reluctance upon the subject, because he knew his opinion was at variance with that of others, to whose judgment he should like to defer. When asked, "Had it not been the practice to throw together the value of linen exported for bounty, so as to mix a proportion of the linen that would be too high in its price to obtain bounty at all with inferior descriptions of linens, to make the whole of the export of a quantity of linen draw the highest rate of bounty?" Mr. Corry answered, "The question, I presume, is intended to ask me, if it might not happen that an export merchant could, by averaging the value of his linen, obtain a bounty, to which, in point of truth and fairness, he was not entitled; I can only answer this by saying, that the law in Ireland (I know nothing of the law here) requires the export merchant distinctly to swear that no such average is made. I refer the Committee to the Act; it is the 40th of George III. chapter 20, and lies before them." The next division of the subject related to the Linen Board of Ireland, with a fund at their disposal for the maintenance of the manufacture over which they presided. Mr. Corry here presented an account of the origin and particulars of the annual parliamentary grant for the maintenance of the linen and hempen manufactures of Ireland. The Linen Board consisted of seventy-two individuals, generally members of both Houses of the Legislature. He conceived that the Linen Board of Ireland had materially served the linen trade in Ireland, by having been the means of carrying into effect the wishes of the trade for all those legislative regulations which in times past had been productive of so much advantage, and they had also been of use in causing those regulations to be enforced, through the agency of the officers in their service. The parliamentary influence of the Board had been of use in procuring those benefits that he spoke of, and sometimes in averting parliamentary measures from taking effect that in their minds were calculated to injure the trade over which they presided. But they were only a Board of patrons, incapable of administering to the wants or wishes of the trade in detail, through any knowledge of their own, or otherwise than through their inspec-

tors, and they ought never to be regarded in any other light. When asked, "If the Board, so constituted, did not afford a great shield and protection to the staple manufacture of Ireland against those mercantile jealousies on the part of England, which in times past had in many instances so strongly manifested themselves?" Mr. Corry replied, that he was not aware of any case of the nature to which the question would seem to allude. The jealousy of England with regard to the Irish woollen manufacture was matter of history; but he was not aware of any they entertained with respect to the linen manufacture, the cultivation of which, it would appear, the Irish were left to pursue without interruption. The Linen Board was established in the year 1711, in the reign of Queen Anne. The interference of Great Britain with the woollen manufacture of Ireland was in the year 1696. He said that the prosperity of the linen trade of Ireland must be regarded as greatly indebted to the first exertions of the Linen Board, during the infancy of the manufacture. When asked, "If he was of opinion, that for the prosperity of the trade a considerable alteration might now take place with regard to the nature of the superintendance that was required under the improved circumstances of the trade?" Mr. Corry answered, that if the question had reference to the Linen Board, he was free to say, that constituted as it was at present, he could not suggest any arrangement for ensuring a more regular attendance of its members; but the Committee would shew him a kindness by looking for suggestions on that subject to some other person. The maintenance of the Linen Hall in Dublin was attended with an average expense of very near 1,000*l.* a year, paid by the Linen Board out of their funds. The Linen Hall contained about 447 rooms fit for the reception and sale of linen: those rooms were allotted to the factors, with reference to the extent of their respective dealings, and they enjoyed those rooms without any expense or charge whatever. It was suggested more than once to impose a rent upon those rooms, with a view thereby of raising a sum towards defraying the charges of the buildings; but the measure was as often abandoned, through a fear that the factors would convert the rent into the means of a charge upon the consignors of the linens, and that the Linen Board by such a proceeding would assist in thereby bringing the linen at a dearer rate to market. He did not think that all those rooms were occupied. There was no particular circumstance that gave a claim to any factor to possess a room; the room was granted as matter of favour. All persons who were appointed factors by the Board, that was, who were admitted to follow the trade and occupation of a factor in the Linen Hall, were accommodated with rooms to the extent of their supposed dealings. He had seldom known

an applicant refused to be appointed a factor; and he believed there was no factor to whom more rooms had not been assigned than he wanted. He could not well speak with regard to what ought to be the rate of charge, but with regard to the principle of charge, his mind was completely made up. He did not understand why a factor in Dublin should not be compelled to pay for his room, or why he should have such an advantage over any other factor in any other place; it was not only desirable, in point of revenue, that he should be made to pay, in order to lessen the expense to the public; but he really thought it would be but an act of justice to the other members of the trade in other places. There might be about thirty unassigned rooms in the Linen Hall, or more, but it seldom happened that all the rooms assigned to factors were occupied. The linen factor's trade of Dublin was not so extensive as it had been; many circumstances contributed to this. In the first place, it was accounted for by the practice which the English merchants had got into of late, and which had been already alluded to in the earlier part of his testimony, of coming over to the bleach-greens in the north of Ireland, and buying up the linens there, even before the process of bleaching was completed, and of course before it ever arrived at the Linen Hall in Dublin: another reason why the factorage trade of Dublin was on the decline, was, that a greater export of linen took place now from the port of Belfast than did formerly, owing to the rapid and easy communication by means of steam with different parts of Scotland and other places. Upon the whole, he should say that the factorage trade in the Linen Hall of Dublin was declining; but the want of the northern linens was in some measure beginning to be supplied by those that were coming in from the south and the west. The coarse trade was partly supplying the absence of the fine. The principle by which factors were admitted into the Linen Hall was as follows: The person wishing to be appointed a factor addressed the Linen Board by memorial; on which an inquiry was made, through one of their officers, as to the fitness, character, or connexions of such person, and whether he was likely to follow the trade in the Hall; he was then appointed a factor, and rooms were allotted to him on the first vacancy. There was a Linen Hall at Belfast, supported, he believed, entirely by voluntary subscription. He could not say, from personal knowledge, what was the principle by which factors were admitted there to sell linen; but he believed that a person wishing to follow the trade applied to the Committee to rent a room to him. He had already said, that he did not see any reason why a different principle should be adopted in keeping up the Linen Hall in Dublin from what was adopted in Belfast; but he would go farther: he would give up the Linen Hall to the linen trade of

Dublin, and desire them to maintain it themselves, and the servants belonging to it, at their own expense, so as to rid the public altogether of the building as a source of public expense. He would leave the factors in that case to regulate their own concerns in whatever way they liked. In short, he meant to say generally, that he would separate the Linen Hall from the Linen Board, and give it to the linen trade of Dublin; that was, as much of it as they wanted for their own business. To what body he would convey it would be matter of arrangement hereafter. There might be, and he was sure there would be, some practical difficulties in carrying into effect any good arrangement, upon which he was not prepared to enter; and therefore, for the present, he would wish to content himself with this, as a general principle,—that he would separate the Linen Hall from the Linen Board, if not in the way of government, at least in the way of expense; and he would give it to the trade, and say, “There is a large house; occupy it as your own, and do with it as you please; but you must pay your officers for taking care of it.” In answer to the question, “If that principle was adopted which you now recommend to the Committee, do not you think it would prevent the possibility of favouritism taking place by the Board, as it is at present regulated?” Mr. Corry replied, “If the question implies a suspicion that favouritism does exist, or has existed, in respect to the distribution of rooms, I beg to say, that I know of no instance of the kind that deserves to be noticed. I have been for many years the confidential officer of the Board, and I do not believe there is a single factor in the Hall who has not more rooms than he requires.” When any rivalry took place with regard to an application for rooms, a reference was always made to the Chamberlain, an officer of the Board, who was in immediate custody of the building; he was not an interested person either way, and his opinion was asked as to the extent of accommodation that each party possessed, and the comparative extent of business done by them respectively, so far as it might be known to him, thereby to guide the Board in their decisions. And here let him add, that a considerable degree of difficulty had often arisen with regard to the appropriation of rooms among the factors in the Linen Hall, not from favouritism on the part of the Board, but from a want of candour on the part of the factors. They sometimes got an unauthorised possession of a portion of the Linen Hall that was allotted to country dealers, persons who came up to Dublin to sell their own linens, and a much more numerous class of people formerly than they were now; but the possession of those rooms was seldom acknowledged by them when they came to ask for more of the rooms in another portion of the Linen Hall which was intended for the use of

factors: all this was the subject of a long report from him to the Linen Board, which the Committee might have, if they required it. The number of persons who attended the Linen Board now was considerably less than what was the number of attending persons formerly. The change in the political condition of the country would account for the decrease of number. He should say the average number of persons attending for the last three years was about four or five at each meeting. As to whether he conceived that if an offer was made to the trade of taking the Linen Hall, and supporting it in future at their own expense, they would accept that offer, they would rather not alteration was made in the present arrangement, which provided every thing for them at the public expense. And as to, if the alternative was put to the linen factors, that they must in future either give up the accommodation they had in the Hall, or take the building off the hands of Government, and support it themselves, which he thought they would accept, their sentiments should be placed to small account, if the interests of the public required the proceeding. They might separate, to be sure, and each might take a warehouse in town on his own account; but then he must pay for it, and the interest of each required them all to be together. He could not suppose, therefore, that under those circumstances they would abandon a building they could have for the mere expense of maintaining it in their own way. He knew of no linen factors in Dublin without accommodation at the Linen Hall. There were many factors who had offices outside the Linen Hall, but all of them had rooms within it. The factors could afford to pay a moderate rent without imposing any charge upon the consignors. He did not think the law went the length of compelling the factors to sell their linen in the Hall; it did with regard to yarn. There was a law, certainly, that supposed all linen to be sold in public market; but whether, in that view of the law, it might be said that the merchant was compelled to sell in the Dublin Linen Hall, was more than he could say. When asked, "whether, inasmuch as he had stated that the sale of linen in Dublin had decreased, from the nature of the trade, he was not of opinion that it was likely to decrease there still more?" He observed; that the fine trade from the north might decrease; but then there might be a corresponding increase of the coarse trade from the south and west. There were parts of the Linen Hall of Dublin, the whole of which he considered as at present more than sufficient in size for the linen trade that was transacted in it; which might be usefully converted to other public purposes. There was an establishment, exclusive of those rooms for the accommodation of the linen cloth, for the accommodation and sale of linen yarn. The number of rooms contained in that proportion

of the building allotted to the sale of linen yarn was forty-three. They were afforded to factors nearly in the same way as the linen rooms. As to having any idea of the expense that the erection of those buildings might have cost at the Linen Hall and the Lincen Yarn Hall, he really could not undertake to say what the expense of a building was which was opened first in the year 1728. He had no idea of what the erection of such a building might cost now; but very considerable sums of money had been expended upon that building within the period of his knowledge of it. There were no instances of the rooms in the Linen Hall being occupied as residences. There never had been any such instances. There were residences attached to situations under the Board, which residences were contiguous to the buildings. He had attributed the prosperity of the linen trade of Ireland in a great measure to the laws that had been passed for regulating it during the infancy of the manufacture. The first law that he had stated to have produced any considerable effect was the Act of 1763. That Act arose out of the frauds that were found to exist. The proceedings of that day described those frauds to have been very general. Duties upon foreign linen had existed in England, to protect the British and Irish linen manufacture, from a very early period. He supposed that they were in existence prior to that Act of 1763. When asked, "Supposing that those protecting duties were in existence prior to the year 1763; and that the amount of duty was so great as to operate nearly as a prohibition of the use of foreign linen, would not that system of fraud that prevailed in Ireland be put down by repealing those protecting duties, and opening a fair competition between foreign linen and Irish linen in the English market?" Mr. Corry's answer was, that the presence of foreign linen or foreign yarn might be calculated to improve the native fabrics by the force of competition. This might be true in the abstract, but he could not speak of the policy of admitting them in other respects. When asked, "If, in point of fact, the duties upon foreign linen imported into Great Britain prior to 1763 were to a very large amount, must they not have operated, in some degree, as a protection of the fraudulent practices that prevailed in Ireland; by preventing the natural competition that would have taken place?" He answered, that the means of improvement, through the effect of competition, might be said to be denied by exclusive laws; but while he admitted that generally, he was not able to go on with that reasoning. He was not prepared to say, that the application of the principle of political economy to the linen manufacture of Ireland, thereby repealing all descriptions of protecting duty to which the introduction of foreign linen into that country was liable, would be beneficial to the manufacture of Ireland. He would go

no, such length; and he begged to repeat what he had already said on that subject, that it was in the hands of Government, and that he was not competent to speak of it. When asked, "whether he conceived that the Irish manufactures would be able to compete with the foreign manufactures, without a protecting duty?" He answered, that, upon general principles, he would say that competition might lead to improvement; but he could not pursue the subject farther than to say he should be sorry the linen trade of Ireland should suffer

any injury. To the following question: "As the principles of political economy lead to that open and free market by which all persons are enabled to buy every thing where it can be cheapest made, would not the general result to the public, by relieving the linen trade from prohibitory duties, be, that they would have their linen cheaper, and consequently be in that degree benefited?" Mr. Corry replied, "The inference supposed by the question may be a very fair one; but I know nothing of political economy."

ABSTRACT of an Account of the reputed Value of BROWN, or UNBLEACHED LINENS, sold in the Linnen Markets of Ireland, in the Years 1821, 1822, 1823, and 1824, taken from the Returns of the Seal-masters of Brown Linens, and the Local Inspectors, in the Service of the LINEN BOARD of IRELAND.

COUNTIES.	1821.			1822.			1823.			1824.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Antrim	345,504	16	10	332,496	18	10	351,912	14	7	323,767	8	10
Londonderry	281,219	18	4	286,810	10	10	225,496	12	4	252,614	14	0
Donegal	33,076	6	11	38,954	18	6	35,966	7	4½	20,432	11	10½
Down	214,189	3	4	204,828	10	11	197,943	10	2	233,514	11	8
Tyrone	388,809	6	11	397,657	17	6½	381,090	5	11½	434,898	13	11½
Armagh	570,348	2	10	608,842	5	10	557,341	5	0	568,799	11	8
Monaghan	142,952	12	1	134,485	12	5½	112,330	5	2	125,959	0	2
Cavan	116,636	5	5	99,425	18	7	89,564	11	9½	123,063	16	3½
Fermanagh	23,366	10	9	24,027	2	11	16,535	4	2	21,258	1	8½
ULSTER.....	2,066,122	16	8	2,127,529	16	4	1,968,180	16	6½	2,109,309	10	13
Meath	900	0	0	1,000	0	0	2,710	0	0	1,415	0	0
Louth	212,062	0	7	235,235	10	0	143,169	19	0½	130,918	7	10
King's County	22,161	1	4	25,771	15	0	10,095	15	0	16,918	5	0
Longford	43,269	18	4	67,978	15	0	37,554	10	7	34,941	15	5½
Kildare	1,125	0	0	1,325	0	0	1,250	0	0	1,360	0	0
Kilkenny	1,345	15	0	1,403	11	8	*	*	*	*	*	*
Westmeath	3,603	9	6	3,361	13	4	3,858	13	7	4,334	16	4
Wexford	807	10	0	622	7	0	*	*	*	*	*	*
LEINSTER.....	285,354	14	9	336,698	12	0	207,638	14	2½	192,888	4	9½
Cork	49,183	3	7	64,095	3	4½	76,045	11	8	37,380	3	0½
Clare	18	19	6	*	*	*	*	*	*	238	9	6
Limerick	5,627	1	1	6,419	19	8	7,568	0	4	10,858	2	11
Kerry	13,019	11	6	10,278	5	10½	10,965	16	3	11,026	4	7
Tipperary	994	15	0	936	9	2	616	1	0	918	0	2½
Waterford	27	1	8	472	10	0	*	*	*	*	*	*
MUNSTER.....	68,870	13	9	82,202	13	1	95,195	8	3	110,421	0	3
Sligo	26,785	9	11	24,317	14	1	25,570	14	3	23,682	19	6½
Mayo	71,536	13	1	82,401	16	2	89,181	13	5½	111,896	10	2½
Galway	8,421	16	8	15,564	4	9	13,304	10	10½	18,275	11	5
Leitrim	723	13	4	2,639	0	0	327	0	9½	1,217	18	10
Roscommon	10,207	1	0	5,991	12	4	12,472	14	0½	13,017	9	8
CONNAUGHT.....	117,664	14	0	130,914	7	4	140,856	13	5	168,090	9	7½
PROVINCES,												
Ulster	2,066,122	16	8	2,127,529	16	4	1,968,180	16	6½	2,109,309	10	13
Leinster	285,354	14	9	336,698	12	0	207,638	14	2½	192,888	4	9½
Munster	68,870	13	9	82,202	13	1	95,195	8	3	110,421	0	3
Connaught	117,664	14	0	130,914	7	4	140,856	13	5	168,090	9	7½
TOTAL.....	2,538,012	19	2	2,677,345	8	9	2,411,871	16	5½	2,580,709	4	9½

* No Returns from these places.

Extracts from Two Memorials to the Treasury, from the Linen Merchants of Dublin, concerning the Linen Laws and Bounties.

That there are certain regulations in the linen trade of Ireland, which, though formerly they may have been useful, yet, under the existing circumstances of the trade, are at present highly detrimental, especially in the sale of yarn; that in consequence the manufactories of Ireland are not placed on equal terms with the rest of the United Kingdom, which your memorialists conceive is contrary to the spirit of the Act of Union; that the coarse linen trade of Ireland is, in consequence, on the decrease, while that of Great Britain is on the increase (notwithstanding that wages are lower in Ireland than in Great Britain); your memorialists, therefore, pray your Lordships will direct the Lords of the Privy Council for Trade, to cause an inquiry to be instituted into the laws regulating the linen trade of Ireland, with a view of proposing to parliament some measure, if expedient, and more especially that an inquiry may be instituted as to the regulations touching foreign and mill-spun yarn; and whether, and to what extent, the alterations which have been recently made in the laws of Great Britain can with advantage be extended to Ireland. Your memorialists hope they may not be understood in the slightest degree as casting any reflection on the Honourable Linen Board, or their respective officers; on the contrary, they feel that the grants which are given to the Linen Board from year to year, and the bounties, premiums, and encouragement which they are thereby enabled to give to the linen trade, are highly useful.

By the existing law, all foreign undressed flax is admitted into Great Britain and Ireland at the low duty of 5d. the hundred weight, and foreign linen yarn at a duty of 1s. per cwt., whilst foreign-dressed flax remains subject to a prohibitory duty of 10s. 16s. 3d. per cwt.: considerable advantages to the linen trade of Ireland would, in our opinion, result, if foreign-dressed flax could be imported at a rate of duty similar to that upon undressed flax. It being in some instances superior to Irish-dressed flax; the competition alone which would thereby be created on the part of the Irish flax dresser would, we doubt not, be in the highest degree favourable to the interests and to the improvement of the linen trade. With respect to the regulations affecting the importation of foreign linen yarn, it appears evidently the intention of the Legislature, that it should be freely imported into Ireland as well as into Great Britain, at the low duty of 1s. per cwt.; but in consequence of existing local regulations, whereby all linen yarn exposed

for sale in Ireland must be reeled, or wound in certain prescribed forms and lengths, so that foreign linen yarn does not conform to such foreign linen yarn is liable upon importation into Ireland, to be seized and burnt. We have found, upon inquiry, that foreign linen yarn has been in recent instances as much as twenty-five per cent cheaper than Irish linen yarn, and whilst the British linen manufacturer has been enabled to import and convert it into linen cloth to very great advantage, and with great profit, the Irish manufacturer has been wholly excluded from this trade, and a large portion of our necessitous population consequently deprived of a very extensive source of employment in weaving. The official returns of the bounties paid upon the exportation of linen cloth clearly show that the British manufacturers export coarse linens to a far greater extent than the Irish manufacturers, a fact which we conceive clearly shows the disadvantage Ireland labours under in this respect. The regulations to which we allude equally prevent the importation into Ireland of British mill-spun yarn, that article not being generally made up according to the forms required by the Irish regulations. We beg leave to state, that there are numerous statutory regulations with respect to the importing and branding of flax-seed, the reeling and winding of linen yarn, the sealing, folding, and lapping, of both brown and white linens, and the nature and extent of the duties now discharged by the inspectors appointed in the various foreign markets, under the authority of the Linen Board, which many individuals engaged in the trade consider as generally useless, and in many instances as both vexatious and injurious; but as considerable diversity of opinion prevails upon these subjects amongst the persons engaged in the trade, we do not feel ourselves at liberty to offer to their Lordships any opinion upon the subject, or which could be considered by them as the sentiments of the trade at large. With respect, however, to the importation of foreign-dressed flax, and the mischievous tendency of the local regulations which prevent the importation of foreign and British linen yarn, we beg leave to state, that the opinion of the trade, as far as we have an opportunity of obtaining an accurate knowledge of it, is unanimous and unequivocal. It may, perhaps, not be irrelevant to refer in this place to petitions presented during the two last sessions of parliament, from the linen trade of Dublin, praying for the imposition of a duty upon foreign linen yarn, equivalent to, or countervailing, the bounty paid upon the exportation of the same linen yarn when converted into cloth: although the sentiments of a large body of the trade remain unchanged with respect to that subject, still, as

“ the legislature seems to have decided that no such duty shall be imposed; we trust it will appear to their Lordships the more necessary on that account, that Ireland should be placed (as to the importation of foreign linen yarn) precisely upon the same footing as Great Britain, and allowed a full participation in the advantages which the latter country has reaped from this branch of its trade, and which can only be done by a repeal or suspension of those local regulations, to the operation of which, with respect to foreign linen yarn, we have already alluded.”

POPULATION.

Abstract of the Answers and Returns made pursuant to an Act of the United Parliament, passed in the 55th Year of the Reign of his late Majesty George 3d, intituled, “ An Act to provide for taking an Account of the Population of Ireland, and for ascertaining the Increase or Diminution thereof.”

Substance of the Preliminary Remarks.

The first attempt worthy of notice, to ascertain the population of Ireland, was that made by the celebrated Sir William Petty. The circumstances in which he stood, with respect to this country, gave him great local advantages towards the solution of a question, to the investigation of which his mental powers and habits of study peculiarly qualified him. He had superintended the great Territorial Survey of Ireland, instituted during the Protectorate, for the distribution of forfeited property; the importance and accuracy of which may be estimated from the consideration that, though undertaken for a special and limited object, and therefore not pervading the whole country, it still, after a lapse of more than two centuries, continues to be the standard of reference in the courts of judicature, as to points of disputed property, and the only authentic source of information, as to the minuter subdivisions of the land, as well as to many circumstances relating to local taxation. His estimate, taken in the year 1672, gives a total of 1,100,000 souls*.

The result of a subsequent attempt, made by Captain South, in the year 1695, appears in the Transactions of the Royal Society of London. It is not easy, from the brief and unsatisfactory memoranda there given, to ascertain the value of the data on which his calculation rests.

* In the course of his calculations to ascertain the actual number of the people, at the period at which they were made, Petty introduces another, as to the numbers living in Ireland previously to the civil war of 1641; which, from a variety of ingenious suppositions, he estimates at 1,466,000. A previous conjecture was made by Morison, who visited Ireland under Lord Mountjoy, at the close of the reign of Elizabeth. This writer states, that at the termination of the war which his patron had just brought to a successful issue, the total of souls left did not exceed 700,000.

The total number of souls is stated by him at 1,034,102.

Mr. Dobbs, in the second part of his Essay on the Trade and Improvement of Ireland, published in 1731, gives an account of the number of houses in the years 1712, 1718, 1725, and 1726. The calculations on which they are formed are taken from the returns of the hearth-money collectors, and give the following results at an average of six souls to a house:—for 1712, 2,099,094,—for 1718, 2,169,048,—for 1725, 2,317,374,—and for 1726, 2,309,106.

In the year 1731, an inquiry was instituted by order of the House of Lords, of Ireland, for ascertaining the population thereof, through the medium both of the magistracy and of the established clergy. On reflecting on the state of Ireland at that period, when large tracts of the country were not subject to the jurisdiction of the former of those classes, or to the influence of the latter, the result of an inquiry made by either of them, when unsupported by the authority of an act of the legislature, must be deemed far from satisfactory. The number of souls is stated to have been 2,010,221.

Several subsequent attempts were made to ascertain the population, all of which rest on the same basis as that just stated. Their results gave, in the year 1754, a population of 2,372,634,—in 1767, of 2,544,276,—in 1777, of 2,690,556,—and in 1785, of 2,845,932.

In 1788, an inquiry was instituted by Mr. Gervais Parker Bushe, one of the Commissioners of the Revenue, the result of which is published in the Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy. Like the preceding attempts, it is founded on the returns of the hearth-money collectors; and the details stated in Mr. Bushe's memoir prove, that he considered this basis to stand in need of much correction and amendment. The total is computed by him to amount to 4,040,000.

From a return of the number of hearths made to the Irish House of Commons in 1791, the population is estimated at 4,206,612.

In the subsequent year, Dr. Beaufort published his Ecclesiastical Map of Ireland. The memoir which accompanies it affords a vague estimate of the population of each county, averaged, according to difference of local circumstances, at from 5 to 6 souls to a house. This total thus amounts to 4,083,226.

Major Newenham, in his Inquiry into the Progress and Magnitude of the Population of Ireland, published in the year 1805, endeavours to correct the inaccuracies of the hearth-money returns, by a variety of ingenious calculations formed on other bases. His corrected estimate gives a total of 5,395,456 souls.

In 1812, an act passed for taking an account of the population of Ireland, and of the increase or diminution thereof: it was chiefly copied from that of 1810 for Great Britain, to the provisions of which it adhered in all the prac-

tical details more closely than the different circumstances of the two islands would justify. At the expiration of two years, employed in endeavouring to accomplish the object of the legislature, it was found, on examining the returns, that out of the forty counties, and counties of cities and towns, into which Ireland is divided, ten only furnished complete returns; in four, no steps whatever were taken in pursuance of the act; and those of the remaining

twenty-six were inaccurate or defective. The act, therefore, may be considered to have been wholly inoperative as to its main object, that of ascertaining the number of souls by actual enumeration. By the aid of comparative calculations founded on previous inquiries, and on the partial results of the act, the amount of the population in 1813 has been conjectured to be 5,937,856.

The following TABLE presents a *SYNOPTICAL VIEW* of the estimated Population of IRELAND, at the several periods already noticed. The Calculations are all formed at an Average of Six Individuals to a House; whence arises a difference in the Population of 1672, when compared with that already given from Sir William Petty, who forms his Calculations on an Average of Five to a House.

Date.	How ascertained.	Number of Souls.
1672	Sir William Petty.....	1,320,000
1695	Captain South.....	1,034,102
1712	Thomas Dobbs, Esq.....	2,099,094
1718	The same.....	2,169,048
1725	The same.....	2,317,374
1726	The same.....	2,309,106
1731	Established clergy.....	2,010,221
1754	Hearth-money collectors.....	2,372,634
1767	The same.....	2,544,276
1777	The same.....	2,690,556
1785	The same.....	2,845,932
1788	Gervais Parker Bushe, Esq.....	4,040,000
1791	Hearth-money collectors.....	4,206,612
1792	The Rev. Doctor Beaufort.....	4,088,226
1805	Thomas Newenham, Esq.....	5,395,456
1814	Incomplete census under act of 1812.....	5,937,856

The failure of the attempts made by authority of the government to take a census of the population of Ireland, proceeded from the want of due observation of the difference of the circumstances of the two countries. In England, the details of the measure were intrusted to the overseers of the poor; a body which, from its long establishment, and its necessity of frequent and minute investigation into the localities of the country, particularly with reference to the poorer classes of society, was possessed of all the information, and of every facility necessary for giving effect to a legislative enactment on this point. In Scotland, the parish schoolmasters presented a body equally pervasive; and, if inferior in knowledge of local peculiarities, surpassing the other in intelligence and capability in the use of its materials. In Ireland, where there are no poor laws, and where, in consequence of the extent of parishes, and number of unions, parish schoolmasters are comparatively few, and, from the limited quantity of instruction they are required to impart, also comparatively inferior in intellectual qualifications, no constituted body was to be found possessing all, or even most of the requisites for

this duty. Inferior agents were, therefore, to be chosen for the special purpose: and hence necessarily proceeded deficiency of information in some instances, and want of zeal in others. The commands of the legislature, also, were communicated to those persons not immediately from the government, but through the intervention of the grand juries. A brief consideration of the manner in which these bodies are constituted will shew they are not the best adapted to superintend the operations of a measure requiring much time, much complex arrangement, and considerable minute responsibility in its execution. They are not permanent: they meet for a short time, at two stated periods of the year; during each of which, occupied as they are in the discharge of judicial and magisterial functions, various in their nature, and numerous in detail, little time can be spared for carrying into effect a measure of a novel and complicated character. The only check over their subordinate agents was at the time of remunerating them for their services; but as the act required these agents to submit to the grand juries, not the particulars they had collected, but the aggregates resulting from

them, it is evident, that, even had there been time for minute investigation, sufficient means of detecting error were not afforded, except where a manifest incongruity shewed itself between the several facts in the return; a defect which required but little attention to prevent.

Hence it happened, that in some counties the grand jury totally neglected taking any step to expose the act, though given in charge to them by the judges of assize on their respective circuits. In others, the persons appointed to take the account of the population proceeded without any regular system of control adequate to insure uniformity, or to prevent the ill effects of negligence or fraud. The census, though generally commenced at the same period, was carried on irregularly, and often carelessly; insomuch, that subsequent inquiries have proved, that the enumerators, in many instances, satisfied themselves with a conjectural estimate of the population of a district, founded on their opinion as to the number of houses, and probable average of the inhabitants of each.

To obviate these and other defects of the previous plans, the Population Act of 1815 was passed, and the execution of it was intrusted, not to the grand juries, but to the magistrates assembled at the Quarter Sessions. By this provision the exertions of persons of high rank and extensive influence were still secured, while an additional number was added, whence the co-operation of persons of intelligence and respectability, whose inclinations led them to direct their attention to pursuits of this nature, and who would otherwise have been excluded, might reasonably be expected. The meetings at Quarter Sessions insured permanence and uniformity to those exertions, particularly as, in Ireland, the deliberations of the bench of magistrates, in every county, are aided by the advice of a permanent legal coadjutor, selected from among the practising barristers. The assistance of this functionary was found to be serviceable not only in aiding the magistrates by his legal advice, and in preserving stricter uniformity and consistency in the proceedings of the bench, but also as being a valuable organ of communication between the government and the counties, on unforeseen or doubtful points. The enumerators, whose nomination was vested in the bench of magistrates, were authorised to ascertain the name, age, and occupation of every individual within their district; and instructions were given to the bench of magistrates to give a preference, in the nomination, to the persons usually employed in the collection of the local taxes, from a conviction that their habits of life gave them superior advantages, in consequence of their acquaintance with the people, and with the minute subdivisions of the country: Uniformity in the details throughout the several counties was secured by a provision, requiring that the whole process should be con-

ducted according to instructions issued from time to time from the chief secretary's department to the bench of magistrates, through the assistant barristers of each county, and recorders of counties of cities, and counties of towns respectively.

The act was carried into effect in the year 1821, the 28th of May having been fixed as the period of the commencement of its operations, that being the day on which a similar process was commenced throughout Great Britain. Much preliminary preparation was, however, found requisite, to secure the complete and uniform accomplishment of the measure.

Copies of the act were, in the first place, extensively circulated throughout the several counties, together with instructions relative to the course of proceeding to be pursued at the first special sessions to be held under it. The copy, sent to each of the resident magistrates, was accompanied with a letter, stating, that his Majesty's government having deemed it advisable to carry the provisions of the Population Act into effect during the current year, the necessary steps for its commencement had been taken, by distributing copies of it, and issuing a precept from the chief secretary, with instructions for holding a special sessions, as therein required; and that, as the execution of most of the details was intrusted to the magistracy, the opportunity afforded by the transmission of those documents was taken to solicit their attention to the subject, and to request communications from them, as to any observations that they might deem it advisable to make, either in respect to the documents transmitted, or such other points as might arise during ulterior proceedings; and concluding with a hope, that through their co-operation the results would be found at least equal in importance to those of a similar nature about to take place in Great Britain.

Pursuant to the precept and instructions, two returns were made by the assistant barrister and bench of magistrates of each county, and by the recorder and magistrates of each county of a city or town, at the first special sessions held under the act, in the month of January 1821. The first list contained an account of all the subdivisions of the country, according to which the local taxes are assessed and levied, and by which the enumerators were to proceed in the census. These divisions are generally uniform, proceeding from counties to baronies, parishes, and townlands, &c. The division of Ireland into counties took place shortly after the Anglo-Norman invasion.* In 1211, King

* King John made but twelve counties, all which were in Leinster and Munster; viz. in Leinster the counties of Dublin, Meath, Ulster, now called Louth, Kildare, Catherlough or Carlow, Kilkenny, and Wexford, which contained all the province of Leinster, except those territories following: viz. Upper Ossory, which was inhabited by the Fitzpatricks; Leix, which was inhabited by the Moores; Offaly, which was inhabited by the O'Connors;

John divided the whole of the country that then acknowledged his government into twelve counties, in which but little regard seems to have been paid to the ancient division of Ireland into five provinces. The names of these are given in the note; by which also it appears that the remaining counties were formed at different periods; and that the present arrangement of provinces and counties was completed in the early part of the reign of James the First.

The first subdivision of counties is into baronies, corresponding, in a great measure, with that of hundreds in England.* The baronies appear to have been formed successively, in consequence of the submissions of the Irish chiefs or captains who ruled over them; the territory of each constituting a barony. This may in some measure account for the extreme inequality of size between those divisions of subordinate jurisdiction, and the manner in which parts of many of them are intermixed among each other, as is peculiarly observable in the county of Cork.

The next subdivision into parishes, is of much greater antiquity than that of baronies. Originally it was purely ecclesiastical, and was introduced among the civil subdivisions from motives of convenience. Some peculiar circumstances arising from this cause have produced much difficulty in the progress of the census. The civil and ecclesiastical arrangements do not always correspond: parishes are found to extend not only into different baronies, but into different counties; and townlands are some-

Ely O'Carrol, which was inhabited by the O'Carrols; and some other territories, which were inhabited by other Irish sept: and in Munster, the counties of Waterford, Cork, Kerry, Limerick, and Tipperary; which last-mentioned five counties did contain the whole province of Munster. The territories of Leix, O'Shly, and Ely O'Carrol, and some others, were reduced into shire-ground in the time of Queen Mary, and then divided into two counties, the one called the Queen's County, the other the King's County. So likewise the provinces of Connaught and Ulster were divided into counties by a statute of the 11th of Eliz., that is to say, Connaught was divided into seven counties: viz. Galway, Clare, Roscommon, Mayo, Sligo, Longford and Leitrim; but since that time Clare has been included in Munster, and Longford in Leinster. In like manner the province of Ulster was divided into nine counties; namely, those of Down, Antrim, Tyrone, Ardmagh, Monaghan, Cavan, Fermanagh, Donegal, and Londonderry. Lastly, the county of Wicklow, which had hitherto been vaguely considered as part of the counties of Dublin and Carlow, was made shire-ground, and formed into a separate county, in the third year of James I.—Vide *Harris's Hibernica*, part ii. p. 3, folio.

* The cause of the difference in name has been thus accounted for: when the kingdom of Meath was granted to the elder De Lacey, shortly after the arrival of the English, he partitioned it out among his inferior barons, to hold under him by feudal service, and hence their estates naturally took the name of baronies; which gradually extended itself to similar subdivisions of other counties. But that the division into cantreds or hundreds, though superseded by this now mentioned, was attempted in Ireland very soon after the above-mentioned era, is evident not only from several ancient records in which the term is used, but also because it still continues to be applied to some of the subdivisions of the Queen's County.

times attached to one parish for the assessment of the county taxes, while, with respect to tithes and other ecclesiastical contributions, they are considered as forming part of another. Ancient unions or divisions of parishes have increased this discrepancy; their names have also been frequently changed. The arrangement of parishes by the Established Church, being in many cases different from that of the Roman Catholics, has also been the cause of considerable difficulties; as in many parts of the south-west of Ireland the latter arrangement has been adopted in various points of public business. But from an accurate comparison of the several writers that treat of the civil and ecclesiastical state of Ireland, corrected, in cases of doubt or difficulty, by particular communications with the clergy, the enumerators, or other persons possessing local information, it has been ascertained that no parish whatever has been omitted; and the differences between the ecclesiastical returns already before parliament, and those under the present act, have been, in many instances, fully reconciled. The names and arrangement of parishes used for civil purposes, and adopted by the enumerators, under the direction of the bench of magistrates in the several counties, has been adhered to in digesting the returns.

The smallest subdivision of the country is that of townlands. This name, however, is not universal throughout Ireland: * some counties have adopted the term of ploughlands in lieu of it, each ploughland being supposed to contain 120 acres; but as the quantity was taken by estimation, not by measurement, their extent varies considerably, even in the same county. Townlands in many instances have been subdivided, and in many cases the name has been changed. Much embarrassment in the progress of the census has been occasioned by both these circumstances.

On examining the returns of the territorial subdivisions, as furnished by the magistrates, it was found, that this important department of domestic geography was by no means so complete or satisfactory as might have been expected, from the consideration that most of the local taxes are assessed and levied according to

* Many names, now antiquated, were formerly used to designate the smaller subdivisions of land in Ireland. The following are the most remarkable:

A Gort	-	containing	6 acres.
Pottle	-	-	12 do.
Ballyboe	-	-	16 do. but in some parts 50 or 100 acres.
Ballybeatach	-	-	900 do. being 16 Ballyboes of 60 acres each.
Cartron	-	-	60 do. called also a Plowland.
Poll or Pole	-	-	60 do.
Tagh or Tate	-	-	60 do. English
Gneon, or Gneeve	-	-	5 do. being 1-12th of a Plowland

The Plowland and the Gneeve are the only names noticed by the enumerators as still in use in some parts of Ireland.

with subdivisions in some cases, in account with the procedure of many of the subdivisions smaller than that into parishes, in the county of Kerry; this information was collected for the first time, in consequence of the call then made upon the magistrates, and in the county of Cork, in a list of the parishes and minor subdivisions, equalled by no other district, in any county; in the appointment of persons to make the census, and in the account whether the account should be taken by baronies, or by parishes. The act had left the determination of this point to the judgment of the magistrates. Some counties preferred the former, from an idea that individuals, possessed of superior qualifications would be prepared for taking the account of the larger subdivisions, who would not think the smaller worthy of their attention. In other counties, the latter mode was adopted; from the conviction that the enumeration could be taken more accurately, when the persons employed had a smaller extent of surface committed to his charge; particularly as this very circumstance gave him a more minute and accurate acquaintance with the district allotted to him. This result has proved the latter opinion to have been the better founded, in its order to ascertain whether the persons thus appointed were possessed of the qualifications requisite for the undertaking, each of them was called upon to make a preliminary return, according to a form transmitted to him for the purpose, specifying the names and number of the parishes, townlands, or other subdivisions of the district, to which he had been appointed; the names and addresses of the clergy-men of every religious persuasion, actually residing within their respective districts; as also the names and addresses of schoolmasters of every description residing therein, with the names of the townlands, &c., on which their schools were kept. In consequence of this application, several, who had been appointed voluntarily resigned, from a consciousness of their own inadequacy; some were found to be incompetent, and so reported to the bench of magistrates, whereupon their places were supplied by others deemed more capable of furnishing the information, in their producing proof of possessing the qualifications required. Other beneficial results also accrued from this process. Various points relative to the position, connection, names, or other local circumstances of the country were explained, and errors rectified. Some of the returns also contained much additional information of great value in the progress of the inquiry. The return of the names of the clergy, and of the schoolmasters opened a wide field of communication, which proved essential towards ultimate success.

After it had been thus ascertained that every district was supplied with an enumerator, qualified to make a satisfactory return, a copy of

printed instructions was forwarded to each, detailing the steps to be taken by him in his operations under the act. These instructions were framed on the principle that nothing should be required from the enumerator, but matter of fact, excluding any thing depending solely on opinion, or on deductions to be formed from the facts so collected; and that as much additional information should be collected as could be done, without an undue interference with the time or attention requisite for attaining the main object of the census, a *tabula* blott. According to the instructions, each enumerator was to be supplied with a sufficient number of note-books, written in columns, and on the day fixed for this purpose by the 23rd of May 1821, he was to commence the enumeration at such part of his district as he deemed most convenient; and to proceed from house to house, and from day to day, without neglect or untimely delay, until he had taken down in his note-books the name, age, and occupation of every individual then actually resident within his district. A copy of these instructions will be found in the Appendix. It is to be observed, that the place was appointed for the note-books for specifying the number of families. This omission rested on the principle above stated, of confining the enumerators' attention to matters of fact, and of excluding every thing depending on opinion or inference; as it was conceived that this branch of the process would subsequently be more safely executed on a uniform principle, by the persons intrusted with the duty of arranging and digesting the original returns made by the enumerators.

It was evident that the filling up of the column of the return, which was to contain the ages of the persons named in that preceding, must prove a point of much delicacy. The instructions therefore directed that the enumerator should decide as to them, according to the best information he could procure, either from the individuals themselves, from his own knowledge, or from other sources; and that in so doing the greatest attention should be paid to the feelings of the parties concerned. Where the age could not be ascertained with precision, or where there was reason to apprehend inaccuracy, the enumerator was to be guided by his own judgment, and here the advantage possessed by those who were appointed for districts of more limited extent, such as parishes, or parts of parishes, became very conspicuous; inasmuch as their local acquaintance with the families residing in their own neighbourhood afforded them ample means for procuring accurate information on these points. In some instances, however, the inquiry failed; a place was therefore allotted in the returns for the number of ages that could not be ascertained, and from the inspection of which, it will appear that the number of in-

successful cases, as very inconsiderable when compared with the aggregate of the population, and more detailed instructions were required respecting the column which was to contain the occupations of the individuals previously named. The principal occupations were those of farmers, labourers, and servants. The line of distinction between the two former of these is not easily drawn, as most persons who earn the chief part of their subsistence as hired labourers, hold also a small portion of land; and therefore, in the common language of the country, are entitled to the name of farmers. Neither was the distinction between day labourers and out-door or field servants less difficult to be ascertained. The instructions as to these points were therefore so framed, as to enable the persons to whom the returns would be afterwards committed for examination (and arrangement) to adopt an accurate and uniform rule respecting them. In order the better to guide them in the process, a sixth column was added to the return, specifying the number of acres held in the townland by every person resident thereon. It was thus easy to determine the smallest quantity of landed property deemed sufficient to entitle the holder to the name of farmer. A seventh column was set apart for any notes or observations; explanatory of the information comprised in those preceding. In it, more particularly, were to be stated the names of towns, villages, and hamlets; public buildings, as churches, chapels, meeting-houses, school-houses (stating the number of pupils, both male and female, where it could be done), prisons, bridewells, hospitals, barracks, mills, stores, as also burying-grounds, quays, &c.

All the information to be thus entered in the note-books was afterwards to be transferred to printed forms, arranged in a similar manner; and these, when verified upon oath, and certified by the bench of magistrates, at a subsequent session, were to be transmitted to the proper department in the chief secretary's office. It should be here observed, that in carrying into effect the powers, with which the enumerators were invested by the legislature, these persons were most particularly instructed to execute their duty in the mildest and most inoffensive manner; complying, as far as could be, with the feelings of the people, and never having recourse to the law, except in the most urgent necessity. In cases of doubt or difficulty, the enumerators were directed to apply for further instructions. A very extensive and laborious correspondence was the consequence; but the trouble was amply repaid by its good effects; for not only many mistakes and errors were thus prevented, but also the queries sent in by

Every collection of contiguous houses, if under twenty, was to be considered as a hamlet; if more than twenty, and not under any peculiar local jurisdiction, a village.

the enumerators discovered several points hitherto unnoticed which, if left undefined or unexplained, must have occasioned omission, confusion, or want of uniformity in many instances. Among the difficulties anticipated by the enumerators, that of a determined hostility to their proceedings, which shewed itself openly in some districts, was the most formidable, as it affected the very basis of the inquiry. The causes of this hostile feeling were different in different parts of the country; but, however absurd the cause, or violent the feeling, it was immediately seen that they could be removed or abated only by the most energetic measures. A letter was therefore forwarded to the resident clergymen of every religious persuasion in Ireland; their names and addresses having been previously ascertained by the means of the enumerators' preliminary returns already mentioned. In them they were made acquainted with the intentions of the Government to carry the Population Act into effect; its object was clearly stated, and their aid requested, both for controlling the proceedings of the enumerators in their respective parishes, and for removing any prejudices, or other unfavourable circumstances, that might tend to produce an unfriendly feeling towards them in the minds of the lower classes. Every stage of the altered proceedings proved the utility of this measure; and the value of the assistance thus acquired. Whenever a tendency to opposition was reported by the enumerator, letters on the subject, transmitted to the resident clergymen of the district, immediately led to a satisfactory explanation, by which not only the obstacle was removed, but a friendly sentiment substituted in its place, so as to turn the current of public opinion immediately and completely into the channel most desirable for the effectual attainment of the great objects of the legislature under the Population Act. The local knowledge of the clergy, both with regard to the people, and to the several districts in which they resided, also gave ample means to guide and check the enumerators; and a correspondence was accordingly maintained between them and the population department, which afforded many valuable remarks and suggestions.

The several enumerators were also called upon to make frequent and continued reports to the chief secretary's office of their progress after the 28th of May, the day appointed for commencing the progress of enumeration; by stating, according to tabular forms with which they were supplied for the purpose, the names of the townlands, the census of which they had completed within a specific period, together with the number of houses and inhabitants found by them in each. By this step, the progress of each enumerator could be traced, his accuracy and activity marked, and a means

afforded of ascertaining whether any part of the country had been omitted.

Endeavours were made, during the same period, by calling on the enumerator for a tabular return to that effect, to obtain a statement of the number of acres in every townland throughout Ireland, with the view of ascertaining the density of the population comparatively with the extent of surface throughout its several divisions. This attempt, as was to have been expected, had not complete success. In some cases, the number returned expressed not the actual number according to measurement, but that according to which the local taxes are assessed; which number generally differs from, and, with few exceptions, is less than the former. In other cases, the extent of the territorial subdivisions is expressed by ploughlands, greeves, or other antiquated and vague terms of measurement. In others again, particularly in mountainous tracts, lands are held and estimated solely by bulk or guess. In some of the northern counties great confusion also arose from the different kinds of measurement in use, even in the same parish.*

When the enumerators' returns of the population, after having been submitted to an examination of the bench of magistrates at a subsequent session; were transmitted to the chief secretary's office, according to the provisions of the act, it was ascertained that every distinct or subordinate division of land in Ireland had been analysed, and the returns deposited, with the following exceptions:—Two baronies of the county of Cork, which were retained for some time by the enumerators, in consequence of a misconception as to the terms of remuneration, but which have since been received, duly authenticated:—The town of Belfast, which having been incorrectly executed by the enumerator first appointed, was subdivided; and committed to three other individuals, by whom it has been executed:—Part of the parish of Kilcummin in the county of Galway, and the island of Innismurry in the county of Sligo, both of which were omitted through misconception, but the returns of their population have since been received.

The original returns, therefore, now lodged for preservation and reference in the Record Tower of Dublin Castle, contain the following particulars:—1st. The name and situation of every townland, subdivision of townland, or other smallest territorial district, throughout Ireland; classed according to its parish, barony, and county; with the extent of the townland in many cases.—2d. The name of every town, village, and hamlet, in each county, with, in

*The superficial measures of land now in use in Ireland are: the Irish or plantation acre; the Cunningham, and the English acre. The difference between these arises from the different lengths of the perch used as a standard in each; the Irish perch consisting of 21 feet, the Cunningham of 18-754 feet, and the English of 16-5 feet.

most cases, the number of houses in each.—

3d. The name and situation of every street, square, lane, alley, court, or other combination of houses, in cities and corporate towns.—

4th. The number of dwelling-houses in Ireland; whether inhabited, uninhabited, or building; together with the number of stories in each.—

5th. The number, names, and situation, of all public buildings in Ireland, such as places of worship, whether perfect or in a state of decay, barracks, school-houses, hospitals, infirmaries, lunatic asylums, prisons, penitentiaries, bride-wells, mills, stores, &c. &c. The subject-matter of the five preceding articles supplies valuable materials towards a general survey of Ireland.

These returns also contain,—6thly. The name, age, and occupation, of every individual residing in Ireland at the time of taking the census.—7thly. The number of families into which those individuals were combined.—8thly. The relationship by which the several members of each family are connected with each other, whether as kinsmen, apprentices, journeymen, servants, &c.—9thly. The quantity of land held by every individual in the townland in which he is resident:—and, 10thly. The number of schools throughout Ireland, with the number of pupils in each, distinguishing between males and females, and, in most instances, specifying the names of the teachers, and the foundations on which they are maintained.

These original returns, embracing the various points of information above detailed, having been lodged in the Record Tower, as already stated; it became necessary to have them so arranged and digested, that the document now laid before parliament should be a faithful abstract or summary of their contents. In this view the whole was thrown into a tabular form; and as the returns have been made according to townlands (the smallest subdivision) in the counties at large, and, in corporate cities and towns, according to streets, lanes, alleys, &c., a general summary or register was prepared on the same basis; presenting in a single line, together with the name of each townland, the following particulars:—The number of dwelling-houses inhabited, uninhabited, and building; the number of families therein; the number of souls, classed according to sex, and also according to age; the specific occupation of every occupied resident in each townland, specifying, also, in the case of labourers, which is the most numerous class in the community, those constantly employed, those occasionally employed, and those unemployed; the schools and number of pupils, both male and female, in each; the number and size of farms held by landholders actually resident within the townland; and the public or otherwise uninhabited buildings, such as churches, chapels, meeting-houses, stores, mills, kilns, ruins, &c. &c.

In thus classifying the contents of the enume-

rators' returns, some points required consideration. With respect to the houses, it was only necessary to examine whether any mistake had been made in the series of numbers, a circumstance that occurred occasionally, though by no means frequently; but as to the classification according to families, an important and very difficult question arose, as to what was to be considered as a family. It is evident, that had the practical solution of this question been committed to the enumerators, much incongruity in the returns would have taken place, notwithstanding any general rules that might have been previously laid down for the regulation of their conduct with respect to it; in consequence of the diversity of opinion in different parts of the country as to what constitutes a family. This was therefore one of the points, the decision of which was to be regulated from an inspection of all the returns, on their final arrangement and digest. The original returns, by specifying particularly the various ties of connexion by which the inmates of the same house were united, afforded ample means for laying down general rules for the persons employed in the classification; and the process being carried on under the immediate inspection of those by whom its principles had been formed, induced stricter adherence to their application, as well as immediate means of solving any doubtful cases. The leading rules adopted in this part of the classification were, that all the souls residing in the same house, and supported by the same head, were to be deemed one family. Thus, a householder and his married children; or two brothers holding a farm in common, were considered as one family. The specification of the number of acres held by each individual tended much to remove doubts in this process; thus, in the instances just adduced, if the head of the family, or the elder brother, had a number of acres annexed to his name, and the sons or other brother none, these latter were looked upon as branches still attached to the main stock: but if it appeared, from the return of the number of acres, that they held land separate from that of the father or elder brother, they were then considered as having formed separate establishments, though still residing under the same roof, and therefore were classed as separate families. Resident apprentices and journeymen were considered as appertaining to the family from which they derived their instruction and maintenance. Resident labourers, being considered as servants, were classed according to the same principle. Orphans, children at nurse, and idiots, were also considered as part of the family by which they were maintained. An individual occupying a house was of necessity considered as constituting a family. Lodgers also, when of full age, and maintaining themselves from their own resources, were thus considered; but when it appeared, from the nature

of their occupation, that they were in a great measure connected with the family in whose house they resided, or that they were not of an age to maintain themselves, they were considered as forming a part of such family. Strolling beggars were, of course, considered as distinct families; and where met with on the road, at a distance from their usual place of residence, the enumerator was instructed to enter them as residing in the house in which they last lodged, or if this could not be ascertained, to set down their names at the end of the enumeration of the townland in which they were found by him. Hence, in many instances, the number of families considerably exceeds that of the houses returned. Where a number of individuals, apparently unconnected by the bonds of relationship, were congregated together, as in the case of large public establishments, such as barracks, infirmaries, and prisons, the following distinction was adopted: In cases where the individuals were permanently supported in consequence of their connexion with, or residence in, such establishment, as soldiers in a barracks, they were considered as separate families; but when they were received for a limited period, or for some special purpose, they were deemed to form a part of the family to which they had heretofore belonged, and were therefore not considered as constituting separate families in their present residence. This rule was applied to patients in infirmaries, to resident pupils in colleges and schools, to prisoners in confinement; and other similar cases. Some instances occurred to which some of the preceding rules were inapplicable; but the number was so small as to be unworthy of notice in the general result.

In the classification of sexes no difficulty occurred. With respect to the ages, it must be evident that the nature of the inquiry precluded that minute accuracy which it was desirable to attain in this part of the proceedings under the act. It is also to be regretted, that a deviation in some counties from the recommendation in the instructions, relative to the qualifications of the enumerators, occasioned increased difficulty. It had been hoped, by selecting the enumerators from among those classes whose habits and employments made them personally acquainted with the families resident within their respective districts, and by confining their operations within a space that could be minutely investigated within a short period of time, that the solution of the question, as to ages, could have been attained with no small degree of precision, without any interference with the feelings and prejudices so prevalent on this point. Where the recommendation had been attended to, this effect was, generally speaking, produced; but as the wording of the act was somewhat vague with respect to the qualifications of enumerators, and the extent of their districts, it was thought, in some counties, that its objects would be better

attained by appointing persons, from the higher classes, and giving these the inspection of a large district. Hence, besides some other disadvantages, the personal knowledge of the enumerators was often inadequate to check misinformation on this point, or to correct it in cases of apparent error or inconsistency. The principle adopted in this part of the classification, in some degree corrects any defects that may have arisen from the foregoing circumstances. The ages are arranged, as in the English census, in a decimal progression as far as 100, those of that age and upwards being specially noticed in the form of return prescribed by the act. The inaccuracy of a few years between any of the decimal divisions, is therefore unattended with any ill consequences. It is necessary, however, to be known, that though in the list hereunto annexed the ages are thus classified according to the forms adopted in the census of Great Britain, the actual numbers of the ages, classified according to years, can be had, in consequence of the mode adopted in framing the tables for every county, barony, parish, or other subdivision of Ireland, on referring to the papers in which the several parts of this process have been entered; and which are carefully preserved, along with the original returns from which they have been extracted. It may also be proper to remark, that the compilation of the part of those tables containing the sexes and ages, have been carried on by processes totally unconnected with each other, so as to make the one a check upon the other; and the work was in no instance deemed satisfactory until the results of both, by a repetition of the peculiar process of each, were found to coincide. It is evident that if the enumerators had not been required to return the name and age of every individual, or if this secondary process of arrangement had been intrusted to them, the same confidence could not be placed in the results now laid before parliament.

The occupations were, in the first instance, thrown into classes precisely according to the words made use of by the enumerators in describing them; but as it not unfrequently happened that the same occupation was expressed under a different name by different enumerators, and sometimes even by the same person in different parts of his return, such deviations were cautiously corrected; in order that this division of the tabular form should give an accurate account of the number of actual occupations and the number of persons engaged on each. The occupations, thus arranged, were classed under the more general heads of, Agricultural, Manufacturing, Handicraft, &c. Trading, Liberal Professions, Other Occupations, &c. still however retaining under each of these heads the particulars above recited; observing only, in order to avoid the multiplication of columns, to place the occupations of more un-

frequent occurrence in one column, at the end of each parish or barony. This enlarged system of classification, by means of which the actual occupations of the whole population of Ireland would have been spread out as in a picture, or on a map, and the local varieties would have been specified with a minuteness adequate to the value of the information, has been, since contracted, in conformity with the mode adopted in the census of Great Britain, into three columns, specifying merely the number of persons chiefly occupied in agriculture, those in manufactures, and those in occupations not included under either of the former heads. Means, however, exist, in consequence of the manner in which the census of Ireland has been taken and arranged, of furnishing, if deemed necessary, a more particular detail.

The columns containing the account of the number and sizes of farms held by resident occupiers, were undertaken with a view of distinguishing between the farmer and labourer, two classes of people, which, in many instances, are not very easily distinguishable in Ireland; it was also adopted on the principle of collecting whatever collateral information could be procured, without increase of trouble or time to the person employed. The classification was proceeded upon under the following arrangement, which it was thought would convey some useful information as to the state and circumstances of a large portion of the population of the country; viz. farms under two acres, under five, under ten, under twenty, under fifty, under one hundred, and of one hundred acres and upwards. To this part of the classification, though omitted in the abstract for parliament, the concluding observation of the remarks relative to the occupations is applicable. Such parts of the miscellaneous information, collected on the principle stated in the preceding paragraph, as were deemed useful to elucidate the circumstances of the census, have been annexed, in the following Abstract, in the form of Notes: what has not been thought directly applicable, has been preserved as in the similar previous cases.

The mass of information relative to this part of the empire, which was thus collected and digested in a tabular form, has been again reduced into a series of summaries. The totals of the columns comprehending the materials collected in each townland, forming the summary for a parish; those of parishes united, that of a barony; those of a barony, that of a county; those of a county, that of a province; those of the four provinces united, giving the summary of all those important particulars for the whole of Ireland. From this tabular digest the following Abstract was prepared; and in forming it, another process of condensation and abbreviation became necessary, in order to maintain a uniformity of appearance with that of Great Britain, as close as the different principle on

which the details were collected would permit. Instead of townlands, parishes are adopted, as the smallest subdivision, which, together with the population, &c. of the towns and larger villages included in each parish, when combined, give the summaries of baronies, and so on, as above stated. All the particulars relative to the ages have been condensed into a summary, according to counties, as are also those of the occupations, for the sake of uniformity with the English Abstract.

The statement of the number of schools and pupils is the only instance of a deviation from the principle of assimilation just now noticed. The instructions given to the enumerators on this point were precise and particular; they were to inform themselves, not only of the situation of every school within their district, but also of the names of the teachers, the number

of pupils, both male and female, and the nature of the endowment (if any) by which they were maintained. These particulars were deemed of sufficient importance to justify their admission into the Abstract prepared for Parliament, in which they appear in columns, containing a statement of the number of children, both male and female, actually receiving public instruction at the time of taking the census. When the schools received the whole or part of their support from eleemosynary sources, the particulars, both as to the nature of the foundation and the names of the contributors, have also been given in the column of observations.

These preliminary observations are succeeded by detailed Returns, which occupy nearly four hundred folio pages. The following is a summary of them.

SUMMARY OF THE NUMBER OF HOUSES AND INHABITANTS IN THE

Together with a COMPARATIVE VIEW of the Enumeration of the POPULATION, as taken in the Years

COUNTIES.	Contents in Irish Plantation Acres. (e)	Contents in Square Miles.	Number of Houses in 1813. (f)	Number of Houses in 1821.	Increase of Houses between the Years 1813 and 1821.	Average Number of Acres to each House.	Average Number of Inhabited Houses to a Square Mile.
I. LEINSTER.							
I. Carlow.....	137,050	214	12,090	13,028	938	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	61
II. Drogheda Town ... (c)	.....	.....	3,086	3,164	78	.....	.....
III. Dublin County	142,050	221	16,633 ^d	20,791	.....	4	161 $\frac{1}{11}$
IV. Dublin City .....	.....	.....	15,104	14,949	.....	.....	.....
V. Kildare	236,750	369	14,564	16,478	1,914	14 $\frac{3}{8}$	44 $\frac{3}{8}$
VI. Kilkenny County	300,350	469	23,414	25,949	2,535	10	63 $\frac{1}{2}$
VII. Kilkenny City .....	.....	.....	no return	3,840	.....	.....	.....
VIII. King's County	282,200	440	19,705	22,564	2,859	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	61 $\frac{3}{8}$
IX. Longford.....	134,150	209	16,348	18,987	2,639	7	90 $\frac{10}{10}$
X. Louth.....	110,750	173	no return	18,138	.....	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	123
XI. Meath.....	327,900	512	25,921	27,942	2,021	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	54 $\frac{3}{8}$
XII. Queen's County.....	235,300	367	19,932	23,105	3,173	10 $\frac{1}{8}$	63
XIII. Westmeath.....	231,550	361	no return	23,015	.....	10	63 $\frac{3}{8}$
XIV. Wexford.....	342,900	535	no return	29,159	.....	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	54 $\frac{3}{8}$
XV. Wicklow.....	311,600	486	13,445	17,289	3,844	18	35 $\frac{7}{12}$
	2,792,550	4,356	—	278,398	—	10	4
II. MUNSTER.							
I. Clare	476,200	744	29,301	35,373	6,072	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	47 $\frac{1}{2}$
II. Cork County	1,048,800	1,638	91,447	103,279	11,832	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	70
III. Cork City .....	.....	.....	7,652 ^d	11,180	.....	.....	.....
IV. Kerry	647,650	1,012	31,749	35,597	3,848	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	35
V. Limerick County	386,750	604	17,897 ^d	35,201	.....	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	70 $\frac{1}{2}$
VI. Limerick City .....	.....	.....	no return	7,208	.....	.....	.....
VII. Tipperary	554,950	867	50,224	55,297	5,073	10	63 $\frac{3}{8}$
VIII. Waterford County.....	262,800	410	19,342	20,189	847	11	58
IX. Waterford City .....	.....	.....	3,581	3,671	90	.....	.....
	3,377,150	5,275	—	306,995	—	11	58 $\frac{1}{2}$
III. ULSTER.							
I. Antrim.....	387,200	650	42,258	46,661	4,403	8 $\frac{1}{8}$	78 $\frac{3}{8}$
II. Armagh.....	181,450	283	21,944 ^d	36,260	.....	5	128
III. Carrickfergus Town (c)	.....	.....	1,166	1,367	201	.....	.....
IV. Cavan	301,000	470	no return	34,148	.....	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 $\frac{1}{2}$
V. Donegal	679,550	1,061	no return	44,800	.....	15 $\frac{1}{2}$	32 $\frac{7}{10}$
VI. Down	348,550	544	53,310	59,747	6,437	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$
VII. Fermanagh.....	283,450	448	19,291	22,585	3,294	12 $\frac{1}{2}$	50 $\frac{1}{2}$
VIII. Londonderry	318,500	479	31,287	34,691	3,404	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	72 $\frac{1}{2}$
IX. Monaghan	179,600	280	27,068	32,378	5,312	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	115 $\frac{1}{2}$
X. Tyrone	463,700	724	46,213	47,164	951	10	63 $\frac{7}{8}$
	3,143,000	4,894	—	359,801	—	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	73 $\frac{1}{2}$
IV. CONNAUGHT.							
I. Galway County	989,950	1,546	21,122 ^d	54,180	.....	17	37 $\frac{3}{8}$
II. Galway Town .....	.....	.....	3,353	3,957	604	.....	.....
III. Leitrim	255,950	400	17,899	21,762	3,863	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	54 $\frac{1}{2}$
IV. Mayo	790,600	1,235	43,702	53,951	9,349	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	43
V. Roscommon	346,650	541	30,254	37,399	7,145	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	69
VI. Sligo	247,150	386	no return	27,959	.....	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	70
	2,630,300	4,108	—	197,408	—	13 $\frac{3}{10}$	48
I. LEINSTER	2,792,550	4,356	.....	278,398	.....	10	64
II. MUNSTER	3,377,150	5,275	.....	306,995	.....	11	50 $\frac{1}{2}$
III. ULSTER	3,143,000	4,894	.....	359,801	.....	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	73 $\frac{1}{2}$
IV. CONNAUGHT	2,630,300	4,108	.....	197,408	.....	13 $\frac{3}{10}$	48
	11,943,000 (^d)	18,633	—	1,142,291	—	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	61

SEVERAL COUNTIES OF IRELAND, ACCORDING TO THE CENSUS OF 1821;
1813 and 1821, and of the Proportions of Houses and Inhabitants to the Acre and the Square Mile, in each County.

Number of Inhabitants in 1813. (a)	Number of Inhabitants in 1821.	Excess of Inhabitants between the Years 1813 and 1821.	Average Number of Acres to an Inhabitant.	Average Number of Inhabitants to a Square Mile.	Observations.
69,566	78,952	9,386	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.75	369	
16,123	18,118	1,995			
110,437 ^d	150,011	39,574	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 2.33	1,520	
176,610	185,881	9,271			
85,133	99,065	13,932	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 2.40	268	
134,664	158,716	24,052	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.66	308	
no return	23,230				
113,226	131,088	17,862	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 2.16	298	(a) The contents of each county in acres and square miles have been taken from Beaufort's Memoir of a Map of Ireland, as being (though not perfectly accurate) the latest and best account that pervades the whole island.
95,917	107,570	11,653	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.20	514	
no return	101,011		1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.07	688	
142,479	159,183	16,704	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 2.00	311	
113,867	134,275	20,418	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.71	366	
no return	128,819		1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.83	357	(b) The letter d attached to the figures of a county in this column, denotes a deficiency of some of the returns of that county; no estimate, therefore, could be given of the increase or diminution of houses and inhabitants in these cases.
no return	170,806		2 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 2.00	319	
83,109	110,767	27,658	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 2.81	228	
—	1,757,492	—	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.88	403	
160,603	208,089	47,486	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 2.30	280	(c) The contents, and relative proportions of houses, &c. of Drogheda town are included in Louth county; those of Carrickfergus town in Antrim county; and those of the other counties of cities and counties of towns in the counties at large of the same name with themselves.
523,936	629,786	105,850	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.42	446	
64,304 ^d	100,658	36,354	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 3.00	213	
178,622	218,432	39,810	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.33	459	
103,866 ^d	128,432	24,566			
no return	59,045				
290,531	346,896	56,365	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.55	400	
119,457	127,842	8,385	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.66	381	(a) This total is exclusive of Lough Neagh, the contents of which could not be included in the above table, as not being entirely within the limits of any one county; it is computed by Beaufort to contain 88,200 acres, which being added to the preceding total, will make the superficies of Ireland to contain 12,001,200 Irish acres.
25,467	28,679	3,212			
—	1,935,612	—	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.70	367	
231,548	262,860	31,312	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.38	447	
121,449 ^d	197,427	75,978	$\frac{7}{8}$ or 0.90	697	
6,136	8,023	1,887			
no return	195,076		1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.50	415	
no return	248,270		2 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 2.75	234	
287,290	325,410	38,120	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.06	598	
111,250	130,997	19,747	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.15	292	
186,181	193,869	7,688	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.60	405	
140,433	174,697	34,264	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.00	624	
250,746	261,865	11,119	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.77	362	
—	1,998,494	—	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.60	408	
140,995 ^d	300,599	159,604	3 or 3.00	218	
24,684	27,775	3,091			
94,096	124,705	30,609	2 or 2.00	312	
237,371	293,112	55,741	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 2.66	237	
158,110	206,729	50,619	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.60	385	
no return	146,229		1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.66	378	
—	1,110,229	—	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ or 1.36	270	
—	1,757,492	—	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.88	403	
—	1,935,612	—	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.70	367	
—	1,998,494	—	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.60	408	
—	1,110,229	—	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ or 1.36	270	
—	6,801,827	—	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 1.75	365	

notwithstanding the PRISONS. Substance of the Report of the Inspectors General on the general State of the Gaols, &c. of Ireland.

The Inspectors General divide their Report into various heads:

County Gaols.

They state that in the greater number of instances the plans which had been decided upon for completing additional works in the prisons of this class had been actively pursued; and that several of the county gaols, which they formerly reported as wholly inadequate to the classification required by law, now afforded reasonable accommodation. They regret, however, to observe that in some counties differences of opinion had retarded the operation of Grand Juries, and postponed the completion of some essential works; but they entertain the most sanguine hope, that in another year all these difficulties will be removed. The interior management of the county gaols had undergone a very decided change for the better since their last tour.

District Bridewells.

Had as yet been established in but two counties, in the towns of Balinglass and Parsonstown. Two more, in Dungarvan and Dungannon, were in contemplation.

Smaller Bridewells.

The great difficulty which lay in the way of improvement in this branch of the department was, the total inadequacy of the present buildings. The county of Cork, however, had set an example in this respect, which the Inspectors trusted would be generally followed.

Manor Prisons.

No improvement had taken place since the last inspection of these prisons.

General Penitentiaries.

The experience of the last year had tended strongly to confirm the Inspectors in the favourable sentiments which they always expressed with respect to the penitentiary system. The further improvement which had taken place in the Richmond General Penitentiary confirmed them in the most sanguine expectation that the success of that institution would lead to an extension of the principle in Ireland.

Lunatic Asylums.

The principal large establishments in Ireland, for the care of the lunatic poor, were,—

The Richmond Lunatic Asylum,
Dublin, containing beds for 236 patients.
House of Industry 465
Cork Lunatic Asylum 350

But those institutions afforded very insufficient accommodation for the number of applicants for admission. The smaller Lunatic and Idiot Asylums in county towns presented a most distressing picture; being wholly inadequate to the wants of the different counties. By the

Act under which a Commission was appointed, "For the general control, &c. and for directing the erection, establishment, and regulation of Asylums for the Lunatic Poor in Ireland," a certain number of counties were enabled to join in the expense of establishing an Asylum for the reception of lunatics. This had been advantageously effected at Armagh; and in Limerick; and the Inspectors strongly recommended other counties, particularly the counties in the province of Connaught, also to avail themselves of the advantages of the Act.

Convicts.

Owing to a delay in the works, the hulk stationed at Kingstown, near Dublin, had not yet been occupied; and the hulk "Surprise," at the Cove of Cork, continued to receive the convicts from all the gaols. The *dépôt* at Cork (which was well conducted) remained a sufficient prison for the accommodation of the female convicts prior to embarkation. The great desideratum with respect to the convicts on board the hulks was, that some effectual means should be devised for their constant employment. The Inspectors renew their former recommendation to establish a Penitentiary on Spike Island, as calculated to promote the united object of forwarding the works in that fortress, and affording to the convicts present occupation, and the means of earning a future livelihood.

Boards of Superintendence.

The boards of superintendence in Ireland occupy the place of the visiting justices in England. The Inspectors attach great importance to the services of these boards, and point out, under seven distinct heads, the objects which ought principally to engage their attention.

Officers of Gaols.

An imperative sense of public duty compels the Inspectors to say, that the talents and qualities of mind necessary in the officers of the higher, and the efficiency indispensable in the officers of the lower, classes, are overlooked in Ireland; and that duties of the most arduous kind are entrusted to persons wholly unsuitable to the task.

Schools and Employment.

There remain very few instances in the county gaols of Ireland in which a schoolmaster has not been appointed, and a school regularly established. The result had been on the whole satisfactory. Difficulties had impeded the introduction of productive labour; but the treadmill was becoming very general, and had been decidedly beneficial. The Inspectors say that they cannot conclude their observations on the present state of schools and labour, without noticing the valuable accession to this means of ameliorating the condition of the prisoners in their gaols, in the establishment of ladies' committees. It had been productive of the happiest consequences. It had also led to a benevolent establishment for the reception of females when discharged from prison. An establishment for

the reception of juvenile male offenders, on similar principles, was about to be established. We have lately, say the Inspectors, seen this publication coming from a high quarter, in which the principle is advocated that punishment should be the sole character of the prison labour; that to schools and houses of industry should be left the task of instruction; the object of imprisonment being to correct and to punish. This principle runs through the whole of the publication in question, and the respectable author of the pamphlet expresses infinite satisfaction in the idea that such principles are daily gaining ground. We have formed a different opinion as to the nature and principle of the employment of the prisoners; but without entering into the subject as affecting the cause of prison discipline in England, we are so persuaded of the evil effects which would follow, in this country, from any ground being gained in introducing the principle to which we object, that we are bound by an imperative sense of duty to express our dissent from it. The spread of such a principle would rob us of the most effectual means of rendering imprisonment an instrument in the hands of the magistracy of Ireland, conducive to the diminution of crime. In Ireland, the principal causes of crime are to be found in the ignorance and want of education of the lower orders, and in the baneful effects of evil instruction from the ill-disposed; to which they are so much exposed;

and these evils are with peculiar effect met and counteracted by a system of instruction in the gaols. The author of the publication in question will admit that his arguments entirely rest upon the assumed fact that punitive labour is likely to succeed in its objects, while the system of instruction and reformation is likely to fail. Now the experience of this country clearly warrants a different conclusion; and affords every year additional proof that the latter are the remedies precisely applicable to the case of our prisoners; that instruction is received with eagerness and with gratitude, and attended with the most beneficial effects; and that the instances of improved character in those who have been discharged after their period of imprisonment, have been so numerous and satisfactory, as to afford conclusive arguments in favour of a perseverance in the endeavour to use the opportunity which that imprisonment affords, to reform the unhappy inmates of our gaols, and to turn them from the evil of their ways." *Dublin Prisons, and Debtors' Prisons.*

The Inspectors declare their anxiety to draw the attention of Government to the Four Courts, Marshalsea, and Newgate.

The Appendix to the foregoing Report contains separate and detailed observations on every prison in Ireland.

RETURN OF WORK AND SCHOOLS IN

NAMES OF GAOLS.	Works of Male Prisoners.	Amount of Profits during the last Year.	What Proportion of Profit given to Prisoners.	Amount of Loss on the Work for that Year.	Works of Females.
Antrim county gaol, Carrickfergus		none	none	none	spinning
Armagh county gaol, Armagh	weaving	£ 5	one-third	none	ditto
Belfast house of correction	breaking stones for the roads.	170 0 0	one-third, 2d. per day	none	needle-work and spinning
Carlow county gaol, Carlow		none	a small allowance	none	ditto
County town of Carrickfergus, Antrim	none	none	none	none	none
Cavan county gaol, Cavan	breaking stones, and one carpenter and shoemaker	none	one-third of labourers' wages	none	spinning and washing
Clare county gaol, Ennis	breaking stones	none	none	none	spinning
Cork county gaol, Cork	none	none	none	none	spinning and washing
Cork city gaol	none	none	none	none	needle-working
Donegal county gaol, Lifford	none	none	none	none	spinning
Down county gaol, Downpatrick	breaking stones	10 0 0	none	none	spinning and plain work
Drogheda county gaol, Drogheda	none	none	none	none	spinning
Dublin county gaol, Kilmainham	none	none	none	none	spinning and making clothing.
Dublin city gaol, Newgate	none	none	none	none	none
Fermanagh county gaol, Enniskillen	breaking stones	none	none	none	spinning
Galway county gaol, Galway	none	none	none	none	spinning
Galway town gaol	none	none	none	none	none
Kerry county gaol, Tralee	none	none	none	none	spinning
Kildare county gaol, Naas	none	none	none	none	none
Kilkenny city gaol	none	none	none	none	a few women spin
Ditto county gaol	pounding hemp, and some trades	4 7 4	the whole	none	spinning, &c.
King's county gaol, Philipstown	breaking stones	none	none	none	none
Leitrim county gaol, Carrick-on-Shannon	breaking stones	9 13 6	one-third	none	spinning
Limerick county gaol, Limerick	searching flax, and tradesmen kept to their trades	14 19 1½	one-third	none	knitting and spinning
Limerick city gaol	none	none	none	none	none
Londonderry county gaol, Londonderry	breaking stones	none	one-third	none	spinning
Longford county gaol, Longford	none	none	none	none	none
Louth county gaol, Dundalk	breaking stones, beating hemp, &c.	30 0 0	rather more than one-third	none	spinning, &c.
Mayo county gaol, Castlebar	none	none	none	none	none
Meath county gaol, Trim	none	none	none	none	spinning
Monaghan gaol	none	none	none	none	spinning, &c.
Queen's County	none	none	none	none	needle-work
Roscommon	none	none	none	none	none
Sligo	breaking stones, &c.	196 14 6	one-third	none	spinning and work
Tipperary	none	none	none	none	spinning and making gool clothing
Tyrone	none	none	none	none	spinning
Waterford	none	none	none	none	spinning, washing, and knitting
Ditto city	none	none	none	none	knitting
Westmeath	none	none	none	none	none
Wicklow gaol	none to gaol	none to gaol	an allowance	none	spinning and making prison dresses
Wexford	none	none	none	none	none

In those gaols in which no work is returned, the prisoners have some employment in whitewashing

THE SEVERAL GAOLS IN IRELAND, 1825.

Amount of Profit during last Year.	Proportion of Profit given to Females.	Amount of Loss on the Work for last Year.	Tread Wheel.	To what Purpose applied.	Proportion of Profit paid to Prisoners from Tread Wheel.	Male School.	Female School.
£ s. d. 4 10 0	full amount	£ s. d. none	none	none	none	in operation	in operation.
none	2d. per hank: the whole profit	0 18 0	none	none	none	ditto	ditto.
20 0 0	one-third	none	none	none	none	ditto	ditto.
none	1d. per dozen	none	for 6 men	raising water	none	ditto	ditto.
none	none	none	none	none	none	none	none.
none	one half of common wages	none	presentment made	none	none	in operation	in operation.
none to gaol	the whole	none	ditto	none	none	ditto	none.
the work done for the gaol.	one-third of value calculated	none	for 74 men	raising water	none	ditto	in operation.
none	none	none	contracted for	to wash and scutch flax	none	ditto	ditto.
none to gaol	the whole	none	none	none	none	ditto	ditto.
none	two thirds of common wages	5 0 0	for 15 men	none	none	ditto	ditto.
none to gaol	the whole	none	none	none	none	none	ditto.
none	none	none	for 20 men	none	none	in operation	ditto.
none to county	the entire	none	none	none	none	ditto	ditto.
ditto	half labourers wages	none	none	none	none	ditto	in operation.
none	none	none	none	none	none	none	ditto.
11 0 4	one-third	none	none	none	none	in operation	ditto.
none	none	none	none	none	none	ditto	ditto.
none	none	none	none	none	none	none	none.
none	none	none	for 7 men	none, but machinery in progress for beating hump	none	in operation	ditto.
none	none	none	none	none	none	ditto	ditto.
10 3 0	one third	none	for 14 men	raising water	none	ditto	in operation.
none to county	2 19 8 last year	none	4 tread wheels for 24 men	scutching flax	none	ditto	ditto.
none	none	none	none	none	none	none	none.
no account kept	one-third	none	none	none	none	in operation	in operation.
none	none	none	none	none	none	ditto	ditto.
small on account of loss on flax	one-third	none	none	none	none	ditto	ditto.
none	none	none	none	none	none	ditto	ditto.
none	none	none	for 10 men	raising water	none	ditto	ditto.
14 14 4	one-third	none	for 16 men	ditto	none	ditto	ditto.
none to gaol	a small allowance	none	none	none	none	ditto	ditto.
none	none	none	for 14 men	raising water	none	ditto	ditto.
48 8 5	one-third	none	presentment made	none	none	ditto	ditto.
none to gaol	the whole	none	for 18 men	none	none	ditto	ditto.
none to gaol	the whole	none	none	none	none	ditto	ditto.
5 0 0	one-third	none	none	none	none	none	ditto.
none	none	none	for 8 men	none	none	none	none.
none	none	none	none	none	none	in operation	none.
6 6 4	one-third	none	for 14 men	none	none	ditto	in operation.
none	none	none	none	none	none	ditto	none.

and cleaning the gaols. It is also to be observed, that this return of no work in the first column does not refer to the tread wheel, which is in very general use.

STATE OF IRELAND.

Substance of the Minutes of Evidence taken before the Select Committee of the House of Lords, appointed to inquire into the State of Ireland.

THOMAS FRANKLAND LEWIS, Esq., M.P.—Was chief commissioner in the commission lately appointed to inquire into education in Ireland, and passed considerable time in Ireland in 1821, and again in 1823, in the commission appointed to inquire into the revenue department. Had no doubt that the state of the distillery laws had contributed materially to the unquiet condition of many parts of Ireland; by producing in large classes of persons a habit of insubordination, of open resistance to the law, and of living otherwise than by honest industry. The recent alteration in those laws had already been very salutary; and, although there was no reason to expect that illicit distillation would be wholly extinguished, he hoped it would soon cease to be one of the prominent evils and grievances of Ireland. He admitted that the substitution of beer for whiskey was desirable; but he did not think that the change would be very practicable, or that it would produce any decided alteration in the Irish character. The removal of what were called protecting duties had produced effects on the cotton manufactures of Ireland infinitely more beneficial than the most sanguine persons had anticipated. The weaving of cotton yarn, spun in England, and sent over by the English manufacturer, was now carried on to a considerable extent in those parts of Ireland which were in easy communication with the manufacturing districts of England; and he had no doubt that it would increase. A vague alarm about the state of Ireland had hitherto somewhat retarded it; but he thought that that would gradually give way; for he had never observed that a wanton destruction of manufactories formed a part of the objects of those persons who had been active in committing outrages in Ireland. The manufacture of woollen was also going on well (though by no means so well as cotton); but that of silk was on the decline. The change which had been made in the commercial relations of Ireland with England having been highly conducive to the prosperity of the former, he should now say, that in his opinion the sources of the evils of Ireland rested on two main relations—the one the relation between landlord and tenant, and the other the relation between the Roman Catholic body and the governing authorities of the country. Many of the causes of the existing relation between landlord and tenant in Ireland were to be sought for in remote occurrences. The effects were exorbitant rents, minute subdivisions of farms, and excessive population. Nor was he aware that by any system of measures the situation of the agricultural population in England and Ireland would be rapidly or easily assimilated.

With regard to the second relation, any body who had seen Ireland must have observed that the state in which the Roman Catholic body and the Protestant body were placed towards each other was an extremely painful one. The feeling of mutual hostility was constantly roused into action by the slightest occurrences. To the general principle, therefore, of the concession of what were called the Roman Catholic claims he agreed; but he was not prepared to say that perfect equality of civil rights was either fully attainable or absolutely necessary.

JOHN LESLIE FOSTER, Esq., M.P.—Since the alteration in the commercial system of Ireland, which was adopted in 1822, the cotton manufacture had occupied certain portions of Ireland in a very surprising manner, and was extending itself into others. It was now generally understood and admitted, that the system which had called itself one of protection was in fact one of prohibition; and the cessation of that system had presented an opportunity for the exertion of Irish industry in directions and to an extent never before dreamt of. In Down, Antrim, Louth, and part of the county of Dublin, which had hitherto been the chief seats of the linen manufacture, all the coarser fabrics of linen were disappearing before the superior profits of the cotton manufacture, and were proceeding to the westward and southward. A great deal of twist was sent from Manchester to be woven in Ireland, and then went back without passing through the operation of being bleached or dressed. The linen manufacture had, however, not retrograded; and the distilleries in Ireland were more flourishing than at any former period. The proximate causes of the frequent occurrence of disturbances in Ireland of late years, he thought, were the extreme physical misery of the peasantry, their perfect inability to meet the demands in the shape of rent, tithes, county and parochial rates, &c., which it was attempted to enforce upon them by various processes of law, and their living under institutions for which they had neither much affection nor much respect; the remote cause was, in his opinion, a radically vicious structure of society which prevailed in many parts of Ireland, which had originated in the events of Irish history, which might be in a great measure palliated, but which, he feared, it would now be extremely difficult wholly to change. The system of middle-men had been a source of great evil; but an experiment which he had made on his own estates convinced him of the practicability of introducing the English system of tenure into any part of Ireland. If Catholic emancipation were granted, although one cause of irritation would certainly be removed from the Roman Catholic peasantry, the real causes which had led to insurrectionary movements in Ireland would still, in his opinion, remain untouched. With regard to the 40s. freeholds, their operation was to add very considerably to the number, and

still more to the misery of the existings population; and it was a complete mistake, to suppose that the possessors of them had any freedom of choice at elections. He thought, that if Catholics were admitted to parliament, the franchise continuing as at present, a considerable number would be returned; but that if the franchise were (as he would recommend) limited to twenty pounds, few would. Coal existed in eight parts of Ireland; and in the county of Leitrim was almost in contact with the richest iron ore; and his expectations were very sanguine as to the future prosperity of that part of Ireland from those resources.

WILLIAM GRANT, Esq.—Was one of the commissioners of inquiry into education in Ireland. In Connaught, which was the district he had particularly examined, he found the peasantry less squalid and miserable than in the neighbourhood of Dublin. He understood that the establishment of petty sessions had given great satisfaction. The state of feeling in Ireland with regard to religious differences appeared to be strong; and the existence of the 40s. freeholds seemed to be generally lamented.

JOHN DOHERTY, Esq., M.P.—The impurity, partly owing to the real difficulties of the law; and partly to the leaning of the juries, with which the practice of sub-letting was carried on, had materially tended to produce the superabundant population of Ireland. He thought some improvement might be made in the law with respect to sub-sheriffs; and that it was advisable to compel a higher class of persons to attend on the petty juries in the criminal courts.

ANTHONY RICHARD BLAKE, Esq.—Was Chief Remembrancer of the Exchequer in Ireland. Was a native of Ireland, but had been almost entirely absent from 1805 until 1823. On his return observed a material change for the better in the appearance of the peasantry, although their habitations were still very wretched. He attributed the discomfort of the Irish peasantry, as compared with the English peasantry, to the different principles which governed the letting of land, and the different consideration in which the peasantry were held in the two countries. In Ireland, land was divided into quantities of an acre, or even half an acre, which were let to the peasantry at rack-rents. The new tenants were generally young men, who trusting for subsistence to the produce of their potato gardens, immediately married, and then ran up huts without windows or chimneys, in which they existed for the rest of their lives, without having the means of making them in any degree fit for human habitations. The intermediate landlords, and the power they possessed of distraining upon the occupier, were the cause of great evil. He had found the people of Ireland more alive than formerly to what was called the Catholic question; which he attributed to the increasing diffusion of intelligence and property among them. The

present unequal state of the law with regard to Catholics and Protestants was felt to be injurious to individuals, and galling to all. If the Roman Catholic body were received into the bosom of the state as good and faithful subjects, he thought a state provision for the Roman Catholic clergy would be considered a great boon, but not otherwise. The adoption of petty sessions had given great satisfaction. The raising of the elective qualification was, in his opinion, in every view of it, a measure essential to the peace of Ireland; and he should be disposed to carry it as high as twenty pounds. Coupled with the settlement of the Catholic question, he was persuaded that such a measure would give very great permanent satisfaction. He thought it would strengthen the Protestant interest in Ireland; otherwise (although a Catholic), no one would disapprove of it, more heartily than he should; for the Protestant church in Ireland was a great link in the chain which connected Great Britain and Ireland together, and with the security of that connexion he was satisfied the interests of Ireland were essentially identified. The feelings of religious animosity were on the increase in Ireland, in consequence of the irritation which the constant discussion of the Catholic question produced, and which rendered life in Ireland very uncomfortable. Quieting Ireland was a measure which would relieve all orders and descriptions, and would promote the introduction of English capital into the country; but he was persuaded, that no structure raised for the benefit of Ireland could be effectually permanent unless Catholic emancipation were made the foundation and corner stone.

JAMES GLASSFORD, Esq.—Had been one of the commissioners of education in Ireland. In the parts which he had principally visited, especially in the neighbourhood of Belfast, Hillsborough, and Bannbridge, manufactures appeared to be in a thriving condition. He was a Scotch advocate, and from his professional experience in Scotland, he thought the residence of a sheriff, or assistant barrister, or of some professional gentleman, during the year, or the greater part of the year, in the different counties in Ireland, might possibly be attended with advantage. Effects of a very injurious nature, throughout the country, arising from religious differences, forced themselves upon his notice, while in Ireland; and he did not think that any plan for the improvement of the country could be perfectly effectual, without the removal of the civil disabilities on account of religious opinions which at present existed.

DANIEL O'CONNELL, Esq.—Was not particularly acquainted with the southern, and western parts of Ireland. He had an extremely high opinion of the administration of justice in the Court of King's Bench in Ireland, as at present constituted; but that of the Court of Chancery was quite unsatisfactory. The con-

situation of juries in Dublin frequently gave reason to apprehend partiality. No persons could now be sheriffs of that city without first pledging themselves to take a part in politics hostile to the Roman Catholics; and as the sheriffs had the summoning of all juries, and the formation of all grand juries, a general impression remained on the minds of the Roman Catholics that their property, or, in cases of criminal offences, their lives and liberties, were not secure. In consequence of the exclusion of Catholics and liberal Protestants, there could be no doubt that there was a great deal of unfair and unnecessary taxation by grand juries in Dublin. Difference of religion did not appear to him at all to affect the administration of justice at the assizes in the county of Clare, or in the county of Limerick, or in the county of Kerry; but he thought it did to some extent in the county of Cork, in consequence of there being, in that county, somewhat of a higher resident gentry, who kept each other in countenance in what the Catholics called illiberality. The suspicion of partiality, however, did not rest upon any other persons concerned in the administration of justice than the jurors. He had a great abhorrence of the practice of quarter sessions, as far as it related to the civil business; but the defects in it were not at all connected with the distractions of religion; they were defects in the system itself: it cherished perjury to a frightful degree. He thought that the assistant barrister ought not to be a practising barrister, as that tended to give him in some cases an undue bias; and, in his opinion, it would be preferable that a magistrate should be the chairman at the quarter sessions. His opinion was unfavourable of the administration of justice in Ireland by individual magistrates, although it had been somewhat improved by the petty sessions. The personal prejudices, and perhaps hasty temper, of the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, and the political prejudices of the persons with whom he associated, gave reason to believe, that, in the late revision of the magistracy, the best means were not taken to ascertain who were fit magistrates, and who were not: the Roman Catholic gentry were not at all consulted on the subject. The impression upon the minds of the Roman Catholics was, that in all cases where they were before the magistrates, it would be better for them to be Protestants than Catholics. He thought it would be an improvement if some qualification of property were established, without which the office of magistrate could not be held;—a qualification amounting to at least £500 a year. For the last thirty-two years Catholics had been admissible to the freedom of the city of Dublin; but, though there was a great degree of wealth in the hands of Catholics in Dublin, there was not one instance of a Catholic having obtained his freedom, although it was very much their wish. The manner courts were extremely bad; in his humble judgment, they were not of the least use; and

might be most advantageously abolished, except perhaps in the neighbourhood of Dublin. The relative landed property of Protestants and Roman Catholics, in Ireland, he should suppose, upon a very loose guess, to be as twenty to one. In Dublin, he thought that the commercial wealth of the Catholics was greater than that of the Protestants. The corporations in Ireland exacted tolls to an enormous amount, to which, in his judgment, they had no title whatever. By the magistrates in the county of Kerry having kept to themselves, as by law they were entitled to do, the appointment of the police, instead of leaving it to the police inspector, there was an infinitely better police in Kerry than elsewhere. The remaining civil disabilities upon the Roman Catholics affected the peace and prosperity of Ireland, by preventing the due administration of justice; by creating actual injustice in the administration of the law; by rendering, in the opinion of the Roman Catholics of Ireland, their lives and property less secure than those of their Protestant fellow-subjects; by giving a perpetual superiority, accompanied naturally by triumph and even insolence, to the ruling party, which became more marked and severe as it descended among the inferior grades of society. The exclusion worked actual injustice; for, to his certain knowledge, the Roman Catholics of Ireland were as sincerely attached to the succession of the crown in the present royal family, and to the principles of the constitution, and to the connexion with Great Britain, as any Protestant possibly could be. The present was, in his opinion, a period peculiarly favourable to an alteration of the law; for the Roman Catholics were much more disposed to go considerable lengths for the purpose of coming to a fair and equitable arrangement with the Protestants than they had been at any former period. He himself having come to England with a notion that many persons, even of high name, who opposed the equalisation of civil rights, gave as reasons what he called pretences, was now convinced of his error; and the circumstances which now led him to believe that the motives which he thought pretences, were honourable and conscientious objections, were likely to make the same impression upon the people of Ireland. What he and the Catholics generally were anxious for, was inquiry into facts, which inquiry they were persuaded would be favourable to them. One objection was, the danger of the re-assumption of the forfeited estates: of that there was not the least apprehension, as the Catholic gentry and the Catholic farmers were all interested in maintaining the present state and system of property. Another objection was, that the Catholics would look to the re-establishment of the Catholic church in the room of the Protestant church. Twenty-one years' intimate knowledge of those who had taken an active part in Catholic emancipation, convinced him that there was the most deter-

mined hostility, on the part both of the Catholic clergy and of the Catholic laity to such a proposition. He was persuaded that there was no pledge which the Catholics would not cheerfully accede to; to secure the state against any idea of a Catholic ascendancy. The equalisation of the political rights of Catholics and Protestants would, in his opinion, be advantageously accompanied by some legislative provision for the Catholic clergy. He was also convinced that the Catholics would be content to exchange the indirect political power they now possessed by means of the 40s. freeholders, for the direct advantage of the political influence they would possess if admitted to the enjoyment of equal rights. He did not think that any effect had been produced upon the minds of the lower orders of the Irish Catholics by what were called Pastorini's Prophecies. They had been discountenanced by many members of the Roman Catholic church, especially Dr. Doyle. The miracles performed through the intercession of Prince Hohenloë had received the sanction of one of the Roman Catholic bishops, Dr. Murray. There was no Catholic tenet that rendered a divided allegiance necessary, in civil and political matters, between the government and any foreign power whatever. Nor was there the slightest difference between the allegiance which a Roman Catholic owed to a Protestant sovereign, and the allegiance which he owed to a Catholic sovereign. The effect of the Orange system on the Roman Catholics in Ireland was to aggravate every feeling of dissatisfaction and dissension in the country, and to shake the allegiance of the lower classes by making them, one way or another, couple the Government and the ruling powers with the Orangemen.

MAJOR-GENERAL BOURKE. — He apprehended that the disturbances which occasionally affected Ireland were principally caused by the pressure of distress, arising from want of sufficient employment, excessive rents, low wages and prices, tithes, and local assessments; and also by the general indisposition on the part of the people to respect the laws, owing, as he thought, to the state of the law in Ireland. This indisposition he attributed chiefly to the maladministration of the law by inferior tribunals, and especially by justices of the peace. A very inferior and improper class of persons had crept into the magistracy. The establishment of petty sessions had, in his opinion, done great good, but that of the Civil Bill Court great mischief. The assistant barrister who presided in the latter, being generally a practising barrister, occasioned great hurry and other evils. Some arrangements that would secure more time, and a regular formal mode of conducting business, would be highly beneficial; for he could not say that it would be prudent to abolish the Civil Bill Court altogether. In the constitution of grand juries great improvement

might be made; for that part of the system which related to the granting of money for the construction or repair of roads or other public works, was by no means satisfactory. The disabilities under which the Roman Catholics of Ireland suffered was one great cause of the indisposition of the population to respect the laws, as they excited a strong suspicion of partiality; and he was persuaded that the removal of those disabilities would change that feeling. The subdivision of land had led to the increase of the population to a degree that was productive of great inconvenience and misery in Ireland. It was very difficult to check this evil; but he thought that by carefully watching over the estates something might be done.

COLONEL WILLIAM SAMUEL CURREY. — Resided at Lismore, in the county of Waterford, and had the Duke of Devonshire's property under his direction. Every thing had been done that was possible to consolidate the duke's estates, and bring them into large farms. The rents were easier and better paid than most of those in the neighbourhood. With regard to the introduction of manufactures, he thought the people wanted nothing but reasonable encouragement to make them very fairly industrious. The religious distinctions and disabilities now existing by law, led to great jealousy and distrust between the Catholics and the Protestants; and he thought there could be no security for peace and tranquillity while those distinctions and disabilities existed. At the time of the Union the Catholics were led confidently to believe that it was Mr. Pitt's intention to recommend the removal of their disabilities; and he had heard many of them characterise their non-removal as a breach of contract.

The Rev. JOHN BURNETT. — Was the Independent Minister of Cork. The general causes of the disturbances which had prevailed of late years in the south of Ireland were, he thought, the extreme poverty and ignorance of the peasantry. Their poverty made them desperate, and their ignorance made them the dupes of ill-disposed persons. The education of the lower orders would be one of the most effectual means of removing the evils of Ireland; inasmuch as that would disarm other evils that acted upon the country. The people were disposed to receive education; but the Catholic priests in general checked that disposition; in consequence, he believed, of a groundless fear on the subject of proselytism. Much misapprehension, he was persuaded, existed among the Protestants with respect to the feeling of the Catholics towards them; and even if the civil disabilities of the Catholics were removed, it would be advisable, for the removal of this feeling, that the Roman Catholic clergy of Ireland should consent to petition the Pope for a distinct declaration, or the authority of a general council, with regard to the doctrines which were covered with so

which severity, and had witnessed so much sus-
picion.

JOSEPH ARBOTHNOT, Esq. Had been for
above twenty years practising his profession as
an attorney of the three superior courts of law,
and a solicitor of the Court of Chancery. Was
well acquainted with the proceedings in the
execution of process on judgments recovered in
courts of law; and had experienced the greatest
difficulties in executing such process, in conse-
quence of the imperfect manner in which the
duty of under-sheriff was performed in Ireland.
The witness delivered in a paper containing
statements of the difficulties to which he had
adverted, and suggestions of measures which
appeared calculated in some degree to remove
them.

The Rev. HENRY COOK, M.A. — Was Mo-
derator of the Synod of Ulster. With regard to
the relative state of the population as between
Roman Catholics and Protestants in the pro-
vince of Ulster, he thought that in the county
of Derry the relative proportion was two Catho-
lics to one Protestant; and that in the counties
of Down and Antrim it was about four Pro-
testants to one Catholic. He thought that there
were at least 700,000 Presbyterians in Ulster.
Dividing the peasantry into the class of farmers
and the class of labourers, he thought the
former comfortable and much improved; the
latter not much improved, but all in work. In
Belfast he thought the Presbyterians were two
to one as compared with those professing the
doctrines of the Church of England, and that the
Catholics would not be two to three with refer-
ence to the Protestants generally. In Newry he
thought the Catholics were two in three. The
Protestants were more prone to emigration
than the Catholics, which he attributed to their
reading more, and to their being more anxious
about personal independence than the Catholics.
At Maghera and elsewhere, in the county of
Derry, the Catholics had committed a succession
of outrages which so alarmed the Protestants,
that, if ships were sent for them, whole districts
would remove. Feuds, such as those to which
he had just adverted, existed in Ulster long
before Orangemen came into organisation, and
should not therefore have been originally pro-
voked by them. The common people had little
idea of what emancipation, as they called it,
was; but thought it was a division of property;
the restoration of the forfeited estates, of which
many of them laid claim to be the heirs. The
more informed classes of the Presbyterian body
did not entertain much apprehension of extend-
ing to the Catholics civil rights; but their
fearful recollections of the year 1641 induced
the less informed of the Presbyterians almost
entirely to disapprove of it. He was of opinion
that the admission of the Catholics to equal
rights would diminish the existing animosities
in the north of Ireland; but he was very doubt-
ful of its effect in the south of Ireland. The

raising of the elective franchise would, in his
opinion, be very beneficial; and he also thought
that such was the existing confidence in the
wisdom and good intentions of Government and
Parliament, that the legislature might go very
many degrees further in effecting changes
deemed beneficial than it could have done for-
merly, with the good-will of the people of the
north.

GENERAL CHARLES BULKELEY EGERTON.
— Had been five years employed in Ireland.
The only district which had been disturbed
while under his command was the Connaught;
and the cause of the disturbance appeared to
be principally between landlord and tenant;
nothing like disaffection. Religious animosities
were very prevalent between the Catholics and
Protestants; and were cherished by the Orange
and other processions, which, in his opinion,
it was very desirable to put down.

The Rev. JAMES DOYNE, D.D. Was Ro-
man Catholic Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin.
Described the manner in which the Roman
Catholic bishops were appointed in Ireland.
They were recommended to the Pope by the
clergy, or some part of the clergy of the vacant
diocese, and that recommendation was generally
accompanied by one from the metropolitan and
suffragans of the province in which the vacancy
existed; and upon that recommendation the
appointment generally took place; he believed
in every instance. This mode of nominating
candidates to the Pope had prevailed universally
in Ireland since the death of the late Pretender.
Previous to the Revolution, both in the time of
the Tudors and the Stuarts, when Catholics,
the reigning sovereign sent a *congé d'élire* to
the chapter, they elected upon that; and the
nomination followed. The power of the Pope
to nominate directly, either a native or a
foreigner to a Roman Catholic bishopric in
Ireland, was acknowledged by the Roman
Catholic church in Ireland; but it was a power
which had never been exercised. Without
intending to imply that he existed on the
part of the Roman Catholic bishops of Ireland
at present any disposition to recognise in the
sovereign a right to interfere, directly or
indirectly, with the appointment of the Catholic
bishops, he could say that they always had
been, and he was sure still were, disposed to
furnish to the sovereign what they conceived to
be sufficient proofs of the loyalty of persons
appointed to sees in Ireland. As an individual,
he would object to any arrangement, never
sanctioned by the Pope, which would go to
give an influence, direct or indirect, to the
sovereign, in the appointment of Roman Ca-
tholic bishops in Ireland. He was sure it
would be felt by the peasantry of Ireland to
be a very considerable relief, if the provision
for their priests were derived from some other
funds. With respect to a provision being made
by the state towards the maintenance of the

case of perfect emancipation that the thing should be proposed. If proposed without, it would be understood by the people as a bribe to the clergy. He delivered in the oath taken by the Roman Catholic archbishops on consecration, which in no respect differed from that taken by the Roman Catholic bishops.

The Rev. DANIEL MURRAY, D.D.—Was Roman Catholic Titular Archbishop of Dublin. Described the sources whence the emoluments of the Roman Catholic bishops, and the incomes of the Roman Catholic priests, were derived. Supposing the Roman Catholics were to be placed upon an equality with the Protestants as to civil rights, if a provision for the maintenance of the Roman Catholic priesthood and bishops could then be so made, that the Government should not exercise any undue influence over the ministry of the Catholic clergy, or that the subordination of the inferior clergy to the superior authorities should not be diminished, he should consider it an unobjectionable measure. The nomination of the Roman Catholic bishops was vested in the Bishop of Rome; but for many years he had not appointed, except on the recommendation of some portion of the Irish Catholic clergy. On the occurrence of a vacancy, it was usual for the clergy, or the chapter, to send three names to the Pope for his selection, although his practice always was to nominate the first. There would be a very serious objection, however, to those three names being previously submitted to the Government of the country. But the Roman Catholics would be very happy to give any pledge in their power, that no person not well affected to the State and to the Government should be raised to the office of bishop. The usual oath of allegiance would, he thought, be a sufficient pledge in individuals who were known to respect the sanctity of an oath as much as any other description of people in the world. It would be also very objectionable, in the event of a provision being made for the Catholic clergy, that the Government should have anything to do with the apportionment of it. With regard to the education of the people in Ireland, it was certainly much impeded by a suspicion that an intention was entertained of converting the Catholic children to Protestantism. He would not wish the Bible to be read in the schools, without explanation. Roman Catholics did not consider the sacred writings as the sole rule of faith. They considered them only a part of the revealed word of God, which consisted both of the written and unwritten word; and of course it would be training up the children in a principle which Roman Catholics did not recognise, if that idea were to be impressed upon them. He thought that the children of both religions might be educated together for all literary purposes, but he would wish that their religious education should be wholly distinct. The communications between the Catholic Church in Ireland and the Church of

Rome were confined to spiritual cases,—ecclesiastical cases solely. To the Prophecies of Pistorino he attached no value whatever; but with reference to the extraordinary cures attributed to the prayers of Prince Hohenloos, or to other prayers in unison with his, he believed that such extraordinary cures had been effected, and he attributed those cures to the efficacy of prayer. Bossuet's character of the intolerance of the Church of Rome had reference merely to its spiritual intolerance. As to the power of the sword to which Bossuet alluded, it was not used by the Church of Rome, which had recourse to the arms of peace and persuasion, and employed even its censure with a view to amendment. He thought the effect on the mind of the people of Ireland, both clergy and laity, by the removal of the civil disabilities under which the laity laboured, would be to produce one universal feeling of gratitude and attachment to the state.

The Rev. HENRY COOK, A.M.—Again examined. Corrected and explained some of the statements in his former examination.

His Grace the LORD ARCHBISHOP OF CASHEL.—Had resided at Cashel since 1822. There had been three unions in his diocese under his authority. The Tithe Composition Act, as far as it had gone, appeared to be popular among the poor; and he believed it would have been carried universally into effect, were it not for the opposition it received from the occupiers of grass land, who paid but little tithe at present. He did not know what the state of the poor was within his diocese. At Cashel, and its neighbourhood, they were particularly distressed; they wanted employment. It was difficult to say how the poor who were unable to work from age or sickness were maintained. There existed no fund for the purpose; but the poor of Ireland were very different from the poor of England in that respect, and mutually assisted one another to an extreme degree. The reports of his own clergy had been favourable as to the conduct of the Roman Catholic clergy, who were much respected. The discussions respecting the use of the Bible in the schools, had occasioned a great number of the Catholic children to be withdrawn. He thought considerable mischief had arisen from the discussions which had been instituted by the Bible Society, who had completely defeated the object they had in view. The generality of the clergy, he conceived, were adverse to the Catholic claims; but he had had no means of ascertaining what the general impression was upon that point. Party seemed to run extremely high on both sides; and every thing was strongly coloured. A great variety of reports of intended murders and massacres were circulated, which, on investigation, turned out to be mere fabrications. He had not the slightest apprehension for his own security. He could not say whether or not, if the Catholics and Protestants enjoyed equal

rights, the Catholics would have greater opportunity or power to make conversions among the Protestants. In the part of Ireland within his knowledge, the different sects appeared to live in perfect harmony. There were no Orange societies in his neighbourhood. From the experience he had had of the common people of Ireland, he thought that they were very grateful for any benefit conferred upon them, and that, when treated with justice, they were disposed to submit to the authority of their superiors. Their gratitude was great. They were accustomed to act from immediate feeling and impulse, and very much disposed to receive every favour with a respectful gratitude, almost bordering on excess. He did not consider them what he had often heard them called, an unhappy people; for they appeared to be the happiest he ever saw. Their cheerfulness was remarkable, and with respect to their mode of living, he confessed that he did not know whether they were not as well off, and even better, than some of the poor peasantry in England. They generally had as much food as they wanted, such as it was, when they could get employment; and their children appeared stronger than the children in England. It was true, they usually went barefooted, and their cabins were miserable; but they seemed happy, and their humanity towards each other was very great. In travelling, they went into any cabin which they could find, and there obtained food, though perfect strangers.

The Right Reverend the Lord Bishop of Derry. Had resided at Derry near two and twenty years. The residence of the clergy in his diocese had much improved, and was at present perfectly satisfactory to his lordship. The city of London had large estates in his diocese, which at present were managed uncommonly well; the Drapers, Grocers, and Fishmongers Companies, actually expended in improvements more money than they received. The lands were much subdivided, for the purpose of making freeholders. There was great distress among the poor in some parts of his diocese, and the only remedy that he knew was to get the gentlemen who lived abroad to return to the country; but that was not possible. There were many large absentee proprietors in his diocese. Those which did the most good were decidedly the city of London companies. Although the various charitable institutions were well supported in Derry, and there was much individual liberality, the wants of the sick and aged were not adequately provided for. He should, however, be very sorry to see any thing like poor laws in Ireland. The extension of Savings Banks might be a beneficial measure. Charitable Loan Societies had been very advantageous. The subdivision of the land, for the purpose of making forty shilling freeholders, had been in every respect mischievous. He did not think that in his diocese there was landed property to the amount of a thousand a year in

the hands of Catholics. The Roman Catholic clergy were a very respectable body of men in general, and he believed their conduct had been generally good. There were about as many Roman Catholics as Protestants in his diocese. There were a great many schools for the poor in his diocese; the Roman Catholic children had, however, been lately taken away from them by the priests; but he had heard no reason assigned. The feeling of the Protestant population in his diocese, in respect of the removal of the civil disabilities operating on the Roman Catholics was, he believed, universally against it.

SIR JOHN NEWPORT, M.P.—In the counties of Waterford, Tipperary, Meath, Wexford, and he thought some small portion of Carlow, it appeared, by information which he had obtained from an eminent solicitor, that, within the last twenty years, landed property of the value of nearly a million sterling had been transferred from Protestant sellers to Catholic purchasers, every acre of which had been forfeited property. The Catholics preferred purchasing property which had been confiscated, as it prevented the necessity of an examination into the validity of ancient titles. The value of Roman Catholic property invested in buildings or in trade, in Waterford and the other commercial towns with which he was acquainted, had increased in comparison with Protestant, and was daily increasing, which was in a great measure attributable to habits of economy. He was also sure that the Catholic population had of late years increased with very great rapidity, as contra distinguished from the Protestant, in the southern parts of Ireland with which he was best acquainted. In most of the corporations of Ireland, although he had the satisfaction to say not in that of Waterford, he believed Roman Catholics had great difficulty in obtaining admission as freemen. A principal cause of the jealousy and soreness of feeling on the part of the Catholics had resulted from their exclusion from the office of sheriff and sub-sheriff. Twelve or fourteen years ago (though not of late) he believed the Catholics were justified in their suspicions arising from that exclusion, that juries were not fairly struck. He considered the grand jury cess, as it was at present levied, one of the greatest evils, because it threw upon the occupying tenantry all the local charges of the county. The sums levied by vestries had an unequal operation, because the persons who imposed them and assessed them in very many instances constituted a very small proportion of those who were to pay them. As there was no control, the money was all jobbed away, and it was the great evil in Ireland, that there was no public to exercise an opinion, but that whatever mal-practices a man might commit, he took shelter under the jury to which he belonged, and they protected him from the consequences. He had obtained leave from the House of Com-

mons to introduce a bill for the regulation of parish vestries, which, if it were adopted, would, he hoped, remove some, though not all the evils of the system.

Rev. JOHN BURNETT, again examined.—His former evidence, without explanation, would appear to make the Roman Catholic system, as it existed in Ireland, quite a harmless thing. He should not fairly represent Catholicity did he not say that there were Catholic books in general circulation in the country, that were subversive of every first principle of morality and religion. The leaders of the Catholic party made use of the question of Catholic emancipation to keep up a spirit of irritation in the country. Every species of education was opposed by the Catholic priesthood. Any measures which might give the Catholics an ascendancy would materially interfere with the improvement of the country.

WILLIAM SHAW MASON, Esq.—Had been engaged in taking the late census of Ireland, and had published three volumes of the parochial survey. Explained the mode in which he proceeded in obtaining the information he had collected, and his reasons for believing that the returns were in general accurate.

JOHN STAUNTON ROCHFORD, Esq.—Had acted for thirty years as a magistrate of the county of Carlow and the Queen's County. Thought the introduction of the petty sessions a great improvement; but that they ought to be made more respectable, by providing sessions' rooms. He conceived that the restoration of the Roman Catholics to the enjoyment of civil and political privileges would produce very beneficial effects in the country. He had never known an instance in which a Catholic priest had employed his influence improperly with respect to the public tranquillity, although there were times when he thought they did not exert themselves as much as they might have done. He thought there would be no difficulty in the extension of moral and religious education in Ireland, if the parties met with a feeling of conciliation. In his opinion, the system of grand jury presentments and local taxation required revision; but the final adjustment of what was called the Catholic question he most certainly thought essential to the comfort and prosperity of Ireland. Raising the qualification for voting would also, he thought, be advantageous.

MATTHEW BARRINGTON, Esq.—Was crown solicitor for the Munster circuit. The crimes committed during the late disturbances were murders, attacking of houses, and searching for arms. The objects stated were, to get possession of the land, and to remove the proctors. Justice could not be better administered in Westminster than it was in the record courts and the assize courts. The sheriffs' court was little held in Ireland; but in the sessions court he thought that justice was very fairly administered. He did not speak of individual

magistrates, but generally of the magistrates at petty sessions, and at the general quarter sessions. From his experience he thought that some alteration might advantageously be made in what was called the process by a writ of *custodiam*. With the exception of the grand jury of the city of Limerick, which had shewn some partiality on the subject of presentments, he thought all the grand juries upon the Munster circuit conducted themselves with propriety. The question of Catholic emancipation kept the country in a state of fever; for the lower class of the people took a deep interest in it; and although it would be presumptuous in him to form an opinion upon it, he thought that until that question was settled, no other remedy could be effectually applied to tranquillise the country. He never could trace any connexion between the outrages of 1821, 1822, and 1823, and the question of Catholic emancipation. He thought the constabulary bill had been of great use in Ireland.

WILLIAM SHAW MASON, Esq., again examined.—Delivered in the returns referred to in his last examination. The relative proportion of Catholics and Protestants in Ireland appeared to him to be as follows: In the province of Leinster, $7\frac{1}{2}$ Catholics to 1 Protestant; in the province of Munster, $12\frac{1}{2}$ Catholics to 1 Protestant; in the province of Ulster, 1 Catholic to $1\frac{1}{2}$ Protestant; in the province of Connaught, 20 Catholics to 1 Protestant; and in the whole of Ireland, $3\frac{1}{2}$ Catholics to 1 Protestant.

The Rev. JAMES DOYLE, D.D., again examined.—If a Roman Catholic penitent, after having confessed his own sins, stated to the priest that he was cognizant of a great sin intended to be committed by a third person, the priest was not at liberty either to discover the name of that third person, or to warn the party likely to suffer by the act; but it was his duty to persuade the penitent to use every means to induce such third person to relinquish his purpose; and unless the penitent promised to do so, it was the duty of the priest to withhold absolution from him. The secrets communicated in confession were such as the Roman Catholic clergy were supposed to become acquainted with as ministers of the sacrament of penance; and, as their rite of confession was known to the laws, and their doctrines with regard to it universally acknowledged to exist in their church, they did not consider that the oath which bound them to discover any treason against the state, or against his majesty, which might come to their knowledge, obliged them to reveal any thing with which they might become acquainted in sacramental confession. Adverting to the state of the poor in Ireland, he observed, that there were two measures by which, in his opinion, they might be relieved in some degree from the degraded and wretched state in which they were. He thought that if the Ca-

tholic question was settled, and general confidence and tranquillity permanently established in Ireland, industry would be so much promoted, and agriculture, trade, and manufactures so far advanced, that most of the poor would get employment and higher wages, and their condition would rapidly improve. If, in addition, there were a modified system of poor rates established in every parish—nothing, even in principle, like that which prevailed in England—but a legal and standing committee in each parish, who would ascertain the really poor, and be entitled to appropriate to their relief collections to be made at the different places of worship, much good would be effected. At present, whether many instances occurred of the poor perishing from actual want, he did not know—*one instance*, however, he was acquainted with—but he could state with confidence that great numbers died prematurely from the consequences of want; they became feeble, then lay in bed, and gradually died off. He conceived that the principal source of the amelioration in the condition of the poor in Ireland must be derived from increased habits of industry; but he thought, before God, that it was utterly impossible that the desirable result could take place unless the Catholic question were settled.

The Rev. JOHN KEELY.—Was a clergyman of the Roman Catholic church, at Mitchelstown, in the county of Cork. He was satisfied that the disturbances in his neighbourhood in 1822 and 1823 originated in the conduct of Mr. Hoskins, the agent to the Courtenay property; and in the breaking of the provincial banks. He could never discover that those disturbances had any relation to the Government; they were merely confined to rents and lands. He, and all the Roman Catholic priests whom he knew, had used their utmost influence to prevent the outrages, and to promote submission to the laws. In order to obviate complaints on either side, he thought it would be well to establish a political level between the two great parties in Ireland, the Protestants and the Roman Catholics, and fix the qualification for the elective franchise at a minimum for that purpose; which minimum he thought would be from seven to ten pounds for a freeholder in the country. In the towns he would leave the freeholds as they were. The population of Ireland were anxious to have manufactures established, in order to find employment in them; and, as far as his knowledge of the county of Cork went, he would stake his existence on the security of any property embarked in that way at the present time, if the party questions which existed in the country were set at rest. The knowledge of the English language was progressive in Ireland. He thought that there were at least three that spoke English now to one that spoke it when he was fourteen years of age. All orders of the Roman Catholic population were very

anxious to be on a level with their Protestant brethren. He considered Catholic emancipation necessary for the settlement of Ireland, and was persuaded that if it were granted, Ireland would in the course of time be as happy a country as any in the world. His feeling with respect to a provision for the Roman Catholic clergy was, that it would be very desirable for the community at large in Ireland.

Colonel WILLIAM VERNER.—Had been a member of the Orange society since the year 1796. The society was formed in 1795 for the purpose of supporting his majesty, the government, the laws of the country, and the established religion; and in opposition to rebellion and rebels of every description. Produced various papers containing their regulations, and the declaration of their principles. By Protestant ascendancy was meant that the king, the church, the houses of parliament, and all confidential and principal officers should be exclusively Protestant. The object of the Orange societies was, not to resist concessions to the Roman Catholics, but to oppose rebellion and sedition, in whatever shape they appeared. In the first place, they opposed a society called Defenders, and afterwards United Irishmen, and latterly a society called Ribbonmen. The processions of the Orange lodges had sometimes been accompanied with outrages, but he did not recollect any instance in which the Orangemen had been the aggressors. There were two orders of Orange societies, orange and purple, the purple was the higher. An Orangeman was not bound to hold any thing secret, except the signs and pass-words. The Orange societies ceased to exist on the passing of the late act. It was out of the hostility of the Catholics to the Protestants that the Orange societies had originally sprung. He did not think that the concessions that it was now proposed to make to the Roman Catholics were likely to lead to the tranquillity of the parts of Ireland with which he was acquainted, because the qualifications that were offered as a boon to reconcile the Protestants to the measure, he meant the disfranchisement of the 40s. freeholders, and the paying of the priests, he did not think would have that effect. The proposed concessions would, in his opinion, give the Roman Catholics a power that would be very alarming to the Protestants. He would be more disposed to deprive the Catholics of some of the privileges which they at present possessed, than to give them more.

The Rev. HOLT WANNING.—Had been a member of an Orange society since 1798. When original object of that society was the protection of the persons and property of those who joined it, and who had been most violently assailed. Explained the signs and pass-words, the watochisms, the degrees, the oaths, &c. He thought it would conduce to the tranquillity of Ireland to take away the elective franchise from the Catholics, and that it would be better to rearm

to the state of things as it existed previous to 1793 than to allow things to remain as they were. The Roman Catholics were in opposition to Government, and there was reason to suppose were desirous to separate Ireland from England, and to extirpate the Protestant religion out of Ireland. The numerous convictions that had taken place of people engaged in the Ribbon societies, Threshers' societies, and a number of others, were a proof that the Catholics were almost universally bound together by oaths of a treasonable nature. The greatest chance of giving tranquillity to Ireland would be by the abolition of the Jesuit societies in England and Ireland, and of all monastic institutions of the Roman Catholic church in both countries; and by the prevention of the Roman Catholic hierarchy from communication with Rome, except through his majesty's privy council. If those points, however, were conceded, he did not think that with safety any further privileges could be extended to the Roman Catholic body. He believed it to be in the power of the Pope and the other authorities of the Roman Catholic church to dispense with and annul the effect of all the oaths required by law to be taken by Roman Catholics. During the rebellions in Ireland many atrocities were committed by Catholics, who acknowledged that they were instigated by their priests.

His Grace the ARCHBISHOP OF ARMAGH.

Described the state of the unions in his diocese, the state of the residence of the clergy; the value of the livings; the income of the curates, &c.

The Rev. OLIVER KELLY, D.D., Roman Catholic Archbishop of Tuam.—There were three convents and one monastery in the archdiocese of Tuam. In the diocese of Killala he was not aware that there was a convent of any description. In the diocese of Achonry there were two; in the diocese of Elphin there were three; in the diocese of Clonfert there were three; in the wardenship of Galway there were three; and in the town of Galway there were three. In Galway there were four nunneries, and in Loughrea one. The whole number of monks and nuns in his province was scarcely eighty. There were a great many schools in his diocese established by Catholics; and very few children were now growing up without a knowledge of the English language.

The Rev. JOHN KELLY again examined.—Stated the number of religious houses for men and women within the diocese of Cork. The average value of the Roman Catholic benefices in the diocese he was best acquainted with might be from 220*l.* to 250*l.* a year. In one parish, Glanworth, the Protestant clergyman was to receive in future, in consequence of the tithe composition compromise, 1200*l.*, while for two parishes in the neighbourhood three Roman Catholic clergymen received only 400*l.* among them.

The Right Hon. DENNIS BROWNE, M.P.—He knew Ireland well; and he was decidedly of

opinion, that there never would be peace or security in that country; that it never would be safe ally or possession of this country, until all civil disabilities on account of religious belief were done away. In the first thirty years of his life he knew the Catholic priests very well, and a more loyal and better disposed set of men, under the most cruel privations, he never knew. Of the young priests he knew nothing; he did not very well agree with them; having been obliged repeatedly to prosecute them for conceiving that it was their privilege to beat and bully the people. An information had been laid before him, that one priest had, in preaching to his congregation, held out to them a prospect of recovering their forfeited estates; but having sent that information to the king's government, as he was in duty bound to do; no proceedings were taken in consequence, and he understood that the priest had since gone and taken his oath that he did not preach such a sermon. It struck him very seriously, that with the removal of the civil disabilities of the Catholics ought to be coupled the payment of the Catholic clergy; otherwise there might be danger in the measure. As to the proposed disfranchisement of the 40*s.* freeholders, he thought those who recommended the measure ought to be responsible for the agitation it was calculated to create; and he most earnestly advised the Government and its advisers to pause before they engulfed the country in such a quarrel.

MATTHEW DONELAN, Esq.—For the last two years he had been constantly travelling through Ireland as an officer of the Education Society, and had sent in above 300 reports of schools. There appeared to be a diminution in the attendance of the children in the various schools; he had visited, in the south of Ireland, to the extent of one-half in the last year; which he attributed, in a great measure, to the hostility created in the minds of the Roman Catholic clergy, by the accusation made against them by a member of the House of Commons, of their having sanctioned or connived at the introduction of improper books into their schools. Another stronger cause was, the establishment of the present commission for an inquiry into the state of education in Ireland, it being the general policy of those who opposed the different societies for educating the poor in Ireland, by withdrawing the children for awhile from the schools where the commissioners were to derive their information how far those societies were suited to the wants and exigencies of the Irish population, to convince them of their inefficiency. These were temporary causes; but the grand and the predisposing cause he attributed to the decided objection entertained by many of the Roman Catholic clergy to the reading of the Scriptures without note and comment, and their suspicion that proselytism was the secret object of some of the societies. In schools, in connexion with the Kildare-street Society he had

meto with tracts which certainly justified the existence of that suspicion. This, however, was not attributable to the society, but to the over-zeal of certain individuals. There was one universal cry for education extending from one end of Ireland to the other; it was sought with the greatest avidity possible, and was every day becoming an object of increased anxiety among the lower, the middle, and the higher orders. The schools which had been shut, had been so shut, he believed, by the influence of priests; but he had also witnessed the greatest exertions on the part of the Roman Catholic clergy for the promotion of education. On his oath, he believed that they were not hostile to education in the abstract, although they objected to the conditions on which it was to be conveyed to the peasantry of Ireland. He thought that a system might be adopted that would meet with the approbation of all parties; educating Catholics and Protestants together, but confining the education to that of letters for four or five days in the week, and appropriating the residue to instruction in the peculiar religious tenets of the different sects. He had met with two schools founded on that principle; one under Mr. Edgeworth, of Edgeworth's Town, and the other at Bandon; and both enjoyed the warmest co-operation from the Roman Catholic priests. His Grace the ARCHBISHOP of DUBLIN, described the nature of the unions in his dioceses. The occasional severance of unions had led to the building of new churches; and he had reason to believe that congregations were always found where churches were built. In Dublin, the congregations appeared every day more and more to overflow. Without meaning to cast any imputation on the clergy of former times, he thought there was a marked improvement in the character and exertions of the clergy of the present day; that improvement had been attended by a considerable increase in the number of Protestants. He had little doubt that the principle and spirit that must lead to the conversion of Roman Catholics to Protestantism, were in most active operation, principally caused by the discussions which had drawn the attention of the lower classes of the people to the Bible. He had been addressed by several Roman Catholic priests, desirous to be admitted into the Protestant church; but he had almost uniformly rejected them. One reason for his doing so was, that an Act of Parliament by which formerly a small provision was made for conforming priests while they remained without employment in the established church, expired in 1798. He had, therefore, always thought it his duty to warn them of the privations to which they were about to subject themselves. In one instance in which a priest had repeatedly importuned him on the subject, when His Grace had partly consented to his reception in the established church, the priest suddenly retracted. Nevertheless, several priests had conformell,

some of whom had come over to England. The great increase in the number of Bibles sold in Ireland was a proof that a considerable shake had been given to the public mind, and that even among the lower orders of Roman Catholics a strong desire had been created to know what the nature of the book was, that had been so vehemently recommended and prohibited. But, there had been not merely an increase of the circulation of the Bible; there had also been a very great avidity on the part of Roman Catholics of the lower order to attend Protestant preachers. The churches in Dublin had been filled with them on the days on which it was known that a lecture was to be delivered on the subject of the important points of difference between the two churches. A similar feeling had been shown at Carlow and at Cork. Although he approved of the object of the Bible Society, he was not a member of it; entertaining a preference for the mode of distribution adopted by another society, called the Incorporated Association for Discountenancing Vice, and Promoting the Practice of Religion and Virtue. The Tithe Compensation Act had operated remarkably well in his diocese. His impression was, that the equalisation of civil rights between Roman Catholics and Protestants would unavoidably lead to an endeavour to overturn the Protestant establishment in Ireland; and tend, of course, to endanger its existence, unless Ireland were promptly sustained by the predominating power of Great Britain. The impression upon his mind was, that the object held principally in view by the influential agitators of the Roman Catholic body, was the subversion of the Protestant establishment. He had observed in Ireland, that every increase of political rights on the part of the Roman Catholics had been an increase of political power; and that that power had been brought continually into more and more active operation, according as they became possessed of greater means. The danger he apprehended was to the Established Church of Ireland in the first instance. What the ulterior consequence might be to the Established Church in England, especially as the numbers and principles of Roman Catholics were well known to be making rapid progress in England, it could not be difficult to predict, should that in Ireland be overturned. Increase of confidence always accompanied increase of power. It had been so in Ireland. According as advantages had been afforded by the legislature to the Roman Catholics, there had been uniformly a progressive advance in the tone, both of confidence and demand. So convinced was he that it was the intention of the Roman Catholic body in Ireland to obtain the country ultimately for themselves, that he had no hesitation in saying, that if England were embarrassed by any very serious war, the attempt would speedily be made to effect a separation of the two countries;

principally for the abolition of what the Roman Catholics were thought to believe a damnable heresy. A variety of circumstances convinced him of this fact. Indeed the intentions of the leaders of the Catholic party with regard to the Protestant establishment had been expressed too openly and too deliberately to render any confirmation upon the subject necessary. As to the influence which the introduction of a certain portion of the Catholic community into the legislature might have on its proceedings, of course he could form no definite judgment; but he could conceive that there might be some mode of management that would render it extremely difficult, even for a very firm government, to maintain the establishment in Ireland against the union of parliamentary strength with the overwhelming influence of the people generally. He believed that the Roman Catholic population of Ireland looked to what was called Catholic emancipation as a means, not as an end; and that they had still a grand object before them. The only doctrine laid down respecting secrecy in confession in the canons of the Church of England and Ireland, was one that required that in the case of offences, which by the law of the land it was capital criminal to conceal a secrecy should not be observed; but in all other cases secrecy was imposed, under pain of irregularity. The canon alluded to was not a canon primarily relating to confession at all, but was a canon relating to what was called the presiding by ministers. His Grace considered the enjoined secrecy only as a canonical and not as a religious obligation. The clergy made it as no secret to conceal by what he (the Archbishop) would call the vitality of his priesthood. In the Roman Catholic clergyman (as well as his Grace understood the matter) was guilty of the deepest sin against God, through his Church, if he revealed any thing communicated to him in confession; it was connected with a sacrament, was essential to the vitality of his priesthood, and was an indelible character of his order. As far as his Grace understood the matter, the differences between the manner and practice of confession in the Church of Rome and in the Church of England, were immaterial; the latter never compelled confession; never made it a source of gain; never considered it as a sacrament; was not directed or authorised to accompany it with absolution. The absolution granted by a clergyman of the Church of England at the visitation of the sick, was his affirmative declaration of the effect produced in the penitent by true repentance, not coupled with all the proper feelings which in a Christian mind accompanied it, and embracing, above all others, the great predominant feeling; a full pardon could not be granted in consideration of any thing merely to be done in the individual, nor of any satisfaction offered by him; but from a true contrition in reference to, and in sincere reliance on, the merits and intercession

of our great Redeemer. The effect of absolution in the Roman Catholic Church was quite different. In that Church his Grace believed, the minister was considered a judicial officer in the Council of Trent; he was described as a judge, who annexed the degree of punishment that he considered to be requisite. All he was no judicial character, whatever assumed by a minister of the Church of England. He gave but a conditional absolution, in the strict sense of the words. Although the absolution in the visitation of the sick contained in it one sentence that undoubtedly looked authoritative and absolute, yet it was governed by the context; it was not so. The minister in the Protestant Church announced absolution conditionally; and yet at the same time he granted it as far as it was in the power of man to do it. In a certain sense, it was exactly the same in the case of the apostles; for they did not grant forgiveness of sins to persons who were impenitent. But they were discerners of hearts, and therefore they could pronounce penitence on the real state of the penitent; because they knew the fact. His Grace feared that in the ordinary view of it, absolution in the Roman Catholic Church was a monstrous abuse, a monstrous arrogation of that which belonged only to an inspired person, or to our Lord Jesus Christ himself. Penance, or continuation of penance, was not at all of the same nature in the two Churches. In the Protestant, continuation of penance was a judicial proceeding in open court; a judicial exchange of an ecclesiastical punishment for a pecuniary fine. In the Roman Catholic Church, except in some extreme cases, the continuation of penance was, as his Grace believed, the receiving of money in compensation for penance, by the priest, for the discharge of his office in that respect. Adverting generally to the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church, his Grace observed that he could not himself imagine how such doctrines could be derived, except by a perverted mind, from the Scriptures. The doctrine of exclusive salvation he considered to be widely different in the churches of England and of Rome. The Roman Catholic Church pronounced that salvation was not to be expected by any person out of the pale of her communion; and we pronounced no such thing with respect to ours. We did not presume to limit salvation to those of our own denomination; but admitted that there might be members within the pale of any local Christian denomination whatsoever, by whom it was attainable. We merely pronounced upon what we conceived to be the great fundamental truths which should form the subject of a Christian's belief; and we annexed to this our Lord's declaration of that which must be the destiny of those who did not believe. Those who stood connected in the authority of our Church; and all who submitted to that authority must believe that the assent to those doctrines was requisite to salvation.

At the same time, there was nothing in the authoritative documents of our church that compelled upon any an implicit submission to its mere authority; on the contrary, the authority of our church was itself to be tried by the authority of Scripture; and, therefore, as on the one hand, they who had not had the benefit of a Christian education, could not in any way be supposed by our church, to be subject to the denunciation contained in that exposition of the Christian faith; so, on the other, neither were those to whom that Creed had been proffered pronounced to be, under all possible circumstances, necessarily liable to its penalties, if they had not been able to discover its doctrines in the Scripture. If the Athanasian Creed were examined with sufficient care and means of knowledge, his Grace hoped no real difference would be found to exist between it and the interpretation which he had given of the doctrine of the Church of England. He admitted, that the expressions in the Athanasian Creed were not sufficiently clear for the general understanding of the people. In answer to an inquiry what were the sources from which that particular species of knowledge, which was requisite rightly to understand that portion of the Athanasian Creed, which had been referred to, was derived, his Grace thought, that the Creed itself, carefully considered, could supply much, and that some additional lights would supply the remainder.

As to what, added his Grace, may be supplied by the Creed itself, in the first place, it is his right to observe, that the true original of the Creed is generally acknowledged to have been in the Latin language, although, from bearing the name of Athanasius, it might appear to have been composed in Greek. It is in the next place to be noted, that in the rubric which precedes it, it is described as being commonly called the Creed of St. Athanasius; and the words here used appear justly applicable on two grounds. Athanasius is well known not to have been the author of it, although it is admitted that it contains his doctrines; and again, in strictness as to form, it cannot properly be called a Creed at all. In form, it differs altogether from the Apostles' Creed, and from the Nicene Creed, the whole of each of which is to be affirmed by the individual as matter of his belief, and consequently, each is strictly to be denominated a Creed. But this formula is rather to be viewed as an *expositio fidei* maintained and announced by the church; and it should be remembered, that it is maintained by the Church of England, in common with the Church of Rome and other churches. At the same time, it is an exposition, certainly, which contains within it the matter of a Creed, of the Catholic Creed, although not, properly speaking, a Creed itself; and therefore it is, that the rubric does not denominate it a Creed, but entitles it, *The Confession of our Christian Faith, commonly*

called the Athanasian Creed. In the third clause of this formulary, where it proceeds to define what the Catholic faith is, the Creed, or, more justly speaking, the subject-matter of the Creed, commences. Those which are known by the name of the damnable clauses, cannot be said, with propriety, to be parts of the Creed, so much as declarations of the church; and might, therefore, to mark the true distinction of the parts, be presented to the eye of the reader in a different character from the rest. Another distinction, also, might be made in the mode of printing the Creed, which, together with the former, would exhibit at once to the eye of the uninformed and unreflecting a true view of the whole, without causing the slightest difference in the sense or force, at the same time that not one word of the formulary itself would undergo variation. If such changes were approved and admitted by the due authority, I cannot but think that they would go far, towards preventing many of the common objections which are brought against this portion of our liturgy. A part of this form is in the nature of reasoning, and might, for the sake of distinctness, be included in a parenthesis. By this means the single subject of belief would be presented fairly to the mind, unumbered by the various distinct assertions which are employed merely to justify the one main position in its full extent; and which, although they were at the formation of the Creed introduced merely to negative the various heresies of the day that went to corrupt the single truth contained in that position, and are altogether subsidiary, to that one, are yet fastened upon as so many distinct and unconnected subjects of credence, by the mind of the common and unreflecting hearer to whom they are addressed; and as they necessarily, from the nature of the great subject to which they relate, must deal in abstract, and apparently mysterious terms, although, in truth, they neither purport to unfold the nature of the Deity, or of any one of his attributes, or to present any explanation of that inconceivable union which is affirmed to subsist between the Persons of the Godhead, but merely assert and repeat, in different forms, the one single truth of the Trinity conjoined with Unity; yet, from the congeries of apparently mysterious and mystical matter, which they seem to present, overpower and confuse the plain and unlettered hearer, and withdraw from his observation the main position to which his attention should be primarily fixed. The expedient which I have suggested would, I apprehend, secure even to the eye of the unreflecting a corrective of that confusion, and supply the want of that more distinct perception, which to an informed mind is sufficient, without the use of such expedient, to present the same result. Your Lordships will see, that

"in what I have said upon this head, I am
 "looking chiefly to the unlettered and unre-
 "flecting multitudes that fill our churches, and
 "to whom some visible landmark is necessary
 "to enable them to steer the proper course.
 "In those of higher education and reflection,
 "such aids must be superfluous, were they to
 "give their attention to the subject. The por-
 "tion that I would include within the dis-
 "tinctive marks I have mentioned, begins at
 "the fifth clause with the word 'For,' and
 "concludes with the twenty-seventh clause,
 "so that in all things as is aforesaid, the
 "Unity in Trinity, and the Trinity in Unity,
 "is to be worshipped. That which had been
 "at first laid down as the proposition to be
 "affirmed, being here arrived at as the final
 "result, after clearing it from the confusion
 "attempted to be cast upon it by the early
 "heretical opposers of this great article of the
 "Christian faith. Critical exactness as to the
 "distribution is not pretended to in this
 "arrangement; but the distinction is sufficient
 "for practice, for which alone the whole is
 "designed. The portion of the formulaary
 "that is employed in unfolding, in opposition
 "to existing heresies, what is the right faith
 "on the subject of the incarnation, and which
 "ends with the thirty-seventh clause, is also
 "of a character which admits the propriety of
 "designating it as belonging to one single
 "head; but this designation is not equally
 "necessary for the purpose of clearness; and,
 "therefore, a visibly distinctive character is
 "not here equally requisite as before. If, then,
 "the formulaary, omitting for the present the
 "consideration of the condemning clauses, be
 "distributed under the special heads of belief
 "which it propounds, it will be found that it
 "amounts to a declaration, that the doctrines
 "of the *Trinity*, the *Incarnation*, the *Re-
 demption*, the *Resurrection*, and the *final
 Judgment*, are doctrines that are here pro-
 "nounced to compose the substance of the true
 "Catholic faith; and it moreover, with respect
 "to the first two of these, presents, by the ex-
 "clusion of the several errors which it had
 "been attempted to fasten upon them, the
 "necessary guards for the preservation of those
 "doctrines in their Catholic purity. If these
 "several doctrines, then, be admitted to be
 "essential to the scheme of Christian belief, it
 "would seem that the condemning clauses,
 "which constitute the remaining part of the
 "formulaary, have a just foundation in Scrip-
 "ture; since they will, in that case, present,
 "only in another form, that truth which stands
 "upon the authority of our Saviour's own de-
 "claration, that he that believeth not cannot
 "be saved. The clauses of the formulaary,
 "however, which relate to this subject, and
 "to which your Lordships' question principally
 "applies, demand further explanation. In the
 "first place, I think it is quite clear, upon an
 "attentive examination of the language of

"these clauses, independently of every other
 "consideration, that such persons as have had
 "no means of knowing what the Christian
 "faith is are not included under the condem-
 "nation which these denounce. The clauses,
 "as they stand in the original, are as follow:
 "Quicumque vult salvus esse, ante omnia
 "opus est ut teneat Catholicam fidem. Quam
 "nisi quis integram inviolatamque servaverit,
 "absque dubio in aeternum peribit.
 "Qui vult ergo salvus esse, ita de
 "Trinitate sentiat.
 "Sed necessarium est ad aeternam salutem,
 "ut incarnationem quoque Domini nostri Jesu
 "Christi fideliter credat.
 "Hæc est fides Catholica, quam nisi
 "quis fideliter firmiterque crediderit, salvus esse
 "non poterit.
 "I apprehend that it will appear by the com-
 "parison of these, as given in the original, and as
 "given in the translation in our Common Prayer
 "Book, that considerable light is thrown upon
 "the latter by the forms of expression employed
 "in the former. But it is not necessary to enter
 "into any nice distinction of this sort, to be
 "satisfied of the truth of the position that has
 "been just now stated, that the Athanasian
 "Creed does not extend its condemning clauses
 "to those who have had no opportunity of
 "being acquainted with its doctrine. The
 "very first sentence of the Creed, as it stands
 "in the common translation, seems sufficient
 "to mark that such persons are not included
 "within its view. The common and popular use
 "of the word 'hold,' as applied to an opinion, con-
 "founding it with the general sense of 'having'
 "an opinion; is that alone which has created any
 "apparent difficulty upon this subject. But it is
 "clear that a person cannot 'hold' that which
 "is not given him to hold; and, therefore,
 "even in the English, if well considered, it would
 "imply that there must be a proffer of this
 "Creed, and of course of the authorities in
 "support of it, to the individual, in order to
 "render him liable to its penalties. In like
 "manner, all the succeeding denunciatory pas-
 "sages imply a possession given, and lay the
 "stress upon the faithful preservation of that
 "which has been intrusted, upon the honesty
 "of heart with which it is retained. This is
 "still more strongly conveyed in the ex-
 "pressions of the original. The words 'teneat,
 "integram inviolatamque servaverit, fide-
 "liter credat, fideliter firmiterque crediderit,
 "all seem to imply a steady perseverance in
 "faith communicated, and therefore rather de-
 "nounce a penalty against those who draw
 "back from a faith in which they were in-
 "structed, or who knowingly corrupt that
 "faith, or 'hold' it lightly and irresolutely,
 "than against those who either have not known
 "it, or those who, although it has been made
 "known to them, and offered for their accept-
 "ance, have, after the most conscientious and
 "honest, and faithful examination of the Scrip-

tures, not been able to discover sufficient grounds for its adoption. Thus much has been said with respect to what may be derived as to its just interpretation from the Creed itself. But if we look to the Articles of our church, in which alone we can hope to find the true exposition of all her doctrines, we shall find what has here been deduced from reasoning still farther confirmed by their authority. The Eighth Article, whilst it declares that the three Creeds ought to be received and believed, does so expressly upon the ground that they can be proved by most certain warrants of Scripture. At the same time that our church sanctions the use of these Creeds, it refers to Scripture as the ground on which it sanctions them, and no other. And to that same Scripture does another Article refer for the test and trial of all the doctrines which the church teaches. The Sixth Article says, Holy Scripture containeth all things necessary to salvation; so that whatsoever is not read therein, nor may be proved thereby, is not to be required of any man that it should be believed as an article of the faith, or be thought requisite or necessary to salvation. The two Articles, one referring to the authority which Scripture gives, and the other stating that the person who conscientiously acts under that authority is exempted from any thing which might produce danger to his salvation, completely secure, as I conceive, the Creed and the church itself against the charge of maintaining a doctrine of exclusive salvation, in the sense in which it is invidiously applied to us, and in which it is truly applied to the Church of Rome. At the same time it is to be noted, that in that word 'conscientiously,' so much is included respecting the purity of the heart, the sufficiency of the aids brought to the investigation, the submissiveness and the docility of the spirit, and the true Christian desire to discover the truth, free from any of those feelings that connect themselves with a spirit of unbelief, that it makes it a matter of awful peril to the individual to reject any of those great truths which the collective wisdom and piety of the Christian church has pronounced, from its earliest age, to be so plainly and incontestably spread upon the surface of Scripture, that it has not scrupled to pronounce the adoption of them indispensable to a Christian's salvation. One thing is to be remembered by all, that there is a something, some truth or truths contained in the Gospel, the belief of which our Lord himself has pronounced indispensable to salvation (to the salvation of such, of course, as have had these truths made known to them). Now, as every Christian must have some scheme that he must admit it is necessary for him to believe, it behoves him to consider, at his peril, whether a scheme taking in all the great leading truths of the Gospel can safely be rejected.

To the following question: "After your

Grace's explanation, does not a person adopting and reading the Athanasian Creed apply what has been called the damnatory clause to all persons who, having had a Christian education, do not believe in the Trinity and the incarnation of the Redeemer?" his Grace replied, "According to the explanation I have given, I think there may be supposable circumstances under which he could not do so justly; and therefore, as I said before, the damnatory clause does not necessarily extend to any entire local denomination of Christians whatsoever." When it was observed by a noble Lord, "Your Grace was understood to begin the parenthesis at the word 'For,' which would leave the damnatory clause applicable to those who do not believe in the doctrine of the Trinity?" his Grace said, "Undoubtedly, so far as your Lordship's view of it goes, leaving out all possible qualifying considerations, it would present the clause as applicable to those who do not believe in that truth; and as it does of that, it does also of the incarnation, and likewise of the whole body of the faith, presented in the formulary, any one of the members of which being left out, we conceive mutilates the Christian Creed, as given in the Scriptures; and as our Lord has announced that the person who does not believe is not to look for eternal salvation, they of course who conceive this to be the great body of Christian truth contained in Scripture, substantially comprising the belief of which our Lord speaks, must in consequence conclude, that to the rejection, the criminal rejection of this faith, our Lord's denunciation against disbelief is justly to be applied. We leave every man to judge for himself, and to abide by the result of his own sincere and conscientious search after the truth. We state what we hold to be the true exposition of the Christian faith. We hold ourselves, and those who think with us, to be liable to our Lord's denunciation, if we and they do not abide by it firmly. It is a declaration rather against apostacy or unwillingness on the part of those who have had fair opportunities of learning the true Christian Creed; at the same time it is not intended, and we declare that it is not intended, against those who have not had such opportunities." On a noble Lord's observing, "Therefore, if a man had once believed in the Trinity, the Redemption, and the Incarnation, would he not lose all hope of salvation if he ceased to believe it?" his Grace replied, "I cannot presume to enter into the measurement of the merits of God Almighty. If a man makes a change in his mind, in the truly conscientious exercise of his judgment, and seeking the best means of information with the due humility, and a true desire to find the truth, our principle, which would concede safety to the conscientious person who differs from us at first, would concede it likewise to a like con-

scionious person who departed from us after he had adopted our Creed; the question turns entirely upon the grounds on which he forsook the faith he had embraced. Our system of belief, which admits the right of private judgment, necessarily makes all dependent upon the due and honest exercise of that right; it wants the simplicity of that system which at once pronounces a man to be out of the pale of salvation, because he is out of the pale of a particular church, having the doctrines of that church made known to him. There were but few Socinians in Ireland compared with England, and in the one country, as in the other, they disingenuously called themselves Unitarians, for the purpose of giving themselves a greater appearance of extent and number. Although he should be very sorry to pronounce peremptorily on the subject, the tendency of the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church respecting absolution, confession, and exclusive salvation, did seem to him of a nature calculated to disqualify the individual under their influence for a proper and cordial submission to the laws in a Protestant state, and, in certain cases, to endanger the loyalty which he owed to his prince. He did not think that there was any thing in the doctrines of the Protestant religion that could prevent a Protestant from being a faithful subject of a Roman Catholic king. The expressions in the oath taken by all Roman Catholic bishops, which appeared to be intended to reconcile spiritual obedience to the pope with a perfect obedience to the sovereign, he thought were ambiguous. At the same time, although it was a part of the subject on which he felt himself incompetent, he did not see, as far as oaths were concerned, why matters might not be made satisfactory. It was difficult to conceive why, as the Catholic priest permitted to himself a relaxation of the oath of allegiance in not divulging a confession of intended treason, he might not permit to himself a relaxation of the oath in other respects; but he conceived, that if the oath unequivocally described all those cases to which its obligation was not to be supposed to extend, and that then it were to be taken in a perfectly unqualified sense with regard to all others, there would be no danger of being drawn into contradiction as to the duty to the church and the duty to the state.

The Right Hon. GEORGE, EARL OF KINGSFORD.—Was fifty-four years of age, and had been acquainted with Ireland ever since he could remember. The rebellion of 1798 did not originate in any hostility on the part of the Catholics to the Protestants; it began with the Protestants; and was, like the French revolution, a rebellion against all existing authorities, and against the crown. The subsequent disturbances had been chiefly on the ground of tithes and rent. As far as he had seen, the conduct of the Catholic priesthood in relation to those disturbances had been very excellent. There was but one bad priest who had ever come

under his knowledge in Ireland; the rest he had found very exemplary men, very attentive to their duties, and very active to preserve the peace and to maintain loyalty. He believed them to be as loyal a class as any other in Ireland. The country in general was very insufficiently provided both with Catholic chapels and Protestant churches. The lower classes in some parts of Ireland were in a wretched state; they were very desirous of employment, and he was sure that in the event of any description of manufactory being established in the parts of the country with which he was acquainted, the lower classes would do their utmost to learn and pursue it. Although property was still much subdivided in the neighbourhood of his Lordship's residence, he thought the principle of subdivision to be upon the whole greatly retrograding. He thought the lower classes would be very reluctant to give up the 40s. freeholds by which they were benefited, to carry Catholic emancipation, by which, in his opinion, those classes could not be benefited. He thought land at the present moment more fairly let in Ireland than it had been heretofore. The tenant who held immediately from the head landlord was invariably much better off than the tenant who held under a middle-man. There were some regulations made by the Commissioners of Customs, especially regarding the landing of coals, which in his opinion had retarded, and would continue to retard, the general improvement of the country. The lower orders in Ireland were very anxious for education; but some of the schoolmasters were exceedingly bad characters. The Catholic priesthood in general were very anxious to promote education. Three hundred to one of his tenants were Roman Catholics. He thought they were improving in condition. They paid their rent at least as well as his Protestant tenantry. The establishment of the petty sessions had been most beneficial. A great many magistrates had lately been dismissed. Unfortunately, some good ones had been dismissed, and some bad ones retained. The system of grand juries appeared to his Lordship to require revision. The last Tithe Composition Act he thought likely to be beneficial.

The Hon. and Venerable ARCHDEACON TRENCH.—Had been about three years archdeacon of Ardagh. Resided in the county of Galway, where he thought that within the last seven years the Protestant population had increased in proportion to the Roman Catholic. Many new churches had been built in that part of Ireland. Many Catholics went to the Protestant church. Catholics generally did not think Protestants heretics. It was only the bigot, a character he seldom encountered, that so thought. The Catholics and Protestants in his part of the country lived on the most friendly terms. He found no greater difficulty in obtaining his tithes from the Catholics than from the Protestants; but it was unpleasant pro-

party. Wherever there was a good landlord and a good Protestant clergyman, any improper influence on the part of the Romish priest would always diminish. There were five schools near his residence, in which the children of Catholics and Protestants were educated without the slightest difference. He did not think that the lower orders in his neighbourhood approved of or contributed much to the Catholic rent; nor did he believe that the exclusion under which the body of Roman Catholics generally laboured ever came across their minds. In the district with which he was acquainted, he had observed that Popery had had a check; which he principally attributed to a good landlord, a faithful and active ministry, and a gospel education for youth. As a minor measure for improving the condition of the people of Ireland, he strongly recommended the establishment of dispensaries, for giving gratuitously medicine and medical advice to the lower orders; penitentiaries, for restraining the licentious; and lunatic asylums. Some allowance ought also, he thought, to be afforded (by law) to the mothers of illegitimate children. He would also advise (though with trembling, knowing how unpopular the subject was in Ireland) a partial introduction of poor laws, leaving it perhaps to the vestries to assess the rate; and to determine the amount of relief. The whole of the financial part of grand jury presentments appeared to him to require revision. Education also, but restrictive education, education under the restraint of religion, was a more desirable object. The venality of the sub-sheriffs, which rendered the recovery of debts in many cases impracticable, was likewise a matter that loudly called for interference. Whether or not the removal of the civil disabilities under which the Roman Catholics laboured would tend generally to the advantage and improvement of Ireland, must depend on the way in which it was done. An endeavour must be made to satisfy all parties; and if there was one security better than another which the Roman Catholic could offer to the Protestant, he was bound to offer it. If the measure were carried in the way in which he conceived it might be carried, it would, in his humble opinion, be beneficial to Ireland; but he owned that he was not friendly to the bill then before the House of Commons. He would precede all other measures by a message to Rome; there to ascertain what agreement or what concordat the spiritual head of the Roman Catholic religion would authorise on this part; and armed with such a document as that, which he anticipated would be most favourable, the repeal of disabilities might safely follow. If such an embassy did not succeed, it would only be to spread the reply before the nation, and to shew that the trial had been made. He was no friend to any restraint whatever being put upon the Romanists. The question entirely rested upon whether it was safe to restore them. Let that

be made clear, and he would most happily open the door, but in order to render it safe, they ought to give every security which they could give, consistently with conscience, to our Protestant establishment, our Protestant king, and our Protestant country. As to the 40s. freeholders in Connaught, he did not care for his privilege a farthing. In fact, the 40s. freeholders were absolutely driven to the election town by the landlord or his agent. The introduction of the petty sessions into Ireland was a noble measure, and the law was well administered by the magistrates, compared with former times.

THOMAS BROWNE, Esq.—Lived in Tuam. Although one of the poorest parts of Ireland, the sum of 1,500*l.* had been laid upon the Union for the repairs of the cathedral. No previous estimate was formed. The Archbishop took it all on himself. He went to the vestry, and said that he must levy 1,500*l.*, whether the parish liked it or not; although it was objected that the dean and chapter had property applicable to that purpose. The entire of the assessment fell on Roman Catholics. It was understood that the Union was about to be ceased again for the building of a new church, four or five miles from Tuam, although it was not probable that more than four or five Protestants would attend it.

His Grace the ARCHBISHOP of DUBLIN again examined.—Presented a return of the dissolution of the union of parishes in Ireland; by which it appeared that 94 perpetual sureties had been created in Ireland, and of course so many additional benefices formed, since 1800. There were two tenets in the third canon of the fourth Council of Lateran, which his Grace conceived made a Roman Catholic unfit for holding any situation of trust or power in a Protestant state. They were, that the subject might be absolved from his allegiance to his lord, be he of what rank he might; and that the lord was bound, under the orders of the council, to exterminate all those that were pronounced heretic from his dominions; and if he did not so, a Catholic lord was to enter and take possession of the country, provided he would discharge the duty due to the head of that church, and exterminate those heretics. He denied that it had been shewn by Collier that that canon never formed part of the Council of Lateran; and asserted that it had been confirmed by the Council of Trent, and acted upon in several instances. That tenet which related to not keeping faith with heretics was decisively confirmed by the Council of Constance. So late as 1791, an evangelical letter had been published, which intimated the continuing influence of the spiritual over the temporal authority. The Roman Catholic gentry of England appearing in large numbers to have signed a declaration which tended very much to national cordiality, were by that letter called under the judgment

of the vicars apostolic, who pronounced that that must not be done; that the declaration they had made in respect to any new oath, or any new declaration, must not be submitted to; that they should not subscribe any new instrument, wherein the interests of religion were concerned, without the previous approbation of their respective bishops; and the required submission to their determinations. At the same time, there was issued from the vicars apostolic, "The theological judgment of the Catholic divines of the midland district, on the two bills then pending in Parliament," containing this passage:—"Though we ourselves, in the oath of 1791, above cited, have abjured the doctrine and position that princes, excommunicated or deprived by the Pope, or any authority of the See of Rome, may be deposed or murdered by their subjects, &c.; yet, following the doctrine and example of our predecessors, who (chiefly on account of the extravagant and false terms therein contained, in King James's oath of allegiance) refused the same, we declare that it is utterly unlawful, and contrary to the doctrine of our church, for a Catholic to condemn upon oath the mere deposing doctrine as damnable and heretical. With respect to the bills of pains and penalties against their clergy with which some modern Catholics are content to purchase civil advantages for themselves, we declare, 1st, that we, the clergy, cannot conscientiously take the oath prepared for us, in the terms in which it stands in the bill; because, however remote we are from all traitorous conspiracies against the establishments of our country, whether civil or ecclesiastical, yet we cannot bind ourselves 'never to have any correspondence or communication with the Pope, or the See of Rome, or with any persons authorised by the Pope' (which words comprehend all the Catholic clergy of the United Kingdom), 'tending directly or indirectly to overthrow or disturb the Protestant church,' inasmuch as, in our judgment, all our preaching, writing, and ministering tend indirectly to this effect." There was at the present day, a class of publications going through the country, which spoke rather emphatically the general sort of language to which he had been directing their Lordships' attention. His Grace instanced "An Appeal of the Catholics of Ireland to the People of England," bearing the signature of N. P. O'Gorman, Secretary to the Catholics of Ireland; and "Letters on the State of Ireland," by J. K. L." In his opinion, the Pope's spiritual authority in Ireland intermixed itself most generally through the concerns of the Roman Catholics of that country. Whether right or wrong, he could not help connecting the rebellious conduct of many persons in Ireland, in 1798, with the influence of their connexion with the church of Rome. Although that re-

bellion began with the Protestants, it afterwards assumed the exclusive character of a Popish rebellion. He had little doubt that many of the Roman Catholic clergy were engaged in forwarding that rebellion; and there was no doubt whatever that some of them were actually and openly concerned in the field. His Grace was unable, however, to state any particular instance; and admitted that the Roman Catholic archbishops and bishops of Ireland had addressed the persons in their communion in a most loyal manner, advising them to pursue a loyal and proper conduct, and to support the Government against the rebels. There were two other canons of the third Council of Lateran, the sixteenth and twenty-seventh, which bore strongly on the subject under consideration. The first pronounced, that oaths were not to be esteemed such, but rather perjuries, which were adverse to the interests of the church; the second decreed remission of sins to be granted to those who pursued heretics to slavery and destruction. His Grace, undoubtedly, apprehended danger to the establishment from any further concessions being made to the Catholics in the present state of things. Whether he would recommend that the concessions which had been already made should be withdrawn, was a vast question, which could not be answered without the deepest deliberation.

ARTHUR IRWIN KELLY, Esq.—Was sovereign of Armagh, and agent of the Lord Primate. The better description of Protestants in Ireland wished for any measure that might restore the country to tranquillity; and, as Catholic emancipation might possibly lead to that result, the more thinking part were not unfriendly to Catholic emancipation, on qualified and fair terms. Both the regulation of the elective franchise, and the payment of the Roman Catholic priests, were considered by the Protestants as calculated to be conducive to the welfare and tranquillity of the country.

The Rev. THOMAS WILLIAM DIXON.—Had been a Roman Catholic priest, but in 1818 changed from the Roman Catholic persuasion from a conviction of error. He was fully acquainted with the principles instilled into the priesthood in Ireland, and thought it impossible to distinguish between temporal and spiritual allegiance to the Pope, because the line of obedience was not defined. Whenever the two allegiances, to the sovereign temporally, and to the Pope spiritually, clashed, the Pope's had decidedly a paramount power over the other. The doctrine of obedience to the Pope, regarding him as the spiritual head of the church, was taught at Maynooth; a full obedience to him, in spiritual matters only; but no person knew what those spiritual matters were. There was an oath in which that obedience was expressed. He could not exactly recall the words of the oath; but when he took it, the impression on his mind was, that when they clashed, the obe-

dience to the Pope should certainly counter-balance any obedience to a temporal sovereign, where the executive law of the land should not force him into action. The Romish church held that its doctrine was immutable. He believed that if the Roman Catholics were to enter into any compact, and declare their willingness to abide by any declaration, which, having been previously stipulated, should be enacted into a law, the Pope, by his authority, could compel them to renounce that agreement. The general mass of the Roman Catholics believed that the priests could absolve them without repentance. About a year prior to his leaving the communion of the church of Rome, some dissenters beginning to make its way into his neighbourhood, he suggested to the Roman Catholic bishop, that he thought it the duty of every priest to identify himself as much as possible with the preservation of the peace of

the country, and to contribute the influence which from his station he had over the people, to the assistance of the civil magistrate. The answer he got was, "What have you to do with the civil magistrate? Let them look after the peace of the country — you have your duty." He had offered the evidence, which he now gave voluntarily, to contradict positions which he thought were not exactly the truth. He had not any prospect of provision in the Established Church, except what his own activity in looking for a curacy, or occasional duty, might furnish him with.

JOHN LESLIE FOSTER, Esq., M. P., again examined. — Delivered in the following summary of the results of all the returns made on oath by many thousands of the clergy, both of the Protestant and of the Roman Catholic persuasion:

TABLE exhibiting the Amounts and Proportions of the Population professing different Religious Creeds in each Province in Ireland, with the Amounts and Proportions thereof in a Course of Education, calculated from the Returns made by the Roman Catholic Clergy.

Province.	I.	II.			III.			IV.	V.	VI.			VII.	IX.	X.	XI.	XII.	XIII.
	Total Population, taken from the Census of 1821.	Total in Education, taken from the Returns made to the Commissioners of Education Inquiry in 1824.	Of the Established Church.	Presbyterians.	Of other Denominations.	Roman Catholics in Education, taken from the said Returns.	Children in Education, the Religion of whom has not been stated by the Returns.	Of the Established Church.	Presbyterians.	Of other Denominations.	Total Protestant Population.	Roman Catholic Population, obtained by a Process similar to that of Col. G. taking similar as the Third Proportional.	Population, the Religion of whom cannot be ascertained from the Returns.	Proportion of the Protestant Population to the Roman Catholic.	Proportion of Males in Education to the Total Male Population.	Proportion of Females in Education to the total Female Population.	Proportion of the Population (Male and Female taken together) in Education to the Total Population.	
Ulster	1,998,494	123,093	31,649	32,945	2,481	55,056	953	510,234	566,443	41,979	1,113,656	862,433	17,405	1—1	1—13	1—21	1—16	
Leinster ...	1,757,492	149,687	27,035	328	719	118,953	2,652	322,232	4,284	8,202	334,738	1,305,231	27,523	1—4	1—9	1—14	1—11	
Munster ...	1,935,612	179,714	16,057	154	519	162,654	330	176,405	1,732	5,688	183,795	1,743,306	3,511	1—9	1—8	1—10	1—10	
Connaught	1,110,229	69,484	8,438	208	75	60,505	186	126,824	4,699	1,190	132,713	974,239	3,277	1—7	1—12	1—23	1—16	
Total ...	6,801,827	521,978	83,179	33,707	3,794	397,177	4,121	1,135,715	577,158	57,029	1,769,902	4,980,209	51,716	1—2	1—10	1—18	1—13	

* The Returns from Connaught are less perfect than those from the other provinces, and the calculation founded on them may be proportionably inaccurate.

The Rev. THOMAS WILLIAM DIXON, again examined.—The students at Maynooth were instructed to consider the Protestants as separated from the pale of the church by their heresy, and consequently as no sharers of the blessings which religion had brought into the world. The priests considered the Protestant hierarchy as having no claim whatever to apostolic origin, and that the Protestant bishops were intruders into the situations and offices of the Roman Catholics. The priests were much opposed to education, which, he was sure, was because they were apprehensive that its effects on the human mind would be to counteract in a great measure the implicit belief that Roman Catholics were taught to repose in the traditions of the church. It did not appear to him that the lower class of the Irish attached any great interest to the question of Roman Catholic emancipation. The idea that the priests attached to it was ascendancy in church and state. He did not think that the discontents which had prevailed so much in Ireland were chiefly attributable to the want of what was called Catholic emancipation; but he thought that the general distress which pervaded the country subsequent to the peace was their main cause. If the mass of the people could obtain employment to detach them from contraband traffic and other idle pursuits, it would have a most powerful effect in restoring the country to tranquillity. When he was a Roman Catholic priest, he did not oppose the spread of education; but he alone was perhaps of that opinion in the diocese in which he lived. When he was a Roman Catholic priest, he had the same respect for the sanctity of an oath as he had now; but he was satisfied, that if a Roman Catholic were confident he was acting under the express or implied command of the Pope, or of any power who he believed had power to absolve him from an oath, he would consider himself justified in carrying into effect what he would consider the interests of his religion or church, at the expense of the oath which he had before taken. He had presented a petition to the House of Lords, stating his knowledge of the dangerous principles of the Catholics, and his conviction, that a departure from the restrictions at present attached by law to the profession of Popery within these realms must tend to the downfall of the constitution. The petition was read, and he now stated upon his oath that he believed all which it stated. If a Roman Catholic were to assert the contrary upon his oath, he would not believe him.

JOSEPH MORGAN DALY, Esq.—Resided on his own property in Westmeath. Had been a magistrate for nineteen years. Detailed various cases of great outrage, in which the persons tried were acquitted in consequence of the intimidation under which the witnesses laboured, and which prevented their giving evidence. In one instance, a witness died before the trial, in

consequence of the blows he received from the friends of the prisoners.

JAMES REDMOND BARRY, Esq.—Was a Roman Catholic magistrate, and an officer under the Fishery Board, who had resided in the barony of Ibane and Barrygrove, in the county of Cork, from his birth. In 1820, the general condition of the maritime population of Munster was very miserable, but he thought it had improved: it was still, however, capable of much further improvement. He recommended separating the occupations of fishery and farming upon the coast, by congregating the maritime peasantry into small towns and villages upon the coast. He conceived the restoration of perfect tranquillity in the country one of the strongest, and almost a sufficient inducement to obtain the investment of capital in the Irish fisheries. Every possible means had been adopted by the officers of the fisheries to afford every possible information, and every inducement to persons to invest capital in the fisheries. There was a ready market for all the fish caught; but as yet no exportation, the home consumption not being supplied. The town of Dungarvan had exceedingly improved of late, which he attributed to the fact, that the fisheries there were the exclusive pursuit of the working classes. In his opinion, the two occupations of taking and curing fish ought to be divided. Thanks to the late act, they had salt in abundance, of which the English market afforded the largest supply. The general conduct of the population engaged in fishing along the coast of Ireland, during the late disturbances, was uninterruptedly tranquil and peaceable, under the severest privations. Persons who embarked their capital in the Irish fisheries should look for their profit, not to any fishery exclusively, but to all generally, and to the very large migratory shoals of fish that occasionally visited the coast; being principally herrings, mackarel, and a description of fish called sead. About six years ago, when the fishery commenced, the price of herrings per Scotch barrel was about 2*l.*; the present price was about 1*l.* 5*s.* He recommended a reduction of the duties on the articles which were necessary for the outfit of vessels; namely, hemp, foreign timber, and iron. The people in the district to which he alluded were intensely anxious for employment; and he was firmly convinced that there was at that moment as much security for the investment of capital there as in the city of London. To insure the continuance, however, of the tranquillity that at present existed, he was persuaded that the removal of the disqualifications under which so large a portion of the people laboured was essential. He should consider the destitute poor to form about one-third of the population in the district of which he had been speaking. There was a very kindly feeling towards them on the part of their poor neighbours; and although they were a burden upon

the latter, he should view with great apprehension the introduction of any compulsory measures for their relief. Enforced charity might destroy the real feelings of charity, and hold forth an inducement to mendicancy.

The Honourable ROBERT DAY.—Was one of the Puisne Judges of the Court of King's Bench in Ireland for twenty-one years, and had travelled every circuit. His confident opinion was, that it was expedient to separate the different functions now carried on by the Irish grand juries; and he detailed various improvements that he thought might be made with reference to grand jury presentments. He thought that the tenant should have credit against his landlord for every charge upon the land liquidated by the tenant. The power of laying on the assessments, and auditing the accounts, he would have transferred from the grand juries to the magistrates assembled in quarter-sessions. It would be an inducement to the gentlemen of the country to accept the commission of the peace. Most disgusting jobbing had, to his knowledge, taken place in money-matters on the grand juries, which, he thought, would be prevented by removing the power of taxing to the quarter sessions. The survey of land was at present very unequal, and required amendment. The magistracy in towns corporate was certainly inferior to the magistracy of the county. He recommended an enlargement of the number of magistrates in towns corporate, by giving the crown a power of appointing co-ordinate magistrates, which had been done in the city of Limerick with the best effect imaginable. He thought it would be very advantageous if the business of each county in Ireland was in the hands of one lord-lieutenant, rather than, as at present, in the hands of several governors; although it might be difficult in some counties to find a person qualified for the situation. The sub-sheriffs ought, in his opinion, to be appointed otherwise than at present. Let the sheriff nominate three individuals to the judge of assize, and the judge select one of the three for sub-sheriff. He thought it would be extremely desirable that the assistant barristers should have an opportunity of selecting, at some period of the year, the county they would choose to go to, according to seniority, as the judges did their circuits. In his opinion, the assistant barristers ought not to be the chairmen of the quarter sessions. The mingling of the criminal and the civil business, was very improper. The criminal business ought to be first disposed of. It had been his constant persuasion that Catholic emancipation, or rather equalisation, as it ought to be called, would have the best effect in securing Irish tranquillity. In the abstract, no one could deny that the Catholics were entitled to it. It would be an act of justice, and his maxim was, "Be just, and leave the rest to Providence." He could not conceive it possible that the admissibility of

Roman Catholics to civil offices, and to the houses of parliament, would endanger the existing establishment in church and state. He was persuaded that the Catholics would feel bound by their oaths not to endanger that establishment. The crown, however, ought, in his opinion, to be invested with a controlling power in the nomination of the Roman Catholic dignitaries. A veto would answer every desirable purpose. He had not the remotest idea that the appointment of a Roman Catholic to be a judge would afford any just apprehension to a Protestant that the law would not be impartially administered. The recent disturbances in Ireland had nothing to do with religion; they originated in the poverty of the people, which exposed them to the seduction of every felonious or turbulent leader; the want of employment; the non-residence of landlords; the want of education; and the unconscionable rents (the offspring of subfeudation, thank God, diminishing) that were too often exacted from the peasantry. The Tithe Composition Act was a measure which had proved beneficial in the highest degree. He recommended a moderate provision for the Roman Catholic clergy, thereby relieving the peasantry from the priest's dues. He recommended also a limitation of the legal right of distraining under all future leases to the head-landlord, and a discontinuance of a practice, common in Munster, of advertising lands to be let to the highest bidder, the consequence of which was a competition productive of the most mischievous effects. Raising the qualifications of the freeholds from 40s. to 20l. would also, in his opinion, be very beneficial.

ROBERT DE LA COUR, Esq.—Was a banker at Mallow, and had been high sheriff for the county of Cork. He attributed the disturbances that took place two years ago, not to any political or religious cause, but to distress. When he left Ireland (the 20th of April), it was as tranquil as he had ever known it; and although the rejection of the bill for the relief of the Catholics would, he had no doubt, be severely felt by Roman Catholics of all denominations and ranks, he hoped that the present good prices and agricultural prosperity in Ireland would prevent the peace of the country from being disturbed. The present condition of the labouring poor of the south of Ireland was very miserable, arising from want of permanent employment. In his opinion, there was sufficient security for the investment of capital in that country. Subletting was one of the greatest evils affecting Ireland; but the landlords were doing all in their power to abate it. The law, as it now stood, between landlord and tenant, was more than equitably favourable to the former; and especially in the process called Civil Bill Ejectments, there were defects which he thought ought to be remedied. The grand jury system was also, in his opinion, susceptible of much improvement; but he did not think

that the power of assessing for public county purposes could be placed in better hands. (The witness delivered in several papers, containing detailed plans and suggestions for the amendment of the laws respecting presentments, the allotments, and collections of county levies, &c.) It had long been his opinion, that it would tend to the improvement of moral order and the state of society in the country, if the right of qualification for freeholds were raised. He thought it ought not to be less than 20*l.* a year. It was also a very decided opinion of his, that the removal of Roman Catholic disabilities would be of advantage to Ireland; and that Ireland would not see peace until it was effected. He had no apprehension that such a measure would endanger the interests of the Protestant establishment, or he would be the last man to advocate it. Itinerant mendicancy in Ireland went to an enormous and lamentable extent; and he thought some establishment for the relief of the destitute, old, and infirm, would be very desirable.

The Rev. WILLIAM PHELAN.—Was a clergyman of the Established Church, who had been resident in the counties of Armagh and Tyrone. Adverting to the oath of the Roman Catholic priest, he thought there were two declarations in it; the one a declaration that the Pope was the vicar or vicerent of Christ; the other, a pledge that the priest would maintain, and cause to be maintained, all the canons, containing matter objectionable; perhaps to all states, but more especially to Protestant states. With regard to the former, in early times, under the title of "vicar of Christ," a regal, as well as a sacerdotal power, had been expressly claimed. With regard to the latter, the temporal power of the Pope, the claim of ecclesiastics to be exempted from lay jurisdiction, and intolerance towards those who differed from them in religion, were all distinctly and broadly asserted in the canons. Instances had occurred, in the reigns of Elizabeth and Charles I., of the ecclesiastics of Ireland having shewn a determined disposition to maintain their right of exemption from lay jurisdiction. In every reign since that of Elizabeth, there had been some negotiation about taking the oath of allegiance: the Roman Catholicity were in general well disposed to the measure; but some opposition always arose from the priesthood. The witness here detailed the various occurrences on which his last statement was founded. He considered the answer of the six universities to Mr. Pitt's questions as by no means making a full and absolute disclaimer of the doctrines which it was professed to disclaim; and described his reasons for so thinking.

The Rev. MORTIMER O'SULLIVAN.—Was a clergyman of the Established Church, who had had a great deal of intercourse with the Roman Catholics in Ireland; principally in the county of Tipperary. The Roman Catholic priests were

generally speaking, from the lower orders. They exercised great influence over their flocks, and estranged them from Protestants by exciting in their minds a horror of what they called heresy. They frequently inflicted very severe personal chastisement on their parishioners. They regarded Rome as the place where their religion was triumphant; and looked upon their body in Ireland as forming a part of a universal community, with the Pope as its head; and their conversations with the people were calculated to inspire them with the same feelings. It appeared to him, that the system of auricular confession rendered the obtaining of evidence, and the discovery of crimes in Ireland much more difficult. In his opinion, the priests had great power in exciting disorder, but very little in allaying it. Having been treated almost with disdain by the gentry, the priests had united with the people, and formed a party that defied the power of the gentry. He by no means thought that the cause of the disturbances which had taken place would be removed by political concession. The interference of the legislature in granting concessions had invariably been productive of increased misery to the poorer classes. The worst effect of the Roman Catholic Association was, that it had brought into political consequence a number of persons who were not, from their property or habits, of any consequence before, and that had strengthened the party of which he had before spoken. In many cases the payment of the Catholic rent had been occasioned by terror. It appeared to him that the hostility of the Roman Catholics to the Established Church was greater than it used to be; which he attributed in a great measure to the influence of the Jesuit schools. The recent disturbances and outrages in Ireland he attributed principally to distress, proceeding from want of employment.

JAMES REDMOND BARRY, Esq., again examined.—Described the nature and extent of the encouragement at present afforded to the Irish fisheries. He certainly did not think it either necessary or reasonable that the bounty system should be perpetuated, or even continued longer than the period fixed by the existing acts; although he did not think that the fisheries of Ireland were in a condition sufficiently well established to subsist and improve without some system of legislative regulation. He had no doubt that the fisheries would afford ample employment for the whole of the maritime population, if the means could be created of enabling the people to avail themselves of the advantage. He regretted to say, that he had not observed a disposition generally, on the part of the landed proprietors and others, to cherish and encourage the fisheries. With reference to the opinion which he had given on his former examination, that the removal of the disqualifications under which a large proportion of the community laboured was essen-

tial to the re-establishment of the prosperity of the country, he repeated that opinion, and disclaimed on oath, for himself, as a Catholic, and for his countrymen of the same persuasion, any design of desiring emancipation from civil disabilities principally with a view to ulterior objects, affecting the Protestant establishment in church and state.

His Grace the ARCHBISHOP of DUBLIN again examined. — Explained the reasons which had induced him to correct, in the printed evidence, several answers which he had given in a former examination respecting the Athanasian Creed and the Articles of the Church.

DOMINICK BROWNE, Esq. M. P. — Resided in the south-eastern part of the county of Mayo. Had not observed during the last twenty years any material improvement in the condition of the peasantry. Among the principal causes which, in his opinion, continued to keep the lower orders in their present miserable situation, were, — the excessive and increasing population, the insufficient supply of employment, the creation, for the sake of political influence, of 40s. leasehold freeholders, the low state of the temporalities of the Roman Catholic church, the dissatisfaction of the lower orders in consequence of paying out of the three taxes to which they were subject (the county cess, the parish cess, and the tithes) two for the maintenance of a church of a small minority, protesting against their own, for which there was no legal provision; and other causes, producing a sense of their own degradation and want of importance in the community, and consequent despondency and want of exertion. The Tithe Composition Act, and the Act to limit the voting for joint freeholds at elections, had been beneficial, although the latter had been much evaded. The laxity with respect to oaths occasioned by the present law, produced the very worst effects on the morals of the population. He believed that forty-nine fiftieths of the fee-simple property of the county of Mayo belonged to Protestants, but he believed that forty-nine fiftieths of the people were Roman Catholics. An extremely good effect had, in his opinion, arisen from the establishment of petty sessions; but the greatest defects existed in the quarter sessions system, as far as the recovery of small debts was concerned. The greatest difficulty also existed in trying the validity of wills in the case of the lower orders, where small properties were concerned.

REPORT from the Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into the State of Ireland, more particularly with Reference to the Circumstances which may have led to Disturbances in that Part of the United Kingdom.

In presenting to the House the last portion of the evidence taken by them, your Committee

are unable, at this advanced period of the Session, to accompany it with such observations in detail as they might have been desirous of submitting, if their examination of the numerous witnesses whom they have called had closed at an earlier time.

Their inquiries have been continued up to the present moment. The voluminous and important evidence received by them comprehends a very wide range; and much of that evidence has not yet been delivered to them in print.

The operation and tendency of the laws which affect his Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects formed, as might have been expected, the leading topic of examination; but the great question to which these inquiries referred having been repeatedly subjected to the judgment of the House, your Committee think, that they have pursued the most useful and fitting course, by collecting full information upon every branch of that subject, and by submitting that information for the consideration of the House.

Your Committee have acted upon the same principle with respect to the creation and registry of freeholds for the purpose of exercising the elective franchise; and with respect to the expediency and practicability of allotting a provision from the public funds for the maintenance of the Roman Catholic priesthood.

Another subject of urgent and pressing importance, from its high concern to the state, is that of the education of the people; but in consequence of an address of the House to his Majesty, this subject has been specially referred to the consideration of Commissioners, and those Commissioners having made considerable progress in their inquiry, and their power of local inspection affording them superior means of information, your Committee limited their own examinations into this subject, and consequently are not prepared to offer to the House any observations with respect to it.

For similar reasons, your Committee forbore from undertaking any detailed investigation into the subject of the revenue, or into those matters connected with the superior courts of justice, which either have been the subject of the former Reports of the Commissioners of judicial inquiry, or are now under their consideration.

The inquiries which are still pending with respect to the office of sheriff, and which Parliament has recently been called upon to assist in forwarding, induce your Committee to suspend any observations upon that office, although a subject of the deepest interest, as it relates to the administration of the law.

The evidence, however, which your Committee have taken upon other subjects presents much valuable information, affecting many of the most important interests of Ireland; and although, even with respect to some of these matters, measures have already been taken by Parliament, or the Government, which appear

to supersede the necessity of specific recommendations, yet the importance of them all appears to be such, that your Committee feel it their duty to point them out, as deserving the most serious and the earliest attention.

The defective state of the law between landlord and tenant; the difficulty of giving it effect, and its inadequacy to secure the landlord against unauthorised alienation and subdivision of his farms; and to protect the tenant against repeated distress by the several persons having an interest over him in his holding:

The various questions connected with the mode in which tithes is collected:

The collection and application of church rates, and the constitution and proceedings of vestries for these purposes:

The multiplication of oaths, and the perjuries to which they lead:

The constitution and proceedings of the Manor Courts:

The state of the magistracy:

The comparative expediency of appointing lords-lieutenant of counties, or of continuing the present system of governors:

The mode of proceeding at Petty and at Quarter Sessions:

The abuses in the mode of serving process in the Civil Bill Courts:

The mode of establishing legal rights of admission into the freedom of corporations:

The best means of further improving the efficiency of the police:

The state of the laws which relate to grand juries, and the manner in which presentments are made, the works executed, and the expenditure accounted for:

The manner in which tolls and customs are levied at sea-ports, and in markets:

The probable effect of emigration, and the degree in which it would be expedient to encourage it:

All these are subjects of general interest, and of great importance, upon which your Committee have collected much valuable information, and which they recommend for the most serious consideration.

Your Committee conceive, that under the circumstances adverted to in the beginning of this report, they cannot more effectually bring these topics, and others of minor importance, under the review of Parliament, than by annexing to their report an analytical index, which they hope will be so complete as to give the means of referring with facility and precision to every part of the evidence which relates to each particular head of inquiry.

But while your Committee anxiously recommend these matters to the attention of the House, in the hope that practical benefit to Ireland may result from the consideration of them, they cannot refrain from remarking with satisfaction upon the advantages which are begin-

ning to be felt, from measures already in operation.

The improvement in the organisation of the police; the revision of the magistracy; the establishment of petty sessions; and the principle upon which assistant barristers have been selected, appear to have been productive of the most beneficial consequences.

The Tithe Composition Acts have been carried into effect as extensively as could have been expected during the short period which has elapsed since they were passed; and appear, by the concurrent testimony of all the witnesses who have been examined on this point, to have been attended with the best results.

The change which has been made in the distillery laws appears to have promoted the tranquillity of the country, and to be highly favourable to the habits of the people.

The measures already in progress for the survey and valuation of Ireland, with a view to the more equal levy of the large sums raised for local objects, either under the authority of grand juries, or otherwise, appear to your Committee calculated to give very considerable relief to the occupiers of land who are subject to these assessments.

The want of an adequate demand for labour, the deficiency of funds for its employment, and the great importance of facilitating the introduction of English capital into Ireland, have been strongly pressed upon the attention of your Committee in the course of their examinations; and they are encouraged to entertain the expectation, that while the recent repeal of all direct taxation in Ireland must tend to increase the funds in that country applicable to the employment of labour, the abolition of the union duties, and the arrangements by which the commercial intercourse between the two islands has been placed upon its true and proper footing, must not only cement more firmly the connexion between the two countries; but must afford material assistance to that influx of English capital into Ireland which is so important to the best interests of the empire to encourage.

30th June, 1825.

Substance of the Minutes of Evidence taken, before the Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to inquire into the State of Ireland.

ANTHONY RICHARD BLAKE, Esq., a Commissioner of Education.—Having been absent from Ireland for some years, on his return, it appeared to him, that the lower orders of the people were improved; but that there was much discontent among the Roman Catholics, and increasing dissensions between them and the Protestants. Rents in Ireland were frequently in arrear; owing, in general, to the high rate at which land was let; an evil to

which the system of subletting greatly contributed. He thought that the Roman Catholic clergy would accept with gratitude a provision from the state, if accompanied with the settlement of the Roman Catholic question, and so regulated as not to prejudice their independence; and he was persuaded, that such a measure would give strength to the Protestant establishment, and repose to the country. The raising of the qualification for the exercise of the elective franchise would, in his opinion, be also beneficial, as it would tend to the production of that which was much wanted in Ireland, — a respectable yeomanry.

The Right Hon. DENNIS BROWNE, a Member. — Connaught, the part of Ireland with which he was best acquainted, was perfectly tranquil in act; nevertheless, there was a dangerous agitation of feeling among all classes of the Roman Catholics, in consequence of their being barred from the enjoyment of civil rights. Until the Catholic question was set at rest, and a provision made for the Catholic clergy, there would be no security for the peace of Ireland. He thought it would be difficult to prevail upon the sturdy 40s. freeholders in the north of Ireland to relinquish the elective franchise.

DANIEL O'CONNELL, Esq. — The great modern increase in the population of Ireland, he principally attributed to that relaxation in the penal code in 1778, which enabled Roman Catholics to take leases, and have tenures, and thereby fixed them more to the soil. He was astonished how the lower classes of the people in Ireland preserved health, and even cheerfulness, in the total privation of comfort, with respect to habitations, food, and clothing, which they experienced. The facilities of ejection, and distress for rent, possessed by the Irish landlords, had considerably aggravated the tendency to disturbance in Ireland; and he strongly recommended the repeal of several of the statutes by which those facilities had been afforded. The multiplication of oaths with reference to the registration of freeholds, the proceedings at elections, &c., had had a most demoralising effect on the peasantry of Ireland; having rendered them indifferent to the obligation of an oath. As at present constituted, the Civil Bill Court was highly objectionable; and the evil of serving process for the recovery of small debts (under 5*l.* or more) was such, that it would be better to make such debts irrecoverable. As regarded the crown side, he thought the assistant barrister at the Quarter Sessions in Ireland decidedly useful; but that he ought not to be a practising barrister. The manner in which justice was administered by the magistrates throughout the south of Ireland had made a very unfavourable impression on his mind. Great abuses prevailed in the commitment of persons upon insufficient evidence, and in the

manner in which summonses for attendance were granted. There was not that generous abhorrence of wrong and oppression among the class of men who were magistrates in Ireland which there ought to be; and the lower classes of the people were impressed with the conviction that cases were determined, not by justice, but by favour and interest. Although, for the last two-and-thirty years, Roman Catholics had been eligible to the direction of the Bank of Ireland, not one had ever been elected a director. It was the same with the eligibility to the freedom of the city of Dublin, and of other corporations. Yet the wealth of the Catholic commercial community in Dublin greatly exceeded that of the Protestant; and the landed property of the Catholics had increased enormously, and was increasing every day. Such exclusions, embittered as they were by religious dissension, created the greatest discontent. There even existed a system against the admission into any office in the corporation of Dublin of Protestants who were not unfavourable to the Catholic claims. It would be impossible for any man to become a sheriff of Dublin, who did not give an unequivocal pledge of his hostility to the Catholics, by toasting "The glorious and immortal memory," which was a kind of Shibboleth of party, denoting foregone triumph to the one side, and bespeaking future degradation to the other. Between the term "Protestant" and the term "Orangeman" there was a marked distinction. A liberal Protestant in Ireland was an object of great affection and regard with the entire Catholic population; an Orangeman was considered as decidedly an enemy, and was spoken of by the peasantry as an *exterminator*. He had received many private complaints, through the Catholic clergy, of acts of maladministration of the law, and of partiality; of the oppression of Catholics, and of favour shewn to Orangemen. He therefore considered the dissensions which unfortunately prevailed between Orangemen and Roman Catholics as greatly instrumental in aggravating the disturbances in Ireland; but the causes of those disturbances lay much deeper,—they were created by the peculiar state of the country, by poverty, the nature of tenure, tithes, church rates, and various other matters. With respect to the stability of the country if a foreign enemy were to invade it, the north would be in greater danger, from its Catholic population, than the south: they were better organised. The Catholic Association, and those who had taken an active part in Catholic politics, had had a great deal more trouble to check Ribbonism than to check Whiteboyism in the south. In speaking of the influence of the Orange Association in producing mischievous consequences in Ireland, he thought the Ribbon Associations owed their origin entirely to the Orange Associations. His opinion of the Ribbon system was, that it

was a continuation of the Defender system, which immediately ensued on the original formation of the Orange Association in the north, and was connecting itself with the French Revolution, looking at a complete revolution in Ireland, and a separation from England. He did not think the Defenders created the rebellion in 1798. That Rebellion commenced with the Presbyterians and Dissenters, as United Irishmen; the upper classes of the Catholics had no kind of connexion whatever with it in the north; and it was very much brought to *explode* (to use an expression employed by an Orangeman in the Irish parliament) by reason of the Orange lodges and the Orange system. Information, for which he allowed he had given money, enabled him to prove, that one of the secret pass-words of the Orangemen was taken from the 23d verse of the 68th Psalm, viz.: "That my foot may be dipped in the blood of thine enemies, and the tongue of thy dog in the same." As to the extent of the population of Ireland, his impression was, that it must exceed 8,000,000. He had seen, for a number of years past, a great increase in the proportion of Catholics to Protestants, in the southern district, and in Dublin. Speaking loosely, he should think that, if there were an enumeration, the Protestants in Ireland would not be found to amount to any thing like 1,000,000, including Quakers and Dissenters of every class. Of that number, he should conceive, one half, but not more, belonged to the Church of England. With respect to the relative proportion of property held by Protestants and Catholics, although it was daily diminishing in inequality, it would not be too much to say, that the amount of fee-simple estates in the hands of the Protestants, as compared with the amount in the hands of the Catholics, was as ten to one throughout Ireland. Upon the subject of registering freeholders, he knew the peasantry of Ireland were anxious, so to register themselves, as they felt that it made them of importance, and that they must once in seven years be counted. Recently the Catholic clergy, in consequence of the increased unanimity amongst the Catholic body, had materially influenced the votes of the peasantry, by pointing out to them the candidates who were favourable to the Catholic claims, and those who were not so; but he was convinced, that none of the rites or ceremonies or sacraments of the Church had ever been prostituted for that purpose. If the question of Catholic emancipation were carried, the influence of the Catholic priests (although at present by no means amounting to any thing like a submission of the laity to them) would cease. At the same time, if emancipation were carried (and until it was carried the Catholic clergy would not accept of a provision), he thought it would be unwise in Government not to secure the fidelity and attachment of the Catholic clergy

by what he called the golden link, a pecuniary provision. If emancipation were carried, and such a provision made, the probable effect would be that the Catholic clergy would cease all interference at elections; and would be in the nature of officers belonging to the crown, forwarding the views of Government wherever those views were not harsh, illegal, or unconstitutional. He thought 200*l.* a year for a parish would be a sufficient sum to cover the expenses of priest and curate. What should be the stipend of the Bishops was a very delicate subject; but he thought 800*l.* or 1000*l.* a year; and of an archbishop 1,400*l.* or 1,500*l.* In alluding to the benefit which had been derived from the education at Maynooth, he was of opinion that it was greater than that which had been derived from education elsewhere. In point of information, and in point of allegiance, under a proper system, it certainly would be so; as foreign education of the priests might be made a dangerous instrument. Upon the subject of the qualification of voters, he had a strong opinion in favour of extending rather than restricting the exercise of the elective franchise. He did not know any householder to whom it would be improper to give the right to vote, if the mode of taking the vote were well managed. The system of 40*s.* freeholds had its advantages and its disadvantages; but he should be glad (though it was a very erudite opinion) if the qualification were 5*l.* Conceding Catholic emancipation, in the spirit in which it ought to be conceded in order to be useful, he thought the inhabitants of Ireland would be so coincided with the Government, and the present distinction so much abolished, that whether 40*s.* or 5*l.* would be a question equally affecting Roman Catholics and Protestants; and that the Catholics would be satisfied with any arrangement which the Protestants were satisfied with. Catholics were excluded in Ireland from the offices of Chancellor, Master of the Rolls, Judges of the Courts of Exchequer, Common Pleas, and King's Bench, the Admiralty, and Ecclesiastical Courts. They were excluded from the office of Attorney or Solicitor General, or Serjeant, Counsel to the Revenue Boards (which, in Ireland, were places of great emolument), and also from the office of King's Counsel, the advantages of which were much greater in Ireland even than in England. Catholics could not be Masters in Chancery; Catholics were not allowed to be advocates; although in point of law they might be such. Catholics could not be Sheriffs. They were excluded from all corporation offices regulated by the Act of Settlement. By the exceptions in the Act of 1793, they were excluded from the offices of Lord Lieutenant, Lord Chancellor, Lord High Treasurer, Secretary of State, Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, Keeper of the Privy Seal, Vice-Treasurer, Privy Councillor, Teller or Cashier of the Exchequer, Auditor General, Postmaster

General; and, which was perhaps the most grievous exclusion of all, they were excluded from both Houses of Parliament. They were not excluded from any honorary distinction, such as Knights of St. Patrick; the first titles in the nation were the right of, and were enjoyed by, Catholics; and, by virtue of a clause in the Annual Mutiny Act, dispensing with the oath of supremacy, the army, through all its ranks, he took to be practically as open to the Catholic as to the Protestant. Catholics were obliged to take what were called the qualification oaths of 1773, in order to be able, legally, to buy, or sell, or bequeath lands. In his judgment, the penal code was in full force against any Catholic who had not taken the oaths prescribed in the repealing statutes. If the evidence of having taken the oaths were lost, the property was still as discoverable (according to the Irish phrase), as it was in the reign of George I.; and might be taken from the Catholic, and even from a Protestant deriving his title through a Catholic. — By an English Act of the 31st of George III. Catholic places of worship, and Catholic clergymen, were protected from disturbances during divine service. But the same protection did not exist in Ireland; there being no statute protecting Catholic places of worship, or divine service in them, except the Whiteboy Acts, when a county was disturbed; and no county, unless disturbed, was within the purview of the Whiteboy Acts. — The state of the law with regard to intermarriages of Catholics and Protestants was very much complained of. It was not universally known that the marriage of a Protestant and a Catholic by a Catholic priest was void. Catholic priests were liable to a penalty of 500*l.* if not to the punishment of death, for marrying a Protestant and a Catholic, even where they were not aware of the fact. It was considered a great hardship by the Roman Catholics, not so much that they were called upon to contribute to Protestant churches, as that they were called upon to build and repair such churches in parts in which they were totally unnecessary. For instance, one was building in a parish in the county of Kildare, in which there was but a single Protestant. Catholics could not be guardians of Protestant children. They must take the oaths before they could be guardians of their own, or of any other children. He felt it personally an excessive grievance that, by the existing law, he, as a Catholic, could not be King's Counsel; and it was professionally injurious to a number of Protestant gentlemen. — It was his opinion, that in the case of future disturbances in Ireland, the Insurrection Act was likely to be very injurious; as it tended to continue and augment the indisposition which existed in the minds of the people to the administration of the law. It tended to perpetuate the notion, that law and government in Ireland was a matter of mere brutal force. But when he said that, he did not deny that there was a

necessity in some districts for taking very violent measures; as certainly atrocious crimes had been committed in particular districts. In all cases in which disturbances had broken out, the Catholic clergy had taken the most zealous and active measures, at personal risk, to quell them. He was perfectly convinced that the Roman Catholics of Ireland, both clergy and laity, would, in the event of emancipation, be very willing to afford to Government reasonable security for the domestic education of their priesthood, and that no person should be nominated to any situation in the Catholic church of Ireland who was not substantially educated; as well as born, in allegiance; and in Ireland. There was great danger in leaving matters of that kind as they then were; as there was a great disposition on the part of France to interfere with the education of persons for the Irish priesthood. The Roman Catholic gentry of Ireland would not only not wish for, but would not agree, in any plan for transferring to the Roman Catholic clergy the possessions of the Protestant church; but they were exceedingly desirous of a diminution of tithes. He took a clear distinction between the Roman Catholics being willing that the Government should interfere in the nomination, and their being willing to afford a perfect security that there should be no foreign interference. In the latter they would cordially concur; to the former they would strongly object. Perhaps some difficulty might arise as to the mode of taking away from the Pope all right of originating a nomination; but that, he thought, might be obviated. Ireland was considered, in the Catholic church, as in an anomalous state. The hierarchy was preserved complete, and yet it was a missionary country, the consequence of which was that a greater dominion over the nomination was given to the Pope. It would, however, cease to be a missionary country the moment that the Catholics were put on an equal footing with other British subjects. The present state of Ireland brought the Catholics into a kind of corporate capacity; they acted as a body by reason of the compression; emancipation would put an end to that. References were frequently made to the Pope in questions which arose between the clergy and the bishops; but they were only in cases purely ecclesiastical and spiritual. He had heard that in case the Emancipation Bill were carried, there was a prospect of dupes Catholic, now resident on the Continent, returning to Ireland with their property; and he knew that if emancipation were delayed, some very wealthy Catholics would carry their property out of Ireland. Emancipation would not only create great satisfaction among the Catholic gentry, but would contribute materially to diminish the popular disorders and disturbances that had prevailed. Although, by itself, it would not tranquillise Ireland; yet without it he did not think Ireland would ever be perfectly

tranquil. A strong sympathy with their Catholic countrymen, on the subject of emancipation, existed in a great proportion of the population of Ireland, especially in the south. — There was a great want of books at Maynooth college, the sum annually voted for which was totally inadequate. — With respect to Orangemen and Catholics, there was a mutual action and re-action; faults on both sides. The Orangemen, probably, entertained very improper notions of the Catholics; and some Catholics entertained very improper notions of Orangemen; and one of the beneficial effects of emancipation would be, to put an end to that mutual action and re-action. As to the abolition of the 40s. freeholds, although he did not wish for the measure, yet he did not mean to contend that, as a condition of emancipation, some arrangement might not take place respecting it. He was sure that the lower class of freeholders in Ireland would not be satisfied to renounce what they considered an advantage without receiving any advantage in return; but he thought it might be easily brought home to their understandings, that Catholic emancipation being granted was a full remuneration for their loss. The Protestant freeholders would, however, consider such an act as an unqualified grievance upon them; nor did he think there were any means of reconciling them to it.

ROBERT JOHN WILMOT HORTON, Esq. — Was of opinion that, as it was an admitted fact, that in parts of Ireland the population might be considered redundant, in the sense of the supply of labour being very disproportionate to the demand, no remedy could be more satisfactorily employed than emigration, provided the expense were not too great. In 1823, 568 emigrants had been sent to Canada, at an expense of 22*l.* a head; which expense included the location of a settler, his maintenance for a year; and his being placed in a situation in which he could go on without further assistance. With regard to the scheme of emigration generally, he thought that 20*l.* for each person (the proportion of men being as one to four) might be considered a correct estimate. He saw no reason why the emigration which had been successfully carried into operation in 1823, might not be carried into effect, with reference to any conceivable number of persons disposed to emigrate. The two Canadas, New Brunswick, and other colonies, would absorb an enormous population. He considered it, also, exceedingly desirable to encourage and regulate voluntary emigration, unconnected with any support from Government. He spoke merely as an individual, and not as pretending to give any opinion on the part of Government, when he said, that he thought the abstraction of 200,000 unemployed persons from Ireland would be attended with the best possible results. The comparative tranquillity which such an abstraction must

occasion, would encourage persons to send capital into Ireland; and if the interest of the colonies were to be considered as the interest of the empire, he conceived it to be impossible to incur an expense more beneficial, or with greater probability of reproduction than by laying out four millions to locate men, and to cultivate the waste lands of the provinces of Canada.

Mr. PETER ROBINSON. — Had been employed as superintendent of the emigration of last year from Ireland, and detailed all the particulars of that transaction.

Mr. JOHN ASTLE. — Was a principal ship-owner in Dublin; had been concerned every year in the carrying of emigrants from Ireland to North America; and described the injurious nature of the provisions of the Act of Parliament for the regulation of that trade. He was of opinion, that too much was done for the emigrants, at present, and that nothing ought to be given them but a free passage. The "Union of Trades" in Ireland, which was a combination to keep up the price of labour, had proved exceedingly injurious to the shipping interest, and had been productive of much bloodshed. It was one of the causes which prevented English capital from going over to Ireland. Any measures which would have the effect of tranquillising Ireland, would also have the effect of inducing English capitalists to fix there.

HUGH O'CONNOR, Esq. — Had been at the head of a house in the West India trade of considerable extent in Dublin, but had retired. A great many inconveniences had resulted to Roman Catholic merchants in Dublin, in consequence of the exclusion of Roman Catholics from the direction of the Bank. The political state of Ireland had a material tendency to retard the investment of English capital in that part of the United Kingdom. Discontent generally prevailed throughout the Catholic body, on account of the disqualifying laws; from the highest Catholic peer to the humblest Catholic peasant. Being sure that the 40s. freeholders were not in a station of life which gave any security to the public of a fair and independent exercise of their franchise, in the event of a bill being carried for the emancipation of the Catholics, he conceived that it would be desirable to make an alteration in the present qualification of the freeholders. He also thought that a provision ought to be made by the state for the Roman Catholic clergy in Ireland; and that such an arrangement would be acceptable to the Roman Catholic clergy and laity, if accompanied by the general measure of emancipation; but not otherwise. He himself, and he believed many other Catholics of property, were determined to leave Ireland, in case the civil disabilities under which the Catholics laboured were continued.

RICHARD SHELL, Esq. — Described various imperfections in the administration of justice in Ireland; arising from two sources, religious,

and aristocratic. He certainly thought that public men in Ireland (and it was but human nature) were swayed by an anxiety to support the members of that party by which they were themselves supported. His observation and inquiries convinced him that the profession of the Roman Catholic religion was an obstacle to promotion at the bar. Among other instances was that of Mr. Bellew, who about the time of the Union had been promised by Lord Castlereagh the situation of assistant barrister; but who, on the occurrence of a vacancy, was informed, that there were reasons which precluded the possibility of appointing him, and had a pension granted to him instead. It was the opinion of the whole bar, that had Mr. Bellew been a Protestant, he would have reached the summit of his profession. Government had a great patronage connected with the Irish bar. There were nearly as many places as there were barristers, yet, with the exception of Mr. Farrell, who had been recently promoted, no Catholic barrister had been appointed to any place. He admitted, that sometimes individuals used language which might provoke the resentment, and in some cases incur the just censure of Government; but allowance ought to be made for expressions which were prompted by what those individuals regarded as monstrous wrong. There were not above two or three Catholic barristers who took such an active share in political proceedings as could be offensive to Government; yet the silent and more accommodating were as much overlooked as the bolder and more angry few who complained. Were the Catholic question settled, not only would such persons cease to employ vehement language in public assemblies, but they would scarcely ever enter any public assembly whatever. Such at least would be his conduct. Nor, were that question settled, would it be in the power of any man to draw large convocations of men together in Ireland. Neither upon tithes, nor upon the Union, nor upon any other political subject, could the people of Ireland, if the Catholic question were settled, be powerfully and permanently excited. To the question of the qualification at present required for a Roman Catholic freeholder, he had not given much attention; but he would say, that if it were put to the Roman Catholic body whether they would accept of emancipation upon the indispensable terms of raising the qualification of the freeholders, they would be most anxious to secure emancipation upon such conditions. He was also convinced, that the Roman Catholic clergy would accept of a provision if Catholic emancipation were to precede it; but not otherwise. There would be an end to all religious faction in Ireland, when the law had ceased to provoke it, and former feuds would be speedily forgotten.

Mr. JOHN BROWNE.—Resided at Limerick, and was concerned in one of the largest distil-

leries in Ireland. Had not met with any obstructions or difficulties in the conduct of the establishment from the people of the country; but should think his property more safe, if the measure called Catholic emancipation were carried; and was certain that it would afford additional inducements to capitalists to invest their capital in that part of the United Kingdom.

Mr. HUGH WALLACE.—Resided in Downpatrick. Was a solicitor, and an attorney in the law courts of Ireland; and had frequently acted as land agent. The number of 40s. freeholders had been greatly increased by the great landed proprietors in order to add to their personal and political influence; but he did not conceive that the freeholders themselves attached any particular value to the possession of that species of freeholds. He questioned very much, if any kindness was induced from the landlord to his tenantry, by the fact of their having those 40s. freeholds. In some cases, it led to acts of hardship on the part of the landlord towards his tenants, where they refused his solicitation for their votes. Generally speaking, however, those 40s. freeholders exercised no freedom of election whatever; quite the reverse. During the last eight or ten years, the average price of land in the county of Down was twenty-two and a half years' purchase upon the improved rent. He had not discovered any indisposition to purchase land in the county of Down on account of the unsettled state of the Catholic question; quite the reverse; and he considered the tenure of property in the county of Down as secure as in any part of his Majesty's dominions. The habitations of the persons in the county of Down holding from eight or ten to twenty acres of land were tolerably comfortable, and those of the yeomanry very much so. The condition of the labourers, however, was sometimes one of great destitution. Many of them were without any other food than potatoes and water. He had frequently heard complaints from the farmers on the subject of tithes; although the general practice in the county of Down was a kind of composition, which always led to a good understanding between the parishioners and the clergy. He thought the people in the county of Down were perfectly satisfied with the administration of justice at the quarter sessions; and he was persuaded that it was a good system to leave the whole administration of civil proceedings in that court to the assistant barrister. He considered the two acts of parliament which had been passed since 1817, giving to landlords a more summary mode of ejecting tenants under 50l. a year, advantageous both for the landlord and the tenant. It was not only his opinion, but that of every person in Ireland, who had given any consideration to the subject, that the proposed extensive establishment of provincial banks would be attended with the greatest advantage to trade and manufactures, and to the

internal resources of the country. There were, however, several obstacles to the establishment of these banks, which it was desirable to remove.

Lord KILLEEN.—Resided in the county of Meath. Described the state of the police and of the magistracy in that county. In his opinion the change of the qualification for voting, if unconnected with Catholic emancipation, would not be politic or wise; accompanying the grant of the Catholic claims, it might, perhaps be beneficial. He did not think that there would be any objection to a provision being made by the state for the Catholic clergy, provided it was made a part of, or followed Catholic emancipation. But he was persuaded that there would be a very great objection on the part of the Catholic body at large in Ireland to allow the crown the power of a veto upon the appointment of the Roman Catholic bishops. There was no interference by the Pope in temporal affairs in Ireland. He had never witnessed, in his county, any unfair prejudice in the administration of justice, as between Catholics and Protestants, in the Assize Courts and Sessions Courts; although he admitted that the exclusion of Catholics from the office of sheriff tended to cast doubts upon it.

The Right Reverend JAMES DOYLE, D.D., Titular Bishop of KILDARE and LEIGHLIN.—According to the principles which governed the Roman Catholic church in Ireland, the Pope had authority to issue commands, ordinances, or injunctions, general or special, without the consent of the king; but they must regard things of a spiritual nature; otherwise the clergy were not in anywise bound to obey them. For some centuries past the limits between the temporal and spiritual things which such commands of the Pope might affect were so well ascertained, that no mistake could possibly at present occur. Even in spiritual matters, the authority of the Pope was limited in various ways. If there were a representative of the Pope in this country, the Catholic clergy, so far from having an objection to his being required to pledge himself by oath that he would not in anywise interfere with the temporal or civil concerns either of his Majesty or of his Majesty's subjects, would be rejoiced at such a requisition; both because they would not wish that he should so interfere, and because it would tend to satisfy the minds of those who differed from them in religion as to the sentiments which they entertained with regard to the Pope or his envoys. The Pope had no power, in any shape, or for any purpose whatever, or under any pretence, to levy or require from the subjects of this realm any money whatever, or any equivalent for money. Neither was it in the power of the Pope to absolve the Catholic people from their oaths of allegiance; nor could any admonition, or excommunication, or interdiction by the Pope excuse the temporal obedience of the Catholic

laity or Catholic clergy to the king. From the death of the late Pretender to the present time, the right of appointment to bishoprics in Ireland had vested solely and exclusively in the Pope; but he had in no one instance appointed any person unless such as had been previously recommended to him from Ireland. In case of Catholic emancipation being granted, the Irish clergy would be extremely ready to promote any arrangement with the court of Rome by which the nomination to the benefices in Ireland might become purely domestic, provided that such domestic appointment did not exclude, what they considered as essential to Catholicism, the right of the Pope to give institution to their bishops. He could not tell whether the Catholic clergy, as a body, would object to an arrangement being made by which they might receive a salary for the performance of their ecclesiastical duties. For himself, he should prefer the slender support which he derived from the people whom he served; but if it were to be required as the indispensable condition of emancipation that he should receive such bounty as his Majesty might be graciously pleased to confer upon him, he would not refuse it. In making any arrangement for domestic appointment, he would contemplate such election to be made by a certain portion of the clergy of the diocese in which a vacancy occurred; but he would also require the concurrence of the metropolitan and suffragan bishops of the province in which the vacancy happened to exist. Before any arrangement which provided for the domestic appointment of the Roman Catholic prelates in Ireland could be carried into full effect, the consent of the see of Rome would be necessary. At the same time, the Roman Catholic priests of Ireland had it in their power to give a conditional consent to such an arrangement. The domestic arrangement would be one whereby the Pope would bind himself, through a treaty, to give institution to such fit person as might be canonically elected by the persons named in such treaty. He did not think the consent of the Pope would be absolutely necessary before any arrangement was made for a payment by the state of the Roman Catholic prelates and priesthood. If temporalities (by which was meant a pecuniary provision payable by the crown) were attached to Roman Catholic sees, and to Roman Catholic parishes in Ireland, it would be inconsistent with the doctrine or discipline of the Roman Catholic church to admit any interference on the part of the Protestant sovereign of this country in the appointments. Even were the sovereign of this realm a Catholic, there would be an objection to his having the appointment of bishops vested in him. The Catholics held that marriage was indissoluble. The bill which passed in the last session, known by the name of the Burial Bill, required improvement, and the Catholic priest ought to have a right to go to the burial-ground, and perform the funeral service,

without being obliged to obtain leave from the Protestant rector. The total number of parish priests in Ireland was about 1000; and at an average each of them had a coadjutor. In no case in Ireland had the bishops been nominated or appointed by the chapter alone, but they had been recommended by the metropolitan and suffragan bishops of the province in which the vacancy existed. In other cases, such persons had been elected by the parish priests of the vacant diocese; in other places they had been elected by all the serving clergy of the vacant diocese, and the person so elected by those clergymen had afterwards been recommended by the bishops. When he stated that objection would be felt to any interference of the state in the nomination of Catholic bishops, he did not mean to say that any objection would lie against making it imperative that no bishop could be made in Ireland except he received his nomination from one or other of the bodies just mentioned. The present Catholic primate in Ireland was, he believed, recommended to the see of Rome by every Catholic bishop in Ireland, except one. That took place at a meeting of the Catholic prelates in Kilkenny to protest against a rescript which came from Rome, signed by some officer there, called Quarantotti, with reference to a negative power in the crown to appoint to bishoprics in Ireland. Quarantotti was an obscure individual; one of those who, when the Pope was prisoner in France, was left in Rome to administer the affairs of the church. He was incompetent to decide upon a matter of such moment; but even had the rescript proceeded from higher authority in Rome, the Catholic prelates in Ireland would have remonstrated against it. In stating how far the Roman Catholics professed to obey the Pope, he should say the Catholic professed to obey the Pope in matters which regarded his religious faith, and in those matters of religious discipline which had already been defined by the competent authorities. But he begged to declare most unequivocally, that that obedience did not in the slightest degree detract from what was due by the Catholic to the state: on the contrary, as the laws of God, which the Pope enforced among Catholics, ordained that they should pay obedience to the existing Government of the country where they dwelt, so the obedience they owed the Pope only tended to confirm them in their allegiance to such Government. The Catholics were bound to obey the Pope in the things already mentioned; but their obedience, or the allegiance which they owed the Sovereign, was complete and full, and perfect and undivided; inasmuch as it extended to all political, legal, and civil rights of the King, or of his subjects amongst whom they dwelt. He thought the allegiance due to the King, and that due to the Pope, were as distinct and divided in their nature as any two things could possibly be; and he had no hesitation in

stating it as his opinion, that the claim which some Popes had set up to temporal authority was opposed both to Scripture and to tradition. With the exception perhaps of Naples, the Popes of Rome, for nearly the last three centuries, had not interfered in any way, directly or indirectly, with the temporal concerns of any state in Europe; and if they were to attempt to interfere at present, their interference would be not only disregarded, but scoffed at by every person of sense. If the Pope were to intermeddle with the rights of the King, or with the allegiance which Catholics owed to the King, the consequence would be, that the Catholic prelates and priesthood would oppose him by every means in their power, even by the exercise of their spiritual authority. They would preach to the people that their duty to God as Catholics required of them to oppose every person who would interfere in any way with that right which the law of nature and the positive law of God established in their prince — a prince whom they as subjects were bound to support. When asked if the Roman Catholics prayed to saints, his answer was, that they prayed that the saints would pray for them to God; but they did not ask of them any favour or grace, because they knew that the saints had no power of themselves to grant them such favour or grace, and that there was only one Mediator between God and man — Christ Jesus. Catholics prayed to the Virgin Mary in the same sense as they did to other saints. They did not believe that there was any divinity or virtue whatever in images. As to relics, they revered them more than mere images. Respecting absolution, the doctrine of the Roman Catholic church was precisely the same as that of the Established Church in this kingdom, so much so, that the words of absolution which a Catholic priest used were precisely those put down in the Visitation of the Sick in the Common Prayer Book, to be used by a clergyman of the Established Church when he visited a person who wished to confess his sins. With regard to indulgences, their doctrine was, that a person who might offend against God or his neighbour, having done every thing in his power to satisfy for his fault, was, by gaining an indulgence, relieved from such temporal punishment as God, in his justice, might inflict upon him, either in this life, or hereafter in purgatory, previous to his admission into heaven. The priests, however, took care strongly to impress upon the people, that such indulgence could not be obtained unless they heartily repented of their sin, obtained pardon of the guilt from God, and did all in their power to make atonement for it by good works. It never was any part of the doctrine, or of the practice, of the Catholic church, that indulgences should extend to remission of the temporal consequences, with respect to the crimes to be committed; and the vulgar error which had prevailed upon that

subject was a horrible imputation. The sale of indulgences ceased in the sixteenth century, and he hoped would never be revived. In cases of confession and absolution, it was the duty of the Roman Catholic clergy, whenever they could, to induce the offender to make restitution and atonement to those whom he had offended in this world; and numerous, beyond the power of counting, had been the instances which had taken place within his own knowledge of restoration and restitution. It frequently occurred, that a person came before the priest who had been engaged in plans for doing mischief, either public or private; in such cases, the uniform conduct of the Catholic clergy was to oblige such person to withdraw himself from any wicked society with which he might have been connected. By such means much evil was frequently prevented. At the commencement of the late disturbances, he himself published a pastoral letter, warning his flock from entering into any illegal confederacies; and spent several weeks, going from parish to parish, and preaching to multitudes of people in the chapels, and sometimes by the waysides, against such societies: he alluded to the societies of Ribbonmen. He had known of instances in which, in consequence of such opposition as he had described on the part of the Catholic clergy, surrenders of arms had been made to a considerable extent. During the six years that he had been bishop, he had never ceased to promote education of every kind, but particularly of a religious kind; he had raised contributions amongst the people to build schools, and pay schoolmasters; and had established parochial libraries in every parish of the two dioceses of which he had the care. He had also strongly promoted the formation of confraternities, that was, assemblies of young men and young females of a religious character, who met at an early hour on Sundays, and taught the children the rudiments of the Christian religion. One great obstacle to the instruction of the people in Ireland, was the want of sufficient room in the chapels; and the pressure of the peasantry was so great, that they had not the means of enlarging them, still less of building others. Protestant gentlemen, whether adverse or friendly to the Catholic claims, had, however, come forward very liberally to contribute to provide places of worship for the people. Although he had a college at Carlow for the education of priests, there were not employed in his diocese more than two-thirds of the number which were necessary for the adequate discharge of the priestly functions amongst the people, because he did not like to burden the people, who were too much weighed down with other claims, by sending amongst them an additional number of priests, who, of course, must be supported by their contributions. With respect to the state of the lower orders of the people in his diocese, the extent and the intensity of the distress of many of them were greater

than any language could describe; and his opinion was, that if the laws were not altered, and the country so settled that people would have confidence in the continuance of peace and good order; and if English capitalists did not go to Ireland, and those who had capital there did not employ it in agriculture, in manufactures, and in mines, the evil must increase. He never spoke more from the fulness of his heart than he did when he declared, that if the Catholics of Ireland were freed from the disabilities under which they laboured, they would have no mind, no thought, no will, but that which would lead them to incorporate themselves fully and essentially with this great kingdom; for it would be their greatest pride to share in the glories and the riches of England. Whilst the prelates of the Catholic church were jealous of the interference of the crown, they were no less jealous of the interference of the Pope. They were zealous for the independence of their church; and they did not like either that the Pope should interfere with it beyond what was necessary for preserving the Catholic communion, or that an interference of the crown should be established in the appointment of the prelates, which would weaken their influence with the people. Entertaining those notions, he felt that the best security they could offer, and the most effectual one that could be required of them, was, that their prelates should be of a domestic kind; that the election of them should be made by men resident in the country, and who were British subjects; and that there should be no further interference with them than that interference which would result from all persons concerned in such elections taking the oath of allegiance, and that they would elect only such persons as would be loyal and peaceable, and likely to discharge the trust reposed in them in a manner useful to the state, and honourable to their calling. He did not think the case of Lower Canada was analogous to that of Ireland; for it might not be unreasonable that a greater right should be vested in the crown with regard to responsible officers in a distant colony, than with regard to a bishop in Ireland, who was mixed up with a community forming a component part of the empire itself. If it were proposed to empower the crown to appoint a commission, consisting of a certain number of bishops of the Roman Catholic church, and that no persons should hereafter be nominated, either to a bishopric or to any function in the Roman Catholic church, unless that commission should certify to the crown, as to the loyalty and the domestic appointment and education of that person, he would not object to the appointment of such a commission with reference to the priests, but he should consider it objectionable with reference to the bishops. If the question, commonly called Catholic emancipation were carried, he was confident that religious differences would cease to agitate the

public mind in Ireland. At present, he did not believe there was a man, woman, or even child in the country who did not feel a strong interest in that question. A copy of the Catholic petition to parliament was hung up very generally in the cabins of the Irish peasantry. If an impression existed among the public in England, that the lower orders in Ireland did not feel deeply interested in the success of the Catholic question, that impression was erroneous. The exclusion of the higher orders of Catholics from the highest offices of the state, was considered by the lower order of Catholics as a mark of infamy and degradation affixed on their whole body. He had had much opportunity of intercourse with the Roman Catholic bishops and clergy, and he could most conscientiously say, that he had never discerned in any class, or in any individual of the Catholic religion, any disposition hostile to the Protestant established religion; on the contrary, they frequently deplored with him the progress of sectaries. — With regard to the effect of disfranchising the 40s freeholders, it was a political question, he begged the Committee would permit him not to express any opinion upon it. His opinions with respect to the Established Church, if by the Established Church was meant the temporal establishment of it, unquestionably were those expressed in a publication entitled, "Letters on the State of Ireland, by J. K. L.;" but if by the Established Church was understood a church of religionists, professing a certain religious creed, he esteemed them, in that character, more than any description or class of Christians in the universe, outside his own church.

The Most Reverend DANIEL MURRAY, D. D. Roman Catholic Archbishop of DUBLIN. — The origin of the authority of the Pope the Catholics held to be from God, who established a head of the church which he wished to appoint on earth. The nature of his authority was, that he was the executive power of that church; his office was to watch over and enforce the observance of the canons: he was, besides, the centre of Catholic unity, the great link that held together all the different parts of the Catholic body; so that each Catholic throughout the world, finding himself in communion with the head of the church, might know thereby that he was in communion with the whole body. His authority was wholly confined to a spiritual authority, according to the words of our Saviour, "My kingdom is not of this world;" and that authority was limited by the councils and canons of the church. A Catholic professed to obey the Pope solely in spiritual matters, or in such mixed matters as came under his government. Allegiance in civil matters was completely undivided. The duty which the Catholic owed to the Pope, and the duty which he owed to the King, were wholly distinct. The claim which some Popes had set up to temporal authority, was opposed

to Scripture and tradition. His spiritual power did not allow him to dethrone kings, or to absolve their subjects from the allegiance due to them. The charge contained in the petition to the House of Commons, of the dean and chapter of the cathedral church at Peterborough, that the Romish church was not at present less ambitious and less intolerant than in former periods of its history, was very unfounded. He conceived that the Catholic church was not intolerant, that the members of it were not marked by any peculiar degree of ambition; on the contrary, he found in them as much humility as in any other description of Christians. In answer to accusations against the Catholics contained in a recent publication, entitled "Justification by Faith, in a Course of Sermons, by the Rev. J. W. Whittaker," he denied with abhorrence the notion that the idea which the Catholics entertained of justification was; that if their good works overbalanced their bad, or if they performed a great quantity of good works, that would empower them to do a certain portion of bad works, and still leave them a sufficient fund for justification here, and salvation hereafter. Their doctrine utterly denied the lawfulness of sin, under any possible circumstances. Sin, once committed, could be blotted out upon no other condition than that of sincere and deep-felt repentance, reparation of any injury which it might have involved, and the performance of whatever penance or work of austerity might be enjoined. With respect to indulgences, the authorities of the Catholic church had, in virtue of the keys committed to them, power to remit a certain portion of the temporal punishment due to sin, after the guilt of sin had been remitted; but in no case could indulgences have effect till the person was first justified and reconciled with God: and there could be no permission to commit sin of any kind. In answer to another publication, entitled "A Protestant Catechism, shewing the principal Errors of the Church of Rome," he distinctly denied that it was any part of the Catholic doctrine, that faith was not to be kept with heretics. Catholics were bound to observe their oath, their pledge, their contract, their agreement, with persons differing from them in religion, in the same way as they were with one another. Catholics prayed to saints only in the same sense in which Saint Paul asked the prayers of his fellow-men. Nor did they ever pray to the Virgin Mary to give them any thing of her own, for she had nothing of her own to give; they merely asked her to present their petitions, through her Son, to the throne of mercy and grace, which the Catholics conceived was not idolatry, nor any thing approaching to it. The doctrine of the Roman Catholic church, with respect to the salvation of heretics, was very much the doctrine of the Established Church, and that of every other Christian society who held that man owed to God the homage of his

understanding, as well as that of his will, and that therefore we were as much bound to believe the things He had revealed, as to do the things that He had ordered; and, therefore, that any one who, through his own fault, did not submit to the faith which God had revealed, and ordered to be believed, was to be considered as a sinner, and to be treated as such. It was the belief of the Catholics with regard to themselves, as it was the belief of the members of the Established Church with respect to themselves, that theirs was the faith revealed by Christ, and ordered to be believed. The Catholics wished all mankind to be saved; but they were not to make a religion according to their own wishes. With respect to Protestants, however, Catholics did not hold that all who were not united externally to the Catholic church were to be lost. All Protestants who were baptised, became, by the very act of baptism, members of the church of Christ, children of God, and heirs of everlasting life; and if they died at any period before they lost that innocence which was restored to them in baptism, and their consequent title to heaven, they would, of course, obtain that immortal kingdom. At what period they might lose that title, or whether they lost it at all, it was not for man to judge; it was the business of God, who saw into the secrets of hearts, and who knew the opportunities which each individual had to arrive at a knowledge of the faith which He had revealed, and who would judge His creatures with mercy. The non-participation of the doctrines of the Roman Catholic church was considered heresy, when that non-participation was culpable, which only God could know. There was a vulgar error, that the kingdom of Ireland was a fief of the Popedom; there was no foundation for the assertion: it was annexed, and he hoped inseparably annexed, to Great Britain. Upon the subject of the Government allowing a stipend to the Catholic priesthood in Ireland, in the event of Catholic emancipation being carried, he did not see any material objection to it; but supposing Catholic emancipation were not carried, he did not think it would be acceptable either to the people or to the clergy. He should have no objection to a certificate of loyalty being required, before such allowance was paid to a clergyman, if that certificate were to come from the authorities of their church. Nor did he think there would be any objection to securing the domestic nomination of the bishops in the Roman Catholic church in Ireland. Neither should he consider it an objectionable measure to prevent any foreigner from being appointed to a see, or a benefice in the Catholic church in Ireland. He should not like to give up wholly the foreign education; if, however, it should be deemed advisable for the service of the state, that that practice should cease, and if an equivalent were given in this country, out of domestic funds, he was per-

suaded there would be no objection to a perfect assurance being given, that parties to be appointed or promoted in the Catholic church should not have been educated or supported out of any such foreign fund. In his opinion, it would by no means be proper for the crown to have any direct or indirect interference in the appointment of the Catholic clergy; but there could be no objection to the Government naming a commission, consisting of prelates of the Roman Catholic church, through whom the loyalty and the domestic education and nomination of the several functionaries should be certified to them. Ten years ago, the Pope had signified his readiness to acquiesce in such an arrangement. He recollects the rescript of the person called Quarantotti. The Roman Catholic prelates protested against that rescript very earnestly, on the ground that it allowed a certain interference in the appointment of the Catholic bishops in Ireland, which they thought would be injurious to the Catholic religion. Quarantotti was a very weak old man; but had that rescript come from Pius VII. himself, the Roman Catholic prelates would have equally protested against it. It had never entered into their minds, as a part of Catholic emancipation, that the Roman Catholic bishops should take their seats in the House of Lords, in which the bishops of the Established Church took their seats as barons—a dignity they had from the crown. Nor did there exist any hope or wish on the part of the Catholic clergy to interfere with the temporal possessions of the Established Church. Undoubtedly, the Catholics complained very much of the obligation of paying tithes to Protestant clergymen. They paid two churches, from one of which they derived no return. He believed that the disturbances with respect to tithes had chiefly taken place in those parts of Ireland where the tithe of potatoes was collected. The insurrections in different parts of the south and west of Ireland had been directed as much against the payment of dues to the Roman Catholic clergy as against the payment of tithes to the Protestant. If an attempt were made to relieve the peasantry from the payment of tithes, and to appropriate the landed property of the church to the payment of bishops, deans, and clergy, to the repair of the churches, to the encouragement of education, and to other purposes connected with church matters, he thought it would occasion a general feeling of satisfaction; and not less among Protestants than among Catholics.

The Most Reverend OLIVER KELLY, D.D. Titular Archbishop of THAMES. In his opinion the Pope derived his authority from Jesus Christ. He was the successor of St. Peter, and held the same rank in the church that St. Peter did among the apostles. The duty which the Roman Catholic owed to the Pope, and that which he owed to the King under whom he lived, were really and substantially distinct,

inasmuch as alike regarded different matters. The duty which he owed the Pope was confined to matters spiritual, ecclesiastical, and religious; that duty was by no means inconsistent with his social duties; and did not in any manner whatever with the civil allegiance which he owed the King: on the contrary, his bounden duty, as a Catholic, was to pay obedience and submission to the civil authorities. He had never been admitted as a doctrine of the universal church, that the Pope could exercise temporal jurisdiction without the limits of his own territory; there might have been some individuals who held that doctrine, but it never could be called or considered the doctrine of the Roman Catholic church. Roman Catholics prayed to the saints and to the Virgin Mary, not for favours from themselves, but that through their intercession, favours might be obtained from God. Nor was there any divine worship of images, idols, or relics in the Catholic church. The doctrine of indulgences did not by any means imply the idea that sin could be remitted by them. Sin, according to the doctrine of the Roman Catholic church, could never be forgiven without a sincere and hearty sorrow, accompanied with a firm purpose and resolution of amending life. There was no authority in the Catholic church, and there never did exist an authority in the Catholic church, assuming to itself the power of staying or leaving on indulgence to commit sin at a future period. Nor was there the slightest truth in the accusation, that Roman Catholics held that faith was not to be kept with heretics, and that the Pope could absolve subjects from their oath of allegiance to their sovereign. In the part of Ireland with which he was particularly acquainted, the question of Catholic emancipation engaged the thoughts and attention of all ranks of Catholics; for though no particular or immediate benefit might be derived from it by the lower orders of Catholics, they would feel the utmost gratitude for it, and it would tend most materially towards tranquillising their minds. As matters stood at present, he did not think that the payment of the Roman Catholic clergy (by the state) would be considered a boon by the lower orders. If the two measures, a provision for the clergy and the removal of political disabilities on account of religious persuasion were made concurrent measures, it might then perhaps be considered by the people a kindness; provided the Roman Catholic clergy were allowed the free exercise of their functions, and there were no influence or authority, direct or indirect, exercised over them in the discharge of their duties. What the feelings of the prelates and the clergy might be on the occasion, he could not undertake to say. As one of the prelates of the church would candidly confess he should prefer remaining as he was. He was however disposed to make great sacrifices of his person and feelings for the subject, were such sacrifices necessary and should be to exercise.

was essential to the attainment of Catholic emancipation; inasmuch as he deemed that to be a paramount consideration. For the last twenty-four years that he had been in Ireland he had observed a very considerable increase in the population of that part of the country where he had been residing; but not so much in those districts in which the situation of the people was improved. In those districts there was an indisposition to contract improvident marriages. He should say most decidedly that every measure which had a tendency to augment the comfort of the peasant, and raise his condition in society, had also a tendency to check improvident marriages. The general impression upon his mind was, that the population of Ireland was under-rated in the returns made to Parliament. The subdivision of land (which was frequently resorted to by the landlords for the purpose of increasing the number of freeholders) was one great cause of early marriages. The impression upon his mind was, that the system of 40s. freeholds in Ireland was replete with mischief; that it was highly injurious to the morals of the people, being in many instances a source of perjury; and that it was not much valued by the 40s. freeholders themselves. There was a very great deficiency in the character and degree of accommodation afforded to the population of the Catholic persuasion for the celebration of religious worship; and he did not perceive that any act would be more acceptable to the Catholics than to improve that accommodation. From the inadequacy of the places of worship, on performing parochial visitations, he had been almost in fact obliged to administer confirmation; but in the open air. There was a great disposition on the part of the people generally to attend to their religious duties. That disposition, however, varied very much according to the state of tranquillity or of disturbance which prevailed in the country. The inclination to come to confession when the country was in a state of disturbance diminished considerably; and he had invariably found that the individuals who ceased to come to confession were connected or concerned in the disturbance. At such periods, his influence, and that of the clergy generally, were very much impaired. The pressure of tithes payable to Protestant ministers was complained of generally, as operating with peculiar severity upon the occupying tenants. He never knew any money paid with such alacrity in this part of the country as what was called the Catholic rent. In the course of the last year, he observed in Ireland generally, a strong opinion on the subject of certain prophecies known by the name of Daniel's Prophecies; and they were continually not much read or understood in this part of the country; but he observed that in other parts of Ireland they were extensively circulated. The clergy throughout his diocese had been

instructed to announce to the peasantry that they ought not to read the Prophecies of Pastors, should they come in their way, or any other prophecies whatever; or any books having a tendency to inflame their minds.

The Most Reverend RICHARD CURTIS, D.D. Titular Archbishop of ARMAGH.—A Roman Catholic, believed that the Pope was the successor of St. Peter, and that he was no more than a bishop; but head, or chief of them all, and of the whole church. He was not recognised as a king or a sovereign. The claim, which the Popes had formerly set up to temporal authority, although not exactly conformable to Scripture and tradition, was not very conformable to them. Certainly they had received no such power from Christ. The duty that Catholics owed to the Pope, and their duty to the King, were really and substantially distinct; and, regarding different subjects, totally, they never ought to be confounded. If the question commonly called emancipation were carried, in his opinion it would have the effect of producing conciliation and tranquillity in Ireland. There would then be no sufficient motive for any persecution of the Catholics, who were now put down merely to maintain an ascendancy. An ascendancy there always would be; but not an ascendancy supported in a manner so repugnant and so disagreeable. There would be few or no disputes in secular matters, and really none at all, almost, in religious matters; because now the Committee might depend upon it, the religious disputes with the Catholics were not for religious but for secular purposes.

The Right Reverend JAMES MAGAHERIN, D.D. Titular Bishop of the Diocese of ARDARA.—Recalled to the communication with foreign universities, in 1788, on matters relating to the authority of the Pope. Mr. Pitt in that year called upon the Committee of the English Roman Catholics to send the following queries to those universities.—First, “Has the Pope, or cardinals, or any body of men, or any individual of the Church of Rome, any civil authority, power, jurisdiction, or pre-eminence whatsoever, within the realm of England?” Secondly, “Can the Pope, cardinals, or any body of men, or any individual of the Church of Rome, absolve or dispense with his Majesty’s subjects from their oath of allegiance, upon any pretext whatsoever?” Thirdly, “Is there any pretext in the tenets of the Catholic faith, by which Catholics are justified in not keeping faith with heretics, or other persons differing from them in religious opinions, in any transaction, either of a public or a private nature?” The answers to those questions were contained at length in Mr. Butler’s Memoirs. They were, the same in substance; contained a doctrine, that was admitted to be correct by the Catholic bishops and laity of Ireland; and on them he believed the oaths of allegiance taken by the Catholic clergy

and laity had been framed. An abstract of the answers was published with the address of the Catholic Committee of 1793, and subscribed to them with all his heart and soul; and with the leave of the Committee, he would read the abstract, as well as the oaths and declaration.

The Answer of the Sacred Faculty of Divinity of Paris, to the above Queries.

“After an introduction, according to the usual forms of the university, they answer the first query; by declaring, Neither the Pope, nor the cardinals, nor any body of men, nor any other person of the Church of Rome, hath any civil authority, civil power, civil jurisdiction, or civil pre-eminence whatsoever, in any kingdom, and consequently none in the kingdom of England, by reason or virtue of any authority, power, jurisdiction, or pre-eminence, by divine institutions inherent in, or granted, or by any other means, belonging to the Pope, or the Church of Rome. This doctrine the Sacred Faculty of Divinity at Paris has always held, and upon every occasion maintained; and upon every occasion has rigidly proscribed the contrary doctrine from their schools.”

“Answer to the second query. Neither the Pope nor the cardinals, nor any body of men, nor any person of the Church of Rome, can, by virtue of the keys, absolve or release the subjects of the King of England from their oath of allegiance.”

“This and the first query are so intimately connected, that the answer of the first immediately and naturally applies to the second, &c.”

“Answer to the third query. There is no tenet in the Catholic Church by which Catholics are justified by not keeping faith with heretics, or those who differ from them in matters of religion; the tenet, that it is lawful to break faith with heretics, is so repugnant to common honesty, and the opinions of Catholics, that there is nothing of which those who have defended the Catholic faith against Protestants have complained more heavily, than the malice and calumny of their adversaries, in imputing this tenet to them; &c. &c.”

Given at Paris, in the General Assembly of the Sorbonne, held on Thursday, the 11th day before the calends of March, 1793.

Signed in due form.

University of Louvain.

The Faculty of Divinity at Louvain having been requested to give her opinion upon the questions above stated, does it with readiness; but struck with astonishment that such questions should, at the end of this eighteenth century, be proposed to any learned body by inhabitants of a kingdom that glories in

“ the talents and disengagement of its natives: the Faculty, being assembled, for the above purpose, it is agreed, with the unanimous assent of all voices, to answer the first and second queries absolutely in the negative.

“ The Faculty does not think it incumbent upon her, in this place, to enter upon the proofs of her opinion, or to shew how it is supported by passages in the Holy Scriptures, or the writings of antiquity; that has already been done by Bossuet, De Marca, the two Barclays, Goldastres, the Richausens, Argeitro Widrington, and his Majesty King James the First, in his Dissertation against Bellarmine and Du Perron; and by many others, &c. &c. &c.

“ The Faculty then proceeds to declare, that the sovereign power of the State is in no wise (not even indirectly, as it is termed) subject, to, or dependent upon, any other power, though it be a spiritual power, or even though it be instituted for eternal salvation, &c. &c.

“ That no man, nor any assembly of men, however eminent in dignity and power, nor even the whole body of the Catholic Church, though assembled in general council, can, upon any ground or pretence whatsoever, weaken the bond of union between the Sovereign and the people; still less can they absolve or free the subjects from their oath of allegiance.

“ Proceeding to the third question, the said Faculty of Divinity (in perfect wonder that such a question should be proposed to her) most positively and unequivocally answers, that there is, not, and there never has been among the Catholics, or in the doctrines of the Church of Rome, any law or principle which makes it lawful for Catholics to break their faith with heretics, or others of a different persuasion from themselves in matters of religion, either in public or private concerns. The Faculty declares the doctrine of the Catholics to be, that the divine and natural law, which makes it a duty to keep faith, and promises, is the same, and is neither shaken nor diminished, if those with whom the engagement is made hold erroneous opinions in matter of religion, &c. &c.

“ Signed in due form, on the 18th of November, 1788.”

University of Valladolid.

“ To the first question it was answered, That neither Pope, cardinals, nor even a general Church, have any civil authority, power, jurisdiction, or pre-eminence, directly or indirectly, in the kingdom of Great Britain, or over any other kingdom or province in which they possess no temporal dominion.

“ To the second it is answered, That neither Pope, nor cardinals, nor even a general council, can absolve the subjects of Great

Britain from their oaths of allegiance; or dispense with their obligation.

“ To the third it is answered, That the obligation of keeping faith is grounded on the law of nature, which binds all men equally, without respect to their religious opinions; and with regard to Catholics is still more cogent, as it is confirmed by the principles of their religion.

“ Signed in the usual form, February 17th, 1789.”

The Oath required by the Act of the 13th and 14th of George III.

“ I, A. B. do take Almighty God, and his only Son Jesus Christ my Redeemer, to witness, That I will be faithful, and bear true allegiance to our most gracious Sovereign Lord King George the Third, and him will defend, to the utmost of my power, from all conspiracies and attempts (whatever) that shall be made against his person, crown, and dignity; and I will do my utmost endeavour to disclose and make known to his Majesty, and his heirs, all treasons and traitorous conspiracies which may be formed against him or them. And I do faithfully promise to maintain, support, and defend, to the utmost of my power, the succession of the crown in his Majesty's family, against any person or persons whatsoever, hereby utterly renouncing and abjuring any obedience or allegiance unto the person taking upon himself the style and title of Prince of Wales, in the lifetime of his father, and who since his death is said to have assumed the style and title of King of Great Britain and Ireland, by the name of Charles the Third; and to any other person, claiming or pretending a right to the crown of these realms; and I do swear, that I do reject and detest, as unchristian and impious, to believe that it is lawful to murder, or destroy any person or persons whatsoever; for or under pretence of their being heretics; and also that unchristian and impious principle, that no faith is to be kept with heretics. I further declare, that it is no article of my faith, and that I do renounce, reject, and abjure the opinion, that princes excommunicated by the Pope and council, or by any authority of the see of Rome, or by any authority whatsoever, may be deposed and murdered by their subjects, or by any person whatsoever; and I do promise, that I will not hold, maintain, or abet any such opinion, or any other opinion contrary to what is expressed in this declaration; and I do declare, that I do not believe that the Pope of Rome, or any other foreign prince, prelate, state, or potentate, hath or ought to have any temporal or civil jurisdiction, power, superiority, or pre-eminence, directly or indirectly, within this realm; and I do solemnly, in the presence of God, and his only Son Jesus Christ

“ my Redeemer, profess, testify, and declare,
 “ that I do make this declaration, and every
 “ part thereof, in the plain and ordinary sense
 “ of the words of this oath, without any evasion,
 “ equivocation, or mental reservation whatever,
 “ and without any dispensation already granted
 “ by the Pope, or any authority of the see of
 “ Rome, or any person whatever, and without
 “ thinking that I am, or can be acquitted be-
 “ fore God, or man, or absolved of this decla-
 “ ration, or any part thereof, although the Pope,
 “ or any other persons or authority whatsoever
 “ shall dispense with, or annul the same, or
 “ declare that it was null and void from the
 “ beginning. So help me God.”

*The Oath required by the Act of the 33d of
 George III. chapter 21.*

“ I, A. B. do hereby declare, that I do pro-
 “ fess the Roman Catholic religion
 “ I, A. B. do swear, that I do abjure, con-
 “ demn and detest, as unchristian and impious,
 “ the principle, that it is lawful to murder,
 “ destroy, or anyways injure, any person what-
 “ soever, for or under the pretence of being a
 “ heretic; and I do declare solemnly before
 “ God, that I believe that no act, in itself un-
 “ just, immoral, or wicked, can ever be justified
 “ or excused by or under pretences or colour
 “ that it was done either for the good of the
 “ Church or in obedience to any ecclesiastical
 “ power whatsoever. I also declare, that it is
 “ not an article of the Catholic faith; neither
 “ am I thereby required to believe or profess,
 “ that the Pope is infallible; or that I am
 “ bound to obey any order in its own nature
 “ immoral, though the Pope, or any ecclesi-
 “ astical power, should issue or direct such
 “ orders; but, on the contrary, I hold, that it
 “ would be sinful in me to pay any respect or
 “ obedience thereto. I further declare, that
 “ I do not believe that any sin whatsoever,
 “ committed by me, can be forgiven at the
 “ mere will of any Pope, or of any priest, or of
 “ any persons whatsoever; but that sincere
 “ sorrow for past sins, a firm and sincere re-
 “ solution to avoid future guilt, and to atone to
 “ God, are previous and indispensable requi-
 “ sites to establish a well-founded expectation
 “ of forgiveness; and that any person who
 “ receives absolution, without these previous
 “ requisites, so far from obtaining thereby any
 “ remission of his sins, incurs the additional
 “ guilt of violating a sacrament; and I do
 “ swear, that I will defend, to the utmost of
 “ my power, the settlement and arrangement
 “ of property in this country, as established by
 “ the laws now in being; I do hereby disclaim,
 “ disavow, and solemnly abjure, any intention
 “ to subvert the present church establishment,
 “ for the purpose of substituting a Catholic
 “ establishment in its stead; and I do solemnly
 “ swear, that I will not exercise any privilege
 “ which I am or may become entitled to

“ dissent and weaken the Protestant religion,
 “ and Protestant government, in this kingdom.
 “ So help me God.”

The Declaration in our burghs

“ Whereas certain opinions and principles,
 “ inimical to good order and government, have
 “ been attributed to the Catholics, the existence
 “ of which we utterly deny; and whereas it is
 “ at this time peculiarly necessary to remove
 “ such imputations, and to give the most full
 “ and ample satisfaction to our Protestant bre-
 “ thren, that we hold no principle whatsoever,
 “ incompatible with our duty as men, as
 “ subjects, or repugnant to liberty, whether
 “ political, civil, or religious;
 “ Now we, the Catholics of Ireland, for the
 “ removal of all such imputations, and in defer-
 “ ence to the opinions of many respectable
 “ bodies of men, and individuals among our
 “ Protestant brethren, do hereby, in the face of
 “ our country, of all Europe, and before God,
 “ make this our deliberate and solemn declara-
 “ tion.

“ 1st. We abjure, disavow, and condemn the
 “ opinion, that princes excommunicated by the
 “ Pope and council, or by any ecclesiastical
 “ authority whatsoever, may therefore be de-
 “ posed or murdered by their subjects, or any
 “ other persons. We hold such doctrine in
 “ detestation, as wicked and impious; and we
 “ declare, that we do not believe that either the
 “ Pope, with or without a general council, or
 “ any prelate or priest, or any ecclesiastical
 “ power whatsoever, can absolve the subjects
 “ of this kingdom, or any of them, from their
 “ allegiance to his Majesty King George the
 “ Third, who is, by authority of Parliament,
 “ the lawful king of this realm.

“ 2d. We abjure, condemn, and detest, as
 “ unchristian and impious, the principle, that
 “ it is lawful to murder, destroy, or anyways
 “ injure, any person whatsoever, for or under
 “ the pretence of being heretics; and we de-
 “ clare solemnly, before God, that we believe
 “ that no act, in itself unjust, immoral, or
 “ wicked, can ever be justified or excused by
 “ or under pretence or colour that it was done
 “ either for the good of the Church or in obe-
 “ dience to any ecclesiastical power whatso-
 “ ever.

“ 3d. We further declare, that we hold it as
 “ an unchristian and impious principle, that no
 “ faith is to be kept with heretics; this doc-
 “ trine we detest and reprobate, not only as
 “ contrary to our religion, but as destructive of
 “ morality, of society, and even of common
 “ honesty; and it is our firm belief, that an
 “ oath made to any person not of the Catholic
 “ religion, is equally binding as if it were made
 “ to any Catholic whatsoever.

“ 4th. We have been charged with holding, as
 “ an article of our belief, that the Pope, with
 “ or without the authority of a general council,

“ or that certain ecclesiastical powers, can acquit and absolve us before God from our oath of allegiance, or even from the just oaths and contracts entered into between man and man.”

“ Now we do utterly renounce, abjure, and deny, that we hold or maintain any such belief, as being contrary to the peace and happiness of society, inconsistent with morality, and above all repugnant to the true spirit of the Catholic religion.”

“ 5th. We do further declare, that we do not believe that the Pope of Rome, or any other prince, prelate, state, or potentate, hath or ought to have any temporal or civil jurisdiction, power, superiority, or pre-eminence, directly or indirectly, within this realm.”

“ 6th. After what we have renounced, it is immaterial, in a political light, what may be our opinion or faith in other points respecting the Pope; however, for greater satisfaction; we declare that it is not an article of the Catholic faith, neither are we thereby required to believe or profess, that the Pope is infallible, or that we are bound to obey any order, in its own nature immoral, though the Pope or any other ecclesiastical power should issue or direct such order; but, on the contrary, we hold that it would be sinful in us to pay any respect or obedience thereto.”

“ 7th. We further declare, that we do not believe that any sin whatsoever committed by us can be forgiven at the mere will of any Pope, or of any priest, or of any person or persons whatsoever; but that sincere sorrow for past sins, a firm and sincere resolution, as far as may be in our power, to restore our neighbours' property or character, if we have trespassed on, or unjustly injured either, a sincere resolution to avoid future guilt, and to atone to God, are previous and indispensable requisites to establish a well-founded expectation of forgiveness; and that any person who receives absolution without these previous requisites, so far from obtaining thereby any remission of his sins, incurs the additional guilt of violating the sacrament.”

“ 8th. We do hereby solemnly disclaim, and forever renounce all interest in, and title to all forfeited lands resulting from any rights, or supposed rights, of our ancestors, or any claim, title, or interest therein; nor do we admit any title as a foundation of right which is not established and acknowledged by the laws of the realm as they now stand; we desire further, that whenever the patriotism, liberty, and justice of our countrymen shall restore to us a participation in the elective franchise, no Catholic shall be permitted to vote at any election for members to serve in Parliament; until he shall previously take an oath to defend, to the utmost of his power, the arrangement of property in this country;

as established by the different Acts of attainder and settlement.”

“ 9th. It has been objected to us, that we wish to subvert the present church establishment, for the purpose of substituting a Catholic establishment in its stead: Now we do hereby disclaim, disavow, and solemnly abjure any such intention; and further, if we shall be admitted into any share of the constitution, by our being restored to the right of elective franchise, we are ready, in the most solemn manner, to declare that we will not exercise that privilege to disturb or weaken the Protestant religion, or Protestant Government in this country.”

A strong feeling of anxiety on the subject of Catholic emancipation existed amongst the bulk of the peasantry. Perhaps they would not be able to define what emancipation meant, but they had a feeling that they belonged to an excluded caste, and were not treated like other subjects. They were of opinion that the laws were not made for their protection, for they knew no parts of them except the penal and punishing parts. The existing disabilities produced the same effect on the disposition of Protestants towards their Catholic brethren. They were in as great distrust, and in as great a state of fever in many instances: About Christmas last there was great alarm among the Protestant gentlemen, which arose entirely from groundless statements in newspapers; and from designing individuals scattered all over the country to keep alive that kind of party-feeling between Protestants and Catholics. Perhaps the collection of the Catholic rent, and the distribution of addresses from the Roman Catholic Association, might partly account for the alarm that was felt by the Protestants. He recollected the murder of a man of the name of Connell, and that at the trial it appeared that the murder was committed by eighteen individuals, six of those eighteen being selected from two or three different parishes; and he had no doubt that a murder of that kind, in the dead of the night, was sufficient to account for the existence of a considerable alarm on the part of the yeomen of the country. No doubt that murder was premeditated in the manner mentioned; but report said that, of the nine persons who were executed for it, not one had been concerned in it; that they had probably joined in planning the murder, but had not arrived in time to assist in the execution. He feared it was too general at assizes to adopt the principle, that it was necessary to punish some to make an example; and that sometimes sufficient inquiry was not made whether the person giving information should be believed in so important a case. Three or four years ago the banks of the royal canal (on which he lived) were cut maliciously at night; a reward having been offered by the directors for the discovery of the persons committing the offence; a common vagrant came forward and

gave information before a magistrate against three men, who in consequence were arrested, sent to Longford gaol, tried, and convicted. They were sent on board a tender; but evidence came before him so strong to convince him that they were not the guilty persons; that he interfered in their behalf; and they were pardoned. He knew it was thought that the parties who committed a murder were generally known to the priest; but he did not think they were. It was not consistent with the duty of a priest to divulge any part of a communication made to him in confession. Even supposing the priest were made acquainted with an intention to commit murder, in the way of confession, he would not think himself authorised to make any communication upon that subject. He would exert himself to prevent the crime being committed; but any communication made to him in confession was inviolable; he could not divulge it. It is a point of fact, however, he was not aware that communications of an intention to commit offences like murder were ever made in confession. With regard to a provision being made by the state for the bishops and clergy of the Catholic church in Ireland, he did not see any objection to it; as affecting their independence; but so far as regarded himself, he had no anxiety for it. If the proposed abolition of the 40s. freeholds were accompanied by Catholic emancipation, he thought the latter measure would outweigh any dissatisfaction that might be created by the former.

Colonel W. S. CURRY. — Had the care of the Duke of Devonshire's estate in Ireland. In the leases, which were for twenty-one years, and a life concurrent, a non-alienation covenant, a covenant to reside and occupy, and a covenant to consume the produce upon the farm, were introduced. It was necessary to keep a constant watch upon the tenants, to prevent the alienation of their farms. The tenants were also very desirous to divide their lands by will amongst their children at their decease; but knowing it to be against the rules, did not attempt it. On the death of the tenant, the eldest son, or the nearest relation, or some individual, came into possession of the farm; but subdivision was always objected to. The practice of subletting had been carried on to a great extent generally in the county; it was injurious, because eventually the land became divided into portions too small for the support of a decent family, and because it tended to increase the population, and keep down the condition of the lower orders of the people. The rate of rent paid on the Duke of Devonshire's estate was arranged by a reference to persons competent to determine upon it. The principle was to have a fair and moderate rent; and it was usually well paid. The tenants were in general satisfied, and shewed a good disposition. He was a magistrate, and acted at petit sessions, the introduction of which he thought had been very

advantageous. Since his residence in the county of Waterford, there had been a great improvement in the conduct of the magistrates; several, whose conduct had been obnoxious, having been removed from the commission. There was a great feeling of jealousy between the Protestants and Catholics of Ireland, the former assuming a superiority over the latter; and he was decidedly of opinion, that no permanent tranquillity or improvement could be expected in the country until the removal of the existing Catholic disabilities. The general impression in Ireland was, that in that case British capital would flow over. He had always found the Catholic priests disposed to preserve the public peace. The Irish appeared to him to be, in general, a grateful people, and easily governed. They had a great attachment to their families. The church-rates were frequently the cause of disturbance, and he thought that if the law were to require that in all new leases they should be paid by the landlord, it would remove all complaint on the subject on the part of the Catholics. The Duke of Devonshire was an extensive proprietor of tithes in Ireland. The Tithe Composition Bill had come into operation on some of his Grace's estates, and had been very beneficial. He thought that the system of 40s. freeholds was liable to abuse; and that to raise the qualification would be advantageous to the public. Upon every estate there was a person called a driver, whose employment was to distrain where it became necessary. Distraining was frequently followed by rescues, and both led to great quarrelling and disorder throughout the country. When extensive farms were given up to the landlord after the expiration of long leases, it was always considered desirable to reduce the number of tenants actually in possession. The persons thus got rid of would, perhaps, go and take very small tracts of land under middle-men, who, by watching their crops, might probably obtain small sums of rent from them. Thus the evil was only transferred. The unfortunate situation of Ireland was, that the population had little to look to but the cultivation of the soil. If manufactures of any kind could be introduced, the surplus population might then be usefully employed, and there would be less competition for land. He did not think that emigration could ever be carried to a sufficient extent to remove the evil. The cultivation of the waste lands, of bogs, and mountains, would certainly diminish the evil in a certain degree. The wages commonly paid to labourers was 8d. or 10d. a day; but there was nothing like constant employment for them.

Major-General RICHARD BOURKE. — Was a magistrate, residing in the neighbourhood of Limerick. On the expiration of leases, farms were in general given up with a prodigious population upon the land; and subdivided to a very destructive degree. The system of dimi-

nishing the number of tenants upon the termination of leases, was universally acted upon, and produced a great deal of misery. He hardly knew what in those cases became of the surplus population. Sometimes they huted themselves upon bogs, and other uncultivated places, and sometimes they went wandering about the country. As long as there were no manufactures on which they could fall back on being removed from the land, emigration appeared to him to be almost the only way of providing for them. To the present mode, however, of carrying the system of emigration into effect there were many objections; and it ought to be conducted on a more general and impartial system. Much good might be accomplished if the small farmers could be persuaded to give up cultivation, and to become labourers only, as the supply of potatoes would be decidedly better than it now was, if they were grown upon large farms, and sent to market. As to the 40s. freeholders, they had a good deal of pride in their franchise. He had known them come back after they had registered, and say they could make a parliament man; and he did not think that any alteration of the franchise in Ireland, unaccompanied with the measure called Catholic emancipation, would be safe or prudent. A new organization of the magistracy and county authorities in Ireland, he was convinced, was absolutely necessary. Considerable inconvenience had arisen from the want of some accredited persons through whom the magistrates might communicate with Government. He saw no reason why the English system of lords-lieutenant and deputy-lieutenants should not be adopted in Ireland. In consequence of the want of such a system, the late re-organization of the magistracy in Ireland had been very incomplete; proper persons having been removed, and improper persons retained. The introduction of petty sessions had been very beneficial, although the system might still be much improved. It was one of the great misfortunes of Ireland, that there was not a sufficient promulgation of the statute law. Had known instances in which religious distinctions operated on magistrates in their proceedings. He was of opinion that a legal enactment, by which crown-business should have the precedence of civil bill-business at quarter sessions, and, in fact, be separated from it, would be very beneficial. Great confusion prevailed in the civil bill court, which was increased by the judge being a practising barrister in the courts in Dublin; and an alteration in the law, which would render the assistant-barrister a purely judicial officer, and which would unite several counties in one circuit, and thereby afford the means of giving him a higher salary, debarring him from private practice, would be an improvement. As he understood, nothing could be much worse than the administration of the law in what were called manor courts. Nor was the court of conscience the most regular

court in the world. The general carelessness which existed among the common people in Ireland, with regard to the obligation of an oath, he attributed to its frequency; for there was hardly any business that was conducted without an oath. The police had been introduced into the county of Limerick, under the Peace Preservation Bill, on the application of a majority of the grand jury; and after it had been resolved at a county meeting that the state of the county did not require it; and, generally speaking, they were a very unfit class of persons. He, and the justices who acted with him in his district, ascribed the preservation of tranquillity, in a considerable degree, to the exhortations of the Catholic clergy; and, on the removal of the Insurrection Act, they published an address to the people to that effect. The interference of the Catholic clergy had been highly praiseworthy, and was in many instances attended with danger to themselves. One of them, named Mulqueeny, was murdered in consequence of his interference. He thought the payment by the state of the Roman Catholic Church would add to the stability of the Protestant Church in Ireland, by removing the existing complaint of the Catholic laity, that they had two church establishments to maintain. The civil disabilities of the Catholics were felt by individuals of all ranks, and produced a general feeling of suspicion and discontent, particularly as to the administration of the law, which was the chief evil of the present political system of Ireland. The disqualifying laws rendered the lower order of Protestants factious, insolent, and overbearing; and had produced, even among the upper class of Protestants, a certain want of courtesy towards the lower ranks, who were chiefly Catholics. He had no doubt that many Protestants, who had formerly been adverse to Catholic emancipation, were now favourable to it. If it were carried, he did not think that the question of the repeal of the Union, or any alteration of the present church system, or any other question, would be capable of acting on the feelings of the mass of the people, in the same way that the Catholic question now did. The system of grand jury presentments in Ireland was one that required great amelioration.

MR. JOSEPH RANKIN. — Was a merchant in the city of London; chiefly engaged in the East India and Continental trade. There was a great existing disposition to establish manufactures wherever labour could be found cheapest; and he had no doubt that they would be introduced into Ireland, did not the feuds and divisions which unfortunately prevailed in that country deter English capitalists from embarking their capital in such speculations.

MR. ISAAC NICHOLSON, JUN. — Was a merchant in the city, in a mixed line of business, both woollens and silks, and belonged to a company, the object of which was to invest

capital in Ireland, in manufactories; labour being there considerably cheaper than in this country.

The Right Hon. WILLIAM BAGWELL.—Member of the Committee.—Was one of the directors of the provincial banking establishment in Ireland. No religious distinction was known or recognised in the company; and it was their unanimous opinion, that had such a distinction been made, and become notorious, it would have been extremely detrimental to the institution.

Mr. WILLIAM BELL.—Was the chairman of the Hibernian mining company. There had never been any religious distinctions established in the management of the company; and if there had, he was certain, that they would have been prejudicial to it. There was a general feeling in the city, that if the state of Ireland promised permanent tranquillity, capital would be more extensively invested in manufactories in Ireland.

Mr. RUPERT INGLEBY.—Was a silk manufacturer. Thought there was a disposition at present to invest capital in Ireland for the purposes of manufacture, if the general disorganized state of that country did not act as a discouragement.

The Rev. HENRY COOKE, A. M.—Was Moderator of the Synod of Ulster, and resided in the county of Down. Explained the nature of his office, and of the Synod. He conceived that the population of Ireland had increased considerably within a certain number of years; and that it had greatly tended to the subdivision of the land. The Catholic Association had, in his opinion, exasperated party spirit. A limited Catholic emancipation would, he thought, have the effect of diminishing animosities between the Catholics and Protestants (although, at present, a large proportion of the Protestant population was opposed to it); but unless Roman Catholics were admitted to seats in parliament, and 40s. freeholds were abolished, Catholic emancipation would increase the evils of Ireland. To satisfy the Protestants, and secure the Protestantism of the state, he should conceive it would be necessary to reserve to Protestants the chief offices connected with the executive, such as the office of Lord Lieutenant, or Chief Secretary, for Ireland; the office of Lord Chancellor, and some of the principal secretaries in England. He also thought, that probably the Catholics should be excluded from a few of the higher military offices. One of the principles of the Roman Catholic church, which had excited the greatest alarm among the Protestants, was that in which they laid down the exclusive salvation of those belonging to their own sect. He thought, that granting a provision to the priests would be beneficial, in a political point of view.

The Rev. JOHN BURNETT.—Was a dissenting Protestant clergyman, residing in Cork.

He was apprehensive, that the effect of making a state provision for the Roman Catholic clergy would ultimately be the increase of ecclesiastical zeal for the support of the Catholic system. The peasantry of Ireland did not appear to him to be capable of understanding Catholic disabilities, or to feel any interest in the subject; but were set on by ill-disposed persons. They generally preferred Protestants to Catholics as employers, asserting that they were treated with more fairness by the former. If the disqualifying laws could be removed in a manner that would satisfy both the Catholic and the Protestant parts of the community, their removal would be a blessing to the country; but that would be a matter of much difficulty.

The Rev. JOHN KELLY.—Was a Catholic clergyman, residing in the county of Cork. In his immediate neighbourhood, in consequence of some great works, which were carrying on by Lord Kingston, the labouring classes were well employed; but not elsewhere. The introduction of petty sessions had, he thought, inspired the people with a greater degree of confidence than they formerly had in the magistracy. No Catholic Rent had been collected in his parish. The Catholic priests and the clergymen of the Established Church in his neighbourhood were on exceedingly friendly terms. He did not think that the 40s. freeholds attached much value to their franchise in the county parts of Ireland; and he believed that the removal of the Catholic disabilities would be considered an ample compensation for the loss of that franchise. He would be disposed to fix the rate of qualification at 7*l.* Catholic emancipation would operate as a sedative, and enable other measures to be taken for the good of the people; which measures, unless a preparation were thus made for them, would fail of effect. The distrust of the law, occasioned by the difference which the law made between Protestants and Catholics, could never be removed without removing the Catholic disabilities.

The Rev. THOMAS COSTELLO.—Was a Roman Catholic clergyman in the county of Limerick. The population had increased considerably within the last thirty or forty years in his parish. The situation of the lower class of the people was so wretched, that, with the exception of a few weeks in spring and harvest, he was sure he could procure as many people to work for their mere food, potatoes, and perhaps milk and herrings, as he could employ on a considerable farm. There was not a day (but twenty families of strolling beggars were applying at his door for charity). The introduction of the petty sessions had been very beneficial, although there were great abuses still. Different factions among the people frequently met in fight, in parties of five or six hundred each; but it was a practice that was diminishing. The petty sessions had contributed to check it. The tithes were felt all over Ireland as a great

burden, which was on a general increase by the conduct of the proctor. The proprietors were all absent from his neighbourhood; there was not a resident proprietor in the parish. The lower orders of the people were all interested in the question of Catholic emancipation. It was felt as a great grievance that a Catholic priest might not perform the rite of burial without obtaining the previous permission of the Protestant clergyman to enter the churchyard. The people from his part of the country had lately shewn a great disposition to emigrate.

JOHN STAUNTON ROCKFORD, Esq. — Resided in the county of Carlow, on the borders of the Queen's County, and was a magistrate for both counties, as well as for Kilkenny. The employment of the poor in his neighbourhood was not sufficient. He thought that the population had about doubled within the last twenty-five years; and it was going on increasing, in consequence of the difficulty of preventing the subdividing of farms, which was a most ruinous practice. In the county of Galway this evil was carried to the greatest excess. The immediate tendency of Catholic emancipation would be to quiet the country, by removing the hostile feeling that now existed towards the Protestant population; and that being done, he thought capital would flow into Ireland, for the valuable investment of which there were abundant opportunities. The feelings of the people were very much alive to the disabilities under which they at present laboured. He thought the plan of raising the qualification for the elective franchise would be decidedly advantageous to the country, as a superior class of tenants would be created.

The Protestants in Ireland were very ready to emigrate; but there was a great indisposition on the part of the Catholics to do so. There appeared to him to be a growing disposition of good will between the Catholics and the Protestants. At the same time the Catholic population was a great mass of discontent, which would be ready to be operated upon by any political adventurer, unless emancipation put an end to the danger. The introduction of petty sessions had been, in his opinion, very beneficial and satisfactory to the people. He thought a stricter revision of the magistracy necessary.

It was advantageous that the assistant barristers should practise in the courts in Dublin, as it kept up their knowledge of the law, and maintained their respect with the magistrates and the people in the country; and he did not recommend that priority should be given at the sessions to crown business, and the crown court closed at its termination.

The Rev. MORTIMER O'SULLIVAN. — The late disturbances he conceived to have been at first merely the struggles of people who were in a state of extreme wretchedness, and who were in consequence discontented, but that afterwards a spirit of religious rancour was communicated to them; which he attributed principally to the

strong part which the Roman Catholic clergy took in keeping their people separated from the Protestants, and in accommodating themselves to their irritation against their landlords and the clergy of the church of England. Although he believed the educated Roman Catholic laity considered the deposing powers of the Pope obsolete, he was equally convinced that any Roman Catholic clergyman who entertained such an opinion must be inconsistent. It appeared to him that the middle and the lower classes were very much under the influence of the priests, and that it at any time it should become the policy of the court of Rome to have that influence employed for political purposes, the Roman Catholic clergy would be bound to employ it. The present state of the Catholic population in Ireland was very unsatisfactory. The gentry were dissatisfied that they were not admitted to a full participation in all the rights of the constitution; and the lower orders were divested of all loyal feeling whatever.

The Rev. WILLIAM PHILLIPS, B.D. — From his observation and knowledge of the doctrines of the Roman Catholic church, he was induced to think that the civil allegiance of the Roman Catholics must be in some degree subordinate to the spiritual; and in the event of the authority of the Pope being applied against the Government of the country, he apprehended that considerable danger might arise to the state. Among the lower orders of the Catholics in his neighbourhood, emancipation was supposed to include the restoration of the tithes, and the temporal establishment of the Catholic clergy. A few years ago he thought it probable that the Catholics in Ireland might be converted; but he had since changed his opinion, for it was shewn him that the ecclesiastics of the Roman Catholic body were deeper politicians than the laity. Formerly he believed that the Roman Catholic laity were using the priesthood only as instruments; his opinion now was, that the laity were tools in the hands of the priesthood. He was afraid there was no reason to suppose that the reign of intolerance in the church of Rome had subsided. If he were aware that the Roman Catholic bishops took the oath of allegiance because they felt it to be right in itself, and a bounden duty of the subject to the Sovereign, he should be perfectly satisfied. But if he had reason to suspect that they took it in consequence of a permission from the Pope for that purpose; if they applied to him for leave, and upon that leave took it, then he did not think that the security to the state was much increased; that still placed the Sovereign and his authority in a sort of vassalage to the Pope, and rendered the allegiance of the bishops dependent upon the will of a foreign power. Of the two, he thought it more likely that some of the distinct doctrines of the Catholic church should undergo qualification and change, than that the pretensions which at present had

any time advanced to temporal power should be softened or qualified. To the principle of extending the political rights of the Catholics no objection could be made; but it was for the wisdom of the legislature to consider whether such a measure could be accompanied with securities against the occurrence of any new mischiefs. He had not hitherto seen such securities proposed.

ARTHUR IRWIN KELLY, Esq.—Was sovereign of the city of Armagh. In twenty years' experience as a magistrate of the county of Armagh, had never known any religious partialities shown by the magistrates in the administration of justice. The county of Armagh was very densely peopled. The houses of some of the peasantry were comfortable; but those of the inferior description were very miserable, and their habitual food was potatoes, oatmeal, and milk. He thought that if they were not excited by agitators, either on one side or on the other, the Roman Catholics and the Protestants would live on very amicable terms. The more sober-minded and calm description of Protestants was friendly to Catholic emancipation, upon qualified and fair terms. An increase in the qualification for the elective franchise would, in his opinion, be beneficial by preventing the subdivision of land which had led to the poverty he had described, and by diminishing the commission of perjury. It would also tend to create something like a yeomanry in the country. He thought the present moment was extremely favourable to Catholic emancipation, if accompanied by proper securities. The grand injuries appeared to him to possess too unlimited a power over the public money, more especially as applied to the making of roads; surveyors of which ought, in his opinion, to be appointed.

The Right Hon. ROBERT PEEL, a Member of the Committee.—Explained the circumstances which had induced him to order that a man of the name of Kieuevan, a Roman Catholic, who was instrumental in saving the lives of some persons who were shipwrecked in Tramore Bay, should receive a pecuniary reward instead of being employed in the revenue service.

ROBERT DE LA COURCE, Esq.—Resided at Malinbeg, in the county of Cork. Never knew that country more tranquil than at present. The condition of the peasantry was wretched in the extreme; although the conduct of the landlords (except perhaps some of the middlemen) was kind and indulgent. The increase of the population had been enormous within his recollection; owing in a great measure to the practice of underletting land, which he considered to be one of the great evils affecting Ireland. The reports of the conduct of some of the magistracies were formerly very unfavourable; but since the revision of that body those reports had considerably improved. He thought the business of the quarter sessions was too much hurried, and that the assistant barrister

ought not to be suffered to practise in Dublin. Of the causes which had led to the late disturbances in Ireland, and the present condition of that country, absenteeism and difference of religion appeared to him to be among the most prominent. Want of employment, inability to procure subsistence by honest means, the excessive population, the subinfeudation of lands, the poverty and wretchedness of the people, bad moral education, worse habits, familiarity with vice and crime, discontent with their condition, disregard for the laws, a continual experience and discussion of their comparative degradation, leading to disaffection for the existing establishments of church and state; those comprehended the further causes of the existing evil that he could undertake specially to name. With regard to the measures that he would recommend for ameliorating the condition of Ireland, he had no hesitation in stating that he considered the concession of Catholic emancipation their groundwork. Until that was accomplished, there would be no peace. He would then most strongly recommend the abolition of tithes, freeholders, which he considered a great grievance. He was also a great advocate for a liberal provision for the Roman Catholic clergy. He would strongly advise that employment should be provided by all possible means; that a taste for cleanliness and comfort should be created, which would raise the people in their own estimation, and lead them to avoid early marriages, and calculate upon the means of supporting families before they encumbered themselves with them; that good moral education should be introduced, without offering any violence to the conflicting opinions that prevailed on the subject of religion; that some provision should be made for the destitute, old, and infirm, &c. So far was he from thinking that concession to the Catholics would endanger the Protestant establishment, that he was persuaded it would add to the security of our establishments, both in church and state. The present mode of levying county rates in Ireland was, in his opinion, illegal. The whole of the grand jury system required revision and correction; and district engineers ought to be appointed to superintend the public works. The Tithe Composition Bill had been put into effect in many parts of the county of Cork, and appeared to be a very salutary measure.

Mr. MATTHEW BARRINGTON.—Was crown solicitor for the Munster circuit. The duty of crown solicitor was to prosecute all cases directed to be prosecuted by Government, and by the Attorney-General. In October, 1821, the county of Limerick was in a very desperate state; murders, burnings, breaking houses, outrages of every description were committed there; but a great number of offences remained unpunished, from the difficulty of obtaining evidence. By increased exertion on the part of the police, that evil had been corrected, and

very few of those offences now remained undisposed of. The frequency of administering oaths in Ireland produced a great indifference to them, and consequently the commission of perjury. In some of the minor courts, he understood, that the foreman of the jury, before he would deliver in the verdict, demanded what was called the modus, which was a jug of punch. The magistrates ought, in his opinion, to be abolished. Great benefit would, he thought, accrue from raising the 40s. freeholds to 10l. The present state of the law in Ireland, as between Catholic and Protestant, kept the country in a state of fever and agitation. He could not see how the carrying of the question called Catholic emancipation could endanger the existence of the interests of the established church. It would render the Catholics much more satisfied with the administration of justice, if they saw Catholics in high judicial situations.

The Rev. WILLIAM O'BRIEN, D.D. Acted as the parish priest of the parish of Doneraile, and was vicar-general of the diocese of Cloyne. Explained some inaccuracies in the evidence given before the Committee of last session with respect to the conviction of a person for burning some houses in the district of Doneraile. He had, on that occasion, at the hazard of his life, used every means to prevail on the people of his parish to bring in the arms in their possession, but had been defeated by the drunkenness of some unfortunate ruffians. The burning system originated in the enforcing of tithes and rack-rents, some very inhuman instances of which had occurred. He thought a great deal of good would result from raising the 40s. freeholds to 10l. It would be an excellent substitute for the wretched policy, which, fortunately for Ireland, was rapidly decreasing, of giving grounds to middle-men, to set to under-tenants at a rack-rent. He had considerable apprehension, if a provision were made by the state for the Roman Catholic clergy, that in the event of future irritation, the people might fancy that their clergy had been bribed to desert their interests. However, that might not be the case if they found that the law was impartially administered, which they at present believed it was not. He was persuaded that the passing of the Emancipation Bill would be, in the minds of the Irish people, the beginning of a new and amended order of things; and if unfavourable impressions were not revived by what the people would consider new acts of injustice and hostility towards them, he thought a kindly feeling would arise towards those who derived under the government, including the Roman Catholic clergy.

ALEXANDER O'DRISCOLL, Esq. Was a magistrate of the county of Cork, residing near Skibbereen. Thought the introduction of the petty sessions an improvement in the mode of administering justice; but conceived that the system of grand juries might be advantageously reformed. He thought the introduction of man-

ufactures would improve the condition of Ireland very much; and he thought granting Catholic emancipation would be the forerunner to that introduction, as the English merchants would be inclined to send capital to Ireland, if they could depend on the tranquillity of the country. He was of opinion that the abolition of 40s. freeholds would be very beneficial, if attended by Catholic emancipation.

The Right Hon. LORD CANNING explained the reasons which had induced him not to interfere in the case of an alleged oppression of an under-tenant of his, respecting which case evidence had been given before the Committee. He did not think that a landlord in Ireland had as great a facility of getting possession of his land, when it was out of lease, and the tenant chose to hold it, as he ought to have. The disturbances at Castlehaven originated in claims of tithes. At a time when scarcely any landlord in the district had received half his rent, the clergyman of Castlehaven, Mr. Morritt, an English gentleman, having received £2,400 out of £2,700, being the full amount of three years' income of his living, distrained for the residue. A resistance, and a contest, in which a policeman, a bailiff, and two of the country people lost their lives, ensued; and, in the end, the policemen were beaten off, and the cattle rescued. Within two or three months afterwards, Mr. Morritt resigned the living; his successor agreed with the parish for his tithes, under the Composition Act, at £650 a year; and there had not been the least murmur since. He had always observed the greatest indulgence to their tenants on the part of the landlords; and also on the part of the middle-men, except the lower classes of them. He was of opinion that the establishment of petty sessions had been very beneficial. He thought that the mode in which business was conducted before grand juries was generally fair and impartial. Possibly, there might be some improvement in the system by which roads were presented for. The manor courts might be advantageously abolished, if other means were afforded the people of recovering small debts. If the magistrates had the power of deciding in the petty sessions court for the same amount of debt as the seshal in his court, the business would be better done, and the manor courts might then be dispensed with. He had heard the apprehension on the part of English capitalists, that there was a want of security in Ireland, assigned as a reason that English capital had been prevented from going to Ireland to any great degree. But from observation he should say, that he thought the very introduction of the capital itself would effect the purpose of securing it, by producing employment. The fears of the English manufacturers were much exaggerated. He should not himself feel any more apprehension than he would in Yorkshire. At the expiration of one lease of one of his estates, of 600 acres, of which

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150 were sought pasture, that had never been killed, he found forty-seven families upon it. He was able to retain only twenty-five; the other twenty-two went away without a misbur, and he never could learn what became of them. There was one of numerous instances which occurred upon the expiration of King George's. He thought that any measure, which would alter the qualification for the elective franchise from 40s. to £10, would be beneficial. He also thought that the feelings of the people would be more connected with the government, if they knew there was a certain relation established between the government and their priests. Dr. O'Connell was assistant barrister for the county of Londonderry. Though the office of assistant barrister is a useful one. Believed the people were satisfied with the administration of justice at the quarter sessions. The Civil Bill Act was beginning to work very well. Described the nature of the proceedings in the Civil Bill courts. The petty sessions had been very advantageous. Was of opinion that the grand jury presentments respecting roads were not free from objection, and that they gave rise to jobs. (I forgot his name.) Was assistant barrister for the county of Leitrim. Never heard any complaints of the administration of justice in the assistant barristers' court. Thought the present law, with respect to the maintenance of illegitimate children, extremely imperfect in Ireland, and that frequent exposure was the result of it. Was apprehensive that perjury was not uncommon in the Civil Bill courts. The Right Reverend Doctor MURRAY, Roman Catholic Archbishop of DUBLIN. (Again examined.) There were certain festivals celebrated by the Roman Catholics in Ireland, but he was not prepared to say that they were detrimental to the Protestant or any other church. Although it was a duty to pray that heresy, as an evil, should be removed from the human mind, it did not appear to him that there was any opposition between such a prayer and civil allegiance to the state. No unjust excommunication or other inducement on the part of the Pope ought to prevail on a Catholic to transgress the allegiance he owed to his sovereign. In resisting such an excommunication or inducement, he would not renounce his religion, but would act in conformity to its principles, which taught him, that undivided allegiance was due to the sovereign of the realm in which he lived, and in which protection was afforded him. The Catholic bishops of Ireland had not the least idea of looking to the restitution of the right of sitting in the House of Lords. It would be absurd to think of it; no such right attached to the office of a bishop; it was attached to the dignity of a barony, which was held from the crown. Roman Catholic priests could absolve sinners; *toties quoties*, pro-

vided their repentance was sincere; but under no other circumstances could they receive a valid absolution. Under no circumstances could the consecration oath interfere with the allegiance which was due to the Roman Catholic bishops to their sovereign. It was only a conditional obedience, that they promised to the Pope, as the spiritual head of the church. The duties which they owed to the Pope, and those which they owed to their King, when property understood, were parallel lines, which could never meet; their object was wholly distinct. It was absolutely impossible that the deposing power of the Pope should be received; any pretension of that kind was extinguished for ever. The Roman Catholics did not admit the doctrine that faith was not to be kept with heretics; was allowed in all the occurrences of private and even public life, by their severest opponents. They found their Protestant monarch entering into treaties of alliance with the Catholic sovereigns of Portugal and France; and deeming as little the violation of those treaties as if they were formed with his Protestant ally of Prussia. In Protestant courts of justice, where life and liberty were at stake, the oaths of Catholics were considered sufficiently valid to determine the most important objects. When Dr. Troy was bishop of Ossory, in 1784 and in 1786, he addressed pastoral letters to his flock, which had the effect of tranquillising the disturbances of those periods; as also in 1793, when he was Roman Catholic archbishop in Dublin; and at the commencement of the late disturbances, Dr. Doyle addressed a pastoral letter to his diocese, which produced a very powerful and happy effect on the minds of the people.

The Rev. GEORGE HAY was the senior minister of the Presbyterian congregation of Derry. He estimated the Presbyterian population of the county of Derry at 70,000, and the other Protestants at 27,000. The population of the county was 133,866, which left the remaining part of the population composed of Roman Catholics, 96,866. The proportion of the Protestant population to the Roman Catholic population, in the counties of Antrim and Down, he supposed was four to one. He thought the feeling of Catholic to Protestant, and of Protestant to Catholic, in Derry, was a kind and forbearing one; although there had been a considerable addition of party spirit within the last two years. That spirit, however, had considerably subsided, which he attributed in a great measure to the suppression of the Catholic Association. His opinion was that, from antecedent causes, the feeling in favour of Catholic emancipation, if accompanied by the payment of the Roman Catholic clergy, and the abolition of 40s. freeholders, had increased among the Presbyterians in connexion with the synod of Ulster. What would make it more palatable to a large portion of the Protestant population, would be

the King's having either the appointment of the Roman Catholic bishops, or a veto in their nomination.

MR. JAMES CROPPER.— Was a merchant of Liverpool, who had lately visited Ireland for the purpose of inquiring into the means of providing employment for the people of that country. Had no doubt that, supposing all the local circumstances of Ireland, of a political and moral nature, to be similar to those existing in this country, the flax, the cotton, the woollen, and the silk trade, would be established in Ireland with considerable advantage to those who might commence such an undertaking. But, from an apprehension of the insecurity of property, not only was there a disinclination at present to invest English capital in Ireland, in the erection of mills and machinery, &c. but Irish capital was coming over to this country. If a feeling existed that property was secure in Ireland, he thought that capital could be vested in the establishment of manufactures there with greater advantage at the present moment than in the extension of manufactures in Great Britain. But the situation of the countries was different. There was not a habit of industry in Ireland, and it would take considerable time to establish it. The great evil, however, was the irritation occasioned by the Catholic question. He knew of some parties that intended to lay out money with a view to the future establishing of manufactures in Ireland, who, hearing the bill was likely to be thrown out in the House of Lords, changed that intention. Although at present the demand might not be sufficient, yet, if the principles of free trade were generally applied and acted upon, he had no doubt that a foreign demand would exist, which, combined with the domestic demand, would give full employment to the people of Ireland, were they engaged in manufactures. The introduction of a great number of Irish labourers into this country had had the effect of lowering the rate of wages of the English people employed; the multiplication of steam-boats had much facilitated the emigration of the former; and it was decidedly his opinion, that if a state of comfort were not established in Ireland, the distress of Ireland must come to this country in the end. If something were not done to give employment to the Irish people at home, the two countries would very much assimilate; and the present state of the Catholic question was one of the things which prevented that employment from being given.

Colonel JOHN LAWREN.— Was a magistrate, and resided at Tanragoe, within eight miles of Sligo. Within the last two or three years considerable distrust and alarm existed between the Protestants and Catholics in his part of the country. Prior to 1790, the feelings of Roman Catholics and Protestants were exceedingly cordial; but since that period they had been

gradually becoming estranged. This he attributed to the agitation of the question of emancipation, the publications which had emanated from the Catholic Association, and the influence which their priests exercised over the Catholics. He was persuaded that the Catholic peasantry cared little about the matter. The Protestant part of the population were decidedly against further concession; at least, it was so in 1819, although within the last two or three years a different feeling, to a slight degree, might perhaps have been excited. In his county the great body of the Protestants were apprehensive of the consequences that would result to them from granting Catholic emancipation. He had no doubt that the Roman Catholic hierarchy looked to the Church Establishment as their hereditary right, and he knew several strong instances which proved that the Catholics looked to the property of the country, now possessed by the Protestants, as their hereditary right,—as having been taken from them by conquest. He had, however, never heard of either Catholics or Protestants objecting to purchase land on the ground of its having been held under a forfeited title. But those Catholics who had acquired property under the Act of Settlement by purchase, were few indeed, in comparison with those who might advance claims to the old forfeited lands of the kingdom. He most certainly believed that those claims were distinctly preserved and retained amongst the great body of the Roman Catholics of Ireland; that they were handed down from father to son; and that in the event of any favourable opportunity offering, an attempt would be made to enforce them. Of course, in a country in which there existed so many discontented subjects, a large military force was necessary for the Government; and he would apply the restraint of that force until the Catholics saw there was no use in further efforts to subvert the existing establishments. Employment, a more general residence of gentlemen in the country, the encouragement of fisheries, and other matters of that nature, would all tend to occupy the minds of the people, give them fair and legitimate sources of acquiring wealth, and gradually reconcile them—as they were formerly reconciled—to be admitted no further into the legislature. He certainly would not re-enact the penal laws, nor would he enact any other law against the Catholics; but he would repeal the law which admitted them to the elective franchise, out of which he thought that all the evils of the present day had arisen. If Catholic emancipation were granted, he was convinced the agitation would still proceed until they had obtained the Church Establishment, and ultimately, if England were at war with a Roman Catholic power, the dissolution of the Union.

The Right Hon. Lord FORBES, M. P.— Was a pretty constant resident in the county of

Langford; and was convinced that the decision upon the Catholic question which had taken place in the House of Lords, would, in the course of two or three years, produce disturbance in his neighbourhood; a large proportion of the inhabitants of which were Catholics, who had entertained a strong hope that the civil disabilities affecting them would be removed this session. That hope was founded upon a proper feeling of pride, from a wish to be placed on a level with their fellow-subjects. He was of opinion that the feeling of hostility on the part of the Protestants towards the Catholics had materially diminished; and that even many of the Protestant clergy had arrived at the conviction that Catholic emancipation was the only measure that could tranquillise Ireland, and secure their property in the church. He was convinced that the Roman Catholics were, at that moment, ready to give any security which they considered consistent with the tenets of their religion. The Roman Catholic bishops and the Roman Catholic clergy, in Ireland, had uniformly assisted the magistrates in maintaining the tranquillity of the country. In the event of the Catholic question being carried, he did not conceive that there was any other question that could, by possibility, unite the whole mass of the Catholics of Ireland in pursuit of one common object. As to the Union, the majority of them felt that it had been beneficial to the interests of Ireland. Nor did he think it at all likely that the Catholics would combine for the purpose of overthrowing the established church. He never could conceive it possible that such an idea could enter their minds as to recover possession of the forfeited estates; and although he believed that such a report was industriously circulated for purposes of party, he was quite sure that no man of common sense could believe it.

MR. REDMOND READE.—Was a provision and butter-merchant in Kilkenny, and complained of the illegal manner in which tolls were levied on cattle at fairs in Ireland.

JOHN GODLEY, Esq.—Was a magistrate of the counties of Leitrim and Cavan. Of late years the Catholic and Protestant peasantry in his neighbourhood had not been on as friendly a footing with each other as formerly. Both parties waylaid and severely beat each other; but there had been more waylaying on the part of the Roman Catholics than on that of the Protestants. The great bulk of the Protestants were decidedly adverse to the concession of the Roman Catholic claims; conceiving that the Catholics looked eventually for supremacy. He did not think the jealousies, which existed between the different sects would be subdued by carrying the Catholic question. The Catholic population in his vicinity were, in the early part of the present year and the conclusion of the last, in a state of great excitement, occasioned by the speeches, as he understood, at the Catholic

association, and the circulation of prophecies announcing the destruction of heresy. The Protestants were much alarmed, expecting every night to be attacked. He did not think that if the Catholic bill had been carried, the power of agitators to excite alarm in the country would have been, at all, diminished. All depended on those persons who made it their business to agitate the country. If there were no agitators there would be a perfect state of tranquillity in Ireland. The priests were the most influential body amongst the Roman Catholics of Ireland; but when asked if they were disposed to lead the peasantry to oppose the Government, would they be able to do it? his answer was, that he could never suppose that the Roman Catholic clergy would wish to promote rebellion. Religious questions were much more generally discussed in Ireland now than formerly. There was also a great anxiety for the progress of education. In his neighbourhood it was going on well. He did not think that there were either clergymen or places of worship sufficient for the Protestant population. Great benefit had been derived by the labouring population from the introduction of a system of small loans, to be repaid by instalments. There was much illicit distillation in the counties of Leitrim and Cavan. 523 bills of indictment for illicit distillation had been preferred to the county of Leitrim grand jury at the last assizes. The punishment of imprisonment did not deter the offenders; they were sure to repeat the offence. He wished to see the manor courts abolished, as he thought them useless. The raising of the qualification of the freeholders to 10*l.*, would not in his opinion be of much service; but there were others of a different opinion. He did not conceive that the grand jury were the best body for the discharge of the civil functions with regard to roads and bridges. They had it in their power to put their hands into other people's pockets, without at the same time considering whether the owners of those pockets could spare any thing out of them. He thought the power of presentment for roads and bridges would be better in the hands of the Government of the country.

ANTHONY RICHARD BLAKE, Esq., again examined.—Detailed the alterations in the existing laws regarding landlords and tenants, which appeared to him calculated to put a stop to the practice of sub-letting in Ireland. Adverted to the declaration which he had made in that Committee, and more strongly in the Committee of the House of Lords, that, although a Catholic, he should object to any settlement of the Catholic question that tended to disturb the Protestant establishment, which he considered a main link in the connexion between Great Britain and Ireland; with which connexion he was satisfied the interests of Ireland were essentially identified. As it had been imputed to

him, that in uttering that opinion he indulged in a peculiar latitude of expression to make a show of liberality, he solemnly and unequivocally reiterated the sentiment; and added, that having read his former evidence to other Roman Catholics, clergy as well as laity, he had never found one that expressed the least dissent from it.

RANDLE PATRICK MACDONNELL, Esq.—Resident at Lancaster Park, near Ballinasloe. Had had daily opportunities of observing the system of taking distress, and the conduct of drivers, and conceived that the latter was contrary to law in most instances. The tolls collected at fairs were also grievous and illegal. In Ballinasloe a board was set up enumerating the various articles which were to pay toll, with an &c. at the end of them, thus, “for every bag of oats, barley, wheat, meal, &c. so much;” and complaint being made to the magistrates that toll had been exacted on an article not named on the board, viz. potatoes, they determined that that article was comprehended in the &c. On many other articles, all of which were supposed to be comprehended in the &c., toll was taken. At the town of Westport there were various tolls and dues which were considered illegal. He detailed a number of extraordinary circumstances connected with the administration of justice by the magistrates in the petty courts at Ballinasloe. A subscription was raising for the purpose of prosecuting one of them, a Dr. Trench, for his conduct. He shewed the copy of a warrant, by two magistrates, for levying by distress the sum of 2½*d.* on the goods and chattels of an individual for tithes. The fees on such a warrant would exceed a shilling. Complaint was also very general of the whole system of grand jury presentments; more especially with reference to roads and bridges; and any appeal to the law to correct the abuse, would inevitably bring down the hostility of powerful persons on the appellants.

His Grace the ARCHBISHOP OF DUBLIN.—During his experience he had little doubt that the real proportion of Roman Catholics to Protestants in Ireland had been increasing; although the ostensible number of Protestants had increased. He thought that the number of Protestants in Dublin might be about 90,000. There had for some time been a sort of general indefinite alarm entertained by Protestants, upon the subject of insurrection on the part of the Roman Catholics. Several Catholic clergymen had recently offered to read their recantation; but circumstances had induced him to suspect that they were either not sincere or not sane. He had never been a member of the Bible Society; and disapproved, not of their object, but of their conduct, as tending to sectarianism. He admitted that the existing Roman Catholic chapels appeared to be insufficient for the members of that communion. The new

Tithe Bill was going on very well in the diocese of Dublin. Previously to the passing of that bill, the tithe system was productive of great dissatisfaction in Ireland; much of which, however, had been excited by speeches in Parliament. Considerable dissatisfaction had been produced in Ireland by the past state of the law with regard to burials as between Catholic and Protestant; and he thought the best remedy would be to have separate places of burial. It was true that in former days the property of the church in Ireland was divided into four parts, and that with three of those parts the bishop built and repaired the churches, supplied a provision for the clergymen, and gave aid to the poor; but he rather thought that the *quarta pars episcopalis* of those days was, at least, as great as the entire property of the church at the present moment. Although he thought every church was the only interpreter of its own words, yet it did not appear to him necessarily to follow that the individual divines of the Roman Catholic Church were the best expositors of the doctrines of their own church; because he thought those divines had deprived themselves of the liberty of exposition; inasmuch as they had subjected themselves, and not only so, but the church had subjected itself, to an established system of exposition which no individual had a right to alter. The Church of England left the matter, within a certain limit, to the judgment of the individual. In one sense of the word, he admitted that the Roman Catholic Church of the present day was very different from the Roman Catholic Church of the middle ages;—in the general prevailing opinions amongst individuals there might be a considerable difference;—but the principle, that the opinions of individuals were not to affect the meaning of the church, still remained; and if a solemn demand were made for a formal declaration, or recognition of the great leading opinions of the Roman Catholic Church respecting its doctrines, he should not be quite sure that the ancient received opinions of that church, which might seem for a time to have been abandoned practically, might not then be, and ought not then to be, given as the rule of that church, and revived in all its force. In the education of the people he was averse to a plan which should comprehend both Catholics and Protestants, as that must inevitably tend to an interference with religious faith. The recent introduction of political considerations, had much strengthened the line of distinction between Protestants and Catholics. He admitted that any considerable body of people, who suffered any political exclusion, would naturally feel dissatisfied with the law; that if that exclusion arose on the ground of religion, it would be likely to raise still more acrimonious feelings; that the dissatisfaction would be more felt in proportion as the class of the community to which the exclusion applied advanced in wealth

and power; that the Roman Catholics of Ireland had advanced very much in those respects; that in proportion as persons became educated and enlightened, and felt their capacity for civil and political privilege increase, their dissatisfaction at exclusion from civil and political privilege would increase also; that the progress of education in Ireland had been considerable; that as long as the religious distinctions, and the asperity of party which they produced, continued in Ireland, he did not anticipate any improvement in that country; that the agitation which existed among the Roman Catholic part of the community in Ireland had been, in a great degree, produced by the speeches and acts of those who were their leaders in Dublin; that those leaders were of a class of persons who felt, practically, the civil disabilities to which they were subject on account of their religion; that it was likely that as long as they continued subject to those civil disabilities their dissatisfaction would continue; and that their means of agitating and disquieting the great mass of the Catholic people would certainly continue as long; but he maintained, that if the persons who were influential in the Catholic body were sincerely desirous of prosecuting only the fair objects of that body, and in a fair constitutional way, there would be but little dissension; that that was not the case; that there had been an eagerness of exertion connected with objects (as he believed) beyond those which were professed to be sought; that that had produced a sort of character, and the exertions of a sort of character, in behalf of the Roman Catholics, not to be justified by the real wants of that body; that the conduct pursued had been that which fairly subjected the leading persons to the description of demagogues;—of persons who were inflaming the people in order that they might, by modes not perfectly justifiable or allowed by the constitution, obtain an object in which they had themselves a peculiar interest; that they had also declined drawing their religion itself into an association by which it ought never to be influenced, confounding all distinctions, and making the religious part of their community altogether political; that the Protestant mind ought to be satisfied that the objections to the religious tenets of the Roman Catholics should be shown not to be well founded, if in reality they were not so; and that the way to effect that was not by the violent conduct of the Roman Catholic leaders, but that the whole should be a progress of mind. His own opinion was, that the object which the Roman Catholics had in view was the establishment of the Roman Catholic religion in Ireland, as the religion of the country, upon the ruins of the Protestant Church; and that the Protestant Church was at that moment in great danger from the Roman Catholics. He could not allow that the misfortunes of Ireland were entirely attributable to the present state of the disqualifying laws

against the Catholics; nor did he think that if those laws were all repealed, and the Catholics put on an equal footing with the Protestants, there would be immediately a cessation of all dissensions, and an immediate amelioration in the condition of the people. The Roman Catholics had become more discontented since they had had an increase of privileges. From history it appeared abundantly that the Roman Catholic religion was a religion seeking supremacy; and he did not think that a man could be a good Catholic, in the strict sense of the word, unless he availed himself of every means in his power to establish the supremacy of the Catholic religion. Nothing that he could see had occurred, within the last two or three centuries, to lessen that feeling on the part of the Roman Catholics. He conceived that it would be dangerous to admit into all the privileges of the Protestant constitution persons who were in such complete subservience to the authority of a foreign power as was described in those decrees of general councils which regarded the excommunication of heretics and the deprivation of heretical sovereigns of their kingdoms, which decrees, he believed, had never been annulled by subsequent decrees. He did not think that the line of distinction between spiritual and temporal allé-giance, in the Catholic Church, was sufficiently marked. He was not of opinion that the establishment of the college of Maynooth had been beneficial; and, on the whole, he thought it would be safer to have a foreign education for the Roman Catholic clergy, than the education as it was now conducted at Maynooth.

JOHN RAMSAY M'CUULOCK, Esq.—Had devoted much time to the study of political economy. Taking the population of Ireland in 1791 at 3,747,000, and its population in 1821 at 6,891,000, it appeared that the population of that country doubled in about thirty-three years. In several of the states of America it was proved that, after making every reasonable deduction for emigrants, the population had doubled in twenty-five years, or less; but in England and Wales it took eighty years, and in Scotland a hundred and twenty years, to double the population. The main cause of the great increase of population in Ireland was the small quantity and the cheap quality of the food on which the people consented to live; and the extreme facility of obtaining small portions of land enabled them to raise that food with little difficulty. The habit of early marriages, and the healthiness of the climate, undoubtedly contributed to increase the number of the people. He had no doubt that the population of Ireland was still increasing at the same rate; and if no check were interposed to the practice of splitting farms into small portions, he did not know where population was to stop, until all the land was parcelled out into mere potato gardens. From all that he had read and heard, he believed that the condition of the Irish peasantry

was worse than that of any other peasantry in Europe; and that it was hardly possible for human beings to live, and be in a worse state than they were. He thought that the immediate cause of this state of things was the excessive number of people in the country, compared with the quantity of capital to employ them. Supposing the present average rate of wages was four-pence a day, if it were deemed desirable to raise that rate to twelve-pence a day, then, taking the existing population of Ireland at 7,500,000, of which there might be about 2,000,000 above sixteen years of age, including 500,000 females fit for labour, it would require an additional capital of about 20,000,000*l.* for that purpose. It was quite impossible that the condition of the people could be improved until the ratio of capital to population were increased. The efforts of individuals, or even of companies, could effect but little benefit. He was not aware that the return and the residence of the absentee landlords of Ireland would be productive of any advantage to the lower orders of the people in the way of increasing the average rate of wages all over the country. The income of a landlord, when he was an absentee, was just as much expended in Ireland as if he were living in it. When a landlord became an absentee, his rent must be remitted to him either in money or in commodities. As it could not continue to be remitted to him in money, there being not sufficient money to make such continued remittance, it was clear that it must be remitted in commodities. This, he thought, would be the nature of the operation: when a landlord, having an estate in Ireland, went to live in London or Paris, his agent got his rent, and went and bought a bill of exchange with it; now that bill of exchange was a draft drawn against equivalent commodities that were to be exported from Ireland; it was nothing more than an order to receive an equivalent amount in commodities which must be sent from Ireland. The merchants who got 10,000*l.* or any other sum from the agent of an absentee landlord, went into the Irish market and bought exactly the same amount of commodities as the landlord would have bought had he been at home; the only difference being, that the landlord would eat them and wear them in London or Paris, and not in Dublin or in his house in Ireland. Precisely, therefore, in proportion to the amount of rent remitted would be the corresponding export of Irish commodities. If the remittances to absentee landlords amounted to three millions a year, were they to return home the foreign trade of Ireland would be diminished to that amount. Nor did he think, from all the information he had been able to obtain, that in a moral point of view Ireland lost much by the want of the absentee landlords. Almost all great improvements in every country had originated among merchants and manufacturers, rather than among landlords. If capital could

be advantageously employed in Ireland, it would go thither without any legislative measures to force it; if not, it had better remain where it was. It would be wise in the legislature, however, to give every facility (not every encouragement) to the tendency of capital to go to Ireland, by removing all obstacles in the way of its natural transfer. Want of security was one of the most powerful of those obstacles. Every thing that could be done to increase the security of property in Ireland must be in the last degree advantageous. The unsettled state of a great political question must undoubtedly detract from the security of property in Ireland. Any measures that could be adopted to slacken the ratio of the progress of population would also be advantageous;—such as abolishing the practice of sub-letting, taking away all artificial or political inducements to the landlords to multiply their tenants and subdivide their farms; and the establishment of schools, in which the children of the poor should be taught what were the circumstances on which their condition in life must ever depend. A system of emigration, carried on by Government, and coming in aid of those measures, would operate beneficially. But emigration would be useful only when combined with such other measures as might have an effect to prevent the vacuum that it would cause in the population from being filled up. The introduction of poor laws into Ireland would be productive of immediate advantage, but of ultimate ruin to the people of that country; as it would at the same time destroy the capital and increase the population. He had very serious apprehensions of the injurious operation, upon the state of British labourers, of the competition of the great number of Irish labourers who came over to England and Scotland to look for employment; and settle themselves. He did not believe that any such serious mischief ever was inflicted on the west of Scotland as had been done to it by the Irish labourers that had come over within the last ten or fifteen years. If the population of Ireland went on increasing, Great Britain would be the natural outlet for the surplus. He did not conceive that bounties on the linen manufacture of Ireland would have any beneficial effect. To lay the foundation of any effectual change in the condition of the people of Ireland, Government should attempt to remove the obstacles that prevented the natural transfer of English capital to that country; and take away all the artificial incitements to the increase of population which now existed in it.

Major WALBURTON.—Resided principally at Ballinasloe. Defended the conduct of the police, and of the other authorities in that neighbourhood; and expressed his conviction that the existence of the Catholic association had been attended with great danger to the peace of Ireland.

SCOTLAND.

CALEDONIAN CANAL.

Substance of the Twenty-second Report of the Commissioners appointed for carrying into execution the purposes of an Act, passed in the 43rd Year of the Reign of his late Majesty King George the Third, intituled, "An Act for granting to his Majesty the Sum of Twenty Thousand Pounds, towards defraying the Expence of making an Inland Navigation from the Eastern to the Western Sea, by Inverness and Fort William, and for taking the necessary steps towards executing the same;"—and also, for the purposes of an Act, passed in the 44th Year of his said late Majesty, intituled, "An Act for making further Provision for making and maintaining an Inland Navigation, commonly called The Caledonian Canal, from the Eastern to the Western Sea, by Inverness and Fort William, in Scotland."

THE attainment of the full depth of the Caledonian Canal is an operation which it is in vain to attempt to expedite, without incurring the expense of additional dredging machines; an expense which would be incompatible with prudence, inasmuch as canals in general do not come into full use till the course of trade has accommodated itself to the new channel prepared for it: and this kind of delay is the more to be anticipated in a canal of an unusual kind, and unexampled in its dimensions. Ship-masters are prudently unwilling to rely on a passage unexplored by vessels not quite so large as their own; and this sort of caution has really prevented disappointment in the case of the Caledonian Canal, the navigable depth of which, from sea to sea, is not very much increased since the date of the Commissioners' last report. At four places in the summit level, it is not yet fifteen feet deep, and the same deficiency exists across the Dunainchroy Moor, near Inverness, as also in the short space connecting the foot of Loch Dochie with the regulating loch near Mucomer:

The unusual hardness of the clay at Bona (foot of Loch-Ness), and the necessity of employing a dredging machine at Dunainchroy, have produced unexpected delay; but all obstacles have been nearly overcome by slow degrees, and the Commissioners are assured, that

the shallows are so far diminished in extent, that the labour of the next three months will produce a clear passage throughout the canal and lakes, no where less than fifteen feet deep.)

The passages of vessels from sea to sea have been 476 in number, shewing an increase as ten to six upon the amount of the preceding twelvemonth; of these, 218 have been from the west to the east, 258 from east to west, and 517 vessels have entered the canal without passing through it. Steam-boat passages (to the amount of 149) are not included in these numbers; but in future they will form part of the account, as the indulgence hitherto shewn towards them in the non-payment of tonnage rates will henceforth be discontinued. The tonnage rates on other vessels, at one farthing per mile per ton; with five shillings on every steam-boat passage, have produced £2,160 from 1st May, 1824; to 1st May, 1825; and directions will be given to the Collectors to charge one halfpenny per ton per mile, from and after the end of June, 1825; not only because the rates are unreasonably low; as compared with the accommodation afforded; but also with regard to the interest of the Forth and Clyde Canal Company, who might reasonably complain of injustice; if a very low tonnage rate continued to be charged on a rival mode of conveyance, created and maintained, not at the expense of individuals, but of the public:

The Commissioners proceed to describe in detail the present state of the works along the whole line of the canal. They further state, that the number of persons employed in the canal operations has been on an average 287; an increase of 122 upon the number stated in their last report: the lining of the canal near Fort-Augustus, and afterwards in the Clachnacherry district, and the rock-cutting at Mucomer, having required many labourers, of whom a larger proportion than usual were of necessity employed in day-work.

The expenditure of the last twelvemonth has not varied perceptibly from the amount stated in their last report, as the expenditure of the preceding twelvemonth, considering, that, for the reasons therein specified, that payment arose from fourteen pay-days; thirteen only (the usual number) are now included; and the expenditure in fifty-two weeks has been nearly £22,000.

CUSTOMS.

The Eleventh Report, to the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, of the Commissioners appointed by the Acts of the 1st and 2d Geo. 4th, c. 90, and 3d Geo. 4th, c. 37; for inquiring into the Collection and Management of the Public Revenue arising in Ireland, and into certain Departments of the Public Revenue arising in Great Britain.

THE former inquiries of this commission in Scotland having been in a great measure confined, in the Excise Department, to the operation of the distillery laws, and in the customs, to the subordinate establishments and conduct of the business at the out-ports, it became necessary to assemble again in Scotland, as well for the purpose of concluding our inquiries with regard to the customs and excise, as to examine into the several offices of stamps, assessed taxes, and post-office, in that part of the United Kingdom.

Upon these several objects the commission was occupied in Glasgow and Edinburgh from the beginning of the month of September till nearly the close of the year. In the present Report, it is our intention to bring before your Lordships the result of our further examinations into the department of the customs. The excise department will form the subject of a separate report; and our observations on the stamps, taxes, and post-office, will be incorporated in the general reports on those branches of the revenue, when these offices in England shall have been fully investigated.

As the most considerable proportion of the trading and manufacturing interests of Scotland are concentrated in Glasgow and its neighbourhood, it appeared to us a matter of importance to ascertain the effect that has been produced on those interests by the several alterations recently made, in conformity with the suggestions in our former reports, with respect to the laws and general system under which the duties of customs are collected: We determined, therefore, to assemble in the first instance in that city; a determination that was confirmed by a memorial addressed to us on the part of the magistrates and merchants resident in the neighbourhood, requesting a conference on several material points connected with their commercial interests.

The alterations in the laws and practice of the customs to which we particularly allude, are,

1st. The consolidation of the revenue boards, and consequent assimilation of the practice throughout the United Kingdom.

2dly. The abolition of the union duties, and the regulations by which the trade between Scotland and Ireland has been placed on the footing of the coasting trade.

1st. With regard to the first of these measures,

in addition to the testimony in favour of the consolidation arising from the absence of all complaint of inconvenience or delay, after notice had been given to the commercial bodies in the district, of our readiness to receive any representations on the subject, we had the satisfaction of obtaining some positive evidence as to the advantages of the change, in the examination of the Lord Provost of Glasgow; Mr. Robert Findlay, a member of the chamber of commerce, and lately chairman of that body; Mr. Ewing, also a member of the chamber of commerce, and at present chairman of the West India Association of Glasgow; and Mr. M'Call, a general merchant; evidence to which we can with confidence refer your Lordships, as conclusive on this point.

2dly. With regard to the changes which have taken place in the regulations affecting the trade between Ireland and Scotland, we examined the collectors and comptrollers of the customs at Greenock and Glasgow, and several of the merchants whom we had reason to suppose most conversant with that branch of commerce, as well as the several gentlemen to whose evidence we have already alluded; and in addition to their testimony, we received much valuable information from Mr. Peter Hutchinson, who is extensively concerned as a merchant and manufacturer, and who appears to have been amongst the foremost to avail himself of the repeal of the union duties, and the removal of the revenue restrictions, to commence an intercourse between Scotland and Ireland in regard to the manufacture of cotton goods, which promises to be alike beneficial to both countries.

Mr. M'Murdo, the collector, brought before us the striking increase which has taken place within the last three years, in the quantities of cotton goods imported from and exported to Ireland, at the port of Glasgow alone; the detail is as follows, viz.

		IMPORTS.	
FOR THE YEAR		Cottons, Plain.	Cottons, Printed.
		Yards.	Yards.
Ended 5th July, 1822	.....	65	202
1823	.....	48,100	384
1824	.....	508,504	7,143

		EXPORTS.	
FOR THE YEAR		Cottons, Plain.	Cottons, Printed.
		Yards.	Yards.
Ended 5th July, 1822	.....	146,375	69,955
1823	.....	105,995	28,100
1824	.....	288,043	252,165

A reference to the evidence of this officer, and to the accounts annexed to it, will shew a corresponding increase in other important articles, and it appears obvious, that this interchange is, as Mr. Findlay justly observes, at present only in its infancy. This gentleman further states:

"I have a good deal of communication with the north of Ireland in the sale of cotton, which is an article largely produced here; and since the facilities were given to the communication, we have been receiving in return calicoes the manufacture of Ireland, suitable for our printers and others in Scotland, so that we send the yarn there, and get the goods manufactured in Ireland cheaper than here, from the low price of labour; that is one very important branch which has arisen altogether from the removal of these difficulties." And he proceeds to observe on the benefits resulting from this commerce by the increased employment it affords for British capital in Ireland, and by the support which *must be derived from it by the manufacturers of Scotland, in resisting the combinations amongst the native workmen.*

With reference to the latter point also, we would refer to the examination of Mr. Hutchinson, taken at the commencement of the riotous proceedings which were directed against him and those he employed; and over which his perseverance has ultimately prevailed. We are gratified to find, that the example of firmness exhibited by Mr. Hutchinson has been followed by the other master manufacturers; and the transfer of that gentleman's principal factory to the north of Ireland, which it is understood has since taken place, whilst it confers an immediate benefit on that part of the country, cannot but afford an important practical lesson as well to the masters as to the workmen of the district he has left. On the probable extension of new manufacturing establishments in Ireland, in consequence of the facilities that have been afforded to the intercourse between the different parts of the United Kingdom, we would refer your Lordships to the examinations of Mr. May and Mr. McCall. Their examinations, and the official returns which we have annexed to this, and to our Seventh Report, shew the impulse thus given to commerce, and the gratifying extent to which the peculiar advantages and facilities for manufactures and trade possessed by each country have been brought into action, for the benefit of both, even in the short period, that has elapsed since the removal of the late embarrassing restrictions.

We have annexed to the Appendix the memorial of the merchants and magistrates to which we have referred, together with the minutes of our conference with a deputation from Greenock, at which the various commercial matters to which that memorial referred were fully discussed.

Mr. Dean, the chairman of the Central Board of Customs, being at that time in Glasgow, we availed ourselves of the opportunity to communicate with him on the several points to which our attention had been directed; and we have since had the satisfaction to learn, that in consequence of a communication from him, the

board have issued directions for removing many inconveniences to which the merchants of Scotland had been subjected, in respect to several matters of detail, for which the consolidation of the Boards of England and Scotland, and recent alterations of the law, had not provided.

The most material of these have reference to,—

1st. The bonds given, and the manifests required, for outward-bound vessels.

2dly. The documents necessary on the shipment of goods for exportation.

3dly. The special attendance of officers for the purpose of despatching outward-bound vessels.

4thly. The mode of charging the duty on staves, sugar, &c.

5thly. The examination of the baggage of passengers from foreign ports.

The changes made on these several points will be found in the Appendix.

During our stay at Glasgow, the recommendation contained in our Sixth Report, for the consolidation of the establishments of the Customs at Port Glasgow and Greenock, was brought before us. We have already submitted to your Lordships the grounds of our opinion in favour of this measure, together with some of the statements and representations by which that opinion was opposed. Since the date of our report, we have received additional documents on the same subject, which we annex in the Appendix. To assist us in forming a judgment with respect to the local advantages and the nature and extent of the trade of the two ports, and in compliance with a wish very generally expressed by the parties interested, we determined on inspecting them personally. The result of this inspection has confirmed the opinion we originally entertained, that, although Port Glasgow may always retain an important share in the business of bonding West India produce and timber, for which it is provided with ample and secure accommodation, yet that the natural advantages of Greenock, and the judicious plans upon which the buildings and other works for the convenience of trade have been constructed, will make that port the principal resort for foreign traders; it is not denied that it has already obtained a considerable portion of the business of the minor ports within its influence, and we cannot but think this portion will eventually be greatly increased. Under these circumstances, we do not hesitate to repeat the opinion expressed in our Sixth Report, that, with a view to reduce the number of principal and independent port establishments, the officers of the customs at Port Glasgow may very properly be placed under the direction of those of Greenock. In making this recommendation, however, we are far from contemplating any abridgment of the facilities at present enjoyed by the merchant of the former port, or any interference, either

with the established limits or the rights and privileges that may belong to it. The object in view may, it appears to us, be easily attained without any such sacrifice, if the principal officer of customs, whom it may be necessary to retain at Port Glasgow, be empowered to receive duties, and grant coast and other documents in the manner explained in our Tenth Report, in reference to a recommendation of a similar nature as to several of the ports of Ireland.

The retirement of the present collector of Port Glasgow, who, from his age and length of service, appears to have a fair claim to superannuation, offers a favourable opportunity for effecting an arrangement under which some reduction may immediately be made in this establishment.

From Greenock the commission proceeded to Edinburgh, and directed its attention, in the first instance, to the several points relative to the department of the customs in Scotland, which are adverted to in the Sixth Report.

The object of that report, it will be remembered, was to submit the result of the inquiries we had made to ascertain and settle the requisite establishment of officers at the out-ports of Scotland, with the salaries by which they should be remunerated; and also to propose certain amendments in the laws and regulations affecting the revenue of customs in that part of the United Kingdom.

As the measures recommended in that report, although they have undergone the consideration of the Central and Local Boards, and been subjected to the examination of those practical officers to whose duties they principally applied, have not been followed by your Lordship's final directions for carrying them into effect, we were the more disposed to consider the expediency of any modifications in our former suggestions.

The most material of these in point of expense is, the addition of 30*l.* per annum to the salaries of the officers who are to discharge the duties of assistant collectors and assistant comptrollers at the subordinate ports.

It is recommended in our Sixth Report, that the salary of the former class of officers should be 120*l.*, and of the latter 90*l.* per annum. On reviewing the establishment of the out-ports of Ireland, however, we were disposed to think that a salary of 150*l.* for the assistant collector, and 120*l.* for the assistant comptroller, was as low as would be consistent with the duties and responsibility of those officers.

It is material to the principle of an interchange of officers serving in different parts of the United Kingdom, to which we attach great importance, that those whose responsibility and duty are similar, should receive equal emoluments, and it is on this ground that we recommend the increase above mentioned to the salaries of the officers at the ports in Scotland

specified in the schedule (marked A) annexed to this report.

Whilst on this subject, we have to observe, it appears to us of much importance, that the individuals selected for the offices of assistant collector and assistant comptroller should receive their appointments directly from, and give security to the Crown; and that they should be eligible for promotion to the rank of collectors and comptrollers, when found duly qualified. Following also the principle of subordination laid down in our Tenth Report, we recommend that they should forward the public money received by them to the principal collector and comptroller under whom they are respectively placed, and through whom they are to correspond with the board, the receipt of such collector and comptroller being in that case their discharge. At any port where, from its situation, or other cause, it may be more desirable that the payments should be made direct to the bankers of the revenue, the accounts of the assistant collector and comptroller should be subjected to the occasional inspection of the principal collector and comptroller, and be signed by them at certain fixed periods; and we think in every case, that the payments necessary on account of the minor port should be made through the medium of the principal collector and comptroller, and that they should be responsible for all incidental and other expenses.

It has been represented to us, that the present state of the trade at certain ports in Scotland requires the continuance of some officers, in addition to the number proposed in our former report. Our inquiries having satisfied us that there are sufficient grounds for this representation, we have, in the schedule before referred to, inserted a list of these additional officers, with the salaries which appear to us proper as a remuneration for the duties to be performed. It seems probable, likewise, that an alteration will be requisite in the salaries of certain other officers, with a view to the classification of the salaries at the several out-ports of the United Kingdom, adverted to in our Tenth Report: on this point, however, we shall defer our observations until that classification is before us: in the mean time, we cannot omit to press on your Lordships' attention, the expediency of an immediate selection of the most efficient collectors and comptrollers at present on the establishment in Scotland, and their appointment to the principal out-ports, as recommended in our Sixth Report; such a change appearing to us of the first importance, with a view to the due collection of the revenue, and particularly so with reference to the transfer of the duties from the department of excise, which by your Lordships' direction took place on the 5th of April last.

We may in this place remark also, with reference to the system of carrying on the business at the out-ports, that in practice it appears to us the comptroller confines himself too exclusively

to the duty of checking the receipts and payments of the collector; these officers ought, we think, to execute the duty of a general and direct supervision over the subordinate officers of the respective ports, and control as well their attendance as the due execution of the business entrusted to them. An alteration having been recently made in the accounts heretofore kept by the comptrollers, in consequence of which their labour is materially diminished, the present appears a favourable opportunity for requiring the performance of this extended duty; and with a view to its more efficient discharge, we recommend that an accurate journal should be kept by these officers, which should be forwarded to the board monthly. In this journal they should record every omission of attendance, or leave of absence granted to the officers under them, the name of every vessel that has arrived or sailed, the seizures made, and all other matters of importance occurring at their respective ports. This journal to be examined by the collector, who should also affix his signature, with a liberty to insert, for the consideration of the Board, the observations or objections which he may have to offer as to any of the statements which it contains. A regulation similar to that which we have here suggested is strictly enforced by the department of the excise, who compel their supervisors to keep a regular record of their transactions in a journal, vouched by the signature of their collectors; and we are satisfied that the superior discipline prevailing in that department may in a great measure be ascribed to the strict observance of this regulation.

Of the questions of a more general nature observed upon in our Sixth Report, to which we shall now advert, the first is that relating to the practice of re-weighing warehoused goods previously to their removal coastwise, as well as on their arrival at the port of destination. On this subject being again brought before us in Scotland, it appeared that the merchants who desire to remove warehoused goods coastwise, are required to deliver at the port to which this removal is made the quantity originally imported, according to the account then taken by the revenue officers, or to pay duty on any portion deficient; the removal is therefore entirely at their risk, and unless the merchant wishes a re-weighing, or the officers of the revenue, from the state of the packages or other cause, have reason to suspect fraud, we remain of opinion that the re-weighing should not be insisted on at the port from whence the shipment takes place.

The second point relates to the extension to the port of Grangemouth of the privilege of warehousing the principal articles of colonial produce.

In the Appendix will be found some additional evidence, having reference to this subject; and we have only to state, that the result of our renewed inquiries has been a conviction that the

measure recommended in our Sixth Report is desirable in a commercial point of view, as affording considerable facilities for the removal of goods from Glasgow, Port Glasgow, and Greenock, for exportation to the northern parts of Europe, and that, as it regards the public revenue, there is not any well-founded objection to it. Under these circumstances, we cannot but express our hope that it will receive your Lordships' sanction.

The third point has reference to that part of the revenue of customs in Scotland which is set apart as the hereditary revenue of the crown.

In the appendix to our Sixth Report we have inserted a statement on this subject, which we received from Mr. Earl, late Chairman of the Board of Customs in Scotland, accompanied by the accounts necessary for its elucidation, and have in that Report recommended, "that this subsidy should by law be consolidated with the other duties of customs, and a fixed percentage equal to its amount be calculated quarterly at the head office, and be paid separately to the proper officers on account of the hereditary revenue."

This recommendation was offered with a view of relieving the officers of the department, as well as the merchants, from an inconvenient multiplication of calculations arising from the present mode of collecting this subsidy, involving the necessity of computing two distinct duties on each article.

Since the date of that Report, our attention has been again directed to this subject; and although we are satisfied that the adoption of our former recommendation would be the means of saving a considerable portion of the trouble and labour with which the collection of this revenue is attended; yet our further inquiries have convinced us, that even after that relief shall have been afforded, the accounts required to be kept for this purpose will still be inconveniently numerous and complicated.

We have annexed in the Appendix a statement prepared for us, under Mr. Earl's direction, with great care and accuracy, which exhibits at one view the great variety of articles upon which this charge is collected, and the numerous subdivisions and fractional parts upon which calculations are required to be made.

The act 1 Geo. IV. c. 1, by which this revenue was continued to his present majesty in Scotland, has, with regard to England, granted a fixed sum for the civil list, in lieu of the hereditary revenue of the crown, and the shares of fines and forfeitures to which his majesty would otherwise have been entitled; and no such distinct heads of revenue any longer appear in the accounts of the English customs.

For the sake of uniformity, as well as for the purpose of abolishing altogether the complicated accounts to which we have adverted, and thereby facilitating the means of a reduction in the establishment of the customs, it appears to us highly

desirable, that the course pursued in England should be extended to Scotland, and that the hereditary revenue in that country should be commuted for a specific sum to be granted for the use of the civil list.

Although we do not apprehend any objection to this commutation on the ground of a prospective increase in the hereditary revenue of Scotland, it may not be useless to observe, that an answer to any such objection is supplied by the act 1 Geo. IV. c. 1, which has provided, that any surplus of the civil list of that country shall fall into and become part of the Consolidated Fund: under this provision, whatever may eventually be the increase of the revenue, it will ultimately be available only for the general expenditure of the nation. On a full consideration of these circumstances, therefore, we are prompted to recommend the extension to Scotland of the principle of commutation which has been adopted in England, as a measure unobjectionable with respect to the fund to be affected by the change, and highly desirable as it regards the uniformity and simplification of the customs duties and accounts.

On this view of the subject, we have proceeded to take the necessary steps for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of the fixed sum which it would be proper to propose as an equivalent for the present income of the crown arising from these sources; and after considering the several accounts and documents in the Appendix, it has appeared to us that this branch of revenue may be fairly averaged at the annual sum of £30,000, and we therefore recommend that sum to be paid out of the customs in Scotland to the civil list of that country, in four quarterly payments, in lieu of and as a full compensation for his majesty's hereditary revenue of customs, to be hereafter consolidated with the other duties of customs, and also of his majesty's share of fines and forfeitures, to be hereafter carried to the account of the public income.

The adoption of this suggestion will at once relieve the accounts from one separate head of duty; there will still however remain four others, the receipts of the department being at present divided under five heads; viz.—

- Consolidated Customs.
- New Subsidy.
- Sugar.
- Quarantine Duty.
- South Sea Guarantee Fund.

According to the plan at present pursued, with every remittance to Edinburgh, weekly or otherwise, from each port, it is necessary that a detailed account should be sent of the different heads under which the money is payable: separate books and accounts are kept at the head office also, and details of a similar nature forwarded with every remittance to London.

The sugar duties were directed to be kept separate and apart by the 10th section of the act 59 Geo III. c. 52, and this direction is con-

tinued by the acts annually passed for continuing these duties.

The quarantine duty is, in like manner, directed to be kept separate by the 45 Geo. III. c. 10, sec. 7.

The South Sea guarantee fund, by the 55 Geo. III. c. 57, sec. 11.

Without entering into the question as to the propriety of continuing to pay these duties into the Exchequer under distinct heads (an inquiry which will be more properly before us when the English department is under review), it will be obvious to your Lordships, that however necessary the separation may be periodically at the head office, such a proceeding may be altogether avoided in the daily business of the ports.

Four times in the year, each collector sends up what is officially denominated a "Quarter Book," duly signed by the principal officers of the port. In this book are entered the amount of the duties received, distinguishing in detail the respective articles; and we propose, that in lieu of the existing practice, the local board in Scotland should ascertain from this quarterly account, and certify to the central board, the receipt on sugar, and on the quarantine and South Sea duties; the central board, in like manner, certifying the amount to the Exchequer, where the legal appropriation may be made. This proceeding will enable the accounts of every port to be kept, and the receipts to be remitted under the single head of "Customs Duties;" and as it will diminish labour both at the ports and at the head office, contributing, at the same time, as every simplification of accounts must do, to a more efficient check over the different accountants, we do not hesitate to recommend it for adoption.

The remaining point to which we shall separately advert, is the Preventive Coast Guard. We are the more induced to offer a few additional observations on this branch of the service, because the tendency of the remarks which we felt called upon to offer in our former Report have been in a great measure misunderstood by those to whom this part of the Report has been referred.

In stating our objection to this force, as it then existed, and that it was either not adapted, or disproportionate to the objects it was intended to effect, we by no means meant to imply that the executive duties of the local officers, were not zealously and diligently performed: it was at that time our opinion, and we have seen no reason to alter it, that the guard was not requisite on the western coast, and that on the eastern coast, as then constituted, and without proper communication with the cruizers, vigilance nor diligence could make it effectual.

In this view of the subject, your Lordships appear to have concurred, by withholding your sanction to the considerable increase of this force which was contemplated at the time of our inspection; and although, since the date of

our Report, this branch of the service and the revenue cruisers have been placed under the same direction, and our objection therefore in some degree removed, we still entertain considerable doubt, whether, advertent to the recent reduction of duty on home-made spirits, and their increasing consumption, any considerable additional expense ought to be incurred in guarding the coasts of Scotland from foreign smuggling. On the nature and extent of this smuggling, we would refer your Lordships to the evidence of Mr. Mac Murdo and Mr. Morrison, the Collector and Comptroller of Customs at Glasgow, Mr. Bissland, Collector of Customs, and Mr. Mac Kay, Collector of Excise, at Greenock; Mr. Earl, Chairman of the Local Board of Customs, Mr. Cornwall, Local Commissioner of Excise, and Mr. Pemberton, Secretary to the Board of Customs.

Edinburgh Establishment.

We now proceed to submit to your Lordships the several recommendations which we have to offer as the result of our examinations into the various offices at Edinburgh, "more immediately under the board, and connected with the exercise of their functions."

The offices which come under this description are,

- 1. Secretary.
- 2. Comptroller General.
- 3. Examiner of Incidents.
- 4. Surveyors General.
- 5. Jerquers.
- 6. Registrar of Seizures, and Inspector of Officers' Securities.
- 7. Registrar of Shipping, and Accountant of Petty Receipts.
- 8. Storekeeper, and Clerk of Postages.
- 9. Inspector General of Imports and Exports.
- 10. Receiver General.
- 11. Supervisor of Receiver General's Accounts.
- 12. Examiners.
- 13. Solicitor.
- 14. Agent at the Treasury.
- 15. Housekeeper and Servants.
- 16. Office Keepers and Messengers.

In entering upon the details of these several offices, we must, in justice to the Local Board, state, that they appear to have looked at the different establishments with an anxious desire to suggest every reduction that the consolidation of the boards rendered practicable; and as their proposals for this purpose have been attentively reviewed by Mr. Dean, the Chairman of the Central Board, of whose observations and evidence we were enabled to avail ourselves, from his being at that time in Edinburgh, we have not felt it necessary specially to employ any officers to enter minutely into the mode of conducting the business in the different departments, according to the plan pursued in Ireland; but have satisfied ourselves with the evi-

dence of Mr. Dean, Mr. Earl, and Mr. Ferrier, and of the secretary, and the various subordinate officers of the department. These examinations, and the letter of Mr. Dean, will be found in the Appendix.

In our remarks on the documents and evidence we have received, we shall follow the arrangement of offices, and refer to the establishments we have recommended in our Seventh Report for Dublin, with a view to an assimilation between the two countries, as far as may, in our opinion, be consistent with the difference in the amount of the customs revenue respectively collected in each; a consideration which, though not conclusive as to the duties and responsibilities of the several officers in Edinburgh and Dublin, appears to us so far to affect them as to be entitled to considerable weight.

In conformity with this plan, we commence with the Secretary's Office, the present establishment of which is as follows:

Secretary.....	£1000
More for a house.....	100
(On first vacancy, to be reduced to £800).....	£1,100
1st clerk.....	550
2nd ditto.....	350
3rd ditto.....	300
4th ditto.....	250
5th ditto.....	200
6th ditto.....	180
7th ditto.....	140
8th ditto.....	120
9th ditto.....	110
10th ditto.....	100
	£3,400

A proposal for reducing the number of clerks from ten to eight, and for continuing the salaries at the present rate, has, we are informed, received your Lordships' sanction.

The proposal for eight clerks in the secretary's office in Scotland, whilst twelve are proposed for Ireland, appears to us to have a just reference to the amount of the revenue in the two countries, the gross revenue of customs for the year 1824 having been in Scotland 953,837*l.*, and in Ireland 1,847,630*l.* There is not, however, the same relative difference in the salaries suggested, and we should be disposed to recommend a material reduction, were it not that the due discharge of all the functions of the board so materially depends on the proper execution of the duties in the secretary's office, as to render the employment of intelligent and respectable individuals highly important, and a liberal reward therefore necessary.

The salary of the first or chief clerk is proposed to be 550*l.*; our recommendation for Ireland is only 450*l.* On reviewing the latter, however, and considering that, as the office of assistant secretary has been abolished, the chief clerk will be required, on the illness or other

necessary absence of the secretary, to act in that capacity, we are disposed to think that a higher rate of remuneration to this officer may be desirable. We therefore suggest, that in the final arrangement of these establishments, an addition of 100*l.* per annum be made to the salary of the chief clerk in the secretary's office in Ireland, and a reduction of 50*l.* per annum in the same office in Scotland, thus making the one 550*l.*, and the other 500*l.*

We have recommended that the postage of letters should be paid by the third clerk in the secretary's office in Dublin, and controlled by the second clerk; and we are of opinion that the same course should be pursued in Scotland, with a view as well to preserve an uniformity in the business of the two offices, as from a conviction that the payment of the postage on letters out of the public revenue has been in many instances a source of considerable abuse, and that therefore it is desirable its supervision should attach to the secretary's office, and be under his immediate direction.

These alterations, and some others of minor importance, which require no particular observation, will make the future establishment we propose as follows:

Secretary	£800
First clerk	500
Second ditto	£300
As clerk to first commissioner	80
	<hr/> 380
Third ditto	280
For checking and examining postage accounts	20
	<hr/> 300
Fourth ditto	230
For keeping postage accounts, it being understood that this clerk is to be individually responsible to the board if any letters are paid for without proper authority	30
	<hr/> 260
Fifth ditto	200
Sixth ditto	160
Seventh ditto	120
Eighth ditto	90
	<hr/> £2,810

In our report on the establishment at Dublin, we have suggested, that the period for making the ultimate reduction of which it appeared to us susceptible should be guided in a great degree by the progress made in the introduction of the English system. This system has, however, under the active superintendence of Mr. Earl, late Chairman of the Board, been already so completely introduced in Scotland, that very little remains to be done; and we do not therefore see any thing to prevent your Lordships from carrying into effect the reductions recom-

mended in this office and in the other offices at Edinburgh, as well as at the out-ports, without delay.

COMPTROLLER GENERAL.

Examiner of Incidents.

The establishment of these offices are at present as follows; viz.

Comptroller	£500
First clerk	200
Second clerk	133
Third ditto	90
	<hr/> £923
Examiner of Incidents	250
Clerk	120
	<hr/> £379

In the suggestions that have been made to us for the future arrangement of the departments, it has been proposed that both these offices should be discontinued.

We have recommended that in Ireland an officer, to be called "Comptroller and Accountant General," should remain on the establishment of the customs, and that he should "be entrusted with the examination and control of the accounts for every expenditure incurred under the direction of the board, as well in Dublin as in the out-ports, and that every order to tradesmen and others, and the authority for every incidental payment, should, previously to the issue of the amount, be recorded in his office, where, not only the clerical accuracy of the bills, but also the propriety of the several charges, should be carefully ascertained and certified, excepting only those bills which come under the direct cognizance of the surveyor of revenue buildings, and are paid on his responsibility." And it appears to us highly desirable that a similar establishment should remain in Scotland to perform duties so essential to the due control over the receipt and expenditure of the public money. We think, also, that the efficiency of this officer would be materially increased, if in both countries he were required to act directly under the orders of the central board in London, to whom he should be responsible, and not to the local board, whose proceedings and expenditure it will be his duty to control.

With a view to the check which he ought to maintain over the accounts of the collectors and comptrollers at the out-ports, and to enable him to ascertain accurately and with comparative facility whether the whole monies received at each port are from time to time duly remitted, it appears to us that the "Quarter Book," in which the receipts of each port are entered, should be cast in separate columns daily; and the payment made by each collector should also be cast in like manner, so that the balance in

land on the close of each day may be distinctly shown.

In our Seventh Report it is proposed that the general accounts of the customs revenue for Ireland and Scotland should be consolidated with those of England, and be subjected to the same final audit. Should your Lordships adopt this suggestion, without which it appears to us that the consolidation of the boards will not be attended with all the good effects to be anticipated from it, the duty of arranging these accounts in Scotland should also be allotted to the comptroller and accountant-general. In the evidence of Mr. Reid, your Lordships will find a statement of the examination which the accounts of the revenue of customs in Scotland at present undergo in the Exchequer, under the provisions of the 6 Anne, c. 26. It is this examination that we propose altogether to supersede by the audit in England; it will be desirable, however, in giving effect to this arrangement, to grant a reasonable compensation to the officers of the Exchequer, in lieu of the fees now payable to them for this duty. A detailed account of these fees will be found in the evidence of Mr. Earl.

The establishment we propose for this office is as follows:

Comptroller and Accountant-General	£500
First Clerk	250
Second ditto	150
Third ditto	90
	<hr/>
	£990

SURVEYORS GENERAL.

The present establishment is as follows:

Two Surveyors General, at £700 each	£1,400
Two clerks, at £100 each	200
	<hr/>
	£1,600

In our Seventh Report, we have proposed an establishment of these officers for the United Kingdom, and stated the number that appeared to us necessary for all the duties to be performed. We have recently reviewed our recommendation, and we are satisfied that the number proposed will be amply sufficient. With regard, however, to the salaries of the first class, we cannot omit to call your Lordships' attention to the evidence of Mr. Dean, the Chairman of the Central Board, who has stated very strongly his opinion, that the salary of 800*l.* per annum is insufficient. Practically acquainted as Mr. Dean is with the business of the customs, and with the various duties to be performed by the surveyors general, and advertent also to the increased re-

sponsibility which will result to the department, from the recent transfer of the duties of the excise, we are disposed so far to concur in his opinion, as to recommend to your Lordships, to give a general authority to the board of customs to allow to each of the three senior surveyors general, who may be employed on the public service, and with whose conduct they are altogether satisfied, an addition to their present salary, not exceeding 150*l.* per annum: it is essential, however, that this allowance should be considered as the reward of special zeal and diligence, and not as a permanent addition to the income of the officer; and on every occasion in which it is granted, the grounds of the grant should be explained to your Lordships, in the half-yearly report now directed to be made to you by the commissioners of the customs.

JERQUERS' OFFICE.

Examiners' Office.

The establishment of these offices are as follows; viz.

Two Jerquers, at £350 each	£700
First clerk	120
Second ditto	80
	<hr/>
	£900
Two Examiners, at £400 each	£800
Clerk	100
	<hr/>
	£900

The business performed in the first of these offices, is to compare the report of the cargo made by the master with the entry and discharge of each ship, in order to ascertain that the quantities are accurately taken. And in the second, to examine and check the books of the surveyors, and landing waiters, in order to ascertain that there are no errors in the duties charged to the merchant. The first officer, in fact, checking the quantities, and the second the duties paid.

We have stated in our Seventh Report, that as these checks require to a considerable degree the inspection of the same documents, their consolidation appeared to us desirable, and we recommend a similar course in Scotland, with the following establishment; viz.

Examiner	£400
First clerk	200
Second ditto	150
Third ditto	90
	<hr/>
	£840

REGISTRAR OF SEIZURES, AND INSPECTOR
OF OFFICERS' SECURITIES.
*Registrar of Shipping, and Accountant of petty
Receipts.*

The establishment of these offices are as follows; viz.

Registrar of Seizures, and Inspector of Officers' Securities	£150
Clerk	80

£230

Registrar of shipping, and accountant of petty receipts	£275
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In the arrangement for the offices in Dublin, we have recommended that the duty of registering seizures should be consolidated with that of accountant of petty receipts; the latter office becoming more necessary in Ireland and Scotland, on the abolition in those countries of the office of receiver general. The amount of business after this consolidation will not be so great as to prevent the performance of the duty of inspecting officers' securities which we think may very properly be added to it. The duty of registering the shipping we recommend to be transferred to the office established for that purpose in London, in like manner as it is our intention to propose the transfer of the duties of the inspector general of imports and exports. The duties of the accountant of petty receipts, having reference to the receipt or expenditure of money, will of course be subject to the supervision of the comptroller and accountant general; these duties, as well as those connected with registering seizures, and inspecting officers' securities, will, in our opinion, be amply remunerated by a salary of 250*l.* per annum; and we recommend that sum therefore to be in future fixed as the salary of the office.

Storekeeper and Clerk of Postages.

The present salary

£200
During our stay in Scotland, we entered into various inquiries as to the manner in which stationery was supplied by Sir David Hunter Blair and Mr. Bruce, under the patent granted to them by the crown, a subject which appears to us of sufficient importance to require that it should be brought under your Lordships' notice in a distinct report; in the mean time, we see no objection to the continuance of the office of storekeeper, with the salary now annexed to that office. The duty of clerk of the postages has been already provided for.

Inspector General of Imports and Exports.

The present establishment is as follows; viz.

Inspector General of Imports and Exports	£500
First clerk	200
Second ditto	130
Third ditto	90

£920

In our Seventh Report, we have entered at considerable length into the duties of this department in Ireland, and have recommended its consolidation with a similar office in England. There can be no doubt as to the expediency of pursuing the same course in Scotland, and it has therefore very properly been recommended in the proposals which have been submitted to us for the arrangement of the different offices in Edinburgh.

Receiver General's Office.

The present establishment is as follows; viz.

Receiver General	£800
First clerk	250
Second ditto	150

£1,200

In our Report upon the Receiver General's Office for Ireland, we have proposed that such of its duties as might remain on the consolidation of the boards, should be transferred to the collector of the port of Dublin, and the office abolished. An arrangement of a similar nature appears to us desirable in Scotland; and we therefore recommend, that on the removal of the local board from Edinburgh to Leith, the performance of the remaining duties of the receiver general should be transferred to the collector at the port of Leith, whose accounts should be checked by the comptroller of the customs there; those officers being responsible for the receipts and payments, in the same manner as they are at present responsible for the money received on account of the ordinary duties of the port.

Connected with this office is the manner in which the interest heretofore received on the outstanding balances of public money in the hands of the collectors and other officers of the customs has been brought to account in the receiver general's office. No specific head having been opened for this purpose, it has long been the practice of the board to direct the collector at Leith to make what is called "a feigned entry;" and to carry the interest forward as if received on account of consolidated customs: although we are not aware that this proceeding has led to any fraud, or other injury to the revenue, yet we cannot but think that a practice which is founded on a fiction, and obviously so irregular, should be immediately discontinued. There is no reason whatever why the interest of the money necessarily retained in the hands of the collector during the progress of collection, or any other receipt, should not be brought to the account of the public under a special head, annexing, if necessary, a note of explanation: the plan followed, besides increasing nominally the amount of the consolidated customs, and thus misleading all those unacquainted with the nature of this entry, has also an injurious tendency, because it accustoms officers of the crown to make out accounts

which are not strictly what they purport to be; a practice that cannot be too anxiously guarded against, or too strongly condemned.

Supervisor of Receiver General's Accounts.

Salary £300

This office will of course be unnecessary, when the office of Receiver General is abolished; any of its duties then remaining to be performed may be consolidated with those of the comptroller of the customs at Leith.

Solicitors.

The establishment of this office is as follows; viz.

First Solicitor	£300
Second ditto	300
First clerk	200
Second ditto	100
Third ditto	80
	£980

The total official emoluments of the two solicitors, for the year ended 5th January, 1824, have been returned to us as under:

	First Solicitor.			Second Solicitor.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
From fees on the prosecution of seizures, which, pursuant to their constitutions of appointment, are divided $\frac{2}{3}$ ths to the first Solicitor, and $\frac{1}{3}$ ths to the second Solicitor	427	13	7	235	2	5
From fees on prosecutions in the Exchequer for penalties, and other business, of which the average of three years ended 5th January, 1824, is 657 <i>l.</i> 8 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i> divided in the same proportion	394	9	4	262	19	7
From a salary each of	300	0	0	300	0	0
	£1,122	2	11	848	2	0

Solicitor for Scotch law..... £80 0 0

In the proposals made to us, it is suggested that the office of second solicitor may be abolished, a suggestion in which we entirely concur; and we are gratified to find, that an opportunity has been taken, on the resignation of Mr. Menzies, the first solicitor, to carry this reduction into effect.

In considering the manner in which it would be advisable that the solicitor of this department should be paid, we have not failed to advert to your Lordships' minute for discontinuing the payment of the solicitor of the customs in England by bills of costs, and settling his establishment on the basis of a fixed salary, and the chairman of the central board has stated to us very fully the satisfactory results that have already attended this arrangement.

The question as to the proper mode of paying solicitors of public departments is undoubtedly one of considerable difficulty. It is certain, that the practice of allowing these officers to charge according to the business done, whilst every other officer in the department is receiving a fixed salary, has not unfrequently led the latter to give up, and the former to acquire, a much larger portion of the actual business and responsibility of the department than is either expedient or desirable. On the other hand, it may be feared, that without considerable attention and firmness on the part of the public boards, the payment by salary may operate to prevent a recourse to courts of law in revenue cases, to an extent that may be highly injurious to the public interests.

It is no doubt desirable, with a view to insure the due conduct of the responsible and fre-

quently unpleasant duties of the solicitor, that some portion of his emoluments, at least, should depend on the extent of the business done, and the manner in which it is performed. We entertain considerable doubts, however, whether the allowance of sixpence per sheet on each brief, as recently arranged for the solicitor of the customs in England, is well calculated for that purpose. We are rather disposed to fear it may give rise to a practice of unnecessarily multiplying pleadings, with a view to increase the number of briefs, as well as to the employment of counsel, when under other circumstances they might not be required; in fact, it is to be apprehended, that any specific and settled charge, consequent on any portion of the business to be done, will have very much the tendency now ascribed to the general table of fees, and if it does not materially impede the benefits that may be expected from the abolition of bills of costs, may at least give rise to an imputation that the law business is unnecessarily multiplied, with a view to the solicitor's individual emolument, an imputation from which it is extremely desirable he should be relieved.

On fully considering the subject, therefore, we recommend, that as bills of costs have been discontinued in the customs in England, a similar system should be adopted in Scotland; in lieu, however, of the allowance to which we have referred, we think it more desirable that a general authority should be given to the central board to make an extra allowance to the solicitor of the customs in Scotland, provided they shall be entirely satisfied with his attendance, and with his constant attention to the

important business of his office, during the year. The fixed salary we propose to attach to the office is 1000*l.* per annum, and we think the extra allowance should be limited to 250*l.*, and we think it also highly desirable, that on every occasion where the latter is granted, the grounds of it should be explicitly stated in the half-yearly report, now made by the central board of customs to your Lordships.

With regard to the distinct office of the solicitor for Scotch law, we have examined several individuals conversant with this branch of the business. The general administration of the revenue laws is conducted upon the same principles in Scotland and England, and the cases in which a knowledge of the peculiarities of the Scotch law is required are not very frequent; there is no doubt, however, that such cases do arise, and we consider it essential that the general legal adviser of the department should be possessed of that knowledge in a degree sufficient for the ordinary duties of his office. We apprehend there would be no difficulty in the speedy acquisition of this extent of knowledge, by that class of professional men from whom the selection of solicitor to the boards has latterly been made, and as there can be no doubt that the existence of a distinct office for this branch of law must rather operate to prevent that acquisition, we cannot hesitate to recommend the abolition of the office, and that the principal solicitor should be equally responsible for all matters of business in which points of Scotch law are involved as for the ordinary duties of his department.

In offering these observations, we are aware that there are occasions on which the agency of a practitioner in the court of session or other courts of peculiar jurisdiction must be required, if the solicitor of the board be not a member of those courts; these cases will of course be provided for by the solicitor under the direction of the board, according to the practice at present pursued both in England and Scotland, in proceedings requiring the intervention of a special agent or attorney.

With these alterations, the establishment of the solicitor's office in Scotland may be taken as follows:

Solicitor	£1,000	
Extra allowance, when paid	250	
		1,250
First clerk		250
Second ditto		120
		470
		£1,620

Solicitor of the Customs, Ireland.

Before we conclude our remarks on this branch of the customs department, we have to offer some observations on the corresponding office in Ireland.

In our report on the establishments for Dublin,

we stated that we delayed to enter on the office of solicitor of the customs there, until some further inquiries then in progress were completed. We have recently received a valuable report from Mr. Clancy, one of the taxing officers for the four law courts in Ireland, a gentleman who at our suggestion undertook to tax the solicitor's bills, and also one from Mr. Bullock, a clerk sent from the solicitor's office in England to bring the various charges contained in those bills officially under Mr. Clancy's observation. To these documents we refer your Lordships, as affording a very full and complete exposition of the manner in which this part of the business of the department has been conducted in Ireland. Our examinations led us to doubt whether the official duties of the present solicitor had been executed as to warrant the extensive confidence necessary to be placed in an individual holding that important situation. This impression having been in some degree confirmed from the report of Messrs. Whitmore and Morris, the officers we employed in Ireland to investigate the details of the several departments, we proposed the more extended investigation, the result of which is now before us. On considering these papers, however, and adverting to the deliberate opinion of Mr. Clancy, that "the abuses of this department appear to have originated principally from the want of sufficient check on the solicitor's charges," an opinion which Mr. Clancy's official situation and high character entitle to great weight, we are disposed to think that not more than the blame of irregularity and want of attention to the charges which were made by his clerks can fairly be ascribed to Mr. Waller: we are not, therefore, prepared to recommend any further specific proceeding than the settlement of the different bills, and any since accruing due, on the basis of Mr. Clancy's taxation.

There are several points of importance in these reports which, we doubt not, will receive the attention of your Lordships, and of the central board of customs. We refer particularly to the want of attention that has prevailed in reference to the collection of the costs accruing in certain cases to the crown; to the practice of requiring the crown to pay all the expenses of leases, whether standing in the situation of lessor or lessee, as well as of all contracts, and bonds given under the customs laws, and even of beneficial appointments under the board itself. We should enter more at length into these and other points arising out of this part of our inquiry, were it not that a review of this subject leads us to recommend, as the most effectual remedy for many of the existing evils, that the solicitor of customs in Ireland should be placed on a fixed salary, on the plan we have proposed for Scotland.

It appears, from Mr. Clancy's reports, that the emoluments of the office have been for five years as follow; viz.

Gross Emoluments.	Taxed Deductions.	Actual Expenses.	Net Emoluments.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
4,933 14 6½	764 4 5	2,377 19 5½	1,791 10 8
5,159 9 10	701 16 2	2,391 7 8½	2,066 1 7½
8,319 3 11¼	1,533 9 3	2,805 17 9½	3,079 16 11
7,210 9 10	1,433 18 8	2,702 16 9	3,073 14 5
3,690 3 2½	687 12 5	1,638 19 2	1,363 11 7½
			12,274 15 3
		Being on an average per annum	2,454 19 1

On considering this statement, and the relative salaries we have felt it our duty to propose for the officers of the customs in Ireland and Scotland, we are of opinion that a fixed salary of £1,250. per annum, and a general authority to the central board to allow 250. per annum more, under the regulations suggested for Scotland; will afford a fair and just remuneration for the duty to be performed.

The establishment we propose for this office is as follows; viz.

Solicitor.....	£1,250
Addition when paid ...	250
	£1,500
First clerk.....	350
Second ditto.....	250
Third ditto.....	200
Fourth ditto.....	100
	£2,400

In thus proposing salaries for the solicitors of customs in Scotland and Ireland, we wish distinctly to express our opinion, that the individuals holding these situations should be considered as precluded from engaging in any private business whatever, and from receiving any fees or emoluments other than the salaries and extra allowances recommended, which are proposed as full and fair remuneration for all the duties to be performed. Their travelling charges should be paid in the same manner as the travelling charges of the surveyors-general; all fines, costs due from parties, and all payments to be made to law agents or otherwise, in the country, should go through the respective collectors of the revenue: fees to counsel and any other disbursements of the solicitor in Edinburgh or Dublin, when they exceed 10. , should be paid on the order of the board; and when under that sum, by the accountant of petty receipts, subject to the future responsibility and account of the solicitor. We have entered into this detail because we are convinced that the arrangement for discontinuing the payment of costs to solicitors in public departments will be altogether incomplete, unless they are at the same time excluded as much as practicable from pecuniary receipts and payments, and from the necessity of having any balances of public money in their hands.

AGENT AT THE TREASURY.

Salary.....	£250
Clerk.....	50

£300.

In our Fourth Report we have stated that the consolidation of the boards renders an office of this description altogether unnecessary for Ireland, and the same reasoning applies with equal force to Scotland. We recommend, therefore, that it should be forthwith abolished, such compensation being made to the present holder as in your Lordships' opinion may be reasonable.

HOUSEKEEPER — OFFICE, KEEPERS AND MESSENGERS.

The establishments are at present as follows; viz.

Housekeeper.....	£150
Allowance for servants.....	142
	£292

One usher.....	£70
Four messengers, at 70. each.....	280
One ditto.....	60
One ditto and watchman.....	70
One ditto for Leith.....	70
	£550

The number of individuals is rather less than we have proposed for Dublin, where the greater extent of the office renders the employment of more persons necessary. The local board of customs have stated to us their intention to consider and report to the general board the number to which these establishments may be limited when the department is removed to Leith; and from this report, your Lordships will be enabled to judge whether any and what alterations in the existing establishment may be necessary.

The following are extra allowances upon the establishment of the department, to which it is desirable to call your Lordships' attention; viz.

Inspector-general of imports and exports in England.....	£80
General register of shipping in England.....	£50

When there were separate officers for the

duties adverted to in England and Scotland, these allowances were no doubt proper; as, however, the Scotch accounts are now to be altogether transferred to England, any distinct grant on their account cannot be requisite; we recommend, therefore, the discontinuance of these payments, on such compensation to the present holders as the circumstances under which they were originally granted may appear to warrant.

In closing our observations on the different offices in Edinburgh, more immediately under the board of customs, we feel it to be due to Mr. Earl, who has for so many years presided over that board, to express our high opinion of the benefits which have resulted from his public services: the exertions he has made have not been confined to the introduction of the English system and practice, to which we have already adverted, but have extended to every branch

of the customs revenue; and the unanimous opinions of the different mercantile bodies and others with whom we have communicated, have satisfied us, that whilst he has essentially promoted the interests of the public, he has at the same time given all the facility which, under the system of a separate board for Scotland, it was practicable to afford to the mercantile interests.

We have thus brought under your Lordships' consideration the establishment of the customs as they exist in Edinburgh, and our suggestions for their future arrangement. The present annual expense (exclusive of the solicitor's department) appears to be 15,940*l.* The expense of the establishment we propose to be 10,867*l.*, making the reduction that will ultimately result from the adoption of our suggestions amount to the annual sum of 5,133*l.*

The following departments will then remain, viz. :—

Board :

One General and two Local Commissioners, £ s. d.
Annual expense..... 3,400 0 0

Secretary's office :

To aid the board in the conduct of all the executive business of the department,
Annual expense..... 2,810 0 0

Comptroller and Accountant-general :

To take care that all the orders of the lords of the treasury and of the central board relating to the receipt or expenditure of the revenue are complied with: To examine and control all the accounts of the department, and to arrange them for ultimate audit in England,
Annual expense..... 990 0 0

Surveyors :

To aid the board in the inspection and control of the officers, and other matters requiring attention at the different ports,
Proportion of annual expense for Scotland..... 1,475 0 0

Examiner of Customs :

To check the quantity of goods imported or exported, and the duties paid thereon,
Annual expense..... 840 0 0

Accountant of Petty Receipts :

To keep the minor accounts of the revenue; to register the seizures made, and to inspect the officers' securities,
Annual expense..... 250 0 0

Clerk of the Stationery Stores :

To have the care of the stationery, and check the bills,
Annual expense..... 200 0 0

Solicitor :

To transact the law business of the department under the orders of the board,
Annual expense..... 1,620 0 0

Housekeeper, Officekeepers, Messengers, &c. :

Annual expense..... 842 0 0

Total £12,427 0 0

In our Sixth Report we have in like manner brought under your Lordships' view the establishments at the out-ports of Scotland.

The following is a summary of the expense of the officers proposed to be retained, with the additions suggested in the present report; viz.

	£	s.	d.
Glasgow	3,592	10	0
Greenock, with the subordinate officers at the ports of Port Glasgow, Rothesay, Tobermory, Oban, and Fort William	16,780	0	0
Campbeltown	1,162	10	0
Ayr, with the subordinate officers at the ports of Irvine, Stranraer, and Port Patrick	3,250	0	0
Dumfries, with the subordinate officers at the ports of Wigtown and Kirkcudbright	2,187	10	0
Stornoway	570	0	0
Inverness	1,435	0	0
Thurso and Wick	1,020	0	0
Banff	930	0	0
Aberdeen	3,305	0	0
Montrose	1,826	0	0
Dundee, with the subordinate officers of the port of Perth	3,290	0	0
Kirkcaldy, with the subordinate officers at the port of Anstruther	1,807	10	0
Grangemouth, with the subordinate officers at the ports of Alloa and Borrowstoness	3,035	0	0
Leith, with the subordinate officers at the ports of Dunbar and Prestonpans	11,794	7	6
Kirkwall	920	0	0
Lerwick	490	0	0
	<u>£57,395</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>

The establishment at each port provides :—

- 1st. For guarding vessels on their arrival.
- 2dly. Examining goods imported and exported.
- 3dly. Assessing, receiving, and controlling the duties when paid.
- 4thly. Securing the goods at certain ports, where they are allowed to be warehoused without such payment.

We have, in like manner, in our Seventh and Tenth Reports, brought under your Lordships' consideration the establishments of the customs in Dublin, and the out-ports of Ireland. The summary of our recommendations under these heads, with the additions in Dublin suggested in the present Report, will be as follows; viz.

0 0 00

DUBLIN.

	£	s.	d.
One General, two Local Commissioners	3,400	0	0
Secretary's office	3,230	0	0
Comptroller and Accountant-general	1,550	0	0
Surveyors-general	1,475	0	0
Examiner of Customs	1,330	0	0
Accountant of Petty Receipts	300	0	0
Solicitor	2,400	0	0
Surveyor of Revenue buildings	516	10	0
Messengers.....£555 0 0 }	875	7	0
Housekeepers..... 320 7 0 }			
	<u>£15,076</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>0</u>

OUT-PORTS.

	£	s.	d.
Dublin, with the subordinate officers at the port of Wicklow	18,406	0	0
Waterford and Ross, with the subordinate officers at the port of Wexford	4,976	0	0
Cork, with the subordinate officers at the ports of Youghall and Kinsale	10,430	0	0
Baltimore	1,820	0	0
Limerick, with the subordinate officers at the ports of Tralee and Kilrush	3,905	0	0
Galway	990	0	0
Sligo, with the subordinate officers at the ports of Westport and Killybegs	3,273	0	0
Londonderry, with the subordinate officers at the ports of Ballyrainie and Coleraine	4,941	0	0
Belfast, with the subordinate officers at the ports of Donaghadee and Larne	8,015	12	6
Newry and Strangford	4,120	0	0
Drogheda, with the subordinate officers at the port of Dundalk	1,605	0	0
Total	<u>£62,481</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>

After full inquiry, we are satisfied that all the business to be performed at Dublin and Leith, having reference to the functions of the local boards, may be fully provided for in the several establishments we have recommended: we are equally satisfied that the officers proposed for the various out-ports will be found amply sufficient for the business to be done; removals from one port to another, as the arrangements of commerce change, will of course from time to time be necessary. The permanent expenditure, however, for the salaries of the customs department for Scotland should not in our opinion ultimately exceed the sum of 70,000*l.* (with the exception only of any officers that may hereafter be transferred from the excise); and for Ireland the sum of 78,000*l.*

In suggesting this limitation, we would repeat our recommendation that it should not be evaded by the payment of any salaries or allowances out of the incidents or out of any fund other than the general revenue; neither should any new offices be created. The permanent addition to the annual expenditure of the department which attends the creation of a new and distinct office, is as far from forming the weightiest objection to it; we have had occasion to witness great interruption to the ordinary business of the department, resulting, as it appeared to us, from the additional offices placed on the establishment, which have necessarily interfered with the business of those already in existence, and created a confusion and intermixture of duties wholly incompatible with that clear and orderly course of practice which it is so essential to maintain. It will be in your Lordships' recollection, that in the department of the customs in Dublin we found twenty-two distinct establishments, whilst, on a liberal view of what was required for the due conduct of the public business, we deemed it necessary only to recommend the continuance of six.

There should be nothing difficult or intricate in the business of the customs; it is capable of the most simple and accurate arrangement; and when it has been made complex, this result has, in our opinion, arisen as much from a multiplicity of offices, and an unnecessary division of duties, as from any other cause: it is under these circumstances that we recommend to your Lordships to require that all business hereafter accruing in the customs, either of Ireland or Scotland, should be allotted to some one of the existing offices; and steadily to resist every proposal for the establishment of new or distinct departments: if with this be combined in every case the practice of exacting the most clear and distinct accounts, and the fullest information on all subjects connected with this revenue, the improvements that have already taken place in its collection will, we have no doubt, be progressive, and the result most satisfactory to your Lordships, and to the interest of the public.

The various reductions proposed in our dif-

ferent reports cannot, we are aware, be carried immediately into full effect: We would observe, however, that it would tend materially to facilitate those reductions, if the establishments were at once decided on, and that portion of them which it may be expedient ultimately, though not immediately, to discontinue, were kept all together separate. It is at present the practice for your Lordships to receive from the commissioners of customs detailed particulars, specifying the names of the different officers, and the salaries due to them each quarter; and however, no individual is placed in the establishment of the department without your Lordships' sanction, and as no addition to that establishment is passed by the conditions without your express warrant, this appears to us a very unnecessary account: it would, in our opinion, be more useful, in lieu of this very voluminous document, if certificates were sent quarterly, setting forth the total amount of the establishment sanctioned for the permanent conduct of the business, and the precise amount that has been paid; annexing at the same time an explanation in detail of the excess; and specifying any reduction that might then be practicable: such a certificate would keep the attention of the central board of customs, and of your Lordships, directed to the reductions that have been ultimately determined on; and we doubt not, tend materially to hasten the period of their final accomplishment.

T. WALLACE. (L. S.)
 W. J. LUSHINGTON. (L. S.)
 HENRY BERENS. (L. S.)
 R. W. HAMILTON. (L. S.)

Office of Inquiry into the Collection and Management of the Revenue, 1st June, 1825.

The appendix to the foregoing report (which consists of nearly 800 folio pages) contains letters, accounts, statements of various officers, examinations of witnesses, &c.

EXCISE

The Twelfth Report, to the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, of the Commissioners appointed by the Acts of the 1st and 2d Geo. IV. c. 90, and 3d Geo. IV. c. 37, for inquiring into the Collection and Management of the Public Revenue arising in Ireland, and into certain Departments of the Public Revenue arising in Great Britain.

His Majesty having issued his Royal Warrant, in the terms of the Act 3 Geo. IV. c. 37, empowering this commission to inquire into the collection and management of the excise revenue in England, we shall delay entering at length into the mode of charging each of the different excise duties, and offering our suggestions for improving and securing their collection, until these inquiries shall have been completed: in the mean time, we proceed to lay before

your Lordships the result of our investigation into this department in Scotland, so far as it has had reference to the receiving, paying, and accounting for the excise duties; the operation of the new distillery law; and the establishments employed under the direction of the board of excise in that country.

With a view to render our observations on these subjects more intelligible to your Lordships, we shall preface them with a short statement of the mode of charging the different duties.

When an individual wishes to engage in a trade subject to the excise laws, it is necessary he should state, in writing, at the nearest excise office, the particulars of the premises which he proposes to make use of, and obtain a license, the general form of which is as follows:

"I, whose name is hereunto subscribed, and seal set, being the person specially appointed for that purpose by the commissioners of excise in _____ in pursuance of an act of parliament passed in the _____ year of his Majesty's reign, do hereby authorize and empower _____ living at _____ to exercise the trade or business of _____ at his aforesaid house, and places thereunto belonging, from the _____ to the _____ he having paid the sum of _____ for this License, to the cashier of excise, according to the said act. Given under my hand and seal

in this _____ day of _____ in the year of our _____ Lord _____ After obtaining this license the trader's premises are subject to survey by the officers of excise, and these officers take, at different periods of the process, a certain prescribed account of the goods manufactured, so framed as to enable them to charge the duty.

Twice in each quarter (denominated an "excise round," and embracing a period of six or seven weeks), the total quantity of goods that has been completely manufactured is ascertained, and the duty calculated.

This account is in general checked by an entry required from the trader, on oath, of the quantity of goods he has made. Should it at any time appear that the officers have charged a trader less than he ought to have been charged, the accounts are corrected in the succeeding period or "round," and if more, the matter may be brought by the trader before the magistrates, any two of whom, on hearing the case, are authorised to grant a warrant for his relief, called an "absolutur."

When the goods manufactured, and the duty to be charged, have been thus ascertained, an account of the quantities and of the sums due is extracted from the officers' books, and, after having been checked and signed by the supervisor, is ultimately sent to the head office in Edinburgh. This account is denominated a "Voucher," and its form is as follows; viz.

GLASGOW { Collection: } 2d Round, 1825; Candle Voucher, commencing 25th August, 1824, and ending 10th October, 1824.
2d District, }
1st Division. }

	Pounds Weight of Tallow Candles.	Amount of Duty, at 1d. per Pound.	TOTALS COLLECTED.		
				Pounds Weight of Tallow Candles.	Amount of Duty, at 1d. per Pound.
		£ s. d.			
August 26	624				
28	721				
Sept. 4	462				
John Jones.....	1,807	7 10 7	John Jones.....	1,807	7 10 7
August 27	246		Thomas Harris	1,416	5 18 0
29	428		Thomas Wilkie	1,529	6 7 5
Sept. 4	418		James Williams	2,441	10 3 5
8	324		Total	7,193	£ 29 19 5
Thomas Harris	1,416	5 18 0			
August 28	278				
31	418				
Sept. 2	316				
7	517				
Thomas Wilkie	1,529	6 7 5			
August 27	218				
29	722				
Sept. 1	428				
7	362				
15	711				
James Williams	2,441	10 3 5			

The amount of this voucher is seven thousand, one hundred, and ninety-three pounds' weight of tallow candles.

Duty: Twenty-nine pounds, nineteen shillings, and fivepence.

(Exam^d.) John Jones, Officer.
John Bell, Supervisor.

It is the distinguishing feature of the excise system, that any sum once charged as duty in a voucher, must be either discharged by a magistrate's warrant, or satisfactorily accounted for, and it is from this document, therefore, that the collectors in the first instance, and ultimately the commissioners of excise, are placed in charge.

At the time of making up this voucher, an abstract of it is framed and forwarded to the collector, and this officer proceeds twice in each quarter to the different market-towns to collect the money.

If any trader omits to bring the sum due from him, the magistrates are applied to, and the amount, if not paid, is ultimately levied by distress.

The collector sends to Edinburgh every week an account of his receipts and payments, and a general account every six or seven weeks, at the close of each period or "round."

From this statement, it will be apparent to your Lordships, that it is the business of the excise officers, in the several districts to ascer-

tain the duty accruing, due on the different goods manufactured; and to collect the amount; and of the establishment in Edinburgh, to examine and control the proceedings of the district officers, and ultimately to make out the general account of the commissioners.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS.

The points under this head, to which we deem it necessary to call your Lordships' attention, are,

1st. The period at which the excise vouchers are made up, and the duties consequently charged and received in the different districts.

2d. The oaths required from certain traders, after these vouchers are framed.

3d. The system of receiving and checking the license duties, the annual duties, and the hereditary revenue.

4th. The system of paying, checking, and bringing to account, the excise drawbacks, and the bills drawn on account of the army and navy.

Excise Vouchers.

The period to which the excise vouchers were originally made up, in the different districts in Scotland, stood as follows, viz.—

First period or "round," from	6 July	to	24 August.
Second ditto	25 August	...	5 October.
Third ditto	6 October	...	23 November.
Fourth ditto	24 November	...	4 January.
Fifth ditto	5 January	...	22 February.
Sixth ditto	23 February	...	5 April.
Seventh ditto	6 April	...	24 May.
Eighth ditto	25 May	...	5 July.

During our stay in Edinburgh, these dates were altered, with reference to the quarter days in England, as follows:—

First round from	6 July	to	24 August.
Second ditto	25 August	...	10 October.
Third ditto	11 October	...	23 November.
Fourth ditto	24 November	...	4 January.
Fifth ditto	6 January	...	22 February.
Sixth ditto	23 February	...	5 April.
Seventh ditto	6 April	...	24 May.
Eighth ditto	25 May	...	5 July.

It appears to us very desirable that the period at which the excise duties are to be charged, and the accounts made up, should be the same throughout the United Kingdom; at present, in England it is altogether undefined, and the district officers, in consequence, have it in their power to increase or diminish the number of days in the different periods or "rounds." It follows, that if a trader has nearly finished a considerable quantity of goods, the round may

be extended a day or two, to charge those goods with duty; or if, on the contrary, the officer be disposed to favour the trader, the round may be shortened, and the goods brought into the ensuing account, to the delay of the crown's duties. The exercise of this objectionable discretion will cease, if the day for closing each round be settled; and we recommend for that purpose the following division of the year, as on the whole the most convenient; viz.

First period from	6 January	to	19 February	...	} 1st quarter.
Second ditto	20 February	...	5 April	...	
Third ditto	6 April	...	20 May	...	} 2d ditto.
Fourth ditto	21 May	...	5 July	...	
Fifth ditto	6 July	...	22 August	...	} 3d ditto.
Sixth ditto	23 August	...	10 October	...	
Seventh ditto	11 October	...	22 November	...	} 4th ditto.
Eighth ditto	23 November	...	5 January	...	

We think also it would tend to a more efficient check over the collector and other officers; if the vouchers, when made up at these dates respectively, were sent to the board as soon as examined by the supervisor, instead of remaining, as at present, in the custody of the officers until the collector arrives.

Immediately connected with this subject, is the period allowed to elapse after the close of each round, before the collector of excise proceeds to receive the duties. This is at present uncertain, and special directions are therefore annually necessary for the guidance of every collector in this respect.

We think it advisable, as well with a view to supersede the necessity of these directions, as to enable the traders to ascertain with more precision on what day the collectors will require them to satisfy the crown's demand, that a certain time should be fixed, at which the different excise collectors in the United Kingdom may commence their receipts, and on inquiry we are satisfied, that if ten days be allowed to expire after the close of each round, and the collectors be required to proceed on the Monday next afterwards, it will on the whole be satisfactory to the excise traders, and convenient to the officers of the revenue.

Oaths.

It will form a part of our inquiry into the English department, to ascertain whether the entry of the quantity of goods manufactured; now required on oath, from different excise traders, after the vouchers are framed, may not be dispensed with, and precautionary regulations substituted, where practicable, always to be desired in the collection of the public revenue: in the mean time, however, the number of oaths taken by the following traders may with considerable convenience, to the officers, and without risk to the revenue, be immediately diminished one-half, by directing them to be administered only at the expiration of each quarter (at which period the books of the officers are closed, and returned to the head office), instead of once in each round, as at present: viz.

Brick and tile-makers.
Calico printers.
Candle-makers.
Distillers.
Glass-makers.
Paper-makers.
Stainers.
Soap-makers.
Stone bottle-makers.
Tanners.
Wire-drawers.

We cannot but hope, if the revenue at present derive any security from these oaths, that security will be increased by a regulation, which, reducing the number so considerably, cannot but have a tendency to increase the respect due to this solemn obligation.

License Duties.

The license duties are the only portion of the excise revenue the collection of which is not checked from a voucher previously made up; at present, this document is framed after the money has been received, and does not therefore, as in every other case, form an effectual check on the proceedings of the collectors. This very objectionable departure from the excise system has no doubt arisen from the state of the law, which does not require from the excise traders any previous notice of their intention to discontinue a license: the receipt of the duty in consequence becomes uncertain, and it has not therefore been considered desirable to form a charge voucher.

In our opinion, it is of great importance that every excise trader, who does not propose to renew his annual license, should give some notice to the excise officers, as well to enable them to make inquiry whether the parties really intend to relinquish business, as to frame a voucher by which the collection of the duties may be checked. If a notice of this description were imperatively required, it would become the duty of the excise officer to send to the board a regular voucher, containing the names and sum to be paid as license duty by those traders whose licenses are about to expire, and by those additional traders who required licenses. The voucher thus formed would enable the officers at Edinburgh, as well as the several collectors, to ascertain with precision what ought to be received; and at the same time the different traders would be brought into charge for the duty in a way that would tend very much to prevent fraud or evasion. After sending the voucher, it should be the duty of the excise officer to fill up the proper form of a license from the license book, to remain in his custody; the license so prepared to be checked by the supervisor, as in other duties, and the collector to do nothing more than receive the money at the proper period, and sign his name to each license as an acknowledgment of his having done so.

The license duties will thus be,—

Charged by the officer,

Checked by the supervisor, and

Received by the collector, in the same manner as all other excise duties.

The notice to be given by a trader of his intention to discontinue a license ought not to be less than a month, and its omission should subject the party to the full year's duty (a memorandum to this effect being printed on the license), unless that omission be accounted for to the satisfaction of the board of excise.

Individuals requiring a new license should be compelled to give a similar notice, and should be in like manner subject to the duty; being at liberty, if they desired it, to commence business immediately, and have their license dated on the day of their notice.

There is another point connected with this duty, to which it is also desirable attention

should be directed. Under the existing law, by far the most considerable class of excise licenses remain in force a year, calculated from the day on which the licence is dated. It becomes necessary in consequence to keep a separate account against each trader in this class, and to refer continually to the account so kept, in order to extract the names of the individuals whose licenses required to be renewed. This regulation appears to us productive of much unnecessary labour; and we cannot but fear that, notwithstanding the utmost vigilance on the part of the excise officers, traders frequently evade the payment of the license duty for a considerable period.

There is a second class of licenses, less numerous, which expire on a given day; a regulation obviously more convenient. It appears, however, that if at any time after that day a license is demanded, the trader is compelled to pay a whole year's duty, a proceeding certainly not founded in justice, and, when the amount is considerable, having the effect, either of preventing that trader from commencing business at the most convenient period, or of placing him in an unfavourable situation, when compared with those individuals who are enabled to trade the whole year with the same license.

The licenses for retailing spirits, wine, and sweets, form an exception to both these rules, they expire on the 10th October; and if after the 5th April in any year a license be demanded, the party is only required to pay duty in proportion to the time unexpired.

It was our intention to have suggested, with a view to remedy these evils, and render the system uniform, that all excise licenses should expire on a certain day; and that traders requiring a license at any intermediate period should have one to that day, and pay a duty in proportion. It has been stated, however, that if all licenses were to be renewed on the same day, it would occasion a great accumulation of business to the excise officers; and to require the tax from traders of all descriptions at the same time, might render its payment less convenient.

A division of the year, therefore, into at least two periods, for the purpose of granting these licenses, appears to us desirable; and as the magistrates in Scotland grant their licenses to publicans in the month of May, and the excise licenses to these individuals depend altogether on the magistrates' license, we propose that the licenses for selling

Beer and ale,

Wine,

Spirits and tobacco,

which are very numerous, should be granted on the 1st of June; and the remainder, viz.

Auctioneers,

Brewers,

Calico printers,

Chandlers,

Carriers,
Coffee and tea dealers,
Distillers,
Glass-makers,
Maltsters,
Parchment-makers,
Paper-makers,
Paper-stainers,
Rectifiers,
Soap-makers,
Starch-makers,
Sweets makers and dealers,
Tanners,
Tawers,
Tobacco manufacturers,
Vinegar-makers,

On the 1st of December in each year.

If any one of the above traders should require a license at an intermediate period, we recommend that he be allowed to have it, paying the duty for each month unexpired at the time the application is made, unless where the first year's license duty is inconsiderable; in that case the reduction of duty is unnecessary.

It will give facility to this mode of charging and collecting the license duties, if the form of the license be in every case the same, changing only the description of the trade, and the amount of the duty paid; and as its object is similar in each case, we think this may be done without objection, by the adoption of the form. (Appendix, No. 26.)

Annual Duties.

When the legislature, by the act 36 Geo. III. c. 60, thought fit to make the land-tax permanent, with a view to its redemption, it was deemed expedient, that a certain portion of the duties on malt, sugar, tobacco, and snuff should be continued for one year only, and their grant be submitted from thenceforth annually to parliament.

These annual duties have since that period been altered, and when the portion of them charged on malt was finally repealed by the act of 3 Geo. IV. c. 18, the additional duties of excise on brandy, spirits, and sweets or made wines, originally granted during the war, were substituted.

The division into annual and permanent duties has been carried so far in the excise department, that the two are received and afterwards dealt with in every district, as separate and distinct duties, requiring separate calculations and accounts. This proceeding is very inconvenient, and does not appear to us by any means necessary. If the district officers have to collect a permanent duty of 3s. and an annual duty of 1s. per pound on tobacco, one account, at the rate of 4s. per pound, is sufficient for every practical purpose. The accountants in Edinburgh may without any difficulty make the division, and certify to the Exchequer what portion of the amount arises from the annual,

and what from the permanent duty. If, therefore, it be necessary to continue to grant these duties annually, the separation in the districts should at least be discontinued; it appears to us, however, that the circumstances under which they were originally declared annual, have so far ceased as to render their consolidation with the other excise duties without objection; and as this measure will tend not only to simplify and improve the excise accounts, but those of the Exchequer and the annual finance accounts presented to parliament, we cannot hesitate to recommend it for adoption.

HEREDITARY REVENUE.

In our Eleventh Report we have explained the circumstances under which that portion of the revenue of customs, which in Scotland is reserved for the separate use of his majesty, and also a portion of the fines and seizures, are paid annually for the use of his majesty's civil list in that part of the United Kingdom; and we have recommended, as well with a view to the simplification of the accounts of the Scotch customs, as to render certain the amount to be paid by one department, and to be received by the other, that, as in England, a fixed sum should be paid every year to the civil list, in lieu of and as an equivalent for the present payments.

The reasoning in that Report applies in a great degree to the hereditary revenue of excise in Scotland. The inconvenience arising from the special appropriation of his majesty's share of fines and seizures also, is as great in the excise as in the customs; and we feel justified, therefore, in recommending the same course in the two departments.

On an inspection of the accounts, (Appendix, No. 19,) we think the annual sum of £38,000 will be a fair average of the excise receipts under the different heads, and we therefore recommend that sum to be paid out of the excise revenue to the Scotch civil list, by four equal quarterly instalments, as equivalent to and a full compensation for the excise hereditary or temporary revenue, and his majesty's share of fines and seizures; the separate accounts and appropriation of these receipts to be in the excise, as in the custom department, henceforth discontinued.

DRAWBACKS.

The policy or impolicy, as well as the amount of the different drawbacks payable on the exportation of excisable goods to foreign countries, depending as they must on the duties in the first instance levied, will occupy our attention in our inquiries into the English excise; and our present remarks will in consequence be confined solely to the regulations which affect their payment.

According to the existing practice, when goods on which the excise duties have been paid are about to be exported, it is necessary, in order to obtain the return of those duties, that the

merchant should give a notice at the nearest excise office; an officer is then directed to attend, whose business it is to see that the goods mentioned in the notice are packed, and to grant a certificate of the quantity; this certificate is either sent to the shipping officer at the port from whence the goods are to be exported, or it is given to the trader, to be by him produced to the shipping officer; the exporter is required also to give a written notice of the day the goods are to be shipped, and previous to the shipment to make oath that the duties have been *duly paid*. In pursuance of the notice so given, an excise officer attends and takes an account of the goods, and causes an entry to be made of the quantity, and of the drawback due, in a book, called an "Export Leger." At the expiration of a month after the ship has sailed, a document, denominated a "Debenture," is prepared from this entry, and is delivered to the exporting merchant, on his making oath that the goods have been exported, and that no part of them has been re-landed; this debenture is payable in cash, provided the collector of excise, to whom it is produced, has sufficient money in his hands; if not, he certifies that he has not money, and it is paid in Edinburgh.

Our first objection to this practice is, that as the collectors of excise do not in general receive the duty on excisable articles until seven or eight weeks, and sometimes until a longer period after their manufacture, it frequently happens, that when the foreign demand is extensive, merchants find it desirable to export the goods before the duties are in point of fact *paid*, though the necessary account has been taken by the officers, and the traders legally placed in charge.

It is obvious, that under these circumstances, the merchant has only an option between submitting to the inconvenience, and often to the loss of a market, resulting from the delay, or of committing perjury by swearing that the duties have been actually paid, when in fact the crown has not received the money.

If the object contemplated be to prevent the payment of the drawback on goods clandestinely manufactured, that object would be equally secured if the exporter were only required to swear that the duties have been "*duly charged*." If it be to prevent the merchant from receiving the drawback until after the duty has been actually paid, or, in other words, to prevent the crown from being in advance, that object is much more effectually provided for by the enactment that delays the issue of the debenture until a month after the vessel has sailed, a period that in almost every case prevents the payment of any drawback until after the receipt of the duty. It is by regulations of this description, which place the interest of the merchant in direct opposition to the oath required from him, that the proverbial disregard to the revenue oaths has probably arisen, and undoubtedly a better feeling cannot be hoped for, whilst attempts are made to inter-

ferre with commercial operations, in other respects fair and reasonable, by prohibitions depending solely for their effect on the species of security.

On fully considering the subject, it appears to us, that the first oath may be altogether dispensed with, without any risk to the revenue, by adding to the oath now required at the time of taking out the debenture, the words, "that the duties on the goods mentioned therein have been duly paid." It will be a subject for our future inquiry, whether this latter oath also may not be superseded, by requiring from the parties a certificate to the same effect, and by the introduction of an enactment, subjecting them in case of a false certificate, to a penalty equal to double the amount of the drawback thus fraudulently applied for; in the mean time, however, as the alteration we have suggested will reduce one of the many oaths at present taken, and remove a temptation to perjury, which is at present in daily, and we fear extensive operation, we recommend it for immediate adoption.

The second objection is, that although the debentures are nominally payable immediately in cash, yet as the collectors of excise are required to remit daily, whenever their receipts amount to any considerable sum, it seldom happens that they have money in their hands to pay a large debenture; the merchant is in consequence obliged to send such a debenture to Edinburgh, where the existing regulations require that, before its payment by the cashier, it should be examined in the accountant's office, certified by the different check officers, and ultimately signed by the board. The delay and inconvenience of this to the exporter it is unnecessary to point out.

The regulation which requires that the collectors of excise should, from day to day, remit all the money in their hands, without reference to the payments to be made, has probably resulted from the complicated system upon which their accounts are at present kept, and to which in the progress of this Report we shall call your Lordships' attention; it appears to have been found impracticable accurately to check the balances in their hands, and it has therefore been determined that none should remain, whatever might be the exigencies of the public service.

Where the law requires public officers to make payments, it is evident the necessary funds should be provided for that purpose; and we recommend, therefore, that as soon as the change we propose in the manner of keeping the collectors' accounts has been carried into effect, the board of excise should be directed to consider the ordinary and usual payments which it is probable every collector may be called on to make; and to fix such a sum as it would, in their opinion, be desirable for each at all times to retain. It will not be necessary that this permanent balance should be considerable; if authority be at the same time given to the respective collectors, when the sum is large, to draw bill or bills, at

a certain number of days sight on the cashier or collector in Edinburgh, sending up to the board forthwith the documents, in order to enable them to direct the bill to be paid. Whatever balance is permitted to remain due from the collectors should be deposited in some one of the banks through which the remittance of the revenue is made, and the payments to individuals should be made by check on that bank; any interest accruing on the sum whilst in the banker's hands should be carried to the account of the revenue; not that the amount of this interest, under the regulation to which we have referred, can be considerable; but its receipt under any circumstances by public officers would be contrary to the principle to which we have adverted in our Eighth Report, and to which we attach great importance; viz. "That the money of the crown should not, in any case, be made directly or indirectly the source of private emolument."

The two alterations we have suggested will, we trust, remove every existing objection on the part of the merchants to the payments of excise drawbacks; our remaining observations will therefore apply to the security of the revenue.

On the transfer of the import duties of the excise to the customs, which your Lordships directed to take place from the fifth April last, the export business will, we apprehend, continue entirely under the direction of the officers of the latter department; it will, however, still be desirable, that the debentures entitling the parties to a return of the duties on excisable goods exported should, when made out and signed by the proper officers of the customs, be paid by the collectors of the excise, so that revenue will continue to receive the home-consumption duties, and its officers can alone be able satisfactorily to check the drawbacks applied for.

It is with reference to this change, as well as to check some existing frauds, that we recommend the adoption of the following regulations; viz.

1st, That the officer of excise who witnesses the packing, and grants a certificate of the quantity of goods, should at the same time state in that certificate the precise amount of the drawback due thereon.

2dly, That he should enter in a proper book an account of all the goods packed and certificates granted.

3dly, That this duty should not be done by any officers specially to be employed; but that the ordinary establishment of excise officers should be sufficiently numerous for the purpose; these officers to be subject to the inspection of the supervisors at the time the packings are going forward, precisely in the same manner as if they were charging a duty.

4thly, That each half quarter, or 15th month, these officers should arise from their books

to be kept, a document in the nature of a "voucher," to be signed and, in like manner forwarded to the board of excise in Edinburgh, and should also send an abstract to the collector of excise, residing in the district from whence the export is to be made.

10. That no debenture should be paid until it had been previously checked by a comparison either with the voucher or the abstract, as the case may be.

11. Lastly, That if after a reasonable period from the close of the year it shall be found a greater number of packing certificates have been granted than debentures paid, inquiry should be made of the trader whose goods appear to have been packed and not exported, with a view either to rectify any omission of his to apply for the drawback legally due to him, or to enable such an endorsement to be made on the voucher as to the cause of the non-exportation of the goods as will be sufficient to cancel it, and thus balance the account.

The effect of these regulations will be to bring the payment of excise drawbacks under the same officers, and to subject them to regulations similar in principle to those under which the duties are collected, to which, in fact, drawbacks appear to us very little inferior in point of importance; it will at the same time enable the collectors and board of excise to be aware of the demands that are coming upon them; and whilst we are satisfied that it will very materially improve the existing check over payments of this description, it will, in our opinion, remove the only well-founded objection that has been urged to the discontinuance of the principal part of the excise officers employed in the export department, and the incorporation of the remainder with the ordinary establishment.

ARMY AND NAVY BILLS.

With a view to the convenience of the officers of the army and navy on half pay, and other persons receiving allowances from the military and naval departments, it is the practice, sanctioned by various acts of parliament, to make the bills, sent into different parts of the country from these departments respectively, payable in cash by the collectors of the public revenue.

The amount paid by the excise department in Scotland under this head, for the year ended 5th July, 1824, was 264,522*l.* 15*s.* 3*d.*

It has hitherto been the practice for the several collectors, after these bills have been paid, to transmit them to the cashier of excise in Edinburgh, and to draw on him a fictitious bill for the amount; the cashier of the excise carries the amount of the fictitious bill to the credit of the proper excise duty, and sends the original bills on the military and naval departments to an agent in London. This agent, after receiving the amount, communicates with the board of excise in Edinburgh, and pays the

money either to the Exchequer or to the receiver-general of the excise in London.

The practice of sending bills of this description to an agent in London prevails also in Ireland.

In our Seventh Report, we have stated that the intervention of this officer appears to us altogether unnecessary, and we have therefore recommended the abolition of the office; the same remark applies equally to Scotland. The practice also of allowing the collectors to draw fictitious bills on the cashier for the amount of the bills on the naval and military departments appears to us very objectionable. The collectors of excise, on transmitting these bills to the cashier or collector in Edinburgh, should have immediate credit for the amount as cash, subject, as in the case of other bills, to their return for irregularity; and the cashier or collector should in like manner transmit them as cash to the receiver-general of excise in London. We think it should be the duty of the receiver-general's department there to receive the amount from the army and navy pay offices, and give credit to the excise revenue in Scotland with as little delay as the forms of office will permit; acting, in fact, with these bills as he does with bills on private bankers, which for every practical purpose they may be considered as altogether resembling.

ACCOUNTS.

The points under this head to which we consider it of importance that your Lordships' attention should be directed, are,

1st, The unnecessary complexity of the system of keeping and making up the excise accounts.

2d, The period of the year at which the excise accounts at present terminate.

3d, The accounts periodically required from the several collectors of excise.

4th, The mode of paying the salaries and the incidental charges of the department.

Complexity of Accounts.

Our attention was early called to the system on which the excise accounts are at present kept, and our examinations have satisfied us that this system is susceptible of much improvement. The most material error appears to arise from the attempt that is made to ascertain the expense of collecting each separate duty. How far this may have been practicable in the infancy of the system, when only two or three duties existed, it is of little importance to enquire. It will be at once obvious to your Lordships, that, as at present, each officer has many traders of different descriptions under survey at the same time, and as these traders necessarily vary from day to day, as well in number as in the quantity of goods manufactured, no system of account, however elaborate, can so appropriate the officer's time to the different duties

as to afford a basis for apportioning with accuracy his salary and charges to each. Even where, as it sometimes happens, an officer is confined to the survey of one or two articles, it is impracticable to ascertain the proportionable charges incurred on account of his inspection, the receipt of the money, or the ultimate examination and audit of the accounts, which form so considerable a portion of the expense of collection.

With a view to this separation, however, it is the practice in England, when an additional officer is required for the collection of a particular duty in any district, to direct the payment of his salary out of that duty, and so to continue that payment, in what way soever the officer may thereafter be employed, and even although at a future period no such duty is payable within the district.

If, for example, an officer be placed on the establishment, and his salary directed to be paid out of the tobacco duties, and it should happen that no money on account of tobacco is received by the collector, he is instructed to borrow the amount from any other duty in his hands, and to draw a fictitious bill on the cashier of the excise in London, the amount of which is posted to the debit of the tobacco duties.

A similar practice was adopted in Scotland; but, however, the amount received under each head of duty was comparatively inconsiderable, it happened so frequently that the officer's salary was to be paid out of the duty on which there was no receipt, that the system of borrowing and drawing bills became exceedingly troublesome, and produced much confusion. Under these circumstances, about twenty years since, the collectors were directed to pay the salaries of the officers, and other charges of management, out of the money in their hands arising from the most productive duty. It follows, according to the Scotch practice, that if in one year there is in a district a considerable receipt on account of the tobacco duties, all the charges will appear to have arisen for collecting the duties on tobacco; if in the next year malt be the most productive, the charges will, on the contrary, appear to have arisen on malt. This division pervades not only the accounts of the collectors, but is carried on through the accountant's office, the comptroller's, the auditor's office, and ultimately the Exchequer and pipe offices. That which ought to be a simple debtor and creditor cash account, is thus made into eighteen or twenty distinct parts; and the inspection of as many accounts current becomes necessary before the actual cash balance in the hands of any one collector can be ascertained. In short, the whole system of account is rendered complex and unsatisfactory, and the labour greatly increased to produce a result which, whether we consider the English or Scotch plan, is not only unsatisfactory, but altogether de-
lusive, and tending, if relied on for any prac-

tical purpose, materially to mislead the judgment.

In the annual finance accounts now presented to the House of Commons, improved in consequence of a Report from a Parliamentary Committee, which investigated that subject in the session of 1822, the gross produce received, and the drawbacks paid out of each excise duty, are alone given; to this is added a general account of the expenses of collection, subdivided under different heads, without, however, any attempt to appropriate those expenses to particular duties. This account is evidently as much as can be useful or necessary; and we recommend, therefore, that all the arrangements now made with a view to any more specific appropriation be at once discontinued.

The vouchers to which we have referred in the former part of this Report will enable the accountants in the excise office to ascertain the gross amount charged on account of each duty; it is therefore only necessary that the collectors should be required to shew what money has been received in discharge of those vouchers; and their account may, in all other respects, be a debtor and creditor cash account.

It would tend further to clearness and accuracy, if the collectors were directed to distinguish, in their first or weekly account, between the amount of those vouchers where the duty charged is due by law, and the amount of those vouchers where credit is given. At present, the latter are specially reported to the board on each occasion as "arrears," when in fact the amount is not payable, and ought therefore rather to be carried on to the voucher of the succeeding period or "round;" this may be done by a slight alteration in the "voucher" for those duties where the extended credit is given (see amended Form, Appendix No. 27); this alteration also will enable the collector to receive the money from the abstract sent to him, without taking his ledger, a very voluminous book, which he is at present under the necessity of carrying to each place of receipt.

With a view to give effect to the system we have proposed, we annex in the Appendix the form of a proper weekly account for transmission to Edinburgh, together with the forms of a quarterly or round account, current, and of a ledger. These forms have been prepared under our direction; the weekly account, it appears to us, will contain all the information necessary to enable the proper accountants to ascertain the gross receipt of each duty, and the drawbacks and the different expenses paid, so as to furnish the board of excise, your Lordships, and ultimately parliament, with the accounts respectively necessary, and thus render any further division or separation in the future progress of the excise accounts altogether superfluous.

Excise Year.

The excise year at present closes on the 5th

July; whilst the accounts of the other public departments are made up to the 5th January. Our examinations have satisfied us, that there is no sufficient reason for this difference; and as it is productive of considerable inconvenience, we recommend that measures be taken for an assimilation, by making up a half-year's account specially to the 5th January next; and continuing afterwards to make up the excise accounts annually to that day.

Periodical Accounts.

Various periodical accounts are now required from the collectors, which are not necessary; their ordinary accounts, if properly kept, furnishing the information required. The quarterly return of rewards paid to the military; and of money paid on convictions or compromises, and the annual return of the establishment of each collection, are of this description.

It appears to us essentially necessary, to enable officers in the different districts to give their time as much as possible to the survey of traders, (by far the most important part of their duty), that no accounts should be required from them not absolutely requisite; and that the form of such as are required should be as simple as possible. Whenever any account can be framed from documents existing in Edinburgh, recourse should be had to those documents, and not to the district officers. An instance of a want of attention to this latter point occurs in a recent order (19 February, 1824) issued to the several collectors, requiring them to send to the board, every quarter, a comparative account of the duties received in that quarter, and in the corresponding quarter of the previous year, accompanied by their remarks on any increase or diminution that may have taken place.

Nothing can be more desirable than that the board should constantly watch the progressive receipt of the revenue; and call on the collectors to explain the cause of any diminution or increase. Instead, however, of interrupting the more important labours of this officer for the preparation of the account in question, it might have been done with equal ease in the accountant's office in Edinburgh, by clerks at comparatively inconsiderable salaries, and afterwards forwarded to the several collectors for any explanations that may have been required. It is solely to the labour occasioned to the several collectors by the numerous and complicated accounts at present required from them; that we can attribute their entire neglect of that part of their instructions which directs them to survey traders occasionally, in order to ascertain the quantity of goods manufactured, and thus to check the conduct as well of the supervisors as of the officers employed.

The occasional inspection of an officer in a situation so responsible appears to us highly desirable for the proper collection of the revenue, and if systematically carried on, it

would render less necessary the special examination of superior officers, from Edinburgh, a proceeding that is equally attended with considerable expense, under those circumstances, as soon as the collectors are so far relieved from a part of their present multifarious duties, as to have a reasonable time to carry this article of their instructions into effect, we recommend that it be rigidly enforced; on a trial, &c.

Salaries.

The salaries in the different districts are at present paid upon what is called an "understood establishment," founded merely on usage; a proceeding very irregular, and tending to preclude an accurate check on the collectors' accounts. We recommend that in future the establishment for each district should be made out in duplicate, and signed by the commissioners of excise; one copy to be lodged in the office of the accountant, and the other in the office of the comptroller in Edinburgh; and that every alteration in this establishment should be in like manner from time to time certified to those officers respectively.

In lieu of paying the different officers according to the number of days in each "round," as at present, it would avoid troublesome calculations, if they were paid one moiety only of each quarter's salary. We think also the adoption of printed forms of pay-lists, to be obtained by the storekeeper, properly stamped, instead of requiring eight separate receipts from each officer annually, would give a desirable facility to the collector's business; and assist in the ulterior examination of his accounts.

Lastly, it frequently happens, that if an officer be removed in the middle of a round, he has to travel a considerable distance to obtain from the collector his salary to the day of his departure. This inconvenience may be altogether avoided, and the accounts simplified, by establishing a rule, that an officer removed from one collection to another shall cease pay at the collection which he leaves, from the close of the last round; and commence pay from that day in the collection to which he is sent, unless, from unnecessary delay, or other circumstances, the special directions of the board may be necessary.

INCIDENTAL PAYMENTS.

The incidental expenses of the different officers for turnpikes, ferries, &c. are at present paid quarterly, and when they exceed 20s. an oath is required as to their correctness. In our opinion, it is more desirable to pay these expenses every "round," as the collector will be enabled more accurately to check the amount when they are brought under his notice, within a short time after having been incurred; on the adoption of this regulation, also, we think a certificate to the effect of the oath now required may very properly be substituted, it being un-

desired, that a false certificate will subject the party to immediate dismissal, and will not be taken into account in any way, but will be treated as a nullity.

NEW DISTILLERY LAW.

Having thus stated to your Lordships the defects which, from our inquiries in Scotland, have appeared to us to exist in respect to the receiving, paying, and accounting for the excise revenue, and suggested the proper remedies, we proceed to call your attention to the operation of the new Distillery Act (4 Geo. IV. c. 94), passed to carry into effect the suggestions of our Fifth Report; a subject into which we shall enter at some length, involving as it does an extent of revenue exceeding one-fourth of the whole produce of the excise in Scotland.

It is very gratifying to be enabled to refer your Lordships to the evidence in the Appendix, as containing information the most satisfactory on this subject. A deputation of Scotch distillers, with whom we had a conference at Glasgow, state, "That the present regulations, by the removal of restrictions on the process of manufacture, give full scope to every trader to exert his ingenuity and industry to the utmost, in preparing spirits of superior quality, and suited to the taste of the consumer, and leave the trade open to all classes of the community; thus affording the benefit of a free competition."

"The demand for legally-made spirits has greatly increased; illicit distillation has, in a great measure, been suppressed, and distillers who were formerly in the trade, have, during the present year, in general manufactured double the quantity of spirits produced by them in former years."

A similar deputation in Edinburgh state, "That the additional experience of six months confirms the opinion previously expressed of the efficiency of the present distillery law, as affording, by the accuracy and liberality of its enactments, the strongest encouragement to manufacture the finest spirits from home-grown corn."

"That in consequence of the reduction of duty, and from the operation of this improved system of distillation in Scotland, the consumption of legally-distilled spirits is immensely increased."

As it regards the revenue, the evidence of Mr. Cornwall, one of the local Commissioners of Excise, and of Mr. Watson and Mr. Anderson, Collectors of that revenue, is equally satisfactory.

Mr. Cornwall states, "Its success has been very great; it seems to suit the purpose extremely well; the returns we have got show that there is a very great increase in the consumption of spirits, on which the duty has been paid; far beyond any thing we had before."

Mr. Watson, Collector of Inverness, states, "That since the new law, there has been more

legal spirits consumed in the town of Inverness than in any three years before. He has had no complaints; there may be some few alterations that the distillers desire in the law; but in the general operation, thinks it is sufficient to enable the legal to compete with the illegal distillers."

Mr. Anderson, Collector of Elgin, states, "He thinks the opinion is greatly changed in favour of legal spirits; it is coming more generally into consumption. He informed the commission also, that the difference in the price between legal and illegal whiskey was by no means considerable."

The total quantity of spirits on which duty was paid for the year previous to the passing of the act (ended 10th October, 1823), was 1,982,783, and for the subsequent year (ended 10th October, 1824), 5,260,054 gallons.

Satisfied, under these circumstances, that the act proceeds on a good principle, and that the reduction of the duty has been most beneficial, we have considered the practical details of the measure with a view to any alterations that experience might have suggested.

The first and most material of these, relates to the drawback on malt. It will be in your Lordships' recollection, that with a view to remove the objections to the use of malt, and thereby leave the manufacturer at liberty to employ the materials most conducive to superior quality, we proposed that such a portion of the malt duty should be drawback on its manufacture into spirits, as would leave the duty the same on spirits made from malt as from raw grain. To effect this object, the duty after imposing a duty of 2s. on each gallon of Scotch and Irish spirits, and requiring a portion of malt, equal at least to one-tenth of a bushel to be used in its manufacture, grants an allowance or abatement of 1s. for every gallon of spirits made altogether from malt, provided two gallons of spirits are produced for each bushel of malt consumed.

Under this act, the distillers in Scotland have almost invariably used malt, and claimed the abatement; and as our renewed inquiries have only tended to confirm our opinion, that malt spirits are best adapted to the taste of the consumer, and that without their manufacture, no successful competition with the illicit dealer can be maintained, it is not our intention to propose any alteration in the principle of this drawback.

This material to observe, however, that there is on every 100 bushels of barley, when made into malt, a considerable increase, which, under the present system of collecting the malt duty (explained in our Eighth Report), is not charged with the tax. From the evidence annexed to that report it appears, that where the malt is of good quality, the increase is seldom less than seven bushels on every ninety-nine paying duty, and we have been informed it is frequently some

siderably more, extending even to twenty or thirty per cent. more than the nominal rate of 2s. 6d. per bushel; he, in fact, obtains 106 bushels of spirits of proofing the quantity of spirits required by the act, it is obvious that the duty on such malt is actually reduced to about 2s. 4d. per bushel, and that the drawback on spirits founded on the estimate of 2s. 6d. will be inaccurate; and will give an advantage to the manufacturer of malt spirits not intended by the law.

Whether a complete remedy may be found for this evil, by any alteration in the mode of levying the duty on malt, will be a subject for our consideration when the duty on that article shall be under review in our inquiries into the English excise; in the mean time, however, its effects will be materially modified by the reduction of the drawback or abatement from 1s. to 1d. per gallon, so as to allow for an increase in the manufacture of malt equal to nine per cent. And as we have no reason to believe that malt increased to any greater extent will produce the quantity of spirits required by the act, we recommend also, with a view to prevent the use of such malt, that the certificate which at present accompanies the malt used for distillation, should certify that 100 lbs. of good and merchantable quality; and that, in the opinion of the officer, the increase has not exceeded nine per cent. The officer having authority to refuse this certificate unless the above facts are made apparent to him; and we propose likewise that distillers who make their own malt should be allowed certificates for the *bona fide* quantity manufactured; provided the increase does not exceed 9 per cent.

The second point, having reference to this drawback, relates rather to a matter of inconvenience than to the revenue.

The act requires, in order to enable the manufacturer to obtain the abatement or drawback on any malt used in the distilleries, that the duty shall be actually paid; and a certificate produced from the excise officer to this effect.

The malt laws, however, give a considerable credit to the maltster; and the excise accounts and conditions are arranged for the payment of the duty when the credit expires; much inconvenience is therefore found to arise, as well to the officer as to the manufacturer, from compelling the one to receive and the other to pay the duty at uncertain times; and in small quantities as the distillers may from time to time malt.

This provision appears to have been introduced to meet an existing enactment in the malt laws of Ireland, which precludes the removal of any malt before the duty is paid. In our Eighth Report we have recommended the repeal of this part of the Irish law; and as the object contemplated is to ascertain that the malt has not been

fraudulently manufactured, and not that the duty has been actually paid, the inconvenience will be removed, and the revenue, in our opinion, equally safe, if the certificate states that the duty on the malt has been paid or secured by bond to be paid, as the case may be. It is found that maltsters frequently obtain certificates that they have paid duty on malt, when the malt is not in fact sent or intended to be sent to a distiller; these certificates are openly sold to distillers, and afford a cover to any excess in their malt stock, as well as to any malt that may have been fraudulently introduced; a drawback is thus obtained on such malt, and the beneficial effects that were expected from the certificates are in a great degree, if not altogether, done away.

In order to prevent this in Scotland and Ireland (where the practice is either for distillers to manufacture their own malt, or purchase it directly from maltsters), it should be enacted that officers of excise are not to grant certificates, unless the name of the distiller be given to whom the malt is to be sent, and that any certificate fraudulently demanded, obtained, or sold, or any omission to deliver malt according to the certificate, should subject the party to a penalty equal to three times the duty on the quantity of malt specified.

In addition to these enactments, the excise officers be instructed, when the maltster resides in a different district from the distiller, to inform the supervisor of the distiller's district of the particulars of the certificate granted, in order that it may be ascertained that malt of proper quality is duly brought into the distiller's stock; we think that the revenue will be to a considerable degree, if not altogether, protected from frauds on the malt drawback; and that all ground of complaint on the part of the Irish manufacturers (relating as they do entirely to the alleged frauds) will be removed.

4thly. Instead of paying a drawback or abatement of 1s. per gallon (of whatever sum may be ultimately fixed) on account of the malt consumed, and afterwards receiving a duty of 2s. 3d. per gallon on malt spirits, the revenue would be satisfied, and much trouble avoided, if a duty less the amount of the drawback were paid on spirits manufactured from malt, and their being taken out of the warehouse for home consumption. The drawback on the malt to be allowed only on those spirits that are exported to foreign parts.

This alteration will greatly simplify the excise accounts; and avoid the receipt of duty from the manufacturer, and the immediate repayment to him of part of that duty as a drawback on the malt used from which no practical benefit is at present derived.

The second part of the act that appears to require alteration, and to which therefore we wish to direct your Lordships' attention, is that which prohibits the removal of spirits from the ware-

houses for home consumption, until the duty has been actually paid.

On most of the articles subject to a duty of excise, it is the practice to charge the duty from day to day, making up the accounts twice in each quarter, and calling on the trader for the amount of the half quarter's duty, when the collector of excise visits the market town nearest to his residence, permitting him in the meantime to sell and remove the goods, the necessary accounts of which have been taken. This appears to us a very convenient practice, and it affords the manufacturer a reasonable time to obtain payment from the consumer, before he is called on to advance the crown's duties. In some articles, the credit allowed is still more extensive, and in regard to malt it is so long, that the legislature have very properly required the trader to give ample security for the duties.

As it was evidently very desirable that the distillers should not be in a worse situation in regard to the credit allowed them, than the manufacturers of excisable articles in general, and as much inconvenience was found to arise to the collectors and other officers from the present system, we called upon the board of excise for an estimate of the amount of the duty which would become due on the spirits manufactured in stills of different contents, during the ordinary period of excise credit.

This Estimate is as under.

Contents of Stills.	Estimated Produce.	Duty.
40 gallons	200 gallons	£20
60 do.	300 do.	30
80 do.	500 do.	50
100 do.	600 do.	60
200 do.	1,000 do.	100
500 do.	1,600 do.	160
1,000 do.	7,000 do.	700

Estimated Produce, supposing the work to be continued day and night.

Contents of Stills.	Estimated Produce.	Duty.
40 gallons	400 gallons	£40
60 do.	600 do.	60
80 do.	800 do.	80
100 do.	1,000 do.	100
200 do.	2,000 do.	200
500 do.	4,000 do.	400
1,000 do.	10,000 do.	1,000

It is obvious from this document, that the duty accruing during the ordinary period of credit will not exceed the amount that frequently becomes due from the manufacturers of several other excisable commodities; neither does the sum appear to us more than might, even with the smaller stills, be in general obtained by the sale of those stills and the utensils necessary to the process, which, by the 117th section of the act, are made liable for the payment of the duties.

Under these circumstances, and adverting

particularly to what is stated in our Fifth Report as to the expediency of giving facility to small capitalists, and to those at present engaged in illicit distillation to come under the law, we cannot hesitate to recommend that the ordinary excise credit should be given to this class of traders, without requiring from them any special security.

The trouble and inconvenience resulting from the present regulations for receiving the duty on malt and spirits, as they are from time to time required for sale, will be more obvious to your Lordships when we state, that their removal will at once so materially reduce the business of the collectors, as to enable two at least to be discontinued.

The third part of the act to which our attention has been directed, is the amount of the penalties enacted for offences when committed by licensed distillers.

These penalties are of a specific amount, whatever may be the size of the still, or the means of injury to the revenue; and it is stated to us, that whilst they are so high, with reference to the small distiller, as to be ruinous in their consequences, and frequently to deter persons from engaging in the manufacture, lest they should become subject to them by accident, or by the misconduct of workmen, their infliction affords no adequate punishment in cases of fraud by distillers on a large scale.

Wherever it be practicable to apportion a fine to the extent of the offence, it is evidently most desirable to do so; and as it would, in our opinion, tend towards this object, if, in every case where the act in question imposes a specific pecuniary penalty, an option were given to the local board of excise, either to proceed for that penalty, or for 10s. per gallon on the contents of the still used by the offender, or for double the duty evaded, as they may deem expedient, we recommend an alteration of the law to this effect.

Lastly, It is alleged that the present annual license duty of 10l. on each distiller has operated in some cases to prevent the erection of small stills.

In expressing our opinion on the high license duties for making or retailing malt in Ireland, in our Eighth Report, we have stated the comparative disadvantage under which they place the small manufacturer. These duties, like other taxes, must either be added to the price of the commodity manufactured, or be paid out of the profits of the manufacturer. If, in the first case, a small distiller sell only from 5 to 800 gallons of spirits annually, it is obvious that to pay the sum of 10l., he must add 3d. or 4d. per gallon to the price of the spirits; whereas, if a distiller sell from 5 to 6000 gallons, one-half-penny per gallon would be ample reimbursement. Should the duty be paid out of the manufacturer's profit, it is equally apparent that 10l. taken from 50l. or 60l., and from 500l. or 600l.,

hear no just proportion, and do not by any means place the parties, in such a situation as, to enable them to enter into fair competition.

Deeming it essential that the erection of small stills should not, in any way be discouraged, we recommend that the annual license duty of 10*l.* be repealed; and that hereafter the license for the first year be only 5*s.*, and in subsequent years at the rate of 2*s.* 6*d.* for every 100 gallons of spirits manufactured in the past year. The adoption of this recommendation will place the license duty on distillers upon the same footing as we have proposed for the license duties on maltsters and retailers of malt in Ireland, and as several English license duties now stand.

Illicit Distillation.

Having thus stated the amendments in the act which appear to us desirable, we shall, as immediately connected with the subject, offer some observations on the present state of illicit distillation in Scotland.

Although the evidence to which we have already referred your Lordships, and the increased quantity of spirits charged with duty, satisfactorily prove that this pernicious and demoralising evil has greatly diminished, yet whenever we consider the favourable nature of the new regulations, the very large reduction of duty that has taken place, and the pledge given by the gentlemen of the country when that reduction was made, cordially to co-operate with the government in the suppression of this illicit traffic; we cannot but express our disappointment at the considerable extent to which it is still carried on.

One of the material causes which has operated to prevent the full effect of the beneficial measures adopted by the legislature, is undoubtedly to be found in the mistaken opinion still prevailing with the magistrates of certain districts, that they are at liberty to mitigate the penalties for illicit distillation according to their own discretion, notwithstanding the positive enactment of the act of 3 Geo. IV. c. 52, which, after prohibiting this traffic, under a penalty of 100*l.* proceeds thus, "which said penalty of 100*l.* it shall not be lawful for any justice or justices of the peace in Scotland, by or before whom such person or persons shall be convicted, under any pretence whatsoever, to mitigate or lessen under 20*l.*" It will be seen by a reference to the account in the Appendix, that in those districts where the great majority of cases have occurred; the penalty has been reduced on an average below 2*l.*

In thus mitigating the penalty, it is evident that the magistrates have proceeded rather with reference to the illicit distiller's visible means of payment, than to the magnitude of his profits, for even if he were detected three or four times a year, and each time paid a fine of 2*l.*, it is certain, that whilst he is enabled to evade the licence duty of 10*l.* per annum, and the duty of

2*s.* 3*d.* per gallon, on any quantity of spirits made, he will, after paying such fines, be still carrying on a very profitable trade, and one with which it is impossible the licensed distillers can enter into successful competition.

That this system of mitigation has entirely failed in effecting the suppression of illicit distillation, the sole object of the enactment, will be apparent to your Lordships by a reference to the evidence of Messrs. Cornwall and Watson, where it is stated, that the same individuals have not unfrequently been fined twenty and even thirty times for this offence. It has not also, we regret to say, been confined to the penalties for illicit distillation; it has extended to all the revenue penalties, the adjudication of which has been confided by law to the magistrates, and the result is, that whilst in the collection of an excise revenue in England exceeding 25,000,000*l.*, the average number of cases brought annually before the magistrates has been about 3,000; in Scotland, where the same revenue amounts only to 2,200,000*l.*, the average number has exceeded 19,000. The amount of the penalties awarded in one year, in the one case, has been 39,066*l.*, and the sum recovered 25,051*l.*, and in the other, 35,025*l.*, and the sum recovered 22,766*l.*

It having been alleged that this disposition on the part of the magistrates to contravene in every case the intention, and in many cases the positive enactments of the law, has been increased,—

1st, From the insufficient state of the gaols in certain districts:

2dly, From the small allowance made by the revenue for the subsistence of prisoners:

And 3dly, From the manner in which the law disposes of the penalty actually recovered,—we feel it necessary to offer some remarks on each of these points.

First, As to the state of the gaols:—

We called on the different collectors of the excise revenue to report any information in their possession on this subject, and their reports will be found in the Appendix. They appear to contain much useful information. In the Highlands, unquestionably, there is a great want of proper gaols for the confinement of offenders, a punishment which is not less necessary for the efficient collection of the revenue than for the improvement of the moral habits of the people; and as both the health and the safety of the prisoners at present confined in those districts, are represented as frequently endangered, we cannot but express our hope that this matter will receive, without delay, the attention of those who are competent to apply a remedy to the evil.

It is probably from this state of the gaols, that a practice has arisen in Scotland of allowing, after a revenue fine has been imposed, an unlimited time for its payment, and if ultimately the party appears unable to pay, of

granting what are called "Certificates of Poverty." These certificates are signed by the supervisors and officers concerned, and have the effect of entirely discharging the party from the penalty awarded against him. This system is evidently open to great objection, and occasions a communication between the offender and the officer making the detection, that must often lead to consequences detrimental to the revenue. Penalties can never be felt as punishments, and be the means of suppressing frauds, unless the early imprisonment of the party succeeds their non-payment; and when the system has been so far improved as to lead to this result, it is obvious certificates of this description should be altogether discontinued.

On the second point, the sum paid for the subsistence of prisoners in gaol:—

We find that the law authorises the board of excise to make any allowance not exceeding 7½*d.* per day; but that in practice the sum has been limited to 4½*d.*

In our opinion, the full allowance of 7½*d.* per day will not often in the present state of the gaols, be found more than sufficient, when the poverty of the party is satisfactorily ascertained; and as it is most desirable to remove every cause which may operate to prevent the due administration of the laws, we recommend greater liberality in this respect in future.

On the third point, the disposition of the penalty:—

The law gives one moiety of the penalty awarded to the officer making the detection; if, however, no part of that penalty be recovered, it does not make any provision for his remuneration, whatever may have been the exertion used, or the danger incurred. Should the same individual be fined twenty or thirty times 2*l.*, and pay the amount, the officer in each case receives a moiety, after deducting the expenses; if, on the contrary, the offender be at once sent to gaol, and the illicit traffic suppressed, all reward is at an end.

We cannot but think it probable, that the system of mitigating revenue penalties would have been more distinctly brought under your Lordships' notice, with a view to some immediate remedy, had it not been for a regulation, which necessarily makes it the officer's interest that the penalty should be assessed with reference to the offender's means of payment, rather than to the magnitude of the offence committed. It must be observed, however, on the other hand, that as all expenses are, under the existing regulations, deducted from the amount of the penalty, it frequently happens when the cases are intricate, or much litigated, and the expenses in consequence large, that the officers are deprived of any remuneration, even where very considerable fines are awarded and paid.

Several cases of this latter description will be found in the evidence of Messrs. Cornwall and Watson.

The legislature has seen the inconvenience of this latter part of the system; and by the act of 56 Geo. III. c. 104; sec. 13; your Lordships are empowered, in such cases, to direct the payment of the legal expenses out of the revenue, and a moiety of the gross penalty is then received by the detecting officer. This power, however, has not hitherto been exercised in Scotland; it affords no remedy where the party is unable to pay any portion of the penalty, and appears quite inapplicable to the number of minor cases which are of daily occurrence in that part of the United Kingdom.

On fully considering this subject, it appears to us, that more equal justice will be done to the officers, and at the same time the inducement to promote the infliction of small penalties, and to make vexatious seizures, will be materially diminished, if a moiety of all penalties and seizures be paid into one general fund, the officer making the detection being rewarded, not according to the sum absolutely recovered in each case, which depends frequently on circumstances altogether independent of its merits, but by the payment of such a sum, as the local board of excise, on having before them all the facts, may judge him justly entitled to.

The cases (which are of frequent occurrence) where an accidental discovery is the means of inflicting considerable penalties on individuals of property, or where large seizures of valuable goods are made without any considerable effort, will thus be brought in aid of those cases in which, according to the present regulations, all reward is lost (whatever may have been the exertion used) by the inability of the offending party to pay any part of the sum awarded.

It will be necessary to guard this fund by very strict regulations, and to administer it with great care, in order to satisfy the officers that their interests are never sacrificed to private favour. No reward should be paid where detections or seizures have not been made and legal proceedings instituted; and the surplus of the fund should be considered strictly as the property of the officers who have made the detections or seizures. To prevent accumulation, and with a view to equal justice, it should be reviewed every third year, and the total unappropriated surplus of the two preceding years should be divided amongst the officers who, during that period, had made the different detections or seizures, calculated at a per centage on the sums originally awarded them by the board of excise. Care should be taken also that this fund be not made subject to the payment of any salaries or allowances; and that any interest accruing on the balance, be brought to account for the benefit of the officers.

As informers are at present paid out of the officer's share of penalties and seizures, it follows, that their reward will form a charge on the fund we recommend to be established; and it is obvious, that few things tend more to the de-

tection of, and consequently to the prevention of frauds, than the certain reward of those who give information in regard to them; at present, however, the informer is left entirely to the officer by whom the detection is made; and as all that is paid to him diminishes the sum to be received by the officer, we cannot but fear the informer's interest often suffers, particularly in those cases where the discovery of his name is dangerous to his personal safety, as he is then necessarily deprived of a remedy by appeal to the board.

The establishment of the fund we have proposed will afford an opportunity of effecting a very desirable alteration, and with this view we recommend that in future every officer when he has made a detection or seizure, should, on stating the facts to the board, be required to specify whether it was on information or not, and whether the informer was willing to give his name to the collector. When the case has been decided, the officer should in like manner be required to submit the extent and circumstances under which the information was given, and the local board should then award the informer out of this fund such a sum as they may think him fairly entitled to; this reward, in cases of a special nature, may, we think, very properly be allowed to exceed the present limited amount of one-third of the sum actually recovered.

If the informer be unwilling to give his name confidentially to the collector, the payment must necessarily be made through the medium of the officer; in the latter case, however, the officer should be required to give a certificate of the sum disbursed, to be referred to if the informer should make any subsequent application; and it should also be distinctly understood by every officer, that when a reasonable doubt exists, whether the information for which it is endeavoured to obtain payment has been actually received, it should be imperative on the officer to give the board the name of the individual. This latter regulation is necessary to prevent officers from taking measures to obtain for their own use any sum that may be awarded to an unknown informer.

In addition to the other advantages to be derived from the establishment of this general fund, it will, in our opinion, tend materially to check what are called collusive seizures; that is, seizures made by consent of a party, who gives up his commodity to the officer, having made a previous condition to share in the legal reward, a mode of proceeding from which it is to be feared the revenue at present suffers considerably. By rendering the reward uncertain and dependent on the circumstances of the case, agreements of this description will cease to be profitable; with a view to their further prevention, as well as to check those seizures where a part of the goods are given up to the officer that the remainder may not be taken, we re-

commend a distinct account to be kept of the number of detections made by, and the amount paid to each officer in the excise department: this account, to be reviewed from time to time (at least once every year) by the board, and special inquiry directed in cases where, from the number of seizures made by any officer or other circumstances, there shall be any ground to suspect collusion or other improper conduct.

From the accounts in the Appendix, it appears that the average sum accruing annually to the officers in Scotland on account of fines is about 11,000*l.*, and something less on account of seizures.

In our opinion, a moiety of the gross penalties recovered, and of the gross proceeds of the officer's share of seizures, will not be more than sufficient to give such reward to the different individuals as will afford a just stimulus to extraordinary exertion and diligence. We recommend, therefore, that this general fund should be relieved altogether from the legal and other expenses, and that they should be paid out of the revenue, subject to the same strict control and examination as at present.

Having thus expressed our opinion on the different points that may have operated to prevent a proper administration of the revenue laws, by the magistrates of Scotland, and offered such suggestions for their remedy as appear to us desirable, it becomes necessary we should state to your Lordships our conviction, that for some years past it has not been the practice of the board of excise in Scotland to have recourse to the court of Exchequer so frequently, as appears to us necessary for the due administration of the excise laws.

Whilst the average number of cases annually brought before the magistrates in England has been as stated 3,000, the average number brought before the court of Exchequer has been 177; the average number brought before the court of Exchequer in Scotland, however, has been 55 only, although the number decided by the magistrates has been upwards of 19,000.

Objecting, as we must always do, to a recourse to this court merely for the purpose of establishing, at a great expense, doubtful points of law which, if necessary to the public interests, may be much more effectually and properly provided for by a legislative amendment of the existing statutes, we consider the exercise of its authority as the most efficient check on the proceedings of the magistrates, and the only effectual safeguard of the public revenue: whilst this court is made an instrument to punish the fraudulent trader, it affords a public example to all other manufacturers, and points out to those who exercise the magisterial functions, that there is a tribunal always open where justice will be done to the crown, if at any time they omit to enforce the enactments of the law.

It is on this view of the utility of the court

of Exchequer, that after a writ has been issued, and expenses incurred, with a view to the trial of delinquents, we think the number of cases that are compromised, very objectionable. It is admitted, that in an individual case only be considered, the revenue may very frequently obtain a larger sum by a compromise, than would be recovered if the cause proceeded to trial, because it is often the interest of an offending party to pay twice the legal penalty, rather than have his fraudulent conduct publicly exposed. It appears to us, however, that it is the fear of this exposure, even more than of the infliction of the penalties of the law, that operates to deter other traders from similar frauds; and whilst, therefore, we recommend that great care be taken before a case is brought forward, that the proof is clear, and the fraud of importance; we think that after proceedings have been commenced, it is seldom desirable that either the board of excise, or the lord advocate, should interfere to prevent the matter from going to open trial. Without limiting the power of the latter to enter into any compromise where he may deem it absolutely necessary, we think the solicitor of the excise should be instructed, as soon as he has ascertained the opinion of his lordship, that this course is expedient in any given case, to state that opinion to the board, in order to give them an opportunity, should they think fit, of communicating with the lord advocate upon the subject; and it should be equally incumbent also on the solicitor, when a compromise has been concluded, whether it has been practicable to have this previous communication with the board or not, to submit the amount of the sum agreed to be taken, and the grounds of the whole proceeding for the information of the commissioners.

In thus advocating a more frequent recourse to the court of Exchequer, however, there is one point to which it appears necessary to call your Lordships' special attention, extending as it does, not only to the excise revenue in Scotland, but to the collection of almost every other branch of the public income; we refer to that regulation of the law, which precludes a party, when successful, from obtaining from the crown the repayment of his costs.

Whatever may have been the necessity or policy of this regulation, when the powers and rights of the crown were less accurately understood, or less ably enforced, we feel assured your Lordships will agree with us, that it is now a sufficient reason for an individual to sustain the loss of time, as well as of business to which a crown prosecution very generally gives rise, without, at the same time, subjecting him when successful in repelling the accusation and establishing his innocence, to the very heavy expense attending an Exchequer trial. Such is in fact the effect of the existing law, that it is often the interest of an innocent party to compromise with the crown and pay a moderate fine, rather

than incur the expense necessary to establish that innocence in court. We are aware that many cases are reviewed, and relief granted by your Lordships without pecuniary payment, but we entertain considerable doubts if this relief may not have been sometimes obtained by the guilty, on evidence of a description that an open trial might have exposed; and we think, under any circumstances, it is highly desirable to diminish the inducements which at present exist to the exercise of this sort of interposition.

As, however, we are convinced, that guilty parties often avoid punishment by a legal defect in the proof or other accident, we recommend only such an alteration of the law as will empower the judges of this court, in cases where the crown fails to substantiate its case, to direct, if it shall appear to them expedient so to do, the expenses incurred by the individual to be paid out of that revenue at the instance of which the prosecution has been carried on. We feel satisfied that this will give the necessary relief to parties really innocent, and thus remedy the existing evil, whilst it will preclude the guilty from any certainty of obtaining costs in cases of accidental acquittal, which might, under other circumstances, operate to induce them to take the chance of a trial, and thus to put the public to unnecessary expense, and increase the litigation to which the revenue laws necessarily give rise.

In resuming the subject of the mitigation of penalties by the magistrates, we must, in justice to the board of excise, on whom the former part of these observations may appear to reflect, state to your Lordships; that during our stay in Scotland, measures were taken to check the existing abuse, by bringing before the court of Exchequer the cases of several illicit distillers; resident in those districts where the magistrates were not disposed to mitigate the penalties. We cannot but hope the result of these trials, the very convincing speech of the lord advocate, and the observations of the learned judge who presided, will have a proper effect upon the future administration of the laws. If this should be the case, we feel satisfied that in a short time the number of cases will not be by any means so extensive as to give cause for reasonable apprehension; at present, however, it is necessary to call your Lordships' attention to the very large number of outstanding fines for the offence of illicit distillation, and for making malt privately, and also to the number of similar cases that have been detected, but not brought to adjudication.

It appears from the accounts in the Appendix, that the number of outstanding fines was on the 22d February last, 3,537; and the amount £5,334. 14s. 8d.; and of unadjudged cases 1,118.

As an immediate collection of these penalties, or the imprisonment of the parties, in the present state of the gaols, would be equally im-

practicable, it is in our opinion desirable, as a prelude to a more just and proper administration of the law, to remit, at once the fines remaining unpaid, granting to the officers making the detection, a sum equal to one-fourth of the amount, unrecouped; and at the same time to withdraw the unadjudged cases from before the magistrates (with the exception only of such as are very aggravated, or where personal violence has been used), granting for the encouragement of the detecting officer in like manner, a reward of one pound in each case, being rather more than a moiety of the average penalty heretofore awarded.

It should be distinctly understood, however, that after this act of clemency, no mitigation of the penalty for illicit distillation below 20*l.* will be accepted, and that no delay will be allowed in the payment. We trust, when it becomes known that this course will be pursued, the number of persons it will be necessary to commit to prison will not be great; but, as the practice under the law has been so long defective, it appears desirable, for a time at least, strictly to watch its operation; and for this purpose we recommend, when any party is sent to prison, that a report should be immediately made by the officer, containing the following particulars, viz.

1. Name of the party.

2. Offence committed.

3. Date and place.

4. When and by whom arrested.

5. When and before whom convicted.

6. Penalty.

7. When sent and in what custody.

8. Age and apparent bodily health.

9. Whether a family.

10. General character, if known.

11. Whether ever convicted before.

12. State of the goal to which committed.

13. Observations (if any) of committing magistrate.

And it should be the duty of the board of excise to forward this report to your Lordships without delay, accompanying it with any observations they may think fit to offer, in order to enable you to judge of the expediency of exercising the power of mitigation, or of altogether releasing the party, as the circumstances of the case may appear to warrant.

In proposing a return of this description, as peculiarly applicable in Scotland under the circumstances to which we have referred, we cannot but observe, adverting to the nature and amount of the revenue penalties, and to the different authorities by which they are inflicted, that it would, in our opinion, tend to protect the liberty of the subject, and to prevent aggravated cases of imprisonment for minor offences.

If a general instruction were given to every revenue department, whenever any individual was committed to goal at their instance, to make a return of similar particulars for your Lord-

ships' consideration. Whilst the magistrates would have no excuse for failing in their duty, and properly enforcing the law; the present extent and amount of revenue penalties would be less open to objection, if the operation of the several laws by which they are enacted were thus accurately watched by your Lordships' department.

In our animadversions on the defective administration of the excise laws in Scotland, however, we are anxious not to be understood as implying that even the infliction of the full penalties enacted by them for illicit distillation, will be sufficient to suppress this great and alarming evil, or that we feel less imperatively the necessity of that cordial and efficient co-operation on the part of the principal land owners and occupants of estates, with a view to this object, which we so strongly urged in our Fifth Report: we repeat again, that it is to these gentlemen that the revenue must look for effectual protection; and it is in order to aid the exertions which we trust will now be made, and with reference to the evidence before us, (Appendix, No. 71.) that in several districts in the Highlands violence is frequently committed, and the officers of excise are unable to enter without great personal risk, that we are induced to recommend, as a temporary measure at least, an increase of the preventive force now employed in this part of the country.

Various suggestions have been made to us with reference to the description of force that it might be desirable to establish. It is certainly important that it should have the power to destroy the malt and other materials used by the illicit distillers, to which the present excise officers are altogether unequal, and which experience has shewn to be one of the most effectual means of putting down this illegal traffic; and as sailors easily adapt themselves to this service, and are not so much exposed to corruption from an intercourse with smugglers, we think that the employment of two cutters, having crews from twenty-five to thirty men, one to rendezvous in the *Beaulie Firth*, and the other at or near *Oban*, and to proceed from station to station by the *Caledonian* canal, would, on the whole, be open to the least objection.

The crews of these vessels to be under the orders of intelligent and active officers, to be in constant communication with the different collectors in the Highland districts, and to proceed to act on land according to their directions.

A memorandum of the directions which it appears to us desirable to issue for the guidance of this force, will be found in the Appendix.

Instructions.

Having thus expressed our opinion on the operation of the new distillery law, and the state of illicit distillation, we proceed to the details of the establishment under the direction of the board of excise in Scotland, adverting in the

first instance to the instructions under which the district officers are now acting, involving as they do a material part of the subject.

These instructions are dated in 1804, the numerous alterations since made, as well in the duties of excise as in the mode of their collection, having been provided for by additional or supplementary instructions, and by what are called "general letters."

From the former part of this Report your Lordships will have observed how greatly the excise revenue depends on the vigilant survey of the different traders whilst their operations are in progress, and that, in point of fact, the business of an excise officer is one of constant inspection, and continued watchfulness; it appears to us, therefore, that instead of requiring the officers to make themselves acquainted with the voluminous instructions of 1804, with the supplementary instructions subsequently issued, and with the general letters, (of which no less than 890 are represented as now in force,) every exertion ought to have been used to prevent such an unnecessary waste of their time. A clear and concise code of instructions is in fact essential to the due collection of the revenue. This code should be revised frequently, and any alteration necessary between the periods of revision should be made in the form of additional articles; confining general letters, or, more correctly speaking, "circular letters," to information of a temporary nature, or to such instructions as are to remain in force only for a limited period.

A very strong instance of want of attention, even in the revisions that have been made in the existing instructions, has come before us.

One of the clauses of these instructions is founded on the act 10 Geo. I. c. 10, and requires the officers of excise to attend and to cause to be weighed all the coffee, tea, cocoa, chocolate, &c. in the stocks of wholesale dealers once in every ten days, and eight times unexpectedly in each year.

If the quantities sold be not sufficiently large to require permits, the stocks are to be weighed once in every twenty days, and eight times unexpectedly in each year.

In addition to these established weighings of stock, the supervisors are to have them weighed occasionally, and it is understood they should do so generally four times a-year.

It follows, that if the officers and supervisors obeyed these instructions, the stocks of the wholesale dealers would be weighed over forty-eight times in each year, and of retail dealers thirty times.

In the year 1723, when the law first gave authority to weigh the stocks of dealers in the articles enumerated, the consumption, and consequently the quantities on hand, must have been comparatively inconsiderable, and it is probable this regulation might have been carried into effect; its continuance, however, at the pre-

sent time, and under circumstances so entirely changed, cannot be too strongly condemned.

It has followed that where the stocks are large, the weighing has been altogether omitted, and an estimate only has been entered in the excise books: a duty held out as important, has thus been neglected, whilst, at the same time, a habit of confidential communication between the officers and the dealers has been established, leading, we fear, to consequences more injurious to the revenue than any benefit to be derived from the obnoxious regulation itself.

The ostensible object of the re-weighing is to detect the introduction into the dealer's stock of the articles on which the excise duties have not been paid. Even in cases, however, where the weighing from the state of the stock can be effectually performed, the traders, aware that it will take place, seldom fail when they have smuggled goods for sale to keep them from the view of the excise officers, and it has rarely occurred that any improper additions to the stocks have been detected.

The following returns of the seizures resulting from the numerous re-weighings for five years will place the matter in a strong point of view:

Tea	16 lbs.
Coffee	10
Tobacco	14
Snuff	12
Total	57 lbs.

The probable number of stocks which should have been re-weighed to produce this result, cannot be estimated at less than 70,000.

In point of fact, experience has proved that the only practical utility of taking the stocks of dealers, is to have a record of them occasionally, in order when information on that is obtained, that smuggled articles are in their possession; the officers of excise may be able to seize such articles in any entered room, and to prove that they are an excess of the duty-paid stock. For this purpose, an unexpected survey and weighing twice in each quarter by the officer, and once or twice in each year by the supervisor, would be amply sufficient; and as such an alteration would enable the officer efficiently to perform the duty, and at the same time relieve the large traders who do not connive with the officers, from at least thirty-eight, and the smaller traders from at least twenty different annual weighings of their respective stocks, we cannot but express our regret, that it has been so long delayed.

In preparing a new code of instructions, a measure indispensably and immediately necessary, we trust it will be remembered, that twenty years have elapsed since the last instructions were revised; and that such alterations will, in consequence, be introduced, as are calculated to meet the changes which have in the interval taken place.

We would recommend also, that the several articles having reference to the general conduct of the officers, should be separated from the particular instructions that are necessary for collecting each excise duty. After this has been done, as the latter will consist only of the directions requisite under the respective acts imposing the several duties; we think they may with great advantage be made public, and the traders be allowed to purchase, at a moderate price, the particular code of instructions relating to the trade in which he is, or may propose to be engaged; and the additions from time to time made to that code, precisely in the same manner as he is at present enabled to purchase the acts of parliament on which those instructions should be founded.

Several complaints have been made to us, of the extraordinary power that has been exercised by the officers of excise, and it has been stated that this power was not warranted by law; its dangerous nature will be evident on a perusal of the following extract from a recent examination of a deputation of the Irish distillers. An extract that we have reason to believe, speaks the feeling of a very large number of persons engaged in the manufacture of excisable articles, viz.

"I complained of the restraints we lay under respecting the tonnage, and of the disadvantage in being deprived of the ten days curtailed from the time allowed for the payment of the duty. The answer I got to one part of it was, that we had still the time allowed, and that nothing was ever done to prevent it; and then, when I went to inquire, I found there had never been an order from the board about it, but that one of the gentlemen of the excise office took upon himself to issue that order. *In such a commodity as spirits, we are sure to obey an order when issued, whether legal or not.*"

The measure we recommend, will at once enable the trader to protect himself from any improper conduct on the part of the officers, or to obtain redress should illegal orders be at any time issued; it will tend also to render the traders and the excise officers more independent of each other, a point not hitherto sufficiently attended to in the administration of the excise laws; that presently the extent and complexity of the district officers' instructions, necessarily render them averse to any complaint from the traders, lest the inquiry consequent upon the usual investigation should bring accidental omissions forward, and render them amenable to the censure of a board very properly strict in the maintenance of discipline and due subordination. On the other hand, the numerous enactments, the breach of any one of which subjects the trader to a considerable pecuniary penalty, place him still more in the power of the officers. The result of these multiplied instructions and enactments is, we fear, often the

reverse of the object contemplated, the officers and traders finding it impossible, with every exertion, completely to carry them into effect, mutually agreed to disregard the whole, and the revenue is in consequence more in danger than if it were left without any such regulations.

It remains only that we observe, in reference to this subject, that in the preparation of the general instructions, it appears to us desirable to confide some discretionary power to the collectors of excise, to give relief in cases of obvious accident or error. A discretion of this nature has been recently given to the collectors and comptrollers of the customs at certain out-ports, from which much convenience has resulted to the public; the revenue correspondence has been diminished, and the delay attending a reference to Edinburgh or London (in many cases more important than the article in dispute) has been avoided.

All the collectors of excise rise gradually in the service, and are necessarily acquainted with its details; it is not in their power, without the connivance of the supervisor and the subordinate officers, to commit any fraud upon the revenue; and we are satisfied, therefore, that this discretion may be as safely intrusted to them as to the collectors and comptrollers of the customs. We recommend, in consequence, that it should be given, it being understood, that in every case of its exercise a record should be made in the supervisor's journal, and an immediate report forwarded to the board.

Establishment.

The establishment under the direction of the board of excise in Scotland, is divided into two parts.

1st, The officers in each district for charging and collecting the duties, ordinarily called "The Out-door Establishment."

2d, The officers under the board at Edinburgh, for checking the proceedings of the district officers, and ultimately receiving and accounting for the revenue, ordinarily called "The In-door Establishment."

The establishments which your Lordships have sanctioned for the different districts of Scotland, appear to be as follows:

- 18 Collectors.
- 64 Supervisors.
- 543 Officers.
- 47 Assistants and extra assistants.
- 13 Supernumeraries.
- 12 Permit writers.
- 16 Clerks to collectors.

The establishment returned to us, as actually on the establishment on the 5th July, 1824, was as follows, viz.

- 18 Collectors.
- 69 Supervisors.
- 525 Officers.
- 28 Assistants and extra assistants.
- 14 Supernumeraries.

19 Permit writers.

20 Clerks to collectors.

The only material excess is in the number of supervisors; nor is that so considerable as to call for special observation, had it not appeared from the return of the board of excise in Scotland, that they considered themselves authorised by their patent to make additions from time to time to the number of persons employed on their establishment, without your Lordships' sanction. Such a proceeding appears to us not warranted by the provisions of the act of the 50 Geo. III. c. 117, and altogether opposed to that control which your Lordships should exercise over this large branch of the revenue expenditure. As, however, the consolidation of the boards of England and Scotland will, we have no doubt, lead to a more correct construction of the act in question, it is not necessary to observe at any length on the subject.

The regulations under which the district officers are appointed, and the salary attached to each rank, appear to be as follows:

Individuals, when nominated for excise appointments, are examined, and unless specially objected to, are placed under competent officers, with a view to their instruction in the duties to be performed. When they have obtained the proper certificate and taken the oaths of office, they are called "expectants."

A certain number of these expectants are appointed annually, with a view to the supply of any vacancies that may occur on the establishment. In Scotland, these individuals have not any salary or other allowance, unless employed to assist in the collection of the revenue on the illness or accidental absence of the regular officers, and on these occasions they are paid at the rate of 75*l.* per annum.

The number of expectants is at present about 170; and of these, more than three-fourths are stated to be employed.

From expectants individuals either become assistants, supernumeraries, or officers, according to the demands of the service and to the dates of their several nominations.

1st, It is the duty of an assistant to aid the officers where the districts are large, or the traders of a peculiar description, as distillers, &c. Twenty-one assistants are employed, and they are paid likewise at the rate of 75*l.* per annum.

2d, It is the duty of a supernumerary to assist the collector when necessary, and to act on the occasional temporary absence or sudden illness of officers. One supernumerary is in general stationed in each collection; they have a permanent salary on the establishment of 25*l.* per annum, and an addition at the rate of 65*l.* per annum when in actual employment. Fourteen are represented as at present on full pay.

3d, The duty of officers, as well as that of supervisors and collectors, has been sufficiently explained in the progress of this Report.

With a view to the *charge* of the excise revenue, the country is apportioned in the first instance into "divisions," and each division is allotted to one officer. Where traders subject to the excise laws are thinly scattered; the space in each division is extended, and the officer in consequence is required to keep a horse; these divisions are hence denominated "rides;" the smaller divisions, by way of distinction, are called "foot walks."

The traders in a "ride" being less numerous, the revenue collected is not so large, junior officers are therefore appointed to these divisions. The regulations require, that an officer shall have been three years in a "ride" before he is eligible for a "foot walk." In order to obtain this promotion also, it is essential that he should petition the board; his character is then inquired into, and if satisfactory, his name is placed on a list, from whence the vacancies occurring are from time to time filled up. Officers are allowed a salary of 90*l.* per annum; and 525 were returned to us as employed on the 5th July, 1824.

After having been nine years an officer, an individual is eligible for promotion to the rank of supervisor. To obtain the situation of "supervisor," a second petition to the board is requisite; inquiry is again made into the character of the individual, and if satisfactory, his name is put down for promotion. The space allotted to a supervisor is called a "district," and embraces several "divisions," varying according to the number of traders in each. The salary of a supervisor is 160*l.* per annum, and sixty-nine were returned as employed on the 5th July, 1824.

After an individual has been five years a supervisor, he may petition the board for the situation of collector. The space allotted to each collector is called a "collection," and embraces a certain number of districts, depending on the distance, and the number of traders from whom duties are to be collected. The number and salaries are as follows, viz.

Four at.....	£600
Three	500
Five	450
Four	400
Two	350

It is our intention to offer a few observations on each of these classes, commencing with the

Expectants.

The regulations at present acted on in respect to this class, appear to us open to two objections; the first is, that individuals who are hereafter to be appointed officers, and on whom therefore the security of the excise revenue will greatly depend, should be left entirely to the emolument resulting from casual employment, without any fixed salary or other allowance.

Whilst these individuals are unemployed, and

consequently without the means of subsistence, it is to be feared debts will be incurred, and habits contracted, rendering the parties very unfit for revenue officers: we much prefer therefore the English system, according to which, after the individuals nominated have been duly instructed, they are appointed to reside in those parts of the country where it is probable their services will be required, and when not in actual employment, allowed 50*l.* per annum each.

Our second objection is to the nomination of so large a number.

If their appointment be, as alleged, merely to supply vacancies, it is obvious that 170 cannot be requisite to supply vacancies on an establishment not exceeding in the whole 700 individuals. It has been stated that this number is at present necessary to the collection of the duties under the new distillery law; it appears to us, however, extremely undesirable to place so important a duty under the charge of "expectants."

Whenever the existing establishment is found insufficient, additions should be made to it under your Lordships' authority; and nothing can be more objectionable than any attempt to carry on the public service by expedients of this description, even when they do not occasion, as in the present case, additions to be made to an establishment, equal to one-fourth of the number originally fixed by your Lordships, and an expenditure of from 10,000*l.* to 12,000*l.* per annum, without your sanction.

With a view to remedy the existing evils, we shall hereafter propose such an addition to the number of officers as appears to us essential; and we strongly recommend,—

1st, That the number of expectants should in future be strictly limited to 100.

2dly, That they should have a permanent allowance of 50*l.* per annum, as in England, and an addition of 30*l.* per annum when employed.

3dly, That in lieu of appointing a certain number of expectants every year, without reference to the vacancies occurring, in consequence of which the establishment is at times overloaded, and at other times in want of assistance, the number of expectants be made up to 100 in the month of September in each year. At this period the most considerable excise duties come under survey, and it is, therefore, most desirable the proper number should be then completed.

Assistants and Supernumeraries.

It is apparent, from the evidence in the Appendix, that the duty of the assistants may be very properly performed by the senior expectants, and that of the supernumeraries by the junior officers. We do not hesitate, therefore, to recommend the abolition of those two ranks of officers, as well as those of assistant officers and extra-assistants, at present said to be employed in the prevention of smuggling.

We are satisfied that nothing tends more to

an effectual check and control over the expenditure of the public money, than that the system which it maintains should be easily understood: in this view, where it tends to facilitate a clear general understanding of the duties to be performed, we should suggest a consolidation of offices, even at the hazard of some practical inconvenience. In the present case, however, no such inconvenience is to be apprehended. The whole number of assistants, supernumeraries, assistant officers, and extra assistants, constituting four distinct ranks, with different fixed salaries, amounts only to forty-two, and there is no doubt, on their entire abolition, the out-door business of the excise may be performed by the remaining officers.

Officers.

In Scotland, the circuit or division allotted to an officer, denominated a "foot-walk," is from twelve to sixteen miles; in England, from twelve to twenty. We think it desirable that an assimilation should take place by the adoption of the English circuit, and that the divisions of the officers in Scotland should be immediately surveyed and altered, having special reference to that circuit, as well as to any alteration that may have taken place, either in the number of traders, or in the extent of their business.

2d, The allowance for a horse should in every case be distinguished from the permanent salary, and never paid unless the horse be kept and used. It is at present necessary for the supervisor to certify that every officer in a "ride" has a horse; but as the withholding this certificate would preclude the officer from receiving any salary whatever, it is to be feared that on some occasions it is improperly granted. The evil of this arises not so much from the amount of the extra payment as the false certificate, and the mutual concurrence in an incorrect statement, which in its effects necessarily tends to make both the officer and the supervisor less efficient servants of the revenue.

3d, In England, the officers are removed periodically every four years: this regulation appears to us highly beneficial to the revenue; in fact, it is almost the only efficient check to collusive agreements between the officers and traders, to which the temptation is so great. However inconvenient it may be, therefore, to the individual officers, we cannot but recommend the extension of the regulation to Scotland, care being taken that officers are not removed to a greater distance than is necessary, and that the allowance made to them is on every occasion fully adequate to their fair and reasonable expenses.

4th, As we are fully satisfied that the salaries of the officers in Scotland are too low, and as their equalisation with the same class in England is on every account highly desirable, we cannot hesitate to recommend the immediate adoption of that measure. The footwalk of

ficers to have a salary of 100*l.* per annum, and the ride officers 80*l.*; an extra allowance of 20*l.* per annum each being made to the latter for the keep of a horse.

Finally, It is, we are aware, a matter of considerable difficulty to fix the proper number of officers, depending, as that number should do, as well on the numerical amount of the excise traders in Scotland as on the relative business done by each; it appears to us, however, so important that some maximum should be formed, with a view to check unnecessary expenditure under this head, that we have given the subject considerable attention.

The number of traders under excise survey in Scotland, on the 5th July, 1824, was returned to us as follows; viz.

Common brewers	236
Victuallers	321
Maltsters	1,051
Distillers	168
Chandlers	224
Tanners	181
Tawers	74
Soap-makers	40
Calico-printers	41
Brick-makers	105
Paper-makers	85
Glass-makers	11
Rectifiers	11
Starch-makers	6
Stone bottle-makers	1
Sweet-manufacturers	2
Vinegar-makers	4
Muriatic acid-makers	74
Curriers	176
Tobacco-manufacturers	158
Snuff-millers	22
Auctioneers	618
Oil-dressers	4
Fish-curers	1,104
Dealers in ale	12,419
— spirits	12,199
— wines	1,304
— tea	9,617
— tobacco	7,587
— sweets	12
— vinegar	420

Total 48,255

On considering this account, and advertng also to the reduction that must take place in the occupation of the officers, when the number of surveys at present made in the stocks of dealers shall have been diminished, to the advantages that may result from apportioning the country into more convenient divisions, and to the officers that may be discontinued in the Highlands, on the establishment of the preventive force we have recommended, we think your Lordships may with great propriety limit the total number of officers for Scotland to 550.

It will of course be necessary to discontinue

officers in one collection, and appoint them to another, according to the varying circumstances of trade; and this should be done by the board of excise, without specific authority in each case. On the best information we can now obtain, however, we do not think the total number for Scotland should be allowed to exceed 550, without your Lordships' special sanction, nor do we think that sanction should be given until after extensive inquiries and the most deliberate consideration.

Supervisors.

1st, The practice of requiring individuals to petition for promotion, a step necessary before an officer can obtain the rank of supervisor, appears to us open to great objection.

In our view of the subject, promotion is intended for the benefit of the public service rather than for the advantage of the individual, and it should therefore depend on an inquiry into the abilities and industry of the respective parties, and not on their importunity. Notwithstanding the due collection of the excise revenue depends so much on the right conduct of the officers, it follows, from the present system, that if an individual should have formed improper connexions, or be in combination with traders against the revenue, and omit in consequence to petition the board for promotion, no special means are taken to discover his delinquency, the regular inquiry into the character and proceedings of any officer depending altogether on this previous petition.

In our opinion, an inquiry should take place systematically, after a certain period of service, without any application from the officers; and the senior, if found able and industrious, should invariably be selected for promotion. A refusal to accept that promotion ought, we think, to be the subject of a distinct investigation, depending, as it appears to us it must, either on some error in the system, which fails to hold out the proper encouragement upon advancement, or upon some concealed misconduct or defect in the party, which should render him less entitled to confidence as an officer.

We by no means intend to imply by this recommendation that promotion should be guided by seniority alone; we are fully aware of the disadvantages that have attended this system; at the same time, the duties to be performed in the excise department appear to depend so much more upon general honesty and integrity than on extraordinary exertion or great abilities, that, whether the interests of the public or the individual are concerned, we think it highly desirable for seniority so far to obtain as to entitle every individual entering this service to a distinct inquiry into his character and conduct, and to preclude the promotion of any junior officer in preference to a senior, on any ground other than the obvious advantage of the public revenue.

2d. In surveying the "divisions" of the officers, the "districts" of the supervisors will of course be remodelled. Our inquiries have led us to believe that, at present, more is required from this class of officers in Scotland than they are well able to perform.

Mr. Watson, a very respectable collector of excise, whom we examined on this point, states, "that he was ten years a supervisor; and that he was employed about sixteen hours a day."

Mr. Cornwall, a sub-commissioner, states, "that in forming a district the board would expect a supervisor to be employed about 12 hours a day."

Nothing can be less desirable for the maintenance of strict discipline, or lead to consequences more injurious to the revenue, than to require from the officers employed a greater degree of exertion than is usual in the class of life from whence they are taken, tending, as it evidently does, to force the intelligent and valuable officers, whose abilities enable him to obtain other means of employment, either to give up the service altogether, or to evade the regulations by the performance of his duty in a superficial and unsatisfactory manner. We cannot but hope that in re-modelling the districts this point will be duly considered, and an alteration made.

3d. With regard to the number of supervisors to be hereafter employed in Scotland, we think that if the time which is now necessary for many of them to occupy in their official duties be diminished, an increase rather than a reduction will be necessary, notwithstanding the relief that has been given by the cessation of the salt duties: we are disposed, therefore, to recommend to your Lordships to sanction an addition of six to the present establishment, making 75 in the whole; convinced that the central board will not employ the full number, if at any time hereafter they shall not be found requisite.

4th. We recommend that the salaries of this class of officers, also, be assimilated to the same class in England, viz. 200*l.* per annum.

We have less hesitation in proposing that the salaries of the officers and supervisors of excise in Scotland be raised to a level with those of England, as it is the unanimous opinion of the superior officers whom we have examined, and to whose evidence, on every question having reference to the receiving, paying, and accounting for the excise duties, we can with confidence refer your Lordships, that even in England the salaries of these two classes of officers are lower than their duties and responsibilities warrant. The additional annual expense, calculated on the numbers recommended for the future establishment in the several districts, will be about 3,500*l.*; a considerable sum certainly, but one which we trust will be amply provided for by the different reductions it will be in our power to suggest in the progress of this Report.

Collectors. — 1st. A new arrangement of the collections should follow that of the districts and divisions.

2d. The alteration in the manner of paying the malt and spirit duties which we have proposed will enable at least two officers of this rank to be discontinued; and as the transfer of the import duties from the excise to the customs will render the collectors at Leith and Greenock unnecessary, we should, on the whole, be disposed to think that thirteen collectors would be amply sufficient for the receipt of the excise duties of Scotland, were it not for the suggestion made to us, that Edinburgh should be formed into a distinct collection: at present, in consequence, we believe, of its having been the seat of the head office, the duties are received by the cashier monthly, and checked in a mode different from the duties received in the country. We see no sufficient reason for this distinction: the different traders ought all to be on the same footing, as regards the time of paying their duties; and a system that is efficient in the country must be equally so in Edinburgh. The appointment of a collector for that city also will facilitate the execution of an arrangement, we shall hereafter propose for the entire abolition of the office of cashier, and we cannot hesitate, therefore, to recommend it for adoption; the collector at Edinburgh to be allowed three clerks, as follows:

1st.....	at	£250
2d	at	150
3d	at	100

The total number of collectors for Scotland will then be fourteen.

3d. The salaries of the collectors in Scotland are on an average rather higher than those of England; they have not, however, as in England, any allowance during the time they are on the receipt of the duties; and the consequence has been, we fear, that the period of this receipt has been shortened, with a view to diminish the unavoidable expenses attending it, to the injury, on some occasions, of the public service.

We recommend, that the allowances made in England to the collectors, as well as to the supervisors and other officers during their attendance on the receipt, should be extended to Scotland; and if this measure be taken, it appears to us the salaries of the collectors may be diminished.

We propose, in consequence, the following establishment for adoption, as vacancies may occur, viz.

One.....	at	£600
One.....	at	550
Two.....	at	500
Two.....	at	450
Four	at	400
Four	at	350

The vacancy in any higher class to be invariably filled by the senior officer in the class next

below it, unless any well-founded objection should exist to the promotion of the individual.

If your Lordships concur in the several proposals we have made for arranging the district establishment of Scotland; the annual expense may be estimated as follows; viz.

14 Collectors, annual expense	£ 6,070
75 Supervisors	15,000
550 Officers	55,000
14 Clerks to collectors, at £140	1,960
3 Do. do. Edinburgh	500
16 Permit-writers	1,280
	<hr/>
	£79,810
Add	
100 Expectants, 3-4ths employed	7,250
	<hr/>
	£87,060

EDINBURGH ESTABLISHMENT.

As the business to be performed in the offices under the immediate direction of the board in Edinburgh are not affected to any considerable extent by the alterations that from time to time take place in the state of trade, it is obvious that their establishment may be fixed with greater certainty.

In order to aid our inquiries into the detail of these departments, a surveying general examiner attended from the excise office in England, and under our immediate direction inspected the offices of—

- The Accountant,
- Comptroller,
- General examiner,
- Storekeeper, and
- Cashier;

and reported in detail the present mode of conducting the business in each.

Secretary's Office.

The secretary's office having been recently placed under the authority of an experienced officer from England, we satisfied ourselves, by minute examinations of that gentleman, on the actual state of the business, and the manner in which it was conducted.

The establishment, on the 5th January, 1824, was as follows; viz.

Secretary	£800
First clerk	500
Second ditto	350
Third ditto	300
Fourth ditto	220
Fifth ditto	180
Sixth ditto	130
	<hr/>
	£2,480

In several of our Reports we have expressed our opinion on the importance, which necessarily attaches to the secretary's office in every department, as the immediate executive organ of the

board, and that in consequence it is essential to employ in it men of integrity and ability.

The following special observations occur to us in reference to this department in Scotland.

1st, That peculiar care is required in framing the directions of the board to the district-officers, in order that they may be clear and accurate, and multiplied correspondence be thus avoided.

2dly, That, to enable these officers to devote their time and attention to the important duty of surveying traders, equal care is necessary that no accounts or documents are required from them not absolutely necessary.

3dly, That the present practice, according to which, if a trader applies to the board of excise on any subject, the answer is not sent direct from the secretary's office to the party, but forwarded to the district officer, and delivered verbally, should be altered.

This practice has been much complained of; and we think it due to the public that written answers should be sent to every applicant; unless they are very numerous, and the subject in each case the same; and even then the officers should be directed to produce to the trader the original answer of the board, and allow him to take a copy of it, if desired.

The efficient performance of these duties will, we are aware, add to the business of the department; and it is on this view of the subject that, notwithstanding the transfer of the port duties to the customs, and the abolition of the salt duties, we are not disposed to recommend any diminution in the salaries of the several officers; and we propose the following establishment for your Lordships' sanction:

Secretary	800
First clerk	500
Second ditto	300
Addition for acting as clerk to first commissioner	350
Third ditto	300
Fourth ditto	250
Fifth ditto	200
Sixth ditto	150
Seventh ditto	120
Eighth ditto	90
	<hr/>
	£2,760

Accountant General's Office.

The establishment of this office was stated to be, on the 5th January, 1824, as follows; viz.

Two accountants general, each	£350	£700
First accountant		327
Second ditto		280
Third ditto		260
Fourth ditto		250
Fifth ditto		210
Sixth ditto		200
		<hr/>
Carried forward		£2,227

Brought forward	£2,227
Seventh ditto	180
Eighth and ninth ditto, each	£120 240
Tenth and eleventh ditto, each	£90 180
Six assistant accountants, at £90 each	540
Registrar of seizures	50
	£3,417

The material business performed in this office is to examine the different "vouchers" sent from the respective districts, and the several payments made; and to keep an accurate debtor and creditor account with each collector. From these accounts, and from the receipts and payments in Edinburgh, the accountants also frame the general annual account of the commissioners of excise. They make out likewise the accounts required by parliament or your Lordships, and perform some other minor duties; in point of fact, however, they are to be considered as clerks to assist the commissioners (who are the responsible accountants) in all matters of account, and as such clerks, they are in every respect under the direction of the board.

It will be obvious to your Lordships, that the manner in which the accounts of the collectors are at present subdivided, as well as the numerous documents required from them, adds very considerably to the business of this office; the mode of entering these documents also, and keeping the different books of account, appears to us far removed from the simplicity and brevity which would be the result of a well-digested system of account.

When it becomes the business of the accountant to ascertain from the weekly accounts of the collectors, the actual receipts and payments on account of each duty only, and, having certified them to the board, to keep afterwards an ordinary cash account with each collector, their duties will be greatly reduced.

The entry of the different documents may also be much abridged. A duplicate of the "voucher," by means of which the charge against the collectors and commissioners is raised, may at any time be obtained from the district officer's books; and should a receipt be lost, the payments made may also be proved from the collector's cash book, which ought to be a public document: one entry, therefore, of the substance of each voucher or receipt in Edinburgh is amply sufficient for every practical purpose, and all beyond this should be at once discontinued.

We object likewise to the mode pursued in this department of making a permanent allotment of a specific business, of the accounts relating to one or two duties, to a single individual; it often happens, in consequence, that one or two individuals have more than they can perform, whilst others, who might assist them under the authority of the principal, are altogether unemployed; in cases of illness or temporary absence, likewise, it is very inconvenient.

In our view of the subject, it is much more desirable that the individual at the head of the office should communicate with the collectors; and be immediately responsible to the board for the due conduct of the business; and be allowed to apportion it amongst the persons under him in the way he considers most consistent with their respective abilities, and with the proper execution of the duties to be performed; and for this purpose we recommend that the individual placed at the head of this office should be denominated "The Accountant General," and be considered responsible to the board for the due execution of the different duties that may be required from his department.

The following establishment will, we think, be amply sufficient for this office, after the arrangements we have proposed shall be carried into effect; viz.

Accountant general	£450
Assistant ditto	350
First clerk	300
Second ditto	250
Third ditto	200
Fourth ditto	180
Fifth ditto	160
Sixth ditto	140
Seventh ditto	120
Eighth ditto	100
Ninth ditto	80
	£2,330

Comptrollers' Office.

The establishment was stated to be, on the 5th January, 1824, as follows; viz.

Comptrollers	£750
To deputies and clerks	334
	416
Two joint deputies	{ one at..... 214
	{ one at..... 200
First clerk	160
Second ditto	110
Third ditto	90
Fourth ditto	70
Fifth ditto	50
Sixth ditto	40
Seventh ditto	40
	£1,390

By the constitution of this office, the individuals employed in it are altogether independent of the board of excise; their business is to check and control the charge of the different duties, and for this purpose the "vouchers" are sent to, and ultimately deposited in, the comptroller's office, and from them a certificate is granted to the auditor of the real amount for which the commissioners are debtors to the crown. In practice, also, the receipts for payments or allowances are forwarded to the deputy comptroller, and authenticated by his signature, though the ultimate examination of the latter remains with the auditor.

In order more effectually to perform the duty of comptrolling the accounts, it has been considered necessary that a great number of books should be kept in this office; several of these appear to be duplicates of books kept in the accountant's office; and many others will be altogether unnecessary after the proposed alteration in the mode of keeping the collector's accounts has been made.

No officer answering the description of comptroller existed in Dublin at the time of our inquiries; and in our Seventh Report we have proposed that much of the necessary business should be done under the direction of the accountant general. It is, however, necessary that this officer, in his capacity of clerk to the commissioners as accountants, should be so completely under the direction of the local board, that we doubt how far it will be in his power efficiently to exercise that independent control over the receipt and expenditure of the department which is so essential to the security of the revenue.

On a review of the subject, therefore, we think the separation of the two departments highly desirable, notwithstanding the increase of expense it will occasion; the comptroller acting, in that case, altogether under the authority, and corresponding directly with, the comptroller of the excise in London.

The duties which should, in our opinion, be performed by the comptroller in Scotland are—

1st, To ascertain that the vouchers for charging the several duties are correctly made up.

2dly, That neither the collectors nor any other officers make any payment without sufficient authority from the local board.

3dly, That the local board do not remit any duties, or order any payments or works contrary to the direction of, or without proper authority from, the central board.

4thly, That all bills for expenditure be checked by him, not only as it regards their clerical accuracy, but also as to the propriety of the several charges made for the work performed.

The clerks in an office of this description might not be numerous, as the material part of the business is confined to the comptrolling and certifying documents prepared by other officers. The principal officer, as well as his clerks, should have access to all the books and documents in the accountant's office; a proceeding that, whilst it supersedes the necessity of many separate entries in the comptroller's office, will materially tend to the efficient execution of the duties to be performed.

The comptroller in Scotland is at present appointed by patent, and his business is performed by deputy. Under the new arrangement, this officer will, of course, be appointed by your Lordships, and be required to execute his duties in person, and give daily attendance. If this be done, the assistance of two clerks will, in our opinion, provide for all the business necessary;

and we recommend the following salaries for adoption; viz.

Comptroller.....	£500
First clerk	250
Second clerk	120
	<hr/>
	£870

We take this opportunity of observing, with reference to the recommendations in our Seventh Report, that it is in our opinion desirable, as well with a view to an uniformity of practice as to an efficient control over the receipt and expenditure of the Irish revenue, that a comptroller be established in Dublin, under regulations similar to those we have proposed for Edinburgh.

Auditor.

The establishment of this office has been returned to us as follows; viz.

Auditor	£500
Assistant auditor	200
First clerk	100
Second ditto	70
	<hr/>
	£870

The auditor of the excise is appointed under the authority of the act 6 Anne, c. 26, and is altogether independent of the commissioners.

It is, as before observed, the duty of the comptroller to certify to the auditor the amount of the duties that have been charged within the year; and the auditor receives from the commissioners, and carefully examines, the receipts and other documents of discharge, and ascertains the balance. A general state of the account is then made up and forwarded to the exchequer, where it is examined, and ultimately entered in the office of the clerk of the pipe; from whence a *quittus* is granted to the commissioners of excise.

We have already expressed our opinion on the expediency of consolidating the excise accounts of the United Kingdom, and subjecting them to the same audit: the adoption of this measure will necessarily lead to the discontinuance of the present proceedings in the Exchequer of Scotland; and it will at the same time enable the whole of the department of the auditor of excise to be abolished.

In recommending this consolidation of the Scotch excise accounts, however, it is due to the present auditor to state, that he appears to have fulfilled the duties entrusted to him with great zeal and accuracy; and, aided by the comptrollers' department, to have resisted with effect, on several occasions, a proposed expenditure of the public money which had not received the sanction of your Lordships or the barons of the Exchequer.

The form in which the annual account is now made up will be found in the Appendix: it will obviously admit of much simplification after the collectors' accounts have been consoli-

dated; and we propose that in future it should be made up half-yearly: the account of one half-year being always forwarded to London before the ensuing half-year shall be ended. The vouchers also from which the charge is raised (at present deposited in the comptrollers' office) ought, we think, to accompany the account current, together with the receipts and other documents of discharge: the former will be useful in England for the purposes of examination and reference; and the officers' books, with the entries made of the vouchers, will be amply sufficient in Scotland.

In the Appendix will be found an amended form, in which it appears to us the accounts of the commissioners may be hereafter made up with advantage; and with reference to the further simplification of this account, we think it highly desirable that the outstanding balances, which have now been brought forward annually for many years, should be inquired into; and, where there is no probability of their recovery, that your Lordships' warrant should be granted for taking them out of the account.

It would also, in our opinion, be advisable to establish a general rule in every department, that any balance outstanding more than twenty years, and which there was no reasonable prospect of recovering, should be taken out of the public accounts by warrant from your Lordships, and entered in a ledger, to be called the Arrear-ledge; care being taken that the entries in this ledger are from time to time examined, and extracts sent to the proper districts, with a view to ascertain the practicability of recovering any part of the sums due.

The General Examiners.

This department was returned to us as follows; viz.

The general examiner	£210
Diary clerk	200
Six general supervisors, at 220l. ...	1,320
Three standing examiners, at 110l. ...	330
Seven other examiners, at 110l. ...	770
Entry-keeper	5
	<hr/>
	£2,835

The business of the general examiner is to superintend the other branches of the department, and to make special reports to the board.

The diary clerk has the care of the supervisors' diaries or journals and records, the censures, or other orders of the board issued thereupon, &c.

The general supervisors perform part of the duties entrusted to the surveying general examiners in London, viz.

That, of making special investigations or inquiries, controlling, under the direction of the board, the officers in the districts, and reporting on their conduct when petitions are presented for promotion.

The three senior country examiners are kept

always in the office, and employed in the entry of various excise documents and accounts; the remainder examine the books of the district officers; are appointed to the care of districts on the occasional illness or absence of the supervisors; and are considered as on probation for appointments to that situation.

The whole business of these several officers, with the exception of a part of the duties of the diary clerk, are in England consolidated, and executed either by the surveying general examiners, or by the examiners, under their immediate direction.

In our Seventh Report we have recommended a similar consolidation of the duties in Ireland, and the incorporation of the surveying general examiner's department with that of England: a measure of the same nature appearing to us highly desirable for Scotland, we have had under our consideration the establishment that might be desirable for the United Kingdom; and on fully considering the subject, we recommend your Lordships to sanction forty surveying general examiners, and sixty examiners for this purpose.

The surveying general examiners to be classed as follows; viz.

1 Principal surveying general examiner, at	£650
2 First class	550
7 Second ditto	500
10 Third ditto	350
20 Fourth ditto	300
	<hr/>
40	

And the examiners to have each a salary of 150l. per annum.

Of these officers we recommend the following distribution; viz.

In England.

Principal	1
Second class	4
Third ditto	5
Fourth ditto	10
	<hr/>
Examiners	20
	<hr/>
Examiners	30

Ireland.

First class	1
Second ditto	2
Third ditto	3
Fourth ditto	6
	<hr/>
Examiners	12

Scotland.

First class	1
Second ditto	1
Third ditto	2
Fourth ditto	4
	<hr/>
	8
	<hr/>
Examiners	12
	<hr/>
	40

Examiners	12
	<hr/>
	60

In our opinion, the collectors of excise hereafter appointed in each country should be selected from the fourth class of surveying general examiners resident in that country, and every vacancy in that class be supplied by the senior supervisor there, provided no well-founded objection existed to his promotion.

The individuals in the fourth class of surveying general examiners may thus be considered as on probation for collectors, or for the third class of surveying general examiners, as the board may from time to time deem expedient.

In like manner, the supervisors in each country should be selected from the examiners there, and the vacancy in the examiner's office be supplied by the *senior officer* properly qualified for promotion.

With a view, however, to that interchange of officers in the three kingdoms which is so much to be desired, the central board should have the power of appointing to a vacant collectorship in any part of the United Kingdom, from the fourth class of surveying general examiners resident in either country, it being understood that the vacancy thus occurring in the surveying general examiner's department should be supplied by the senior supervisor on the establishment of that country in which the collector is appointed. A similar power should exist as to supervisors; the vacancy in the examiner's department being in like manner filled by the senior qualified officer taken from the establishment of that country in which the supervisor is appointed: this arrangement will fully provide for a proper interchange of officers, whilst at the same time it will prevent the possibility of any undue partiality to the establishment of either country in the selection of individuals to fill the higher offices.

Storekeeper.—Permit Examiners.

The establishment of these two offices is returned to us as follows; viz.

Storekeeper.

One storekeeper	£ 200
One assistant	50
Also an accountant in the excise office.	
One packer	15
Also a door-keeper.	
One porter	20
Also a watchman.	
	£265

Permit Examiners.

One	at	£150
One	at	150
		£300

It is the business of the storekeeper to keep a stock of the different books, articles of stationery, stamps, gauging-instruments, &c. re-

quired by the excise department, and to attend to their receipt and delivery.

In the report of the English surveying general examiner (Appendix, No. 80) will be found some very useful suggestions in reference to this office. The arrangement of the business obviously requires alteration, and the different individuals employed should give constant daily attendance, which they cannot do whilst they continue to hold other situations in the excise.

As it is the business of the permit examiners to receive and keep a stock of permit and certificate books, labels, &c., and issue them to the proper officers, it appeared to us, in our view of the establishments in Ireland, that the duties performed in the two offices might be consolidated. A similar course is evidently desirable for Scotland; and we recommend, therefore, that measures should be taken for that purpose, and we think the following establishment will be amply sufficient; viz.

Storekeeper and permit examiner	£250
Assistant ditto	150
Clerk	100
Packer and porter	80
	£580

The storekeeper and permit examiner to give security in the sum of 500*l.*, at least, for the due accounting for the stores and documents entrusted to the charge of his department; and either the principal or assistant to be selected from the practical officers of the department.

Cashier's Office.

The establishment of this office was returned to us as follows; viz.

Cashier	£2,000
Deputy cashier	930
First clerk	200
Second ditto	120
Third ditto	80
	£3,330

It is the business of this officer to receive the excise revenue from the several collectors in the country, and from the traders in Edinburgh, to make any payments out of that revenue which may be authorised by the board, and to remit the balance, under their direction, to London.

The principal of the office is appointed by patent, and the duties are performed by deputy. The former office is directed to be abolished on a vacancy, and the office to be regulated by the 9th section of the act 57 Geo. III., c. 64.

As there is in Dublin a collector of the excise duties, we have in our Seventh Report expressed our opinion that the business of the office of receiver general (similar in its nature and extent to the business of the cashier in Edinburgh) might very properly be transferred to the collector, and the salaries paid to the receiver general and his clerks be made a saving.

Should your Lordships concur in our recommendation for the appointment of the collector for the Edinburgh district, a similar course may be pursued in Scotland, and in that case we recommend the repeal of the above provisions, and an immediate arrangement to be made for the entire abolition of the office.

It will, as we have before observed, be necessary that the collector in Edinburgh should have two clerks, in addition to the one usually attached to that office, in consequence of the additional duty then to be allotted to him; and these clerks may with great propriety be selected from the most active and deserving clerks in the cashier's office; the remainder retiring on such allowances as your Lordships may deem reasonable.

SOLICITOR'S OFFICE.

The establishment is returned to us as follows; viz.

First solicitor, salary	£300		
Emoluments	2,700		
		£3,000	0 0
Allowance towards paying his clerks		200	0 0
First clerk		260	0 0
Second ditto		210	0 0
Third ditto		150	0 0
Fourth ditto		100	0 0
Fifth ditto		60	0 0
		£3,980	0 0
Second solicitor		550	0 0
Agent before the court of session, justiciary, &c.		80	0 0
Agent before the inferior courts		6	6 0
		£4,616	6 0

The situation of the first solicitor of excise having become vacant a short time previous to the commencement of our inquiries, it appears that your Lordships, on the 3d July, 1824, nominated an individual to the situation, "with such salary, fees, or other emoluments as may hereafter be allowed."

This arrangement very properly leaving the question of the mode, as well as the amount of the solicitor's emoluments, open for consideration; we have inquired strictly into the duties of the office, and the emoluments that attached to it during the life of the last possessor. Considerable evidence on these subjects will be found in the Appendix.

The delay that has taken place in passing the accounts of the late solicitor, and the inconvenience that has in consequence accrued to the public service, has been repeatedly brought before your Lordships. On this point, we would refer to the evidence of Mr. Dundas, one of the general accountants, and to that of Mr. Corbett, clerk to the late solicitor. Satisfied as we are that due diligence is now employed in the ex-

mination of the accounts in arrear, and that no loss will ultimately accrue to the public; we shall not enter at length into the subject; and we are the more disposed to this course, as the measure we shall recommend will altogether prevent similar arrears in future.

In the return of the duties performed by the second solicitor in Scotland, we do not find any business which may not be satisfactorily provided for in other departments; the present practice of employing this officer to prepare drafts of reports to your Lordships, or the central board, is particularly objectionable; and, on the whole, we see no reason to think that the second solicitor, as well as the separate offices of agent before the courts of session, justiciary, &c., and of agent before the inferior courts, may not be abolished, leaving the law business to be performed altogether under the direction and on the responsibility of the principal solicitor, in the manner explained in our Eleventh Report; in regard to the corresponding department of the customs in Scotland.

We have in this Report also expressed our opinion so much in detail, on the mode of remunerating the solicitors of public departments, as well as on the regulations that we think ought to govern their several offices, that it remains only to refer your Lordships to these observations, and to state, that on fully considering the various duties to be performed by the solicitor for the excise in Scotland, we think a salary of 1,500*l.*, and an authority to the central board to make an extra remuneration not exceeding 250*l.* per annum, when satisfied that his different duties have been satisfactorily performed, will be amply sufficient.

The establishment we would propose will then be as follows; viz.

Solicitor	£1,500
Extra allowance, where paid 250	1,750
First clerk	250
Second ditto	150
Third ditto	120
Fourth ditto	80
	£2,350

We cannot close this part of the subject without remarking, that it appears to us of great importance, that any decision of the court of Exchequer in England, involving a question of law, should be communicated immediately to the solicitor in Scotland; and in like manner, any decision of the court of Exchequer in Scotland should be communicated to the solicitor in England; for it is obvious, that however the acts affecting the two countries may be the same, yet if great attention be not paid to the proceedings of the courts of Exchequer in reference to revenue matters, their conflicting decisions may in process of time create serious differences, and work injustice to the traders in one of the two countries.

HOUSEKEEPER, DOORKEEPERS, &c.,
This establishment is returned to us as follows; viz.

Housekeeper	£100
Doorkeeper	170
Postman	
Warehousekeeper.....	
Public prosecutor.....	
Principal doorkeeper	100
Doorkeepers 1 at £75	75
Ditto 2 at 70	140
Coal porter	30
Cooper	5
	<hr/>
	£620

It has been proposed that the establishment of the excise department in Edinburgh shall take possession of the premises heretofore occupied by the board of customs. When this shall have been done, we recommend your Lordships to call on the central board of excise to report what reductions or alterations are desirable in respect of doorkeepers, messengers, &c.

AGENT IN LONDON.

Agent in London £150

The agent in London for the excise department is agent also for the department of the customs, and it is only necessary in consequence to refer to the opinion we have expressed in our Eleventh Report on this office.

We have thus brought our observations on the Edinburgh establishments to a close; and, should your Lordships concur in our view of the subject, their annual expense may be stated as follows; viz.

Board.....	£3,400
Secretary's office	2,760
Accountant's ditto	2,330
Comptroller's ditto	870
Surveying general examiner's department, proportion for Scotland }	4,750
Storekeeper's office	580
Solicitor's ditto.....	2,350
Housekeeper, doorkeepers, &c. (if not reduced).....	620
	<hr/>
Total Edinburgh establishment ...	£17,660
Total District establishment	87,060
	<hr/>
Total annual salaries	£104,720

An enumeration of the different offices that may under this arrangement be abolished will be found in the Appendix; and we have only to observe, that in our remarks on the establishments in Edinburgh, as well as on those of the districts, we have not failed to bear in mind how intimately the prosperity of the fair trader is connected with the due collection of the excise revenue; and that we have not in consequence proposed any reduction until satisfied that the

due collection of the revenue will be improved rather than injured by it.

Before we close this Report, we feel it necessary to call your Lordships' attention to a subject, which, although it affects the general revenue of the United Kingdom, has, in an especial manner, been brought before us during our inquiries in Scotland; we refer to the glass duties, an immediate modification of which appears to us alike necessary to the security of the revenue, and to the continuance of the intercourse between Ireland and Great Britain, on its present advantageous footing.

GLASS.

The excise laws distinguish five sorts of glass, viz. *Plate Glass*; Window, denominated *Crown Glass*; very common, denominated *Broad Glass*; Glass for domestic use, called *Flint Glass*; and *Bottle Glass*.

Plate glass is subject to a duty of 4*l.* 18*s.* or when made thick for the purpose of polishing, of 3*l.* per cwt. and entitled to a drawback on exportation to foreign parts, or Ireland, of 2*s.* 9*d.* per square, when ground or polished, and of 3*l.* per cwt. when rough.

Crown glass is subject to a duty of 3*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. and entitled to a drawback on exportation to foreign parts, of 3*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. whole, and 4*l.* 18*s.* when cut into panes, and when exported to Ireland, of 3*l.* 13*s.* 6*d.* whether whole or cut into half or quarter tables.

Broad glass is subject to a duty of 1*l.* 10*s.* per cwt. and entitled to a drawback on exportation, to the same amount.

Flint glass is subject to a duty of 4*l.* 18*s.* per cwt., and entitled to a drawback on exportation to foreign parts, of 6*l.* 3*s.* and to Ireland, of 4*l.* 18*s.* per cwt.

Bottle glass is subject to a duty of 8*s.* 2*d.* per cwt. and is entitled to a drawback on exportation of 8*s.* 1*d.* per cwt.

Window Glass.

In Ireland there is no manufactory of window glass, and the consumption is consequently supplied by exportation from Great Britain; the law allowing a drawback equal to the full duties paid.

Urgent representations having been made to us, that window glass, originally exported on drawback to Ireland was clandestinely re-imported into this country, to a great extent, we examined various witnesses on the subject; and we would particularly direct your Lordships' attention to the evidence of Mr. John Geddes and Mr. Hugh M'Ruer, as to the nature and magnitude of this evil.

It appearing that the number of windows entered under the assessed tax acts, in the two countries, might afford ground for an estimate as to their probable consumption of glass, we referred to an account of the number of houses charged with the window-tax returned

under those acts, in Ireland, for 1821 (Appendix, Second Report, page 1184), and required a similar account for Great Britain. From the former it appeared, the number of windows brought to charge was 785,379, and from the latter, 10,549,461. On examining the revenue accounts of the same year, (1821) we find, that the duty on the quantity of window glass consumed in Great Britain was 289,000*l.*, and the amount of the duty drawn back on the quantity exported to Ireland 40,000*l.*; thus, whilst the relative number of windows was as 1 to 14, the relative consumption of window glass was as 1 to 7, and the drawback consequently 40,000*l.* instead of 20,000*l.*

Although we do not consider the assessed tax accounts as decisive, we think that they so far bear out the evidence we have received, as to lead to the conclusion, that the representations made to us are substantially correct, and that at least one-half the glass exported on drawback to Ireland is clandestinely returned to this country, to the manifest injury of the public revenue.

The following account of the sums paid for drawback on window glass exported to Ireland since 1822 will shew that the evil is rapidly increasing; viz.

Year 1823	£62,254
Year 1824	86,614

The remedy that appears to us most desirable is, entirely to discontinue the drawback on all window glass exported to Ireland, and to impose the British duty there, if hereafter any manufacture of this article shall be established. By this measure, 60,000*l.* per annum at least will remain in the Exchequer, which now goes to those who defraud the revenue; whilst the additional sum raised from Ireland will not, in our opinion, be very considerable.

It is a curious fact, that whilst in England a considerable portion of the consumption has been the common or broad window glass, paying a duty of 1*l.* 10*s.* per cwt., the entire consumption of Ireland has been of the superior description. When the duty shall be retained, it is obvious the relative difference of price it will occasion will bring the inferior description of glass into use in Ireland for ordinary purposes, and we apprehend it will be found almost as cheap, after paying the duty, as the superior glass has been, duty free. Under these circumstances, retaining the drawback on window glass will operate but little, if at all, on the lower orders; and as the tax on windows and the 10 per cent duty on glass have been so recently repealed in Ireland, the duty could not at any time be imposed on other classes with less objection.

Flint Glass.

Flint glass manufactured in Ireland does not at present pay any duty. The manufactories are to some considerable extent, and are repre-

sented as in a state of great improvement. It is alleged, however, that large quantities are fraudulently imported into Great Britain; and as this article is one of universal demand, and therefore of easy sale, and as it is not difficult of concealment, we cannot but fear there is considerable truth in this statement. The evidence of several witnesses examined on this subject will be found in the Appendix. Mr. Geddes, a considerable manufacturer, states:—“We do not sell any glass, except merely to cover the smuggled goods; nine-tenths of the flint glass is imported from Ireland.”

Q. “You believe that nine-tenths of the flint glass used in this neighbourhood is imported from Ireland?”—A. Yes; not merely in Glasgow, but along the west coast.”

An account of the quantity of flint glass in Great Britain on which duty had been paid and not afterwards drawn back, for a series of years, will be found in the Appendix.

It appears that the quantity was,

In 1810	60,055 cwt.
In 1817	28,217 cwt.
In 1824	31,626 cwt.

There does not appear to us any thing in the present circumstances of the country to lead to the opinion, that the actual consumption of flint glass has diminished to the extent this account exhibits. The increase of duty in 1812 may have had some effect, and we have reason to fear also the temptation it has held out has given rise to many frauds in the home manufacture; still the diminution is so large as to give great weight to the evidence we have received, as to the illicit importations from Ireland.

Viewing this duty, however, only as it affects the intercourse between Ireland and Great Britain, it is obvious, that as in one country an article of such universal use is subject to a high duty, whilst it is altogether exempt in the other, it must either impose on the revenue officers the necessity of examining all packages coming from Ireland to Great Britain, and thus tend materially to impede the desired facility of intercourse, or it must afford a means of smuggling with so little risk, as to be alike injurious to the revenue and to the moral habits of the people. It is the only remaining duty on which a difference exists, so considerable as to make these precautions essential; and under these circumstances we have no hesitation in recommending to your Lordships the reduction of this duty to a very considerable extent in Great Britain; and its immediate extension to Ireland.

The total amount of the duty on flint glass retained in the Exchequer for the year 1824, was about 120,000*l.*; a reduction to 1*l.* 10*s.* per cwt. or two-thirds, will not, therefore, diminish the revenue more than 80,000*l.*; a sum that may be reasonably expected by the prevention of frauds, and the repeal of the drawback on the export of window glass to Ireland.

There is another fact, also, having reference to the duty on flint glass in Great Britain, which is of serious importance, and tends to make its reduction yet more imperative. We allude to the excess of drawback over the duty paid on the export of this description of glass to foreign parts.

This excess, amounting to 1*l.* 5*s.* per cwt. was, we believe, originally granted in consideration of the waste and breakage to which flint glass is liable. From the skill and care of the manufacturer, however, it has become much more than sufficient on many articles for the purposes contemplated, and is in fact a bounty on exportation.

The account of the quantity of flint glass exported for a series of years, to which we have already referred, will shew the effect of this bounty in a strong point of view; viz.

	Quantity.	Drawback.
In 1810, it appears to have been	21,380	69,753 <i>l.</i>
In 1817,	23,041	141,571 <i>l.</i>
In 1824,	31,696	193,477 <i>l.</i>

Every excess of drawback beyond the duty paid is no doubt of advantage to the foreign consumer, and therefore it creates a demand; and no doubt the bounty on glass, when it was first enacted, was also advantageous to the individual manufacturers in this country, as, by increasing the immediate demand for the article, it enabled them to raise the price: its permanent effect, however, is only to draw capital from other employments to the manufacture of glass, and to levy an annual tax on the people of this country, in order to supply foreigners at less than the fair cost price.

If the duty be reduced, the drawback will of course be reduced in the same proportion, and its excess will then no longer be in the same relative proportion to the value of the commodity, and its injurious effect will in consequence almost, if not entirely, cease; a result we have no doubt your Lordships will concur with us in thinking most desirable.

Bottle and Plate Glass.

The amount of the drawback paid on glass bottles, when compared with the duty retained in the Exchequer, is certainly considerable; but we are informed that this arises principally from the export of porter, wine, &c. in bottles, and that the duty is fairly collected. Whether it may be expedient materially to reduce this duty, and to take away all drawback, is a question on which we may probably deem it expedient to examine the exporters of wine, &c. as well as the officers of the revenue, when this duty comes under consideration in our inquiries into the excise in England. At present, there is a trifling duty on glass bottles manufactured in Ireland; the quantity made there, however, is inconsiderable, and the consumption is consequently sup-

plied from Great Britain on drawback. The export of plate glass to Ireland also is very trifling. With a view, therefore, to place the glass duties and drawbacks on the same footing throughout the United Kingdom, as well as for the security of the revenue, we recommend the repeal of the drawback on the export to Ireland of bottle glass and bottles, and also on the export of plate glass, and the extension of the British duty to those articles when manufactured in that part of the United Kingdom.

We do not apprehend any objection will be offered by the manufacturers, either to this arrangement, or to the repeal of the drawback on window glass; but we fear a different view may be taken as to the duty proposed on flint glass in Ireland. We are, however, satisfied that it will not affect the *fair trade* of that country to an extent that should give weight to the objections of interested parties. We are convinced that an equalisation of the glass duties and drawbacks is essential to the security of the revenue; it is in furtherance of the principle to which we have so often adverted, of a real equality of duties; it will enable increased facilities to be given to the intercourse between the different parts of the United Kingdom; and it will diminish the number of drawbacks and countervailing duties. Under these circumstances, therefore, we do not hesitate strongly to recommend it to your Lordships' consideration.

It is not improbable, that on a more minute examination into the mode in which the different duties on glass are charged in England, we may recommend some alterations: in the mean time, however, the modification of the duties should in our opinion proceed, extending to Ireland the regulations under which they are at present collected in Great Britain.

T. WALLACE. (L. S.)
W. J. LUSHINGTON. (L. S.)
HENRY BERENS. (L. S.)
R. W. HAY. (L. S.)

Office for inquiring into the Collection and Management of the Revenue, 1st June, 1825.

The Appendix to the foregoing Report contains numerous letters, accounts, statements of various officers, examinations of witnesses, &c.

HIGHLAND CHURCHES.

Substance of the First Report of the Commissioners appointed by virtue of an Act of Parliament passed in the 4th Year of George IV. intitled, "An Act for building additional "Places of Worship in the Highlands and "Islands of Scotland."

THE Report, which is dated June 27, 1825, describes the original act, (by which 50,000*l.* was granted by parliament) and the acts which were found necessary for its amendment; and states, that at their meetings of the 17th Febru-

ary and 26th June, the commissioners were enabled to appropriate in a satisfactory manner thirty-one churches, which were to be served by thirty ministers; and to offer manse and ministers in ten other cases. The following list shews the places at which churches have been directed to be built; most of them absolutely, a few provisionally:

County.	Parish or Island.	Place.	Population.	Remarks.	
Argyll	Appin	Duror	600	In the vicinity, and the minister will be a useful auxiliary at the parish church of Appin.	
	Ardamurchan	Strontian	1,350		
	Do.	Aucharacle	700	Roman Catholics not included.	
	Glassry	Loch Gilphead	2,000		
	Islay (Island)	Portnahaven	800	This church will be on a small scale, and will be served by the minister of the North Ballachulish church.	
	Do.	Oe or Oth.....	2,000		
	Kilmallie	Ardgour	467		
	Mull (Island)	Tobermory	2,000		
	Do.	Kinloch Spelvie ...	700		
	Do.	Ulva Island	900		
Do.	Iona Island	460	And 300 who reside on the nearest part of Mull, separated from Iona by a sound one mile wide.		
Banff	Kirkmichael	Tomantoul	300	In the village, and as many more within reasonable distance.	
Caithness ...	Latheron	Berriedale	1,750		
	Wick	Keiss	1,414		
Inverness ..	Duthill and Rothiemurchus... }	Rothiemurchus.....	1,026	And as many more in the adjacent Isles of Pabbay and Killygray. Besides those who may cross the ferry.	
		Harris	Berneray Isle		500
	Kilmallie	N. Ballachulish.....	656		
	Skye (Island)	Strensholl in Trotternish	1,800		
		Do.	Halin in Waternish		1,312
	North Uist (Island)	Trumisgarry.....	1,470		
	Ross and Cromarty }	Applecross	Shieldag.....		1,200
		Contin	Kinloch Luichart...		700
		Do.	Carnoch.....		1,200
		Kincardine	Brae		900
Lewis (Isle)		Cross or Ness	1,180		
Do.		Eye	1,150		
Lochalsh		Plockton	850		
Shetland		Quarff	Quarff	220	And the minister will also take charge of the Burray Isles, where is a small secondary church and 620 inhabitants.
Sutherland...	Assynt	Rhuistore	1,100		
	Farr	Strathy	1,078		
	Edrachilles	Kinloch Bervie.....	550		

The following list displays, in like manner, the places where manse and ministers have been offered, on condition of the existing place of worship being thoroughly repaired, and so upheld in future:—

County.	Parish or Island.	Place.	Population.	Remarks.
Aberdeen ...	Crathie and Braemar	Braemar	900	
Argyll	Mull (Island) Torosay	Salen	800	
	Bowmore and Kilmenny (Islay) }	Kilmenny	1,600	
Elgin	Kingussie	Inch	800	
Orkney	St. Andrew's and Deerness	Deerness	700	
	Cross and Burness... }	North Ronaldsay ...	467	
Perth	Fortingal	Rannoch	1,269	
Ross and Cromarty }	Loch Broom	Ullapool.....	800	
Shetland	Dunrossness	Sandwick	649	
	Nesting	Whalsay (Island)...	655	

HIGHLAND ROADS AND BRIDGES.

Substance of the Eleventh Report of the Commissioners appointed for the Purposes of an Act passed in the 59th Year of the Reign of his late Majesty, intituled, "An Act to repeal Two Acts, made in the Fifty-fourth and Fifty-fifth Years of his present Majesty, for maintaining and keeping in Repair certain Roads and Bridges in Scotland; to provide more effectually for that Purpose, and for Regulation of Ferries in Scotland."

THE commissioners were enabled in their Report of March last to take a satisfactory review of their transactions during ten years, therein proving that the public and the heritors of the ten counties collectively, had paid equally, or about 34,000*l.* each, during that period, towards the repair of Highland roads and bridges; the share of expense borne by the public appearing to have preponderated in the counties of Inverness, Ross, and Sutherland; in all the other counties the road repair assessment had produced more than had been expended on the part of the public.

In the Report of last year, an explanation was given in what manner it became necessary to give further opportunity to the county of Ross, and to the county of Caithness, to revise their proceedings under the act of 1823; and this was done by means of a short supplementary act passed in May 1824, wherein occasion was taken to gratify the heritors of Invernesshire by certain amendments of the act of 1819, and also to specify distinctly the portion of public aid annually assignable to each of the four northern counties, towards the repair of military and parliamentary roads and bridges; viz. to Invernesshire, the sum of 1,066*l.*; to Rosshire, 438*l.*; to the county of Sutherland, 222*l.*; and to the county of Caithness, 115*l.*; in all 1,841*l.* per annum; the expense of management being calculated at a like sum, and the residue of the annual 5000*l.* (given by the act of 1819) being reserved for road repair, and management there-

of, in the other six counties, which are not affected by the acts of 1823 and 1824.

No toll-gates have hitherto been erected on any of the roads, nor have tonnage or other rates been imposed for upholding ferry piers and shipping quays, as authorised by the act of 1823; but in pursuance of the resolutions of the county-meetings of Rosshire and Caithness respectively, toll-gates will now be erected, not exceeding three in each of these counties; and tonnage and boatage rates will be established at such of the ferry piers and quays as require to be repaired or rendered more accessible at low-water.

The stormy climate of the Highlands rendering the construction of caravans for the workmen desirable, eight were constructed, each at an expense of about 15*l.*, and capable of lodging fifteen men. They were found so useful, that it was in contemplation to build six more. From this and other contingent expenses, the commissioners were induced to calculate the expense of management at 2,500*l.* per annum.

The commissioners proceed to describe in detail the improvements making in the various roads and bridges of the Highlands. They express great regret at the death of Mr. John Mitchell, the principal road inspector, of whose indefatigable labours in the course of eighteen years' service they speak in terms of the highest praise. His place was filled by his son, Mr. Joseph Mitchell, who was discharging his duties to the entire satisfaction of every one.

Of the two Lowland roads placed by parliament in charge of the commissioners, the Glasgow and Carlisle road was opened to the public in the year 1822, and the large bridges mentioned in the Report of March last are all completed. One of these bridges is an arch of 80 feet span, near the town of Hamilton; one is near the village of Abington, over the Glengonnar burn; and the third, an arch of 90 feet span, is at Crawford, and supersedes the Elvanfoot bridge, which was badly situated, and in danger of being destroyed by a change in the river current immediately above it.

MAIL COACHES.

An Account of the number of Mail Coaches established in *Scotland*, distinguishing those which are subject to the payment of full tolls, payable in respect of such carriages, from those for which a composition is paid in lieu of such tolls, with the rate at which such composition has been made.

COACHES subject to the payment of full tolls.	COACHES for which a composition is paid in lieu of such tolls, with the rate at which such composition has been made.
Carlisle and Glasgow	
Carlisle and Edinburgh.	
Berwick and Edinburgh.	
Carlisle and Portpatrick.	
Edinburgh and Dumfries, by Biggar and Moffat alternately.	Glasgow and Perth. Half toll.
Edinburgh and Glasgow, by Falkirk.	
Edinburgh and Glasgow, by Whitburn.	Aberdeen and Inverness, by Banff. Ditto.
Glasgow and Greenock.	
Edinburgh and Stirling.	
Edinburgh and Aberdeen.	
Aberdeen and Fochabers, by Huntley.	
Aberdeen and Peterhead.	
Fraserburgh and Mintlaw.	

N.B. Inverness and Thurso:—No tolls demanded for this coach; the roads, the greater part of the route, are not turnpike.

NORTHERN LIGHTHOUSES.

ABSTRACT of the Account of the Commissioners of the Northern Lighthouses for the Year ending 30th June, 1824.

To balance in bankers' hands, at 30th June, 1823.....	£ 8,105 19 8
To net amount of the duties for the support of the lights, for the year, to 30th June, 1824.....	27,595 8 7
To rent of the Isle of May.....	21 0 0
To interest allowed by bankers.....	263 10 9
	<u>£35,985 19 0</u>
By interest on loan of £25,000, from Government.....	1,250 0 0
By do. on do. of £30,000.....	1,500 0 0
By do. on £10,000, from the Duke of Portland.....	400 0 0
By do. on £1,000, from the West India Association of Liverpool.....	61 11 2
By do. on £500, from the Shipping Association of Liverpool.....	41 2 2
By do. on £1000, from Adam Johnston.....	40 0 0
By do. on £1000, from Grace Mac Nabs, trustee.....	40 0 0
By expenditure on the Isle of Man lighthouses.....	668 11 1
By do. on Sumburgh Head do.....	57 2 11
By do. on Rhinns of Islay do.....	855 1 1
By do. on repairs at Kinnaird's Head do.....	1,322 16 2
By do. on do. at Island Glass do.....	320 1 8
By do. for oil for the lights, stores, ordinary repairs on the light-houses, shipping, salaries to the engineer, keepers, clerk, and cashier, &c.....	15,998 16 10
Balance.....	13,430 16 0
	<u>£35,985 19 0</u>

Note.—A great part of this balance will be exhausted by the accounts now due, and the expenditure on the works in progress.

BRITISH ISLES.

ISLE OF MAN.

AN ACCOUNT of all Goods or Raw Produce of Great Britain, not chargeable with Excise or other Duty, imported into the *Isle of Man*, from 5th January, 1820, to 5th January, 1825, with the Amount of Duty paid on Importation.

YEARS Ending 5th January	AMOUNT OF DUTY		
	Paid upon the Importation into the Isle of Man of goods the produce or manufacture of Great Britain, not chargeable with excise duty in Great Britain.		
	£	s.	d.
— 1821 —	1,251	14	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
— 1822 —	1,362	16	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
— 1823 —	970	5	4
— 1824 —	1,023	8	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
— 1825 —	1,208	11	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total.....	£ 5,816	16	1 $\frac{3}{4}$

Note.—All goods, the produce or manufacture of Great Britain, not chargeable with excise duty in Great Britain (except coals, the only *rated* article free from excise duty, importable to this island from *Great Britain*, and the under-mentioned articles which are admitted duty free); are subject, on importation into this island, to a duty of 2*l.* 10*s.* per cent, *ad valorem*.

ARTICLES, the produce or manufacture of Great Britain, importable duty free:—white or brown linen cloth, hemp or hemp seed, horses, black cattle, all utensils and instruments fit and necessary to be employed in manufactures, fisheries, or agriculture, tiles; young trees, sea shells, lime, soapers' waste, packthread and small cordage for nets, salt, boards, timber, and hoops.

FOREIGN DEPENDENCIES.

CANADA.

Substance of the intended Arrangements for the New Canada Company.

THE merchants and others, who have united together to establish a company for purchasing, improving, settling, and disposing of lands and other property in Upper Canada, and especially for purchasing and settling certain lands in the province of Upper Canada, which have been reserved for certain public purposes, and for the support of a Protestant clergy, and which are known by the name of "The Crown Reserves" and "The Clergy Reserves," and which merchants and others, for that purpose, have subscribed a capital of one million sterling;—having applied to earl Bathurst, his majesty's principal secretary of state having the department of the colonies, to advise his majesty to grant to them a charter of incorporation, and to grant and convey to them, for certain valuable considerations, the said reserved lands in the province of Upper Canada;—the following is the substance of the arrangement that has been concluded between the committee, or court of directors, appointed by those persons, and acting for the general body on the one part, and lord Bathurst on the other part:—

That lord Bathurst will, at an early period of the next session, introduce a bill for the purpose; containing the necessary clauses for investing the proposed company with the powers and privileges which it may be expedient they should possess. That lord Bathurst will move the lords of the privy council to advise his majesty to issue, under the great seal, a royal charter for the incorporation of the proposed company. That when the company shall have been actually incorporated, lord Bathurst will further advise his majesty to convey to them, upon the terms subsequently mentioned, the lands in Upper Canada subsequently described. That after deducting the portions which have been granted or demised on lease, or occupied on the license or promise of government, or appropriated to public or clerical purposes, or occupied without disturbance for ten years, or which may be peculiarly convenient or necessary either for the public service or ecclesiastical purposes, lord Bathurst will advise his majesty to convey to the company the whole of the crown reserves, and one-half of the clergy

reserves, which, on or before the first of March, 1824, were actually laid out in various townships in the province of Upper Canada. That the lands will be conveyed to the company in fee-simple, to be held in free and common socage. That five commissioners shall be appointed to proceed to Upper Canada to determine the price to be paid by the company for the said reserved lands; two of them to be nominated by lord Bathurst, two by the directors of the proposed company; and the fifth to be selected by lord Bathurst from three persons proposed by the directors, and to whom no objection is made by the four first-named commissioners. That the commissioners shall be guided, in fixing the price to be paid by the company for the lands granted to them, by certain principles, which are detailed at length. That during a period of fifteen years, after the 1st January, 1826, the company shall annually enter into possession of so much land as shall be valued at 20,000*l.* sterling, or more if they think proper; for which they shall pay quarterly. That the company will, in each of the above-mentioned fifteen years, place at least one-half of the lands which may have been purchased by them in the possession of settlers, either as grantees or as lessees under them, in the proportion of one head of a family or one adult unmarried settler for every 200 acres of land, &c. &c.

Substance of an Address to his Majesty from the Legislative Council of Lower Canada, respecting Canada Corn and Flour.

AN address to his majesty, from the legislative council of Lower Canada in provincial parliament assembled, dated Quebec, 4th March, 1825, intreats his majesty's gracious consideration of the peculiar circumstances which make the corn laws inapplicable to the provinces of Canada; and expresses a hope, that when those laws shall come under parliamentary consideration, grain and flour, the production of the North American colonies, may at all times be made admissible for British consumption, duty free;—or, if limited in quantity, that the limitation may be fixed at one million of bushels of wheat annually; and if subject to any duty, that that duty shall not exceed a fourth of the duty to which foreign grain may at any time be liable.

SIERRA LEONE.

Substances of Accounts relating to the Duties, Exports, Imports, Population, &c. of Sierra Leone.

No duties were levied or received in this colony prior to the month of August 1811, and for the latter half of that year the amount collected did not exceed 10*l.* 5*s.* 1*d.* In the following year, however, they amounted to 2,175*l.* 19*s.* 4*d.*, but in the years 1813, 1814, and 1815, they do not appear to have exceeded an average of 1,500*l.* In 1816 they amounted to 2,447*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*; and in the ensuing years, until 1821, they arose to 3, 4, 5, and 6,000*l.* In the year 1823 they are returned at 8,730*l.* 8*s.* from the collector's books.

The exports, which are from the years 1817 to 1823 inclusive, are in bulk, but not in value, and consist of the produce of Africa in its various states of preparation. Hides, mats, tiger skins, gold dust, monkey skins, stuffed birds, honey, nuts, oils, and wax, wood of various kinds, indigo, coffee, rice, lime-juice, and African curiosities, principally compose the list.

The imports are also given, but they are in value (not in quality), during the same period, and are chiefly conveyed in ships from London, Liverpool, and Bristol; and the invoice value during the year 1817 was 72,516*l.* 7*s.* 2*d.*; in 1818, 94,799*l.* 14*s.* 5*d.*; but in the following year, 1819, it fell to 80,863*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*; and in 1820, it was only 66,725*l.* 9*s.* 4*d.* In 1821, however, the invoice value is quoted at 105,060*l.* 15*s.* 10*d.*; in 1822, at 85,350*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.*; in 1823, at 121,442*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*; and in 1824, at 80,917*l.* 12*s.* 8*d.*

A census of the population of the colony is also given for the years 1818, 1820, and 1822. No census of the colony appears to have been taken at the time of its transfer to the crown, neither was any taken in 1817. The order transmitted from the colonial office required up to the latest time a complete census of the population, exclusive of the military; distinguishing the European, Nova Scotians, disbanded African soldiers, Kroomen, other African emigrants, and liberated Africans; distinguishing also the sexes, the number of persons married, who have learned to read and write, and the number actually enjoying the means of Christian education. This last order has not yet been complied with, so far as the completion of the census, but it will be finished when the governor (general Turner) returns from the Gold Coast. The grand total of population,

according to the census last taken in 1822, is 15,081, of which little more than one-third belongs to Freetown. It is chiefly composed of the following classes:—West Indians and Americans, 48 men, 19 women, 18 boys and girls. Of natives, 1,327 men, 977 women, and above 1,200 boys and girls. Liberated Africans, 3,312 men, 1,956 women, and between 2,000 and 3,000 boys and girls. Discharged soldiers, 1,103; and Kroomen (who appear to be a migratory race, constantly moving to and from the colony), 947. Between the census of 1817 and 1818 there appears to have been an increase of population of 2,252 individuals, including 1,190 captured negroes; and between the latter and that taken in 1822, there is an increase of 2,956 persons, including 943 liberated Africans and 1,030 discharged soldiers from West Indian and African corps.

The returns of schools shew within the last three or four years a very considerable increase of numbers. In 1817, the number of men, women, and children in course of education did not much exceed 400. On the 31st of December, 1823, there were—children, 2,172; adults, 287; making a total of 2,460.

In the account of the number of churches and chapels, with an estimate of the persons attending, we have 24 chapels described, in nearly half of which service is performed by coloured pastors. The number of persons usually attending is 5,818, of whom between 500 and 600 are Wesleyan Methodists, above 200 of lady Huntingdon's sect, and about half that number Baptists. A detailed account of births in the colony was ordered, but no general record appears to have been kept. And in answer to the order for an account of fit persons liable to serve on juries in the colony of Sierra Leone, it is said that this cannot be correctly ascertained; but that the number must be very considerable, for that 42 petit, and from 8 to 10 grand jurors are usually summoned every sessions from the coloured inhabitants.

The usual rate of wages paid is to labourers 9*d.* or 10*d.* per day, and from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 7*s.* per day to artificers, according to their skill. It is added, however, that these rates of payment are on the decline. In ships and fishing-boats, exclusive of a small number belonging to natives, the property of the inhabitants of the colony is small, and does not exceed a small tonnage. There are about thirty-five vessels, from 10 to 38 tons burden, besides fourteen boats employed by fishermen.

An Account of the total Grants of Money for the Civil Establishment of *Sierra Leone*, from 1808 to 1824; also, an Account of the Total Amount of all Bills drawn upon the Treasury from thence, for Military Expenditure, and paid during the same period.

Year	Grants of Money for the Civil Establishment of Sierra Leone.	Total Amount of Bills of Exchange paid for the Service of Sierra Leone.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Year 1808	16,310 0 0	12,568 9 14
1809	17,300 0 0	25,853 4 34
1810	15,710 0 0	36,291 13 34
1811	14,495 11 6	41,549 9 1
1812	14,020 0 0	55,330 3 4
1813	14,102 0 0	66,968 6 5
1814	14,102 0 0	51,820 15 11
1815	15,760 0 0	58,951 15 2
1816	15,060 0 0	89,919 17 6
1817	15,814 0 0	60,525 2 8
1818	15,450 0 0	64,793 7 9
1819	16,687 15 0	41,219 16 0
1820	22,358 1 0	56,340 11 6
1821	22,444 3 0	69,394 0 9
1822	22,176 12 10	34,291 10 7
1823	22,816 17 0	35,826 13 5

In addition to which, the several sums under mentioned have been paid out of the grant of Army extraordinaries for dollars forwarded by order of the lords commissioners of his majesty's treasury for the service of the colony of *Sierra Leone* :—

Year	£ s. d.
1812	15,000 0 0
1820	10,915 4 2
1821	21,110 17 0
1822	10,013 3 4

There was no sum voted specifically for the military establishment of *Sierra Leone* in any of the above years. The expenditure actually defrayed in the colony, in respect of the military force stationed there, was from about the year 1812 paid out of the bills of exchange drawn upon the treasury.

MAURITIUS.

Abstract of Petitions from the Inhabitants of the Mauritius.

1. PETITIONS from the inhabitants of *Mauritius*, in 1816, against being subjected to the regulations of colonial trade.

2. Petitions from the inhabitants of *Mauritius*, in 1817 and 1823, praying to be relieved from the duty existing on the importation of their sugar into Great Britain for consumption, which was ten shillings per hundred weight more than that imposed upon sugars imported from any other British colony.

3. A despatch from lieutenant-general sir G. L. Cole to earl Bathurst, dated *Mauritius*, 25th May, 1824, encloses a petition from the planters to the same effect; and strongly recom-

mends their claims to the consideration of his majesty's government.

SLAVE TRADE.

Correspondence with the British Commissioners of Sierra Leone, the Havannah, Rio de Janeiro, and Surinam, relating to the Slave Trade.

SIERRA LEONE.

THE commissioners, in a despatch to Mr. Secretary Canning, dated *Sierra Leone*, May 15, 1824, make their annual report upon the state of the slave-trade on the western coast of Africa. The arrival of a new governor-general from Portugal at the Cape de Verd islands, with a body of European soldiers, about the commencement of 1823, had given hopes that a system of restraint would be commenced in those islands by the government against the illicit traders in slaves. Those hopes had been disappointed. The conveyance of slaves in small vessels from the Portuguese settlements of *Bissao* and *Cacheo*, and from the river *Caramanza* to the islands of the Cape de Verd, still continued to exist. The slaves were kept in depot until an opportunity occurred for their being taken off the islands by slave-ships; and the practice could not fail of being known to the government. There were reports, which appeared to be well founded, that during the year 1823 vessels had sailed from *Bissao* with slaves directly to the *Brazils*. It was matter of great indignation that, in the seventh year after the conclusion of the convention to prevent illicit traffic in slaves, a people owing obedience to the laws of Portugal should pursue the slave-trade in the very worst of its abominable ways. It was confidently asserted, that it was the practice of the people at *Bissao* to send armed boats about the coasts and islands in their vicinity to surprise their inhabitants and to carry them off to supply the wants of the slave-market. Besides the barbarity of the practice, its consequence was that the natives within the reach of such kidnapping expeditions were rendered savage and untractable, and disposed to deal harshly with any Europeans that might fall into their hands; of which a recent example had been afforded in their treatment of a boat's crew belonging to a Spanish schooner. It was evident that the influence of the Portuguese authorities at *Bissao* and *Cacheo* was exerted to encourage, and not to discountenance the trade. In the *Rio Nunex*, which was formerly frequented by slave-ships from the *Havannah* and other places, there had not been any slave-ship for a considerable time past; and the natives there were beginning to turn their attention to a better sort of commerce. No slave-ship had been in the *Rio Pongos* since January 1822. Most of the old slave-traders there were now employed in collecting the produce of the surrounding country, to dispose of it to the British

traders of the isles of Los and of Sierra Leone. Along the coast from the Rio Pangos to Sierra Leone the foreign slave-trade had ceased, and the natives were in constant and beneficial intercourse with Sierra Leone; the trade of which colony had increased since the last Report of the commissioners. This increase was attributable to the great influx of native traders from the interior, and to the demand for African timber. The Gallinas river was the only notorious haunt of slave-ships betwixt Sierra Leone and Cape Coast; and it was in vain to expect that that haunt should be destroyed so long as a French character should protect a slave-ship from molestation. French vessels, or vessels well protected by a French mask, were almost the only vessels which frequented that place. During the greater part of the last year very little slave-trade was carried on at the usual slave-haunts in the Bights of Benin and Biafra. From the date of the last Report, only seven slave-vessels had been taken in those Bights. It was probable that the disturbances in the Brazils, but more particularly at Bahia, had prevented the Brazilians from actively engaging in the trade; for after the surrender of Bahia to the Brazilian forces, and the restoration of tranquillity there, the slave-ships again made their appearance in the Bights of Benin. There had been no proof, since the date of the last Report, that the slave-trade had been carried on betwixt Prince's Island and the African rivers in its neighbourhood; but the commissioners were informed that it was still kept up by small boats belonging to Prince's Island. The commissioners were not able to give any particular information of the state of the legitimate commerce on the Gold Coast; but they apprehended that it could not have been promising of late, on account of the Ashantee war. Below the Gold Coast they hoped that legitimate commerce had improved during the last year in proportion as the slave-trade had declined. From the foregoing statements it would appear, that since the date of the last Report of the commissioners the slave-trade had existed only at the Cape de Verd islands, and at Bissao and Cacheo, to the northward of Sierra Leone; that betwixt Sierra Leone and Cape Coast the trade had been carried on only at the Gallinas and some places in its vicinity; and that to the southward of Cape Coast a decrease of the trade had occurred. The recent addition to the Slave-trade Restriction Treaty with the Netherlands, declaring the condemnation of ships if fitted out for the slave-trade, must be beneficial to the cause of the abolition of that trade. When the same addition should be made to the treaties with Spain and Portugal, the commissioners would hope to see the Spanish and Portuguese slave-traders swept from the coast, and not till then.

Subsequent communications from the commissioners announce the detention, on the 30th January, 1824, of three vessels under the Bra-

zilian flag, by his majesty's ship *Bann*, captain Courtenay, which vessels were afterwards allowed to depart; the adjudication of a brig, under the Brazilian flag, named the *Bom Caminho*, taken on the 10th of March, 1824, by his majesty's ship *Bann*, captain Woolcombe, with 334 slaves on board, whilst proceeding on her voyage to Bahia; and the condemnation of a schooner, named the *Maria Figuera*, with 17 slaves, captured, on the 8th of May, 1824, off Prince's Island (whither she was returning from the river Gaboon) by his majesty's ship *Victor*, captain John Scott.

A letter from G. Rendall, esq., to James Baudinell, esq., dated Court of Mixed Commission, Sierra Leone, July 5, 1824, contains the names and particulars of the emancipation and registry of 327 slaves, emancipated by decree of the courts of mixed commission, established at Sierra Leone for the prevention of illicit traffic in slaves, during the period commencing 5th January, and ending 4th July, 1824.

HAVANNAH.

Despatches of various dates from H. T. Kilbee, esq., to Mr. Secretary Canning, state the names of a number of vessels which from time to time sailed from the Havannah to the coast of Africa. On the arrival at the Havannah, from the coast of Africa, of French and Spanish vessels, some of which were notoriously engaged in the slave-trade, Mr. Kilbee made strong representations to the captain-general as to the importance of their undergoing a strict investigation, but was constantly told that there existed no circumstances of just suspicion against them. The captain-general, Mr. Kilbee observes, was placed in a very delicate situation. All who surrounded him daily represented to him that the prosperity of the island depended on the continuance of the traffic, and that any attempt to suppress it, besides that it would be probably unsuccessful, would bring upon his government the most general unpopularity and odium, which ought particularly to be avoided in the present critical circumstances and unsettled state of the Spanish monarchy, the government of which too, there was reason to believe, was very indifferent about the matter. In consequence, the increase of illicit slave-trade at the Havannah had latterly been very considerable. On the 17th June, 1824, the Spanish brig of war, *Marte*, brought in to the Havannah a slave-ship, with upwards of 400 negroes on board, called the *Maria de la Gloria*, which she had detained a little to the westward of that port. The court of admiralty immediately assumed the cognizance of the case, but the mixed commission claimed it, and the question came before the governor. After considerable discussion, the governor, decided in favour of the mixed commission. That court accordingly sat upon the case, for five days without intermissions, when it appearing that the *Maria de la Gloria*

was really the property of Portuguese subjects of Brazil, and had been captured by the Spanish privateer Romano before she had been detained by the Spanish brig-of-war Marte; the court (not being authorised to try the cases of Portuguese vessels) declared that the detention of the said vessel by the Marte was legal; but abstained from pronouncing upon any other point connected with the case. The result, however, of the hesitation of the governor respecting the powers of the mixed commission was important, and established that the mixed commission at the Havannah and the mixed commission at Sierra Leone were the only competent tribunals to hear the causes of Spanish slave-ships, even when detained by vessels of war of their own nation. On the 10th December, 1824, his majesty's schooner *Liton*, lieutenant Linares, brought into the Havannah the Spanish schooner *Relampago*, which she had detained on the 14th, with 169 negroes on board. Proceedings were commenced without delay in the mixed commission, and the case presenting no difficulties whatever, on the 23d, sentence of condemnation was pronounced. The slaves were emancipated, and every precaution was taken so to place them that they should not be again reduced to slavery. Throughout the whole of the proceedings in this case the most perfect unanimity prevailed amongst the members of the mixed commission; and Mr. Kilbee adds, that it was peculiarly gratifying to him to observe, that on the part of his colleagues, as well as on that of the captain-general, he met with not merely a disposition to obey the letter of the treaty, but a warm and anxious desire to act up to its true spirit. In a despatch, dated January 1, 1825, Mr. Kilbee encloses a document, shewing at one view the progress of illicit slave-trade from the close of 1821, when orders were received at the Havannah from Spain to carry strictly into effect the stipulations of the treaty, up to the moment of his writing, when it had reached so extraordinary an extent that not less than forty-four vessels had sailed for the coast of Africa, and seventeen arrived from thence in the course of the year 1824. "The very smallest vessels," Mr. Kilbee observes, "cost upwards of twenty to thirty thousand dollars; and larger ones, of course, much more. One with another they may be safely valued at forty thousand dollars each; so that the capital employed in the trade last year was upwards of two millions and a half of dollars. These speculations are generally undertaken by a number of individuals, who take shares in one or two hundred dollars each; which shares are again not infrequently subdivided; you may, therefore, imagine the number of persons directly concerned in the traffic. The evil having become of such magnitude, and the present system having been found utterly ineffectual for its suppression, some alteration would appear to be unavoidable. To give the

mixed commission, composed as it now is, full powers, and to make it the exclusive tribunal for hearing all causes connected with illicit slave-trade, would, in my opinion, be the most effectual remedy; but there are so many insuperable objections to this arrangement, that it would be useless to pursue the subject. The Spanish law, of which, lest you should wish to refer to it, I have the honour to enclose a printed copy, is now, the trade being entirely abolished, reduced to a general prohibition of all Spanish subjects to purchase negroes on the coast of Africa, under the penalties of the confiscation of vessel and cargo (the negroes being declared free), and ten years' hard labour at the public works in the Philippine islands to the purchaser, captain, supercargo, and mate. This law was published when the trade to the south of the line was permitted; and in the contemplation of such trade, the fifth article declares, that the foreign vessels which may convey slaves to any port of my dominions, must do so subject to the rules laid down in this my royal cedula; and in case of contravention shall be punished with the same penalties herein specified. This law, you will perceive, is conceived in very general and very loose terms. The prohibition extends only to purchasing slaves on the coast of Africa; so that it might be argued, that to bring them from any other place is permitted. Who the purchaser is does not clearly appear; here he is generally held to be the person who actually pays the money for the slaves in Africa, and not the share-holders in such adventures, who consequently run no danger but that of losing their money. The petty officers and sailors are not liable to any punishment whatever; and as high wages are given, there is no difficulty ever found in obtaining men for slave-ships. The article which applies to foreign vessels ought certainly to be adapted to the present circumstances, the trade being totally abolished; and it being very likely that, if many more Spanish slave-vessels are captured by his majesty's cruisers, the traffic will be entirely carried on with this island by means of French vessels. That this law, therefore, should be new-modelled, or rather that another should be framed in its stead appears to be a measure absolutely necessary. Any opinion of mine respecting the provisions of the new law would be presumptuous, this being a subject which, as regarding our own colonies, has been so often under the consideration of his majesty's government. But knowing by experience with what facility laws may be evaded in this country, I would still venture to urge the expediency of the adoption of a clause for granting a liberal reward to those who shall denounce illicit traffic. But, above all things, it will be necessary to correct the public opinion of this

country upon the subject of the slave-trade. It is universally believed that the abolition was a measure which Great Britain, under the cloak of philanthropy, but really influenced by jealousy of the prosperity of this island, forced upon Spain. That the latter fulfils her engagements as far as Great Britain is directly concerned, but that in reality she is indifferent upon the subject. Among the illicit traders, it is the general persuasion that if they escape the British cruisers they have nothing to fear. The trade itself is looked upon as any thing but criminal; it is, on the contrary, considered to be promoting the interests of the island, and merely thwarting the selfish views of Great Britain. If the Spanish government be really desirous of suppressing the slave-trade, they must convince the people here that such is their desire, and that his Catholic majesty is really of opinion that the true interests of the island are intimately connected with the carrying that measure effectually into execution. The slave-trade with this island is now as extensive as ever it was, and is necessarily carried on with greater cruelty. The abolition by Spain, therefore, is merely nominal; and instead of promoting, only serves to injure the cause of justice and humanity."

RIO DE JANEIRO.

Quarterly Reports from the commissioners, dated July 6th, 1824, and 25th October, 1824, state that no slave-vessels had been brought into the port of Rio de Janeiro by any of his majesty's cruisers for adjudication.

SURINAM.

J. H. Lance, esq., in a letter to Mr. Secretary Canning, dated March 30, 1824, encloses a copy of a paper which had been recently sent to every plantation and to every owner of slaves in the colony of Surinam, and which was to be continued annually. The object of the government was to ascertain the name, age, occupation, and religion of every slave in the colony; which were to be set down by, and delivered in upon the oath of the director or owner, as the case might be. If a false return were afterwards discovered to have been made, the slaves omitted were instantly to be forfeited to the government; and the person making such false return to be criminally proceeded against before the fiscal. Mr. Lance observes, that if this measure were properly enforced, it would more effectually put a stop to future illicit importations of negroes than any thing hitherto done for that purpose; and that it would in many respects be equal to the acts of registration passed in the British colonies. In answer, Mr. Secretary Canning states, that his majesty's government had pursued with satisfaction the proof thus given by the local authorities of Surinam of their sincere endeavours to second the humane intentions of their sovereign, as recorded in the treaty between Great Britain and the Netherlands, for

the abolition of the trade in slaves. In a despatch from Mr. Secretary Canning to the commissioners, dated April 4th, 1825, he informs them that his majesty's ambassador at the Hague having been instructed to urge upon the government of the Netherlands the expediency of rendering the Netherlands' regulations as to the captors of slave-traders more favourable than they appeared to have been to the capturing vessel, the king of the Netherlands, with that candour which did him honour, admitted the truth of the observations submitted to his majesty; and had issued a decree by which the officers and crew of a Netherlands' cruiser, in the case of the capture of vessels afterwards condemned by the mixed commission, should obtain a grant of that portion of the seizure which by right belonged to the Netherlands government; the expenses of the trial in the mixed commission court being first deducted; and further, that the officers and crew of a capturing vessel should obtain the net proceeds of all slave-trading vessels taken in virtue of the Netherland law of the 23d of December, 1824.

Correspondence between the Admiralty and Naval Officers; relative to the Suppression of the Slave Trade.

The substance of the communications from naval officers to the admiralty is, that the Brazilian slave-trade was more vigorous than ever; that all the Portuguese authorities on the coast either entered into or took a part in that infamous traffic; that the commander of the Portuguese factory had provoked wars between the different tribes of the natives for the sake of getting slaves cheap, and actually paid for them about half a dollar in value, of goods, for each; that it was ascertained that Brazilian vessels, furnished with a passport (agreeable to the treaty between Great Britain and Portugal) to trade for slaves to the Portuguese possessions south of the Line, instead of doing so, made a direct passage to one of the ports in the Bight of Benin; that it had been strongly represented to the governor of Mozambique, that, in contravention of the treaty between Great Britain and Portugal, vessels carrying the flag of France continued to obtain slaves at places under his excellency's government; that several vessels with slaves (many of them in the most distressing condition) were captured north of the Line; that on the eastern coast of Africa the slave-trade had recently received a new impulse from the supply required for Brazil, the new order of things having opened the ports of Quilliman and Inhamban to a direct communication with Brazil; that the exportation of slaves from Mozambique could not be less than 15,000 annually; that the slave-trade was carried on in the most extensive and audacious way from Cuba, &c. &c.

The substance of the despatches from the admiralty to the naval officers consists of communications of the treaties entered into between

Great Britain and foreign powers for the suppression of the slave-trade, and of the acts of the British parliament, for the same purpose, as well as of instructions, as to the best mode by which the object of those treaties and acts might be best accomplished.

Correspondence of the Governor of the Mauritius with the Colonial Office, regarding the State of the Slave Trade.
 (Governor Farquhar's correspondence commences on the 26th July, 1820, with detailing the efforts which his excellency was making to suppress the traffic in slaves, especially in Madagascar; conveys an address from the inhabitants of the Mauritius, expressing their detestation of the trade; communicates the stipulations of a treaty with Radama, the king of Madagascar, for the abolition of the slave-trade throughout his dominions; describes the good faith with which Radama carried that treaty into execution; relates a successful attempt (in conjunction with the government of India) to prevail on the Imam of Muscat and the governor of Zanzibar to co-operate in putting down the slave-trade; and concludes, on the 16th May, 1823, with expressing the governor's satisfaction at leaving the island of Mauritius wholly freed from the stigma of the slave-trade. In a despatch, dated "Mauritius, 31 Dec. 1824," lieutenant-general sir Lowry Cole says: "I have great satisfaction in being able to state, that there is no reason to suppose that any vessel under the British flag is at all engaged in the slave-trade."

SLAVE POPULATION.

Return of the Amounts of the Slave Population in each of his Majesty's Colonies in the West Indies, distinguishing the Males and Females, as received in the office of the Registrar of Colonial Slaves, since the 18th April, 1824.

Year	Males	Females	Total
Barbadoes, 1823	36,159	42,657	78,816
Demerara, 1823	41,224	33,753	74,977
Grenada, 1823	12,258	13,052	25,310
Jamaica, 1823	166,595	169,658	336,253
Tobago, 1823	6,812	7,262	14,074
Demerara, 1824	6,556	7,098	13,654
Trinidad, 1822	13,052	10,336	23,388

Return of the Amounts of the Slave Population in the Colonies of the Cape of Good Hope and Mauritius, distinguishing the Males and Females, as received in the office of the Registrar of Colonial Slaves, since its first establishment.

Year	Males	Females	Total
Cape of Good Hope, 1819	20,098	13,743	33,841
Do, 1820	20,313	14,016	34,329
Do, 1821	20,404	14,263	34,797
Do, 1822	20,461	14,536	34,997
Do, 1823	20,491	14,730	35,271
Mauritius, 1822	42,015	22,754	63,769
The Seychelles, 1822	4,574	2,166	6,740

Papers in explanation of the Measures adopted by his Majesty's Government for the better regulation of the condition of the Slave Population in the West Indies, with the Continent of South America.
 A DESPATCH from earl Bathurst to the duke of Manchester, dated Downing Street, 20th January, 1824, instructs his grace to endeavour to prevail upon the assembly to reconsider their act for the melioration of the slave population, and to take a more temperate and judicious view of what their real interests, and, as lord Bathurst was willing to believe, their natural sense of justice, would ultimately require them to adopt.

A despatch from the duke of Manchester to earl Bathurst, dated "King's House, Jamaica," 12th January, 1824, expresses his grace's satisfaction that the holidays had passed away without any commotion amongst the negroes. His grace observes, however, that from examinations which had taken place it was proved that there had been a settled plan among the slaves to rise on some fixed day. Deeply as he lamented the necessity of executing the slaves convicted of rebellious conspiracy in St. Mary, he was persuaded that the example had had the effect of deterring others who were prepared for mischief.

A despatch from the duke of Manchester to earl Bathurst, dated "King's House, Jamaica," 9th February, 1824, reports the trials and sentences of the slaves who had been charged with rebellious conspiracy in the parishes of St. George and St. James. Two were executed, and the others sentenced to transportation and minor punishments.

A despatch from the duke of Manchester to earl Bathurst, dated "King's House, Jamaica," 16th June, 1824, communicates information he had received of the slaves having, in two instances, proceeded to acts of outrage in the parish of Hanover; but his grace expresses his hope that the measures of precaution which had been adopted would check any disposition to revolt before it could proceed to any extent.

A despatch from the duke of Manchester to earl Bathurst, dated "King's House, Jamaica," 1st July, 1824, states that the revolt mentioned in his last despatch had been for the present suppressed. The prompt measures which had been adopted by sir John Keane had been productive of the best consequences. The negroes throughout the island laboured under the delusion that they were entitled to their freedom; and the publication of his majesty's proclamation had not removed their error, for they declared that the proclamation was a forgery fabricated in Jamaica by their owners.

A despatch from the duke of Manchester to earl Bathurst, dated "King's House, Jamaica," 31st July, 1824, announces the trials and sentences of the slaves concerned in the late revolt. Twelve had been executed. It appeared

evident from their declarations that they were fully impressed with the belief that they were entitled to their freedom, and that the cause they had embraced was just, and in vindication of their own rights.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to the duke of Manchester, dated "Downing Street, 14th July, 1824," encloses a copy of the order in council for the improvement of the condition of the slaves in Trinidad; and notifies the appointment of two bishops, the one for Jamaica and the other for the Leeward Islands, to whom are to be entrusted the control of the clergy of the church of England in their respective dioceses, and the duty of reporting upon the state of the ecclesiastical establishment, particularly as it relates to the slave population, and upon the best means of diffusing the benefits of religious instruction to that part of the community. His lordship expresses his hope, that the assembly of Jamaica, by incorporating in their statutes those additional provisions of the order in council respecting Trinidad, which as yet were not to be found in their consolidation act, would lay the foundation for such a system of gradual improvement of the condition of the slave population, as would prove equally honourable to the assembly and beneficial to those for whose advantage it appeared to be more immediately intended.

A despatch from the duke of Manchester to earl Bathurst, dated "King's House, Jamaica, 13th November, 1824," encloses copies of his grace's speech at the opening of the session, and the addresses of the council and assembly in answer thereto. His grace had the satisfaction to acquaint his lordship, that a bill had been introduced into the assembly by a very intelligent member of that body, admitting the evidence of slaves under certain regulations; and that, although some little clamour was at first excited, it seemed in a great measure to have subsided; and that the bill had been ordered to be read a second time on the 24th November.

A despatch from the duke of Manchester to earl Bathurst, dated "King's House, Jamaica, 24th December, 1824," announces the termination of the session on the 18th. His grace was afraid his lordship would be dissatisfied with the proceedings of the assembly with reference to the order in council respecting Trinidad. The bill which had been introduced into the house for admitting the evidence of slaves, with certain qualifications, had been rejected by a majority of 36 to 1. His grace was extremely apprehensive, that the failure of that bill would destroy all hope of any measure of consequence being adopted in favour of the slaves; and that fear was not diminished by the following message which he received from the house on the 26th November:—

"May it please your Grace,
"We are desired by the house to wait on your grace, and to inform you, that they have taken into their most serious consideration

"your grace's message of the 11th instant, together with a copy of his majesty's order in council, for improving the condition of the slaves in Trinidad; which accompanied the said message. The house consider the present season of alarm and agitation; when the negro mind is peculiarly liable to receive false impressions, unfavourable for the adoption of any measures interfering with long-established institutions, and therefore cannot but regret that those motives of prudence, which influenced the British government in delaying to carry the order in council into execution at Demarara, should not have restrained it from pressing the immediate consideration of this subject on one of the oldest and most valuable possessions of the British crown; under circumstances infinitely more critical than those which apply to that conquered colony. The house, however, assure your grace, that they will, notwithstanding, continue to bestow their most serious consideration on all subjects connected with the welfare of the slave population in this island, and will embrace every favourable opportunity to make such enactments as may be deemed prudent and advisable."

Two acts, however, had been since passed, important in themselves as affording protection and encouragement to the slaves, and more so as indicating an intention of doing more hereafter. The first act protected slaves from all mesne process on the day allotted to them for the cultivation of their provisions or to carry them to market. It would enable them to employ the Saturday for this purpose; whilst before this act passed, slaves belonging to individuals against whom judgments were open were obliged to go to market on Sunday, in order to avoid the danger of being taken by the deputy-marshal on any other day. This exemption from mesne process would afford them now the opportunity to employ Sunday in a more suitable manner, and would materially contribute to the extinction of the Sunday market. The other act enabled the owners of slaves to reward their services by manumission, notwithstanding entails and other settlements. The mode of removing legal disabilities adopted in the act was simple, and would he hoped prove beneficial. Although he was aware that those acts fell very short of his lordship's expectations; still he was convinced that there was a very sincere desire to do, from time to time, what might appear practicable; and if the assembly had not done more now, it had arisen from the general belief that the negro mind was still unsettled, and their designs of mischief not yet abandoned: an impression which had acquired much force from the Report of a secret committee appointed "to inquire into the rise, progress, and means used to suppress the late disturbances in this island; and to report their opinion thereon; and also to inquire if any and what negroes have be-

“hayed themselves faithfully and meritoriously to their owners and the public; during such disturbances, and if any of them deserve rewards for the same;” a copy of which he enclosed for his lordship’s information. After describing the nature of the rebellious conspiracies that had lately manifested themselves in the island of Jamaica, the report thus proceeds:

“Your committee has sedulously endeavoured to trace the origin of the various disturbances which have so recently agitated the island, and in no one instance have they been attributed to any complaints preferred by the slaves, of cruel treatment experienced from their masters or overseers, of the privation of any rights with which usage or law had invested them, or of any excess of labour exacted; on the contrary thereof, the very negroes who have atoned by the forfeiture of their lives for the violation of the laws of their country, declared, both before their conviction and at the place of execution, that they were contented, and thenceforward till they imbibed notions that the king and Wilberforce had made them free. This idea is not confined to any one particular parish, but appears to have pervaded the whole island, and has taken such full possession of the negro mind, that it forms the constant theme of his conversation, and its effects are too lamentably shown by the altered demeanour and the reluctance exhibited in discharging his ordinary duties. All notions of dependence and subjection to the authority of his master are now excluded, and so far from regarding the latter with his wonted feelings of respect and affection, he looks upon him as his bitterest enemy, in withholding from him the enjoyment of those privileges which the mother country is supposed to have conceded. The natural result of this has been a restless expectation of benefits of which they have no definite idea; some looking forward to emancipation, whilst others, more moderate, confine their views to the enjoyment of Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, as days set apart exclusively for the negro. The discussions which from time to time are renewed in the British parliament, and with which the negroes become acquainted, tend to keep alive those feelings of distrust and dissatisfaction; and will, if persisted in, eventually place a barrier of insurmountable hostility between the master and his slave, and inevitably defeat the object which even the advocates of emancipation themselves entertain; for instead of diffusing a pure and salutary light, which might gradually prepare the negro mind for that improvement in its condition which may be alone contemplated, they infuse notions inimical to their own happiness and to the welfare of the colony, the effect of which your committee dread will be to kindle a flame, which, if ever extinguished, will

only be quenched in blood. The wishes and good intentions of the master have been paralysed by the fear that scenes of revolt may be of too frequent occurrence to afford any rational prospect that the fatal delusion which now overshadows the mind of his negro may be eventually renewed; and, however anxious he may be to adopt measures which prudence and humanity might suggest as tending to ameliorate the condition of his slaves; he dare not, lest they should be considered acts of compulsion; and thereby excite feelings of triumph in the negro bosom, which perhaps no subsequent events but of pure benevolence could possibly allay. Your committee therefore in adverting to the agitated state in which the negro population (too susceptible of receiving false impressions) is unhappily placed, as evidenced by the construction which they put on his majesty’s proclamation; and other measures connected with the present disturbances, deprecate as impolitic the discussion of this particular season of any question relative to our slave code. The danger resulting from the disaffection which has been too successfully excited, becomes more alarming when we advert to the critical situation in which this island stands with reference to a neighbouring colony, and the communication which, in defiance of the laws, is carried on. Opportunities are thereby afforded incendiaries from that country to disseminate their revolutionary principles. The feeling of disaffection which has already been engendered by the political discussions in the mother country is fostered and encouraged with a view to promote that spirit of insurrection and rebellion from which alone they anticipate to reap the fruits of their labour; the subversion of the established government, and thereby assimilate this island to Saint Domingo. The expenses which the island has had to sustain in consequence of the late disturbances amount to 15,270,000 *l.* as will appear on reference to the several returns and documents laid before the house. The uniform, peaceful, and good conduct of the slaves, for years anterior to the period when Mr. Buxton made his motion in the House of Commons, had induced his grace the governor to dispense with Christmas guards. The question, however, which was then agitated was fraught with the most direful consequences. To shake the fidelity and attachment of our negro population, and may for ever destroy that confidence which has hitherto been reciprocally interchanged between us and his race, menaced us on every side, and the Christmas guards were in consequence restored; these expenses had with double severity on a colony overwhelmed with distress, arising from the heavy duties which are imposed by the mother country, and from the depreciation in value of our colonial produce, and under the existing state of

"things, your committee see no prospect of being relieved for the future from so heavy a contingency, and are of opinion that application should be made to the British government to reimburse this island the expenses which have been already sustained, and for an ample indemnity against future losses."

Extract of a despatch from the lord bishop of Jamaica, addressed to the earl Bathurst, dated Perkin's Pen, Jamaica, March 12th, 1825.

The accompanying addresses, being five out of seventeen which have been presented to me, will be the best proof of the state of public opinion as to the new ecclesiastical establishment. I have the honour to enclose a statement of the population of Kingston, and the very inadequate means of accommodation for members of the church of England. Under the pressing circumstances of the case, I have allowed Mr. Paterson, one of the stipendiary clergy, and just appointed island curate to the parish of Kingston, to officiate in a free school, which has been offered to me by the mayor and corporation; divine service was performed in this place in 1812, during a temporary panic from the effects of an earthquake, and I have availed myself of this precedent to meet the present exigencies of the inhabitants. The room will contain nearly five hundred persons, and a very strong predilection exists for the doctrines of the church of England, if opportunities for attending divine service were afforded them. With a view to the more punctual performance of the parochial duty, I have made an arrangement with Mr. Mann, the rector of Kingston, to allow 200*l.* per annum to an assistant curate. I shall lose no time in licensing Mr. Askew to this curacy. I have no hesitation in suggesting to your lordship the propriety of erecting two chapels of ease to the mother church at Kingston, and from all that I can learn on the subject, am of opinion they would both be immediately filled: wherever I go, I find the greatest aversion to sectarianism of every kind and denomination, but every degree of confidence in any teachers of religion whom I may be pleased to appoint. I have as yet seen very little of the slave population, except during a short excursion into the Port Royal Mountains: the great want is places of worship in situations where the negroes of many surrounding estates might be easily assembled, and houses for the clergy. Many proprietors have indeed tendered houses which might be adapted for this purpose, and from all that I hear from the clergy, much has been done this way, particularly since the Society for the Education of Negroes has directed its attention to this point. From the great uncertainty and capriciousness of the negro character, it is difficult to make sure of their attendance even where great pains have been taken; but whenever a preacher is popular, they dress out their children and themselves, a sure sign they are in

good humour, and through the place of worship. Psalmody and organs have great attractions for them: they seem particularly fond of form and ceremony, and greater critics than many persons will give them credit for, remarking every particularity of manner and gesture, and have a great predilection for a powerful sonorous voice. As soon as my archdeacon and myself have visited the several parishes, which we propose doing immediately, I shall not fail to communicate to your lordship whatever I may deem useful and practical. In the mean time, I am happy in being able to assure your lordship that a very general wish to ameliorate the condition of the slaves, and to instruct them in the principles of the established church, seems to pervade the great mass of proprietors, and every facility is afforded me of visiting the several plantations. I shall endeavour to procure some accurate estimates for the building of churches.

Statement of the population, &c. of the city of Kingston in 1825.

Slave population	5,000
Free persons of colour and blacks	10,000
White inhabitants	6,000
Total population, about	21,000

The religious accommodation for the above number is as follows:

Church of the establishment, calculated to contain	1,000
Wesleyan methodist chapels	1
Anabaptist chapels	1
Scottish church	1
Roman catholic chapel	1
The number of baptisms of slaves in 1824	907
Marriages of slaves in the same year	12

With respect to the baptisms, it is to be remarked that not one third of the number of slaves mentioned to have been baptised in Kingston belong to Kingston, the others come from various parts of the country.

(Signed) J. MANN, Rector of Kingston.

BAHAMAS.

A despatch from governor Grant to earl Bathurst, dated "Government House, Bahamas, 10th May, 1824," encloses copies of three acts, having reference to the free and slave coloured people of the Bahamas, all of them intended and calculated, in some degree, to meliorate their condition. These acts are intitled as follows:—"An act to grant the further extension of privilege to certain free persons of colour in certain cases;"—"An act to suspend an act, intitled 'An act to ascertain who shall not be deemed Mulattoes,'"—"An act to amend and consolidate the several slave acts." Governor Grant observes, that the first of these acts admits the evidence of free persons in all cases

whatever, civil and criminal, with certain limitations to the place of birth and residence of the free person (formerly, the evidence of any free person of colour was not received against a white person, except to prove debt); that the second of these acts suspends an act which suspended, for fifty years, an act which drew the line where persons of colour above a certain number of degrees (three) removed from black ancestry should no longer, in the eye of the law, be deemed persons of colour; and that the third of these acts improves the condition of slaves very considerably, and suspends the possibility, contained in former acts, of depriving free persons of colour of their freedom by process of law. The improvements contained in this act are agreeable to some resolutions of the house of assembly, founded upon lord Bathurst's letter of 9th July, 1823, which had been made at an early period of the session.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to governor Grant, dated "Downing Street, 14th August, 1824," encloses a copy of the order in council for the improvement of the condition of the slaves in Trinidad; and ratifies the appointment of two bishops, the one for Jamaica, and the other for the Leeward Islands. His lordship expresses his hope that the legislature of the Bahamas, by embodying in their statutes those additional provisions of the order in council respecting Trinidad, which as yet were not to be found in their consolidation act, would lay the foundation for such an improvement in the condition of the slave population as would prove equally honourable to the legislature and beneficial to those for whose advantage it appeared to be more immediately intended.

Another despatch from earl Bathurst to governor Grant, dated also "Downing Street, 14th August, 1824," details various objections to the act for amending and consolidating the laws relating to slaves; and urges a reference to the order in council respecting Trinidad, in order to judge how far the act consisted with, and in what respects it would fail to carry into effect, the wishes of his majesty's government.

A despatch from governor Grant to earl Bathurst, dated "Government House, Bahamas, 10th January, 1825," announces the resolution of the house of assembly to make no alteration in the consolidated act that session. Governor Grant adds, that in a considerable degree he is inclined to attribute this resolution, not to a general disposition, on the part of the respectable inhabitants, to oppose the wishes of government, on occasions where they clearly saw their way; but that, in respect to the subject in question, so much pains had been taken by designing persons to work upon the fears of the colonists, that it was a difficult matter to bring them favourably to deliberate on the amelioration of the condition of their slaves. On coming to the resolution just mentioned,

the house of assembly returned the following answer to a message which they had previously received from the governor, communicating the two despatches dated 14th August, 1824, which he had received from lord Bathurst:—

May it please your excellency,

In answer to your excellency's message of 3d inst. accompanied by two despatches from the colonial office of the 14th of August; and a copy of an order of his majesty in council of the 10th of March, for the government of the slaves in Trinidad, the house of assembly respectfully beg leave to express their regret, that the documents so forwarded by your excellency do not appear to them to justify an expectation that his majesty's ministers are to be sincerely satisfied with any thing less from the colonies generally, than the entire adoption, at least in substance, of the new system of slave government prescribed by that order. For though it was to be extended to all the other conquered colonies, under such modifications as should be necessary to adapt its provisions to the pre-existing laws of those colonies respectively, and consequently it could not have been expected that the same system would be adopted in the more ancient British colonies, (the forms at least of whose government are, to a certain degree, in correspondence with those of the mother country,) without a like deference to established institutions; the house cannot but observe, that, in the system now recommended, there is much of deep and vital interest, altogether new to all the colonies, British and foreign; the extreme hardship of which, on slave owners, would, if adopted under any modifications, of mere form, in the opinion of this house, virtually annihilate all legitimate authority of the owner over his slave, and, by putting their several interests infinitely more at variance than before, lead rapidly to results of the most fearful character. And although, in the despatches from the colonial office, particularly that in which the merits and defects of the slave code of this colony are discussed, in a manner highly gratifying to the house, there are several recommendations entitled to their serious consideration, and some suggestions, of which, at a season of *less excitement in the minds of the slave population, and just alarm among the white inhabitants of the colonies*, the house would have much satisfaction in availing themselves; they trust that your excellency, and his majesty's ministers, will not, at a crisis like the present, be surprised or displeased at the repugnance of the house to enter upon even the less obnoxious details of a system which, as a whole taken together, appears to them so pregnant with peril to certain principles, the preservation of which appears to them essentially necessary, not only to the little portion of prosperity which still remains to the colonies, but even to their very existence as colonies at all.

The house further respectfully beg leave to recapitulate what the legislature of this colony has already done for the religious and moral instruction of all classes; and more particularly for the comfort and protection of the slaves from all manner of lawless oppression. The church establishment, in the first place, has been on a footing, in point of extent and liberality; altogether without example, in proportion to the revenues of the place. No form of religion is prescribed—every christian sect enjoys the unshackled exercise of its peculiar style of worship, duly protected by equal laws from all molestation. The marriages of slaves also are now provided for and encouraged by law, as in fact they have ever before been by general usage. The utmost possible facility is afforded, by express enactments (in a separate law for the purpose, not included in the general slave code), and ever carried readily into effect by the courts, to enable those unjustly held in bondage to recover their freedom, without personal risk, or pecuniary expense; manumissions are neither taxed nor restrained by law, or otherwise; and even during the last session of the assembly, the general slave code was revised and re-enacted, with several amendments, manifesting, as earl Bathurst has been pleased to admit, the anxiety of the legislature for the improvement of the condition of the slaves, and comprising many humane and judicious enactments, materially contributing to such improvement. Neither, during the same session, were the claims of the black and coloured people of free condition forgotten—by admitting them, then for the first time, to be witnesses in all cases; nearly the last shade of distinction, in point at least of civil rights, was removed from between them and the white population; the latter reserving to themselves little else than the exclusive enjoyment of certain political privileges, which, in the opinion of the house, cannot at this time be extended to any other portion of the inhabitants, without substantial injury to the country. After such hitherto uncommon progress of the legislature in giving legal sanction to the daily increasing amelioration of the condition of slaves, and other corresponding acts respecting the free people of colour, the house did not expect to be again called upon for further measures of a like nature, but of a more doubtful character, if not also decidedly of a more dangerous tendency, until at least some reasonable length of time were allowed, to observe the practicable effect of those steps which had already been so recently taken: still less did the house anticipate that the entire order in council for the government of the slaves in Trinidad, which, however it may now be regarded, was originally announced only as an experiment, and expressly declared to be so by his majesty's ministers in parliament, would have been hastily pressed, as it now is, upon this colony, with an earnestness of recommendation which seems to reject all apprehension of

non-compliance in the smallest particular; not only while the project itself remained as yet untried in Trinidad, but before it had even been transmitted to any one of the other five conquered colonies, in which it was to be put to the test of experience. Without entering into details, the house respectfully beg leave to suggest, that they humbly presume it must already be within your excellency's knowledge, that, were it only from objections purely of a local character, a large portion of the Trinidad ordinance would be absolutely impracticable in these islands; nor, even independent of those local obstacles, can the house regard the new system without trembling for the destiny that awaits those colonies into which it may be introduced. For, besides the multitude of other objectionable parts of that ordinance, with which it is unnecessary at present to trouble your excellency, that from which the more immediate evils are to be apprehended, perhaps, is the portion of it which restrains within certain limits the punishment of slaves; the callous inflexibility of the edict rejecting all distinctions between the most atrocious violation of the spirit of the law and the most venial transgression of its letter; and, above all, the appalling disproportion between the offence and its penalty. A lash illegally inflicted on the white free man in England or the colonies, is expiated by a small fine, or at most a short imprisonment. But here, a like assault upon a slave by his master is to be punished by a forfeiture of at least one-half of that master's fortune, however splendid it may be. As one, of perhaps a hundred fairly supposable cases of rank oppression and injustice to result from the proposed regulations, a single female slave, privileged, as she would be, from corporal punishment, would have only to inflict, privately, upon her own shoulders, a couple of lashes, just severe enough to leave a perceptible mark of the violence, and charge her master with the offence, and she might thereby not only procure her own emancipation, but that also of all her kindred, and of the entire gang to which she belonged, should it amount to thousands in number, and in value millions. The right of giving evidence in all other cases is confined to slaves duly instructed in the Christian religion; but here no manner of religious or moral qualification is required; no certificate of character; nothing but the lash on the back, and a plausible tale in the mouth of the complainant. Let it also be remembered, that even in cases in which it should be afterwards made to appear that the person convicted had been unjustly accused, and had been the innocent victim of fraud and perjury on the part of his accuser, still he would be altogether without remedy. Nearly every other sentence of the law is, for a time at least, under the wholesome control of the executive: in this case the slaves, by the sentence itself, would as once become forfeited to the crown; in other words, irreversibly manumitted. The pro-

erty of the innocent and injured owner once so lost could never be restored; and thus, from the very nature of his case, even the doors of royal mercy must of necessity remain shut against him for ever. Neither is there any reservation in favour of the rights of joint proprietors, reverenters, entailed heirs, mortgagees, or creditors of any description—every consideration of the kind is utterly lost sight of in the eagerness for emancipations too plainly manifested by those who have been unhappily permitted to advise this extraordinary measure. It is correctly observed, in the papers before the house, that his majesty's ministers, in many of the new enactments required from the colonial legislatures, only ask for a legislative recognition of principles on which all the colonies boast to have long acted, by common consent, with respect to their slaves; such, for instance, as concerns their right of property, that of disposing of it at discretion, purchasing without their own freedom or that of their relatives; and using it for other fair purposes. Not can the house be surprised that those who are experimentally unacquainted with the necessary economy of the slave-system of the West Indies, and the delicacy of those moral ligaments which bind the slave to his master, more strongly perhaps than any physical chain which oppression ever forged for its victims, should at first view be unable to understand why the legislature should hesitate to confirm by law rights which no man in the colonies certainly, at this day, would venture to call in question. The answer to that is this; that as the negro condition in the West Indies has gradually improved, those rights have been the progressive result of that improvement, the natural growth of an increasing sense of mutual confidence between the owner and the slave; and therefore were the slave who should as yet have scarcely reached the dividing line between civilised and savage life (and for one that has passed it thousands remain far behind)—should the untutored slave be given to understand that those benefits were extended to him, not as a fair encouragement to diligence and sobriety, nor as a just reward of fidelity, or the gratuitous boon of his master, but as an abstract right vested in all slaves alike, the faithful and the traitorous; the industrious and the idle, the moral and the corrupt, and secure to them indefinitely by the edicts of a great superintending power (of which, by the by, not one in a thousand of them has any defined idea), which at the distance of upwards of a thousand leagues shield his master and himself in equal subservieney,—is it not clear that the property of the slave from that moment would, instead of a bond of union between him and his master, as at present, become “a barrier of inextinguishable hate?” Tell the slave that this right was so conferred on him for the express purpose of making him independent of his master's favour, and enabling him to set the little remaining authority of that master at defiance; would it not be

a natural consequence, that the accumulation of property in the hands of a slave would, ever after, be regarded with jealousy (nothing of which has ever yet been felt) by the owner, who, upon a fair principle of self-protection, might be induced even to retaliate on his slaves the oppression of those under whom he himself suffered, by withholding many of those gratuitous indulgencies, and even aids, which he had ever before had considerable satisfaction in affording to his dependents? thus compelling them in a great measure to abandon their lucrative pursuits in disgust, or to persist in them clandestinely,—necessarily leading to habits of falsehood and fraud, if not also to theft; or even worse, on the part of the slave; and, in any event, eternally dissolving the best and only sure cement of the existing slave-system in the West Indies. The house, it is hoped, will not be held guilty of presumption in thus setting up their humble judgment in contrariety with that of his majesty's government in matters of such deep interest as those now under consideration. In all others, even when the interests of the colonies have been sensibly blended with those of other parts of the empire, the house, however they may have felt the pressure of some ministerial acts, have ever as yet submitted to them in respectful silence. But on subjects in immediate and exclusive connexion with the peculiarly organised system of slave-property in the West Indies, the house trust, that, without any fair imputation of arrogance, they may presume upon their own experience on the spot as having placed them in a situation to take the most correct views of the policy and bearings of all measures affecting that particular species of property, more especially when such measures emanate from a distant country, where it is impossible that that policy and those bearings can be so well understood, blinded as the British public have too long been by prejudice, excited by as gross a tissue of interested and malignant falsehood and misrepresentation as ever imposed upon the credulity of that or any other nation.

The house cannot conclude without an assurance to your excellency that they, unfeignedly regret that a strong sense of the great impolicy and absolute danger of making any further innovations at present in the slave-system of the colony, and a decided conviction of the correctness of the principles on which they are now acting, compel them to return this answer to your excellency's friendly message. For although the views which they have taken of the present painfully interesting subject differ in some degree from those of your excellency, the house, nevertheless, are fully persuaded that your excellency's suggestions were dictated by a sincere and earnest desire to maintain the credit and promote the welfare of the colony.

BARBADOES.

A despatch from sir Henry Warde, to earl

Bathurst, dated "Government House, Barbadoes, 1st July, 1824," notifies, that Mr. Moe had decided upon withdrawing himself from his duties as speaker of the house of assembly, in consequence of the rejection of his bill for protecting and ameliorating the condition of the slaves.

A despatch from sir Henry Warde to earl Bathurst, dated "Government House, Barbadoes, 12th July, 1824," states, that on the meeting of the house of assembly on the 8th, pursuant to summons, he had sent them a message, earnestly recommending to them the adoption of such measures for the speedy revision, amendment, and amelioration of the slave-laws as they might deem best calculated for that purpose; to which the house answered, that they were at that moment occupied on the subject to which his excellency's message referred. Sir Henry adds, that a committee of the house was formed on that day, and a message sent to the legislative council, inviting them to form a similar one, to meet and conjointly to consider and propose a consolidated act. There was also reason to think that the speaker of the house would resume his duties.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to sir Henry Warde, dated "Downing Street, 26th July, 1824," encloses a copy of the order in council for the improvement of the condition of the slaves in Trinidad; and notifies the appointment of two bishops, the one for Jamaica, and the other for the Leeward Islands. His lordship expresses his regret that any interruption should have taken place in the measures that were in progress in Barbadoes for a melioration of the state of the slaves; and recommends to the legislature of that island, by embodying the provisions of the order in council respecting Trinidad in their statutes, to lay the foundation of such a system of gradual improvement of the condition of the slave population as would prove equally honourable to the assembly and beneficial to those for whose advantage it appeared to be more immediately intended.

A despatch from sir Henry Warde to earl Bathurst, dated "Government House, Barbadoes, 15th August, 1824," announces that a bill had passed the house of assembly for amending and ameliorating the slave-laws, and that he entertained little doubt of its being approved of by the council.

A despatch from sir Henry Warde to earl Bathurst, dated "Government House, Barbadoes, 3d September, 1824," encloses various documents. By these it appears that the Consolidation Slave Bill had been returned to the house of assembly by the council, with several amendments; that the house of assembly, declaring that there was not time in the present session for the consideration of the amendments, had again sent it to the council, with a hope that it would be agreed to in its then shape; but that the council persisted in refusing to accede to

the measure, alleging, that several clauses of it placed the slave almost out of the protection of the law. The bill was consequently lost.

A despatch from sir Henry Warde to earl Bathurst, dated "Barbadoes, 21st October, 1824," encloses sir Henry's addresses to both branches of the legislature of that island on the commencement of the session (28th September, 1824), together with their answers. The addresses express the disappointment felt by sir Henry Warde at the failure of his well-grounded hope in the last session that some measure would have been enacted for the amendment of the slave-laws; urge the immediate consideration of that important subject; and conclude in the following words:—"I now seize with pleasure and sincerity this public opportunity to express those sentiments most unequivocally, which have long been felt, but never called forth, that though cases as exceptions do exist, which under similar circumstances would exist in every other part of the globe, so long as men are imperfect, and their dispositions differ in an innumerable variety of shades from good to evil; yet after more than three years' constant residence in this island, it is my firm conviction (as far as it has come within my own observation to judge) that the slaves, as a body, throughout the colony are uniformly treated with kindness, lenity, and liberality, and to which their general appearance of cheerfulness and happiness may be fairly attributed." The answers of the council and house of assembly express their earnest disposition to remove the difficulties which had retarded the amendment of the slave-laws; but the house of assembly observe, that they shall consider it right to suspend any farther proceeding upon the subject until lord Bathurst's opinion of the occurrences of the last session should be made known to them. Both branches of the legislature thank his excellency the governor for his favourable sentiments with respect to the manner in which the slaves of that island were treated.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to sir Henry Warde, dated "Downing Street, 25th October, 1824," expresses his lordship's regret at the rejection of the consolidation bill; and his hope that in the course of next session the council and the assembly will concur in such a measure as may fulfil the expectation of his majesty's government; and reflect credit on the island of Barbadoes.

A despatch from sir Henry Warde to earl Bathurst, dated "Barbadoes, 4th December, 1824," acknowledges the receipt of lord Bathurst's despatch of the 25th October; and states that it had been immediately laid before the council and house of assembly, with a message expressing sir Henry's earnest hope that the wishes of government would be speedily accomplished by the enactment of a slave consolidation bill. The replies which he had re-

ceived from both branches of the legislature offered assurances of the Slave Amelioration Bill being again immediately brought forward; and sir Henry sincerely trusts that he shall ere long be enabled to report to lord Bathurst that a bill of that nature, in consonance with the views and expectations of his majesty's government, had passed into law.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to sir Henry Warde, dated at Downing Street, 8th January, 1825, acknowledges the receipt of sir Henry's despatch of the 21st October, 1824, and expresses lord Bathurst's great disappointment that any cause should have led to a prolongation of that delay, in passing a law for the melioration of the condition of the slaves; his regret at which he had before declared. With regard to the cause now alleged, lord Bathurst observes, that sir Henry Warde must be aware that it was by no means necessary that the legislature should suspend its proceedings (a purpose intimated in the address of the House of assembly); in order to await his opinion upon them, since they had been already fully made acquainted with the wishes of his majesty's government; and a comparison of their proceedings with the documents which had been laid before them was all that could be requisite to enable them to judge of the opinion which would be formed of the result of their labours when complete; and it was obvious that a discussion and interchange of explanations between England and Barbadoes concerning the parts of the work, whilst incomplete, could only tend to embarrass its progress; and to protract the delays which he trusted each branch of the legislature had sincerely depre-

A despatch from sir Henry Warde to earl Bathurst, dated at Barbadoes, 2d March, 1825, states that on its receipt he had immediately forwarded Lord Bathurst's despatch of the 8th January to the president, with a request that he would lay the same before both branches of the legislature. Sir Henry declares that every means in his power had been resorted to for the purpose of expediting the enactment of a Slave Consolidation Bill; and that he entertained a strong hope that it would be speedily adopted.

A despatch from sir Henry Warde to earl Bathurst, dated at Government House, Barbadoes, 28th March, 1825, encloses a copy of an act to repeal several acts and clauses of acts respecting slaves; and for consolidating and bringing into one act the several laws relating thereto, and for the better ordering and government of slaves, and for giving them further protection and security; for altering the mode of trial of those charged with capital and other offences, and for other purposes. Sir Henry observes that he had lost no time in affixing his signature to the act as soon as it had passed the House of assembly and the council considering that although it might not be so complete as his lordship might wish it to be, yet that very great

and substantial improvements had been effected, and that yet further might be speedily expected, as would appear by the proceedings of the legislative council in which it was declared that although the bill fell short of what the council wished to accomplish they did not think it prudent to hazard further delay by again returning it to the other house, and therefore passed with a resolution that a supplemental bill for the purpose of supplying its deficiencies should be forthwith prepared, passed and sent down to the House of assembly, and a bill of amendment for the purpose of amending the act passed by the council.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to the officer administering the government, dated at Downing Street, 26th July, 1824, encloses a copy of the order in council for the improvement of the condition of the slaves in Trinidad; and notifies the appointment of two bishops, the one for Jamaica, and the other for the Leeward Islands. His lordship expresses his hope that the assembly of Dominica, by incorporating in their statutes those provisions of the order in council respecting Trinidad which are not yet to be found in their consolidation act, will lay the foundation of such a system of gradual improvement of the condition of the slave population as will prove equally honourable to the assembly and beneficial to those for whose advantage it would appear to be more immediately intended.

A despatch from major-general Nicolay to earl Bathurst, dated at Government House, Dominica, 3d August, 1824, states that the assembly was at that time prorogued; that it was to meet on the 10th, and that one of the first subjects of deliberation would be the bill for the melioration of the condition of the slaves; which the major-general had reason to believe would be carried into effect agreeably to lord Bathurst's wishes.

A despatch from major-general Nicolay to earl Bathurst, dated at Government House, Dominica, 28 March, 1825, states that it was a matter of much regret to him that he was still unable to report that the legislature of Dominica had passed an act for the melioration of the condition of the slave population notwithstanding he had repeatedly and strongly urged the subject both by public messages and other means. A bill to that effect was long ago introduced, but after much discussion it had not been completed. A new bill was to be brought in immediately, and he trusted no further obstacles would arise, though he greatly feared it would not comprise all the wished for amendments in the slave laws; for the plainly perceived even among the best disposed of the proprietors, an apprehension that by going to the full extent recommended, they might relinquish over their slaves. The only consolation under these delays was the conviction that, through out this island, the slaves in general were con-

tented and happy; and their treatment was certainly very good.

GRENADA.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to Mr. President Paterson, dated "Downing Street, 26 July, 1824," encloses a copy of the order in council for the improvement of the condition of the slaves in Trinidad; and notifies the appointment of two bishops, the one for Jamaica, and the other for the Leeward Islands. His lordship expresses his hope that the legislature of Grenada, by introducing into their statutes the substance of the enactments in the order of council respecting Trinidad, will lay the foundation for such a system of gradual improvement of the condition of the slave population, as will prove equally honourable to the assembly and beneficial to those for whose advantage it appears to be more immediately intended.

Various despatches, from Mr. President Paterson to earl Bathurst, announce the introduction into the legislature of Grenada, and the progress (impeded by the great difference of opinion which existed on some points) of a bill for the general melioration of the slaves of Grenada, having for its groundwork the order in council transmitted by lord Bathurst, as far as it could with safety be adopted. Mr. President Paterson represents the slaves in Grenada to appear perfectly quiet and contented; and expresses his belief that there were no persons in any part of the world more anxious to make them so than those under whose immediate protection they were placed. His last despatch, dated "Government House, Grenada, 5 March, 1825," informs lord Bathurst that the bill had passed the house of assembly, and was before the council; and that he had every reason to believe that he should be enabled by the next packet to transmit the same, passed into a law.

ANTIGUA.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to the officer administering the government, dated "Downing Street, 26 July, 1824," encloses a copy of the order in council for the improvement of the condition of the slaves in Trinidad; and notifies the appointment of two bishops, the one for Jamaica, and the other for the Leeward Islands. His lordship expresses his hope that the legislature of Antigua will embody in their statutes the substance of the provisions of the order in council respecting Trinidad, by which they would lay the foundation for such a system of gradual improvement of the condition of the slaves, as would prove equally honourable to the legislature and beneficial to those for whose advantage it appeared to be more immediately intended. His lordship desires that a communication to the same effect may be made to the legislature of Montserrat.

A despatch from Mr. President Athill to earl Bathurst, dated "Government House, Antigua,

"3 September, 1824," acknowledges the receipt of the above despatch, which, he adds, would be laid before the assembly at their meeting on the 9th.

ST. CHRISTOPHER.

A despatch from earl Bathurst, to governor Maxwell, dated "Downing Street, 26 July, 1824," notifies the appointment of two bishops; the one for Jamaica, and the other for the Leeward Islands. His lordship adverts to a copy of the order in council for the improvement of the condition of the slaves in Trinidad, previously sent to the governor of St. Christopher, and expresses his hope that the legislature of that colony will frame a consolidation slave act, and incorporate in it the substance of the order in council respecting Trinidad. His lordship desires that a communication to the same effect may be made to the legislatures of Tortola, and Nevis.

Various despatches from governor Maxwell, to earl Bathurst, announce the framing by the chief justice of a bill for the general improvement of the slaves of the colony; the disposition expressed by the legislature of St. Nevis to coincide in the views of his majesty's government, as far as was consistent with the safety and prosperity of the colony; and finally, in a despatch dated "Government House, St. Christopher's, 10 January, 1825," the opening of the session in that colony; the acknowledgment by the council of the necessity which existed for the amendment and consolidation of the laws relating to slaves (a measure of which they augur as speedy a consummation as the cautious deliberation which it demanded should permit); and the declaration of the assembly of their readiness cordially to co-operate in any measure calculated to increase the welfare of the slave population. The assembly add, that should they in any particular fall short of meeting the wishes of his majesty's government, such failure would arise only from the impossibility of reducing some of the measures recommended to practice, and from the inutility of others as conducive to the great end in view.

ST. VINCENT.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to sir C. Brisbane, dated "Downing Street, 26 July, 1824," encloses a copy of the order in council for the improvement of the condition of the slaves in Trinidad; and notifies the appointment of two bishops, the one for Jamaica, and the other for the Leeward Islands. His lordship expresses his hope that the legislature of St. Vincent will revise their ameliorating act of 1820, and embody in it the substance of the order in council respecting Trinidad; and thereby lay the foundation for such a system of gradual improvement of the condition of the slave population as would prove equally honourable to the assembly and beneficial to those for whose advantage it appeared to be more immediately intended.

Another despatch from earl Bathurst to sir C. Brisbane, of the same date, recommends a consolidation bill, and details the objections which suggest themselves to the ameliorating act of 1820.

A despatch from sir C. Brisbane to earl Bathurst, dated "Government House, St. Vincent, 10th September, 1824," acknowledges the receipt of the foregoing despatches, states that they had been laid before the two houses of legislature, regrets that a more favourable result had not taken place, but expresses a hope that in the next session the legislature of St. Vincent might be induced to adopt such measures as in a great degree to embrace the substance of the order in council, in framing a new consolidated slave bill. Sir C. Brisbane also encloses the answers of the council and the house of assembly to his letters to them, recommending the adoption of lord Bathurst's suggestions. The council assure his excellency that they shall ever feel themselves bound to support, at all risks and hazards, the dignity and honour of his Majesty's government, as well as the safety, welfare, and improvement of all descriptions of his Majesty's subjects composing the colony; and that they will, on that principle, cordially unite with the honourable house of assembly in such measures as that house might be inclined to adopt for the furtherance of those desirable objects: but they could not, at the same time, refrain from expressing to his excellency an earnest hope, that precipitance might be avoided in introducing untried innovations into that tranquil, happy, and hitherto contented country; and that their rulers would deign to recollect the wise opinion on government left to his country by one of its most profound reasoners and writers—"It were good that men, in innovations, would follow the example of time itself, which, indeed, innovateth greatly, but quietly, and by degrees." The members further took leave to express to his excellency their extreme satisfaction at being informed, that it was his majesty's most gracious intention to place the church in those colonies under the control of a bishop of the established church, whose arrival might be shortly expected. They hailed this as the commencement of an era, in which the episcopal church in those colonies would raise itself to that respect and dignity which should be always attached to it; and they further looked to the measure as the precursor of the downfall of sectarian influence, and that system of craft, cunning, and hypocrisy, which had been so ingeniously organised both in the mother country and those islands for their destruction. Surely, though the representations of princes, governors, generals, and admirals, had, at the instigation of interested fanatics, been rejected as unworthy of attention, the representation that might come from a pious, devout, and disinterested head of the church would meet with some credit from the good and

wise; at least, those colonies would not be left to the gross misrepresentations of missionaries, sent out to them by self-created societies, unknown to the laws and constitution of the empire, and who found it necessary on their arrival to make out a strong case against the colonies, to exaggerate their own merits, and establish an opinion of their great usefulness. The house of assembly observes, that it had learnt with much surprise and regret that his majesty's government had deemed it expedient in the present time to disallow the slave-act passed by the legislature of that colony in the year 1820, after it had been four years in operation, and unquestionably acceptable to the slave population. The objections to that law, which had been favourably spoken of by many wise and good men, appeared to the house at best merely technical, if not subtle, and certainly neither applied to the spirit of the act, nor to the intentions of the legislature which passed it. The colony now necessarily reverted to the operation of the old slave laws, under which it had been flourishing near forty years; but, nevertheless, the house would seek an early opportunity of taking into its consideration those important consequences which resulted out of, and arose from, this unlooked-for determination of government.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to sir C. Brisbane, dated "Downing Street, 1st December, 1824," desires that he will take the earliest opportunity of removing the misapprehension into which the house of assembly had fallen in supposing that the act of 1820 had been disallowed by his majesty's government.

A despatch from sir C. Brisbane to earl Bathurst, dated "Government House, St. Vincent, 27th January, 1825," acquaints his lordship that on the receipt of his communication of the 1st of December, 1824, he had issued a proclamation renewing the operation of the slave-act, which had been subject to some doubts; and that at the next meeting of the legislature he would acquaint them with his lordship's wishes.

TOBAGO.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to sir F. P. Robinson, dated "Downing Street, 26th July, 1824," encloses a copy of the order in council for the improvement of the condition of the slaves in Trinidad; and notifies the appointment of two bishops, the one for Jamaica, and the other for the Leeward Islands. His lordship expresses a hope that the legislature of Tobago by revising the slave-court-act, and embodying in their statutes those provisions of the order in council which were not to be found in that act, would lay the foundation for such a system of gradual improvement of the condition of the slaves as would prove equally honourable to the legislature and beneficial to those for whose advantage it appeared to be more immediately intended.

1. Another despatch from earl Bathurst to sir E. P. Robinson, of the same date, recommends a consolidation act, and details various objections to the slave-court act. Various despatches from sir E. P. Robinson to earl Bathurst announce the receipt of the above despatches; their communication to the house of assembly; sir E. P. Robinson's apprehension that in the existing session the assembly would not attend to lord Bathurst's suggestions, and would do no more than frame a consolidation act; expressing a hope, however, that in the January session they might be induced to consent; and finally, in a despatch dated "Tobago, 28th October, 1824," the extinction of any hope, and his decided opinion that nothing more would be done towards the melioration of the condition of the slaves in the colony by the legislature. This opinion was founded on a declaration made to him on the preceding day, that the house of assembly could not concur in the view his majesty's government had taken of the orders in council sent to Trinidad, as they were of opinion that, from the inconsistency that marked many of them, they could not be adapted to the island of Tobago, without equal prejudice to the interest of the master, and the good government and happiness of the slave population. The house was firmly convinced, that in the late act for the good government of the slaves, passed in a former session, they had gone as far as prudence and propriety could justify, and that, in the present state of the slave population, to adopt all the measures recommended by his majesty's government, would be equally destructive of the interests of the master and the happiness of the slave.

TRINIDAD.

1. A despatch from earl Bathurst to sir Ralph Woodford, dated "Downing Street, 25th March, 1824," encloses the subjoined order in council, with his majesty's special command that its provisions should be duly enforced. Lord Bathurst observes, that there was nothing in the provisions of the orders which could give to the planters any just claim for compensation. He was as ready as any man to acknowledge and maintain, that the slave must be considered as the property of his master. But a slave had his rights; he had a right to the protection of his master in return for his service, and the law must secure to him that protection. There was nothing in the provisions of the order which went beyond the limits which that principle prescribed. In most cases they did little more than what practice had sanctioned, or the law had already enjoined. The master was not deprived of the service of his slave on any day except Sunday, and it was to be hoped, that no Christian master would so far forget himself as to claim indemnity for the loss of that which his religion must have taught him he ought never to require.

At the Court at Carlton House, the 10th of March 1824. Present, the King's most excellent Majesty in Council. *Whereas* it is necessary, that provision should be made for the religious instruction of the slaves in his majesty's island of Trinidad; and for the improvement of their condition; and whereas the procurador syndico of the cabildo of the town of Port of Spain in the said island, hath hitherto performed the duties of the office of protector and guardian of slaves in the said island, and it is expedient that the said office should be more fully established, and that the duties thereof should be more clearly ascertained; and that provision should be made for the support thereof: his majesty is therefore pleased, by and with the advice of his privy council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, that the procurador syndico of the cabildo of the town of Port of Spain, aforesaid shall be, and he is hereby confirmed, in his said office of protector and guardian of slaves; and that, as such protector of and guardian of slaves, he shall receive and be paid, at the time and in the manner hereinafter mentioned, such salary as his majesty shall be pleased to appoint; and that such salary shall commence from and after the twenty-fourth day of June, in the present year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, and that on or before that day, if possible, or, if not, then so soon afterwards as conveniently may be, the said protector and guardian of slaves shall appear before the governor or acting governor for the time being of the said island, and in his presence shall take and subscribe an oath in the following words, that is to say, *Personal ad id* "I, A. B. do swear, that I will, to the best of my knowledge and ability, faithfully execute and perform the duties of the office of protector and guardian of slaves in the island of Trinidad, without fear, favour, or partiality. So help me God." *Personal ad id* Provided nevertheless, and it is hereby ordered, that nothing herein contained shall extend to prevent his majesty from disuniting the office of protector and guardian of slaves from the office of procurador syndico aforesaid, and from appointing a distinct and separate officer, to act as, and be the protector and guardian of slaves, in case his majesty shall see fit so to do. *Personal ad id* And it is hereby further ordered, that the said protector and guardian of slaves shall establish and keep an office in the town of Port of Spain in the said island, and shall regularly attend at such office on such days, and during such hours of the day as the governor or acting governor of the said colony, by any general or special orders to be by him from time to time issued, may appoint; and shall at such office, and not elsewhere, keep, deposit, and preserve the several records, books, papers, and writings hereinafter directed to be kept by him; *Personal ad id* And it is further ordered, that the said protector and guardian of slaves shall not be the owner, or proprietor, of any plantation situate

within the said island, or of any slaves or slave employed or worked upon any plantation, or in any kind of agriculture; and shall not have any share or interest in, or any mortgage or security upon, any such plantation, slaves, or slave; and shall and is hereby declared to be incompetent to act as, or be the manager, overseer, agent, or attorney of, for, or upon, any plantation or estate within the said island, or to act as the guardian, trustee, or executor of any person or persons having or being entitled to, any such plantation, or of any slaves or slave; and in case any such protector and guardian of slaves within the said island shall have, acquire, hold, or possess, either in his own right, or in right of his wife, or in trust for any persons or person, any plantation situate within the said island, or any slaves or slave employed or worked upon any plantation, or in any kind of agriculture, or any share or interest in, or any mortgage or security upon any such plantation, or slaves or slave, he shall act as such manager, overseer, agent, attorney, guardian, trustee, or executor as aforesaid; he shall therefor, *de facto*, cease to be such protector and guardian of slaves as aforesaid, and forfeit such his salary; and some other fit and proper person shall forthwith be appointed to succeed to the said office. Provided, nevertheless, that all acts which may be done by, or by the order of, any such protector and guardian of slaves, after any such avoidance as aforesaid, and in such his office, and before the same shall, by public notice in the Gazette of the said island, be declared void, shall be as valid and effectual in the law as if no such avoidance of office had occurred.

And it is further ordered, that the said protector and guardian of slaves shall be resident within the said island, and shall not quit the same without a special license to be granted for that purpose by his majesty, through one of his principal secretaries of state, or by the governor or acting governor for the time being of the said island; and no such license shall, in any case, be granted for any time exceeding three months, nor shall any such license be granted by any such governor or acting governor as aforesaid, unless it shall be made to appear to him, on the oath of some medical practitioner, that such absence is necessary for the recovery of the health of the said protector and guardian of slaves.

And it is further ordered, that upon the death or resignation of the said protector and guardian of slaves, or in the event of his sickness, or other bodily or mental incapacity, or during his temporary absence from the said island, it shall be lawful for the governor or acting governor to nominate and appoint some other fit and proper person to act as the deputy for the said protector and guardian of slaves until his majesty's pleasure shall be known; and the said deputy shall receive such allowance to be deducted from and out of the salary of the said protector and guardian of slaves as the governor or acting gover-

nor for the time being of the said island shall be pleased to appoint. Provided always, that no persons shall be appointed or be competent to act as such deputy as aforesaid, who, according to the provisions of this order, could be incompetent to act as the protector and guardian of slaves. Provided also, that the protector and guardian of slaves in the said island shall at all times perform his duty in person, and not by deputy, except only in cases in which the governor or acting governor of the said island is hereby authorized to appoint a deputy for that purpose.

And it is hereby further ordered, that the said protector and guardian of slaves shall be, and he is hereby declared to be, a magistrate in and for the said island of Trinidad; and all such powers and authorities, of what nature or kind soever, as are now by law vested in the commandants of the several quarters of the said island, for the maintenance of the public peace and good order, shall be, and the same are hereby vested in the said protector and guardian of slaves, to be by him exercised throughout each and every quarter of the said island.

And it is hereby further ordered, that the commandants of the several quarters within the said island shall be, and they are hereby declared to be, assistant protectors and guardians of slaves, in their several and respective quarters; and the said commandants shall, and are hereby required, in their several and respective quarters, to be aiding and assisting the protector and guardian of slaves in the execution of the powers hereby committed to him; and for that purpose to obey and carry into execution such lawful instructions as they may from time to time receive from him, about, or in relation to, the matters herein mentioned, or any of them.

And it is hereby further ordered, that in all actions, suits, and prosecutions, which may at any time hereafter be brought or commenced in any tribunal or court of justice within the said island, wherein any slave may be charged with any offence punishable by death or transportation, or wherein any question may arise as to the right of any alleged slave to freedom, or wherein any person may be charged with murder of any slave, or with any offence against the person of any slave, or wherein any question may arise respecting the right of any slave to any such property as he or she is hereinafter declared competent to acquire; then and in every such case, including the same, shall be given to the protector and guardian of slaves, by every such action, suit, or prosecution, or, according to the law of the said island, would be given to the said slave, if he or she were of free condition; and the protector and guardian of slaves shall, and he is hereby required to attend, the trial or hearing, and all other the proceedings in every such action, suit, or prosecution, in the behalf and to act therein in such manner as may be most

conduce to the benefit and advantage of any such slave.

And whereas his majesty hath been graciously pleased to intimate his intention to make effectual provision for the religious instruction of the slaves in the said island of Trinidad; and it will be proper and necessary so soon as such his majesty's intentions can be carried into effect, that Sunday markets should be utterly abolished throughout the said island; and it is therefore hereby further ordered, that it shall and may be lawful for the governor or acting governor for the time being, of the said island, and he is hereby required, in obedience to any instruction which may for that purpose be issued by his majesty, through one of his principal secretaries of state, to issue a proclamation, in his majesty's name, for the discontinuance of all markets throughout the said island on the Sunday; and so soon as such proclamation shall have been issued, all Sunday markets shall forthwith cease, and be absolutely unlawful. And in any such proclamation the said governor or acting governor shall and may, and is hereby authorised to make, all such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the effectual suppression of such markets, and to impose such penalties as may be requisite for giving effect to any such rules and regulations. And whereas a certain proclamation or ordinance was, on the 16th day of November, 1823, issued by the governor of the said island of Trinidad, whereby it was, and is ordered and declared, "that from and after the first day of December then next, the market holden in the town of the Port of Spain for the sale of meat, vegetables, and other provisions on Sundays, and all other markets to be holden on the sabbath day throughout the island, should be limited to the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon; and that due warning should be given by the ringing of a bell at half-past nine o'clock to all persons to prepare to depart; and that from and after the hour of ten in the forenoon, no person or persons whatsoever shall remain therein, or publicly shew forth, or expose for sale any meats, poultry, vegetables, provisions, fruits, herbs, wares, merchandise, goods, or effects, on the Lord's day, after the hour of ten o'clock aforesaid, upon pain that every person guilty of disobedience, or nonconformance of this order, shall forfeit the goods or effects so exposed for sale, or, on refusing to quit the place, forfeit the sum of ten shillings." And it is by the said ordinance further ordered, that if any person or persons shall offend in these premises, it shall be lawful for the chief of the police, or his assistants, or the clerk of the market, or any alouach, or constable, and they are respectively thereby required to seize the goods exposed for sale, and cause them to be taken before any judge or magistrate, or any recorder of the cabildo, who, upon view of such goods

so exposed, shall order the same to be sold forthwith, and the proceeds thereof to be applied and disposed of as follows: that is to say, one-third to the informer, and the remainder to such pious or charitable purposes, and in such manner as the magistrates or justice ordering the sale shall determine. And it is by such ordinance further ordered, that in like manner, any person refusing to quit the market-place may be apprehended by the authorities aforesaid, who are authorised and required to demand the penalty thereinbefore provided, and, in default of payment, to commit the offender for twenty hours' imprisonment. And it is by the said ordinance provided, that nothing therein contained shall extend to the prohibition of dressing or selling meats in shops or victualing houses, nor to the sale of fish at the fish-house, provided the same do not take place during the hours appointed and set apart for divine service. And it is by the said ordinance noticed and set forth, that the limitation therein before declared, respecting the markets to be holden on Sundays, may not afford sufficient time for the sale of the articles and provisions necessary for the subsistence of the inhabitants; and it is therefore thereby ordered, that Thursday be also a market day, on which free persons are invited to attend, so as to lessen the number of persons resorting to the market on Sundays, which is especially retained for the due and reasonable encouragement of the slave population in habits of industry, and as it may not occasionally be inconvenient for proprietors to permit their slaves to bring the produce of their labour to market on another day than Sunday, the day of Thursday in each week is thereby declared to be a market-day in future. And it is by the said ordinance further ordered, that when, and as soon as the same may be found practicable, the market on Sundays will be further limited to the hour of nine in the forenoon of the same day." And whereas it is expedient that the said order or proclamation, of the 16th November, 1823, should continue and be in force throughout the said island, in the meantime, and until such proclamation as aforesaid should be issued for the absolute and total abolition of Sunday markets; it is therefore hereby ordered, that the said ordinance or proclamation of the 16th of November, 1823, shall be, and the same is hereby confirmed; And that the said ordinance shall be, and continue in force within the said island, until a proclamation shall be issued, in manner aforesaid, for the total abolition of Sunday markets therein to abide and remain. And it is hereby further ordered, that if any person or persons, within the said island, shall work or employ any slave, at any time between the time of sunset on any Saturday, and sunrise on any Monday, or shall, during that period

procure, induce, or compel any slave to perform or engage in any labour, for the profit or advantage of his or her owner, manager, or employer, this person or persons so offending shall incur and become liable to a fine not exceeding fifty nor less than five dollars; provided, nevertheless, that nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to any work or labour which any slave may perform on Sundays in the necessary attendance upon the person, or in the family of his or her own owner, or employer, or in the necessary and unavoidable preservation of the cattle or live stock upon any plantation.

And it is further ordered and declared, that it is and shall henceforth be, illegal for any person or persons within the said island of Trinidad to carry any whip, cat, or other instrument of the like nature, while superintending the labour of any slaves or slave in or upon the fields or cane pieces upon any plantation within the said island; or to use any such whip, cat, or other instrument for the purpose of impelling or coercing any slaves or slave to perform labour of any kind, or nature whatever, or to carry or exhibit upon any plantation, or elsewhere any such whip, cat, or other instrument of the like nature, as a mark or emblem of the authority of the person or persons so carrying or exhibiting the same, over any slaves or slave; and in case any person or persons shall carry any whip, cat, or other instrument of the like nature while superintending the labour of any slave or slaves in or upon any plantation or cane piece within the said island, or shall use any such whip, cat, or other instrument as aforesaid, for the purpose of impelling or coercing any slave or slaves to perform any labour of any kind of nature whatsoever, or shall carry or exhibit upon any plantation, or elsewhere, any such whip, cat, or other instrument as aforesaid, as a mark or emblem of their, his, or her authority over any slave or slaves, the person or persons so offending, and each and every person who shall or may direct, authorise, instigate, procure, or be aiding, assisting, or abetting in any such illegal driving, or use, or exhibition of any such whip, cat, or other instrument aforesaid, shall be, and be deemed adjudged and taken to be, guilty of a misdemeanor, and being thereof convicted, shall suffer such punishment as is hereinafter provided:

And it is further ordered and declared, that it is and shall henceforth be, illegal for any person or persons to inflict in any one day upon any male slave for any crime or offence, or upon any grounds, or for any reason whatsoever, any number of stripes or lashes exceeding twenty-five in the whole, or to inflict upon any such male slave any punishment or correction by the whipping, scourging, or beating of his person, unless the person of such slave shall, at the time of such punishment or correction, be free from any laceration occasioned by any former

whipping, scourging, or beating, or to inflict upon any such male slave any punishment or correction by the whipping, scourging, or beating of his person until twenty-four hours at the least shall have elapsed from the time of the commission of the offence; and in respect of which any such punishment or correction may be so inflicted, or to inflict upon any such male slave any such punishment or correction as aforesaid, unless one person of free condition shall be present at, and witness the infliction of, such punishment, other than and besides the person by, or by the authority of whom the same may be so inflicted; and in case any person or persons shall inflict, in any one day upon any male slave, any number of stripes or lashes exceeding twenty-five in the whole, or shall whip, scourge, or beat any such male slave at any time when there may be upon his person any laceration occasioned by any former whipping, scourging, or beating, or shall inflict upon any such male slave any such punishment or correction as aforesaid, within twenty-four hours next after the commission of the offence, for or in respect of which the same may be so inflicted, or without the presence and attendance during the whole of such punishment of some person of free condition other than and besides the person by, or by the authority of whom the same may be so inflicted, the person or persons so offending, and each and every person who shall or may direct, authorise, instigate, procure, or be aiding, assisting, or abetting, in any such illegal punishment of any male slave, shall be, and be deemed to be, guilty of a misdemeanor, and being thereof convicted, shall suffer such punishment as is hereinafter provided; provided, nevertheless, that nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to any punishment which may be inflicted upon any male slave under, or by virtue of, any sentence or judgment of any court of competent jurisdiction within the said island.

And it is hereby further ordered, that henceforth it shall not be lawful to correct or punish by flogging, or whipping, any female slave within the island of Trinidad, for any offence committed, or alleged to be committed, by any such slave; and if any person or persons within the said island shall flog, whip, or correct any female slave with any whip, cat, stick, or other such like instrument, the person or persons so offending, and each and every person who shall or may direct, authorise, instigate, procure, or be aiding, assisting, or abetting in any such correction or punishment as aforesaid, of any such female slave, shall be, and be deemed adjudged, and taken to be, guilty of a misdemeanor, and being thereof convicted, shall suffer such punishment as is hereinafter provided. And whereas it is necessary that effectual means should be adopted for punishing such offences as may hereafter be committed by female slaves within the said island, it is there-

fore hereby ordered, that any female slave who shall or may commit any offence within the said island, which by the laws in force there was heretofore punishable by flogging, shall for such her offence be subject and liable to imprisonment, or to be confined in the stocks, or to such other punishment or correction as may be necessary for the effectual suppression of such offences, and as may be specially sanctioned in and by any proclamation to be hereafter issued by the authority, and in the name of his majesty, in the said island. And the governor or acting governor of the said island shall, and is hereby authorised to make and ordain such rules and regulations as may be necessary for preventing any excess in such punishments, or any abuse in the mode of inflicting the same. Provided that such rules and regulations be not in anywise repugnant to this present order; and provided also, that the same be forthwith transmitted by such governor or acting governor as aforesaid for his majesty's approbation; and that all such rules or regulations shall cease to be binding or in force within the said island unless his majesty's allowance thereof shall be signified to such governor or acting governor within two years next after the date of such rules and regulations.

And it is hereby further ordered, that there shall be kept upon every plantation and estate throughout the said island, a book, to be called *The Plantation Record Book*, and that it shall be the duty of the owner, proprietor, manager, or other person having the direction of and the chief authority in the said plantation, to enter and record in the said book, at or immediately after the time of infliction of any punishment whatsoever on any female slave, or on any male slave who may be punished with any number of stripes exceeding three, a statement of the nature and particulars of the offence for or in respect of which such punishment may be inflicted; and at the time at which, and the place where such offence was committed; and at the time at which and the place where such punishment was inflicted; and of the nature, extent, and particulars of the punishment; and in the cases of male slaves, of the number of stripes actually inflicted upon the offender, together with the names of the persons by whom, and by the authority of whom, the punishment was inflicted; and of the persons or person of free condition present and attending at the infliction of every such punishment.

And it is hereby further ordered, that if any person, being the owner, proprietor, or manager of any plantation or estate within the said island, or having the management thereof or chief authority therein, shall neglect or omit to make in the said *Plantation Record Book* any entry which according to the provisions of this present order ought to be made therein, or shall not make such entry within two days next after the infliction of each and every punishment to which

the same may refer, the person so offending shall incur and become subject and liable to a penalty not exceeding one hundred pounds nor less than five pounds sterling, British money, to be recovered and applied in a manner herein after mentioned. And if any person or persons shall wilfully or fraudulently make, or cause or procure to be made, any false entry or fraudulent erasure in any such *Plantation Record Book*, or shall wilfully or fraudulently burn, destroy, cancel, or obliterate the name or any parts or part thereof, the person or persons so offending shall be, and be deemed and taken to be, guilty of a misdemeanor, and being thereof convicted, shall suffer such punishment as is hereinafter provided.

And it is hereby further ordered, that every owner, proprietor, or manager, or other person having the chief authority within each and every plantation or estate within the said island, shall, on the first Monday which shall happen next after the fifth day of April, the twenty-fourth day of June, the twenty-ninth day of September, and the twenty-fifth day of December in each year, repair to the commandant for the time being of the quarter in which such plantation or estate may be situated, and then and there produce before him a precise and exact transcript of every entry which, during the quarter of a year next preceding, may have been made in the *Plantation Record Book* of his or her plantation or estate; and shall also take and subscribe an oath, to be annexed to the said transcript, in the following words (that is to say),

"I, A. B. the owner or manager (as the case may be) of the plantation called _____ in the quarter of _____ in the island of Trinidad, do make oath and say, that the paper writing hereunto annexed contains a true and exact copy of every entry which since the _____ day of _____ last, hath been made in the *Plantation Record Book* of the before-mentioned plantation. And I do further swear, that the said *Plantation Record Book* hath been punctually and accurately kept since the said _____ day of _____ in the manner by law required, and that no fraudulent erasure or false entry hath been made therein, by me, or by any person by my procurement, or with my knowledge or consent. So help me God."

And in case any such owner or manager, as aforesaid, shall not, since the time of making his last preceding return to the commandant of the quarter, have inflicted, or caused to be inflicted any punishment upon any female slave on his plantation or estate, or any punishment on any male slaves exceeding three lashes, then and in every such case, in lieu of the oath aforesaid, such owner or manager shall, at the several times aforesaid, take and subscribe before the commandant of the quarter in which such

plantation may be situate, and in the following words (that is to say), I, A. B. do swear, that since the last day of the said quarter last past, no punishment hath been inflicted by me, or by my steward, or with my knowledge, upon any female slave belonging or attached to the plantation situate in the said quarter of the said island whereof I am manager. And that no punishment hath, since the said day, been inflicted upon any male slave belonging or attached to the said plantation, exceeding three lashes. And I further swear, that no entry of any such punishments hath since the said day of been made in the Plantation Record Book of the said plantation. So help me God.

Provided always, and it is further ordered, that the commandant of each and every quarter within the said island shall, fourteen days at the least before the time of making the returns, transmit to the owner or manager of every plantation situate within his quarter, a printed blank form of the before-mentioned affidavits, together with a notice of the time and place at which he will attend for the purpose of receiving the returns and administering the oaths aforesaid; and the said commandant shall, and is hereby required to attend from day to day, for three successive days, and no more, for the purposes aforesaid; and in case it shall be made to appear to such commandant, by the certificate of any medical practitioner, that any person or persons liable to make such return is or are, by reason of sickness, incapable of attending for that purpose, at the time and place so to be appointed as aforesaid, then and in every such case the said commandant shall, and he is hereby required to attend the person or persons so incapacitated, at his, her, or their place or places of abode, for the purpose of receiving the said returns and taking such affidavits as aforesaid.

And it is hereby ordered, that if any person or persons shall refuse or neglect to make any return, or to take and subscribe the oaths required by this present order the person or persons so offending shall incur and become liable to the payment of a fine not exceeding one hundred pounds nor less than ten pounds sterling British money, to be recovered and applied in manner here mentioned.

And it is hereby further ordered, that the commandant of each and every quarter in the said island shall, and he is hereby required, to transmit to the protector and guardian of slaves of the said island, at his office in the town of Port of Spain, the whole of the returns so to be made to him as aforesaid, together with the original affidavits thereunto annexed, within fourteen days next after such quarterly returns shall be complete. And in case any such commandant shall himself be the owner or manager of any plantation, he shall, together with the

said returns, deliver to the said protector and guardian of slaves a transcript of the entries in his own plantation book for the last preceding quarter of a year, together with an affidavit to be by him sworn before the chief judge, or some one of the alcaldes in ordinary of the said island, in the manner and form hereinafore described, under such and the like penalty as is hereinbefore mentioned in the case of other persons refusing or neglecting to make their returns; or to take the before-mentioned oath.

And it is hereby further ordered, that the said protector of slaves shall record and enrol in books, to be by him kept for that purpose, the whole of the returns so to be made to him, and shall keep and preserve in his office the originals of the said returns and affidavits; and for the better and more convenient keeping of the said records, it is further ordered, that the said protector and guardian of slaves shall keep a distinct book for each quarter of the said island, and shall therein transcribe each of the said returns in alphabetical order, according to the name by which each plantation is described in every such return, and shall also make and keep full and exact indexes of such books.

And it is hereby ordered, that upon the prosecution of any person being the owner, proprietor, or manager of any plantation, for inflicting, or causing or procuring to be inflicted on any slave or slaves any punishment hereby declared illegal, if the slave so alleged to have been illegally punished shall be produced in open court, and if the marks or traces of a recent flogging or laceration shall appear on the person of such slave; and if such slave shall, in open court, declare such traces to be the consequences of any such unlawful punishment or correction, and being duly examined by the said court, shall make a particular, consistent and probable statement of all the circumstances attending such unlawful punishment, then in every such case, although such slave should not be a competent witness within the provisions of this present order, the owner, proprietor, manager, or other person, having the charge of such slave, shall be bound to prove, either that the punishment, of which the marks and traces may be so apparent, was not inflicted by him, or by his procurement, or with his knowledge or consent, or that such punishment was lawful punishment inflicted in the presence of one such witness of free condition as is required by this present order; and in default of such proof, such owner, proprietor, manager, or other person as aforesaid, shall be convicted and adjudged to be guilty of the offence imputed to him; and it is further ordered, that every such prosecution as aforesaid shall be conducted by the protector and guardian of slaves, and that it shall not be lawful for him to discontinue any such prosecution except by virtue of an order in writing to be to that purpose issued under his hand and seal by the

governor or acting governor for the time being of the said island.

And it is further ordered, that any persons, being in a state of slavery, who may be desirous to intermarry, shall, at their election, apply either to the protector and guardian of slaves, or to the commandant of the quarter in which the woman may reside, for a marriage-license, and, as an authority to him to grant the same, shall produce the consent, in writing, of their owner or owners, manager or managers, to the celebration thereof; but in case the owner or manager, or both, or either of the said slaves, shall refuse to consent to any such marriage, or to give such written permission for the celebration thereof as aforesaid, then and in every such case the said protector and guardian of slaves or commandant, as the case may be, shall thereupon issue a summons, under his hand and seal, requiring the owner or manager of such slaves, or the person or persons under whose direction such slaves may be, to appear before him, by themselves or their agents, at some convenient time and place, to be for that purpose appointed, such time being not more than fourteen days distant from the time when such application as aforesaid shall be received by such protector and guardian of slaves, or commandant as aforesaid. And if such owner or manager, or other person, as aforesaid, being duly cited, shall fail to appear before the said protector of slaves, or commandant, or appearing, shall fail to lay before him good and sufficient proof that such proposed marriage would be injurious to the well-being of the said slaves, then and in every such case, the said protector and guardian of slaves, or commandant, shall, without fee or reward, issue a license under his hand and seal, thereby authorising any clergyman of the established church of England and Ireland, or any minister of the kirk of Scotland, or any priest or curate professing the Roman Catholic religion, or any public teacher of religion within the said island, carrying on there no other profession, business, or occupation of profit, except that of a school-master, to solemnise the marriage of the said slaves. And it shall and may be lawful for any such clergyman, minister, priest, curate, or religious teacher, upon receiving any such license, to solemnise any such marriage as aforesaid, and the same, when so solemnised, shall, to all intents and purposes, be binding, valid, and effectual in the law; and any person by whom any such marriage may be so solemnised, by virtue of any such license, shall, within fourteen days next after the solemnisation thereof, under a penalty of not more than twenty pounds, and not less than five pounds sterling, transmit to the said protector of slaves a certificate of the solemnisation of such marriage, and the said protector and guardian of slaves shall register in a book, to be by him kept for that purpose, every marriage which may be so solemnised, with the date thereof, and the names, descriptions, and places

of abode of the parties contracting, and of the person solemnising every such marriage: provided nevertheless, that nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to render any marriage between persons in a state of slavery valid or effectual, which would be illegal or void if such persons were of free condition.

And it is further ordered, that it shall not be lawful, in the execution of any judgment, sentence, decree, or order of any tribunal, or of any court of justice within the said island, to seize or sell in satisfaction thereof any slave having a husband or wife, or a child under the age of sixteen years, or a reputed husband, or wife, or child under the age aforesaid, who may be the property of the same persons or person, unless such husband, and wife, and child, or reputed husband, wife, or child, shall be sold together, and in one and the same lot, and to the same person or persons; and if, in the execution of any such judgment, sentence, decree, or order, any slave or slaves shall be sold separate or apart from any such husband, or wife, or child, or reputed husband, or wife, or child, as aforesaid, then and in every such case, such sale and execution shall be, and the same is hereby declared to be absolutely null in the law, to all intents and purposes whatsoever.

And whereas, by the usage of the said island of Trinidad, persons in a state of slavery have hitherto been reputed competent in the law, and have in fact been permitted to acquire, hold, and enjoy property free from the control or interference of their owners: and it is expedient that the said laudable custom should be recognised and established by law, and that provision should be made for enabling such slaves to invest such their property on good security: it is therefore hereby ordered and declared, that no person in the island of Trinidad, being in a state of slavery, shall be, or be deemed, or taken to be, by reason or on account of such his condition, incompetent to purchase, acquire, possess, hold, or enjoy, alienate, or dispose of property; but every such slave shall, and is hereby declared to be competent to purchase, acquire, possess, hold, enjoy, alienate, and dispose of lands situate in the said island, or money, cattle, implements or utensils of husbandry, or household furniture, or other effects of such or the like nature, of what value or amount soever, and to bring, maintain, prosecute, and defend any suit or action in any court of justice, for or in respect of any such property, as fully and amply to all intents and purposes as if he or she were of free condition. And it is hereby further ordered, that savings banks shall be established within the said island for the better preserving the property of any such slaves, and that interest, at and after the rate of 5*l*. per centum per annum, shall be allowed upon the amount of every sum of money which may be deposited in any such savings banks, which interest shall be a charge upon the general revenues of the said island. And any

slave making any deposit of money in any such savings banks, shall be at liberty to make a declaration of the manner in which, and the names of the person or persons to whom, in the event of his or her death, the amount of his contributions to the said savings banks shall be paid, applied, and disposed of; and such declaration shall be recorded in a book to be kept for that purpose at the savings banks where such deposit may be made, and upon the death of the slave making such declaration, the same shall be deemed, and taken to be the last will and testament of such slave, in the absence of any other last will; and in case any such slave shall marry, after having made any such declaration, such marriage shall be, and be deemed, and taken to be, a revocation in the law of such declaration; and it is further ordered, that in case any slave or slave in the said island shall die intestate, and without having made any such declaration as aforesaid, which may remain unrevoked at the time of his death, then, and in every such case, the property of such slave shall go, and be disposed of, to and in favour of such persons, or person as by virtue of the several acts of parliament for the distribution of intestate estates would, according to the law of England, be entitled to any such property.

And it is hereby further ordered, that the savings banks throughout the said island shall be under and subject to the control and inspection of the protector of slaves; and that the governor or acting governor for the time being, for the said island, shall, and is hereby authorised to appoint such proper and necessary officers, and to make such rules and regulations as may be best adapted for managing the business of the said banks, and for insuring, order and punctuality therein, and for preventing any misapplication of the monies therein to be deposited; provided that such rules and regulations be not repugnant to this present order, and that the same be forthwith transmitted for his majesty's approbation, through one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state.

And it is hereby further ordered, that no deposit of money shall at any one time, or within any one week, be received at any of the said savings banks, from any slave, exceeding the sum of twenty dollars in the whole, unless such slave, at the time of tendering any such deposit, shall produce the consent in writing of his owner or manager to such deposit being made; and in case any slave shall be desirous at any one time, or within any one week, to make any such deposit of money exceeding the sum of twenty dollars, and the owner or manager of such slave shall refuse his consent to such deposit being made, then, and in every such case, the protector and guardian of slaves, upon application to him for that purpose made, shall issue a summons under his hand and seal, requiring the owner or manager of such slave, or the persons, under whose direction such slave may be, to appear, before

him, by themselves, or their agents, at some convenient time and place to be for that purpose appointed; and if such owner, or manager, or other person as aforesaid, being duly cited, shall fail to appear before the said protector of slaves, or, appearing, shall fail to lay before him good and sufficient cause why such deposit ought not to be made; then, and in every such case, the said protector and guardian of slaves, shall issue an order under his hand and seal, requiring the manager of the savings bank to receive the amount of such deposit, and the same shall be received by him accordingly.

And it is hereby further ordered, that no duty, tax, or impost of any nature, or kind, whatsoever, and that no fee of office shall be hereafter paid or payable within the said island upon, for, or on account, or in respect of the manumission of any deed, or the enrolment, or registration of any deed of manumission, savings, and excepting a fee not exceeding twenty shillings sterling British money, which shall by the said protector and guardian of slaves be paid to the registrar of deeds of the said island, for enrolling and registering every such deed of manumission, and which fee shall be repaid to such protector and guardian of slaves out of the public revenue of the said colony. And if any person within the said island shall hereafter take, demand, or receive any such tax, duty, impost, or fee of office, save as aforesaid, the person so offending shall incur and become liable to the payment of a fine not exceeding 50*l.*, and not less than 10*l.* sterling British money.

And it is hereby further ordered, that in case any slave within the said island, shall be desirous to purchase the freedom of himself, or of his wife, or her wife, or husband, or child, or brother, or sister, or reputed wife, or husband, or child, or brother or sister, it shall and may be lawful, and for any such slave so to purchase the freedom of himself, or of any such other person as aforesaid; and if the owner or proprietor of any such slave, shall be unwilling to effect his or her manumission, or shall, by reason of any mortgage, settlement, or lease, or other charge, or interest in such slave being vested in any other person, or persons, be unable to execute a valid and effectual manumission of any such slave; or if the owner or proprietor of any such other person, having an interest in any such slave, shall be a minor, or a married woman, or an idiot, or lunatic, or if the real and beneficial owner of any such slave, shall be absent from the said island, or shall not be known, or if any such action shall be depending in any court of justice in the said island, wherein the title to such slave, or the right to his services, shall or may be in controversy, or if the owner of any such slave shall demand as the price of his or her freedom a greater sum of money than may be the fair and just value thereof, then, and in every such and every of the cases aforesaid, the chief judge of the said island, upon application to him,

for that purpose made by the protector and guardian of slaves, shall issue a summons under his hand and seal, requiring the owner or manager of such slave, or the persons or person under whose direction such slave may be, to appear before him, by themselves or their agents, at some convenient time and place to be for that purpose appointed; and notice shall also be published by the said protector and guardian of slaves, in the public gazette of the said island, on three several days, of the time and place appointed for the purpose aforesaid; and in such notice all persons having or claiming to have any title or interest in or to the slave proposed to be manumitted, either in their own right, or as the guardians, attornies, trustees, or executors of any other person, shall be required to attend and prefer such claims.

And it is hereby further ordered, that at the time appointed for any such meeting as aforesaid, the chief judge of the said island, in the presence of the protector and guardian of slaves, and also in the presence of the owner or manager of the slaves or slave proposed to be manumitted, or (upon proof being made to him, upon oath, of the due service and publication of such notice as aforesaid, then, if necessary,) in the absence of such owner or manager, shall proceed to hear in a summary way what may be alleged by the said protector and guardian of slaves, and by the owner or manager, or other persons claiming any interest in the slave proposed to be manumitted; and in case the parties, or any of them, shall refuse to effect any such manumission, or if it shall appear to the said chief judge, that a valid and effectual manumission of any such slave cannot legally be effected by private contract; or if it shall be made to appear to the said chief judge, that the owner or proprietor of any such slave; or that any person having any charge upon, or interest in him or her, is a minor, or a married woman, or idiot, or lunatic, or that the real and true owner of any such slave, or that any person having any charge upon, or interest in him or her, is absent from the said island, or is unknown, or cannot be found, or that any suit or action is depending in any court of justice in the said island, wherein the title to the said slave, or the right to his services, is in controversy; or if it shall appear to the said chief judge, that any difference of opinion exists between the protector and guardian of slaves of the said island, and the owner or proprietor of any such slave, respecting his or her price or value, then, and in every such case, the said chief judge shall require the protector of slaves, and the owner, manager, or person having the direction of any such slave, each to nominate an appraiser of his or her value; and the said chief judge shall himself nominate an umpire between such appraisers; and the said appraisers being first duly sworn before the said judge, to make a fair and impartial appraisement, shall, within seven days next after such their appointment,

make a joint valuation of the slave proposed to be manumitted, and shall certify such their valuation to the chief judge, under their hands and seals. And in case such joint certificate shall not be delivered to the said chief judge within the said term of seven days, then the said umpire, being duly sworn in manner aforesaid, shall, within the next seven days, certify his valuation, under his hand and seal, to the said chief judge; and the valuation to be made in manner aforesaid, either by the said joint appraisers, or, in their default, by the said umpire, shall be binding and conclusive, and shall be entered and enrolled in the office of registry in the said island.

And it is hereby further ordered, that upon payment to the treasurer of the said island of the appraised value of any such slave as aforesaid, after deducting therefrom the expense of the appraisement to be allowed by the said chief judge, the said treasurer shall grant to the protector of slaves a receipt for the money so to be received by him. And such receipt shall be duly enrolled in the office of registry in the said island; together with a declaration, under the hand and seal of the said chief judge, that the proceedings required by law for the manumission of the slave, by or on behalf of whom such money was paid, had been duly had before him; and thereupon such slave shall be, and be deemed, taken, and reputed, to be, free, to all intents and purposes whatsoever.

And it is further ordered, that the money to arise from the manumission of any slave, by virtue of the proceedings before mentioned, shall and may be laid out, and invested under the authority of the chief judge, on the application of any person or persons interested therein, in the purchase of any other slave or slaves; or if no such application shall be made, then such money shall remain in the hands of the public treasurer of the said island at interest; at and after the rate of five pounds per centum per annum, such interest to be borne by, and defrayed out of, the revenues of the said colony; and the slave or slaves so to be purchased with the said money as aforesaid, or in case of no such purchase being made, then the said money in the hands of the said public treasury, and the interest from time to time accruing thereupon, shall be the property of the persons who were the proprietors of such manumitted slave or slaves, and shall be held upon, and subject to all such and the same uses, trusts, limitations, conditions, mortgages, charges, and demands, of what nature or kind soever, as such slave or slaves was or were held upon, under, or subject unto, at such the time of his or their manumission; and the said treasurer shall hold the said money; and the interest accruing thereupon, subject to such order as the chief judge of the said colony may, upon a summary application of any person interested therein, see fit to make, and such principal money and inte-

rest shall by the said treasurer be paid, applied, and disposed of in pursuance of and obedience to any such order.

And it is hereby further ordered, that before the manumission of any slave; by virtue of any private contract for that purpose between such slave and his owner, notice of such intended manumission shall by the owner of such slave be given in writing to the protector and guardian of slaves, who, on behalf of the said slave, shall be bound to ascertain that such owner has good right and title in the law; and is competent to effect such manumission; and the said protector and guardian of slaves shall also, without fee or reward, prepare the proper deed of manumission, and the same shall in all cases be executed in the presence of the said protector and guardian of slaves, or of some proper witness, to be by him appointed for that purpose; and being so executed, shall by such protector and guardian of slaves be enrolled in the office of registry in the said island, within one calendar month next after the date and execution thereof. And in case any such deed shall not be left for enrolment at the said office of registry, within the said period of one calendar month, the said protector of slaves shall incur and be liable to the payment of a fine not exceeding fifty pounds, not less than ten pounds sterling English money.

And it is hereby ordered, that in case any such deed of manumission as aforesaid shall be executed voluntarily, and without any valuable consideration passing to the owner or other person effecting such manumission, the slave or slaves so to be manumitted shall, before the actual execution of any such deed, appear before the said protector and guardian of slaves, or before the commandant of the quarter in which such slave may happen to be resident; and if it shall appear to the said protector and guardian of slaves, or to such commandant, as the case may be, that the slave about to be so gratuitously manumitted is under the age of six years, or above the age of fifty years, or is labouring under any habitual disease or infirmity of mind or body, the owner or other person about to effect such manumission, shall, at the time of the execution of the deed of manumission, execute and deliver under his hand and seal a bond to his majesty, in the penal sum of two hundred pounds, with a condition thereunder written, for the defence thereof, if the said slave shall be properly fed, clothed, and maintained, until the age of fourteen years, in the case of infants, or during the term of his or her natural life, in the case of adults of the age of fifty years; or labouring under any such sickness, disease, or infirmity as aforesaid; and no such manumission shall be valid and effectual in the law, or shall be received for enrolment at the office of registry, until such bond as aforesaid be duly executed and registered, and deposited in the said office.

And it is hereby further ordered, that every

clergyman of the established church of England, and every minister of the kirk of Scotland, and every priest or minister professing the Roman Catholic religion in the said island, and every other person being a public teacher of religion, within the said island, shall, and is hereby authorised to transmit or deliver under his hand to the commandant of the quarter in which he may be resident, certificates setting forth the names, or name and places or place of abode of any slaves or slave, who, in the judgment and belief of the party so certifying, may be sufficiently instructed in the principles of religion to understand the nature and obligation of an oath. And the commandants of the several quarters in the said island shall, and are hereby required to, transmit such certificates as aforesaid to the protector and guardian of slaves, who shall, and is hereby required to, register the same in a book to be kept by him for that purpose, therein stating the date of every such certificate, and the name and place of abode of the person by whom the same may be granted, and of every slave mentioned and included therein; provided nevertheless, that no priest, minister, or public teacher of religion, not being a clergyman of the church of England, or a minister of the kirk of Scotland, shall be competent to grant any such certificate as aforesaid, unless his majesty's principal secretary of state, having the department of the colonies, or the governor or acting governor for the time being of the said island of Trinidad, shall have granted to such priest, minister, or public teacher, a license in writing to grant such certificates; and unless such license shall be in force, and have been first registered at the office of the said protector of slaves.

And it is further ordered, that no person shall henceforth be rejected as a witness, or considered as incompetent to give evidence in any court of civil or criminal justice in the said island, by reason of his or her being in a state of slavery; if the person or persons producing or tendering him or her as a witness shall produce and exhibit to the court a certificate under the hand of the said protector and guardian of slaves; that such proposed witness is registered in the before-mentioned book; and the said protector of slaves shall, and he is hereby required to grant, without fee or reward, to any person making application for the same, a certificate of the fact, whether any such proposed witness is or is not registered in the said book; provided nevertheless, that no person being in a state of slavery shall be admitted to give evidence in any civil suit, or action in which his or her owner is indirectly concerned, or in any case where any white person may be charged with or prosecuted for any offence punishable with death; provided always that nothing herein contained shall extend to take away or diminish any power and authority which any court of criminal jurisdiction in the said colony now hath

to admit any evidence of persons being in a state of slavery; provided also, that nothing herein contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to render any slave a competent witness in any case in which such slave would be incompetent to give evidence, if he or she were of free condition.

And it is hereby further ordered, that the salary of the protector and guardian of slaves shall by him be taken and received in lieu and in full satisfaction of all fees, perquisites of office, advantages, and emoluments whatsoever; and that if the said protector and guardian of slaves shall take or receive directly or indirectly any fee, perquisite of office, advantage, or emolument, other than besides his said salary for or in respect of any act, matter, or thing done or performed by him in the execution of such his office, he shall incur and become liable to the payment of a fine equal to twice the amount of what he may so receive, and shall moreover become disqualified from holding such his office.

And it is hereby further ordered, that the said protector and guardian of slaves shall, on the first Monday next after the 25th day of December; and on the first Monday next after the twenty-fourth day of June in each year, deliver to the governor or acting-governor for the time being of the said island, a report in writing, exhibiting an account of the manner in which the duties of such his office have been performed during the half year next preceding the date of such his report; and especially stating the number of the actions, suits, and prosecutions, in which he may have acted as the protector of any slave or slaves, with the dates and effect of all the proceedings therein; and the particulars of all the returns which by virtue of this order may have been made to him by the commandants of the several quarters within the said island; and the names of the persons, if any, against whom he may have instituted any criminal prosecutions, and of and by virtue of this order, together with a statement of the names of all slaves who may have been certified to him as being competent to give evidence in any court of justice, together with the number of licenses which may by him have been granted for the marriage of any slaves, with the number of marriages appearing to have been solemnised in pursuance thereof, together with the amount of the sums of money deposited in any savings banks in the said island; together with a statement of the names of all the slaves mentioned under the authority of this present order; and the governor or acting-governor for the time being of the said colony, shall thereupon always send the said protector of slaves an oath and a certificate in writing, containing a true and accurate statement of the several matters and things therein referred to; and when and so soon as the said protector of slaves shall have made such his half-yearly report, and shall in manner aforesaid have been sworn to the truth thereof, then, and not before, the said governor or acting-governor

shall issue to the said protector and guardian of slaves a warrant upon the treasurer of the said island for the amount of his salary for the half-year next preceding the date of such report; and the said governor shall, and he is hereby required, by the first convenient opportunity, to transmit such report as aforesaid to his majesty's principal secretary of state having the department of the colonies.

And it is further ordered, that if the protector and guardian of slaves, or any commandant of any quarter in the said island, or any other person, shall wilfully and fraudulently make, or cause or procure to be made, any erasure or interlineation in any of the books, records, or returns hereinbefore required to be made, or shall wilfully falsify any such books, records, or returns, or shall wilfully make, or cause or procure to be made, any false entry in any such book, record, or return, or shall wilfully and fraudulently burn, cancel, or obliterate the same, or either of them, or any part thereof, the person or persons so offending shall be, and be deemed, adjudged, and taken to be guilty of a misdemeanour; and, being thereof convicted, shall suffer such punishment as is hereinafter directed.

And it is further ordered, that any of the people called Quakers, who may be resident in the said island, being required to take any of the oaths prescribed by this present order, may, and they are hereby authorised to make their, his, or her solemn affirmation in lieu of such oaths; and that any person taking any oath, or being a Quaker, making his solemn affirmation, under or in pursuance of this order, who shall be convicted of swearing or affirming falsely, shall incur and suffer such punishment as by the law of the said island may be inflicted on any persons guilty of wilful and corrupt perjury.

And it is hereby further ordered, that any person who may be convicted of any act hereby declared to be a misdemeanour, shall, if of free condition, be and become liable to a fine not exceeding five hundred pounds, and not less than fifty pounds sterling English money, or to imprisonment for any time not exceeding six months, nor less than one month, or both to fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court by which any such person may be convicted; and in case any person shall be so convicted of any cruelty to any slave, the said court shall, and is hereby authorised, at their discretion, to declare the right and interest of the person so convicted in and to any such slave to be absolutely forfeited to his majesty; and all such offences as aforesaid shall be heard, tried, and inquired of, by and before the court for criminal prosecutions in the said island; and all such pecuniary fines as aforesaid, and all other pecuniary fines imposed by this order, shall be recovered in the said court; and shall be paid, and payable, in equal moieties, one half to his majesty, and the remaining half to any person or persons who

may commence any suit or prosecution for the same; and if it is further ordered, that if any person shall be twice convicted before any tribunal in the said island of inflicting upon any slave any cruel or unlawful punishment, the person so convicted shall, in addition to the penalties hereinbefore mentioned, be declared by the court before which such second conviction may take place, absolutely incapable in the law to be the owner or proprietor, or to act as the manager, overseer, or superintendent of any slaves or slave within the said island; and all and every the slaves or slave of which, at the time of such second conviction, any such person may be the owner or proprietor shall thenceforth become and be absolutely forfeited to and vested in his majesty, his heirs and successors.

And it is further ordered, that the governor or acting governor of the said island shall, within one month next after this present order shall be received by him, make known the same by proclamation throughout the said island; and that the said order shall be in force in one calendar month next after the date of such proclamation, and not before.

And the right honourable earl Bathurst, one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state, having the department of the colonies, is to give the necessary directions herein accordingly.

C. C. GREVILLE.

Another despatch, from earl Bathurst to sir Ralph Woodford, of the same date as the last, communicates instructions with regard to the individuals to whom the execution of the order more immediately belonged; and adds, that in the event of his meeting any serious opposition from any of them, he was to dismiss them, and appoint others who were more likely to fulfil the expectations of his majesty's government. Sir R. Woodford was distinctly to understand that it was to his exertions that his majesty looked with confidence for overcoming that spirit of opposition which seemed to have been industriously infused into the minds of many individuals, from whose general character a better disposition was to have been expected.

A despatch from sir Ralph Woodford to earl Bathurst, dated "Trinidad, 7th May, 1824," acknowledges the receipt of the order in council, and states that the first impressions created by it were certainly those of great alarm among all proprietors of slaves. They objected to many of the clauses; but the 42d, or penultimate clause, had really created great consternation, as it confiscated to the crown all the slaves of any person twice convicted of inflicting upon any slave any cruel or unlawful punishment, in aid of the order, to the prejudice of his family, and without reservation in favour of his creditors; and when his lordship considered that persons were now for the first time forbidden to strike any female slave; that that class was al-

lowed by all to be the most prone to give offence; and that it would become even more difficult than at present to restrain them from their knowledge that their master could not punish them as he was accustomed to do; his lordship would, sir Ralph thought, be disposed to make some allowance for the infirmities of human nature, and at least save the family of the offender from that ruin which might fall upon them, in consequence of an intemperate action of his own. He had, therefore, to entreat his lordship's reconsideration of that clause; as well as to recommend that those before alluded to should be more perfectly explained, all of which would relieve the planters from great uneasiness. Sir Ralph begged his lordship to be assured that he was both ready and willing to promote his majesty's service to the utmost of his power; and that his humble abilities would receive all the impulse that the desire of a servant, zealous to give effect to his majesty's commands, could inspire; but he ventured to hope that as the colony was made the subject of an experiment, and the planters and proprietors of slaves were exposed to all the risk attendant upon the trial of an uncertain measure, his majesty might be advised to afford some boon in the shape of special bounty to the produce of the colony, that might act as an encouragement to the planters to cheerfully co-operate in a measure which they now felt exposed to danger and to risk the property of themselves and their children.

A despatch from sir Ralph Woodford to earl Bathurst, dated "Trinidad, 26th May, 1824," states, that notwithstanding the many urgent applications that had been made to him to postpone the publication and suspend the enforcement of the order, he had issued a proclamation, declaring the order to be in force in one calendar month from the 24th May. He deemed it, however, to be his duty to transmit copies of a petition of the inhabitants (at a meeting held in Port of Spain), from which he had in vain attempted to discourage them; an address from the cabildo, and a remonstrance from the colonial council. Sir Ralph adds observations on several clauses of the order, and remarks that the whole population were unanimous in their complaint against the severity of the 42d clause. The petition of the inhabitants states that they have read with grief and dismay the draft of an order in council laid by his majesty's ministers before both houses of parliament on the 15th day of March last, and declared to be intended for the improvement of the condition of the slaves in the colony of Trinidad; that they recognised to the fullest extent the power of the crown, founded upon those principles of British justice which had secured to the meanest subject of the realm the undisturbed enjoyment and use of his property until he had received full and fair compensation; that they were sincerely impressed with a grateful sense of their gracious sovereign's beneficent intentions; and dutifully sympathised

with his royal wish to meliorate the condition and promote the moral improvement of the negroes; by adopting measures in which due regard should be paid to considerations of justice, which by tempering zeal with caution, might lead to practical good; which, without hazarding the fortunes and safety of any classes of his majesty's subjects, might promote the welfare of the slaves and that of their employers; that they appealed fearlessly to his excellency to witness that every heart in the island beat in unison with that his royal wish; that those his royal words infused joy and gladness into the breast of every inhabitant of this colony; that, animated by loyalty and gratitude, they felt it to be their first duty to aid in promoting those his gracious intentions, and to oppose themselves to every obstacle which might tend to disappoint his beneficent views. Actuated by those sentiments only, they, the free inhabitants of the colony of Trinidad, respectfully begged leave to express to his excellency their solemn conviction that the execution of the whole provisions and clauses of the aforesaid order in council would inevitably prove ruinous to the property of the master, injurious and demoralising to the slave, peculiarly hazardous to the lives of the free coloured inhabitants, and a part of the thirty-sixth clause of that order, and totally subversive of their gracious sovereign's benign intentions. They therefore humbly prayed, that his excellency would be graciously pleased, under the authority vested in him by the laws now in force, to stay the promulgation and the execution of the proposed order in council, until a true representation of its effects might be made to his majesty's ministers, to be laid at the foot of the throne for his majesty's gracious consideration. By so doing, his excellency would avert that catastrophe which must otherwise involve every class in the colony in one common ruin, and would deserve the sincere and grateful thanks of a loyal and affectionate community. The address from the cabildo declares that, impressed with a deep sense of the duties they owed to the community over which they presided, and desirous to avert, or at least to suspend, a measure by which, in their opinion, its prosperity was endangered and its rights compromised, they begged leave humbly to represent to his excellency their sincere and solemn conviction, that the provisions of the proposed order in council would be injurious to the well-being of the slaves themselves, incompatible with the safety of the colony, ruinous to the interests of the master, and subversive of the most sacred rights of private property. They observe that his excellency was by the laws of the Partidas, as well as those of the Recopilacion of the Indias, expressly intrusted with the power of suspending the operation of all royal orders which might be injurious to the prosperity of the community, until a representation could be made to his majesty; and his final determination expressed; and they

therefore intrusted his excellency to exercise a power which might, on this occasion, be exerted so beneficially for the interests and the preservation of the colony, and to stay the promulgation or the operation of the proposed order in council, until their humble prayers and representations could be laid at the foot of the throne of their most gracious sovereign. But in the event of his excellency not deeming it right to suspend the promulgation of the said order, then they did most respectfully reserve to the inhabitants of the colony their just and legal claim upon his majesty's government, for the compensation for all losses they might now, or hereafter sustain by their obedience to the order; whether arising from any depreciation in the value of their property; or by actual losses from acts of a most prejudicial tendency, and greatly to be dreaded. The remonstrances from the colonial council represent to his excellency that they had carefully perused the various clauses contained in the order in council lately received in the colony, and declared to be intended for the improvement of the condition of the negro slaves; and that, after maturely considering the consequences which might ensue from its enforcement, they were of opinion that it could in no way tend to the improvement of the condition of the slaves, but, on the contrary, by the relaxation of discipline which it would unavoidably occasion, must oppose serious obstacles to the acquirement of habits of industry, and to the improvement of their moral character. They apprehended that the loss and privations to which the slaves would be exposed under some of the clauses would engender a feeling of discontent and indignation, which at that period, when their hitherto established habits of life, their rules of discipline, and their notions of the power of their master, were at the same time to be changed and unsettled, might unhappily lead to intestine insurrection, which, in that extensive colony, would ravage and desert in the proportion of nine-tenths of the whole surface, abounding in mountains, mountains, and deep defiles, could never be put down by all the military force which could be brought against it. They begged further to represent to his excellency that the consequences to be expected from this order in council, even if the danger they had alluded to was averted by the blessing of Divine Providence, would tend to the immediate injury and ultimate ruin of the planter, which assertion they were prepared to substantiate by evidence. Before his excellency should there be an individual practically acquainted with the subject to be found in the colony to deny it, or should his excellency, for his own information, require them so to do. They begged further to state, that such was the ambiguity of the wording of several of the clauses of this order, that professional men of legal ability disagreed in their construction of them. Had the act been framed in that colony this evil might have been remedied; but under

their present form of government; the proper construction or legal effect of a law could never be known until its meaning had been contested in the tribunals of first instance and of appeal in that colony; and finally determined by the lords of appeal in England; a state of suspense which might last for a considerable period of time, and constituting in itself a serious hardship, but which in the present instance was highly aggravated by the circumstance of the order in council obliging individuals to record their actions at the time, and to attest the same on oath; which record was to be received and enregistered by an officer appointed for that purpose, who was sworn to the rigid execution of the duties of his office, and must prosecute for every infraction of the law; so that individuals might be ultimately subjected to legal proceeding, and to heavy fines for actions confessed to have been performed years before, under a misapprehension of the meaning of that law; and this in itself they respectfully represented to his excellency to be a grievous and severe grievance. After alluding to another experiment which was to be commenced in their courts of civil justice on the 1st January, 1825, under the provisions of the order in council of the 5th August, 1822, they refer to the order of the 10th January, 1824, and point out to his excellency, that in the detail of the necessary arrangements, previous to the promulgation of the order, they observe no provision made for compensation, in the event of loss and injury therefrom, to the property of the inhabitants of the colony; property undeniably acquired, and secured under the sanction and protection of laws promulgated in this colony by the express command of our sovereign. The measure was openly declared to be an experiment, to be made in that colony, for the ultimate benefit of others; they therefore respectfully contended, that if their property was exposed to jeopardy, by the experiment, they were previously entitled to a guarantee for its ultimate safety; that was a maxim so consonant to every feeling of British justice, and so conformable to British practice, that they should be at a loss to account for the omission of so essential a clause in the order; were they not satisfied, by the tenour of his majesty's speech to both houses of parliament, and by the resolutions of the house of commons of May, 1823, that his majesty's ministers had not the slightest suspicion of the injurious consequences which must arise from the enforcement of the act. For that reason, therefore, they felt themselves more imperatively called upon, as his excellency's advisers, to declare their unreserved opinion, that the loss and injury would be great, and farther, they begged leave to call to his excellency's most serious attention the foul disgrace which might, by possibility, attach to the British name and character, should any irreparable mischief ensue, in the prosecution of an experiment, upon a foreign conquered island, intended, and avowed

benefit of the British colonies. Should the lives or fortunes of those honourable men, or their descendants be hazarded or lost, who capitulated with arms in their hands on the 18th of February, 1797, surrendering not so much to the valour of the British forces, as to the high and unsullied reputation of the British nation for honour and justice; what might not be the political consequences in any future wars, when colonies are to be acquired or defended by them? therefore, the members of his majesty's council with the oath they had taken, as counsellors, now before them, by which they had sworn to be true and faithful to his excellency; to faithfully serve his majesty the king; to promote the good of his majesty's affairs with their best ability; and to defend the island from intestine insurrection; in virtue of that solemn obligation hereby advised his excellency to stay the promulgation and execution of the aforesaid order in council, until a representation of its injurious tendency could be received by his majesty's ministers; declaring that they held themselves irresponsible for all and every consequence which might ensue from the exercise of his excellency's prerogative, in the rejection of this their deliberate advice. And they respectfully requested that his excellency would be pleased to transmit this their earnest representation and advice at the earliest opportunity to his majesty's secretary of state for the colonies.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to sir Ralph Woodford, dated 4 Downing Street, 24 June, 1824, adverts to the remarks made by sir Ralph in his despatch of the 7th May, on some of the clauses of the order, the difficulties in which his lordship explains. With regard to the 42d clause, he observes, that the forfeiture of slaves upon a second conviction for an unlawful punishment was expressly left to the discretion of the court; and therefore would not be enforced, except in extreme cases. It was also to be observed, that the forfeiture was to the benefit of the crown, and therefore would not be enforced unless the offence were of a very grave and serious character. In order, however, to allay any apprehension which might be entertained of a harsh exercise of this enactment, his lordship had to direct that the penalty on the second conviction should never be enforced until the whole case had been referred home for the consideration of his majesty.

A despatch from sir Ralph Woodford to earl Bathurst, dated 4 Trinidad, 3 July, 1824, encloses a representation from a committee of the inhabitants, repeating their dread of the consequences to be apprehended from the order in council, and soliciting his excellency's interpretation of some parts of it which they profess to be unable to understand. Sir Ralph also encloses his answer, declining to give any opinion on the subject. A despatch from earl Bathurst to sir Ralph Woodford, dated 4 Downing Street, 14 July,

"1824," acknowledges the receipt of sir Ralph's despatch of the 26th May, and contains various explanations with respect to the order in council.

A despatch from sir Ralph Woodford to earl Bathurst, dated "Trinidad, 6th August, 1824," reports that the island is 'undisturbed,' and that the apprehensions which had prevailed had begun to subside. Sir Ralph again earnestly intreats lord Bathurst's reconsideration of the severe penalty comprehended in the 42d clause.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to sir Ralph Woodford, dated "Downing Street, 11th September, 1824," acknowledges the receipt of sir Ralph's despatch of the 3d July, covering a memorial from the committee of the inhabitants to his excellency, and his excellency's reply. His lordship states, that he has felt it to be his duty to submit it to his majesty, that an order in council may be issued, the provisions of which will comprise such explanations as will be sufficient to remove many of the doubts and difficulties suggested by the committee: but as some delay must take place in the preparation of the new order, he encloses a draft of a proclamation, in which the substance of the intended order is embodied. To the other objections of the committee lord Bathurst gives a detailed answer. The following is the proclamation:

By the King.—A Proclamation.

Whereas, doubts may arise respecting the meaning of certain of the provisions contained in a certain order made by the king's most excellent majesty, with the advice of his privy council, on the 10th day of March, 1824, for improving the condition of the slaves in this island, and it is expedient that such doubts should be obviated and removed. Now, therefore, by virtue of the powers and authority in me on that behalf vested, and in pursuance of the special instructions of his majesty in that behalf, it is hereby ordered and declared, that nothing in the said order contained extends, or shall be construed to extend, to authorise or enable any slave to hire himself or herself to work either to his or her owner or manager, or to any other person, between the hours of sunset on Saturday and sunrise on Monday, but that all such hiring is, in and by the said order, prohibited and declared illegal, under and subject to the penalties in the said order in that behalf mentioned.

Provided nevertheless, and it is hereby declared, that in case it shall be absolutely necessary for the preservation of the crops or produce upon any plantation or estate in this island, and for the prevention of essential injury to the same, to work and employ thereupon any slaves or slave, between the hours of sunset on Saturday and sunrise on Monday; and if any such slaves or slave shall, in any such special case, voluntarily consent and agree to work between the hours aforesaid, upon any such plantation or estate, for

the purpose aforesaid, nothing in the said order contained doth extend, or shall be construed to extend, to prevent any such slaves or slave, from hiring themselves, himself, or herself, either to his or her owner, or to any other person to work upon any such plantation or estate between the hours aforesaid, provided always, that no such slave shall or may lawfully be so hired to work during the hours aforesaid, in the service of any person or persons, except their, his, or her owner or manager, unless with the special consent in writing of such owner or manager. Provided also, that the protector and guardian of slaves shall, by notices, to be by him from time to time issued, in the usual and most public manner, signify the lowest rate of wages at which slaves may, during the period of six calendar months next ensuing the date of every such notice, hire themselves, either to their respective owners, or, with the consent of their respective owners or managers, to work for the special purpose of the preservation of the crops or produce upon any plantation or estate in this island, in which notices shall be stated, the different rates of such wages payable to the slaves so hiring themselves, according to the age and sex of such slaves, and according as they may be field negroes or artificers, and no hiring of any slave for any such special purpose aforesaid shall be a legal hiring, or shall be exempted from the penalties of the said order in council, unless such slave shall actually receive, and be paid, for his or her own use and benefit, wages at not less than the rate so to be fixed by any such public notice as aforesaid.

And it is further ordered and declared, that nothing in the said order in council contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to prevent the employment, between the hour of sunset on Saturday, and the hour of sunrise on Monday, of any slaves or slave as a watchman or watchmen upon any estate or plantation, or in nursing, or attendance on the sick, or in attendance upon the person, or in the family of his or her owner or manager, or in performing or making preparations for any interment, or in extinguishing any fire, or otherwise in preventing any irreparable damage or injury to the property of his or her owner, employer, or manager; and no slave so employed shall be entitled to any hire or wages for such his or her services; provided nevertheless, that no slave shall be employed between sunset on Saturday evening, and sunrise on Monday morning, in field labour, or in any of the ordinary works upon any plantation or estate, upon the pretence or by reason that irreparable injury would arise from the postponement of such labour, unless such slave shall voluntarily engage in the same: and shall for such his labour receive and be paid such hire and wages as aforesaid.

And it is further declared, that nothing in the said orders contained extends, or shall be construed to extend, to prevent any master,

owner, or manager of any female slave under the age of ten years from causing her to be punished and corrected for any fault or misconduct by her committed, in such and the same manner, and to such and the same extent, as any child of free condition may be, and usually is, punished and corrected in any schools or school for the education of youth in this island.

And it is further declared, that nothing in the said order contained extends, or shall be construed to extend, to require any entry to be made in any plantation record book of any punishment inflicted on any female slave, other than and except such punishments as by a proclamation issued in the name of his majesty on the 23d day of June, 1824, in pursuance of the said order in council, are expressly permitted to be inflicted on such female slaves as a substitution for the punishment of whipping.

And whereas the said order in council hath not made provision for the manner in which the expenses of appraisement of slaves proposed to be manumitted are to be defrayed: be it, therefore, and it is hereby ordered, that in all cases where such appraisement shall be made by reason of the refusal of the owner or owners of any such slave to effect his or her manumission, or by reason of any differences of opinion between the protector and guardian of slaves and the owner or proprietor of any such slave, respecting his or her price or value, the expenses of such appraisement shall be equally borne by, and divided between, such owner or proprietor and the slave proposed to be manumitted. And in all cases where such appraisement shall be made by reason of the inability of the owner or proprietor to effect a valid manumission by private contract, or by reason of the minority, coverture, idiotcy, or lunacy of such owner or proprietor, or by reason of the absence of any such owner or proprietor, or other person having a charge upon the said slave, from the island, or by reason that any such owner or proprietor is unknown, or cannot be found, or by reason of the precedency in any court of justice in this island of any suit or action wherein the title of the said slave, or the right to his services, is in controversy, then and in all such cases the expenses of the said appraisements shall be equally divided between the slave proposed to be manumitted and the owner and proprietor, or other persons having any charge upon, or interest in him; and such last-mentioned moiety of the said expenses shall be deducted from the money arising from the manumission of the slave, before the investment thereof in the manner directed in and by the said order in council.

And it is hereby further ordered and declared, that whenever any slave or slaves, or any right or interest in any slave or slaves, shall, upon the conviction of any person or persons in the manner in the said order in council mentioned, become forfeited to his majesty, his heirs and suc-

cessors, such forfeiture shall not be carried into effect by the actual seizure or sale of the property so forfeited, until the particulars and circumstances of the case shall have been reported to his majesty through one of his principal secretaries of state, and until his majesty shall have signified his royal pleasure therein; provided that, pending any such reference to his majesty, such forfeited property shall be, and remain, legally vested in him, subject to be divested in case his majesty shall be graciously pleased to remit any such forfeiture.

And it is further ordered and declared, that no such forfeiture as aforesaid to his majesty of any slave or slaves, or of any right or interest in any slave or slaves, shall, or, according to the true intent and meaning of the said order in council, doth, in any way diminish, affect, or take away the right or interest of any person or persons to or in any such slave or slaves, other than and except the person or persons upon the conviction of whom any such forfeiture may be incurred.

A despatch from sir Ralph Woodford to earl Bathurst, dated "Trinidad, 30 Oct., 1824," announces the issuing of the proclamation on the preceding day; and adds, that the quarterly returns of punishments had been generally complied with; that tranquillity prevailed throughout the island; and that task-work was becoming general.

Half-yearly Report of the Syndic Procurador-General, Protector and Guardian of Slaves. From 24th June, 1824, to 24th December, 1824, inclusive.

In obedience to the thirty-eighth section of the royal order in council of the 10th March 1824, directing the syndic procurador-general, protector and guardian of slaves in the island of Trinidad, to deliver to the governor or acting governor for the time being a report in writing, exhibiting an account of the manner in which the duties of his office have been performed during the half year next preceding the date of his report, and especially the number of the actions, suits, and prosecutions in which he may have acted as the protector of slaves, with the date and effect of all the proceedings therein, and the particulars of all the returns which, by virtue of the order in council, may have been made to him by the commandants of the several quarters within the said island, and the names of the persons against whom the protector may have instituted any criminal prosecutions under the said order, and also the names of all slaves certified as competent to give evidence in any court of justice, and also the number of licenses granted by the protector for the marriage of slaves, and the marriages solemnised in consequence thereof, and also the amount of the sums of money deposited in the savings banks of the said island, and also the names of all slaves manumitted under the autho-

city of the said order; the syndic procurador-general, and protector and guardian of slaves, has the honour to report, that much of his time has been employed in attending to and deciding upon the complaints preferred by slaves against their owners and others.

In the majority of the cases brought before him, he has been able to decide the complaint in the presence of the master or person complained against and the complaining slave; but when the complaint did not appear to be of a serious nature, or that the party complained against resided at a distance from town, the protector has in general referred it to the commandant of the quarter to be investigated, with instructions to transmit a copy of the declarations made by the owner or person complained against, as also of those of the witnesses produced on either side. On these declarations (if they fully detail all the circumstances) the protector finds his opinion and decides; admonishing the slave, if in his judgment he is wrong, and reprimanding or fining the person complained against, if the merits of the case warrant such a procedure.

It has been the practice of the protector to investigate personally all complaints made to him of a serious or aggravated nature; and he has, in every instance, he trusts, guarded with scrupulous attention the interests of the slaves. The protector has kept a book, in which is entered the date and substance of the complaints made by slaves, their names, the statement made by the person complained against, the declarations of the witnesses, the reports of the commandants in those cases where the complaints have been referred to them for investigation, and the sentences which the protector may have thought the circumstances of the case demanded.

The above are the only remarks the protector considers it necessary to offer on the manner in which the duties of his office have been performed. Every other duty in which he has been engaged as protector and guardian being duly recorded in his office, and to be found under one or other of the heads of information specially required to be furnished half-yearly by the thirty-eighth section of the order in council.

The actions, suits, and prosecutions in which the protector has acted on behalf of any slaves, are of three kinds:—

First.—Criminal prosecutions at the instance of his majesty's attorney-general against slaves, or against free persons for maltreating slaves. They are eleven in number, and for their dates, and the effect of the proceedings therein, the guardian protector begs leave to refer to the Appendix, letter A.

Second.—The second are those suits instituted, under the provisions of the order in council, by the protector on behalf of slaves desirous of purchasing their freedom, whose owners were unable to execute to them a valid manumission. They are thirty-one in number. Under these

suits, twenty-three slaves have been manumitted. Vide Appendix B, No. 1. The remainder are still depending before the courts, for the reasons set forth in the Appendix B, No. 2.

Third.—The third class of suits are those instituted by the protector of slaves before the court of first instance of civil jurisdiction, with a view of establishing the rights of those persons the protector may consider entitled to the enjoyment of their freedom, whether the right arise by bequest, purchased before the promulgation of the late order, or from any other circumstances not provided for by that law.

Of this class the suits are two in number. For the names of the slaves and other particulars, the protector begs to refer to Appendix B, No. 3.

The fourth class of suits are those instituted by the protector in the court of complaints for the recovery of debts due to slaves by free persons. They are four in number; and for the names of the parties, the dates and effect of the proceedings therein, the protector begs leave to refer to Appendix C.

No criminal prosecutions under the order have been filed by the protector since the date he entered upon the duties of his office.

The protector and guardian of slaves has also the honour to report, that the commandants of the several quarters of the island have (with the exception of the commandant of Toco and Cumana) transmitted to his office the several returns of punishments inflicted on the slaves of the various estates within their districts. These returns, in observance of the twentieth clause of the order in council, have been recorded and enrolled alphabetically in distinct books kept for that purpose. The Appendix D contains a faithful transcript of these returns, arranged under the titles of the several quarters from whence they were received.

No slaves have been certified to the protector as being competent to give evidence in the courts of justice of the island.

One marriage license only has been granted by the protector, in pursuance whereof a marriage was duly solemnised on the 29th day of July, 1824. Appendix E.

The sums of money deposited in the savings bank in the town of Port of Spain, from the 24th day of June to the 24th day of December inclusive, amount to 3517. 8s. currency. Appendix F, Nos. 1 and 2.

The protector and guardian of slaves has also the honour to report, that the appendices B, No. 1, and G, contain a faithful and correct statement of the names of all the slaves manumitted under the authority of the order in council, their ages and sexes, and also the prices for which they have obtained their freedom.

HENRY GLOSTER,

Syndic procurador, protector, and guardian of slaves.

Sworn before me, this 18th January, 1825.

RALPH WOODFORD, Governor.

The Appendix referred to in the foregoing Report contains minute and voluminous details on the various subjects in question. It is followed by a letter from the procurator syndie to sir Ralph Woodford, describing several difficulties, arising out of the order of the 10th of March 1824, which had presented themselves to his notice.

DEMERARA.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to major-general sir Benjamin D'Urban, dated "Downing Street, 24th January, 1824," encloses to him the commission under which he is immediately to proceed to take upon himself the government of the colony of Demerara. His lordship states, that had not sir Benjamin been already apprised of the general nature of the measures which his majesty's government felt it expedient to adopt in pursuance of the resolutions of the house of commons on the subject of improving the condition of the slave population, he should have felt it his duty to explain them to him in the fullest manner on his assumption of the government of Demerara at the present moment. The unfortunate events that had lately occurred there had shewn how completely the views and object of his majesty's government, expressing the opinions of parliament, had been misunderstood by the slave population; and his lordship had already directed sir Benjamin's predecessor to notify to the slaves that the object of progressively qualifying them for an extension of privileges would be rendered abortive by any general misconduct, or acts of insubordination on their part. Sir Benjamin would take the earliest opportunity of impressing them with the full assurance of his determination to repress any appearance of insurrectionary movements; and in the event (which his lordship trusted was most improbable) of the recurrence of revolt, he would not fail to adopt such prompt and effectual measures as were employed by his predecessor, and which had received the most gracious approbation of his majesty.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to major-general sir Benjamin D'Urban, dated "Downing Street, 18th March, 1824," encloses a copy of an order in council, about to be passed, on the subject of the treatment of slaves in the island of Trinidad; and requests that he will forthwith transmit to his lordship a draft of an order in council, applying the provisions of that order to the circumstances of the Dutch law in the colony of Demerara. In the execution of that duty, his lordship could have no doubt that he would receive the cordial assistance of the court of policy, who had done themselves so much honour by the prompt and conclusive manner in which they pledged themselves to the abolition of the use of the whip, and of the flogging of female slaves, previously to the unfortunate insurrection, which for the time delayed their proceeding further upon the subject.

A despatch from major-general Murray to

earl Bathurst, dated "King's House, Demerara, 2d April, 1824," encloses extracts from the minutes of the court of policy, both before and after the revolt; and adds, that, as far as he was enabled to judge, the court of policy and the inhabitants generally were heartily disposed to meet the view of his majesty's government with regard to every possible amelioration of the state of the slave population; but that he fully coincided in opinion with the members of the court of policy, that the urging of any such measures on the colonists precipitately might have the effect of creating opposition where none then existed; and therefore that it was very advisable the attempt should not be made until the confidence of masters in their slaves should have been in some measure restored.

A despatch from sir Benjamin D'Urban to earl Bathurst, dated "King's House, Demerara, 5th May, 1824," states, that he had used every means since his arrival to inform himself accurately as to the actual state of feeling and disposition of the slaves. This he had done by having conversations upon the subject with various gentlemen of the colony, whom he believed to be the most intelligent and the least likely to mislead him, and who resided in different districts, as well of the east coast, which was the theatre of revolt; and right bank of the Demerara river, which was supposed to join it, as of the coast westward to and beyond the Essequibo, where no positive traces of insurrectionary projects were discovered. The result of all this information, compared and combined, was not very satisfactory; for it compelled him to be convinced that the spirit of discontent was any thing but extinct; it was alive, as it were, under its ashes; and the negro mind, although giving forth no marked indications of mischief to those not accustomed to observe it, was still agitated, jealous, and suspicious. Many of the slaves of the colony, and especially those on the east coast, were described to him as remarkably well informed upon all that passed in England and in the colonies interesting to their views and condition. Many of them read, most of them well understood what was read or repeated to them; they were all (naturally enough) inquisitive and anxious to learn whatever related to them; and unquestionably they continued to procure very early information of all discussions in parliament, in the newspapers, and in the public prints. He had also become aware that the recall of one governor, and the appointment of another, had induced the slaves to expect that the latter was the bearer of something interesting to their prospects; and therefore, acting in the spirit of his lordship's instructions of the 24th January, he had issued a proclamation, in which he had inserted the words prescribed by his lordship, and had also endeavoured to guard against any feeling of impatience that might arise from the delay which must necessarily take place in the ultimate enactment of the measures

for melioration by the proprietors and transmission to England of the draft for an order in council (as directed by his lordship's instructions) of the 16th March, and by awaiting the return of the order if it shall have been issued for the slaves would see that whatever might be done for them must depend upon their own behaviour, and his report of it, at a certain time was necessarily implied, before which should have elapsed they could have no expectations. In order to insure the due circulation of this proclamation, and also the faith of the negroes in its authenticity, and its consequent influence upon them, he was proceeding through the districts of the east coast, and had appointed that two chosen slaves from every estate should meet him at the residences of their respective burgher captains, where he should in person read the proclamations to them, explain to them himself what he wished explained, and send them back to their comrades; he looked forward to good effects from this measure, and he should at the same time visit the posts, and become acquainted with the country. He should afterwards visit the banks of the Demerara river, and westward to Essequibo inclusive; but the concerns of the east coast were the most pressing, and must be attended to first.

A despatch from sir Benjamin D'Urban to earl Bathurst, dated King's House, Demerara, 25th June, 1824, encloses a draft of regulations for the melioration of the condition of the slaves in Demerara, framed by the court of policy, in conjunction with himself.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to sir Benjamin D'Urban, dated Downing Street, 20th November, 1824, acknowledges the receipt of the draft of regulations, and suggests various alterations and modifications to be made in it before its promulgation as a legislative act.

Another despatch from earl Bathurst to sir Benjamin D'Urban, of the same date, directs him to ascertain and report whether the court of policy is prepared to adopt the modifications suggested in his lordship's despatch; and intimates, that in the event of any indisposition on their part to do so (which, however, his lordship does not anticipate), his majesty's government would feel it to be their paramount duty to issue, without further delay, an order in council for the purpose of carrying them into effect.

A despatch from sir Benjamin D'Urban to earl Bathurst, dated King's House, Demerara, 14th March, 1825, states, that the court of policy had applied themselves to the revision and amendment of their proposed slave regulations, with the most zealous and patient assiduity; and, however, there were high differences between the letter of their provisions and that of his lordship's suggested amendments, which prevented him from promulgating it, though he had transmitted to (which he then did) to his lordship's consideration,

He likewise encloses an address, which the colonial members of the court delivered after the slave regulations had been concluded.

A despatch from lieutenant-governor Beaulieu to earl Bathurst, dated Barbice, 14th January, 1824, encloses an extract minute of the proceedings in council on the 10th January, to show his lordship that he had not failed to bring again under consideration his lordship's several despatches and suggestions for the meliorating the condition of the slave population; and the necessity of an immediate enactment prohibiting the punishment of female slaves by flogging. Conceiving the council to stand pledged to an adoption of the latter measure by their minute of the 12th August, 1823, he had instructed the fiscal to refrain from the exercise of that objectionable mode of punishment. His lordship was aware that he acceded to the wishes of the council at that time, and subsequently (under the distressing occurrences which had taken place at Demerara) in delaying any public enactment on the subject. By the enclosed minute it appears, that after lieutenant-governor Beaulieu had urged the necessity of taking down Bathurst's several suggestions into immediate consideration, the members of the council, advertent to the reply made by them to his excellency on this subject at the sessions of October 1823, considered it their duty to state, that it did not appear to them that the period had yet arrived when it would be either eligible or safe to give publicity, by any enactment, to such of the measures proposed by my lord Bathurst as had already been, or might hereafter be, deemed advisable to be adopted; and in this feeling they were not led to consider the safety of that colony alone, but the effecting an enactment of the nature proposed might have on the neighbouring colony of Demerara, where the minds of the negroes could not but be supposed to be feelingly alive to every thing connected with the change they had been led to look forward to in their present condition; and under this impression, the council most earnestly suggested to his excellency the expediency of allowing these matters to rest for the present, and until the restored tranquillity of the colony of Demerara might lead them to hope for the adoption of whatever steps might be resolved upon simultaneously with themselves; and further, the members, with all due deference, recommended to his excellency a communication with general Murray on this important subject; so as to ensure, if possible, a uniformity of action between two colonies so materially concerned by similarity of interests.

A despatch from lieutenant-governor Beaulieu to earl Bathurst, dated Barbice, 14th May, 1824, states, that at the meeting of the council on the 7th of April he again brought under their attention lord Bathurst's despatch of the 10th July,

1823, together with his lordship's several suggestions for meliorating the condition of the slave population, and begged leave to press these subjects on their earliest and most serious consideration; when the council observed, that the present agitated state of the colonies afforded them no reason to alter their former opinions on those topics, nor did they at all consider this the proper time to agitate them; and they requested again to refer to their sentiments expressed thereon in the minute of the 10th January last; and therefore, under these considerations, they hoped his excellency would forbear at present to press the subject on their attention.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to lieutenant-governor Beard, dated "Downing Street, 23d July, 1824," acknowledges the receipt of the lieutenant-governor's despatches, and observes, that since the council, contrary to the wishes and expectation of his majesty's government, had failed voluntarily to adopt those measures which had received the concurrence and approbation of the majority of the individuals in England most deeply interested in the prosperity of the West Indies, and which had been sanctioned no less by parliament than by public opinion in that country; his lordship had to inform the lieutenant-governor that he would, on the arrival of the commissioners of legal inquiry, be required to prepare a draft for an order in council, to be issued in Berbice analogous to that now in force in Trinidad (a copy of which his lordship herewith transmitted), adapting the provisions of the enclosed order to the circumstances of the Dutch law as administered in Berbice.

A despatch from lieutenant-governor Beard to earl Bathurst, dated "Berbice, 16th September, 1824," states, that he shall proceed immediately to procure the draft of an order in council, preparatory to the arrival of the commissioners of legal inquiry; and adds, that from the pledge which he conceived the council to have given in their minute of the 12th August, 1823, to adopt the suggestions contained in his lordship's despatch of the 28th May, in that year, and to consent to promulgate, by public tenactment, the prohibition of the punishment of female slaves by flogging, after a reasonable time had been allowed for the ferment and agitation created by the insurrection in Demerara to subside, he did not contemplate any future difficulty in carrying that measure satisfactorily into effect; particularly as he had restricted the fiscal from the exercise of that mode of punishment, as stated to his lordship in his despatch of the 14th January last; but that he was, however, sorry to report to his lordship that he had no hope of the council redeeming their pledge in that respect, or acceding in any manner to the proposed measures of his majesty's government in an order in council to be issued in that colony analogous to that now in force in Trinidad.

A despatch from lieutenant-governor Beard to earl Bathurst, dated "Berbice, 30th October, 1824," states, that he had taken the earliest opportunity of laying before the council lord Bathurst's despatch of the 23d July; and that the council did not appear to have yet determined what course to adopt. The lieutenant-governor takes the liberty of observing, that he cannot discover any friendly feeling on the part of the members of the council towards the measures which his majesty's government intended to carry into effect in that settlement.

ST. LUCIA.

A despatch from major-general Mainwaring to earl Bathurst, dated "Pavilion, St. Lucia, 25th August, 1823," acknowledges the receipt of his lordship's despatch of 9th July, forwarding to him copies of his lordship's despatches of that date to the governors of his majesty's colonies in the West Indies having legislatures; and also of a communication, under the same date, from Mr. Wilnot Horton, directing him, by his lordship's command, to prepare and transmit forthwith the draft of an order in council, in which the regulations and suggestions pointed out in the documents which had been officially transmitted to him might be embodied in the manner best suited to the civil and religious institutions of the colony of St. Lucia. The major-general proceeds to submit to his lordship a variety of observations on the local laws and usages of the colony, as they bore on the points of—1st, Religious instruction, and the appropriation of Sunday exclusively to religious duties: 2d, The admission of the evidence of slaves in the courts of justice, and the qualifications requisite to validate their testimony: 3d, Marriage, especially between slaves of the same estate: 4th, Manumission: 5th, The sale of slaves, limiting the same in certain cases, and rendering such transfer of property as little painful to the individual transferred as possible: 6th, The abolition of flogging in the case of females, and of the use of the whip in the field, and the adoption of a more systematic mode of punishment on estates: 7th, and last, The right of slaves to acquire property in certain cases, and the mode of securing to them such property when acquired.

A despatch from major-general Mainwaring to earl Bathurst, dated "Pavilion, St. Lucia, 10th January, 1824," encloses a report of the crown officers and the judge upon the proposed regulations and amendments.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to the officer administering the government, dated "Downing Street, 8th May, 1824," encloses a copy of an order in council, respecting the melioration of the condition of the slaves, which had been issued at Trinidad; desires that a draft for an order in council may be prepared, applying the spirit of the Trinidad order to the French laws of St. Lucia; and signifies that

the commissioners of legal inquiry were about to proceed to St. Lucia, and were instructed to afford their assistance.

A despatch from Colonel Blackwell to earl Bathurst, dated St. Lucia, 15th May, 1824, states his opinion as to the situation of that colony with reference to the proposed measures. He observes, that in Trinidad every thing would seem to unite in facilitating their operation; notwithstanding the disinclination of the planter; an excellent administration of justice; a large white, and generally highly civilised population; a class of slaves intelligent and instructed; an admirable militia, of every arm perfectly equipped, and long organised; good roads of communication; an excellent and extensive ecclesiastical establishment; and an executive government universally respected. In such a position, and with such advantages, above all with laws and usages favouring the introduction of the regulations in question, there could be no fair ground to apprehend that the least ill consequences would result at Trinidad from carrying them into the fullest effect. But in St. Lucia the case was widely different, so very much more widely different than probably his lordship might suppose; that he should be wanting in his duty if he were not distinctly to declare, that he was any thing but prepared to say that the measure proposed for ameliorating the condition of the slaves could be made law in St. Lucia, under existing circumstances, either with safety as concerned the free inhabitants of the out-quarters, or with advantage as related to the slaves themselves. Colonel Blackwell then details, at considerable length, the circumstances on which his opinion is founded.

A despatch from earl Bathurst to the officer administering the government, dated Downing Street, 24th July, 1824, acknowledges colonel Blackwell's letter of the 15th May, and instructs him to lay the same before the commissioners of legal inquiry, and to prepare the draft. His lordship, however, observes, that he could not too strongly impress upon colonel Blackwell the paramount importance of incorporating in the draft the entire spirit of the order transmitted to him; which had received the concurrence and approbation of the majority of the individuals in England most deeply interested in the prosperity of the West Indies, and was equally sanctioned by parliament and public opinion.

A despatch from colonel Blackwell to earl Bathurst, dated St. Lucia, 6th August, 1824, communicates the result of a tour of inspection round the island. He observes, that he had thereby ascertained, and it was with pleasure he could assure his lordship of the same, that, with very few exceptions, the best feeling and disposition existed towards his majesty's government with all persons of property and respectability in the colony; that the slaves were generally tractable, well conducted, and obedient; and that, from every observation and

the most minute inquiry he could make, it was evident to him that, in most instances, they were well and regularly clothed, fed, and attended to in every respect; and he particularly remarked, that a great degree of leniency and humanity had been observed towards them. The class of negroes in general appeared happy and contented, and their owners seemed to use their endeavours to make them so. Upon most of the plantations prayers were regularly read to the negroes assembled for that purpose both morning and evening.

Various subsequent despatches from colonel Blackwell to earl Bathurst and Wilkie Horton, esq., describe the progress of the draft of the order in council, which colonel Blackwell eventually transmits, accompanied with explanatory notes and observations, and detailed reasons for a departure from several of the clauses of the Trinidad order.

CIVIL AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE IN THE WEST INDIES.

Substance of the First Report of the Commissioners of Inquiry into the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice in the West Indies.

THIS report comprehends the islands of Barbadoes, Tobago, and Grenada.

BARBADOES.

Having detailed at considerable length the examination by the commission of the various proceedings in the different courts established for the administration of civil and criminal justice in the island of Barbadoes, the commissioners thus sum up their observations on the subject:—

The principal subject of remark, because the most prominent defect in the system, is the absence of a person, informed and experienced in the principles of equity jurisprudence, to preside in the court of chancery. Most of the complaints the commissioners received, and a great part of the distress they found existing, certainly arise from this cause. A due administration of the powers of a court of equity would remedy many evils. As it at present exists,

Error, in mistake of jurisdiction, was imputed to this court in cases of *lunacy*, and *petitions for separation and separate maintenance.*

Improper practice was objected to it, as regards *injunctions.*

Irregularity, uncertainty, and expense were generally charged as affecting the whole of the proceedings.

The number of causes, it will be seen by the registrar's return, is very trifling. There are not, upon an average, above ten bills filed in a year.

The practice of the court of exchequer was found exceptionable in admitting a defendant to be arrested, in a common case, for unliquidated damages, laid at any amount the plaintiff pleased.

It is still more reprehensible in suffering a defendant to lie in prison, without remedy, if the plaintiff will not proceed in his action against him.

It seems doubtful whether the interests of the crown, as regards its debtors and accountants, do not stand in need of further protection.

The island of Barbadoes is about thirty miles long, and sixteen miles broad; consequently smaller than any county in England, Rutland, Huntingdon, and Middlesex only excepted: yet this little island is rather largely endowed with five distinct, superior, independent courts of common pleas; with an establishment of one chief judge, and four assistant judges, in each district. To a consolidation of these courts, and the establishment of one court of common pleas, for the trial of all actions, at Bridge Town, there appears, after an attentive consideration of the subject, no sound objection. The law and the practice at present prevailing oppose, no doubt, some impediments to the measure; but such only as are easily removable. The act requiring an action to be brought in the precinct where the defendant lives, is a provision of a singular nature, (though I will not agree to call it "discreditable,") and which it will be necessary to repeal. The custom of requiring the attendance of witnesses, without payment of their necessary expenses, it will be expedient and reasonable to alter. Both are measures which, independently of their presenting obstacles to improvement, are objectionable *on principle* and *in se*. The trouble and inconvenience which the change will occasion to persons residing in the country (which, though not seriously objected, was surmised) will be less than is usually felt by persons resorting to the circuit town in any county in England; and *only the same* as is sustained by suitors, witnesses, and jurors, attending the other courts of this island; the court of chancery, the court of exchequer, and the court of grand sessions.

The opinion of the attorney-general, it will be seen (in more than one of his answers), was very favourable to the measure, and he gave solid reasons for its expediency.

The party giving credit is naturally desirous that the trial should be had in the place where he resides, and the goods have been obtained. "When the trial is at any of the out-courts, the expenses of counsel, who do not commonly attend there, and have therefore special fees, as well as of the witnesses carried from Bridge Town to the country, fall, in the end, very heavily upon the defendant." The attorney-general, it will be observed, speaks, in this answer, as if the expenses of the witnesses were always allowed; but we were assured it was not generally the case. And in the minutes of proceedings of a court holden in St. Michael's precinct, in April 1812, I find in the case of Wood v. Wood, an attachment granted against a witness for not attending upon a subpoena, on proof

that the witness was personally served, but not that "his reasonable expenses were paid or tendered to him." The same sentiment of approval, provided the expenses of witnesses were defrayed, was expressed by many other reflecting and unprejudiced persons; but it is fair and proper to mention, that the solicitor-general appears to have received, from a circumstance he stated, a somewhat different impression. Mr. Courtshurst observed, that "formerly the court did not sit regularly at the out-precincts, and credit was often refused, on that account, to persons living in such precincts; but it was not so now." This, it will be observed, does not indicate any indisposition in the store-keeper to part with his goods, in a case in which he could recover their value in a court in town (for which there is no rational ground), but only manifests a reluctance, perfectly natural, to give credit to a customer, whom he may be afterwards, under the necessity of suing in one of those precincts where the courts are not regularly held. And it will be remembered that the act regulating the court of Exchequer (Hall's Laws, No. 135), speaks of the contrivance at that time resorted to, to get rid of the inconvenient rule of law, that an action must be brought in the precinct where the defendant lives.

A compromise was suggested, that the court should be fixed in Bridge Town; but that there might in the course of the year be one or more circuits of judges through the island. To this it was objected, and, as we thought, with great force, that "it could not conveniently take place: there were no inns; the judge would be forced to go to the houses of gentlemen in each district, that is, to persons commonly interested in the questions to be tried, in the country parts; which would be unpleasant to the judge, and regarded with suspicion by others."

Under these circumstances, I beg leave to recommend a consolidation of the courts of common pleas, and the establishment of one court for the trial of all actions in St. Michael's precinct, in Bridge Town.

The tenure of office of judges, under a change of system, would, if it could be obtained, I venture to think, perhaps, no longer remain during pleasure.

The holidays should be few, and those fixed by law. The number of causes in the paper of the monthly courts varies from about sixty to a hundred.

The proceedings in these courts were found to be very irregular, the attorneys putting off and continuing causes at their pleasure; and yet the solicitor-general said, "a great deal is done in court, that ought to be done out of court."

The law, as to arrests in civil cases, the solicitor-general "thought a proper subject for consideration and amendment." There is no affidavit of the debt. Arrests are allowed in respect of unliquidated damages, to any amount

the plaintiff claims. The plaintiff ought to give a bond to file his declaration in three days; but either he does not, or if he does, his bond is not considered forfeited, while the defendant lies in gaol; and if he never proceeds with his action, it is thought the defendant would not be entitled to his discharge.

Another extraordinary proceeding is, that where there are more defendants than one, and they live in different precincts, so that the rules as to suing where the defendant lives does not strictly apply, not the court, but the governor, is resorted to, to know "in what precinct the plaintiff shall bring his action."

No time is fixed for arguing reserved points of law; and after argument, the judges give no reasons for their decision, but only say, "for the plaintiff," or "for the defendant."

On trials, the counsel address the observations arising upon the law, as well as the facts, not to the court, but to the jury.

There have, formerly, been great delays, by means of injunctions.

Depositions of persons unable to attend the trial, containing much that is not evidence, are receivable in these courts, under a law of the island. The *viva voce* examination of witnesses is, of course, vastly preferable, wherever it can be had; but it is said that from the situation and circumstances of these colonies, in which seamen and traders are, of necessity, constantly passing from island to island, the use of depositions cannot be entirely dispensed with. Still I would venture to suggest that they should be received with great caution, and care ought to be taken to have them properly framed; they should be taken before judges or commissioners; they should be conformable to the rules of evidence; and should not be permitted to be read, without satisfactory proof that the witness is not in the island at the time of trial, and is not sent or kept out of the way by the party, to prevent his personal attendance.

A list of *twenty-four* jurymen is given to the judges previous to a trial; and they strike out the names of twelve; a practice which, considering the jealousy always felt (and still more strongly in the colonies than in England) of the interference of judges with the appointment of juries, certainly appears to me excessively unwise, if not improper.

Special juries are not known in practice. The persons who would be chiefly eligible to serve upon them, from their condition and circumstances in life, are almost all of them upon the bench in one or other of the different courts of the island.

A special verdict may be demanded by the counsel on either side, on a point of law arising in the course of a cause. This provision an old edition of the statutes (Rawlins's Laws) accounts for, as being framed "with a view to have the case sent home, the judges not being lawyers," from which it appears, that the inconvenience of

having judges who had not received a professional education began to be early; as it has continued to be long, severely felt. But the provision is not confined to those cases of sufficient value in which an appeal is allowed, in the last resort, to his majesty in council (where it might be highly desirable, in order that the whole case should fully appear), but extends to all cases, and must be granted upon the bare request of one party, which is likely to lead to vexation, expense, and delay.

There is no advertisement in the public papers of the sale by auction of goods taken in execution; a note only is put on the door of the sheriff's office. Great frauds were imputed in consequence of this mode of proceeding, but they were proved. Sufficient inconvenience however was shewn to justify the opinion expressed by the solicitor-general, that advertisements ought to be rendered necessary.

Some provision is required to prevent the possible and cruel separation of families, when slaves are sold under executions.

The creditor who has sued out an execution against lands and houses is compellable to take them at an appraisement, usually much above the real value. This is a point deserving the serious attention of the British merchant who has taken a judgment for his security.

There is no allowance to a debtor, a prisoner in execution.

If the two attorneys can agree, costs are never taxed at all. When they are taxed, the judge has no rule to guide him, in taxation, but often applies to the attorneys themselves, to know what it is usual to allow them.

A table of fees was afterwards promulgated, but without giving satisfaction, chiefly because it is contended, that the regulation of fees ought to be the subject of legislative enactment.

The judges of these courts do not take down the evidence, or sum up the facts, or state the law to the jury.

An equity jurisdiction given to these courts is incongruous, and never resorted to. It should be taken away.

Slave evidence is not admitted. The free people of colour, who have been made competent witnesses, are said to be very indifferent to the obligation of an oath; but none have yet been convicted of perjury. All persons manumitted before the act may be witnesses; not so persons manumitted since, unless the local laws have been complied with.

Bench actions are demands under *de decedat* without a jury, and by a judge ignorant of the law.

The proceedings in court have been related, and the opinion of the attorney-general referred to, that a judge regularly bred to the profession would remove most inconveniences.

The governor, sitting alone, as ordinary, has no assessor, or professional assistance of any kind; and the court is without any means of enforcing its decrees.

The fees and costs in the court of Admiralty are exorbitantly high. Proceedings for the recovery of seamen's wages, where the subject-matter in dispute is four or five dollars, occasion an expense of 50l. An authority, to hear and determine cases of this nature, is given, in most of the other islands, to one or more justices of the peace, and I think with great advantage.

The court of appeal and error, to review the decisions of the inferior courts, upon writs of error, has no gentleman who has received a regular professional education upon the bench. In case of a decision palpably wrong, where the sum in dispute is 200l. or 250l. (or any sum less than 300l.) the unsuccessful party, though injured to an extent, that may be of serious consequence to him, perhaps to the value of his stock in trade, cannot bring his writ of error. With great deference, I would observe, that the sum, for which an appeal lies, from the court of first instance, to the court of appeal in the island, appears to me to have been fixed too high at 300l.

In the court of grand sessions, the judges or magistrates upon the bench say and do nothing, except appoint both the grand and petit juries and their foremen, and if the judge admits an invalid excuse, for the attendance of any juror, he is liable to a fine of 50l. I submit that a judge should not be fined. It is to be presumed that he will exercise a sound discretion, especially when a regular education to the profession of the law shall be made, as I admit it ought, a necessary qualification for the office.

The attorney-general draws the indictment; charges the grand jury; addresses the petit jury; examines the witnesses; solves any difficulties in point of law; replies on the case; sums up the evidence; and afterwards represents the circumstances to the governor from his own notes, or recollection, when execution or reprieve is under consideration. Sometimes the court is relieved from hearing a case by the entry of a *nolle prosequi*; for which, instead of a fine to the public (the probable result of a conviction), a fee is paid to the attorney-general. The effect is, a jealousy of the power of the attorney-general, and a leaning to acquit every person he prosecutes.

The court of quarter sessions is a nullity.

The slave-court is constituted very propitiously for the discharge of the criminal slave whose master is desirous of saving him, but less favourably for the ends of public justice.

In case of conviction, the proceedings are melancholy and disgraceful. Unless an appeal is demanded, no report of the trial, or representation of the case, is made to the governor, before the sentence is carried into effect; but the unfortunate convict is immediately executed, without any interval allowed him, upon the nearest tree.

TORAGO.

The following are a few of the general re-

marks, of the commissioner consequent on the inquiries of the commission in the island of Tobago.

"I cannot add any thing new or material to what I before took the liberty of remarking, upon the absolute and pressing necessity for a person, skilled in the doctrines and practice of courts of equity, to preside in relief of the governor, or governor and council, as it may happen, in such courts in the colonies. But it may not be amiss to foreify the opinions I before ventured to express by the observations of experienced lawyers in the colonies, and the tradition of acceding sentiments, in illustrious authorities at home. The chief justice said, 'There should be a regular lawyer in the court of Chancery.' In Lord Loughborough's time it was the opinion of the chancellor that it was wanted. At a later period I have a letter from Mr. Percival, in answer to an application of mine, for some independent salary, that it was the intention of Government to put the judicial establishments in the colonies upon a better footing. We found a general persuasion in this island, that such improvement in their judicature was quite essential; that it would be speedily afforded, and would begin where it was most wanted, in the court of Chancery. Great irregularities were objected to the present system; much was said of erroneous decisions, of bills dismissed before answer, of demurrers over-ruled without argument, of sequestrations issued in the first instance, orders in a cause, without a bill filed, sales directed of property belonging to parties not before the court, &c. &c. In our endeavours to collect the opinion of the most intelligent persons in the colony, we met the constant requisition for a regular bred lawyer, to preside in the court of Chancery; We inquired into their reasons, and from the information we acquired, I am bound to state we were, both, fully convinced, of the absolute necessity of the measure. We found no ill design, corruption, or oppression, the motives of the judges were pure, their carriage upright, but great disorder and confusion prevailed; no man felt himself secure, and injustice was often practised, without being intended, or even dreamt of. The rules and orders of the court should, unquestionably, be collected and published to the profession; or at least placed within reach of persons desirous of consulting them. The commissioners applied for copies to the registrar (who is also secretary of the island, deputy colonial secretary, clerk of the crown, clerk of the privy and legislative council, registrar of the court of ordinary registrar of the court of vice-admiralty, deputy registrar and clerk of the courts of King's Bench and Common Pleas, &c.) but without success.

"The *master's fees* of at least his commission or percentage (six per cent), seem to require reductions to qualify but not

"In the court of *Common Pleas*, besides the objectionable practice of requiring all judgments to be confessed *in court*, during the sittings, there is little to observe, except their *protracted vacation*. The chief justice said, upon this subject, 'It is very inconvenient to have seven months, when all proceedings are stopped, and you cannot have any benefit of process. By sham pleading you may get through the five months, and then you throw it over the year. If judgment is got in July, execution cannot be had till next spring: The *Common Pleas*, and criminal court should be both held four times a year. You might have all the jurors collected at one and the same time. If there were two circuits yearly of ten days each, it would be enough for this island; but not for the court of Chancery, or the interlocutory business of the other courts. There must be a *resident judge* for that.'

"The practice as to judgments, and the suspension of all judicial proceedings, from April to September inclusive, both depend upon, and are provisions of, the court act. Of this law the chief justice remarked, 'The court act might be improved. *One act, I think, might be framed very usefully, to do for all the islands.*'

"It is a serious deficiency in the court act, that it does not require an affidavit of debt previous to an arrest. It is said, that this defect is supplied *in the practice*; but it may be doubtful whether such interposition of the court is warranted by law. The chief justice remarked, evidently with a true sense of its importance, 'In some islands they attach without affidavit, as well as arrest; here we require affidavits in both.'

"Delay is frequently occasioned by the clause (in the court act) requiring *three judges* to form a court of special pleading. The attorney-general said, in March, 'there is a case standing over since last July, on account of the non-attendance of three judges.'

"In the court of *Common Pleas*, a gentleman regularly bred to the English bar does preside in this island; and we did not hear any complaints of this court. We attended a court of complaints, and a sitting of the court of special pleading, for the hearing of a motion for a new trial. The business was conducted in a very satisfactory manner.

"There is nothing remarkable in any of the other civil courts of this island.

"The court of grand sessions, the supreme criminal court in this island, is held in October. It was found very distressing to have but one good delivery in a year. By means of a traverse, a defendant can put off a trial a twelvemonth, and the trial may, in an ex-

traordinary case, take place twenty-three months and upwards after the commission of the offence.

"Though there is a judge, a very able and intelligent lawyer, in the island, the chief justice does not preside in the court of grand sessions.

"The grand jury are chosen from a very unusual and undesirable class of persons.

"The slave court has been re-modelled."

GRENADA

Subjoined is a brief extract from the recapitulation of the observations made by the commissioners in the island of Grenada.

"The court of Chancery in this island has jurisdiction, in cases of manumission by will, to establish freedom, under an act of assembly.

"The colonial master in chancery, in this island, does not give security for the due performance of the duties of his office.

"No appraisal of an estate takes place, previous to a sale, under a decree.

"Injunctions are granted in an unexceptionable manner; but it is to be feared, upon too frequent occasions.

"An appeal lies from all orders, interlocutory and final. The respondent, on giving security, takes the benefit of the decree below.

"Fees are said to be exorbitant, and costs will be found excessive in this court.

"The mode of serving process of the supreme court, on absent defendants, is, nailing a declaration on the court-house door. Among absentees are included such persons as have never been in the island.

"Depositions are admitted upon trials, in lieu of *vidæ voce* examinations; to a surprising extent, and, as it appears to me, with alarming facility.

"The jury have formerly been allowed to adjourn and go to their homes; but it is no longer the case, and has not occurred in the time of the present chief justice.

"Judgments are not entered up in all cases; but executions are sued out upon verdicts, to save expense.

"Injunctions to stay executions have been frequent.

"Originals of wills, after being proved, are delivered to the party proving them, instead of being left with the registrar, and deposited in the office, where they might be consulted by, or on behalf of, parties supposed to take an interest under them, as slaves promised their freedom at their master's death, &c.

"There are said to be no means by which a wife can obtain a separate maintenance in this island.

"Seamen's wages are usually recovered before justices of the peace in this island, by which great expense is saved.

There is no record of the proceedings of the criminal branch of the supreme court.

There is no medium punishment. The slave court is obnoxious to all the same objections as were before represented to assembly to the court for the trial of slaves for capital offences, in Barbadoes and in Tobago, before the repeal of the slave act of the latter island.

All the judges hold their offices during pleasure. The chief justice of the supreme court is appointed from England, by mandate from his majesty. He has a salary of £2,500 currency, established by an act of the colony, and also fees, according to a schedule in the possession of the secretary, said to be about £700, per annum. The assistant judges have no salary, and, from courtesy, do not receive fees, except when they transact business in the absence of the chief justice. It is doubtful whether they have, not the right. They are appointed by the governor and council.

The attorney-general in this island has no salary. He has an account with the legislature for fees for public business.

By a rule of court, recently re-modelled, a person keeping *twelve terms* at home, or six at home, and attending during the sittings here *two years* (making twelve courts), may practice as counsel and attorney; the two characters being blended in this island.

The report thus concludes: The information required by the commissioner's had, by this time, fully convinced them, among other matters, of subordinate importance, that

The administration of justice in these islands is very defective, and requires great improvements, and an extensive change of system.

And further of The advantages of a legal education, in all judges appointed to preside in the superior courts; whether of law or equity: so, of

The want of a new set of rules, or revised court acts, to regulate the practice of the courts; and produce a greater degree of uniformity: also, of

The necessity for new tables of fees, and the appointment of proper persons for the taxation of costs.

An Appendix to the Report contains a variety of examinations and documents:

CHURCH CLERGY IN WEST INDIES.

A Return of the Number and Description of the Bishops and Ministers of the Established Church, Appointed by His Majesty, in the West Indies.

DIocese of JAMAICA.

The lord bishop of Jamaica.
Archdeacon of Jamaica.
Seven ministers of the established church.

DIOCESE OF BARBADOES, AND OF THE (GREENWARD) ISLANDS.

The lord bishop of Barbadoes, and of the Leeward Islands.
Archdeacon of Barbadoes, Grenada, St. Vincent, Trinidad, Tobago, and St. Lucia.
Archdeacon of Antigua, Montserrat, Dominica, St. Christopher, Nevis, and Virgin Islands.
Thirteen ministers of the established church.

Three catechists.

BARBADOES.

The following statement of the destruction of the Methodist Chapel at Barbadoes, contained in a despatch from Sir Henry Warden to Earl Bathurst, dated Barbadoes, 29 October, 1823.

On Thursday, the 16th October, 1823, a Mr. Shrewsbury, a Wesleyan missionary, called on me and stated, that on the Sunday before, during the meeting in the evening of his congregation, they were disturbed and assaulted by many persons, and particularly that two men rode on horseback masked, and fired pistols at the chapel; and he further stated, that he had been assaulted at his dwelling-house; and also that Mr. Justice Moore had cited him to appear before him to shew cause why he was not amenable to serve in the militia.

I asked him if he had applied to any of the magistrates of the town for protection, when he replied in the negative; and I recommended him to do so, as it would not be proper for me to interfere unless they might deny him protection; and I desired that whatever complaints he might have to make might be made in writing, that no mistake might arise from misapprehension or want of memory hereafter of what might have passed in a conversation.

The complainant left me, stating that he should take my advice, and apply to a magistrate for protection; since this I have heard nothing from him, nor have I heard any thing officially on this subject from any person whatever; but on Monday morning a rumour reached me that this missionary's house and chapel had been totally destroyed on Sunday evening, the 19th instant, by an immense concourse of people, many of whom were armed.

During the sitting of the legislature, who were employed in endeavouring to discover the authors of this outrage, a packet of handbills was brought to them, of one of which the following is a copy:—

Great and signal Triumph over Methodism, and total Destruction of the Chapel &c.

Bridgetown, Tuesday, 21 October, 1823.
The inhabitants of this island are respectfully informed, that in consequence of the unmerited

and unprovoked attacks which have repeatedly been made upon the community by the Methodist missionaries, (otherwise known as agents to the villainous African Society,) a party of respectable gentlemen formed the resolution of closing the Methodist concern altogether; with this view they commenced their labours on Sunday evening, and they have the greatest satisfaction in announcing, that by twelve o'clock last night they effected the total destruction of the chapel.

To this information they have to add, that the missionary made his escape yesterday afternoon in a small vessel for St. Vincent, thereby avoiding that expression of the public feeling towards him, personally, which he had so richly deserved.

It is hoped that this information will be circulated throughout the different islands and colonies, and that all persons who consider themselves true lovers of religion will follow the laudable example of the Barbadians, in putting an end to Methodism and Methodist chapels throughout the West Indies.

Sir Henry Wardé having issued a proclamation for the detection of the rioters, the following counter-proclamation was published, a copy of which was sent to the governor himself:—

Bridgetown, Barbadoes,

Thursday, October 23, 1823.

Whereas a proclamation having appeared in the Barbadian newspaper of yesterday, issued by order of his excellency the governor, offering a reward of one hundred pounds for the conviction of any person or persons concerned in the said-to-be riotous proceedings of the 19th and 20th instant; public notice is hereby given to such person or persons who may feel inclined, either from pecuniary temptation or vindictive feeling, that should they attempt to come forward to injure, in any shape, any individual, they shall receive that punishment which their crimes will justly deserve.

They are to understand that to impeach is not to convict; and that the reward offered will only be given on conviction, which cannot be effected whilst the people are firm to themselves.

And whereas it may appear to those persons who are unacquainted with the circumstances which occasioned the said proclamation, that the demolition of the chapel was effected by the rabble of this community, in order to create anarchy, riot, and insubordination, to trample upon the laws of the country, and to subvert good order;—it is considered an imperative duty to repel the charge, and to state, firstly, that the majority of persons assembled were of the first respectability, and were supported by the concurrence of nine-tenths of the community. Secondly, that their motives were patriotic and loyal, namely, to eradicate from this soil the germ of Methodism, which was

spreading its baneful influence over a certain class, and which ultimately would have injured both church and state. With this view the chapel was demolished, and the villainous preacher who headed it, and belied us, was compelled, by a speedy flight, to remove himself from the island.

With a fixed determination, therefore, to put an end to Methodism in this island, all Methodist preachers are warned not to approach these shores, as, if they do, it will be at their own peril.

God save the King and the People!

On the receipt of Sir Henry Wardé's despatch, the following letter was addressed to him by earl Bathurst:—

Downing-street, 23d December, 1823

Sir, I have received, with great concern, accounts of disgraceful outrages committed at Bridgetown, in October last, against the Wesleyan missionary, which terminated in the destruction of his residence and of the chapel in which he had long officiated.

I am commanded to convey to you the expression of his majesty's marked displeasure at so glaring and scandalous a violation of the law, and his majesty's commands that no means should be omitted which, can, by exemplary punishment of the guilty, give to his majesty's subjects in the island security in the possession of their property, and in the free and undisturbed exercise of their religious duties.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) BATHURST

Lieutenant-General Sir Henry Wardé, &c. &c.

A correspondence on the subject followed between sir Henry Wardé and the attorney-general of Barbadoes, the former having communicated to the latter all the information which he had received respecting it. The attorney-general details the unsuccessful investigation which had been entered into.

In a despatch from sir H. Wardé to earl Bathurst, dated Barbadoes, 6th August, 1824, he says—

"I have only this moment, for the first time, seen Mr. Shrewsbury's statement of his conversation with me, the greater part of which is true, though some extraneous matter, quite unconnected with the main subject of which he treats, is mixed up in it; but the strongest parts are clothed in his own words. I never stated that my protection would be an act of tyranny; but that previous to his application to a magistrate it would be arbitrary; and the whole of his deduction is entirely false, viz. that I refused him protection. I requested him to apply to a magistrate, that, in case his complaints were not attended to, I might forthwith interpose my authority; and it was solely for this reason that I explained to him the absolute necessity

of his previous application to a magistrate, what my interference might not be arbitrary or extra-judicial, and the conviction on my mind, when Mr. Shrewsbury left me, was that he was on his road to a magistrate, as he informed Captain Delbosé, my private secretary, that he intended to take my advice; and I considered that if he did not obtain a satisfactory decision that I should have heard from him again instantly; the truth of which is fully proved by my having desired that he would make his statement in writing; that, in fact, Mr. Shrewsbury suffered much from his own obstinacy, in positively resolving not to apply in the first instance to the proper legal authorities, as I can assure your lordship I fully believed that he had done, and that he had no further complaint to make. I made no comments in my memorandum of his complaint against the magistrate, for having cited him to appear before him, and shew cause why he should not serve in the militia, considering this, as I told him, a point of law, and that his redress must be obtained by law; but feeling in my own mind the high impropriety of his serving in the militia, even should it prove illegal, I fully resolved to have laid his case before the council, and to have done every thing in my power to have prevented it, but the circumstances which so soon after my interview with him took place, and his immediate departure from the island, rendered any further steps on this point unnecessary."

To this despatch sir Henry Warde annexes the following extract from Mr. Shrewsbury's printed statement:—

"The next day, Thursday 16th, I thought it my indispensable duty to apply to the governor for protection. I should have done so earlier, but there had already arisen several disputes between the governor and the colonists; and as mine was an unpopular cause, I was unwilling that he should be further embroiled with them through succouring them, and therefore I delayed my application to him till I could delay no longer. After the usual formalities, I stated to his excellency that I was the Wesleyan missionary residing under his government; that in such and such instances I had been molested in the performance of my public duty; that as my congregation could not worship God in peace I was necessitated to solicit his excellency's interference and protection. His excellency replied, that I ought to apply to the magistrates first; that if they refused to protect me he would; but that he ought to be the dispenser of resort. I replied that I was fully sensible of the extreme propriety of his excellency's remark; but that there was no effective magistracy; and that the magistrates bore me personal resentment, which was manifest from this simple fact:—I had

been three years and a half in the colony, and had never been molested with respect to the militia, but now that the populace were bearing me down, the magistracy instead of coming forward to protect me, had sent me a summons to answer for not having enrolled myself in the colony militia. His excellency said that he was very sorry for me; that he wished me well; that no man in the country could be more abused than he had been, and that he was afraid the arm of protection would be represented as the arm of tyranny. I then requested his interference as to my exemption from the militia, and shewed him my license under the Toleration Act; but he advised me to get a lawyer's opinion, saying, 'it is a matter of law, and unfortunately I do not understand the law.' I ventured to suggest to his excellency that, independent of the Toleration Act, by virtue of his prerogative he could exempt any individual from the militia service; but he declined, and said if I wanted any thing I must petition him in council. I said, sir, I am a friendless, unprotected individual; in applying to your excellency I have done my duty, and can do no more. I then withdrew, convinced that my only recourse must come from the Lord my God."

In a subsequent despatch from sir Henry Warde, it appears that he had been advised by the privy council of the island to express his displeasure to Messrs. Gill, Wickham, Grant, and Walton, magistrates, for their conduct; which he accordingly did.

The papers contain a further correspondence between sir Henry Warde and earl Bathurst on the subject; a copy of an unsuccessful application from the Wesleyan Missionary Society to the lords of the treasury for compensation for the loss of their chapel, the opinion of the law officers of the crown on the legality of employing military force in the island in cases of riot, &c.

JAMAICA.

EXTRACT of a despatch from his grace the duke of Manchester to earl Bathurst, dated King's House, Jamaica, 30th July, 1824, in answer to a despatch from his lordship requiring information on the subject of the apprehension and deportation from Jamaica of two persons named Lecesse and Escoffery.

"The facts are simply as follow:—Lecesse and Escoffery were reported to me by the police of Kingston as aliens of a dangerous description, and were in due course ordered to be sent out of the island. Some little delay having however taken place in carrying this order into effect, petitions were presented to me on their part, stating that they were born in Jamaica, and their general loyal conduct. I immediately referred these petitions to the police of Kingston, directing them to ascer-

tain whether Lecesne and Escoffery were or were not aliens; and, in the event of the magistracy being satisfied that they were aliens, my order for their being sent off the island was to be carried into immediate effect. Whilst this inquiry was going on, a writ of habeas corpus was applied for, and they were released from confinement by the grand court. The order merely stated, that, on referring to the return of the deputy marshal, the said Lecesne and Escoffery were discharged from custody. The cause of detention set forth by the deputy marshal was the order for sending these persons out of the island as aliens of a dangerous description, agreeably to the provisions of the Alien Law passed in 1818. Here the matter for some time rested; and I refused repeated importunities to have the question of their birth again agitated. In consequence, however, of it being known that meetings of the persons of colour in Kingston had been unusually frequent; and, it being generally believed that an improper connexion was kept up between Hayti and Jamaica through the medium of certain aliens who had been for some years domiciliated in Kingston, a secret committee was appointed by the house of assembly, consisting of nine members, six of whom were entirely unconnected with the city of Kingston, and one of whom was the counsel employed by Lecesne and Escoffery before the grand court, for the purpose of ascertaining the nature and object of these meetings; and in the course of that inquiry it was discovered that some of the affidavits in favour of Lecesne and Escoffery, which were supposed to have influenced the decision of the grand court, for it was declared by the court, that amidst much conflicting testimony the evidence only preponderated in their favour, were false; and additional evidence was brought forward establishing the fact of their being aliens.

This, my lord, was the course pursued towards these men. No proceeding originated with me; and, as far as relates to the exercise of the power vested in me by the alien law, they received from me the greatest forbearance. I referred the consideration of their petition to the magistracy of Kingston, affording them an opportunity of applying for their habeas corpus; and, after they had been discharged by the chief justice, I refused to sanction any further measures against them. I had of course no control over the proceedings of the house of assembly; but, after the subject had been gravely considered by a committee, and I had received a message from the house on the subject; and further, after having submitted to the council the message of the house, and the whole case, including the proceedings before the grand court, having been detailed to them by the attorney-general, I then, by the unanimous advice of the coun-

cil, ordered Lecesne and Escoffery to be sent out of the island.

The question turns on the naked fact whether these people were or were not aliens. A great body of evidence, and that liable to suspicion, supports the assertion that they were aliens. Had it been thought necessary, much more evidence might have been at the time, and has since, been produced; but the emissaries of these men had endeavoured to terrify those who could have indisputably proved that Lecesne and Escoffery were born in Saint Domingo.

As to the petition of the merchants of Kingston, I have already, in my letter to your lordship of 12th January last, stated that they are composed principally of the creditors of Lecesne and Escoffery; and had they not, your lordship is no stranger to the facility with which signatures are obtained to petitions, whatever the subject may be. The assertion that it was signed by a member of the council has no foundation in truth.

With respect to the policy of sending away Lecesne, the late trials in St. George, and numerous examinations since taken in Kingston before a very active intelligent magistrate, prove that he was concerned with the conspirators in that parish; that he had supplied them with arms, and that his house was the place of resort for all disaffected persons of all denominations.

There are seventeen enclosures in his grace's despatch, comprehending the evidence against these persons, and detailing the proceedings taken with respect to them. In a subsequent despatch, dated 13th November, 1824, an affidavit is enclosed from captain Maclean, of H.M.S. Bustard, stating the favour and encouragement which Lecesne and Escoffery experienced from the government of Hayti.

TORTOLA.

Tortola Schedules.

THESE schedules are prepared by the commissioners for inquiring into the state and condition of captured negroes, condemned to his majesty under the acts abolishing the slave-trade, and who had been apprenticed, or otherwise disposed of in the West Indies. They consist of elaborate returns of African and Creole negroes, who not being now in Tortola, have not been examined, but who were captured on board different vessels which have been condemned in the court of vice-admiralty at Tortola, from the abolition of the slave-trade on the 25 March, 1807, to 6th August, 1823;—of African and Creole negroes captured on board different vessels, which have been condemned in the court of vice-admiralty at Tortola, the sentences of which have been reversed;—of vessels having negro slaves on board captured since the abolition of the slave-trade, and prosecuted in the court of

vice-admiralty in Tortola, the sentences on whom remained incomplete;—of African and Creole negroes on board vessels, stated to have been prosecuted in the court of vice-admiralty at Tortola, since the abolition of the slave-trade, not condemned to his majesty;—of African slaves wrecked within the government of Tortola since the abolition of the slave-trade;—of the state and condition of the Africans captured on board the American schooner *Nancy*, the American brig *Amelia*, the English schooner *Anthony*, the Spanish ships *Mannella*, *Venus*, and *Atrevido*, and the Spanish schooner *Candelaria*;—and of the state and condition of certain African and Creole negroes seized by the officers of his majesty's customs, and condemned in the court of vice-admiralty at Tortola; together with supplementary remarks to such schedules as are connected with judicial proceedings; and answers to inquiries by persons filling public situations in Tortola, and who have not any African apprentices in their employment.

To the schedules are added the separate reports of the late commissioners, John Dougan, esq., and major Thomas Moody, royal engineers; the report of the former is dated London, 20 Dec. 1825, and is on the state and condition of the captured negroes produced before the commission at Tortola; the report of the latter is dated London, 2d March, 1825, and details the reasons why major Moody could not sign or approve of the report of his colleague. The inference which Mr. Dougan draws from the investigation in which the commissioners were engaged is, that free labour in the West Indies is preferable to compulsory labour; that of major Moody on the contrary is, that without some species of coercion African labour would be worthless.

Incorporation in

VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.

Substance of Papers relative to the proposed Van Diemen's Land Company.

1.
LETTER from Mr. Edward Curr, the secretary to the proposed Van Diemen's Land company to Earl Bathurst, dated 22d March, 1825, detailing, by his lordship's desire, the objects which the company wished to accomplish, and the powers which it solicited from his majesty's government to enable it to carry those objects into effect.

2.
Letter from lieutenant-colonel William Sorrel, late lieutenant-governor of Van Diemen's Land, to Earl Bathurst, dated 2d April, 1825, containing his opinion on the proposals which had been referred to him by his lordship for that purpose, for the formation of a company for agricultural and other objects in Van Diemen's Land.

3.
Letter to Mr. Edward Curr, secretary to the proposed Van Diemen's Land company, by Earl Bathurst, dated 15th April, 1825, stating the

Bathurst, dated Downing Street, 15th April, 1825, stating the terms on which his lordship was prepared to advise his majesty to sanction the formation of the proposed company; which terms are in substance as follows:

It must form the essential basis of the plan; that the nominal capital of the company will be really raised, and expended in carrying the avowed designs of the subscribers into effect. Before any bill is brought into parliament for investing the Van Diemen's Land company with the necessary powers, at least four fifths of the capital must be actually subscribed, and an assurance given that the subscribers are in general persons of capital and substance adequate to the payment of their subscriptions. As a necessary preliminary to the granting of the charter, the subscribers must actually deposit in the hands of the directors 5 per cent upon the amount of the capital subscribed, and an additional 5 per cent before the lands to be granted by the crown are actually delivered into the possession of the company. The capital originally subscribed to be divided into shares of 50*l.* each; and if any additional capital be raised, that also to be divided into shares of 50*l.* each, the original subscribers binding themselves to accept a number of the second set of shares equal to the number held by them of the original shares. The capital to be originally subscribed must be 500,000*l.* sterling, divided into 10,000 shares. The manner in which it shall be lawful for the company to employ this capital to be defined with as much precision as the nature of the case will admit. As soon as the proposed charter of incorporation shall be obtained, and the necessary surveys completed, lord Bathurst will be ready to make to the company a grant of 250,000 acres of land in the island of Van Diemen's Land, and one of the primary objects in which the company will be authorized to expend their capital, will be the clearing, improvement, and cultivation of this tract of land. Another mode of employing the capital of the company will consist in defraying the expenses incident to the emigration of persons proposing to settle on any part of their estates. With respect to mining, the crown will, as is usual in such cases, reserve to itself all mines and minerals beneath the surface of the lands to be so granted, but permission will be given to the company to accept leases or grants of mines from his majesty, and to employ their capital in raising minerals. The employment of the capital of the company in making loans to settlers will be permitted; but not to an amount exceeding upon the whole 50,000*l.* sterling, and with certain restrictions and conditions to prevent abuse. Transactions in the nature of banking operations cannot be permitted; but the company will be allowed to advance money on bonds or judgments, provided that the whole amount

of such loans shall not exceed 20,000*l.* The employment of a portion of the capital of the company, not exceeding 50,000*l.*, in the accomplishment of public works, will be expressly sanctioned, under certain limitations. Loans from the company to the governor and legislative council of the colony, not exceeding 100,000*l.* at any one time, will be permitted; as well as loans, not exceeding in the whole 20,000*l.* to any private individuals, who may be disposed to engage in whaling and sealing. The company is not to engage in any species of trade. They may be permitted, with the license of the governor, to invest capital in the purchase of land, never at one time exceeding 10,000*l.*; and to invest capital to the amount of 20,000*l.* in the purchase of houses and wharfs. The following rules to be observed with respect to the grant and selection of the lands to be conceded to the company.—The company will receive their grant in the north-west district of the island, selecting any ungranted lands at their own discretion; which lands, however, must approximate to the form of a square as nearly as may be. The survey and valuation of the land to be carried into effect by five commissioners; two appointed by the crown, and two by the company, and the fifth to be elected by the four thus appointed. The commissioners to make a report to the governor or lieutenant-governor of the result of their survey and valuation; upon which he shall be authorised to issue a grant of the land to the company, to be held by them and their successors in free and common socage, subject to a redeemable quit-rent (not to become payable until five years from the date of the grant) of 30*s.* per annum, upon every 100*l.* of the ascertained value of the land. If the local government should be able and willing to supply the company with a number of convict labourers, not exceeding the number of free labourers employed by them in their grant, the company will accept such convicts, and employ and maintain them at their own expense. If within fifteen years from the date of the grant, it shall be made to appear that the company have saved to his majesty's government, by the maintenance of convicts, the sum of 25,000*l.* sterling, then all the lands contained in such grant will be for ever exonerated from all future quit rents. It will be estimated that his majesty's government has saved 16*l.* sterling by each convict wholly kept and maintained by the company for one year.

Letter from Mr. Edward Curr, secretary to the proposed Van Diemen's Land company, to earl Bathurst, dated 18th April, 1825, stating that he was instructed by the directors to thank his lordship for his communication, and to inform him that they were willing to accept the conditions contained in his lordship's letter.

CEYLON. Substance of Papers relating to the Case of John Daniel Rossier.

A DESPATCH from major-general sir James Campbell, acting lieutenant-governor of the island of Ceylon, to the right honourable earl Bathurst, dated King's House, Colombo 14th January, 1824, states, that in consequence of a request to that effect from the governor-general in council at Calcutta, he had caused to be detained a person of the name of John Daniel Rossier, a deserter from the East India Company's service, who had arrived at Ceylon on board the Madras; that a writ of habeas corpus had been subsequently obtained to bring the body of the said Rossier before the supreme court at Ceylon; that he (the lieutenant-governor) did not conceive that the supreme court was vested with the authority of issuing such a writ; that, to prevent, however, any difficulty on the subject, he had deemed it expedient to promulgate a law, or, as it is termed, a government regulation, enacting, "that it was, is, and shall be lawful to any officer, civil or military, or other person in whose custody or keeping any person or persons may be, under orders from the governor, or in his absence the lieutenant-governor of this island, signified to him in writing under the hand of such governor or lieutenant-governor, or by the signature of the chief or deputy secretary to government, by authority of the said governor or lieutenant-governor, to certify a copy of such order as the authority under which such person or persons is, are, or may be detained in his custody, in return to any process of any court, calling on him to produce the said person or persons, or to shew the authority for the detention of such person or persons; and such return shall be and is hereby declared to be a sufficient return by every court within this island, and as barring every other proceeding of such court in respect to such person or persons upon such process;" and that the said government regulation had been strongly protested against by the chief justice of the supreme court at Ceylon.

A letter from sir Hardinge Gifford, knight, chief justice of the supreme court of judicature at Colombo, to the right honourable earl Bathurst, dated Colombo, 14th January, 1824, details all the circumstances mentioned in the lieutenant-governor's despatch, points out the hazard to which the new regulation exposes the liberty of his majesty's subjects at Ceylon, and intreats that the attention of his majesty's government may be directed to so important a subject.

A despatch from the right honourable earl Bathurst to lieutenant-general sir Edward Barnes, K.C.B., dated Downing Street, 8th July, 1824, after adverting to sir James Campbell's despatch of the 14th of January,

proceeds to say,—"I am commanded by his majesty to signify to you, that he disapproves of the measures adopted by the lieutenant-governor on this occasion, and you will lose no time in revoking the regulation passed on the 10th January, 1824, for removing all doubts respecting the rights of the governor of this island to arrest and detain in custody any person or persons within the same."

EAST INDIES.

Papers relating to the Burmese War: presented to both Houses of Parliament, by his Majesty's command, February 1825.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor-General in Council, to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, dated Fort William, in Bengal, 21st November, 1823.

Your honourable committee is aware that for some years past the Burmese have gradually been encroaching on the south-eastern frontier of Chittagong; and advancing pretensions to the jungles frequented by our elephant hunters, though unquestionably situated within the established British boundaries.

Impunity of this system of encroachment and aggression, the Burmese local authorities in Aracan set up a claim to the island of Shahporree; or, as they term it, Shein-ma-bu, situated at the extreme point of the narrow strip of main land forming the southern portion of the Chittagong district, and separated from it only by a shallow channel, which is continually filling up. The main stream of the Nâaf, upwards of two miles in breadth, the acknowledged boundary of the two states, flows between the island and the eastern, or Burmese bank of that river. Early in the present year, the magistrate of Chittagong reported in his correspondence in the judicial department, that a Mug boat, laden with grain, in passing near to the island of Shahporree, was stopped by a party of Burmese, armed with matchlocks, and the manghee, or steersman, shot dead on the spot. The only cause to which the magistrate could ascribe this incident proceeding on the part of the Burmese, was the hope entertained by them, that such an act of violence would deter the Company's ryots from cultivating that island. Farther inquiry having tended to confirm the magistrate in the belief that the murder was premeditated, he judged it expedient to detach from the adjoining thannah of Tek-Nâaf a guard of provincials, consisting of a jemadar and twelve men, to take post on the island, with a view of preventing further outrage, and generally of affording security and protection to the peaceable inhabitants of that quarter of the district.

Having subsequently reported that the Burmese were assembling in considerable numbers on the opposite bank of the Nâaf river, with the

intention of occupying the island of Shahporree, or otherwise with hostile designs, the magistrate was instructed, to lose no time in adopting the necessary measures, in concert with the commanding officer at Chittagong, either to deter the Burmese from making such an attempt; or to compel them to abandon the island; should they have forcibly taken possession of it.

For a detailed statement of the proceedings of the magistrate of Chittagong, in the investigation of the murder of the mug boatman, and of his correspondence with the Burmese authorities on that subject; and regarding their claims to the island of Shahporree, we beg to refer your honourable committee to the annexed extracts from our proceedings in the judicial department.

On the 26th of May last, the magistrate reported, that he had not deemed it expedient to strengthen the military post on the Nâaf, conceiving it might lead to the Burmese assembling a larger force; and be construed into a declaration of hostilities; observing, that if they were determined to attack the island, it would require the whole force stationed at Chittagong to oppose them, and thus the town itself would be exposed to the hazard of an incursion of the Burmese, through the passes in the hills to the northward and eastward. In the correspondence which passed on the occasion, between the magistrate and the ueherung, or Burmese officer at Mungdoo, your honourable committee will observe, that the latter asserted the right of the government of Ava to Shahporree as part of the province of Aracan, and required the magistrate to withdraw the British post; and pull down the stockade, declaring, that otherwise there would be a great quarrel.

Satisfied as we were of the indisputable title of the British government to Shahporree, as well from the position of the island; as from the records of the Chittagong collectorship, which shewed that it had invariably been comprehended in the revenue settlements, we directed the magistrate to arrange the information and proofs in a clear and intelligible form, and communicate the substance to the ueherung of Mungdoo; stating at the same time, that the communication was made in order to put him in possession of the facts of the case; and to shew that any attempt on the part of the Burmese to take forcible possession of the island, or to attack the post established there, must be viewed as an hostile and unprovoked act of aggression on their part, for the consequences of which the local authorities would be held responsible to their sovereign. The magistrate was directed to state further, that the British government was always disposed to take into consideration the claims of neighbouring powers, when brought to its notice in a friendly and proper manner; and to decide upon them with due regard to justice and equity; but that even if our right to the island was less certain than it undoubtedly

was, any attempt on the part of the ucherung, to obtain forcible possession of it would be resisted, and the aggressors punished.

On the 17th of June last, the magistrate of Chittagong acknowledged the receipt of the instructions, of which the substance has been stated in the preceding paragraph, and took that opportunity of reporting, that the reply which he had received on the preceding day from the ucherung of Mungdoo had removed all apprehensions of any immediate attack on Shalporree. He remarked at the same time, that the Burmese local authorities evidently assumed in their correspondence a right to the river Naaf, to the exclusion of British subjects, and considered the limits of the British territories to be the channel of Tek Naaf, and not to extend beyond the edge of the river. He stated also the fact of the channel between the island and Tek Naaf being fordable at low water, while the main channel of the Naaf was entirely on the other side of the island, with continued deep water, to the Arracan shore.

On the 2d August the magistrate transmitted a copy of a report, dated 26th July, from the sarogal of Tek Naaf together with a statement given by a person named Yakooob, who had been sent to Arracan to obtain information of any preparations making by the Burmese for an attack on Shalporree. Yakooob reported, that one hundred war-boats and two thousand men were collected at the fort of Arracan, a statement which we believed to be much exaggerated, and entitled to little credit.

On the 6th August, the magistrate transmitted the deposition by Yakooob, taken before him on oath, the substance of which was as above stated. In reply to a question from the magistrate, Yakooob expressed his opinion that the Burmese would attack the island in the months of September and October.

About the same time as the date of the magistrate's letter last referred to, a rakeel, dispatched by the rajah of Arracan, arrived at the presidency, with a letter for the governor-general, in which the rajah claimed the island of Shalporree, as having always been annexed to the Arracan province, and requested that the British post might be removed from it, as the maintenance of a guard there might lead to dispute, and eventually cause a rupture of the friendship and harmony subsisting between the two states. To this letter an answer was returned, stating the undoubted title of the British government to Shalporree, and the governor-general's persuasion, that the passage in the rajah's letter, expressing an apprehension as to the possibility of a rupture arising out of the circumstance of our maintaining a small post on an island of our own, might have been written incautiously, and without due reflection. It was added, that it did not appear from the contents of the rajah's letter, that this communication had been made with the knowledge of authority of the king of

Avra, and that our respect for his majesty's wisdom and discernment satisfied us, that, on his learning the particulars, he would not fail to recognise the justice of the title by which the British government held, and would continue to hold, the island in question.

Farther we stated, that should the arguments which demonstrated our right to the disputed position fail to produce conviction on the rajah's mind, it would afford us much satisfaction to depute an officer of rank, during the ensuing cold season, to meet a commissioner from Arracan, and to settle all such questions on the spot.

In our instructions to the magistrate, in reply to his letter of the 6th August, above alluded to, we apprised him of our receipt of the letter from the rajah of Arracan, and our reply, as substantially stated in the preceding paragraph, and expressed our confident expectation, that the explicit declaration of our right to the island, coupled with the consideration of the incontrovertible proofs and arguments by which it was supported, and of our determination to maintain possession, would satisfy the Burmese authorities of the futility of urging any further claims or demands on the subject. We could not, we remarked to the magistrate, bring ourselves to believe that the government of Avra so incorrectly appreciated the actual state of the British power in India, as to permit any of its provincial governors wantonly to provoke hostilities, in the prosecution of an unjustifiable attempt to encroach on the territories of the honourable company.

On the 22d September last, the magistrate reported that he had forwarded the letter from the governor-general to the rajah of Arracan, stating at the same time that the general impression among the Mugs to the southward was, that the Burmese would certainly attack the island of Shalporree when the season would admit of it, and expressing his own opinion, that every thing indicated symptoms of a hostile intention on their part.

On the 28th of the same month, Mr. Warner reported to us by an express, that a Burmese force of about one thousand men had actually attacked and taken the island on the 24th, killing three sepoy, and wounding three others. In his despatch of the following day, the 29th, Mr. Warner reported such particulars of the attack as had come to his knowledge, stating that, as far as he could learn, the attack was made by the rajah of Rynberry (or Rainree) under orders said to have come direct from the king of Avra; that the rajahs of Arracan, Myoun, (or Chetubun), and Chandoo, were also collecting their troops, and that the whole force of these four rajahs would assemble was supposed to be fifteen thousand men. Mr. Warner further stated, that a general opinion prevailed that they would enter the British territories in force, and chiefly by night attacks plunder and

destroy the villages, especially Coxe's Bazaar and the adjacent Mug villages.

The preceding accounts from the magistrate were followed by further reports, dated 30th September, and 1st ultimo, detailing the proceedings of the Burmese since their occupation of Shahporree, and the consternation of the Mug population to the southward, and stating that the darogha at Tek Nâaf had reported that sixty boats were collected on the opposite banks of the Nâaf, for transporting the Burmese army across that river into the British territories.

Having taken the contents of the dispatches above referred to into consideration, our first view of the case was, that the gross and deliberate outrage committed by the Burmese, and their reported collection of a large body of troops, which had assumed a menacing attitude on our frontiers, called for the immediate adoption of the most decisive measures, not only for their expulsion from the island, and the protection of our territories from further aggression, but for the signal and exemplary chastisement of the aggressors.

We accordingly resolved, that an adequate military force should be forthwith prepared to proceed to the southern part of the Chittagong coast, with instructions to adopt the most prompt and effectual measures for attacking and expelling the Burmese from the island of Shahporree, or any other portion of the British territory of which they might have taken possession, and for capturing and destroying their war-boats and military posts and equipments in the Nâaf river, and along its shores, as a just measure of retribution, and a decisive check to all further violation and assault of the British possessions. In the probable event of the Burmese having retired from Shahporree, and from the Nâaf river, before the arrival of the expedition and commencement of operations against them, and even otherwise, if feasible and if too great a risk should not be involved, we resolved that the officer commanding the detachment should be directed to pursue the aggressors to the river of Arracan, from whence the Burmese expedition appeared to have issued, and capture and destroy all the war-boats which might be found in that river, carefully avoiding injury to private property, and strictly prohibiting plunder of every kind. It appearing also from information communicated by the magistrate of Chittagong, that the troops and war-boats employed to invade Shahporree were assembled at the fort of Arracan, we resolved to authorise the officer commanding the expedition to exercise his discretion, as to attacking and carrying the fort of Arracan itself, after duly adverting to the information which he would receive in the immediate neighbourhood, both as to the navigation of the river, and as to the probable effect of the climate on the health of Europeans.

Having nevertheless determined to treat the outrage at Shahporree as the act of the local

Burmese authorities alone, unauthorised by their sovereign, we proposed, at the same time to address a letter of remonstrance to the king of Ava, notifying the measures which the British government had been compelled to adopt for the vindication of its authority, and the immediate chastisement of the authors of so flagrant an attempt to disturb the relations of amity and peace subsisting between the two governments; assuring his majesty, that it was our most sincere and cordial desire, to maintain those relations unimpaired, and calling upon the government of Ava to disavow the hostile acts of its subordinate authorities, and to mark its displeasure at their conduct by removing them from their respective governments, and inflicting on them public and exemplary punishment, as an atonement due to the British power for the insult sustained by the violation of its territories.

We judged it advisable to require the presence of two of the honourable company's cruizers from Bombay, to be stationed on the Chittagong coast, and to be available also for the conveyance of an agent to the Burmese dominions, should the course of events render such a measure expedient.

While the necessary arrangements to give effect to our resolutions were making in the military department, the reports received from the magistrate of Chittagong, dated the 3d, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 8th ultimo, considerably altered the appearance of affairs, and satisfied us that the strength and menacing attitude of the Burmese force had been much exaggerated. Whatever the determination of the court of Ava might be on our forcible re-occupation of Shahporree, it appeared to us that their original object was exclusively confined to the seizure of that island, which they affected to treat as theirs of right, and that no immediate danger existed of an attack from them on any other quarter of our territories.

Under these circumstances we deemed it expedient to countermand the embarkation of the European portion of the troops destined to proceed on the expedition, and to limit our operations to the re-occupation of Shahporree, and the reinforcing that post and the station of Coxe's Bazaar, until it should more fully appear what turn affairs were likely to take, when the court of Ava came to be apprised of our proceedings.

We accordingly resolved that the native detachment of troops and the detail of artillery should proceed to the Chittagong district, to be placed under the orders of lieutenant-colonel Shapland, the officer commanding at that station, who was instructed to restrict his operations to the expulsion of the Burmese from Shahporree, and the protection of the British territories against further aggression. We instructed the magistrate at the same time distinctly to apprise the Burmese, that any as-

sentiment of war-boat on the river would be regarded, after what had passed, as an hostile declaration, and that they would immediately be attacked and destroyed.

With this view we instructed the chief of the vessels carrying the reinforcements from the presidency as might be available, should be stationed at the mouth of the Naaf, to remain there until arrangements could be made for their return by the arrival of barges from Bombay, or by fitting out suitable gun-boats at the presidency.

Under the resolution we had now adopted, to abstain from offensive measures against the Burmese on their own territories, it became necessary to modify the communication we were preparing to make to the government of Ava. It appeared sufficient to us to transmit, through the viceroy of Pegue, a declaration to the Burmese government of the views and sentiments of the British government regarding the late outrage at Shahporree, and the course which in our earliest desire to maintain the relations of amity and peace between the two states, we had resolved to pursue, pending a reference to the court of Umrapoora, which would thus have an opportunity of disavowing and making reparation for the insult offered to us. A paper to the above effect was accordingly drawn up, accompanied by a letter to the viceroy of Pegue, and has been dispatched by a ship bound to Rangoon, it being no longer deemed necessary to engage a vessel for that special purpose, as we had originally proposed.

On the 10th ultimo, the magistrate reported to us, that it appeared from the information received from Tek Naaf, that the Burmese local authorities in Arracan had declared that any attempt to retake Shahporree would lead to a war between the two states. It was also stated from the same quarter, that those authorities had sent intelligence of the capture of the island to the king of Ava.

In his dispatches of the 16th and 23rd ultimo, the magistrate reported, that the local Burmese authorities continued to intimate their intention to resist our attempt to retake the island of Shahporree, and expressed his opinion that it was very probable they would not only accede to that declaration, but invade our territories to considerable force.

On the 22d ultimo we received a despatch from Captain Baker, reporting the return of the messenger employed by the magistrate to carry the letter from the governor-general to the rajah of Arracan. Captain Baker, it may be proper to state in this place, is the officer whom your honorable committee, on a reference to our proceedings of the 10th ultimo, will observe we had selected to accompany Lieutenant Colonel MacCreagh, as interpreter and political assistant, on the proposed expedition against the Burmese; and who had proceeded to Chittagong in the steam-vessel a few days before our deter-

mination to countermand the European portion of the expedition in question. His messenger was the bearer of an answer from the rajah, couched in the most insolent terms, asserting that the island of Shahporree had never been subject either to the former Mussulman government of Bengal nor to the English; that the stockade which we had erected by force of arms had been destroyed by his orders; that if we wanted tranquillity we must be quiet and that we reconstructed the stockade on this island, he would cause to be taken by force of arms the cities of Deca and Moorshedabad, which originally belonged to the great Arracan rajah.

The messenger reported, amongst other matters, that the rajah verily repeated in all the former declarations regarding Shahporree, and added, that if the British government attempted to retake it they would invade Bengal, by Assam and Goalpara, whither 3000 men had just gone, and would enter Chittagong by the mountains from Goojoneea up to Tripperah. The rajah distinctly asserted, that the king of Ava had armies ready for the invasion of the British dominions at every point; that it was by his majesty's orders they had driven us from Shahporree, and by his orders it was to be maintained. It was further stated by the messenger, that a palmyra (or long slip of palm-leaf), on which the rajah the king of Ava's seal, was produced, and the royal order to drive the English from Shahporree was read in his presence.

Anxious as we are to avoid a rupture with the state of Ava, as long as forbearance shall be compatible with our interests and reputation, we are impressed with a strong persuasion, founded on the experience of the past, that no permanent security from the aggressions of the Burmese, whether on the Chittagong frontier or to the northward, can be safely calculated until the people shall have been made to feel the consequences of their provoking the British government to depart from the pacific line of policy it has hitherto pursued; the motives for which, there is too much reason to believe, have always been misconstrued by the arrogant and barbarous court of Umrapoora.

Acting on the principles above adverted to, we have uniformly declined to listen to any overture from the Assamese for assistance in their struggle with the Burmese for the independence of their country; and we will persevere in the same course unless some fresh act of aggression, on the part of the Burman government itself, shall compel us to resort to arms. Your honorable committee will have remarked, that we have treated the attack on Shahporree as the unauthorised act of subordinate officers, who would have to be believed, that in making possession of that island they have not violated the British territories; but only resumed what we had usurped; this plea can no longer

avail them, as we have distinctly declared, and offered proof of our declaration, that the island is a portion of the British dominions, and have apprised the court of Ava of our determination to re-occupy and maintain it as such. Any subsequent attack on that island, therefore, or any attempt on the part of the Burmese to execute their threats of invasion elsewhere, must necessarily be considered hereafter as undertaken by the orders of the king of Ava, and must be treated accordingly as a declaration of war.

We have deemed it expedient to summon to the presidency an officer, peculiarly qualified by his repeated missions to the court of Ava and his intimate acquaintance with the character and disposition of the Burmese, to be employed either as a political agent on a friendly mission, or to accompany any military force that it may become necessary to employ against them: we allude to captain Canning, whose services on the former occasions of his deputation to Ava are well known, and have been duly appreciated by your honourable committee: with regard to this measure, we were the more induced to adopt it, as it appeared to us extremely desirable to take advantage of the present favourable period of the year to bring to an early termination our disputes with the Burmese on the southern frontier of Chittagong, and thus be enabled to withdraw our troops from that unhealthy quarter before the return of the sickly season. The presence of captain Canning at the presidency at the time when the answer from the court of Ava to our declaration may be expected to arrive, will enable us at once to depute that officer to Rangoon, should such a measure then appear expedient, as affording well-grounded hopes of effecting, by negotiation, a satisfactory adjustment of all points, or to avail ourselves of the aid of his great local knowledge and experience in making the necessary arrangements for effecting, by intimidation, what there may no longer remain any prospect of obtaining by amicable remonstrance and representation.

Extract from a Letter from the Governor-General in Council to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, dated Fort William, 9th January, 1824.

In our despatch, dated 21st November, we had the honour to report, on the differences which had unfortunately arisen with the Burman authorities of the Arracan province respecting the occupation of the island of Shahporree, the insolent and unwarrantable conduct and language of those functionaries in first expelling, by force of arms, the British post stationed on the island, and afterwards menacing a general war and invasion of our territories, in the event of measures being taken for its reoccupation; also the precautionary arrangements which we had thought it expedient to adopt for reinforcing Chittagong, and the eastern frontier generally, and the measures contemplated by us in the then

not unlikely contingency of an actual rupture with the state of Ava. We propose in this letter to continue the narrative of events and occurrences on the line of the eastern frontier, down to the latest date to which our advices extend, under the several heads of the Nááf river, Cachar, and Assam.

The detachment sent by sea from hence to occupy the island of Shahporree, at the mouth of the Nááf river, and to reinforce the posts in the southern part of the Chittagong district, did not, owing to the unreasonable and tempestuous state of the weather at the head of the bay of Bengal, reach the island until the 21st November. No symptoms of further hostile designs or preparations were visible on the part of the Burmans at the period of their arrival; and two companies of the detachment accordingly took possession of Shahporree without the slightest opposition being offered. A vakeel from the Arracan side of the river shortly afterwards waited on lieutenant-colonel Shapland to complain of the plunder of a village by some Mugs enjoying the protection of the British government, and to inquire the cause of the British troops appearing in that quarter in such force. The lieutenant-colonel informed him that his object was simply to occupy and keep possession of Shahporree; and at the same time presented him with copies of a proclamation issued by the magistrate, in general conformity with the instructions which we had given, explanatory of the views of the British government on that frontier, and our pacific intentions, notwithstanding the late outrage.

The above application of the vakeel was followed by a letter from Bhuman Do, a Burman officer of rank on the eastern bank of the Nááf, again asserting the title of his government to the island of Shahporree, and intimating that its continued occupation by a British force would lead to a serious rupture between the two states. To this colonel Shapland very properly replied by referring to the tenor of the magistrate's communications and proclamations regarding the island, and by repeating the determination of the British government to maintain possession of the island. Your honourable committee will observe, from several passages in the communications of lieutenant-colonel Shapland and the magistrate of Chittagong, that from the first moment of the arrival of the detachment in the Nááf, the Burman chiefs and sirdars of the adjoining territory professed the fullest desire to maintain a friendly intercourse, and correspondence with the officer commanding, but unreservedly declared that their future conduct must be guided entirely by their orders from the court of Ava, to which every thing had been reported; and that the question of peace or war between the two governments would be decided by that authority.

In the magistrate's despatch of the 1st ultimo, your honourable committee will find enclosed a private letter from captain Cheape, the engineer officer and surveyor deputed to the southern frontier, containing a very interesting account of his conversation with Hussen Ali, the vakeel from Arracan; in the course of which captain Cheape judiciously took occasion to explain the views and motives of government in despatching a force to that quarter, and its intentions generally with regard to the demarcation of such a boundary line as would prevent the future recurrence of disputes and encroachments. His communications were well received by the vakeel, who, however, professed his incompetency to agree to any specific arrangement without express authority from the court of Ammerapura, conveyed through the rajah of Arracan. We hope to learn at an early period that captain Cheape has made some progress in the important task of laying down the proposed boundary, in concert with an authorised deputy from Arracan, as Mr. Robertson, the officer lately appointed to officiate as magistrate and political agent in the district, has now proceeded to the Naaf to superintend the commencement of operations for that purpose. The communication likewise just received from captain Cheape, through the surveyor general, further induces us to hope that no material difficulty will be experienced in the execution of the above duty.

Whilst we were deliberating how to shape our proceedings, the differences broke out with the Burmese on the Chittagong frontier; the threat of invading the British territory from Assam down to Ramoo was distinctly advanced by that arrogant people; and a private communication from Mr. Scott, the agent to the governor-general on the N. E. frontier, dated 11th November, informed us that a force had actually been despatched from Assam to conquer Cachar. Upon the receipt of the latter advice we came to the opinion that after the steps which had been already taken by the British government, for effecting a connexion of a tributary and protective nature with the state of Cachar, and adhering to the confirmation which our former views of the policy of such a connexion had received from the recent hostile demeanour and language of the Burmahs on the southern frontier, it would be a culpable dereliction of our own interests if we suffered the Burmahs to carry into execution this fresh purpose of aggression. We accordingly instructed Mr. Scott to address a letter to the commander of the Burmah force, or the governor of Assam, requiring them to desist from the project of invading Cachar, on the ground that we had taken that country under our protection.

We apprised the agent to the governor-general, that in the communications which he would hold with the Burman administration in

Assam it would be necessary to assert distinctly, though in terms as courteous as the occasion admitted, the prior title of the British government to interfere for the settlement and protection of Cachar; and likewise its determination not to allow a country, thus circumstanced with respect to the British frontier, to be overrun and occupied by the forces of a foreign power.

The latest advices from Rangoon were brought by an Arab ship, the Fulk, which left on the 10th ultimo; her commander has furnished intelligence, in substance as follows, to our secretary: viz.—that the ship which conveyed the declaration to the Burmese government had reached Rangoon four days previous to his departure, and the packet had been delivered to the viceroy, when an express was immediately sent off to Ammerapoorah. His excellency the viceroy, as well as the other members of the Rangoon government, had preserved an entire silence on the subject of the governor-general's communication; but an embassy from the king to Calcutta was talked of; trade had suffered no interruption, and no measures had been taken to molest the European settlers in the dominions of Ava, though the latter were far from being satisfied as to their personal security. We profess ourselves to repose little confidence either in the prudence or the moderation of the court of Ava; and must naturally, therefore, look forward with anxious interest to the arrival of a reply from the Burmese government to our letter of expostulation and remonstrance.

Extract from a Letter from the Governor-General in Council to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, dated Fort William, 23d February, 1824.

We have much concern in reporting the unfavourable turn which our differences with the Burmese have taken since the close of our despatch dated 9th January. It being our duty, as it is our sincere desire, to keep your honourable committee fully apprised of the progress of those events and transactions which have terminated so seriously, we have prepared a detailed narrative of our proceedings from the 9th ultimo down to the 20th instant, interspersed with a few occasional remarks, to which we have to request your attention in the first instance; and we shall conclude with laying before you a general outline of the views and resolutions which we have been compelled to adopt in the present crisis of affairs on our eastern frontier.

It is proper to state in the outset, that up to this date no notice whatever has been taken by the government of Ava of the declaration transmitted to that court in November last, on the subject of the outrage committed by the rajahs of Arracan in the attack of the British post at Shahpooree, and the slaughter of our guard in the month of September last; and the

sequel will abundantly show that far from entertaining any disposition to disavow or redress that injury the Burman monarch himself obstinately perseveres in a system of injury and insult to the British power, and declines to enter into negotiation or explanation.

Mr. Robertson, the gentleman whom we had appointed to act as magistrate of Chittagong, and to conduct political affairs on the south eastern frontier, arrived at Tek Naaf on the 8th ultimo; on the 11th ditto, he reported to us that the detachment on the island of Shahporree had been attacked with a peculiarly malignant fever, and that the climate of that spot had proved so peculiarly unhealthy that its further occupation for a long period would be impracticable. Such being the case, and as there existed at the moment no appearance of hostile preparation, he judged it expedient, after consulting with Lieutenant-colonel Shapland, to direct the removal of the detachment, considering the moment to be favourable for the adoption of the measure which ere long the increased sickness would render inevitable under any circumstances; and being further of opinion that the step would afford the finest prospect of an amicable adjustment with the Arracane authorities. Mr. Robertson had previously addressed the chief, called the rajah of Arracan, requesting him to depute a competent and proper officer to meet captain Cheape and himself for investigating and defining the boundary between the two states. On removing the detachment from its position on the island of Shahporree, Mr. Robertson conceived it proper to address a fresh letter to the rajah, stating that as two months had elapsed since the British troops were stationed on Shahporree, and no indication having during that period appeared of any further attempt on his part to dispute the right of the British government to the island; considering also that since the first outrage an amicable intercourse had continued uninterrupted between the subjects of both states, it was deemed superfluous to maintain the detachment there any longer, which had been in consequence removed. The rajah was further informed, that the immediate object of the letter was to apprise him of the above circumstances, that he might warn any of his subjects and followers against venturing to encroach on the island, an act which would be resented and instantly punished.

We had not been previously apprised of the sickly state of the officers and men on the island at Shahporree, and adverting to this consideration, and to the real unimportance of maintaining a guard at the place itself, with the view either to the assertion of the defence of our right, while so respectable a force, both naval and military, was in the immediate neighbourhood, we regarded the measure adopted by Mr. Robertson to be entirely proper and judicious, and we

forward events and circumstances there, since arisen in rapid succession, which it was, impossible at the moment to foresee.

Only three days after the abandonment of the post, Mr. Robertson learnt that the four rajahs had again assembled their forces at Lowad-hung, with the declared intention of attacking and expelling our detachment, under fresh orders received from the court of Ava, to dislodge the English at all hazards; and a letter was brought to him from the rajah of Arracan, announcing that circumstance, and stating that he had deputed four messengers to wait on him.

Those agents, in the conference which took place, insisted on the right of their sovereign to Shahporree, argued the folly of going to war about such a trifle, and professed that they would be satisfied by a declaration that the island should be considered neutral ground, and remain unoccupied by either party. The tenor of the whole conversation left a strong impression on Mr. Robertson's mind that the re-establishment of a post on the island would invite an attack on the part of the Burmese, and infallibly lead to a rupture, which he very naturally and justly deemed it a great object to avoid at so advanced a period of the season; though sensible that it might be eventually necessary, under any turn which the Shahporree discussions might take, to adopt measures for compelling the Burman nation to pay more respect than they had hitherto been disposed to shew to the British power.

In our instructions in reply, we expressed our conviction of the justice of the grounds on which the measure of withdrawing the detachment had been adopted, though immediately followed by a combination of circumstances which naturally excited our regret. Could it have been foreseen, we observed, that the pretensions of the Burmese to Shahporree were to be so soon renewed, accompanied by the threat that an army had assembled at Lowadung, and was approaching under orders from the court of Ava to expel our post by force of arms, it would have been necessary to continue the British troops on the island for a time at least, since our retirement would doubtless be imputed to the apprehensions of an attack. As the troops had been removed, however, we did not see in these circumstances any paramount or adequate motive for directing their return, but left it to the discretion of the magistrate and the commanding officer either to adopt that measure, according to circumstances, or simply to hold such a force in readiness at Tek Naaf, as with the aid of the armed vessels in the river would suffice for repelling and adequately chastising on the spot any attempt which the Burmese might make to reoccupy the island.

Relatively to the proposition of the Arracane vakeels for declaring the disputed island to be neutral ground, we observed, that worthless and insignificant as the place must be to either party,

and willing as the governor-general in council might have felt to listen to any such proposal had it been brought forward by the government of Ava itself at an earlier stage of the discussion, and previous to the assault on our post and the slaughter of our sepoys, the just indignation excited by that act of outrage, and the declarations and resolutions it had necessarily induced, must utterly preclude any compromise of the above nature, even if not proffered in the tone of insolent menace which the rajah of Arracan had invariably assumed. We therefore pointed out distinctly to Mr. Robertson that no overtures, involving the relinquishment of our absolute and unqualified right to Shahporree, must for a moment be entertained; and we desired that if the Burmese deputies should again urge the peremptory orders of their government to prevent the British authorities from keeping a guard on the island, he would at once meet the argument by stating the no less positive orders of the British government to maintain the fullest right of possession, and to inflict instant and signal chastisement on those who might attempt to cross the Nááf for the purpose of disturbing that possession.

In conclusion, we informed Mr. Robertson that, considering the altered tone of the Burmese since the arrival of the late orders which they professed to have received from the king of Ava, and more especially adverting to an affair between our troops and a Burman force on the Sylhet frontier, of which we had just then received accounts, we were of opinion that any attempt to define the south eastern boundary could no longer be carried on with a hope of success, or even with safety to himself and captain Cheape, and we desired him therefore to desist from the prosecution of that part of his original instructions.

On the 22d January, the acting magistrate of Chittagong reported to us that he had just learnt the arrival in Arracan of four ministers of rank from the court of Ava, who had been deputed to the province to inquire into the real state of the dispute with the English, and, as it afterwards appeared, to supersede the functions of the local authorities. This intelligence was speedily followed by the report of a fresh act of outrage and treacherous violence, committed by the directions and under the immediate orders of these confidential agents of the court, the particulars of which, as exhibited by the log-book of the honourable company's armed vessel *Sophia*, and the reports of the darogha of Tek Nááf, are as follow:—

It appears that the Burmese commanders immediately on their arrival at Mungdoo (the post opposite the British thanah of Tek Nááf), finding the island of Shahporree had been evacuated, crossed the river in four large boats, full of armed men, with some pomp and display, and landed at Shahporree, notwithstanding the solemn warning which had been given against any such

encroachment. On their retiring, it was found that they had set fire to a hut, the only tangible object on the island, as the redoubt had been razed when our detachment was removed.

About the same time an interpreter waited on the darogha at Tek Nááf, to announce the arrival of the above-mentioned wuzeers, or ministers, from the court of Ammerapoor, and to invite the officers of the troops and those of the vessels to wait on them at Mungdoo. With the former this insidious invitation had no effect, but some of the latter unfortunately fell into the snare, and, by their deplorable imprudence, afforded to the Burmese an opportunity of perpetrating an act of insult and treacherous violence, which it is impossible for this government to overlook or tolerate with impunity.

It should be observed, that on the removal of the detachment from Shahporree, the honourable company's vessel *Sophia*, one of the pilot schooners, armed for the occasion, was ordered to take up a position with the gun-boats more immediately off the north-east point of the island, to serve in some degree as a substitute for the presence of the troops.

On the 20th January, a boat full of armed Burmese pulled alongside of the *Sophia*, and asked a number of suspicious questions regarding the force and equipment of the vessel, and the object of her remaining in the Nááf. The same afternoon a second boat came off from Mungdoo with an invitation to Mr. Chew, the commander, to call on the following morning at that post. Mr. Chew was absent at the time; but on returning to the vessel he determined on accepting the invitation, with what motive cannot be conjectured, as the season for amicable communication and intercourse had obviously passed away, in consequence of the altered tone and language of the Burmese, occasioned by the arrival of commissioners with fresh orders and powers from the court. So fully sensible indeed was Mr. Chew of the hazard attending the step, that on proceeding to the Burmese shore the next morning, he left particular instructions that in the event of his not returning by a certain hour, a gun-boat should be sent to demand his person and those of his companions. The commander of the *Sophia* was accompanied in this ill-timed and inconsiderate visit by Mr. Ross, a young man who commanded the row-boats and a boat's crew of eight lascars. The particulars of what passed after their reaching Mungdoo are not known; but at eight o'clock in the morning of the 21st January, Alee Chand, ferryman, saw these unfortunate persons surrounded by a large party of Burmese, and carried off to Lowadhung in the interior. The witness was himself seized and confined for a time at Mungdoo, and saw the wuzeers go off with their prisoners to the interior. Subsequent accounts have fully established the fact that this treacherous seizure and imprisonment of two

officers and a part of the crew of the honorable company's vessel in the Naáf, was accomplished by the order and under the immediate directions of the commissioners' deputed express from the court of Ava to settle affairs on the frontier, and who, it must of course be presumed, are well acquainted with the temper and designs of their sovereign.

An humane consideration for the safety of the gentlemen who had thus fallen into the hands of the most barbarous and sanguinary of all eastern nations, very properly induced Mr. Robertson to try at first the effects of persuasive and conciliatory language in accomplishing their release, and a letter was accordingly addressed by him to the rajah of Arracan on the subject.

On the 23d January Mr. Robertson communicated a report from the darogha of Tek Naáf, that the occurrence described in the preceding paragraph had created the greatest terror and alarm in the southern part of the Chittagong district, and that the inhabitants were preparing to fly with their cattle and property.

In reply to the despatches of the acting magistrate of Chittagong, as above, we expressed the strong sentiments of concern and mortification with which we had learnt the act of treachery and outrage therein reported on the part of the Burmese. We observed, that the deputation of commissioners by the king of Ava (who it should be observed must have been despatched after the arrival of our declaration at the capital) might have afforded a hope that, after inspecting the mere position of the disputed island, they would have become satisfied of the justice of the British title, and the unfounded nature of the pretensions set up by the rajah of Arracan; and that thus the result of their mission would have been conducive to the preservation of friendly relations between the two states. Unhappily, however, their very first act had destroyed all hope of such a result, and could be regarded only as affording irresistible evidence of the hostile spirit pervading the councils of the government of Ava, and the absence of any disposition on the part of the Burman monarch to afford us reparation for the former outrage. While unwilling to relinquish altogether the hope that the representation addressed by the acting magistrate to the rajah of Arracan would produce the release of Mr. Chew and his companions, and entertaining a sincere disposition to make every reasonable degree of allowance for the barbarous character and notions of the Burmese, and their singular ignorance of the strength of the power whose vengeance they had thus dared to second time to provoke, we stated that we considered it indispensably necessary to declare our sentiments and determination as to the time of conduct which must be adopted in the event of the opposition of our officers, detained as

prisoners by the Burman government, not being speedily released, or until we had received further intelligence. We instructed the acting magistrate, therefore, that in the event supposed, he would, on the receipt of our instructions, address one more letter to the rajah of Arracan, in the strongest language of remonstrance, peremptorily calling upon that chief, and the wizeers from Ava, in the name of the governor-general in council, to deliver up the officers and men whom they had detained, within a certain period (to be fixed by himself), under pain of the severest vengeance of the British power. We directed it to be distinctly avowed, that as the act of treachery and violence complained of had been committed under the orders of the commissioners deputed from the court itself, it must be considered as emanating from the king of Ava's authority, and, unless instantly remedied, the relations of peace between the two governments, already so seriously disturbed by past proceedings, would be held to be dissolved, and war to have actually commenced. The magistrate was of course instructed to make known to us his proceedings, and the results of them, under the above orders, by express.

On the 27th ultimo, the political agent on the Chittagong frontier reported to us, that the Burmese were certainly assembling their forces in unusual numbers at Mungdoo, Lowadhung, and Arracan; and that it was currently believed that a large reserve, rumoured at twelve thousand men, had been collected at a place inland, called Dalak. Mr. Robertson, observed on this occasion, that there could exist no longer any doubt, that the Burmese, whatever their ultimate intentions might be, were making preparations for warlike operations, and that he was disposed to think the designs of the court of Ava to be of a hostile nature, though it seemed probable that the rajahs and subordinate authorities in the Arracan province were well disposed to promote an amicable and pacific adjustment.

On the 31st ultimo, Mr. Robertson forwarded translations of two letters to his address from the rajah of Arracan, distinctly avowing that Messrs. Chew and Ross were seized by the orders of the general of the sultan of Ava, because their vessel was anchored off the island of Shah-parree, and promising at the same time to treat them well. Mr. Robertson stated, however, that a perusal of those documents had considerably diminished his hopes of the eventual release of those gentlemen and their companions. In communicating our instructions to Mr. Robertson, founded on a consideration of the above despatches, we signified to that gentleman our resolution, that even should the demand for the release of Mr. Chew and his companions be complied with within the specified time, there would still remain two considerations to be required of the Burmese government, to which alone could induce the British government to

abstain from the just measures of retaliation which we had provisionally authorised him to adopt. The first was, ample reparation and apology for the insult offered to this government by the treacherous seizure and temporary detention of the honourable company's officers; and the second, a declaration in writing that the Burmese abandon all pretension to the island of Shahporree, and engage to withdraw the troops they have assembled at Lowadhung and Mung-doo, and to reduce the detachments at those posts to their usual strength. We observed on this occasion, that the hostile and insulting conduct of the Burmese officers in attacking and slaughtering our guard at Shahporree, which the government of Ava had failed to disavow, and had thereby acknowledged as its own act, after ample space had been allowed for explanation, might justly be considered to have already placed the two countries in a state of war, and to warrant the adoption, on our part, of instant measures of retaliation, without further notice.

On the 1st instant, we received a further report from the acting magistrate of Chittagong. In this letter Mr. Robertson observed, with reference to some remarks contained in our former instructions, that had it not been for the unexpected arrival of the general and his two colleagues from the capital, and their subsequent conduct, he should still have had hopes of averting hostilities, and that his endeavours had been frustrated by circumstances such as no one could possibly, at the moment, foresee. It must be evident to us, he observed, that the approach of the personage styled the general, and the ascertained fact of a force having been collected with the avowed purpose of commencing hostilities, if their terms (*viz.* the surrender of Shahporree) are not complied with, renders the dispute on the Chittagong frontier no longer a mere provincial discussion. Whether or not they will attempt what they threaten, depends, he added, upon the degree of resolution which the Burmese may be supposed to possess; for of the inclinations of their present leaders there could be no longer a doubt. Mr. Robertson farther remarked, that considering the state of affairs in Cachar, and the conduct of the Burmese on the Nááf, the British government must be regarded as virtually at war with the empire of Ava, and that every allowable measure of hostility might therefore justly be resorted to.

On the 8th and 9th instant, Mr. Robertson reported to us the steps which he had taken, in pursuance of our instructions of the 31st ultimo, for procuring the release of Mr. Chew and his companions, and apprised us that he had peremptorily called upon the rajah of Arracan and the wuzeers to set them at liberty within ten days, under pain of the consequences. Accounts had, in the interval, been received from Mr. Chew himself, evincing a spirit unbroken by the calamitous situation in which he had

placed himself and his companions; and stating that he had latterly been treated with humanity and even kindness. Mr. Robertson, however, remarks, "It is with deeper regret than I can express that I resign the hopes I have hitherto entertained of Mr. Chew's release. The high spirit evincing in his letters, and the elasticity of mind with which, under circumstances so depressing, he still keeps his attention directed to his professional pursuits, will, I am sure, excite the admiration of his lordship in council for the character of the individual, whilst it must deepen his regret at the calamity that has befallen him. Did it rest with the rajah (of Arracan) to release or detain the two gentlemen, I should still hope for their return, but it is now evident that the local authority of that officer is, for a time, superseded by that of the person styled the general, whose unexpected approach towards the frontier has so materially altered the aspect of affairs in this quarter."

The acting magistrate's letter of the 8th instant, describes a farther aggression on the part of the Burmese, which, however trifling and contemptible in itself, *viz.* the hoisting of the royal standard of the Burman empire on the island of Shahporree, evinces clearly the spirit by which their present proceedings are actuated; and their obstinate determination to persevere in the prosecution of a claim, which we consider and have declared to be a downright encroachment on the British territory, and which must necessarily be checked, resisted, and eventually punished, if we would wish to shield ourselves from worse insults and outrages hereafter on the part of these barbarians.

On the 14th and 15th of January we received expresses from Mr. Turquand, the acting magistrate of Sylhet, reporting that two Burmese armies, supposed to be of considerable strength, had invaded Cachar; the one from Assam, and the other from the dominions of Ava, *via* Manipore. The officers who commanded the detachments which had previously been advanced to Budderpore, on the eastern frontier of Sylhet, as a measure of precaution, having applied to Mr. Turquand for instructions to guide their conduct in this emergency, that gentleman transmitted a letter, to be forwarded to the address of the general of the Burman army, warning him to retire from the protected territory of Cachar, and at the same time requested the commanding officer to take such measures as he might judge advisable for restraining the invasion, should the Burmese persist in introducing a foreign force into that country.

The acting magistrate of Sylhet also informed us, that as rumours prevailed that Govind Chunder, the ex-rajah of Cachar, had invited the Burman troops into the country, and that vakeels on his part were actually in their camp, he had deemed it expedient to send for that

chief to Sylhet, and to place him under honourable arrest until the orders of government could be received.

In reply to the above despatches, we stated to the governor-general's agent our hope that the communications already addressed by himself and the acting magistrate of Sylhet, combined with the advance of our troops to the frontier for the purpose of enforcing the declared intention of the British government to protect Cachar from invasion, would not fail to induce the generals of the king of Ava to halt or retrace their steps. Should it be urged by them that they were acting under orders received from the court of Amherst, to reinstate Govind Chunder in the possession of Cachar, we desired Mr. Scott to apprise them, that the British government was itself disposed to favour the claims of that chief, but that, adverting to the doubtful nature of the relations existing at present between the two states, and to the declaration of the Burmese chiefs in Arracan, that on the re-occupation of Shahpoore the forces of the king of Ava would invade the British territory along the whole line of the eastern frontier, the governor-general in council could not, under any circumstances, permit them to establish themselves in the Cachar country, and thus acquire a position, the command of which would so greatly facilitate the execution of that threat. We therefore authorised Mr. Scott, in the event of either of the Burman parties evincing a determination to maintain their ground in Cachar after receiving the above warning, to take immediate measures for expelling them by force of arms. The contents of a communication made by the rajah of Jyntia to the acting magistrate of Sylhet, on the subject of the apprehended Burmese invasion, having suggested to us the expediency of including that petty state or chiefship, specifically, in our general system of defensive arrangements for the frontier, we instructed Mr. Scott to take advantage of the opening which that communication afforded for requiring the rajah to enter into engagements similar to those proposed for Cachar.

On the 30th of January, we learnt that an affair had actually taken place between our party of observation on the Sylhet frontier, commanded by major Newton, and one of the bodies of invaders coming from Assam. Disregarding the intimation which they had received of the determination of the British government to resist the occupation of Cachar by the forces of a foreign power, and anxious only to effect their object of concentrating a large force on our immediate frontier, the parties from the northward and eastward hurried on, in avowed defiance of our repeated remonstrances and warnings, to the point where the generals proposed to unite their forces. On the 15th major Newton finding that a body of about four

¹ For the particulars of this affair see London Gazette of 25th November, 1824, page 1954.

thousand Burmese and Assamese had crossed into the plains of Cachar, at the foot of the Bertaker pass, and were stockading themselves at Bickrampore; also that the force to the eastward had defeated the Munnipore chief's (rajah Gumber Singh) troops, and that a third division was crossing into Jyntia; immediately north of the station of Sylhet, he resolved, under circumstances so threatening to his force, to concentrate his detachment at Futrapore, a Cachar village, about five miles beyond the boundary of the Sylhet district, and move from thence due northward against the invading party from Assam, before they could have time to strengthen their position. The Burmese position was discovered early in the morning of the 17th January, and hostilities commenced by the discharge of two shots from their stockade at the British advanced guard. An attack was then made by the British force under major Newton, in two divisions, which was completely successful, though a party of Burmahs, variously estimated at from two to five hundred, made a brave resistance, and were not overpowered without the loss of six of our sepoy's killed, and eighteen wounded; about one hundred and seventy-five of the Burmah force were destroyed, the remainder fled towards the hills.

Your honourable committee is apprised, that immediately on learning that the Burmese had equipped or meditated an expedition into Cachar, the governor-general's agent, Mr. Scott, had addressed two or three letters to the governor of Assam, requiring him to desist from that project, and making known to him the connexion of the British government with the territory in question.

The rajah's answer was not received at Gowalparah until the 15th of January, two days previous to the affair at Bickrampore, when Mr. Scott was on his way to Sylhet; and we have now to call the attention of your honourable committee to a despatch from captain Davidson, forwarding the letter in question. This document, with the subsequent communications of the Burman chiefs, we consider to be of material importance, and so far satisfactory as evincing clearly, that whether we had resolved to protect Cachar or not, we must necessarily have been involved in the most serious differences with the Burmese by the advance of their troops to the threatening position which they now occupy on our immediate frontier, the danger to which our districts of Sylhet and Tipperah are thence exposed; and the serious menaces which they have presumed to hold forth of war and invasion. The rajah of Assam's reply, it will be remarked, does not all in question the right of the British government to form what connexion it might please with the petty state of Cachar; nor does it assert any title or intention on the part of the king of Ava to interfere in the settlement of its affairs; it declares merely that his Burmese majesty having

resolved to seize the three Munniporian brothers as the authors of repeated disturbances, issued his royal orders that they should be pursued and apprehended wherever they might be found, and that armies had been assembled at Gowahati and Munnipore to carry that mandate into effect. The letter adds, also, that the Burman chiefs were not to be intimidated from carrying their sovereign's order into execution by our attempts to prevent them.

Captain Davidson's letter enclosed also a translation of a paper of intelligence from Assam, which will, no doubt, attract the attention of the honourable committee. As it alluded to some intrigues, or attempts at intrigue, with the Nepaulese, for the purpose of creating a combination against the English nation, we judged it proper to furnish a copy to the resident at Catmandhoo.

From Mr. Scott's despatches, it appears that, subsequent to the affair at Bickrampore, major Newton returned with the force under his command to the Sylhet frontier post of Budderpore, on the Soormah river, withdrawing the whole of our troops from Cachar. The Burmese then advanced to Jutrapore, about five miles east of the frontier and eight from Budderpore, and the two armies from Assam and Munnipore formed a junction near the first-mentioned village, and threw a bridge over the Soormah river, on both sides of which they erected stockades. The united force is computed at 6000, of whom 4000 are Assamese and Cacharees; they have likewise a further force stockaded at Kila Kandy, in the south-east quarter of Cachar, estimated at 2000 strong. Mr. Scott having at length succeeded in opening a communication in writing with the commanders of the Burmese force, a letter was received by him from one, or both of those chiefs on the 31st ultimo, which differs from the one above-mentioned in stating, that the troops of the king of Ava have entered Cachar under an invitation from Govind Chunder; both to reinstate that rajah in his rightful possessions, and to apprehend the three Munniporean brothers, Chorjeet, Marjeet, and Gumbhur Singh, orders which the military commanders declared themselves fully resolved to carry through. Their letter concludes in the following tone of menace:—
 "Should Jorajeet, Marajeet, and Kambura Singh and the Cassayers enter the English territories, apprehend and deliver them to save any breach of friendship; so doing no rupture will take place, and the commercial intercourse, now in existence, will continue. If the Cassayers enter the English territories, and their surrender is refused, and if they receive protection, know that the orders of the most fortunate sovereign are, that, without reference to any country, they must be pursued and apprehended." Your honourable committee will observe, that, far from expressing any particular soreness or irritation in con-

sequence of the affair at Bickrampore, the occurrence, though noticed, and indeed dwelt upon, is alluded to as similar to what happened when their armies advanced upon the British frontier from Assam during the middle of 1822, and in this light it has probably been represented to the government of Ava, though it is perfectly well known that the troops of the two states had never before come into actual collision.

In replying to their letter, and in a previous communication, Mr. Scott very properly acquainted the Burmese commander-in-chief that he had already, in three different letters, informed him, by the way of Assam, that the country of Cachar was under the protection of the British government, and that the occupation of it would be resisted; and that while he regretted the occurrence at Bickrampore, the Burman chief could not but be sensible that it was entirely attributable to his own conduct in persevering in so unwarrantable an encroachment, after repeated intimation that it would not be permitted. He further called upon the commander, now that he was convinced the British were in earnest, to evacuate the country without delay, and thus prevent worse consequences; and explicitly stated that, in the event of a refusal, he should be compelled, however unwilling, to order the advance of the British troops, not only in Cachar itself, but into Assam, whence the principal part of the invading army had issued. In respect to Govind Chunder, Mr. Scott explained that we had no objection to his re-establishment under the protection, and as the act of the British government, and that although we could not with honour deliver up the Munniporean chiefs, much less suffer them to be arrested in our own territory, we would willingly concur so far in the views of his Burman majesty as to engage that they should not again be permitted to disturb the peace of Cachar.

In the despatch now referred to, the governor-general's agent proceeded to observe, that although satisfied the Burman commander had no immediate intention of committing hostilities in the British territories, yet he had little expectation of his being induced to retire from Cachar without recourse being had to coercive measures. Having also just heard of the hostile conduct of the Burmese on the Nâaf, in the seizure of Mr. Chew, Mr. Scott considered it highly probable that the court of Ava would avail itself of the presence of its army in Cachar to annoy us, which he conceived it might do to a very great extent by merely plundering the country in small parties, without even risking an engagement.

On the 3d instant, Mr. Scott reported to us that an interpreter despatched by him to the Burman camp at Jutrapore had returned, and stated that the commander of the forces there, in reply to his demand for an answer to various letters addressed to him by the governor-general's agent, declared that he would give none until

he received instructions from Amierapoor, to which place he had despatched messengers. The interpreters stated farther, that the commander had behaved to him in a very outrageous manner; sometimes threatening in a violent manner to cut off his head, and sometimes declaring that he would satisfy his resentment by marching to England.

The above despatch contained copies of Mr. Scott's several letters to the address of the Burman chiefs at Juttrapore. In that dated 2d instant, the agent to the governor-general, with reference to the reported designs of the Burmahs against Jyntia, stated as follows:—"Now I hear that you intend to enter the Jyntia country, and that you have sent people to the rajah; therefore I acquaint you that we will not permit the execution of this fresh act of aggression. First, because the rajah's ancestors received that country as a gift, after conquest, from the honourable company, and he himself has sought our protection. Second, because, as you threaten war, we cannot permit you to occupy that or any other favourable position for commencing hostilities. Having understood this, you will do well to return speedily by the road by which you came; otherwise you may lose the country of Assam whence you proceeded."

On the 4th instant, Mr. Scott received from the rajah of Jyntia, through the acting magistrate of Sylhet, a letter, in the Burmese character, addressed to that chief by the Burman generals. This paper declares Jyntia to be one of the provinces of Assam, calls upon the rajah and his ministers, wherever they may be, to bow in submission and send offerings, and invites him to come to the place where the Burmese forces were assembled, for the purpose of affording explanations.

Since the above date, we have reflected deliberately and maturely on the insecure and exposed state of our whole eastern frontier at the present critical juncture; the evident policy, if not the urgent necessity, of measures being at once adopted for expelling the Burmese from the threatening positions which they now occupy in Cachar and Assam; whilst the season yet admits of an effort being made; the extinction of all hopes of an amicable and honourable adjustment of our differences by correspondence or negotiation with the haughty and barbarous government of Ava; and the discredit and manifold evils attending a protracted state of passiveness and inactivity on our part, whilst our adversaries are constantly offering fresh insults, and are gathering strength and courage for some yet more daring attack on our possessions. The result of our deliberations has been a conviction, that whilst we are fully authorised in considering war as actually commenced, by the hostile and injurious proceedings of the Burmese government, there is in reality no course left for us compatible with our honour and safety, but to

issue immediate directions for prosecuting such a system, both of offensive and defensive arrangements, as is indispensable for the security of our eastern districts of Bengal. We entertain a confident hope that this important object may yet be provided for; and, at the same time, a salutary impression made on the enemy before the setting in of the periodical rains.

Declaration on the part of the Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council, dated Fort William, 24th February, 1824.

During a long course of years the relations of peace and friendship have been established between the honourable East India company and the state of Ava, by public engagements, and by the mutually beneficial intercourse of trade and commerce. The supreme government of India, scrupulously adhering to the obligations of public faith, and cordially solicitous to cultivate a good understanding with all surrounding states, has never ceased to manifest, in a special degree, its desire to cement and improve the relations of amity subsisting with the court of Ava. It is notorious, however, that notwithstanding the uniformly pacific and conciliatory demeanour of the British government, the Burmese court has in repeated instances committed or sanctioned acts of provocation and aggression, which have more than once placed the two countries on the brink of hostilities, and the natural consequences of which have been averted only by the moderation and forbearance of the British power, conscious of its superior strength and resources, and naturally disposed to make the largest allowances for the peculiar character of the people and government of Ava.

Of late the Burman monarch, emboldened by a career of successful encroachments against the petty states intervening between the two empires, and more especially elated by the conquest of Assam, has dared to offer injury to the British power, under circumstances of studied insult, menace, and defiance, such as no government, alive to a sense of honour, and duly mindful of its safety and best interests, can suffer to pass unrevenged.

In the prosecution of a singularly wanton and unfounded claim to the island of Shahporce, situated on the southern extremity of the Chittagong district, the Burman chief, styled the rajah of Arracan, addressed a letter to the governor-general in August last, demanding, under the implied alternative of a rupture with the state of Ava, the removal of a small guard, which had been stationed on that island as an arrangement purely of police. No time was lost in replying to this letter, by a temperate exposition of the undeniable title of the British government to the place, as established no less by its position on the British side of the main channel of the Naaf, than by the indisputable evidence of the public records. The governor-general on the same occasion expressed his per-

susion that the tone assumed in the rajah's letter had been adopted without due reflection, and that neither that nor the abrupt and unwarrantable demand for the evacuation of Shahporree, could have been authorised by the government of Ava: an offer was farther made, should the arguments contained in the letter fail to satisfy the rajah's mind as to the justice of our title, to depute an officer, during the approaching cold season, to afford additional explanation of the spot; and to adjust all disputed boundary questions pertaining to the Chittagong frontier, in concert with the commissioners from Arracan. Some of the subordinate Arracanesse authorities having previously declared in writing to the local officers of the Chittagong district, that the British guard, if not speedily withdrawn from the island of Shahporree, would be attacked and forcibly expelled; they were in reply distinctly warned, under orders from the governor-general in council, that any such violent and unwarrantable procedure must be re-sented by the British government as an act of positive hostility; and be punished accordingly.

The language of the Burmahs, in their official communications with the British officers, had been ever of a singularly boastful, assuming, and even insolent strain; and adverting to this habitual extravagance of tone; and to the fact that the government of Ava itself had never raised a claim nor addressed any representation to the supreme government on the subject of this patry object of contention, it was not imagined that the Arracanesse rulers seriously meditated the execution of their insolent and outrageous threat.

It was, therefore, with equal astonishment and indignation that the governor-general in council learnt, early in October last, that the Burmese chiefs of Arracan, called the four rajahs, after suddenly assembling an unusual force at their frontier posts on the Naaf, had, under cover of the night, deliberately attacked our guard on the island, consisting of a jemadar and twelve privates of the Chittagong provincial battalion, whom they forced to retire, after killing or wounding six of our men. The rajahs at the same time scilicet promulgated, both verbally and in writing, that they had acted under the authority of a mandate from the sultan of Ava, and that any attempt of the British government to recover possession of what that government had solemnly declared to be its unquestionable right, would be followed by an invasion of the eastern districts of Bengal, for which purpose the forces of the Burman empire were advancing to the frontier. In a letter also addressed shortly afterwards by the rajah of Arracan to the governor-general, that chief had the unparalleled audacity to declare, that the party on the island of Shahporree had been destroyed in pursuance of the commands of the great lord of the seas and earth; that, if the British government wanted tranquillity,

it would allow the matter to pass; but if it should rebuild a stockade on the island, the cities of Dacca and Moresheadabad, which originally belonged to the great Arracan rajah, would be taken from it by force of arms.

No comments can be needed to illustrate the character of proceedings thus pushed to the extreme of insult and defiance by a people who, notwithstanding their barbarous character and extravagant pride, are by no means ignorant of the principles and observances which ordinarily regulate the intercourse between independent states; and who, as their whole conduct and language have shewn, can feel keenly enough, in their own case any supposed infraction of national rights or honour. If any additional circumstance were wanting to demonstrate to the conviction of the whole world, the utterly wanton as well as gross nature of the injury thus offered to a friendly power, in a time of profound peace, and when no question or discussion had arisen between the two governments, it will be found in the fact, that recently these very officers have professed the perfect willingness that Shahporree should be considered neutral ground; thus acknowledging the dubious nature of the Burman title, and insidiously tendering a proposition at this late period of the season, which, if advanced in proper language by their government on the first commencement of the discussion, would probably have been assented to by the British authorities as an admissible compromise, where, notwithstanding the clearness of our right, the object in dispute was so utterly worthless and unimportant.

The first impulse of the British government, on learning the outrage at Shahporree, was naturally to take into its own hands the instant chastisement of its authors, by fitting out an expedition to attack any assailable point in Arracan; but various considerations induced the governor-general subsequently to pause in the adoption of this course.

On further reflection, it appeared possible that the king of Ava might have been misled by false and interested reports, or that the name of their sovereign might have been used without authority by the rajahs of Arracan and Rangoon, whose intemperate and even insolent language had on former occasions excited the serious displeasure of the British government; it was deemed, as all events, a step worthy the magnanimity of a powerful nation, and consistent with our uniform policy towards the state of Ava, to afford the Burman monarch an opportunity of disavowing and making atonement for what we were willing to consider, in the first instance, as the unauthorised act of a subordinate authority.

Under this view, a letter was addressed to the ministers of the king of Ava, in the form of a declaration on the part of the governor-general, explaining in decided, but moderate language, the sentiments to which the occurrence at Shah-

porree had given rise on our part, demanding reparation for that outrage, by the disgrace and punishment of its immediate authors; and solemnly warning the Burman government of the consequences which must inevitably attend a refusal to comply with this just demand; and to repress in future the insolence and hostility of those which its local officers had invariably assumed at every point where they had come in contact with the British power, whether in Chittagong or Assam: copies of this letter were forwarded to the capital of Ammerapooa, by two separate channels, about the middle of November last.

Conformably with the intention avowed in the letter to the court of Ava, the governor-general in council at the same time despatched reinforcements to Chittagong, in order to ensure the safety and restore the tranquillity of that district, which had been so seriously disturbed by the conduct of the Burmese, and likewise to overpower any opposition that might be made to the reoccupation of the island of Shahporree. On the arrival of the force in the Naaf river, the limited objects with which it had been deputed, and the pacific intentions of the British government, pending the reference to the court of Ava, were distinctly explained to the Arracanese authorities, both by the magistrate of the district and the officer commanding the troops; and so perfectly disposed were the Burmese to credit our assurances, that an intercourse was speedily re-established between the officers and functionaries of both states on the most friendly and confident footing.

For a time hopes were entertained that the differences with the Burmese might be amicably adjusted on terms consistent with the national honour; that the Burman government would consent to the definition of such a boundary between the two countries as would obviate the future occurrence of disputes and misunderstanding on the south-east frontier.

About the middle of January this pacific aspect of affairs was suddenly changed, and all friendly intercourse suspended, by the arrival of a military officer of the highest rank, at the head of large reinforcements, accompanied by two commissioners from the capital, vested with extensive powers, and bringing positive orders to dislodge the English, at whatever hazard, from the island of Shahporree. The purport of these orders was ostentatiously proclaimed, with a distinct intimation that any attempt on our part to interrupt their execution would be considered tantamount to a declaration of war between the states. The first act of the commissioners was to cross over in state to the disputed island, obviously for the purpose of recovering a nominal possession, the British detachment having been previously withdrawn in consequence of the unhealthiness of the spot. The following day they succeeded in decoying to the shore two officers of the honourable company's armed vessels

in the Naaf, whom with their boat's crew they treacherously seized, in defiance of the laws of good faith and hospitality, and imprisoned and detained for nearly a month, expressly on the ground of their having anchored their ship off the island of Shahporree. Shortly afterwards the standard of the Burman empire was hoisted by stealth during the night on the disputed grounds, an act which, however contemptible in itself, must necessarily be regarded as a further pledge of the obstinate determination of the Burman government to carry its point, even at the known hazard of involving the two nations in war.

During all this period, the king of Ava has maintained a haughty and contemptuous silence on the subject of the remonstrance addressed to the Burmese court more than three months back. The above document must have reached the capital some time previous to the deputation of the commissioners, and the governor-general in council is hence compelled to interpret the acts and declarations of these ministers as the only answer which the government of Ava deigns to return.

Whilst the British territories on the southern frontier have been thus actually violated, under circumstances of peculiar and aggravated insult, the language and proceedings of the Burmese on the north-east frontier of Bengal have evinced more extensive and mischievous designs of aggression, and leave no rational ground to doubt that the king of Ava has deliberately resolved to pursue the schemes avowed by his officers, in contempt of the rights and dignity, and in open defiance of the British government.

For many years past, the parties dividing authority and struggling for ascendancy in the raj of Cachar, had incessantly applied to the British government, soliciting it to interfere, as the paramount state, to settle the affairs of that country; its internal dissensions had frequently disturbed the tranquillity of the adjoining district of Sylhet; and the governor-general in council having satisfied himself that Cachar was independent of the Burmese, and that the measure could afford no just ground of umbrage to that government, adopted a resolution, on the 19th June last, to take the country avowedly under protection, on the usual conditions of political dependence.

Whilst arrangements and negotiations were in train for defining the terms of our connexion with the chief, whom it was determined to reinstate in possession, and who was then residing under British protection within the honourable company's territory, intelligence arrived from Assam that the Burmese were preparing an army to invade and conquer Cachar. The governor-general's agents on the north-east frontier lost no time in addressing letters to the Burman governor of Assam, briefly apprising him of the nature of our views and measures in regard to the raj of Cachar, and calling upon him to desist from any project of molesting that country. The outrage of Shahporree having in the

interval occurred, the agent subsequently warned the Burman authorities, under the express instructions of government, that their occupation of Cachar would not be permitted, as, independently of the resolution recently taken by the British government to protect that territory, it could not without a culpable dereliction of duty and disregard of the plainest maxims of prudence, allow the Burmese to advance unopposed to a position, the command of which would so greatly facilitate the execution of the threat of invasion repeatedly pronounced by their countrymen in other quarters. The only answer returned to these communications was, that orders had arrived from the king of Ava to follow up and apprehend certain Muaniporian chiefs (peaceably residing within the British territory) wherever they might be found; that these orders would be executed without any respect to territory or jurisdiction; and that the Burmahs were not to be hindered from carrying into effect the mandates of their sovereign by any opposition which the British authorities might offer.

It soon appeared that an army had been assembled in the Burman dependency of Munnipore, as well as in Assam, for the execution of the fresh purpose of aggression now distinctly threatened.

On the advance of the invading force from the eastward, the acting magistrate of Sylhet addressed letters of remonstrance, under the orders of government, to the military chiefs in command, of a purport and tendency similar to those which had been previously transmitted to the commander of the forces in Assam.

Totally disregarding, however, the intimation thus explicitly given by the British government of its determination to resist the occupation of Cachar on grounds the justice of which cannot be questioned, and anxious only to effect their object of concentrating a large army on the immediate frontier of the company's possessions, the parties from the northward and eastward hurried on by forced marches, in avowed defiance of our remonstrances, and effected a junction at Jutrapore, only five miles from the frontier of Sylhet, where they entrenched themselves in extensive and formidable stockades. Happily a party of observation had been advanced to the frontier, on the first intelligence of the near approach of the forces of the king of Ava, of sufficient strength to keep them in check and prevent any actual violation of the British territory in that quarter; but the injury already sustained by their advance has been serious, no less to the suffering country of Cachar than to the district of Sylhet, throughout which a general alarm has been spread, causing many of our ryots to abandon their homes, and materially impeding the collection of the public revenues.

The conduct and declaration of the Burman commanders on the Sylhet frontier have unequivocally disclosed, if indeed any further proofs

were wanting, the ambitious designs and insufferable arrogance of the court of Ava.

After long detaining and grossly insulting the vakeel and successive messengers deputed to their camp by the governor-general's agent, they notified, in a letter to Mr. Scott, that they had entered the country of Cachar to restore the rajah, and to follow up and seize the Munniporian chiefs wherever they might be found; knowing well at the time that the whole of those chiefs had obtained an asylum within the British provinces. "Should," they observed, "Chorjeet, Marjeet, and Gumbeer Singh, and the Cassayers, enter the English territories, apprehend and deliver them to save any breach of friendship; so doing, no rupture will take place, and the commercial intercourse now in existence will continue. If the Cassayers enter the English territories and their surrender is refused, and if they receive protection, know that the orders of the most fortunate sovereign are, that, without reference to any country, they must be pursued and apprehended."

Whilst occupying their threatening position in Cachar, the generals of the king of Ava had moreover planned the conquest of Jyntia, another petty chiefship, situated similarly with Cachar in regard to the British frontier, but which, having formerly been restored as a gift to the rajah's family by the British government after a temporary convulsion, was more distinctly recognised as a dependency of Bengal. The rajah of Jyntia, in a letter addressed to him by the Burmese commanders, was called upon to acknowledge submission and allegiance to the king of Ava, and to repair forthwith to the Burman camp. A demonstration was further actually made against Jyntia to enforce the above requisition, when the advance of the British troops frustrated the execution of this hostile and menacing encroachment.

Two successive checks, sustained by the armies of his Burmese majesty on the Sylhet frontier, at length induced their partial retreat from the threatening position which they had taken up in that quarter. One party, however, still maintains its position in Cachar; and the retirement of the Assamene force, which had taken post more immediately on the British frontier, has been made under circumstances indicating no retraction of the ambitious designs of the government. The officers and men also of the honourable company's armed vessel *Sophia* have been released, but no kind of apology or explanation of their detention has been offered by the chiefs who committed that outrage.

From the foregoing detail it will be evident, that in a season of profound peace, and wholly without provocation, the court of Ammerapoora has grossly and wantonly violated the relations of friendship so long established between the two states; and by the hostile conduct and language of its officers, and the actual advance of its forces to several and widely distant points of

our frontier, has compelled the British government to take up arms, not less in self-defence than for the assertion of its rights and the vindication of its insulted dignity and honour.

The scornful silence maintained by the sovereign of Ava, after the lapse of so many months, and the commission of renewed outrages and insults in that interval, obviously by his sanction and command, evince that all prospect of an honourable and satisfactory adjustment of our differences by correspondence or negotiation is at an end. At the same time, the season for military operations is rapidly passing away, and it hence becomes indispensable, whilst an effort may yet be made, to adopt measures without delay for repelling the dangers which menace the eastern districts, and for placing the safety of our frontier beyond the reach of the caprice and violence of the Burman monarch.

The governor-general in council has therefore ordered the advance of the force assembled at Gowalpara into the territory of Assam, to dislodge the enemy from the commanding position which they occupy at the head of the Bramapooter, and is prepared to pursue such other measures of offensive warfare as the honour, the interests, and the safety of the British government demand recourse to at the present crisis.

Anxious, however, to avert as far as practicable the calamities of war, and retaining an unfeigned desire to avail itself of any proper opening which may arise for an accommodation of differences with the king of Ava, before hostilities shall have been pushed to an extreme length, the British government will be ready even yet to listen to pacific overtures on the part of his Burmese majesty, provided that they are accompanied with the tender of adequate apo-

logy, and involve the concession of such terms as are indispensable to the future security and tranquillity of the eastern frontier of Bengal.

By command of the right honourable the governor-general in council,

GEORGE SWINTON,
Secretary to the Government.

Extract from a Letter from the Governor-General in Council to the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company, dated Fort William, 24th March, 1824.

We now beg leave to submit, for the information of your honourable committee, a copy of translation of a letter from the viceroy of Pegue, received by us on the 17th instant, being a reply to our declaration on the subject of the outrage at Shahporree, dated 17th October last. In the tone and contents of that letter, we persuade ourselves that your honourable committee will find ample confirmation of the views entertained by us relative to the justice and necessity of an appeal to arms for the settlement of the depending differences.

An Appendix contains the official letters and other documents which detail the circumstances adverted to in the foregoing papers.

A series of despatches from the governor-general in council at Fort William, in Bengal, to the court of directors of the East India company, from the 23d January, 1812, to the 10th of September, 1824, detail the discussions which had taken place during that period with the Burmese government.

An ACCOUNT of the Annual Revenues and Charges of BENGAL, under the
with an ESTIMATE of the

	1820-21.	1821-22.	1822-23.	Per estimate. 1823-24.
	C ^t . R ^s.	C^{t}. R^{s}.	C^{t}. R^{s}.	C^{t}. R^{s}.
Mint or coinage duties and profits	3,16,940	3,29,551	2,33,974	1,37,085
Post-office collections.....	5,56,568	5,79,899	6,10,402	5,80,000
Stamp duties	(^a) 15,08,971	15,14,992	15,08,789	15,39,610
Judicial fees and fines, and licenses for the sale of spirituous liquors, &c. ... }	(^c) 5,84,599	5,55,724	5,43,962	5,26,077
Customs in Bengal, Behar, and Orissa... }	(^b) 44,48,417	47,90,014	47,68,840	42,57,200
Land and sayer revenues of do. do. do....	3,61,47,254	3,70,15,034	3,70,59,628	3,72,36,000
Benares revenues, customs, judicial fees, &c.	72,19,436	73,63,354	75,31,895	
Ceded provinces in Oude, 1801, revenues, } customs, &c.	2,46,45,497	2,46,09,042	2,40,68,740	5,01,53,828
Conquered provinces, 1803-4, do. do. }	1,78,48,333	1,82,72,761	1,80,63,607	
Ceded territory on the Nerbuddah: land } revenues, tributes, &c.	77,99,088	60,34,198	60,95,119	57,42,000
Sale of salt	1,90,35,117	2,06,07,680	2,55,31,957	2,15,47,000
Sale of opium	1,43,64,321	1,12,57,275	1,49,35,545	1,00,97,800
Marine receipts for pilotage, hire of } moorings, &c.	3,97,639	4,75,500	3,37,242	3,36,400
Total revenues C ^t . R ^s .	13,48,72,180	13,34,05,024	14,12,89,700	13,21,53,000
Or, at 2s. the current rupee £S ^{gs} .	13,487,218	13,340,502	14,128,970	13,215,300
Deduct charges.....	8,750,757	8,540,182	8,909,165	9,490,772
Net revenues £S ^{gs} .	4,736,461	4,800,320	5,219,805	3,724,528
(^b) Stamp-duties in lower provinces, as } above	15,08,971	15,14,992	15,08,789	15,39,610
Do. in western provinces, } included in ceded and conquered..... }	6,17,933	6,20,387	6,50,447	6,29,590
Total stamp-duties C ^t . R ^s .	21,26,904	21,35,379	21,59,236	21,69,200
(^b) Customs, as above	44,48,417	47,90,014	47,68,840	42,57,200
Do. in Benares	6,33,720	7,36,109	7,61,635	30,62,400
Do. in Oude	11,21,044	10,36,925	9,02,188	
Do. in conquered provinces	20,45,629	19,11,448	17,25,484	
Total customs C ^t . R ^s .	82,48,810	84,74,496	81,58,147	73,19,600
(^c) Judicial, as above.....	5,84,599	5,55,724	5,43,962	5,26,077
Do. in Benares	16,622	14,500	32,773	32,773
Do. in Oude	15,709	22,780	42,746	42,746
Do. in conquered provinces	15,709	22,780	30,604	30,604
Total judicial C ^t . R ^s .	6,32,639	6,15,784	6,50,085	6,32,200

respective Heads thereof, for Three Years, according to the latest Advices :
same for the succeeding Year.

	1820-21.	1821-22.	1822-23.	Per estimate. 1823-24.
	Ct. Rs.	Ct. Rs.	Ct. Rs.	Ct. Rs.
Mint charges	3,36,874	2,24,100	2,30,937	3,32,300
Post-office charges	3,32,542	4,81,676	6,85,813	5,91,600
Charges of the civil establishments	68,95,215	80,04,023	80,80,650	79,34,168
Stamp-office charges	6,51,446	6,16,916	6,75,494	6,33,000
Total civil charges ... Ct. Rs.	82,16,077	93,26,720	96,72,894	95,46,568
Judicial charges: viz. Supreme Court of Judicature, and law charges inci- dental to its establishments	5,37,334	5,66,819	4,81,626	4,64,000
Charges of the Sudder and Zillah courts, and police establishment in Bengal, Behar, and Orissa	(b) 50,83,934	54,49,848	53,06,562	53,99,800
Total judicial charges Ct. Rs.	56,21,268	60,16,667	57,88,188	58,63,800
Charges collecting the customs of Ben- gal, Behar, and Orissa	(a) 5,89,846	7,06,651	6,39,713	6,49,600
Charges on the revenues of Bengal, Be- har, and Orissa, including stipends to the nabob and his family, &c.	51,51,534	50,86,547	60,96,960	54,40,400
Benares charges: collecting the reve- nues and customs, judicial, &c. charges }	16,47,076	17,70,667	20,30,300	16,10,370
Oude charges: collecting do. do. }	47,25,674	52,23,609	57,20,653	63,79,584
Conquered provinces: charges collect- ing do. do. }	68,51,936	64,62,862	62,31,668	62,95,677
Ceded territory on the Nerbuddah: } charges .....	...	13,56,399	10,37,533	10,96,200
Salt: advances and charges	56,65,403	59,71,710	71,05,539	60,84,200
Opium: do. do.	13,57,259	9,86,722	10,56,786	66,35,200
Military charges	4,48,63,449	3,98,95,849	3,88,91,406	3,96,56,080
Buildings and fortifications	11,53,110	13,13,793	36,77,786	43,60,440
Marine charges	14,02,937	12,83,625	11,42,225	12,87,600
Total charges	Ct. Rs. 8,75,07,569	8,54,01,821	8,90,91,651	9,49,07,719
Or, at 2s, the current rupee £S ^s .	8,750,757	8,540,182	8,909,165	9,490,772
(a) Customs, as above	5,89,846	7,06,651	6,39,713	6,49,600
Do. in Benares	1,28,801	1,43,395	1,34,815	1,33,900
Do. in Oude	1,93,444	1,91,409	1,71,377	1,71,377
Do. in conquered provinces	1,65,476	1,60,477	1,89,701	1,45,000
Total customs ... Ct. Rs.	10,77,567	12,01,932	11,05,666	10,84,600
(b) Judicial, as above	50,83,934	54,49,848	53,06,562	53,99,800
Do. in Benares	5,50,443	5,21,251	5,38,823	7,13,980
Do. in Oude	18,50,671	17,59,537	16,76,171	17,63,896
Do. in conquered provinces	10,52,067	10,11,628	10,42,315	11,29,724
Total judicial ... Ct. Rs.	85,37,115	87,42,264	87,62,871	90,07,400

A COMPARISON of the Estimated and Actual Revenues

REVENUES.	Estimated Amount in 1822-23.	Actual Amount in 1822-23.	Surplus in the Actual Receipts.	Deficiency in the Actual Receipts.
	Ct. Rs.	Ct. Rs.	Ct. Rs.	Ct. Rs.
Mint or coinage duties and profits ...	2,65,791	2,33,974	...	31,817
Post-office collections.....	5,22,000	6,10,402	88,402	—
Stamp duties	15,60,495	15,08,789	...	51,706
Judicial fees and fines, and licenses } for the sale of spirituous liquors, } &c.	5,54,740	5,43,962	...	10,778
Customs in Bengal, Behar, and Orissa	46,40,000	47,68,840	1,28,840	—
Land and sayer revenue of do. do. do.	3,68,64,800	3,70,59,628	1,94,828	—
Benares revenues, customs, judicial fees, &c.		75,31,895		
Ceded provinces in Oude, 1801, Revenues, customs, &c.	5,01,55,374	2,40,68,740	...	491,132
Conquered provinces, 1803-4, do. do.		1,80,63,607		
Ceded territory on the Nerbuddah ...	62,06,000	60,95,119	...	1,10,881
Sale of salt	2,20,40,000	2,55,31,957	34,91,957	—
Sale of opium	1,39,78,000	1,49,35,545	9,57,545	—
Marine: receipts for pilotage, hire } of moorings, &c.	3,48,000	3,37,242	...	10,758
Total revenues.....Ct. Rs.	13,71,35,200	14,12,89,700	48,61,572	7,07,072
Or, at 2s. the current rupee £	13,713,520	14,128,970	486,157	70,707
			Net surplus of actual revenues }	415,450
			Net surplus of actual charges.. }	37,833
Deduct charges	£ 8,871,332	8,909,165		
Net revenues	£ 4,842,188	5,219,805	Surplus of actual net revenue	377,617

and Charges of BENGAL, for the Year 1822-23.

CHARGES.	Estimated Amount in 1822-23.	Actual Amount in 1822-23.	Surplus in Actual Charges.	Deficiency in Actual Charges.
	C. R.	C. R.	C. R.	C. R.
Mint charges	4,64,000	2,30,937	...	2,33,063
Post-office charges	4,06,000	6,86,813	2,79,813	—
Charges of the civil establishments ...	84,79,600	80,80,650	...	3,98,950
Stamp-office charges	5,80,000	6,75,494	95,494	—
Total civil charges ... C. R.	90,29,600	90,72,894	3,75,307	6,32,013
Judicial charges: viz. supreme court of judicature, and law charges incidental to its establishment	5,20,840	4,81,626	...	39,214
Charges of the Sudder and Zillah courts, and police establishment in Bengal, Behar, and Orissa ...	53,87,040	53,06,562	...	80,478
Total judicial charges C. R.	59,07,880	57,88,188	...	1,19,692
Charges collecting the customs of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa	6,38,000	6,39,713	1,713	—
Charges on the revenues of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa, including stipends to the nabob and his family, &c.	61,72,360	60,96,960	...	75,400
Benares charges: collecting the revenues and customs, judicial, &c. charges	17,40,829	20,30,309	2,89,471	—
Oude charges: collecting do. do.	65,34,454	57,20,653	...	8,13,801
Conquered provinces: charges collecting do. do.	68,69,675	62,31,668	...	6,38,007
Ceded territory on the Nerbuddah charges	11,02,000	10,37,533	...	64,467
Salt: advances and charges	61,48,000	71,05,539	9,57,539	—
Opium: do. do.	10,79,800	10,56,786	...	22,014
Military charges	4,03,87,720	3,88,91,406	...	14,96,314
Buildings and fortifications	8,12,000	36,77,786	28,65,786	—
Marine charges	13,92,000	11,42,225	...	2,49,775
Total charges C. R.	8,87,13,318	8,90,91,651	44,89,816	41,11,483
Or, at 2s. the current rupee £	8,871,332	8,909,165	448,981	411,148
		Net surplus of actual charges £		37,633

An Account of the Revenues and Charges of Fort St. George, under the respective same for the

	1820-21.	1821-22.	1822-23.	Per estimate. 1823-24
	Pagodas.	Pagodas.	Pagodas.	Pagodas.
Mint duties	42,381	32,041	53,903	37,143
Post-office collections	57,707	61,457	62,223	74,286
Stamp duties	1,55,607	1,61,859	1,54,166	1,44,678
Judicial fees, fines, &c.....	39,135	38,239	48,124	45,714
Farms and licenses of exclusive privileges of ancient possessions	2,47,239	2,55,654	2,49,539	2,46,050
Customs of ancient possessions	4,61,624	5,66,101	5,45,898	5,50,338
Land and sayer revenues of ancient possessions, including the Circars and Jaghire lands	22,19,955	21,50,977	21,92,890	22,23,206
Land revenues, customs, &c., from the Carnatic.....	33,78,263	35,47,348	36,61,956	36,41,520
Do. do. from the Tanjore.....	10,31,829	10,11,058	11,46,801	9,94,101
Do. do. from the ceded and conquered provinces in Mysore, Malabar, &c....	29,26,799	28,48,387	28,02,470	27,49,886
Do. do. in the countries ceded by the Nizam.....	16,58,753	18,14,303	16,73,807	16,55,510
Sale of salt in ancient possessions	2,89,949	4,10,336	3,69,894	3,57,559
Subsidy from Mysore.....	7,00,000	7,00,000	7,00,000	7,00,000
Do. Travancore.....	2,23,746	2,23,746	2,23,746	2,23,746
Do. Cochin.....	57,143	53,333	57,143	57,143
Marine: receipts from boats, lighthouse, &c.....	18,635	18,634	20,464	18,457
Total revenues.....Pagodas	1,35,08,765	1,38,92,573	1,39,63,024	1,37,19,337
Or at 8s. the pagoda... £ Stg.	5,403,506	5,557,129	5,585,210	5,467,735
Deduct charges..... £		5,405,592	5,072,992	
Net revenues..... £		151,537	512,218	
Farms and licenses, as above	2,47,239	2,55,654	2,49,539	2,46,050
Do. do. from the Carnatic.....	1,12,149	1,47,454	1,43,881	1,28,378
Do. do. from Tanjore.....	16,768	16,678	18,391	17,357
Do. do. from ceded and conquered provinces	96,572	1,83,891	1,65,937	1,39,790
Do. do. from countries ceded by the Nizam	1,84,729	2,41,435	2,39,853	2,28,945
Pagodas	6,57,457	8,45,112	8,17,601	7,60,520
Customs, as above	4,61,624	5,66,101	5,45,898	5,50,338
Do. from the Carnatic.....	3,28,712	3,63,470	3,65,568	3,71,445
Do. from Tanjore.....	95,900	1,02,815	1,07,728	1,06,544
Do. from ceded and conquered provinces	3,98,939	3,71,110	3,86,030	3,79,031
Do. from countries ceded by the Nizam.....	1,41,242	1,73,428	1,56,995	1,52,280
Pagodas	14,26,417	15,76,924	15,62,219	15,59,638
Sale of salt, as above.....	2,89,949	4,10,336	3,69,894	3,57,559
Do. in the Carnatic.....	2,79,370	3,16,801	3,01,698	2,95,584
Do. in Tanjore.....	81,716	79,273	69,734	71,714
Do. in ceded and conquered provinces.....	1,33,353	1,03,808	98,686	1,03,714
Pagodas.....	7,84,388	9,10,218	8,40,012	8,28,571

Heads thereof, for Three Years, according to the latest Advices; with an Estimate of the succeeding Year.

	1820-21.	1821-22.	1822-23.	Per estimate. 1823-24.
Mint charges.....	Pagodas 50,119	Pagodas 54,810	Pagodas 71,347	Pagodas 67,786
Post-office charges.....	61,534	63,944	65,461	66,571
Charges of the civil establishments.....	6,68,795	6,61,224	6,90,109	6,87,454
Stamp-office charges.....	24,379	24,801	25,020	21,583
Total civil.....	8,04,827	8,04,779	8,51,937	8,43,394
Judicial charges; viz., supreme court of judicature, and law charges.....	1,12,897	1,00,859	1,05,369	1,10,943
Charges of the Sudder and Zillah courts, and police.....	5,62,704	4,99,212	4,62,488	4,73,227
Total judicial (ancient possessions)	6,75,601	6,00,071	5,67,857	5,84,170
Charges collecting the customs in an- cient possessions.....	1,38,062	1,74,395	1,57,394	1,50,607
Do. do. revenues in do.....	6,03,688	6,54,364	5,76,110	5,91,406
Carnatic: charges collecting the reve- nues and customs, judicial charges, &c. }	11,10,497	11,72,740	11,68,837	10,49,465
Tanjore do. do. do.....	4,18,214	4,43,306	4,25,924	4,46,008
Ceded and conquered provinces, do. do. do.	6,72,383	7,53,931	7,93,772	7,52,994
Countries ceded by the Nizam, do. do. do.	2,93,246	2,27,802	2,66,537	2,66,561
Salt: advances and charges in ancient possessions.....	65,834	1,14,906	1,00,724	87,273
Military charges.....	88,90,556	83,28,119	73,77,797	73,64,349
Buildings and fortifications.....	2,18,226	2,05,273	3,59,255	2,00,000
Marine charges.....	40,088	34,294	36,337	31,914
Redemption of Peshcush by resident at Hydrabad.....	...	...	...	30,03,003
Total charges..... Pagodas	1,39,31,222	1,35,13,980	1,26,82,481	1,53,71,144
Or at 8s. the pagoda..... £ Stg.	5,572,489	5,405,592	5,072,992	6,148,458
Deduct revenues.....	5,403,506			5,487,735
Net charges..... £ Stg.	168,983			660,723
Judicial charges, as above.....	5,62,704	4,99,212	4,62,488	4,73,227
Do. do. in the Carnatic.....	1,52,813	1,43,810	1,04,641	94,004
Do. do. in the ceded and conquered provinces.....	1,04,559	1,23,481	1,09,327	89,261
Do. do. in the countries ceded by the Nizam.....	95,209	82,637	88,237	87,934
Pagodas.....	9,15,285	8,49,140	7,64,693	7,44,426
Charges collecting the customs, as above...	1,38,062	1,74,395	1,57,394	1,50,607
Do. do. in the Carnatic.....	47,562	39,439	32,036	23,860
Do. do. in Tanjore.....	10,944	9,749	9,652	9,651
Do. do. in the ceded and conquered provinces.....	64,076	60,484	1,09,575	65,238
Do. do. in the countries ceded by the Nizam.....	23,067	12,593	5,917	5,309
Pagodas.....	2,83,711	2,96,660	3,14,574	2,54,665
Salt: advances and charges, as above.....	65,834	1,14,906	1,00,724	87,273
Do. do. in the Carnatic.....	56,735	91,207	87,590	77,850
Do. do. in Tanjore.....	15,964	13,489	12,383	13,987
Do. do. in the ceded and conquered provinces.....	53,492	54,087	42,773	53,187
Pagodas.....	1,92,025	2,73,689	2,43,470	2,32,297

The excess of charge in the estimate for 1823-24, arises from the annual Peshcush, amounting to Rs.6,30,630, having been finally redeemed by the payment to his highness the Nizam of Rs. 1,05,10,510.

A COMPARISON of the Estimated and Actual Revenues

REVENUES.	Estimated Amount in 1822-23.	Actual Amount in 1822-23.	Surplus in Actual Receipts.	Deficiency in Actual Receipts.
	Pagodas.	Pagodas.	Pagodas.	Pagodas.
Mint duties.....	34,286	53,903	19,617	—
Post-office collections.....	60,000	62,223	2,223	—
Stamp duties.....	1,43,916	1,54,166	10,250	—
Judicial fees, fines, &c.....	44,286	48,124	3,838	—
Farms and licenses of exclusive privilege of ancient possessions.....	2,53,748	2,49,539	...	4,209
Customs of ancient possessions.....	5,43,644	5,45,898	2,254	—
Land and sayer revenue of ancient possessions, including the Circars and Jaghire lands.....	21,67,755	21,92,890	25,135	—
Land revenues, customs, &c. from the Carnatic.....	34,89,964	36,61,956	1,71,992	—
Do. do. from Tanjore.....	9,47,623	11,46,801	1,99,178	—
Do. do. from the ceded and conquered provinces in Mysore, Malabar, &c. }	28,34,859	28,02,470	...	32,389
Do. do. in the countries ceded by the Nizam.....	17,81,849	16,73,807	...	1,08,042
Sale of salt in ancient possessions.....	4,07,125	3,69,894	...	37,231
Subsidy from Mysore.....	7,00,000	7,00,000	...	—
Do. from Travancore.....	2,23,746	2,23,746	...	—
Do. from Cochin.....	57,143	57,143	...	—
Marine receipts for boats, lighthouse, &c.....	18,286	20,464	2,178	—
Total revenues..... Pags.	1,37,08,230	1,39,63,024	4,36,665	1,81,871
Or at 8s. the pagoda..... £	5,483,292	5,585,210	174,666	72,748
Deduct charges.....	5,104,302	5,072,992	Net surplus of actual revenues.. }	101,918
Net revenues..... £	378,990	512,218		

and Charges of Fort St. George, for the Year 1822-23.

CHARGES.	Estimated Amount in 1822-23.	Actual Amount in 1822-23.	Surplus in Actual Charges.	Deficiency in Actual Charges.
	Pagodas.	Pagodas.	Pagodas.	Pagodas.
Mint charges.....	62,303	71,347	9,044	—
Post-office charges.....	64,286	65,461	1,175	—
Charges of the civil establishments.....	7,21,743	6,90,109	...	31,634
Stamp-office charges.....	21,235	25,020	3,785	—
Total civil charges..... Pagodas	8,69,567	8,51,937	14,004	31,634
Judicial charges, &c., supreme court } of judicature, and law charges..... }	1,07,723	1,05,369	...	2,354
Charges of the Sudder and Zillah courts } and police..... }	4,70,071	4,62,488	...	7,583
Total judicial charges (ancient pos- } sessions)..... }	5,77,794	5,67,857	...	9,937
Charges collecting the customs in an- } cient possessions..... }	84,133	1,57,394	73,261	—
Do. do. revenues do.	6,83,628	5,76,110	...	1,07,518
Carnatic: charges collecting the re- } venues and customs, judicial, &c., } charges..... }	11,18,467	11,68,837	50,370	—
Tanjore, do. do. do.	4,13,953	4,25,924	11,971	—
Ceded and conquered provinces, do. do.	6,59,563	7,93,772	1,34,209	—
Countries ceded by the Nizam, do. do.	2,47,666	2,66,537	18,871	—
Salt: advances and charges in ancient } possessions..... }	96,355	1,00,724	4,369	—
Military charges.....	77,89,657	73,77,797	...	4,11,860
Buildings and fortifications.....	1,85,714	3,59,255	1,73,541	—
Marine charges.....	34,257	36,337	2,080	—
Total charges..... Pagodas	1,27,60,754	1,26,82,481	4,82,676	5,60,949
Or at 8s. the pagoda..... £	5,104,302	5,072,992	193,070	2,24,380
Net deficiency of actual charges.....				31,310
Net surplus of actual revenues.....				1,01,918
Deficiency in the actual net charges.....				1,33,228

AN ACCOUNT OF THE REVENUES AND CHARGES OF BOMBAY, UNDER THE
with an Estimate of the

	1820-21,	1821-22.	1822-23.	Per estimate 1823-24.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Mint duties.....	30,899	41,104	20,663	50,000
Post-office collections.....	83,315	86,970	95,631	91,300
Stamp duties.....	1,42,898	1,79,026	1,66,991	1,71,700
Judicial fees, fines, &c. (a).....	6,594	8,033	75,385	91,500
Opium, sale of.....	...	33,89,333	1,03,00,315	42,35,500
Farms and licenses of exclusive privilege (c).....	6,95,702	6,85,836	6,56,967	7,21,400
Customs of ancient possessions (b).....	7,36,471	10,28,624	13,47,556	14,82,000
Land revenues of do.....	15,50,627	14,70,608	11,54,473	16,03,300
Land revenues, customs, judicial fees, &c., of provinces ceded by the Guicowar.....	27,16,537	32,23,488	32,00,739	33,67,300
Do. do. of provinces ceded by and conquered from the Mahrattas.....	1,52,51,620	1,48,95,251	1,26,55,234	1,30,00,600
Marine: receipts for hire of docks, mooring chains, &c.....	1,30,331	3,76,090	1,29,376	1,82,200
Total revenues..... R^s.	2,13,44,994	2,53,84,363	2,98,03,330	2,58,96,800
Or at 2s. 3d. the rupee..... £ S ^s .	2,401,312	2,855,740	3,352,875	2,913,390
(a) Judicial fees, fines, &c., as above.....	6,594	8,033	75,385	91,500
Do. do. Guicowar.....	3,411	4,721	7,087	5,900
Do. do. Mahrattas.....	57,869	36,044	49,299	39,200
Total judicial..... R^s.	67,894	48,798	1,31,711	1,36,600
(b) Customs, as above.....	7,36,471	10,28,624	13,47,556	14,82,000
Do. Guicowar.....	2,86,338	3,35,952	4,75,554	4,00,000
Do. Mahrattas.....	17,69,226	20,69,133	13,50,738	14,62,000
Total customs..... R^s.	27,92,035	34,33,709	31,73,848	33,45,800
(c) Farms and licenses, &c., as above.....	6,95,702	6,85,836	6,56,967	7,21,400
Do. do. Guicowar.....	1,04,041	1,03,887	1,29,601	1,04,200
Do. do. Mahrattas.....	11,35,093	13,76,188	12,59,420	13,34,000
Total farms and licenses..... R^s.	19,34,836	21,67,911	20,45,988	21,59,600

respective Heads thereof, for Three Years, according to the latest Advices ;
same for the succeeding Year.

	1820-21.	1821-22.	1822-23.	Per estimate. 1823-24.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Mint charges	22,998	20,472	38,024	28,800
Post-office charges	1,39,553	1,30,698	1,28,355	1,11,000
Charges of the civil establishment	18,83,182	27,12,670	27,55,284	26,51,300
Total	20,45,733	28,63,840	29,21,663	27,91,100
Judicial charges of the ancient pos- sessions, viz., recorder's court, and law charges.....	1,77,522	1,71,765	2,68,645	2,62,500
Charges of the Sudder and Zillah courts and police (*).....	2,69,893	2,93,768	2,95,962	2,97,900
Total judicial.....	4,47,415	4,65,533	5,64,607	5,60,400
Charges collecting customs of ancient possessions (b).....	1,09,256	1,19,904	1,83,004	1,92,800
Do. revenues of do.....	4,19,417	4,25,667	4,87,825	4,67,900
Provinces ceded by the Guicowar : charges collecting the revenues and customs; judicial, &c., charges ...	6,41,986	7,72,228	8,29,784	9,58,600
Provinces ceded by and conquered from the Mahrattas, do. do. do. ...	53,80,677	51,96,750	50,40,107	50,36,100
Opium : advances for the purchase of and charges.....	3,23,347	41,99,741	1,06,18,007	10,20,700
Military charges.....	1,76,59,524	1,62,95,023	1,50,53,522	1,37,63,000
Buildings and fortifications	5,05,140	7,35,449	10,98,901	9,66,800
Marine charges	8,88,540	10,13,620	8,77,748	10,43,500
Total charges R ^s .	2,84,21,035	3,20,87,955	3,76,75,168	2,68,00,900
Or at 2s. 3d. the rupee	£ 3,197,366	£ 3,609,894	£ 4,236,456	£ 3,015,101
Deduct revenues.....	£ 2,401,312	£ 2,855,740	£ 3,352,875	£ 2,913,390
Net charges £	796,054	754,154	885,581	101,711
(a) Judicial charges, as above	2,69,893	2,93,768	2,95,962	2,97,900
Do. Guicowar	2,59,259	2,90,353	2,88,166	3,19,600
Do. Mahrattas.....	9,97,492	11,52,780	9,00,361	8,26,000
Total judicial..... R ^s .	15,26,644	17,36,901	14,84,489	14,43,500
(b) Customs : charges as above	1,09,256	1,19,904	1,83,004	1,92,800
Do. Guicowar	32,119	37,226	46,098	47,100
Do. Mahrattas.....	2,24,801	2,18,893	1,47,186	1,52,000
Total customs R ^s .	3,66,176	3,76,023	3,76,288	3,91,900

A COMPARISON of the Estimated and Actual

	Estimated Amount in 1822-23.	Actual amount in 1822-23.	Surplus in the Actual Receipts.	Deficiency in the Actual Receipts.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Mint-duties.....	44,400	20,663		23,737
Post-office collections.....	85,300	95,631	10,331	
Stamp-duties.....	1,65,000	1,66,991	1,991	
Judicial fees, fines, &c.....	7,300	75,385	68,085	—
Opium, sale of.....	32,12,500	1,03,00,315	70,87,815	—
Farms and licenses of exclusive privilege.....	7,09,800	6,56,967		52,833
Customs of ancient possessions.....	15,74,000	13,47,556		2,26,444
Land revenues of do.....	15,41,200	11,54,473		3,86,727
Land revenues, customs, judicial fees, &c. of provinces ceded by the Guicowar.....	34,54,600	32,00,739		2,53,861
Do. do. of provinces ceded by, and conquered from the Mahrattas.....	1,53,59,700	1,26,55,234		27,04,466
Marine: receipts for hire of docks, mooring chains, &c.....	2,04,100	1,29,376		74,724
Total revenues..... Rs.	2,63,57,000	2,08,03,330	71,68,222	37,92,792
Or, at 2s. 3d. the rupee £ S^r.	2,965,264	2,352,875	806,425	418,814
Net surplus of actual revenues. £			367,611	

Revenues and Charges of BOMBAY, for the Year 1822-23.

	Estimated Amount in 1822-23.	Actual Amount in 1822-23.	Surplus in the Actual Charges.	Deficiency in the Actual Charges.
	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.	Rupees.
Mint charges	38,500	38,024	...	476
Post-office charges	1,26,100	1,28,355	2,255	—
Charges of the civil establishment	24,99,060	27,55,284	2,56,224	—
Total	26,63,660	29,21,663	2,58,479	476
Judicial charges of the ancient sessions; viz. Recorder's court, and law charges	2,56,600	2,68,645	12,045	—
Charges of the Sudder and Zillah courts, and police	2,92,400	2,95,962	3,562	—
Total judicial	5,49,000	5,64,607	15,607	—
Charges collecting customs of ancient possessions	1,80,800	1,83,004	2,204	—
Do. revenues of do.	4,75,900	4,87,825	11,925	—
Provinces ceded by the Guicowar: charges collecting the revenues and customs; judicial, &c. charges.....	8,82,800	8,29,784	...	53,016
Provinces ceded by, and conquered from, the Mahrattas, do. do. do.	51,15,900	50,40,107	...	75,793
Opium: advances for the purchase of, and charges.....	65,60,600	1,06,18,007	40,57,407	—
Military charges.....	1,52,64,500	1,50,53,522	...	2,10,978
Buildings and fortifications	6,37,900	10,98,901	4,61,001	—
Marine charges*.....	10,78,600	8,77,748	...	2,00,852
Total charges	Rs. 3,34,09,660	3,76,75,168	48,06,623	5,41,115
Or, at 2s. 3d. the rupee, £ S ^s	3,758,587	4,238,456	540,745	60,876
Deduct revenues.....£	2,965,264	3,352,875	Net surplus of actual charges ..	479,869
Net charges.....£	793,323	885,581	Net surplus of actual revenues	387,611
			Deficiency of actual net revenues	92,258

AN ACCOUNT of the Revenues and Charges of *Bencoolen, Prince of Wales Island, and St. Helena*, for Three Years, according to the latest Advices;—with an Estimate of the same for the succeeding Year.

	1820-21.	1821-22.	1822-23.	Per Estimate 1823-24.
BENCOOLEN, INCLUDING SINGAPORE.	Curr. Rupees.	Curr. Rupees.	Curr. Rupees.	Curr. Rupees.
Civil charges	6,83,821	6,31,833	8,43,053	6,52,536
Military charges	2,58,734	61,030	* 1,51,333	* 1,50,000
Buildings and fortifications	68,751	47,232	34,954	34,765
Total charges	10,11,306	7,40,095	10,29,340	8,37,301
Deduct Revenues arising from the opium and spirit farms, and customs	81,827	81,775	66,906	75,493
Net charges C ^t . R ^s .	9,29,479	6,58,320	9,62,434	7,61,808
Expense of detachments not included above .....	.....	2,68,470	1,01,594	1,00,000
* Includes the expense of the Bencoolen local corps, the same not being taken in the Bengal mili- tary charges. C ^t . R ^s .	9,29,479	9,26,790	10,64,028	8,61,808
Or, at 2s. the C ^t . R ^s .	92,948	92,679	1,06,403	86,181
PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Civil charges	286,667	275,735	289,440	309,002
Military charges	32,941	51,018	53,566	46,350
Buildings and fortifications	6,039	17,004	12,834	5,400
Total charges	325,647	343,757	355,830	360,752
Deduct Land revenues and customs	208,090	166,639	176,305	159,000
Net charges	117,557	177,118	179,525	201,752
Expense of detachments not included above	100,375	92,947	96,138	80,000
Dollars	217,932	270,065	275,663	281,752
Or, at 5s. the dollar ... £	54,483	67,516	68,916	70,438
SAINT HELENA.				Actual.
Civil charges	£ 54,641	£ 47,314	£ 29,475	£ 35,122
Military charges	218,774	157,527	87,083	77,581
Buildings and fortifications	2,139	5,242	5,395	3,494
Total charges	275,554	210,083	121,953	116,197
Deduct Revenues arising from rents, licenses, and tonnage duty, &c.	989	2,045	1,860	3,929
Net charges £	274,565	208,038	120,093	112,268

GENERAL ABSTRACT VIEW of the actual Revenues and Charges of India, for Three Years, according to the latest Advances with the Estimate of the same for the succeeding Years; shewing the Net Revenue, the Amount paid for Interest on Debts, and the remaining Surplus Revenue.

	REVENUES.			CHARGES.			NET REVENUE, OR NET CHARGE.*		
	1820-21.	1821-22.	Estimate. 1823-24.	1820-21.	1821-22.	Estimate. 1823-24.	1820-21.	1821-22.	Estimate. 1823-24.
Bengal.....	£ 13,487,218	£ 13,340,502	£ 14,128,970	£ 8,750,757	£ 8,540,182	£ 9,490,772	£ 4,736,461	£ 4,800,320	£ 3,724,528
Fort St. George	5,403,506	5,557,129	5,585,210	5,572,489	5,405,592	5,478,735	168,893*	151,537	660,723*
Bombay	2,401,312	2,855,740	3,352,875	3,197,366	3,609,894	4,238,456	796,054*	754,154*	101,711*
Bencoolen	8,183	8,177	6,691	101,131	74,009	83,730	92,948*	(c) 65,832*	(b) 76,181*
Prince of Wales Island	52,022	41,660	44,076	81,412	85,939	90,188	(b) 29,380*	(c) 44,279*	(b) 50,438*
Total.....	£ 21,352,241	£ 21,803,208	£ 23,117,822	£ 17,703,155	£ 17,715,616	£ 18,828,249	£ 3,649,086	£ 4,087,592	£ 2,835,475
Interest on debts:									
Bengal.....							1,751,044	1,800,300	1,472,183
Fort St. George							124,227	104,797	166,996
Bombay							26,941	18,535	9,961
Bencoolen							373	203	244
Prince of Wales Island							—	—	—
Total interest							1,902,585	1,932,835	1,735,033
Net revenues, after paying interest on debts							1,746,501	2,154,757	3,055,984
Net charge							(c) 274,565	(c) 208,038	120,093
Expense of St. Helena							—	—	—
Net surplus revenue in India							1,471,936	1,946,719	2,935,841
Net surplus charge in India							—	—	—

(a) The figures without stars show the net revenue; the figures with stars the net charge.
 (b) Exclusive of the expense of detachments, the same being charged in the Bengal account.
 (c) These sums include the charges incurred on account of his majesty's government, which were settled by the act of the 3d Geo. IV. c. 33.

276 FOREIGN DEPENDENCIES.—*East India Commercial Charges.*

AN ACCOUNT of the Annual Charges defrayed by the East India Company for the Management of their Trade and Commerce in *Bengal, Madras, Bombay, Bencoolen, and Prince of Wales Island*; also an Account of the Factory Charges at *Canton*, for Three Years; according to the latest Advices;—with an Estimate of the same for the succeeding Year.

	1820-21.	1821-22.	1822-23.	Per Estimate. 1823-24.
BENGAL.				
Charges at the presidency, and sub-ordinates..... } or, at 2s. the Current Rupee...£	C. R. } *22,76,300	*18,16,803	*10,20,408	20,04,224
	227,631	101,680	102,040	200,422
MADRAS.				
Charges at the presidency, and sub-ordinates..... } or, at 8s. the pagoda.....£	Pagodas } 1,00,702	1,03,050	76,012	84,631
	70,612	41,220	30,404	33,812
BOMBAY.				
Charges at the presidency, and sub-ordinates..... } or, at 2s. 3d. the Rupee.....£	Rupees } 2,01,322	2,05,722	2,26,716	4,60,325
	32,774	23,144	26,303	61,074
BENCOOLEN.				
Charges at the residency..... } or, at 2s. the Current Rupee...£	C. R. } 20,000	26,056	27,002	29,702
	2,000	2,505	2,700	2,070
PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND.				
Charges at the presidency..... } or, at 6s. the Dollar.....£	Dollars } 6,004	6,446	6,407	6,626
	1,724	1,362	1,372	1,302
CANTON.				
Charges at the factory..... } or, at 6s. 3d. the Tale.....£	Tales } 176,051	179,311	174,341	183,366
	68,950	60,770	68,000	61,122
Total.....£ S ^{rs} .	403,302	369,780	310,086	351,300

* The alteration in these years, as compared with the former budget, is occasioned by subsequent adjustments.

AN ACCOUNT of the Amount received at the several Presidencies of *Fort William, Fort St. George, Bombay, and at Bencoolen and Prince of Wales Island*, for Sales of Import Goods, for Three Years; according to the latest advices;—with an Estimate of the same for the succeeding Year.

	1820-21.	1821-22.	1822-23.	Per Estimate. 1823-24.
BENGAL.				
..... } or, at 2s. the Current Rupee...£	C. Rupees... } 25,49,843	34,36,034	33,64,590	34,36,920
	254,984	343,603	336,459	848,592
MADRAS.				
..... } or, at 8s. the Pagoda.....£	Pagodas... } 70,631	1,30,036	1,59,276	1,36,571
	28,252	52,014	63,710	54,628
BOMBAY.				
..... } or, at 2s. 3d. the Rupee.....£	Rupees... } 18,31,756	22,71,593	16,33,451	15,60,000
	206,073	255,554	183,763	174,375
BENCOOLEN.				
..... } or, at 2s. the Current Rupee...£	C. Rupees... } 3,29,040	4,52,757	3,08,062	24,420
	32,904	45,276	30,606	2,442
PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND.				
..... } or, at 5s. the Dollar.....£	Dollars... } 8,095	3,920	5,426	4,000
	2,024	960	1,356	1,000
Total.....£ S ^{rs} .	524,237	697,427	616,094	576,037

AN ACCOUNT OF THE PRIME COST OF ALL CARGOES PURCHASED BY THE EAST INDIA COMPANY IN INDIA, AND SHIPPED FOR EUROPE, FOR THREE YEARS, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST ADVICES.

	1820-21	1821-22	1822-23
BENGAL			
or, at 2s. the Current Rupee	£ 1,145,096	1,108,096	1,330,579
	£ 1,145,096	1,108,096	1,330,579
MADRAS			
or, at 8s. the Pagoda	£ 280,210	145,956	107,595
	£ 280,210	145,956	107,595
BOMBAY			
or, at 2s. 6d. the Rupee	£ 109,610		
	£ 109,610		
PORT BLAIR			
or, at 2s. the Current Rupee		£ 10,801	21,829
		£ 10,801	21,829
Total	£ 1,534,916	1,264,853	1,460,003

SUBSTANCE of the Twenty-first REPORT of the Commissioners appointed under an Agreement concluded on 10th July, 1805, between the East India Company and the Private Creditor of the late Nabobs of the Carnatic.

The aggregate sterling amount of the claims, specified in the lists which have been presented, as nearly as could be calculated from the imperfect manner in which many of the claims were stated, was

Aggregate of absolute adjudications in favour of parties	3,445,630	0	8½
Aggregate of provisional adjudications in favour of parties	40,000	17	10
	£2,485,630	18	6½
Aggregate of absolute adjudications against the parties, including the portions disallowed in claims favourably adjudicated	27,163,979	2	4½
Total	£29,649,610	0	11

Balance of claims remaining for adjudication, when returns, containing the results of the investigations by the commissioners in India, shall be received, but exclusive of a number of small claims (exceeding 3,000) which the commissioners are making arrangements to relieve them from investigating

Substance of the First REPORT of the Commissioners appointed under an Agreement concluded on the 11th February, 1824, between the East India Company and the Private Creditors of his late Highness Ameer Sing, formerly Rajah of Tanjore.

Aggregate amount of the claims preferred by parties who have executed the deed of agreement with the East India Company

The executors of the late Walter Grant, esq. have signed and executed the deed, but have not yet presented schedules of their claim.

The commissioners state that they had dispatched instructions to the commissioners in India; that they had subsequently completed

the examination, upon oath, of all parties resident in this country, that they had very nearly collected all the evidence relating to each claim, separately, that could be obtained here; and that they had since been occupied in reviewing the whole, and preparing instructions for the Madras commissioners to collect the remaining evidence necessary before final adjudication.

Copy of a Letter from the Governor-General in Council to the Court of Directors, dated the 3d December, 1824 (Judicial Department) relative to Sultees, or the Burning of Hindoo Widows on the Funeral Piles of their Husbands.

Honourable sirs, We have the honour to transmit to your

honourable court an extract from our proceedings, containing the reports of suttees, for the years 1822 and 1823, received from the court of nizamat adawlut, together with various other documents connected with the same subject; and a copy of the resolutions which we have this day passed, on an anxious consideration of the important questions which they involve.

We take the present opportunity of acknowledging your honourable court's letter upon this subject, under date the 17th June, 1823, and of expressing the gratification which we have derived from the confidence reposed in us by your honourable court, in leaving to our discretion the adoption or suspension of measures directed to the abolition of the barbarous practice of suttee.

We entirely participate with your honourable court in the feelings of detestation with which you view the rite, and in your earnest desire to have it suppressed; and we beg to assure you, that nothing but the apprehension of evils infinitely greater than those arising from the existence of the practice could induce us to tolerate it for a single day.

Although, as is remarked by your honourable court, the practice varies very much in different parts of the country, both as to the extent to which it prevails, and the enthusiasm by which it is upheld, yet it cannot be doubted but that it is sufficiently general to have a strong hold on the feelings of the native population throughout the greater part of our possessions.

In fact, the whole difficulty of the question consists in determining the amount of the influence of this fanatical spirit; and it is only upon a sober and careful consideration of native modes of thinking upon the subject that any safe attempt at legislation can be founded.

The difficulty of arriving at any sound practical conclusions, in legislating on subjects connected with religious prejudice, is sufficiently obvious in any country; and the peculiar disadvantages under which your servants here must conduct their inquiries on such subjects have been so frequently and so clearly stated, that it seems unnecessary to repeat them in this place.

We have reason, however, to believe, that in the eyes of the natives the great redeeming point in our government, the circumstance which reconciles them above all others to the manifold inconveniences of foreign rule, is the scrupulous regard we have paid to their customs and prejudices. It would be with extreme reluctance that we adopted any measures tending to unsettle the confidence thus reposed in us. In native opinion, the voluntary nature of the act of suttee diminishes the right of the government to interfere; and it must be remembered that the safety and the expediency of suppressing the practice must be judged by reference chiefly to native, and not to European habits of thinking.

Were we to be guided by the sentiments which we happen to know exist generally among the higher classes of natives, at the place most favourable for ascertaining their real sentiments, we mean at the Presidency, we should indeed almost despair of ever seeing the suppression of the practice. The well-meant and zealous attempts of Europeans to dissuade from and to discourage the performance of the rite, would appear to have been almost uniformly unsuccessful; and prove but too strongly that even the best-informed classes of the Hindoo population are not yet sufficiently enlightened to recognise the propriety of abolishing the rite.

Your honourable court will be gratified by perceiving, from the returns now submitted, that in the interior of the country the practice has been slowly but gradually decreasing.

These statements do not promise the early cessation of the practice, under the operation of existing causes; but we shall anxiously look to the future returns, to ascertain if they exhibit a continued diminution.

We do not affect to conceal that such a result would be peculiarly acceptable to us. The whole course of our proceedings has been, in conformity with the principle enjoined by your honourable court, to interfere as little as possible; and in a subject so beset with difficulty, and in which the risk of advancing appears to us so considerable, it would be gratifying to find that the safest and most moderate course was also likely to prove an effectual one.

For the reasons assigned in our resolutions of this date, we are decidedly of opinion that the adoption of any new measures of importance is particularly inexpedient at the present moment; and we hope that the additional information obtained may eventually enable us to proceed with more confidence.

Your honourable court have been already apprised of the plans for the encouragement of native education, recently adopted, under the orders of government. These measures depend in no small degree, for success on the scrupulous exclusion of all reference to religious subjects; and it would appear injudicious to render our first interference with a religious rite simultaneous with the introduction of a system of general education.

We entirely concur with your honourable court in considering that success, arising from increased intelligence among the people, (which can only be brought about, we conceive, by improved education,) would be the most acceptable form in which the cessation of the practice could be exhibited.

In the mean time, your honourable court will remark that we have been preparing should we deem it expedient at a favourable moment to adopt, in particular places, those measures of partial prevention which you have recommended to our consideration.

Something we hope, has been effected. We

have safely and quietly ascertained the extent of the practice, and have guarded against violence being offered to the victims of it; and, considering that the practice is the growth of many hundred years, and that it was disregarded by ourselves for the first half century during which we held the government of the country, we think the progress made in nine years, in a matter of such extreme delicacy, is not altogether unsatisfactory.

"We do not wish to pledge ourselves for the future, even by sketching any specific plan for the approbation of your honourable court. We hope we have satisfied your honourable court that we anxiously desire to see the abolition of the practice; that reasonable doubts may be entertained of the safety of suppressing it; that the present moment is particularly unsuitable to such an attempt; that something has been effected by us; that the subject continues to receive its full share of our attention; and that we shall keep our minds open to avail ourselves of favourable circumstances or useful information. Further than this we are not at present prepared to go; and we have the gratification to believe that these sentiments are conformable to those expressed in the despatch of your honourable court to which we are replying.

Fort William, We have, &c.
31 December, 1824. (Signed) AMHERST.
EDW. PAGET.
JOHN FENDALL.

Mrs. Harington's Minute, enclosed in the foregoing Letter.

"The Hindoo rite of *suttee*, or female sacrifice, and the actual number of females annually sacrificed in observance of this rite within the limits of British India, have recently excited much interest in England; and in consequence of an order passed by the house of commons on the 10th July, 1821, the whole of the correspondence of this government, and of the governments of Fort St. George and Bombay, with the honourable court of directors on the subject, including the official statements of *suttees* ascertained to have taken place under this Presidency in the years 1815, 1816, 1817, and 1818, and the proceedings of the governor-general in council to the close of the year 1819, have been printed.

"A short time before I left England, on my return to this country, the president of the board of control did me the honour to ask my opinion upon the general question of allowing a continued toleration of this practice under the British government, and I annex (No. 1) a copy of the remarks which were submitted by me to the right honourable C. W. W. Wynn in consequence, dated the 30th May, 1822.

"Since my arrival in India I have examined the reports of *suttees* received through the court of nizamat adawlut, for the years 1819, 1820, and 1821, and am happy to find that they ex-

hibit a considerable diminution compared with the preceding year, 1818; when the ascertained number, as reported by the police officers, was 839, viz. —

In 1819, 650
1820, 697
1821, 654

In the resolutions of government, under date the 17th July, 1821, it is observed, "that the governor-general in council has no sufficient means of estimating the causes which may have operated in producing the more favourable results in the years 1819 and 1820, compared with those of the two preceding years. For some time after the first promulgation of the rules requiring returns of the number of *suttees*, the information obtained would naturally be defective; and it may safely be inferred that fewer cases have been omitted in the returns of the last two years than in those which preceded them. The greater prevalence of the cholera morbus, by augmenting the general mortality in the country in any given period beyond the ordinary extent, will have naturally increased the number of *suttees* in a corresponding proportion; and it appears, from information recently obtained, that the cholera was more generally fatal in these provinces during the year 1818 than in the year preceding it, or in the two last years. His lordship in council, however, is disposed to ascribe the recent diminution of the number of *suttees*, in some degree, to the operation of the rules now in force in regard to the performance of the rite."

The beneficial influence of the existing rules is further adverted to in the following extract from the resolutions of government, dated 15th August, 1822, and passed upon the *suttee* reports of 1821.

"It is of course a primary obligation to prevent compulsion, and to assure to the unfortunate victims a power of receding to the last minute, as well as a secure retreat in comfort, if not with credit, in case of a retraction of the vow, or of the widow breaking from the pile, from inability to endure the flames. If the limited interference at present exercised by the officers of government is instrumental in securing these objects, when the satisfaction of the widow would else be doubtful in the slightest degree, the result is matter of gratulation. In this view, his lordship in council cannot contemplate without satisfaction that the number of victims saved from the flames, after ascending the pile, was, in 1821, five; while those induced by persuasion to retract their vow amounted to four, making altogether nine instances of preservation from self-immolation, whereof one only was not effected by the instrumentality or assistance of the police.

But on a review of the number of *suttees*

ascertained to have occurred in each district, as stated in the reports of the police officers from 1817 to 1821, the governor-general in council (in the resolutions last mentioned, under date the 15th August, 1822) recorded his opinion, that the comparative result “did not afford any satisfactory ground for assuming the practice of con cremation to be generally on the decline;” though, in particular districts, and especially in the Moorsheadabad division, there appeared to have been an annual consecutive decrease.

The following remarks were added in the 9th, 10th, and 11th paragraphs of the resolutions adverted to.

“Next to Goruckpore, the adjacent district of Ghazee-pore seems to be that in which the practice of self-immolation is most prevalent. Indeed, these two districts, with the neighbouring ones of Shahabad and Sarun, form a tract of country in which the population seems nearly as much addicted to the custom as in the zillahs immediately adjoining to the Presidency. Elsewhere the rite is of so rare occurrence as to suggest the inference, that when it occurs it is adopted by the widow under some paroxysm of grief and despair, that would probably lead to self-murder under any circumstances; while the relations are interested rather in dissuading than in urging the victim to immolation. Where, however, the difference in the number of instances is so marked, as in these districts, and throughout the Calcutta division, there is too much reason to conclude that a sort of pride attaches to the performance of the ceremony; and that the women are taught from infancy to believe that by consenting to the immolation they perform an act, if not of imperative duty, at least one that will redound to their own credit, and raise the reputation of their families; on the other hand, that a refusal involves the reproach of cowardice, or of the want of true devotion to their husbands.

“It is impossible to look upon the returns for the Calcutta division without being satisfied that a fanatic spirit of this kind must have had influence in producing the numerous cases reported for every district of it, excepting Midnapore. In this view, it is matter of infinite concern to his lordship in council to observe that there is yet no symptom of a diminution at any of the principal places; but that, on the contrary, the total number of the division still maintains its proportion of nine-sixteenths, or something more than half of the grand total for the whole territory subject to this Presidency.

“The divided sentiment that exists among the Hindoos themselves on the subject of suttees, is, doubtless, calculated for a time to stimulate the activity of the partisans of the rite, and thus to counteract the benevolent

“wishes of those inclined to discourage it. Nevertheless, his lordship in council does not despair of the best effects resulting from the free discussion of the matter by the people themselves, independently of European influence and interposition; and the resolution having been already adopted by government of not, for the present, interfering authoritatively for the suppression or better regulation of the custom, it seems to his lordship in council that it only remains for him to watch carefully the indications of a change of sentiment amongst the people, that may at times be afforded, and to encourage to the utmost every favourable disposition.”

The resolution to which a reference is made in the last paragraph above cited, was passed on the 17th July, 1821, in the following terms:

“The governor-general in council cannot concur in the policy or expediency of the measure proposed by the second judge of the nizamat adawlut; and he is of opinion, that the authoritative interposition of government, with a view to abolish the rite of suttee, either in the manner recommended by Mr. Smith, or by the adoption of the partial measures respectively suggested by Mr. Leycester and Mr. Dorin, would not only fail of success, but would tend to excite a spirit of fanaticism, and eventually to produce very injurious consequences.”

After this declaration, it might be considered presumptuous on my part to offer an opinion of a different tendency; and I do not mean, at present, to bring forward any proposition for abolishing the suttee practice; but I am desirous of putting upon record some considerations which appear to merit attention in any future deliberation upon this important question, and which, I acknowledge, have produced in my own mind a strong belief, if not a full conviction, that whenever it may be judged expedient to suppress this barbarous practice by legal prohibition, instead of restricting it to what is sanctioned by the shaster, at present, it will not be found impracticable, or, as far as I can judge, be attended with any serious political danger.

With respect to the practicability of putting a stop to the immolation of Hindoo widows by legal prohibition and penal enactment; if, as appears from the expositions of the shaster, given by the pundits of the sadder dewanny adawlut, the assistance of brahmins and others be requisite to enable the widow to devote herself in the prescribed or customary mode, whether of *sahamarana* or *anoamarana*, it would surely be possible to prevent such aid being given by a public interdiction, with a declaration that any person hereafter causing, aiding, or in any manner promoting a female sacrifice, such as that commonly denominated a *suttee*, shall be liable to a criminal prosecution, as principals or accomplices, for homicide; and

that, on conviction, it will not be held any justification of the homicide, that the person so convicted was desired by the deceased to cause, said, or in any manner to promote her death, or that the deceased became a suttee by a voluntary act of self-devotion.

This, in fact, is already declared in substance, by a regulation now in force, (section 3, regulation viii., 1799, * re-enacted for the ceded provinces by section 16, regulation xiii., 1803,) although the intention of this regulation has not been considered applicable to suttees; and if any new enactments were deemed objectionable, it would, I conceive, be sufficient to issue proclamation through the country, declaring the section referred to prospectively, applicable to all persons convicted as principals or accomplices of wilful homicide, in the instance of a Hindoo widow, sacrificed by the rite of *sahamara*, or *anomarana*, as, in all other cases of illegal homicide, and, consequently, that all persons present, aiding and abetting in any such homicide, would be liable to criminal prosecution and punishment, according to the nature and degree of their offence.

It is probable that a proclamation to this effect would not at once prove completely effectual: secret immolations would still take place occasionally, and, in some instances, the widow would be a paroxysm of grief, and the delusion of superstition, might be expected to devote herself on her husband's funeral pile, or otherwise, even without Brahminical assistance; but such cases would be rare in comparison with the number of sacrifices which now take place annually, either with or without the knowledge of the police officers, and after a few examples for wilful deviation from the rule newly promulgated, (which should of course be made with tenderness in the early infliction of penalties,) I have no doubt that the practice would be soon abandoned as unsanctioned by government, and subjecting the aiders and abettors to punishment by the criminal courts.

But the most important part of the question is, whether it would be perfectly safe and consistent with the regard due to our national security in India, to prohibit and put down by legal penalties a practice of immemorial antiquity,

* Sec. 3, Regulation XIII. 1799.

After the period fixed for the enforcement of this regulation, it shall not justify any prisoner convicted of wilful homicide, that he or she was desired by the party slain to put him or her to death, and in the event of the prisoner being convicted of the fact to the satisfaction of the magistrate and jury, and of their seeing no circumstances in the case which may render him or her a proper object of mercy, they shall sentence him or her to suffer death, whatever may be the faith of their law officers under the Mahomedan law, which in this instance also, although it withholds *Rikais*, gives a full latitude to the magistrate in the discretionary punishment of flogging or death; and experience has shown the necessity of inflicting the punishment for murder in such cases, to preserve the lives of many from the effects of passion or revenge aided (especially in the province of Benares) by the atrocious prejudices of superstition.

which, though not commanded as a religious duty, or generally regarded as such, is encouraged by some authors held in estimation by certain classes of our Hindoo subjects, especially in Bengal, as a meritorious act, to be rewarded by a long period of happiness in a future state, not only to the devoted individual, but to the deceased husband, and to his and her own relatives.

Were this practice universal, or prevalent to a great extent amongst all classes of Hindoos, in every part of our territories, there might be some ground for apprehending that a sudden interdiction of it would produce an alarming degree of discontent, and possibly of continued resistance. But we know the fact to be, that the custom prevails chiefly in Bengal, being witnessed principally on authorities that have a local estimation in that province. The official reports further shew, that it has but a partial prevalence even in Bengal, few or no suttees having occurred for several years in some districts, particularly in the Moorsheadabad division. The aggregate number also, in the whole of the provinces under this presidency, large as it justly appears on the separate valuation of individual human life, is but small, when we compare it with the total number of Hindoo females who annually become widows in the provinces; or with the number who survive their husbands from year to year in opposition to the more limited usage of self-devotion.

It may be added, that a difference of opinion exists amongst the Hindoos themselves, on the lawfulness and merit of the sacrifice. Whilst some, on special authorities, hold the suicide if voluntary to be praiseworthy and entitled to reward, others, on the highest authorities of Hindoo law and religion, condemn it as illegal, and sinful in its nature, being founded on a preference of temporary and sensual enjoyment, to that which is esteemed more pure, and extending to eternity.†

It is further obvious, but material to notice, that the motive for the British government's interposition to suppress a cruel practice, involving

* It is not easy to form any accurate calculation; but supposing the entire Hindoo population of the territories under this presidency to be 50,000,000, and the annual deaths to be 1 in 33, or above 1,500,000, a sixth of this number, or 250,000, might, on a general computation, be assumed as the annual number of Hindoo females becoming widows, of whom little more than 600 devote themselves on the death of their husbands.

† See *Facts of Rammohun Roy*, and *Translation of a Bewasta*, received from Moorungee, judge of the supreme court, included in the printed collection of papers on the subject, page 191. The latter, after citing a text from the *Metachera*, which tends to prove, that life ought not to be expended for the sake of arriving at a paradise of temporary and inconsiderable happiness, adds, "few instances, therefore, are to be met with in the Pooranas, and other authorities, of the eminently virtuous women of former ages sacrificing themselves, either by *sahamara* or *anomarana*, but the practice is frequent among modern women, whose desires are confined to such pleasures as the world can afford; and also contemplate with indifference the bliss of absorption. A great difference of opinion is now observed to exist relating to this subject."

in the course of years, so wide a destruction of human life, cannot possibly be mistaken. Whilst the experience of more than half a century has proved to the conviction of every Hindoo and Moosulman our complete toleration of their respective religions, with a cautious abstinence from all interruption of their established customs and observances, as far as sanctioned by their own laws and consistent with the fundamental principles of society (inasmuch that in civil cases the regulations in force since the year 1772 prescribe, that "in suits regarding succession, inheritance, marriage and caste, and all religious usages and institutions, the Mahomedan laws with respect to Mahomedans, and the Hindoo laws with regard to Hindoos, are to be considered the general rules by which the judges are to form their decisions"), it is impossible that a legislative enactment to prevent assistance being hereafter given in the suttee immolation, with a view to preserve the lives of a number of miserable women from suicide, in a state of affliction from the recent death of their husbands, and to put a stop to the horrible abuses and cruelties, which, unsanctioned by the Hindoo laws, have too frequently attended an involuntary perpetration of this sacrifice, could be imputed to any other motives than what would really govern such an enactment, and which, therefore, might be fairly and fully declared, without danger of its being misconstrued into any thing like a general design to put down by authority the religious system with which the inhuman practice referred to is imperfectly connected.

We have, indeed, a means of forming a correct judgment upon this point, by adverting to what has already taken place in other instances, wherein the general principle of tolerating and maintaining the religion and established customs of our native subjects has been necessarily relaxed in the administration of criminal justice.

It is well known that the life of a brahmin is held sacred by the Hindoos, according to *Menoo* (or *Menu*): no corporal punishment should be inflicted on him for any crime: he is revered as an image of the deity, and an oath is sometimes administered by touching his body. Yet our rules for administering criminal justice make no distinction between brahmins and others in the declared penalties for crimes, extending to death; nor are they exempted by our courts from the actual infliction of this punishment, when convicted of capital offences. The city of Benares being the principal seat of the Hindoo religion, it was provided by section 9, regulation xvi., 1795, "that no brahmin shall be punished with death. In cases in which a brahmin shall be declared by the law liable to suffer death, he shall, in lieu of such punishment, be subject to be sentenced by the nizamat adawlut to transportation." But this exemption of brahmins in the province of Benares from the legal punishment of murder, to which

brahmins, as well as all other persons, are subject in every other part of the country, being repugnant to the principles of equal justice, and having operated to prevent the infliction of adequate punishment in some atrocious cases of murder which came before the Benares court of circuit and nizamat adawlut, the section above mentioned was prospectively rescinded by section 15 of regulation xviii., 1817. Brahmins, therefore, are now universally liable to the same sentence for murder as others convicted of that heinous offence, within any part of the provinces under this presidency. But neither before, or since the promulgation of the regulation last mentioned, has any tumult, or other token of popular discontent, been occasioned by so deep an encroachment upon the tenets and prejudices of the Hindoos as that of subjecting to capital punishment persons of their sacerdotal class, whom they had been accustomed to regard as sacred, and whose lives were inviolate under their own laws, which declared the killing of a brahmin to be one of the five great sins.

It may be added, that the supreme court of judicature at Calcutta has invariably adopted the same indiscriminate principle of punishment, on conviction, with respect to brahmins; and that the execution of rajah Nunkomar, a brahmin of rank, wealth, and influence, for a crime not before capital amongst the natives of India, is a single instance of the quiet submission of the people to the sentences of our courts of justice, however repugnant to their own feelings, habits, and usages.

The practice of sacrificing children, by exposing them to be drowned, or devoured by sharks, at the island of Saugor and other places, which was declared by regulation vi., 1802, to be wilful murder, and punishable on conviction with death, may be considered to bear little analogy to the suttee immolation, inasmuch as the preamble to that regulation states the practice referred to in it to have been, found on inquiry not sanctioned by the Hindoo law, nor countenanced by the religious orders, or by the people at large; but it appears from the same authority, that it was a prevalent custom arising from superstitious vows; that it continued to prevail not only at Saugor, but also at Bansbariah, Chogdah, and other places on the river Ganges; and that such sacrifices were made at fixed periods, namely at the full moon in November and in January. As far, therefore, as the new regulation (which has been enforced at Saugor by the presence of a military guard,) opposed an established usage, originating in superstition, it may be considered a precedent for prohibiting and punishing other inhuman practices of a superstitious nature; and as I have never heard of any resistance being offered or objection made to the execution of the penal law above mentioned, I cannot but think it affords some ground of presumption that other superstitious and inhuman practices, such as particu-

larly as the *suttee* sacrifice, though sanctioned in a certain degree by the shaster and by popular opinion, might be suppressed by a legislative enactment, with equal safety and success.

I might further mention, as militating against the received opinion and usage of the country, the rules enacted in the existing regulations to prevent the sacrifice of women and children in the province of Benares, by burning them in a circular enclosure, called a *koork*, or by otherwise putting them to death, on the approach of a public officer to serve any judicial or revenue process on brahmins; or to exercise any coercion over them on the part of government; or in consequence of their not obtaining speedy relief for loss or injury; also to prevent the wounding of the families of brahmins or other persons under similar circumstances; and rules for the punishment of another practice by brahmins and others, called *Dhurna*, for recovery of a debt without judicial process, or to extort a donation: but I shall confine myself to the measures taken for abolishing a barbarous custom amongst the Rajkoomars, of destroying their infant female children, by suffering them to perish for want of sustenance, which is supposed to have originated in principles of family pride, and apprehension of dishonour from inability to provide for daughters by a suitable marriage. With a view to prevent the continuance of this inhuman practice in the province of Benares, an obligation was formerly taken from Rajkoomars in that province; and by sect. 13, regulation xxii, 1795, for Benares, as well as by sect. 2, of regulation iii, 1804, for the ceded provinces, it was declared, "that any Rajkoomar who shall deliberately cause the death of his female child, or by prohibiting its receiving nourishment," or in any other manner, shall be liable to trial, as in other criminal causes, before the court of circuit and nizamat adawlut, on a charge of murder.

In this case, as far as regards the legal prohibition of a murderous practice, sanctioned only by its long prevalence, the same remarks appear applicable as those already offered in the instance of infanticide by drowning, or by exposure to sharks; though from the great difficulty of detection I fear that this penal rule has not proved equally efficacious.

On a deliberate view of all those instances in which the laws, customs, and prejudices of the Hindoos, when found to be at variance with the principles of justice and good of society, have been necessarily superseded and abrogated by the laws and regulations of the British government, and in the whole of which such suppression has been quietly submitted to, as obviously and exclusively originating in motives of equity and humanity, unconnected with any degree of religious intolerance, we may, I think, safely conclude that a similar result will attend the enactment of a legislative provision to prevent the yearly sacrifice of several hundreds of

deluded unoffending females, born and living under the protection of the British government, whenever it shall be deemed expedient to make and promulgate the requisite enactment for that purpose.

The same conclusion appears warranted by the general character of our Hindoo subjects, especially those who inhabit the province of Bengal, where the *suttee* practice chiefly prevails, and by the facility and submission with which the powers vested in the magistrate by the rules and orders now in force to prevent illegal and irregular *suttees* have been exercised by them during a period of eight years.

It not being my present intention to bring forward any general proposition for abolishing the *suttee* immolation, partly in deference to the resolution so lately passed by this government, and partly because we may possibly receive instructions for our guidance from the authorities in England, I will not enter upon a more ample discussion of this interesting and delicate question, which I am sensible has been very imperfectly treated in the foregoing general remarks. But I beg leave to annex to this minute an extract from a well-written paper "on female immolation," published in the valuable periodical work intitled "*The Friend of India*," which the late sir Henry Blossett, as well as myself, read on our voyage to India, and which appeared to both of us a powerful and convincing statement of the real facts and circumstances of the case.

What I now wish to press upon the serious attention of the governor-general in council, is the ascertained continuance of the irregularities and abuses unsanctioned by the Hindoo laws, in the actual performance of the *suttee* immolation, as frequently practised; and the impossibility of preventing such abuses, without requiring, under penalties, a previous notice to the local police officer, before any sacrifice of this nature is allowed to take place.

The official reports of the magistrates, which are annually submitted to government by the court of nizamat adawlut, contain abundant evidence of the illegal practice here referred to; and it is further a notorious fact that, especially in Bengal, in opposition to the express ordinances of the shaster, which forbid any restraint whatever upon the widow to prevent her escape from the funeral pile, and provide for her being lifted off in the event of her being terrified, she is often bound down with cords to the pile, with the body of her deceased husband, or fastened by bamboos placed over her, so that she cannot possibly escape, notwithstanding a change of resolution.

It also appears from the reports above mentioned, that in numerous cases the *suttee* takes place without any previous notice to the local police officer; this, unfortunately, not having been required by any of the circular orders yet issued. It will be sufficient to quote on this

point the proceedings of the nizamat adawlat, under date the 24th May, 1822, relative to the suttee reports of 1821 for two districts only, viz. those of Shaltabad and Ghazeepore. In the former instance, after remarking that "in this district there would appear to have occurred thirty-nine female sacrifices during the first 33 years," several of which are stated to have been illegal, the court observe, "that the police officers were present only on one occasion of the performance of the rite of suttee in this district." In the willah of Ghazeepore the stated number of suttees in 1821 was thirty-five, and the court remark as follows: "More instances of illegal suttees appear to have occurred in this than in any other district, and out of thirty-five suttees reported, twenty-six are stated to have occurred before the arrival of the police. Those which appear to have been illegal on the score of non-age, are the cases of Mussimaut Mungunnee, aged 12; of Mussimaut Soohullea, aged 12; of Mussimaut Deohuttee, aged 15; of Mussimaut Gumudhee aged 12; in the latter instance there was another legal disability to the sacrifice, which was conducted by the rite of *anoomarana*, the deceased having been a Brahmunnee." It further appears from the magistrates' detailed report, that the whole of the four instances of illegal suttee here specified, in which minors were devoted to a cruel death, without the sanction of the Hindoo law, took place in the absence of the police officers:

The court of nizamat adawlat were long since aware of the necessity of providing against the continuance of this serious evil; and in the second and third paragraphs of their resolutions, under date the 25th June, 1817, upon the suttee reports for 1815 and 1816, recorded the following observations:

It appears that in several instances the police officers were not advised of the suttee till after it had taken place; and it may be presumed that in others the occurrence was not at all made known to them. With a view to supply this defect in future reports, as well as for the more important purpose of securing, as far as possible, a due observance of the rules which have been or may be established for maintaining a strict adherence to the ordinances of the shaster, as they respect the practice of *sahamarana* and *anoomarana*, (or dying with or without the body of the husband) the court judge it essentially necessary, in modification of the rules now in force (which not requiring any previous permission from the magistrates or police officers, are understood not to require any previous notice to them), to provide by a penal rule for information being given, in all instances, to the local police officer whenever a Hindoo widow, or be desirous of burning herself on the funeral pile of her deceased husband, or of becoming a suttee in any mode authorized

by the shaster. A clause to this effect has accordingly been introduced into sect. 104 of the draught of a regulation proposed by the superintendent of the police, and reported upon to government on the 28th ultimo. The second and third sections of the draught of a regulation for maintaining an observance of the restrictions prescribed by the shaster, in the burning of Hindoo widows on the funeral piles of their husbands, or otherwise, which was submitted to government, with the proceedings of the date above mentioned, contained the following provisions on the subject referred to:

First, Whenever a Hindoo widow, on the death of her husband, may be unwilling to survive him, and be desirous of devoting herself on his funeral pile by the rite of *sahamarana*; or, if absent from him, and she be not the wife of a Brahmin, (who is forbidden to ascend a separate pile,) may, on receiving information of his death, desire to perform the rite of *anoomarana*, in the manner prescribed by the ordinances of the shaster; and her situation may be such as to admit of her becoming a suttee, under the restrictions contained in the shaster, and declared in this regulation, the principal persons of her own family, or that of her husband, who may be on the spot, if unable to dissuade her from a sacrifice not enjoined as a religious or conjugal duty, but permitted only, under certain circumstances, as a voluntary and optional act, shall cause notice of her intention to be conveyed, as speedily as possible, to the police darogah, or other principal police officer of the jurisdiction in which the widow may reside, or in which it may be intended to perform the rite of *sahamarana* or *anoomarana*; and such rite shall not, on any occasion, be performed or commenced without the previous knowledge and attendance of the police darogah, or other local police officer, or the attendance of the thannah mohur, or jemadar, or without allowing full and sufficient time for such attendance, after notice given, under penalty of all persons concerned in the irregular act being liable to a criminal prosecution before the willah or city magistrates; and in cases of an aggravated nature, before the court of circuit.

Second, If it appear, in any instance, after the promulgation of this regulation, that a widow has been burnt without previous notice to the local police officer, as required by this section, the magistrate shall immediately make a full inquiry into the facts and circumstances of the case, and all persons convicted of having taken any active part therein shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and be punishable by fine and imprisonment, under the general powers of the magistrate; or if it appear that the widow had not attained her sixteenth year, or was not qualified to

“ become a suttee, under the provisions of the
 “ shaster, and the rules declared in this regula-
 “ tion, the offenders shall be committed for
 “ trial before the court of circuit, who, on con-
 “ viction, will pass sentence upon them accord-
 “ ing to the nature and criminality of their
 “ offence; or, if the case be referrible under the
 “ general regulations of the nizamat adawlut,
 “ will refer it for the final sentence of that
 “ court.”

“ Third.—The principal persons of the wid-
 “ dow’s family, or that of her husband, who
 “ may be proved to have been on the spot, and
 “ may have neglected to give timely notice to
 “ the local police officers, as required in the first
 “ clause of this section, shall also be liable to
 “ fine and imprisonment, on conviction of such
 “ neglect before the magistrate, although they
 “ may not have taken any active part in the
 “ transaction.”

“ Sec. III.—The police darogahs, and all
 “ other officers of the police, are required to use
 “ every means in their power to obtain the
 “ earliest information of any intention to burn
 “ a Hindoo widow on the funeral pile of her
 “ husband, or on a separate pile; and if any
 “ subordinate police officer shall obtain such
 “ information, which may not have been con-
 “ veyed to the police darogah, or other prin-
 “ cipal police officer of the jurisdiction, as re-
 “ quired in the preceding section, he shall im-
 “ mediately communicate the same, and forbid
 “ the parties concerned to proceed with the rite
 “ of *sahamarana* or *anoomarana*, until the police
 “ daroga, or other principal police officer, has
 “ been duly apprised, and allowed sufficient
 “ time for his attendance, or that of the than-
 “ nah mohurir, or jemadar.”

The sentiments of the vice-president in coun-
 cil on the proposed rules above cited, were com-
 municated to the nizamat adawlut in the seventh
 and succeeding paragraphs of a letter from the
 secretary to government in the judicial depart-
 ment, dated 9th September, 1817, from which
 the following is an extract:—

“ The vice-president in council is of opinion,
 “ that timely notice should be given to the police
 “ officers in every instance of an intended sut-
 “ tee, and that the rules proposed by the niza-
 “ mat adawlut, to enforce the regular commu-
 “ nication of such notice, are generally proper
 “ and expedient; but although the vice-presi-
 “ dent in council concurs with the nizamat
 “ adawlut in the expediency of carrying into
 “ effect the measures above adverted to, as well
 “ as of adopting several other rules connected
 “ with the subject, and included in the draught
 “ of the proposed regulation, he is of opinion
 “ that it is not advisable to introduce or pro-
 “ mulgate those measures in the formal shape
 “ of a legislative enactment. The papers re-
 “ cently submitted to government by the niza-
 “ mat adawlut contain abundant proof that the
 “ information possessed by government, regard-

“ ing the rules of the Hindoo law, and the local
 “ usages prevailing in different parts of the
 “ country, as applicable to the ceremony of
 “ suttee, has hitherto been extremely imperfect.
 “ Much light has been thrown on the subject
 “ by the able and judicious inquiries recently
 “ prosecuted by the nizamat adawlut, and by
 “ the circumstances which have been brought
 “ to the notice of the court and of government
 “ in the reports from the magistrates, since the
 “ circular orders of the 29th April, 1823, were
 “ first issued. But although the abuses practi-
 “ sed in the performance of the sacrifice of the
 “ suttee, and the most appropriate means of
 “ preventing them, have been by degrees more
 “ accurately ascertained, the vice-president in
 “ council is disposed to think that further ex-
 “ perience will suggest many other points for
 “ consideration, and a further modification or
 “ extension of the rules which at present ap-
 “ pear well suited to the objects contemplated
 “ by government; and that it would be pre-
 “ mature to legislate at present on a subject
 “ in which it is so extremely desirable to pro-
 “ ceed with caution, and to guard against the
 “ adoption of any erroneous principles. The
 “ vice-president in council conceives that the
 “ object of carefully restricting the sacrifice of
 “ Hindoo widows to those cases in which it is
 “ especially sanctioned by the Hindoo law, as
 “ well as of preventing abuses and irregularities
 “ in its performance, when so sanctioned, will
 “ be most conveniently attained by promulgat-
 “ ing, in the form of circular orders for the
 “ guidance of the magistrates and police officers,
 “ and for general information, such rules and
 “ explanations as may be deemed proper. I
 “ am accordingly directed to request that you
 “ will lay before the court of nizamat adawlut
 “ the accompanying paper, which has been pre-
 “ pared from the draught of the regulation sub-
 “ mitted by the court, with such modifications
 “ as have appeared to the vice-president in coun-
 “ cil to be expedient.”

The annexed extract (No. 3) contains the
 modified rules, which were accordingly included
 in the second head or section of the draught here
 referred to, with a view “ to secure the convey-
 “ anee, to the police officers, of timely informa-
 “ tion of an intended suttee.”

The circumstances under which it was after-
 wards deemed expedient to suspend the imme-
 diate promulgation of the whole of the proposed
 rules, and to wait the result of further experience
 as to the supposed causes of an annual increase
 in the number of ascertained suttees, are stated
 in the resolutions of government, under date the
 30th July, 1819, and need not to be detailed in
 this place.

The reports and information since received,
 appear to have removed the doubt which was
 entertained by the court of nizamat adawlut,
 and by the governor-general in council, whether
 the orders issued to the magistrates and police

officers, and the measures taken in execution of them, may not have been productive of an effect contrary to that intended by them, by exciting (to use the words of the nizamat adawlut) a spirit of fanaticism, rather inflamed than repressed, by the interference of the public authorities; or, as expressed in the resolutions of the governor-general in council, by "the greater confidence with which the people perform this rite, under the sanction of government, as implied or avowed in the circular orders already enforced, with the combined excitement of religious bigotry, by the continued agitation of the question."

The remarks of the governor-general in council upon the diminished number of suttees since the prevalence of the cholera morbus in 1818, as already quoted in a former part of this minute from the resolutions of government, under date the 17th July, 1821, and 15th August, 1822, appear to warrant a conclusion that the rules now in force, as far as the imperfect information obtained by the police officers admits of their being put in execution, have a beneficial tendency in restraining the suttee immolation within the rules prescribed for it by the shaster, and, in some cases, by enabling the public officers to prevent the legal and voluntary sacrifice of the intended victim by persuasion.

The very just observations and acknowledgments upon this point contained in the resolution of 15th August, 1822, preclude the possibility of doubt, that in the present state of the country, and under the experience obtained of the tendency of the existing circular orders, when duly executed, to prevent compulsion, and other irregular and murderous practices, unsanctioned by the shaster, in this lamentable sacrifice, there can be a difference of opinion upon the expediency of giving immediate effect to such part of the suspended rules, approved by government on the 9th September, 1817, as relate to the conveyance of timely information of an intended suttee to the police officers, viz. those contained in the accompanying extract (No. 3).

I therefore beg leave to propose for the consideration of government, on receipt of the report to be soon expected from the nizamat adawlut upon the suttees of 1822, that the rules in question be promulgated in the vernacular language at the whole of the police thannahs, as well as at the other usual places of publication.

It further appears to me, that it will be advisable to publish, for the information and guidance of the police officers, the "first head or section" of the general rules approved by government on the 9th September, 1817, specifying, in a collective form, the circumstances under which Hindoo widows are restricted from devoting themselves on the funeral piles of their deceased husbands, or on a separate pile, as well as the rules contained in the third head or "section," for the guidance of the police officers, and others, on receiving information of an

intended suttee, especially the eighth clause of section last mentioned, which is as follows:—

"It is not the intention of government that the public officers should interfere in requiring any particular mode of performing the rite of *sahamarana* or *anoomarana*; but that every class of Hindoos in the whole of the company's territories should, in the manner of performing these rites, be left to follow the established authority and usage of the province in which they reside. The pundits have declared, however, that 'no authority permits any restraint to be used' on the person and liberty of the widow, by fastening her with cords to the pile, or pressing her down with bamboos, or in any manner preventing her, at any stage of the transaction, from retracting her intention to burn, if she be desirous of so doing, as expressly authorized by the shaster. The police officers, therefore, who may attend the rite of a suttee, shall remain at the spot till it is completed, and shall be vigilant to prevent any compulsory process not sanctioned by the shaster, as well as to afford the widow the fullest protection and facility if she should be disposed to return to her house and family."

At all events, no further time should be lost in giving publicity and operation to the "fourth head or section" of the approved rules above mentioned, which contains the following rules, prohibiting widows of the jogee tribe from burying themselves alive with the bodies of their husbands:—

1. It having been ascertained that the shaster contains no authority for a practice which has prevailed among the jogee tribe in some parts of the country, especially in the district of Tipperah, of burying alive the widows of persons of that tribe who may desire to be interred with the bodies of their husbands, such practice must necessarily be regarded as a criminal offence under the general laws and regulations of government.

2. The magistrates and police officers in every district where the practice above mentioned has been known to exist, shall be careful to make the present prohibition as publicly known as possible; and if any person, after being advised of it, shall appear to have been concerned in burying a woman alive, in opposition thereto, he shall be apprehended and brought to trial for the offence before the court of circuit.

3. The magistrates and police officers are further directed to use all practicable means for preventing any such illegal acts, and an attempt to commit the same, after the promulgation of these rules, though not carried completely into effect, will, on conviction, be punishable by the zillah or city magistrate, or the court of circuit, according to the degree of criminality and circumstances of the case."

The court of nizamat adawlut, in their proceedings of the 25th June, 1817, (paragraphs 28 to 31,) expressed their sentiments upon this subject in the following terms:—"The statements before the court specify six instances in 1815, and two in 1816, of women who were buried alive with the bodies of their husbands. Of these, seven took place in the zillah Tipperah, and one in the district of Nuddea. The parties in all these cases were of the jogee or weaver caste; and the practice, which has no express sanction in the shaster, appears to be confined to that caste. The Dacca court of circuit, in their letter dated 19th August, 1816, having questioned the legality of this custom, and transmitted a bewasta from the pundit of the provincial court, declaring, 'that there is no authority for a woman of the jogee tribe to become a suttee, and to bury herself alive with the corpse of her deceased husband;' and on reference to a bewasta on the subject, which was delivered by the pundits of the sudder dewanny adawlut in September 1813, it not appearing to contain any specific authorities for the practice in question, the court judged it necessary to call upon their Hindoo law officers for a more explicit statement of any authorities in the shaster which sanction the interment of the widow of a jogee, or a Hindoo widow of any other tribe, with the body of her deceased husband. A translation of the bewasta, received from the pundits in answer on the 23d ultimo, together with a translated copy of their former bewastas, recorded on the 2d September, 1816, and a translation of the bewasta of rajah Chundoo Turkulankar, pundit of the Dacca provincial court, are recorded with these resolutions. On consideration of the several bewastas referred to; it clearly appearing that there are no authorities in the shaster for the performance of the right of sahamarana in any other mode than by cremation, the court are of opinion, that the practice which has obtained amongst the jogee tribe, of burying the widow alive with the body of her deceased husband, may be prohibited by a regulation declarative of the Hindoo ordinances upon the rite above mentioned."

The concurrence of government in the measure proposed was communicated to the nizamat adawlut, in the 5th paragraph of Mr. Secretary Bayley's letter, dated 9th September, 1817, as follows:—

"It appearing from the circumstances stated in paragraphs 20 to 31 of the court's resolutions, and from the tenor of the bewastas alluded to in those paragraphs, that the Hin-

doe law does not sanction the practice which prevails amongst the jogee tribe of burying the widow alive with the body of her deceased husband, the vice-president in council entirely concurs with the nizamat adawlut in thinking that the practice in question should be positively and entirely interdicted."

I will only add, that I cannot but rejoice it has not become necessary, on the grounds prospectively and contingently adverted to in the resolutions of the governor-general in council, under date the 30th July, 1819, "to prohibit the officers of government from exercising that active interposition, in cases of this description (suttees), which has for some years past been authorised by government." Were such interposition withdrawn, the abuses and cruelties which existed before the magistrates and police officers were authorised to interfere, and which led to the circular orders that were first issued on the subject in the year 1813, would undoubtedly be removed. But it is satisfactory to reflect that in such a case the evil must bring its proper remedy; for it would imperatively call upon the justice and humanity of the British government to abrogate, by penal enactment, a barbarous custom (as it is justly designated by the honourable court of directors, in their letter to the government of Fort St. George, dated 4th March, 1818), which experience had shewn could not be restrained within the rules under which alone it is permitted by certain authorities, not generally received, of the shaster.

In such a state of things, I could not hesitate to adopt the opinion expressed by the second judge of the court of nizamat adawlut; that the toleration of the practice of suttees is a reproach to our government; and even now I am disposed to agree with him, "that the entire and immediate abolition of it would be attended with no sort of danger."

(Signed) J. H. HARRINGTON.

June 28th, 1823.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Nizamat Adawlut, under date the 23d July, 1824, containing their Remarks on the Suttee Reports and Statements for the Year 1823.

The court of nizamat adawlut having had before them the reports of suttees, received through the courts of circuit, from the several zillahs and city magistrates in the lower and western provinces, for the year 1823, together with detailed and abstract statements prepared from those reports, record the following remarks and orders:—

Total number of Sutees.

In 1822	583
1823	575
Decrease	8

The court observe, that the total number of Hindoo women ascertained to be burned or buried alive in 1823, exhibits a decrease of eight below the number of the same description of the preceding year.

Decrease in detail.

Dacca Division.

In 1822	45
1823	40
Decrease	5

Moorshedabad Division.

In 1822	22
1823	13
Decrease	9

Patna Division.

In 1822	70
1823	49
Decrease	21

The decrease, in detail, of the number of sutees in the divisions of Dacca, Moorshedabad, Patna, and Bareilly, and the increase in the divisions of Calcutta and Benares, are noticed in the margin.

Bareilly Division.

In 1822	16
1823	12
Decrease	4

The total number for the four past years are, in

1820	597
1821	654
1822	583
1823	575

Increase in detail.

Calcutta Division, including Cuttack.

In 1822	328
1823	340
Increase	12

Benares Division.

In 1822	102
1823	121
Increase	19

Extract of a Letter, in the Judicial Department, from the Governor in Council of Bombay to the Court of Directors, dated 20th November, 1824.

Your honourable court will perceive, with pleasure, a gradual reduction in the number of sutees since the year 1820, as noted below; and we have great hopes that the measures adopted at Poona, which were reported to you in our letter of the 22d May last, which have been acceded to by the people in the Concan, will still further diminish

the number of victims to this lamentable superstition.

1820	66	1822	47
1821	50	1823	33

Translation of Answers on the Subject of Sutees, by a Shastree of Surat, to Questions put to him by Mr. Borrodale.

Question 1st. What woman is permitted by the dhurm shastr to burn with the body of her husband?

The wives of the four great classes (varn) of Hindoos (Brahmun, Kshutree, Vyshyn, and Shoodr); and those of other castes, or subdivi-

sions of these, provided the widow be of the defunct's own class, and lawfully married to him under one of the eight rites, (having always lived in obedience to her husband,) puttee vrith; and provided the husband was unexceptionable in his life, have the power after their husband's death of becoming a brumhacharya, of remaining single like a good woman; or of performing the sughumun (accompanying), or suttee. The authorities for these alternatives are as follow:—

In the Mitakshuree we meet with the words of Vishnoo, "After the death of her husband a woman may become a brumhacharya, or she may accompany his corpse" (to the pile).

In the Brumh Virurta Pooran it is said, "She who accompanies her husband's corpse to the pile acts very greatly, or she may remain a widow if she like without disgrace." The same book says, "A woman of this Kulyoog who has lost her husband has no resource left but going to suttee;" but this evidently alludes to one who is incapable of remaining single, and leading a virtuous life.

Munoo says, "Let a woman either become a brumhacharya or burn (with her husband)."

Kashee Khimdee writes; "Every woman after the death of her husband should preserve widowhood (undefiled), for by remaining a widow she will hereafter receive joy with that husband again among the inhabitants of heaven."

Hareet, in his Smrittee, says, "As long as a widow refrains from burning with her husband, so long does she retain her sex;" wherefore it appears to the shastree to be understood, that a widow in burning transmigrates to the male sex. It is therefore to be inferred, that she may not expect so much happiness in heaven from burning, as from remaining a brumhacharya, or holy widow.

In the Smrityurth Sar Grunth (which means the pith of the commentaries upon the shaster), it is written, "A widow of any caste, if she have been a puttee vrith (a good wife), may choose either to burn with her husband or to remain a brumhacharya, or to burn on a separate pile (unvaroo), which is enjoined to a wife of a different caste from the husband. Any one of these three acts performed, will atone for her own and her husband's sins, and they will both be absorbed in Brimha; for this reason, one of these three acts should be performed; and they are equally permitted to all ranks, even to the lowest, or chundal." It is written in the Maha Bharat, "Let a widow who has been a good wife (puttee vrith) be sent to the fire."

The Prugvid holds, that a virtuous woman alone, and not a bad woman (door vrith), is entitled to perform these acts; and the Brumha Pooran says the same.

The Brumh Narudce Pooran has it thus: "A widow whose caste is different from that of her husband, may become a brumhacharya,

or perform the unvaroo (that is, burn on a different pile); but a widow, being of the same caste as her husband, must become a brumhacharya, or burn on the same pile."

Question 2d: How may a woman, who is unclean from the menses, or has lately borne a child, or whose husband died in a far country, perform the sughumun or suttee?

A widow, labouring under her courses, may perform suttee on the fifth day, when a woman is held to be again clean; or by performing the usual penance enjoined for a woman's purification, in any urgent case, for as many days as remain unexpired of the five. The penance is thus explained in the Devyadriyik Nibundh:

"When a man dies at the time his wife is labouring under her courses, and the widow wishes to sacrifice herself before they are finished, she may thus render herself clean.

Let her pound with a pestle sixty-four seers of rice in the husk, and the impurities will by exercise flow from her body: let her then persuade herself that no impurities remain,

and examine her body: let her five times clean her whole body with five kinds of earth, one to be taken from a horse's hoof, the second from under an elephant's foot, the third from a white ant's nest, or any little mound

in a jungle, the fourth from under a cow's foot, the fifth from under the foot of a rhinoceros (vurah); and let her on the first day

give away thirty cows to Brumhamuns, and the second twenty, on the third ten, on the fourth five, and on the fifth one cow: let her then be declared pure by the mouth of a brahmun (vigr), and she may then burn."

Thus says the Devyadayik on the second point: "A woman left a widow by a husband of her own class, or suvarna; a woman who has borne a child is called sootika, and remains unclean fourteen days after childbirth: but a woman can only burn on the same pile with her husband's body, therefore a suvarna sootika cannot burn."

The woman of a different class from her husband, called a suvarna, it is thought may burn on the eleventh day, when become clean; for this reason, that she is not restricted to burn on the same pile with her husband.

The widow of a man who died in a far country may burn with his bones, &c. The Mudun Pareejeat says on this point, "The widow of a brahmin who has died abroad may burn with her husband's bones: the widow of other classes may burn with their husband's shoes, clothes, or other things (which have touched his body)."

Question 3d. What benefit accrues to a widow, or to her husband, from her burning with his body?

The widow and her husband, and the whole body of their relations, are benefited by the act. Hareet says, "The woman who burns with the body of her husband after his death, shall

be considered like Uroonhutee, wife of the Rukhee Vashista (who is fixed in the heavens as a constellation by the side of her husband, translated as one of the stars of Ursa Major, the seven bright stars of which constellation Indian astronomers distinguish by the names of the seven great Prushtees); as his wife was famous for her virtue, and was rewarded by a place in heaven; so will a woman who burns, likewise obtain a place by her husband in heaven.

Ujjira writes: "As a snake-catcher with force seizes the snake and drags him from his hole, so the virtuous woman by force drags her husband up to heaven, washing away his sins by going suttee; and obtains happiness for both."

In the chapter Pret Kaly, of the Guroot Pooran, Vishnoo says: "As an innocent man, who stands a trial by ordeal of fire, is thereby cleared of the crime charged against him, and suffers no harm or pain, so a woman who burns with her husband's body, suffers no pain in her soul from the act of burning her body." As the seven metals by being heated in the fire become purified from dross, but are not themselves consumed, so a woman who burns herself feels as if bathing in nectar.

Shukra, in his Smrittee, says: "The woman who burns with her husband's body shall live with him in heaven among the gods for three and a half krores (thirty-five millions) of heavenly years; each day of the gods being equal to one mortal year." He in another place repeats the words of Harret, above recorded: "The woman who, forsaking fortune, children, and parents, follows the body of her husband to the pile, shall be supremely happy."

The Nirmyn Sindhoos says, speaking of a woman not permitted to burn on the same pile with her husband, "A woman should burn, because she thereby obtains absolution for the sins of both, and enables him and herself to escape Hell; moreover, she obtains for both the rewards of all the heavens; and, finally, she is absorbed in Brahma along with him, remaining his wife in the intermediate transmigrations in this world, in which they shall be blessed with issue, riches, and other good things."

Harret says, "Hear my words, spoken of a woman who burns after the death of her husband. As a woman has three krores and a half of hairs upon her body, for every hair shall she enjoy a thousand years in heaven. A woman who burns after the death of her husband, expiates the sins of her father's, and of her mother's; and of her father-in-law's relations."

In the Pruthvee Chundrodaya book of the Skund Pooran (the life and adventures of Kartik Seemee), it is written, "For every step a

woman makes from her house to the funeral pile (Gusan chitees than, &c.) will she acquire the benefit of an ashviniak."

The Nirmyn Sindhoos sums up all the advantages above set forth, in the words: "1. To become equal to Uroonhutee; 2d. To be great among the inhabitants of heaven; 3rd. To live in happiness with her husband in heaven for as many years as she has hairs on her body; 4th. For fourteen Indrees; 5th. To cleanse from sins their relations; 6th. To atone for her husband; if he have injured a brahmin or a friend; 7th. To be inseparable from her husband; 8th. To be rendered fit for absorption; and; 9th. To change her sex. These are the fruits obtained to a woman from the above acts."

Question 4th. Is there any woman incapable of performing suttee?

A woman who carries a child in her womb, who has a child unweaned; who is in a state of uncleanness from recent child-birth, or from her monthly courses; who is a prostitute; who is guilty of deadly sins (mahapap, laid down in the Untakshura and other books); who is not obedient to her husband; and walks by her own will alone; who has not known what it is to be affected with the monthly courses; who one of these has any right to burn herself, and others might be specified. The authorities are the Nirmyn Sindhoos and Mudun Pareyat, the Mudun Rut Smrittee Sungruth, in the words of Brahusputee, the Pruthvee Chundrodaya Gurooreeya, Shodh-dhee-Tuto, Brahus Naradee Pooran. The originals, containing nothing more than is above explained, are not translated. The concluding words of the Mudove Pareyat are as follows: "Both the person burning, and any of the above circumstances, and her husband, shall be accounted guilty of sin."

Question 5th. Is it in the power of any one to prevent a woman performing suttee; and, if it may be forbidden, on what grounds forbid?

Any of the women above declared unauthorised to burn, may be prevented by their relations and those superior to them in age, or in understanding, or by their spiritual teacher, only the caste; or finally by the prince. Among the unauthorised may be reckoned all those instigated by want, anger, fear, and abstraction of mind; for in the Mitakshura it is thus written, in the words of Yagnyovulkyay: "A female in her childhood before marriage must be taken care of by her father, in her youth by her

mother, and after marriage by her husband. A ceremony performed with a hundred particular marks and qualities. One hundred ashvinaeds form a yugava, and the performer of a yugava obtains the three of Indrees."

One year makes a day of heaven, or 360 mortal years make a heavenly one; 12,000 heavenly years one chutooryoog, (or revolution of the four yooos sutyooog of 8,400 heavenly years; 3,600 of 3,600 heavenly years; 2,400 of 2,400; and the 1,200) seventy; 7,000 chutooryoogs one day of Brahma, or fourteen Indrees. This is taken from the Bhagvat Pooran, in the words of Vyas.

husband; and in her old age by her son. In the event of her not possessing these relations, the caste must take care of her. If there be none of her caste, then let the prince do it: she possesses no power to follow her own way in the performance of improper acts." Munoo says the same in every point, adding: She must be watched carefully in the minutest actions: grief will fall upon the families of her father and her husband if they neglect this.

From many other authorities the necessity of this might be proved.

Question 6. In what manner is a widow enjoined to perform suttee?

She must perform it according to the rules laid down in the shurin shastr, Akhyandree, in the branch of the Veejoorveda, written by him, says, "Let the widow watch when the soul of her husband is about to leave his body (when it is quivering in his throat), and at that moment make her a vow (sunkulp) in the following words: God made me what I am, and gave me a husband to fix my attention upon; wherefore, O husband! I will accompany thee, that in the next life also thou mayest be mine. Let her then perform her ablutions, and make the usual presents given by a person about to die, according to her ability. Let her after bathing adorn herself as a married woman, perform the usht lubaya, or eight ceremonies, viz. paint her eye-lashes with kojul; anoint her hair with oil, put the zeeka or patch between the eye-brows; put on the kunth sootr or kalée gau-thee (a necklace of small beads), put on her bracelets, wear a dress of either red or yellow silk cloth, put on her toe-rings, and put on her bodice (called yauchookee or kachoolce), being a sort of choker, but tying behind and not covering the back; and put on all her ornaments. Then, being full dressed, let her worship four married women who are mothers of families, and sitting down with them make a dinner of rice milk (doodhpak), ghee, and honey mixed together. If she cannot do this, let her take milk with them, or at least water. Having done this four times; and a munter being duly repeated each time, the first may never be a widow; the second, May I never for an instant be separated from my husband; the third, May I never be barren; the fourth, May I never experience misfortune; let her distribute these four women, pan soeparee, clothes, ornaments, saffron, sandal-wood, and a pashil composed of ven ingredients, and then crave pardon of her relations for all faults ever committed by her towards them, and the same of her intimate or dearest friends. This must be done with cheerfulness and a pleasant countenance. After this, taking rice soaked in saffron she must throw it over and about the house, blessing the house at the same

time; and all these things having been accomplished, she may accompany her husband's body to the river side. Let her there perform the functions of marga, and purifying herself with earth and with water, perform the achmun (a pretended ablution of the inward man) after these occasions, performed by taking up water three times in the palm of the hands, and turning the wrist (not the fingers) to the mouth, pouring or pretending to pour the water out of the hand into it, repeating munters at the same time. Then must she repeat the mahá preyo (a prayer to God for forgiveness of sins, in which every possible sin is recapitulated by the person confessing, praying he, or she may be forgiven for all and every one of them which she may have committed), and bathe again during its rehearsal, expressing her determination to (burn with) accompany the body of her husband, and that her ablation is for that purpose. When the ablation is finished, let her put on other clothes of cotton thread, coloured as above mentioned, and upon that spot make offering to a brahmin of a cow or its value, as oothrantee, or given for the purpose of propitiating the gods, and prevailing on them to render the sacrifice free from pain, with the cow must be given 27 wal of gold, and any other offerings according to the ability of the woman. Again she must put on matron's apparel, and pay mental devotion to Vishnoo at the time of approaching the pile (cheeta); and placing pinda, or balls made of rice flour either by her own or friends' hands, on the ground, say to each pinda, being of such and such descent (gender) and name, am about to die, do you keep me company. Thus having put six balls on six different spots—(this is done to propitiate Yum Raja, the stern and just judge of human actions, both good and bad. The first is to be put on the death-bed; the second on the threshold; the third in the market-place; the fourth on the visram, or spot halfway between the house and place of interment, where the corpse is always set down for a short time; the fifth is to be put into the hand of the deceased when upon the pile, and the sixth is buried in the ground with a small bone taken from any part of the body above the navel, each of these balls is intended as food for the deceased, or as a refresher for one of the six messengers of Yum Raja, who comes for the dead at the different stages above mentioned),—or at least on the banks of the river, let her make a water offering to the sun, let her make expressing the taking up water in both hands, joined, putting in flowers, rice, betle, sandal-wood, five precious gifts, &c. and pouring them out before the sun), saying the following prayers: The offering I have just made thee, O sun, it is fitting thou shouldst receive and be propitious to me; for thou art the

witness (of the deeds) of the whole world;
 Saying this, let her clasp her hands, looking
 at the sun, and repeat his praises as follows:
 "Thou, O sun! art Bramah; thou art Vish-
 noo; and thou art Roodh (seize or ordhadeo);
 thou art Piyaputte (the three sons of Bramha,
 who officiate as his lords of the creation), as
 well as soorya, the isin; thou art the eight
 versus, and even the great soul itself. O
 Vishnoo! (the son under this name) thou art
 my preserver and my lord, whether thou
 goest to heaven or to hell, or wheresoever else
 thou goest, thither I will follow and adhere
 unto thee. Be not therefore angry with me;
 thou canst free even the murderer of a brah-
 min from the house of Yum Raja; and from
 the bondage of isin. Let the woman then
 retire within herself, saying, "I am Bramah,
 Vishnoo; and the sun (soorya); I am mistress
 of the ten ends of the earth; but the sun and
 moon, wind and fire, sky, earth, and water,
 morning and evening, my own soul and the
 heaven above, day and night, and religion, all
 are conscious and constant witnesses of the
 innermost thought of man; you are all power-
 ful; be propitious therefore in this my dif-
 ficult undertaking." Having made this invo-
 cation, let the woman go before the body of
 her husband, and pour out another offering
 of water and flowers mixed, repeating this
 munter: "O husband! pardon whatever
 faults I have willingly or unwillingly com-
 mitted towards thee. Be propitious, O hus-
 band! to me, for thou art in my eyes the
 greatest amongst men; thou art all the gods
 to me, and in the light of all the holy rivers
 of pilgrimage the object of my greatest rever-
 ence (sinh-roop); I prostrate myself before
 thee, O Lord! my soul, and great spirit."
 She must then take up the body and lay it
 out upon the pile; then pour out another
 water offering over the pile, mixed with all
 kinds of flowers, pronouncing this munter:
 "Thou Bramah, under the form of Vishnoo,
 art lord of the funeral pile; I make an offer-
 ing to thee, and prostrate myself before thee;
 for I wish to accompany my husband to his
 place, and pray thee to permit me. Then
 turning about, say: "Pardon all ye people,
 when this is done, let her make a burnt
 sacrifice with ghee, repeating munters from
 the vedw (which are not given here, as not
 allowed to be spoken before any but Hindoos;
 these munters are out of the phoorns); and
 having done so, let her rub her body with
 ghee, putting leaves of the foolsee, and five
 precious things into her own mouth. Then
 walking round the pile, come before a lamp
 fed with ghee made of cow's milk (with which
 the pile is to be lighted) and recite the praises
 of the lamp, kneeling before it, with joined
 hands. Thou art the dispeller of darkness
 thy light is all-powerful, it is in all the
 corners of the earth; kneel before thee

propitious to me. The light of life which is
 in me I acknowledge to be derived from thee
 (the doctrine of Ugnée Pooran); wherefore I
 beseech thee to enlighten the road by which
 I am about to seek my husband. Noble
 the woman ascend the pile, repeating this
 munter: "I do embrace the body of my hus-
 band, conscious of never for a moment having
 thought or wished him ill in any life-time;
 and thus embracing him, I am about to die in
 the fire. My thoughts are fixed upon my
 husband's fate, and before the God of the
 universe I prostrate myself. Then taking
 roses and other flowers in her hands, let her
 say to the fire: "O fire! thou movest like a
 witness through the midst of the universe;
 for thou art inherent in every thing, and
 knowest whatever is concealed from every
 thing else. I am about to follow my husband
 from the dread of widowhood, do thou there-
 fore shew me the road, and lead me to my
 husband." O fire! consume the whole of
 this my body, and quickly render me pure;
 in like manner purify that of my husband.
 O fire! I am going near my husband. The
 by-standers seeing the climax of the scene
 arrived shall then clap their hands, and her
 relations shall cry aloud, upon the name of
 Hurree, &c. that the suttée may hear it.
 Question 7th. Can the prince or people of
 her caste refuse to receive among them a woman
 who having resolved to burn with her husband,
 has been induced to retreat (from fear) from the
 pile? The prince and the people of her own caste
 must, after the expiration of twelve days, receive
 back into the caste, and into society (the village),
 a woman who has resolved to burn with her
 husband, but has retreated, through fear, from
 the pile; when she has performed the penance
 enjoined by the dhurm-shaster. This says
 Yagnyavalkyee: "Prayuschi (penance) is an
 atonement for sin. He who doth not that
 which he ought to do; who doeth that which
 he ought not to do, who retains not his ten
 members (called bindruya), including the
 senses of seeing, hearing, and smelling, and
 the sensual passion; but allows them to work
 their own way; such a one departs from his
 religious duty, and, becoming a sinner, can
 return to his former pure state only through
 penance performed. Question 8th. Does the woman who sets out
 to accompany (burn with) her husband, and
 from fear does not complete the sacrifice, become
 liable to the penalty of sin, or impure? Such a woman does become liable to the pen-
 alty of sin (ashoodh) or is impure; for Yum
 (in the Yum Smritee) says: "Let the person who
 resolves to destroy his own life by water, fire,
 or strangling, and retreats, who resolves to
 become an ascetic, and retreats, who com-
 mences starvation, or determines to take poi-
 son, to throw himself from a precipice, to kill

himself with sharp weapons; and retracts from any of these modes of voluntary death; let him be excommunicated from all mortal society. Question 9th. Is any penance enjoined in the Dharm Shaster, for a widow who has retracted from her vow to follow her husband to the pile, and enter her pure again? Such penance is written in the Shaster; for Purashur, in the Smrittee, in the chapter, "the established modes of death," says, "He who, having resolved upon any of the established modes of death, being either by water, fire, leaping from a precipice, becoming a sunysee or ascetic, starvation, retracts and refuses to perform it, what penance must be undergone." Question 10th. If a woman can become pure by penance, in what manner, and to what extent, must she perform it? The penance of this is laid down in the Apustamba Smrittee as follows: "A woman who has retracted from the funeral pile (cheeta), running away through distraction (mohu), becomes liable to one praya putya, which means, feed twelve brahmins. This penance expiates the sin." Question 11th. After the woman has performed the above enjoined penance, is she fully restored to the exercise of her religious privileges and of her worldly duties, or not? She is then fully restored to the free exercise of her privileges, both in religion and worldly affairs, for the object of that penance was to atone for the sin; and the penance having been performed, the expiation is complete by the removal of the sin, wherefore the woman is restored to her rights. This is according to the Nirnaya Sindho, who says, "Penance destroys sin." Question 12th. Is any punishment enjoined in the Shaster for those persons who forcibly resist the burning or sacrifice of a woman who has of her own accord commenced it, but does not choose to perfect it by burning? The punishment will be equal to half that denounced against a wilful murderer; for those who by force throw a woman into the fire against her will, do it with this impression on their mind: "that it is a most meritorious act for a widow to burn with her husband, for she herself of her own accord is who resolves to burn with the body of her husband; and devotes by a vow her own body to his service; performing the ceremonies enjoined by her religion, invoking the sun and fire, and with her own free will ascends the pile herself, setting it on fire; if, by her ill fate, she cannot support the pain of burning; and she starts out from the pile again, and her relations with all hope of doing her service, even against her will, should throw her by force again into the fire, they are in their hearts guilty of wilful murder; yet they do put her alive into the fire, and cause her death, and are thereby certainly rendered liable to all the penalties denounced for a woman murder. But the intent of the persons

so acting is not wilfully to take her life, since they are actuated by no deliberate or premeditated malice (prepnise). Moreover they reflect on this woman, who has broken her holy vow to burn with her husband's body; she will be the laughing stock of all men; and an excommunicated wretch. Let us oblige her, to perform her vow." Acting under these impressions; and ignorant of the law of the Shaster as bearing on the subject; if they burn her their case comes under the law of the Shaster, that an unpremeditated and unwilling act only half equals the magnitude of a wilful and premeditated one; wherefore, as their crime is only half as great, the penance of punishment must only be half as severe. For the words of Hareet in the streetwad chapter of the Prajushcet Mnyookh are as follows: "Asamei w kamito vudhie wetu devardham kulpum," which means, The unpremeditated death of any of the women above specified shall only be avenged by half the punishment above denounced against the wilful murder of any of them. Again in the Shaster it is written, "Keeping in mind the measure of atonement awarded; let the punishment be proportionate to it." This is my opinion, but after all the princes and the learned must settle the points. Question 13th. Is it permitted by the Shaster for a widow to retreat from the pile after she has reached it for the purpose of burning according to her vow? It is not actually permitted by the Shaster: Vishnoo writes in the Gurood Poooran in the pret kulp, or chapter on death, "The person (neuter gender) who having set out with intention to die at a feerth, or holy place of pilgrimage, on the banks of any holy river, and should retract and return; shall for every step back be considered guilty of the death of a cow." But he may still retain on performing the following penances: Let him represent to a learned Brahmin, "I have come with the intention of dying here; but my mind is not now equal to the undertaking; I wish to return home again; may it please you to permit me; therefore, to perform the penance enjoined in the Shaster, and to return." With the Brahmint's permission he shall then give away in alms, gold, a cow, landed property, an elephant, and a horse. He may then return home after going the great pilgrimage (to Benares). Question 14th. In what manner is the pile to be prepared for a woman about to burn with her husband's body? The pile must be covered over with grass laid upon branches or sticks. Shaikhayam Rusee writes in the Shakra branch of the Rogvedu bearing his name, "Chetia suruntal sup hust premana patukhu kushit yodeta wen huycu dukhina dora vitte Rusee Kaya tushan or puryupce runjoomalhoi tidopiree kustu chyan induth yadite," which means, Build

a room around the pile itself of seven cubits breadth, all around it (the pile) made of grass, with sticks, and let a door be on the south; over it tie a roof of sticks, and cover it in.

Question 15th. When, where, and how is a widow to make a vow of burning with her husband's body?

She must make her vow, or *suukulp*, precisely as explained in answer to the 6th question.

Question 16th. Will the husband of a widow, who has made a vow to burn, but retracting is by force thrown into the fire by others, receive the same benefit from it as from a voluntary *suttee*?

The benefits derived from a voluntary sacrifice have been above detailed; but none of these benefits will accrue from the violent sacrifice of a widow by others against her will; for in the *Blagyt Geeta* it is written, in the words of Shree Krishna, "*Shrudhka, vohimung yet-kwemia neka mootr plul prudung*;" which being interpreted is, The act of a person obliged to perform it against his own will obtains no reward either in heaven or earth.

Question 17th. Is the penance enjoined in the *Shaster* for widows of the four great classes, of Hindoos who retract their vow of burning, the same, or different, in kind or degree?

The penance enjoined for all is the very same, for this reason: that the word used in the *Aputumber*, in the quotation from these Veds respecting penances for women, is "*naree*," which is applicable to the female sex in general.

Extract, published in the *Bombay Courier* of the 16th of October, 1824, of a letter dated *Soverndroog*, 29th Sept. 1824, giving an account of a *suttee* which had recently taken place in that neighbourhood:—

"I have felt so shocked by a scene of superstition and cruelty which I yesterday witnessed, that I cannot refrain from giving you an account of it. We indeed read such expressions as, 'the stale subject of *sutties*,' &c.; but this is language which can be used only by those who have never witnessed their horrors, and who contemplate the melancholy subject at a distance, or through a distorted medium. It is true there is a something in the frequent contemplation of ignorance, superstition, and wretchedness, which has a tendency to blunt the human feelings; and who that has resided for any time in India is not constrained to say, with the venerable archdeacon of Calcutta, the scenes around me grow horribly familiar." Our feelings, however, on any subject, can never alter its real nature; and it is of importance that we should be aroused, when, to any of particular horror, we have, by their frequent occurrence, been rendered indifferent and callous. It is more for this purpose than from the idea that I can communicate any thing new, that I write you an account of the first *suttee* I have seen.

"I left this early yesterday morning to visit — at *Broondie* and *Koorundah*, and, on returning, was surprised to find an immense concourse of people assembled on the shore at the further end of the village of *Murood*. On inquiring at my hammals, I found that a *suttee* was about to be performed, and of course immediately stopt. The pile was, already prepared, and the corpse placed on it. The deluded victim had arrived at the ground, and was preparing for the last and dreadful scene. I felt, at that moment an irresistible trembling seize on my whole frame, when I thought on the appalling spectacle I was then unexpectedly called to witness: *that*, however, was not the time to indulge personal feelings; and I determined to improve the short period that might intervene to set before the people the wickedness of the work in which they were engaged, and to dissuade the poor deluded woman from her rash and dreadful purpose.

"My first inquiries were directed to the circumstances of the case, when I found that the deceased was a *Brahmin* of the village, who had suddenly expired on the preceding day; that, on his wife expressing her resolution to burn along with him, the friends had gone to *Bankote*, and had returned that morning with an order, or rather permission, from the *soobahdar*. This permission I found that the people most ignorantly and perversely abused; and, at every stage of my argument with them, an appeal was made to the order of government as a vindication of their conduct. There can be no doubt of the benevolent intention of government in issuing such an order, and as little of its beneficial influence in many instances, as it prevents the employment of force; but the people construe it into a direct approval of the dreadful act; and a long time, *Sircar ka hookim*, seemed to form a triumphant answer to all my arguments. The poor wretched woman I found seated on a mat, and surrounded by about forty or fifty females, who all seemed to be in a state of perfect indifference, and were frequently laughing to each other. I was particularly anxious to discover if any intoxicating draught had been administered to her; but of this there was no appearance, as she seemed to be in the possession of all her faculties, and gave distinct answers to all my questions. She told me that she had no family; that her mother-in-law had burned with her husband, on the same spot, about two months ago; that she was resolved to follow her footsteps; that in so doing she obeyed the commandment of God, and was certain of everlasting happiness. I endeavoured to set before her the absurdity of such conduct, and to shew how much it was at variance with the character of the Divine Being; and that, in place of per-

forming an acceptable service, she was doing the very thing which he had commanded not to be done, and assured her, that if poverty had driven her to her present resolution, if she would only abandon it I would find her adequate support." After reasoning with her a long time, I took higher ground, and plainly told her she was a self-murderer; and that, instead of finding happiness after death as the reward of her conduct, she must be visited with the punishment which a murderer deserves. She told me that she was not poor; that she had never committed any sin; that her heart was holy; that she had gone to God, and that He had ordered her to do what she was about to do. This last expression she explained by saying that she had gone to the idol, and that it had told her to burn. It immediately struck me that perhaps some interested individual had induced her to go to the temple, and had employed means to give her such an answer; but on this subject I could obtain no information, as her answers were vague and unsatisfactory. In the mean time the Brahmins seemed impatient of the delay which my remonstrances had occasioned, and at first attempted to answer for the woman; but upon my rejecting their interference, they gave me no further interruption. I endeavoured to set before them also the wickedness of their conduct, and told them that all who took any part in the dreadful transaction could be regarded only as murderers. I appealed to their common sense and feeling; and one of them, whom I had often previously seen, and who pretends to a greater share of enlightened ideas than his neighbours, said, that it was a bad practice, but it was according to the commandment of the Shaster, and what could be done? I asked him, and those around, if they believed in the wisdom and benevolence of the Divine Being; and if so, they thought that Being could command any thing that is bad? But upon my pressing home their admissions, and asking how, on their principles, they could believe that their Shaster came from God, when it desired them to do what their own consciences told them was sinful? the only answer they attempted to give was, It is the custom, and we have got the government order for so doing.

After I had spent more than an hour, without producing any salutary impression, it occurred to me that the presence of another European might perhaps give some weight to my arguments and entreaties. I therefore dispatched one of the hammals for my friend Mr. G. while I endeavoured to detain the multitude from the execution of their purpose until his arrival. It was then mid-day, and the dazzling rays of the sun, as reflected from the beach, produced such an overpowering heat, that I was compelled to take shelter in

an open shed, which gave them an opportunity of proceeding with their ceremonies. These were nearly completed when Mr. G. arrived. Again we entreated them to consider the consequences of what they were doing; and, with all the earnestness in our power, endeavoured to dissuade the unhappy woman from her purpose. We reminded her of the many Brahmnee widows who had not adopted this practice; again we proffered her support; but she said she was determined not to return home, but to adhere to her first resolution.

We were then under the painful necessity of giving up all hope, and abandoning them to the strong delusion they had chosen. The ceremonies which were performed on the occasion were few, and have often been described. The widow took off her ornaments and gave them to her sister-in-law, who was the only person in the whole company that seemed in the least affected. She partially undressed and bathed in the sea, from which she returned singing some verses, while a Brahmmin sprinkled her with a red powder, which seems to be frequently used in their religious services. She then sat down in front of the pile surrounded by five or six aged Brahmmins, and, at their dictation, repeated certain prayers. She walked twice round the pile with her hands clasped, and then distributed some beetle-nut and spice to those around, who fell at her feet and did her reverence, as a being of a superior nature. She ascended and calmly laid herself down on the pile, without the smallest assistance; and nothing I have ever witnessed surprised me more than the indifference with which she went through the whole. She was a young woman of perhaps about twenty-two, in the full vigour of health and strength. There appeared no symptom of grief for her departed husband, and I should certainly have thought her in a state of stupor, but for the answers she gave to our questions, and the composure with which she performed all the ceremonies.

No sooner had she laid herself down on the pile, than her husband's brother heaped around the entrance an additional quantity of dried grass, calmly gathering his flowing garments around him, and set fire to the whole. Oh! I shall never forget that Satanic joy which at this moment was displayed by the whole multitude, by the clapping of hands, and a shout which sent to my inmost soul a thrill of inexpressible horror!

The only reason why Mr. G. and I remained to witness the end, was the probability of at least the possibility of the woman's repenting an escape in which case we could when things came to the extremity attempt an escape in which case we could have ceased that a positive interference to stop all further proceeding would be lawful. But almost on the first application of the flames,

“ the roof fell in, and rendered such an attempt utterly impossible, and seeing this we immediately left the ground.

“ In addition to a desire of arousing further attention to suttees, there are two reasons which have induced me to enter into these melancholy details. The first of these is the hope of drawing forth some explicit statement of the particular circumstances under which an European may interfere to prevent such dreadful acts as I have now described. I know that the general regulation of the company is not to interfere with the religious practices of the natives; but, when the life of a fellow creature is at stake, I am convinced there will be some limitation to the general rule. For example, on minutely reflecting on the present case, there were two circumstances on which I am doubtful if an interference might not have been lawful: first, the application of the fire; and secondly, the form of the pile. In reference to the first I have heard various statements, but the prevailing one seems to be, that if the widow herself apply not the flame it is unlawful for any other person to do so. Now, in the present instance, I am convinced this was not the case. It is true, indeed, when I saw the poor deluded creature actually mount the pile, I really felt so agitated as not to be able minutely to observe if she took a light along with her. But of this I am certain, that some time had elapsed, after she had mounted and laid herself down, before the fire was applied from below, and previous to this no flame could be seen in any part of the pile; but the instant it was thus applied the whole was in a blaze.

“ In reference to the form of the pile, I understand it is a regulation that space should be left for the escape of the person, should she, on the application of the fire, endeavour to do so. Now if, in the present case, the letter of the law was attended to, it was done in such a manner as to render escape quite impossible. The roof was formed of two beams, which were crossed by heavy billets of wood, and might be about two feet thick; the one end rested on the body of the pile, and the other was raised about two feet

“ above it, and was slightly tied to two of the posts which formed the principal supports of the whole. There was thus a small space at each side, and at the entrance, which admitted of escape; but then I distinctly remember that large quantities of dried grass were placed around the posts, which instantly led the fire to the ropes, and consequently that part of the roof fell in; and being on a level with the body of the pile at the other end, all escape was impossible even before the woman could have forcibly felt the effect of the flame.

“ Another circumstance which made me suspect this was designed was, that the moment the roof fell in the brother-in-law turned to a person near him, and gave a significant nod of his head and a laugh, as if to say, ‘Now all is safe.’ Perhaps were it distinctly explained in what circumstances any interference is lawful, some such horrid act might be prevented; for who would not seize on the minutest circumstance if it gave any hope of saving the life of a fellow creature?

“ My second reason for writing the above is, to endeavour to do away with the impression that suttees are not so frequent as we are apt to imagine; the reverse of this I am convinced is the case. There was one, as I have mentioned above, on the same spot about two months ago, within three miles of my own door, and the inhabitants of which I almost daily see, and yet it was never heard of by any European in the neighbourhood till now; and in all probability the present would never have been known had I not been passing accidentally at the time. In general it is only when attended by some peculiar circumstances that they are brought before the public, and thus hundreds of our fellow subjects may be burnt alive, under the influence of a cruel and unnatural superstition, while we are pleasing ourselves with the idea that such instances are but of rare occurrence.

“ Who does not earnestly desire the adoption of some effectual measures for the universal diffusion of that heavenly system which carries knowledge and benevolence, holiness and joy along with it, wherever its influence is felt?”

ABSTRACT of the number of Hindoo Widows who have been immolated on the pile of their Husbands in the various Districts under each of the Presidencies of *Bengal, Madras, and Bombay*, in each Year, from 1815 to the latest period to which the same can be made up from the documents in *England*.

	1814	1815	1816	1817	1818	1819	1820	1821	1822	1823
BENGAL		378	442	707	839	650	597	654	583	575
FORT ST. GEORGE		80		183		17				
BOMBAY						52	67	50	48	38

COLONIAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

ABSTRACT of Colonial Income and Expenditure.

	Income.			Expenditure.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Trinidad	46,289	11	0 $\frac{3}{4}$	41,465	2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Malta	213,110	11	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	141,917	14	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cape of Good Hope	194,582	7	3	166,675	11	1
Mauritius	The ship in which the accounts were sent was wrecked on the coast of Africa.					

FINANCE.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

AN ACCOUNT of the Aggregate Amount of all Balances of Public Money in the Hands of the Bank; including the Money taken from the Exchequer by the Bank, in exchange for Exchequer Bills deposited at the Exchequer; and including also, the Balances of the Accountant General of the Court of Chancery, Unclaimed Dividends, and Lottery Prizes, and all other public Deposits; on the 1st and 15th days of each Month, for the year 1824;— stating the Average Amount of the whole, made up from the said days.

1824: January..... 1.....	£9,368,897
15.....	6,830,513
February..... 1.....	6,317,746
15.....	6,541,342
March..... 1.....	7,652,289
15.....	8,083,305
April..... 1.....	9,265,619
15.....	6,108,810
May..... 1.....	5,821,419
15.....	6,408,544
June..... 1.....	7,921,604
15.....	9,502,084
July..... 1.....	10,359,773
15.....	7,045,371
August..... 1.....	5,000,128
15.....	5,433,746
September... 1.....	6,490,857
15.....	6,920,559
October..... 1.....	7,206,588
15.....	6,214,383
November... 1.....	6,269,555
15.....	6,163,335
December.... 1.....	7,729,350
15.....	8,667,692
	24) 173,332,509
Average.....	£7,222,187

AN ACCOUNT of Money paid or payable at the Bank of England for the Management of the Public Debt, in the Year 1824; together with an Account of all Allowances made by the Public to the Bank, or charged by the Bank against the Public, for transacting any Public Service in the Year 1824; describing the nature of the service; and the Amount charged thereon in the said Year, and including the sum of £4,000, under the denomination of House Money or House Expenses, and also the sum of £1,898 3s. 5d. under the denomination of Charges of Management on South

Sea Stock; and stating the Aggregate Amount of the whole.

	£	s.	d.
Payable for management of the unredeemed public debt for one year, ending the 5th April, 1825, being the annual period at which the accounts are made up, as directed by the act 48 Geo. III. c. 4.....	255,387	3	1
Ditto, ditto, for one year, ending ditto, on sundry annuities transferred to the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt, for the purchase of life annuities, per act 48 Geo. III. and subsequent acts	2,451	3	3
Charge for receiving contributions on one lottery, for the service of the year 1823 (one contract), at the rate of 1,000 <i>l.</i> per contract.....	1,000	0	0
Charges of management, being part of an entire yearly fund of 100,000 <i>l.</i> enjoyed by the governor and company of the Bank of England, originally by the act of the 5th and 6th of William and Mary, c. 20, confirmed to the said governor and company by several subsequent acts; and, lastly, by the act of the 39th and 40th Geo. III. c. 28, as per return made to the honourable house of commons, on the 21st June, 1816	4,000	0	0
Ditto, ditto, on 4,000,000 <i>l.</i> South Sea stock, purchased by the governor and company of the Bank of England of the South Sea company, and transferred by them to the said governor and company, in pursuance of the act of the 8th Geo. I. c. 21; and which charges of management were assigned by the said South Sea company to the said governor and company, out of a sum of 9,397 <i>l.</i> 9s. 6d. per annum, then paid by the public to the said South Sea company, for charges of management on their funds; as per return made to the honourable house of commons, on the 21st June, 1816	1,898	3	5
	264,736	9	9

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Gold and Silver, which has passed through the Bullion Office of the Bank of England, in each Year since 1st January, 1810, to 1st January, 1825.

Year.	The sterling amount of gold.	The sterling amount of silver.	Total.
	£.	£.	£.
1810	515,920	1,817,930	2,333,850
1811	848,330	2,408,310	3,256,640
1812	1,413,070	1,310,110	2,723,180
1813	2,415,200	1,858,300	4,273,500
1814	1,918,530	1,928,500	3,847,030
1815	2,477,400	3,008,600	5,486,000
1816	5,631,900	2,759,300	8,391,200
1817	1,075,260	2,074,560	3,149,820
1818	337,650	2,928,050	3,265,700
1819	691,160	2,892,680	3,583,840
1820	4,530,000	2,891,400	7,421,400
1821	7,580,940	1,253,070	8,834,010
1822	2,711,380	2,399,690	5,111,070
1823	5,425,730	1,105,900	6,531,630
1824	1,496,330	1,608,140	3,104,470

AN ACCOUNT of the Amount of BALANCES of Sums issued for the Payment of Dividends due, and not demanded; and for the Payment of LOTTERY PRIZES or BENEFITS which had not been claimed, and which remained in the hands of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England on the under-mentioned days, being those next before the issue from the Exchequer of Money for the Payment of Dividends on Account of the National Debt, for each of the four preceding Quarters respectively.

On 5th April, 1824.	Dividends due and not demanded	£	s.	d.
	Lottery prizes not claimed	1,350,641	1	2
	Advanced to Government, pursuant to } 31st and 48th Geo. III.....	£876,739	0	9
	Ditto 56th do.	224,842	15	4
	Remained in the hands of the Bank.....£	1,101,581	16	1
On 5th July, 1824.	Dividends due and not demanded	£	s.	d.
	Lottery prizes not claimed	1,144,066	8	4
	Advanced to Government, pursuant to } 31st and 48th Geo. III.....	£876,739	0	9
	Ditto 56th do.	191,732	7	0
	Remained in the hands of the Bank.....£	1,068,471	7	9
On 10th October, 1824.	Dividends due and not demanded	£	s.	d.
	Lottery prizes not claimed	1,203,253	17	2
	Advanced to Government, pursuant to } 31st and 48th Geo. III.....	£876,739	0	9
	Ditto 56th do.	187,210	7	4
	Remained in the hands of the Bank.....£	1,063,949	8	1
On 5th January, 1825.	Dividends due and not demanded	£	s.	d.
	Lottery prizes not claimed	1,135,330	19	8
	Advanced to Government, pursuant to } 31st and 48th Geo. III.....	£876,739	0	9
	Ditto 56th do.	176,418	11	2
	Remained in the hands of the Bank.....£	1,053,157	11	11

AN ACCOUNT of the Average Amount of Bank Notes and Bank Post Bills, in Circulation for the Space of Three Years preceding the 6th of April, 1823, 6th April, 1824, and 6th April, 1825; which the Governor and Company of the Bank of England are directed by the Act 55 Geo. 3, c. 184, to deliver an-

nually, on 1st May, to the Commissioners of Stamps.

6th April1823.....£20,603,548 14 10½

6th April1824.....£18,984,499 19 1

6th April1825.....£19,092,005 14 11

COUNTRY BANKS.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Country Bankers' Notes stamped, in each Year, from 10th October, 1820, to the latest Period to which the same can be made up.

	RATES.	YEAR Ended 10th October,				Half Year ended 5th April, 1825.
		1821.	1822.	1823.	1824.	
Not exceeding 1 <i>l.</i> 1 <i>s.</i>	0 5	2,031,287	1,962,316	2,065,822	2,394,204	1,325,645
Exceeding 1 <i>l.</i> 1 <i>s.</i> and not exceeding 2 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i>	0 10	25,685	7,500	17,311	21,299	19,200
Exceeding 2 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i> and not exceeding 5 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i>	1 3	231,755	250,983	287,413	386,785	255,986
Exceeding 5 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> and not exceeding 10 <i>l.</i>	1 9	47,425	60,034	70,452	113,715	94,420
Exceeding 10 <i>l.</i> and not exceeding 20 <i>l.</i>	2 0	10,320	10,131	12,807	16,206	20,453
Exceeding 20 <i>l.</i> and not exceeding 30 <i>l.</i>	3 0	50	100	199	14	12
Exceeding 30 <i>l.</i> and not exceeding 50 <i>l.</i>	5 0	80	361	385	497	171
Exceeding 50 <i>l.</i> and not exceeding 100 <i>l.</i>	8 6	600	1,610	1,342	2,361	500

A STATEMENT of the Scale of Stamp Duties on Bills of Exchange of 100*l.* and under, from 5th January, 1823, to 5th January, 1825; with the Annual Produce of the Duties divided into Classes, according to the Value of the Stamps, to shew the number of Stamps of each Class issued in each Year.

	RATES.	YEAR Ending 5th January,			
		1824.		1825.	
	<i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>	Number.	Duty.	Number.	Duty.
From 2 <i>l.</i> to 5 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> short date	1 0	27,073	1,353 13 0	27,009	1,350 9 0
2 <i>l.</i> to 5 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> long date, and from 5 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> to 20 <i>l.</i> short date.....	1 6	204,463	15,334 14 6	207,179	15,538 8 6
5 <i>l.</i> 5 <i>s.</i> to 20 <i>l.</i> ditto, and from 20 <i>l.</i> to 30 <i>l.</i> ditto.....	2 0	199,812	19,981 4 0	203,170	20,317 0 0
20 <i>l.</i> to 30 <i>l.</i> ditto, and from 30 <i>l.</i> to 50 <i>l.</i> ditto.....	2 6	214,526	26,815 15 0	218,097	27,262 2 6
30 <i>l.</i> to 50 <i>l.</i> ditto, and from 50 <i>l.</i> to 100 <i>l.</i> ditto	3 6	217,096	37,991 16 0	225,446	33,453 1 0
50 <i>l.</i> to 100 <i>l.</i> ditto, and from 100 <i>l.</i> to 200 <i>l.</i> ditto	4 6	167,216	37,623 12 0	173,337	40,125 16 0

Note.—This Account is exclusive of the Issues by the Country Distributors of Stamps; the same not being distinguished in the Accounts rendered by them.

AN ACCOUNT of the official Value of British and Irish Produce and Manufactures, and of Foreign and Colonial Produce and Manufactures, exported from *Ireland*, distinguishing the several Countries; together with the Imports into *Ireland*, from the same Countries; for the Year ending 5th January, 1825.

COUNTRIES.	Official Value of IMPORTS.		OFFICIAL VALUE OF EXPORTS.											
	£	s. d.	British and Irish produce and manufactures.		Foreign and colonial merchandise.		Total Exports.							
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.						
EUROPE, exclusive of GREAT BRITAIN.	Russia	91,595	18	4	5,191	13	6	18	0	11	5,209	14	5	
	Sweden	5,100	9	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Norway	12,644	7	6	15,041	4	5	2,925	0	7	17,966	5	0	
	Denmark	—	—	—	1,879	0	9	—	—	—	1,879	0	9	
	Prussia	40,116	6	6	11,654	8	6	—	—	—	11,654	8	6	
	Germany	2,752	5	7	258	9	3	—	—	—	258	9	3	
	Holland	55,167	15	7	73	3	7	—	—	—	—	73	3	7
	Flanders													
	France	19,206	1	4	771	6	7	—	—	—	—	771	6	7
	Portugal, the Azores, and Madeira	56,311	2	11	68,660	0	10	1,658	16	9	70,318	17	7	
	Spain and the Canaries ...	124,974	8	1	4,027	0	8	—	—	—	4,027	0	8	
	Gibraltar	9,987	7	11	19,467	8	5	873	9	4	20,340	17	9	
	Italy	58,019	14	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Malta	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Ionian Islands	438	12	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	Turkey and the Levant ...	20,750	16	10	—	—	—	11	15	5	11	15	5	
	Isles Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, and Man ...	8,673	3	9	10,094	0	2	1,215	9	0	11,309	9	2	
	505,738	10	4	137,117	16	8	6,702	12	0	143,820	8	8		
ASIA: East Indies and China	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
New Holland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
AFRICA: Cape of Good Hope	2,870	11	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other parts of Africa	1,230	15	5	737	10	10	485	19	0	1,223	9	10		
AMERICA: British Colonies in North America	154,865	9	11	70,357	9	7	4,965	3	6	75,322	13	1		
Columbia River, and North West Coast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
British West Indies	500,005	2	11	293,767	10	4	3,330	9	3	297,097	19	7		
United States ...	241,776	17	1	186,497	19	7	675	2	2	187,173	1	9		
Foreign West Indies	—	—	—	66	9	3	—	—	—	66	9	3		
Brazil	—	—	—	16,969	14	10	29	11	3	16,999	6	1		
Mexico	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Columbia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Peru	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Chili	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Buenos Ayres and Montevideo ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
The whale fisheries	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Total, exclusive of Great Britain	£ 1,406,487	7	1	705,514	11	1	16,188	17	2	721,703	8	3		

Note.—The foregoing Account, which is founded upon the Irish records of commerce, and exhibits the value of the imports and exports, as computed at the Irish rates of valuation, is necessarily stated exclusively of the trade between Great Britain and Ireland, in consequence of the discontinuance of the register heretofore kept in Dublin, of the interchange of goods duty free between the two countries. The value of the imports and exports, constituting that branch of trade, is however subjoined; as it appears stated according to the British rates of valuation, in the books of the London department; viz.—

	£	s.	d.
Imports into Ireland from Great Britain	5,006,639	7	0
Exports from Ireland to Great Britain	5,588,146	9	6

AN ACCOUNT of the VALUE, as calculated at the official Rates, of all British and Irish Produce and Manufactures exported from Great Britain in each of the three Years ended 10th October, 1824; distinguishing the leading Branches of the Manufactures, &c. exported.

Branches of Manufactures.	Years Ended 10th October,		
	1822.	1823.	1824.
	£	£	£
Brass and copper manufactures.....	632,966	684,284	582,577
Cotton manufactures.....	23,938,260	24,618,588	26,880,937
— twist and yarn.....	2,418,813	2,626,632	3,133,347
Glass and earthenware of all sorts.....	271,422	276,994	284,368
Hardwares and cutlery.....	592,785	588,700	680,986
Iron and steel, wrought and unwrought....	1,412,218	1,409,616	1,490,314
Linen manufactures.....	2,504,009	2,667,916	3,174,834
Silk manufactures.....	212,855	183,752	189,813
Sugar, British refined.....	1,262,769	1,285,024	1,121,940
Woollen goods.....	6,593,177	5,977,424	6,880,200
All other articles.....	5,948,115	5,942,581	6,334,492
Total.....£	45,787,389	46,261,511	50,758,808

AN ACCOUNT of the VALUE, as calculated at the Official Rates, of all Foreign and Colonial Merchandise exported from Great Britain in each of the three Years ended 10th October 1824; distinguishing the principal Articles exported.

Principal Articles.	Years Ended 10th October,		
	1822.	1823.	1824.
	£	£	£
Barilla, alkali, and ashes.....	81,219	57,532	85,857
Coffee and cocoa.....	2,510,422	1,901,425	2,413,384
Copper, unwrought.....	86,752	103,896	211,201
Corn, grain, meal, and flour.....	251,477	293,490	141,403
Dyewoods; viz. fustic and logwood.....	78,266	151,086	80,538
Hides, raw and tanned.....	50,494	89,809	144,336
Indigo.....	498,716	564,101	533,847
Piece goods of India.....	1,111,596	1,036,604	1,033,733
Spelter.....	87,374	200,234	399,150
Spices, including pepper.....	447,696	577,981	561,725
Spirits.....	836,351	751,885	875,585
Sugar, raw.....	1,020,003	962,824	1,042,886
Tobacco.....	238,015	261,469	233,191
Wines.....	174,470	172,682	230,571
Wool, cotton.....	1,361,782	897,819	784,881
All other articles.....	2,127,726	1,768,993	2,206,026
Total.....£	10,962,359	9,791,830	10,978,314

AN ACCOUNT of the ordinary Revenues and extraordinary Resources, constituting the Public Income

Heads of revenue.	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
	Balances and bills outstanding on 31st January, 1824.	Gross receipt.	Repayments, allowances, discounts, drawbacks, and bounties of the nature of drawbacks; allowances to the two universities, on account of almshouses, and for paper and parchment to stamp on.	Net receipt within the year, after deducting repayments, &c.	Total income, including balances.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
ORDINARY REVENUES.					
Customs.....	378,046 17 0 ⁴	15,491,158 40 7 ¹	1,937,125 3 6 ²	13,554,032 2 0 ⁵	13,932,079 19 1 ¹
Excise.....	1,438,197 13 5 ¹	30,173,303 13 8 ³	2,333,385 8 2 ³	28,440,017 5 5 ³	29,879,114 13 1 ¹
Stamps.....	460,969 12 1 ²	7,672,411 0 9 ⁹	246,005 4 1 ¹	7,426,405 15 9 ¹	7,897,375 7 1 ¹
Taxes, under the management of the commissioners of taxes.....	246,877 44 10 ¹	5,222,197 3 0 ¹	6,867 0 8 ¹	5,221,340 7 3 ¹	5,468,218 2 2 ²
Post-office.....	213,685 6 2 ⁷	2,255,239 15 7 ¹	86,388 6 8 ¹	2,168,851 8 1 ¹	2,382,536 15 1 ¹
One shilling in the pound, and sixpence in the pound on pensions and salaries, and four shillings in the pound on pensions.....	3,566 19 6	62,634 5 1 ¹	..	62,634 5 1 ¹	66,100 5 5
Hackney coaches, and hawkers and pedlars.....	14 12 10	67,837 14 8	..	67,837 14 8	67,852 7 5
Crown lands.....	76,708 16 9 ¹	262,126 0 8	..	262,126 0 8	348,834 17 5 ¹
Small branches of the King's hereditary revenue.....	2,568 0 1 ¹	9,869 2 1	..	9,869 2 1	12,437 3 0 ¹
Lottery; surplus produce after payment of prizes.....	..	252,213 2 6	..	252,213 2 6	252,213 2 6
Surplus fees of regulated public offices.....	..	39,888 8 4	..	39,888 8 4	39,888 8 4
Poundage fees, pells' fees, casualties, treasury fees, and hospital fees.....	..	9,748 11 0 ¹	..	9,748 11 0 ¹	9,748 11 0 ¹
Totals of ordinary revenues.....	£ 2,820,634 43 9¹	62,150,526 13 10¹	4,614,761 9 1¹	57,535,765 4 9	60,336,399 12 6¹
OTHER RESOURCES.					
Amount of savings on the third class of the civil list.....	..	7,827 5 2	..	7,827 5 2	7,827 5 2
Money brought from the civil list on account of the clerk of the Hanaper.....	..	1,100 0 0	..	1,100 0 0	1,100 0 0
Money received in repayment of the loan raised for the service of the emperor of Germany, per acts 35 and 37 Geo. 3.....	..	1,733,333 6 8	..	1,733,333 6 8	1,733,333 6 8
Money received from the East India company, on account of retired pay, pensions, &c., of his majesty's forces serving in the East Indies, per act 4 Geo. 4, c. 71.....	..	60,000 0 0	..	60,000 0 0	60,000 0 0
From the commissioners for the issue of exchequer bills, per act 57 Geo. 3, c. 54, for the employment of the poor.....	..	125,273 9 0	..	125,273 9 0	125,273 9 0
Money received from the trustees of naval and military pensions.....	..	4,660,000 0 0	..	4,660,000 0 0	4,660,000 0 0
From several county treasurers, and others in Ireland, on account of advances made by the treasury for improving post-roads, for building gaols, for the police, for public works, employment of the poor, &c.....	..	160,901 9 5 ¹	..	160,901 9 5 ¹	160,901 9 5 ¹
Imprest monies, repaid by sundry public accountants, and other monies paid to the public.....	..	411,949 19 10 ¹	..	411,949 19 10 ¹	411,949 19 10 ¹
Totals of the public income of the united kingdom.....	£ 2,820,634 43 9¹	69,310,912 4 1	4,614,761 9 1¹	64,696,150 14 1¹	67,916,786 8 2⁷

ACCOUNTS.

of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, for the year ended 5th January, 1825.

Payments out of the income in its progress to the Exchequer.			9.	10.	11.	12.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.
Charges of collection.	Other payments.	Total payments out of the income in its progress to the Exchequer.	Payments into the Exchequer.	Balances and bills outstanding on 5th January, 1825.	Total discharge of the income.	Rate per centum for which the gross receipt was collected.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1,462,096 3 2½	772,327 16 10½	2,234,424 0 1½	11,327,741 6 2½	360,914 12 9½	13,932,079 19 1½	9 8 9
1,318,837 14 2½	388,926 11 7½	1,707,764 5 10½	26,768,039 19 11½	1,403,310 13 1½	29,879,114 18 11½	4 5 8
217,309 18 7½	..	217,309 18 7½	7,244,042 7 0½	426,023 2 3	7,667,375 7 11	2 16 7
302,568 4 8½	27,135 15 9	329,704 0 5½	4,022,070 3 10½	216,343 17 10	5,468,218 2 2	5 15 8
600,500 8 0	55,414 4 4½	655,914 0 4½	1,520,615 7 8½	206,006 18 0½	2,382,536 15 17½	26 12 6
1,433 19 10	..	1,433 19 10	61,374 12 10	3,291 12 9	66,100 5 5	2 5 9
10,703 9 8	..	10,703 9 8	57,134 10 0	14 7 10	67,852 7 6	15 15 6
50,989 18 2½	195,008 13 7	246,008 11 9½	966 13 4	111,530 12 4½	358,834 17 5½	18 1 6
1,191 18 6	2,000 0 0	3,191 18 6	5,189 16 3	4,055 8 2½	12,437 3 0½	12 1 4
2,000 0 0	5,006 13 3	7,006 13 3	245,206 9 3	..	252,213 2 6	0 15 10
..	..	..	39,888 8 4	..	39,888 8 4	—
..	..	..	9,748 11 0½	..	9,748 11 0½	—
3,967,641 14 11½	1,445,819 12 6	5,413,461 7 5½	52,202,018 5 10	2,740,920 5 3½	60,356,309 18 6½	6 7 8
..	..	..	7,827 5 2	..	7,827 5 2	—
..	..	..	1,100 0 0	..	1,100 0 0	—
..	..	..	1,733,333 6 8	..	1,733,333 6 8	—
..	..	..	60,000 0 0	..	60,000 0 0	—
..	..	..	125,273 9 0	..	125,273 9 0	—
..	..	..	4,660,000 0 0	..	4,660,000 0 0	—
..	..	..	160,901 9 5½	..	160,901 9 5½	—
..	..	..	411,949 19 10½	..	411,949 19 10½	—
3,967,641 14 11½	1,445,819 12 6	5,413,461 7 5½	59,362,403 16 0½	2,740,920 5 3½	67,516,785 8 8½	—

An Account of the Ordinary Revenues and Extraordinary Resources, constituting

Heads of revenue.	1.		2.		3.		4.		5.	
	Balances and bills outstanding on 5th January, 1824.		Gross receipt.		Repayments, allowances, discounts, drawbacks, and bounties of the nature of drawbacks; allowances to the two universities on account of almanacks, and for paper and parchment to stamp on.		Net receipt within the year, after deducting repayments, &c.		Total income, including balances.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
ORDINARY REVENUES.										
Customs	340,576	14 7½	13,643,528	7 11½	1,705,852	6 4	11,939,676	1 7½	12,290,252	16 2½
Excise	1,355,030	3 0½	28,813,183	17 9½	2,324,155	1 11	26,489,028	15 10½	27,844,033	13 10½
Stamps	334,867	16 6½	7,155,508	0 0½	238,913	15 5½	6,916,594	4 6½	7,251,462	1 1
Taxes, under the management of the commissioners of taxes	246,877	14 10½	5,228,197	8 0½	6,657	0 3½	5,221,340	7 3½	5,468,218	2 2
Post-office	108,300	14 0 7½	2,055,636	17 1½	66,717	9 0	1,988,919	8 1½	2,137,228	2 2½
One shilling in the pound, and sixpence in the pound on pensions and salaries, and four shillings in the pound on pensions	3,565	19 6	62,534	5 11	..	..	62,534	5 11	66,100	5 5
Hackney coaches, and hawkers and pedlars	14	12 10	67,337	14 8	..	..	67,337	14 8	67,337	7 6
Crown lands	76,708	16 9½	282,126	0 8	..	..	282,126	0 8	358,834	17 5½
Small branches of the king's hereditary revenue	2,568	0 11½	9,869	2 1	..	..	9,869	2 1	12,437	3 0½
Lottery, surplus produce after payment of prizes .....	..	..	252,213	2 6	..	..	252,213	2 6	252,213	2 6
Surplus fees of regulated public offices .....	..	..	39,838	8 4	..	..	39,838	8 4	39,838	8 4
Totals of ordinary revenues	£ 2,528,548	13 1 7½	57,610,523	5 1	4,340,495	13 5½	53,270,027	11 7½	55,798,576	4 9 ½
OTHER RESOURCES.										
Amount of savings on the third class of the civil list .....	..	..	7,827	5 2	..	..	7,827	5 2	7,827	5 2
Money brought from the civil list, on account of the clerk of the Hanaper .....	..	..	1,100	0 0	..	..	1,100	0 0	1,100	0 0
Money received in repayment of the loan raised for the service of the emperor of Germany, per acts 35 and 37 Geo. 3 .....	..	..	1,733,333	6 8	..	..	1,733,333	6 8	1,733,333	6 8
Money received from the East India company on account of retired pay, pensions, &c. of his majesty's forces serving in the East Indies, per act 4 Geo. 4, c. 71 .....	..	..	60,000	0 0	..	..	60,000	0 0	60,000	0 0
From the commissioners for the issue of Exchequer bills, per act 57 Geo. 3, c. 34, for the employment of the poor .....	..	..	125,273	9 0	..	..	125,273	9 0	125,273	9 0
Money received from the trustees of naval and military pensions .....	..	..	4,660,000	0 0	..	..	4,660,000	0 0	4,660,000	0 0
Imprest monies repaid by sundry public accountants, and other monies paid to the public .....	..	..	202,825	18 0½	..	..	202,825	18 0½	202,825	18 0½
Totals of the public income of Great Britain	£ 2,528,548	13 1 7½	64,400,833	3 11½	4,340,495	13 5½	60,000,387	10 6	62,528,936	3 7 ½

the Public Income of Great Britain, for the Year ended 5th January, 1825.

Payments out of the income, in its progress to the Exchequer.			9.	10.	11.	12.
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.
Charges of collection.	Other payments.	Total payments out of the income, in its progress to the Exchequer.	Payments into the Exchequer.	Balances and bills outstanding on 5th January, 1825.	Total discharge of the income.	Rate per centum for which the gross receipt was collected.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1,094,672 18 0 ²	620,385 3 6 ²	1,715,058 1 7 ¹	10,239,741 19 1 ³	325,452 15 5 ²	12,200,252 16 2 ²	8 0 5
1,065,757 10 5 ²	305,170 19 1 ³	1,400,928 9 7 ²	25,113,283 5 7	1,329,877 3 8 ²	27,844,088 18 10 ²	3 16 0
180,087 13 1 ²	.. .. .	180,087 13 1 ²	6,753,097 0 4	316,277 7 7 ²	7,251,462 1 1	2 10 4
302,568 4 8 ²	27,135 15 9	329,704 0 5 ²	4,922,070 3 10 ²	216,443 17 10	5,468,218 2 2	5 15 8
501,472 4 6 ²	48,697 0 4 ²	550,139 4 11	1,444,000 0 0	163,088 17 3 ¹ ₁₂	2,157,228 2 2 ¹ ₁₂	24 7 10
1,433 19 10	.. .. .	1,433 19 10	61,374 12 10	3,291 12 9	66,100 5 5	2 5 9
10,703 9 8	.. .. .	10,703 9 8	57,134 10 0	14 7 10	67,852 7 6	15 15 6
50,909 18 2 ¹	195,008 13 7	246,008 11 9 ²	966 13 4	111,859 12 4 ²	358,834-17 5 ²	18 1 7
1,191 18 6	2,000 0 0	3,191 18 6	5,189 16 3	4,055 8 3 ²	12,437 3 0 ²	12 1 4
2,600 0 0	5,006 13 3	7,006 13 3	245,206 9 3	.. .. .	252,213 2 6	0 15 10
.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	39,888 8 4	.. .. .	39,888 8 4	.. .. .
3,240,887 17 0 ²	1,203,374 5 7 ²	4,444,262 2 8 ²	48,881,952 18 11 ²	2,472,361 3 1 ¹ ₁₂	55,798,576 4 9 ¹ ₁₂	5 12 6
.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	7,827 5 2	.. .. .	7,827 5 2	.. .. .
.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1,100 0 0	.. .. .	1,100 0 0	.. .. .
.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1,733,333 6 8	.. .. .	1,733,333 6 8	.. .. .
.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	60,000 0 0	.. .. .	60,000 0 0	.. .. .
.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	125,273 9 0	.. .. .	125,273 9 0	.. .. .
.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	4,660,000 0 0	.. .. .	4,660,000 0 0	.. .. .
.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	202,825 18 0 ²	.. .. .	202,825 18 0 ²	.. .. .
3,240,887 17 0 ²	1,203,374 5 7 ²	4,444,262 2 8 ²	55,672,312 17 9 ²	2,472,361 3 1 ¹ ₁₂	62,566,836 3 7 ² ₁₂	—

An ACCOUNT of the Ordinary Revenues and Extraordinary Resources, constituting

Heads of revenue.	1. Balances and bills outstanding on 5th January, 1824.	2. Gross receipt.	3. Repayments, drawbacks, discounts, &c.	4. Not receipt within the year, after deducting repayments, &c.	5. Total income, including balances.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
ORDINARY REVENUES.					
Customs	37,470 2 5½	1,847,630 2 7½	233,273 2 2½	1,614,357 0 5	1,651,827 2 10½
Excise	83,137 10 5½	1,966,118 15 11	14,230 6 3½	1,951,888 9 7½	2,035,026 0 6½
Stamps	126,101 15 7	516,903 0 9	7,091 9 6	509,811 11 3	635,916 6 10
Taxes, repealed by act 4 Geo. 4, c. 9. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Post-office	45,376 12 2	199,602 18 5½	19,670 17 8½	179,932 0 9½	225,306 12 11½
Poundage fees, pells' fees, casualties, treasury fees, and hospital fees .....	.....	9,748 11 0½	.....	9,748 11 0½	9,748 11 0½
Total of ordinary revenues	£ 292,086 0 7½	4,540,003 8 9½	274,265 15 8½	4,266,737 18 1½	4,567,823 13 9
OTHER RESOURCES.					
From the provost and fellows of Trinity College, on account of advances made by the treasury for completing the north square of the said college, per act 54 Geo. 3, c. 167. ....	.....	1,107 13 10	.....	1,107 13 10	1,107 13 10
From several county treasurers, and others: { On account of advances made by the treasury for improving post roads in Ireland, under act 45 Geo. 3, c. 43. ....	.....	6,036 6 8½	.....	6,036 6 8½	6,036 6 8½
On account of advances made by the treasury for building gaols, under act 50 Geo. 3, c. 103. ....	.....	24,172 13 3½	.....	24,172 13 3½	24,172 13 3½
On account of advances made by the treasury, for police, in proclaimed districts, under acts 54 Geo. 3, c. 131, and 3 Geo. 4, c. 103. ....	.....	89,011 13 7½	.....	89,011 13 7½	89,011 13 7½
On account of advances made by the treasury for public works and employment of the poor, under acts 57 Geo. 3, c. 34, and 124, and 3 Geo. 4, c. 112, and 3 Geo. 4, c. 84. ....	.....	40,573 1 11½	.....	40,573 1 11½	40,573 1 11½
Imprest monies repaid by sundry public accountants, and other monies paid to the public .....	.....	209,124 1 10½	.....	209,124 1 10½	209,124 1 10½
Totals of the public income of Ireland	£ 292,086 0 7½	4,910,029 0 1½	274,265 15 8½	4,635,763 4 5½	4,927,849 5 1

the Public Income of Ireland, for the Year ended 5th January, 1825.

Payments out of the income, in its progress to the Exchequer.			9.	10.	11.	12.
6.	7.	8.				
Charges of collection.	Other payments.	Total payments out of the income, in its progress to the Exchequer.	Payments into the Exchequer.	Balances and bills outstanding on 8th January, 1825.	Total discharge of the income.	Rate per centum for which the gross receipt was collected.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
367,423 5 1½	151,942 13 4½	519,365 18 6	1,067,999 7 1	44,461 17 3½	1,651,827 2 10½	19 17 8
223,080 3 9	83,755 12 6	306,835 16 3	1,654,756 14 4½	73,433 9 5½	2,025,026 0 0½	11 6 1½
37,222 5 6½	.. .. .	37,222 5 6½	490,945 6 8½	107,745 14 7½	635,913 6 10	7 4 0
..
99,028 3 6½	6,747 1 0	105,775 4 5½	76,615 7 8½	42,918 0 9½	225,308 12 11½	49 12 3
.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	9,748 11 0½	.. .. .	9,748 11 0½	.. .. .
726,753 17 10½	242,445 6 10½	969,199 4 9	3,320,065 6 10½	268,559 2 1½	4,557,923 13 9	16 0 1
.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1,107 13 10	.. .. .	1,107 13 10	.. .. .
.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	6,036 6 8½	.. .. .	6,036 6 8½	.. .. .
.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	24,172 13 3½	.. .. .	24,172 13 3½	.. .. .
.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	89,011 13 7½	.. .. .	89,011 13 7½	.. .. .
.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	40,573 1 11½	.. .. .	40,573 1 11½	.. .. .
.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	209,124 1 10½	.. .. .	209,124 1 10½	.. .. .
726,753 17 10½	242,445 6 10½	969,199 4 9	3,690,090 18 2½	268,559 2 1½	4,927,849 5 1	—

An Account of the Total Income of the Revenue of Great Britain and Ireland, in the Year and Bounties of the Nature of Drawbacks; together with an Account of the Public Expenditure within the same Period.

HEADS OF REVENUE.	NET RECEIPT, as stated in column 4 of the account of Public Income.		
	£.	s.	d.
ORDINARY REVENUES:			
Balances and bills outstanding on 5th January, 1824			2,820,634 13 9½
Customs	13,554,033	2	0½
Excise	28,440,917	5	5¾
Stamps	7,426,405	15	9¾
Taxes	5,221,340	7	3¾
Post-office	2,168,851	8	11
One shilling and sixpenny duty on pensions and salaries, and four shillings in the pound on pensions	62,534	5	11
Hackney coaches, and hawkers and pedlars	67,837	14	8
Crown lands	282,126	0	8
Small branches of the king's hereditary revenue	9,869	2	1
Surplus produce of lottery, after payment of lottery prizes	252,213	2	6
Surplus fees of regulated public offices	39,888	8	4
Poundage fees, pells' fees, casualties, treasury fees, and hospital fees	9,748	11	0¼
			57,535,765 4 9¼
Deduct balances and bills outstanding on 5th January, 1825			60,356,399 18 6¾
			2,740,920 5 3½
Total ordinary revenues	£		57,615,479 13 3½
OTHER RESOURCES:			
The amount of savings on the third class of the civil list	7,827	5	8
Money brought from civil list, on account of the clerk of the Hanaper	1,100	0	0
Money received in repayment of the loan raised for the service of the emperor of Germany, per acts 35 and 37 Geo. 3	1,733,333	6	8
By the East India company, on account of retired pay, pensions, &c. of his majesty's forces serving in the East Indies, per act 4 Geo. 4, c. 71	60,000	0	0
By the commissioners for the issue of Exchequer bills, for the employment of the poor, per act 57 Geo. 3, c. 34	125,273	9	0
By the trustees of naval and military pensions	4,660,000	0	0
Money repaid in Ireland, on account of advances from the consolidated fund, under various acts for public improvements	160,901	9	5½
Imprest and other monies paid into the Exchequer	411,949	19	10¾
			7,160,365 10 2¼
	£		64,775,865 3 5¾
Balances, &c. in the hands of receivers, &c. on the 5th January, 1824			2,820,634 13 9½
Ditto ditto on the 5th January, 1825			2,740,920 5 3½
Balances less in 1825 than in 1824			79,714 8 6¾
Surplus income paid into the Exchequer, over expenditure thereout			6,587,802 17 3¼
Actual excess of income over expenditure	£		6,508,088 8 9¼

ended 5th January, 1825, after deducting the Repayments, Allowances, Discounts, Drawbacks, of the United Kingdom, exclusive of the Sums applied to the Reduction of the National Debt,

EXPENDITURE.					
PAYMENTS OUT OF THE INCOME IN ITS PROGRESS TO THE EXCHEQUER.		£.	s. d.	£.	s. d.
Charges of collection		3,967,611	14 11½		
Other payments.....		1,445,819	12 6		
Total payments out of the Income prior to the payments into the Exchequer.....				5,413,431	7 5½
PAYMENTS OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER :					
Dividends, interest, and management of the public funded debt, four quarters to 10th October, 1824, exclusive of 5,150,059 <i>l.</i> 1 <i>l.</i> issued to the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt		27,079,068	7 11		
Interest on Exchequer bills		1,007,283	13 2	29,086,352	1 1
Issued to the trustees of military and naval pensions, &c. per act 3 Geo. 4, c. 51.....		2,214,260	0 0		
Ditto Bank of England, per act 4 Geo. 4, c. 22.....		585,710	0 0	2,800,000	0 0
Civil list four quarters to 5th January, 1825 ..		1,057,000	0 0		
Pensions charged by act of parliament on consolidated fund, four quarters to 10th October, 1824 }		371,014	1 10½		
Salaries and allowances		70,212	10 6		
Officers' courts of justice		96,265	4 11		
Expenses of the mint		14,740	7 0		
Bounties		2,956	13 8		
Miscellaneous		808,982	15 2		
Ditto Ireland		300,102	10 8½	2,721,912	3 10½
Army		7,573,026	2 7½		
Navy		6,161,818	3 10		
Ordnance		1,407,393	2 10½		
Miscellaneous		2,119,148	19 4½	17,591,301	3 3½
Money paid to the Bank of England more than received from them on account of unclaimed dividends		48,424	4 2		
By the commissioners for issuing Exchequer bills, per act 57 Geo. 3 c. 34 and 124, for the employment of the poor		219,200	0 0		
Advances out of the consolidated fund in Ireland, for public works		327,411	0 10½		
				525,055	5 0½
Total		£ 56,183,062	6 2½		
Surplus of income paid into the Exchequer, over expenditure issued thereout				6,567,802	17 3½
				£ 64,750,865	3 5½

An ACCOUNT of the NET PUBLIC INCOME of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Revenue Departments, and of the Actual Issues or Payments within the same Period, exclusive

Income.	Applicable to the consolidated fund.			Applicable to other public services.			INCOME paid into the Exchequer.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cnustoms.....	8,580,882	13	2½	2,746,856	13	0	11,327,741	6	2½
Excise.....	26,496,882	16	5½	271,157	3	6	26,768,039	19	11½
Stamps.....	7,244,042	7	0½	...	...	...	7,244,042	7	0½
Taxes under the management of the commissioners of taxes, including arrears of property-tax } Post-office.....	4,919,248	9	8½	2,821	14	2	4,922,070	3	10½
One shilling and sixpence duty on pensions and salaries; and four shillings in the pound on pensions.....	1,520,615	7	8½	...	...	...	1,520,615	7	8½
Hackney coaches, and hawkers and pedlars.....	61,374	12	10	...	...	...	61,374	12	10
Crown lands.....	57,134	10	0	...	...	...	57,134	10	0
Small branches of the king's hereditary revenue.....	966	13	4	...	...	...	966	13	4
Surplus produce of lottery, after payment of lottery prizes.....	5,189	16	3	...	...	...	5,189	16	3
Surplus fees, regulated public offices.....	...	...	...	245,206	9	3	245,206	9	3
Poundage fees, pells' fees, casualties, treasury fees, and hospital fees.....	39,888	8	4	...	...	...	39,888	8	4
Total ordinary revenue.....	9,748	11	0½	...	...	...	9,748	11	0½
The amount of savings on third class of the civil list.....	...	...	...	...	...	£	52,202,018	5	10
Ditto brought from civil list, on account of clerk of the Hanaper.....	7,827	5	2	...	...	...	7,827	5	2
Ditto received in repayment of the loan raised for the service of the emperor of Germany, per acts 35 and 37 Geo. 3.....	1,100	0	0	...	...	...	1,100	0	0
By the East India company, on account of retired pay, pensions, &c. of his majesty's forces serving in the East Indies, per act 4 Geo. 4, c. 71.....	1,733,333	6	8	...	...	...	1,733,333	6	8
By the trustees of military and naval pensions, &c.....	...	...	...	60,000	0	0	60,000	0	0
By the commissioners for issuing Exchequer bills for public works.....	...	...	...	4,660,000	0	0	4,660,000	0	0
Money repaid in Ireland, on account of advances from the consolidated fund, under various acts for public improvements.....	...	...	...	125,273	9	0	125,273	9	0
Imprest and other monies paid into the Exchequer.....	160,901	9	5½	...	...	...	160,901	9	5½
	365,147	15	9	26,802	4	1½	411,949	19	10½
	£ 51,224,284	2	11½	8,138,119	13	0½	59,362,403	16	0½

the Year ended 5th January, 1825, after abating the Expenditure thereout, defrayed by the several of the Sums applied to the Redemption of Funded Debt, or for paying off Unfunded Debt.

EXPENDITURE.	NET EXPENDITURE.	
	£	s. d.
Dividends, interest, and management of the public funded debt, four quarters to 10th October, 1824, exclusive of 5,150,050 <i>l.</i> 18 <i>s.</i> 1 <i>d.</i> issued to the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt.....	27,979,068	7 11
Interest on exchequer bills.....	1,087,283	13 2
Issued to the trustees of military and naval pensions, per act 3 Geo. IV. c. 51.....	2,214,260	0 0
Ditto ... bank of England ... 4 Geo. IV. c. 22.....	585,740	0 0
Civil list, four quarters to 5th January, 1825.....	1,057,000	0 0
Pensions charged by act of parliament, on consolidated fund, four quarters to 10th October, 1824.....	371,644	1 10½
Salaries and allowances.....	70,212	10 6
Officers of courts of justice.....	96,265	4 11
Expenses of the mint.....	14,748	7 0
Bounties.....	2,956	13 8
Miscellaneous.....	808,982	15 2
Ditto ... Ireland.....	300,102	10 8½
Army.....	7,573,026	2 7½
Navy.....	6,161,818	3 10.
Ordnance.....	1,407,308	2 10½
Miscellaneous.....	2,449,148	19 4¾
Total.....	£	52,179,565 13 8
Money paid to the bank of England more than received from them on account of unclaimed dividends.....	48,424	4 2
By the commissioners for issuing exchequer bills, per act 57 Geo. III. c. 34 and 124, for the employment of the poor.....	219,200	0 0
Advances out of the consolidated fund in Ireland, for public works.....	327,411	0 10¾
Total.....	£	595,033 5 0¾
Total.....	£	52,774,600 18 8½
Surplus of income paid into the exchequer over expenditure thereout.....	£	6,587,802 17 3½
Total.....	£	59,362,403 16 0¾

An Account of the Balance of Public Money remaining in the Exchequer on the 5th January, ended 5th January, 1825; the Money applied towards the Redemption of the Funded, or paying the 5th January, 1825.

	£	s.	d.
Balances in the exchequer on 5th January, 1824	9,421,279	14	4
Money raised in the year ended 5th January, 1825, by the creation of unfunded debt:			
Exchequer bills issued ... per act 4 Geo. IV. c. 100	5,951,800	0	0
— ... 5 Geo. IV. c. 2	15,000,000	0	0
— ... 5 Geo. IV. c. 115	10,890,900	0	0
To pay off 4l. per cent dissentients, 5 Geo. IV. c. 45	5,502,000	0	0
Public works ... 3 Geo. IV. c. 36	219,200	0	0
Churches ... 58 Geo. III. c. 45	194,600	0	0
	* 37,758,500	0	0
Total	£ 47,179,779	14	8
Surplus of income paid into the exchequer, over expenditure thereout	6,587,802	17	3
	£ 53,767,582	11	11
* Exchequer bills charged upon supplies			
	32,256,500	0	0
Ditto ... Sinking fund, per act 5 Geo. IV. c. 45	5,502,000	0	0
	* £ 37,758,500	0	0

An Account of the Income of the Consolidated Fund arising in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, on account of the Consolidated Fund

	£	s.	d.
The total income applicable to the consolidated fund	51,224,284	2	11
£ 51,224,284 2 11			

An Account of the Money applicable to the Payment of the Charge of the Consolidated Fund, which have become due thereon, in the same year, including the Amount of Exchequer Bills

	£	s.	d.
Income arising in Great Britain	47,534,193	4	19
Income arising in Ireland	3,690,090	18	2
Add the sum paid out of the consolidated fund in Ireland, towards the supplies, in the quarter ended 5th January, 1824	283,342	2	6
Deduct the sum paid out of the consolidated fund towards the supplies, in the quarter ended 5th January, 1825	254,356	14	0
Total sum applicable to the charge of the consolidated fund, in the year ended 5th January, 1825	51,253,269	11	6
Exchequer Bills to be issued to complete the payment of the charge, to 5th January, 1825	1,550,031	5	6
£ 52,803,300 17 0			

Great Britain and Ireland, in the Year ended 5th January, 1825; and also of the actual Payments Fund within the same period.

Heads of Payment.		£	s.	d.
Dividends, interest, sinking fund, and management of the public funded } debt, four quarters to 10th October, 1824	}	33,129,128	6	0
Interest on exchequer bills issued upon the credit of the consolidated fund				
Trustees for naval and military } Pensions	} per act 3 Geo. IV. c. 51	£2,214,260	0	0
Bank of England .....					per act 4 Geo. IV. c. 22... 585,740 0 0
Civil list, four quarters to 5th January, 1825		2,800,000	0	0
Pensions charged by act of parliament } upon the consolidated fund	} four quarters to 10th October, 1824	1,057,000	0	0
Salaries and allowances .....					do.
Officers of courts of justice	do.	70,212	10	6
Expenses of the mint	do.	96,265	4	11
Bounties	do.	14,748	7	0
Miscellaneous	do.	2,956	13	8
Do. Ireland	do.	808,982	15	2
Advances out of the consolidated fund in Ireland for public works		300,102	10	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
		327,411	0	10 $\frac{3}{4}$
		£ 38,979,719	7	5
Surplus of the consolidated fund		12,244,564	15	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
		£ 51,224,284	2	11 $\frac{1}{2}$

of the United Kingdom, in the Year ended 5th January, 1825, and of the several Charges which charged upon the said Fund, at the commencement and at the termination of the Year.

Heads of Charge.		£	s.	d.
Dividends, interest, sinking fund, and management of the public funded } debt, four quarters to 5th January, 1825	}	33,131,051	11	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
Interest on exchequer bills issued upon the credit of the consolidated fund				
Trustees for naval and military } pensions	} per act 3 Geo. IV. c. 51	£2,214,260	0	0
Bank of England .....					per act 4 Geo. IV. c. 22... 585,740 0 0
Civil list, four quarters to 5th January, 1825		2,800,000	0	0
Pensions charged by act of parliament } upon the consolidated fund	} four quarters to 5th January, 1825	1,057,000	0	0
Salaries and allowances .....					do.
Officers of courts of justice	do.	370,456	9	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
Expenses of the mint	do.	72,220	2	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bounties	do.	95,926	8	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Miscellaneous	do.	14,748	7	0
Do. Ireland	do.	2,956	13	8
Advances out of the consolidated fund in Ireland for public works		930,682	2	5
		305,749	8	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
		327,411	0	10 $\frac{3}{4}$
		£ 39,109,470	1	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Exchequer bills issued to make good the charge of the consolidated fund } to the 5th January, 1824	}	1,541,928	11	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
		£ 40,651,398	12	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Surplus of the consolidated fund		12,151,902	4	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
		£ 52,803,300	17	0 $\frac{1}{2}$

An ACCOUNT of the Actual Receipt and Expenditure of the Sums placed in the hands of the

Drs.		THE SAID COMMISSIONERS.....							
GREAT BRITAIN		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
Issues from consolidated fund.	To cash, being four quarterly issues, 4 Geo. IV. c. 19.....	4,840,000	0	0					
	To do., interest on capitals standing in the names of the commissioners, at 3 per cent } 3½ per cent.....	129,763	1	3					
	4 per cent.....	8,156	12	10					
	Long annuities.....	2,088	18	8					
		4,083	7	0					
					4,984,091	19	9		
Other issues.	To sums returned from the account of life annuities, the nominees whereof died previously to its being set apart for payment.....	10,511	12	9					
	To bank life annuities, unclaimed for three years or upwards, at 5th January, 1824....	5,752	6	1					
	To the bequest of William Tooker of Chadli-hanger, for the uses of the sinking fund....	100	0	0					
							16,363	18	10
	In Great Britain.....				5,000,455	18	7		
IRELAND IN BRITISH CURRENCY									
Issues from consolidated fund.	To cash, being four quarterly issues, per 4 Geo. IV. c. 19.....	160,000	0	0					
	To do., interest on capital stock, standing in the names of the commissioners, at 3½ per cent.....	5,967	18	4					
	In Ireland.....						165,967	18	4
	United Kingdom.....				£5,166,423	16	11		
RESULT.....									
	Receipt.						Capital stock placed in the names of the commissioners.		
	From the consolidated fund.	From other sources.		Total sums received.					
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
In Great Britain.....	4,984,091	19	9	16,363	18	10	5,000,455	18	7
In Ireland (British currency).....	165,967	18	4	...			165,967	18	4
United Kingdom.....	£5,150,059	18	1	16,363	18	10	5,166,423	16	11
							3,643,725	0	0
							163,726	1	4
							3,807,451	1	4

Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, in the Year ending 5th January, 1825.

Capital stock placed in the names of the commissioners in the year.			Rate per cent.	Crs.		Average price of stock.
£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
3,627,225	0	0	By cash, paid for £3,627,225 capital stock.....	3 p. cent	3,416,031	9 11
16,500	0	0	Do. for £16,500 do.	3½ p. cent	16,473	15 0
			Do. being four quarterly payments to the Bank of England, in discharge of exchequer bills of the like amount, per 3 Geo. IV. c. 66 (in full)		1,036,800	0 10
			Do. into the exchequer per said act, being the difference between the sums advanced by the bank on the security of exchequer bills, and the sums actually paid to the proprietors of 5 per cents, who dissented from receiving 4 per cents in lieu thereof ...		559	0 10
			Do., set apart for the payment of life annuities at the Bank of England, per 48 Geo. 3, c. 142		530,591	12 10
£ 3,643,725	0	0			£ 5,000,455	18 7
			By cash paid for £163,726 1s. 4d. capital stock.....		165,967	18 4
£ 3,807,451	1	4			5,166,423	16 11

RESULT.

Expenditure.												
Sums paid for capital stock.	Sums paid to the bank of England and exchequer, per 3 Geo. IV. c. 66.	Sums set apart for payment of life annuities, per 48 Geo. III. c. 142.	Total sums paid.									
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.							
3,432,505	4	11	1,037,359	0	10	530,591	12	10	5,000,455	18	7	... In Great Britain.
165,967	18	4	...	...	...	165,967	18	4	...	...	...	... In Ireland (British currency).
3,598,473	3	3	1,037,359	0	10	530,591	12	10	5,166,423	16	11	... United kingdom.

An ACCOUNT of the Total Amount of the Unredeemed Funded Debt, and the Charge thereof, 1825; of the Debt and Charge thereof redeemed in the course of that Year; and of the

Dr.		Capital stock.			Annual charge thereon.			
GREAT BRITAIN.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
To unredeemed capital, Great Britain.....		760,739,045	13	8½	25,132,675	19	1½	
Do., Germany, consolidated with the debt of Great Britain, per 5 Geo. IV. c. 9.....		4,621,938	13	5	138,658	3	2½	
Schedules C, D 1, and D 2, on account of land-tax.....					8,193	5	1	
Long annuities, expire 1860.....					1,338,837	1	10½	
Life annuities payable at the exchequer	{ English.....				28,580	13	1	
	{ Irish.....				35,461	7	9	
Management.....	{ Great Britain.....				281,092	17	11½	
	{ Germany.....				1,571	9	2	
Military and naval pensions.....					2,800,000	0	0	
Total debt at 5th Jan., 1824 ..		£ 765,360,984	7	1½	29,765,070	17	3½	
To capital transferred from the funded debt in Ireland to the funded debt in Great Britain		5,007	16	7	} 981 0 1½			
Do., long annuities transferred from do. to do.		15,000	0	0				
		7,644	7	0				
Capital transferred from the commissioners reduction national debt, the dividends upon which had remained unclaimed 10 years or upwards, the same having been reclaimed by the proprietors thereof		16,759	2	2	} 1,132 2 1½			
Do. long annuities transferred from do. to do.		3,227	14	2				
		11,417	19	3				
		1,193	1	4				
Consolidated 3 per cent annuities, created in exchange for 5 per cents 1797, per 37 Geo. III. c. 10.		21,357	19	11	} 640 14 9			
Total debt created in 1824.....£		81,608	0	5	2,937	1	5½	
General total Great Britain...		£ 765,442,592	7	6½	29,768,007	18	8½	

at the 5th January, 1824; of the Debt and Charge thereof created in the Year ended 5th January, Total Amount of the Unredeemed Debt and Charge, as it stood on the 5th January, 1825.

		Cr.						
		Capital stock.			Annual charge thereon.			
		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Debt reduced in the year 1824.	By capital purchased with the sinking fund	3,627,225	0	0	3 p. cent	109,394	4	11½
		16,500	0	0	3½ p. cent			
	By do. transferred for the purchase of life annuities	508,895	0	0	3 p. cent	16,450	8	7½
		5,515	0	0	3½ p. cent			
		24,764	0	0	4 p. cent			
	By do. long annuities, transferred for do. ....	...	...	...	...	5,152	14	0
	By capital transferred to the commissioners, the dividends upon which had remained unclaimed 10 years or upwards	2,325	2	7	3 p. cent	69	15	0½
	By do. long annuities, transferred to do. ....	...	...	...	...	4	5	11½
	By capital transferred to them for the redemption of land-tax, under schedules A and B	61,233	2	8	3 p. cent	1,836	19	10½
	By do. schedules C, D 1, and D 2	9,133	11	9	3 p. cent	The annual interest of this capital is continued in the annual charge.		
	By capital transferred from the funded debt in Great Britain to the funded debt in Ireland	1,401,527	11	0	3 p. cent			
		465,071	0	0	3½ p. cent	70,577	16	2
		306,362	9	7	4 p. cent			
	By do. long annuities transferred from do. to do. ....	...	...	...	...	20	0	0
	By annual interest payable to the public creditor, decreased by the conversion of £74,825,110 2s. 3d. unredeemed 4 per cent annuities into 3½ per cent reduced annuities, per 5 Geo. IV. c. 11 .....	...	...	...	...	374,125	11	0
By non-assented 4 per cent annuities vested in the commissioners' reduction national debt at 3½ per cent, per 5 Geo. IV. c. 45	*5,830,073	12	8	3½ p. cent	204,052	11	6½	
By 5 per cent annuities 1797, converted into consolidated 3 per cent annuities, per 37 Geo. III. c. 10	16,018	10	0	3 p. cent	800	18	6	
By life annuities, payable at the exchequer, decreased .....	...	...	...	...	876	2	7½	
By management, decreased .....	...	...	...	...	3,393	17	3½	
Fractions .....	...	...	...	...	0	0	1	
Total debt reduced in 1824	12,274,644	0	3	...	786,665	5	8½	
By due to the public creditor, 5th January, 1825	753,167,948	7	3½	...	28,701,932	3	2½	
Management .....	...	...	...	...	279,360	9	9½	
General total	£765,442,592	7	6½	...	29,768,007	18	6½	

* The sums for the payment of the above non-assents were advanced by the bank upon the security of exchequer bills which bills are to be redeemed by quarterly instalments from the sinking fund.

IRELAND.		Capital Stock (British Currency).		Annual Charge thereon (British Currency).		
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
To unredeemed capital		26,340,630	11 8	1,000,430	10 11½	
— life annuities .....		...	...	7,035	4 7½
— management (sinking fund office) .....		...	...	660	0 0
Total debt at 5th January, 1824...		26,340,630	11 8	1,008,125	15 7½	
Debt created in the year 1824.	To capital transferred from the funded debt in Great Britain to the funded debt in Ireland	1,401,527	11 0	70,577	16 2	
	— do. long annuities, trans- ferred from do. to do.	465,071	0 0			3 p. cent
	— management increased (sinking fund office)	306,362	9 7			3½ p. cent
	— do. long annuities, trans- ferred from do. to do. ....	...	...	4 p. cent	20 0 0
	— management increased (sinking fund office) .....	...	...	...	92 6 2
Total debt created in 1824		2,172,961	0 7	70,690	2 4	
General total, Ireland.		£28,513,591	12 3	1,078,815	17 11½	

SUMMARY.

		Debt.		Charge.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Total debt on 5th January, 1824.	Great Britain.....	760,739,045	13 8½	29,624,841	4 10½
	Ireland	26,340,630	11 8	1,008,125	15 7½
	Germany.....	4,621,938	13 5	140,229	12 4½
		£	791,701,614 13 9½	30,773,196	12 10½
Debt created in the year 1824.	Great Britain.....	81,608	0 5	2,937	1 5½
	Ireland	2,172,961	0 7	70,690	2 4
		£	2,254,569 1 0	73,627	3 9½
Total.....		£	793,956,183 19 9½	30,846,823	16 8

	Capital Stock (British Currency).				Annual Charge thereon (British currency).			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.	
Debt reduced in the year 1824.	By capital purchased with the sinking fund	163,726	1	4	3½ p. cent	5,730	8	2½
	— capital transferred from the funded debt in Ireland to the funded debt in Great Britain	5,007	16	7	3 p. cent	981	0	1¾
	— long annuities, transferred from do. to do.	15,000	0	0	3½ p. cent			
	— annual interest payable to the public creditor, decreased by the conversion of £1,381,772 8s. 2d. 4 per cent annuities into 3½ per cent annuities, per 5 Geo. IV. c. 24	7,644	7	0	4 p. cent			
	— non-assented 4 per cent annuities, vested in the commissioners' reduction national debt at 3½ per cent, per 5 Geo. IV. c. 45	(*) 366,938	19	3¼	3½ p. cent	12,842	17	3¼
	Deduct fractions	558,317	4	2¼				
		0	0	2¼				
	Total debt reduced in 1824 ..	558,317	4	0		26,483	2	10
	By due to the public creditor, 5th January, 1825	27,955,274	8	3		1,051,580	8	11¼
	— management	—	—	—		752	6	2
General total	£ 28,513,591	12	3		1,078,815	17	11¼	

(*) This capital is to be redeemed by quarterly instalments from the sinking fund.

SUMMARY.

		Debt.			Charge.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Debt reduced in the year 1824.	Great Britain	12,274,644	0	3	786,665	5	8¼
	Ireland	558,317	4	0	26,483	2	10
	£	12,832,961	4	3	813,148	8	6¼
Total debt on 5th January, 1825.	Great Britain	753,167,948	7	3¼	28,981,342	13	0½
	Ireland	27,955,274	8	3	1,052,332	15	1¼
	£	781,123,222	15	6¾	30,033,675	8	1¾
Total	£	793,956,183	19	9¼	30,846,823	16	8

An Account of the State of the Public Funded Debts of Great

DEBT.

	Col. 1. Capitals.	Col. 2. Capitals transferred to the Commissioners.	Col. 3. Capitals unredeemed.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
GREAT BRITAIN.			
Debt due to the South Sea com- pany, at 3 per cent	3,662,784 8 6½	...	3,662,784 8 6½
Old South Sea annuities, do.	4,574,870 2 7	226,000 0 0	4,348,870 2 7
New South Sea annuities, do.	3,128,330 2 10	146,000 0 0	2,982,330 2 10
South Sea annuities, 1751, do.	707,600 0 0	35,000 0 0	672,600 0 0
Debt due to the bank of England, do.	14,686,800 0 0	...	14,686,800 0 0
Bank annuities, created in 1726, do...	1,000,000 0 0	452 10 9	999,547 9 3
Consolidated annuities, do.	369,763,675 11 7¼	5,198,203 7 11	364,565,472 3 8½
Reduced annuities, do.	132,772,669 11 5	2,700,705 2 3	130,071,964 9 2
Total at 3 per cent.....£	530,296,729 16 11¾	8,306,361 0 11	521,990,368 16 0¼
Annuities..... at 3½ per cent	15,457,969 14 2	233,047 0 0	15,224,922 14 2
Reduced annuities at 3½ per cent	74,698,208 12 4	5,873,659 8 7	68,824,549 3 9
New 4 per cent annuities	146,186,398 18 3	52,169 18 0	146,134,229 0 3
5 per cents 1797 and 1802	997,650 2 4	3,771 9 3	993,878 13 1
Great Britain	767,636,957 4 0¾	14,469,008 16 9	753,167,948 7 3¾
IN IRELAND (in British currency).			
Irish consolidated 3 per cent annuities	401,119 14 5	...	401,119 14 5
Irish reduced 3 per cent annuities	995,400 0 0	...	995,400 0 0
3½ per cent debentures and stock ...	13,249,448 2 1	293,399 13 3	12,956,048 8 10
Reduced 3½ per cent annuities	1,381,772 8 2	366,938 19 3	1,014,833 8 11
Debt due to the bank of Ireland at } 4 per cent	1,615,384 12 4	...	1,615,384 12 4
New 4 per cent annuities.....	9,957,103 11 5	...	9,957,103 11 5
Debt due to the bank of Ireland at } 5 per cent	1,015,384 12 4	...	1,015,384 12 4
Ireland.....£	28,615,613 0 9	660,338 12 6	27,955,274 8 3
Total United Kingdom.....£	796,252,570 4 9¾	15,129,347 9 3	781,123,222 15 6¾
<i>Note.</i> —The above columns, 1 and 2, shew the totals of debt for the United Kingdom, after deducting the stock directed to be cancelled by various acts of parliament, and by redemption of land-tax, amounting to			STOCK.
			£ s. d. 484,408,334 19 9

Britain and Ireland, and the Charge thereupon at the 5th of January, 1825.

CHARGE.

	In Great Britain.	In Ireland (in British currency).	Total annual charge.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Sinking fund. { The annual sum of £5,000,000, directed to be issued per 4 Geo. IV. c. 19, towards the reduction of the national debt of the United Kingdom. }	4,840,000 0 0	160,000 0 0	
" " { Annual interest on stock standing in the names of the commissioners }	456,733 13 2½	23,111 17 0½	
" " { Long annuities, do. }	6,808 12 4½		
	£ 5,303,542 5 7	183,111 17 0½	
Due to the public creditor. { Annual interest on unredeemed debt }	24,496,505 13 5½	1,044,545 4 3½	
" " { Long annuities.....expire 1860 }	1,333,843 6 4		
" " { Life annuities } English }	27,704 10 5½		
" " { payable at, the exchequer } Irish }	35,461 7 9	7,035 4 7½	
	£ 25,893,514 18 0½	1,051,580 8 11½	
Annual interest on stock transferred to the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt, towards the redemption of land-tax under schedules C and D, 53 Geo. III. c. 123	8,467 5 2½		
Management	279,360 9 9½	752 6 2	
The trustees of military and naval pensions and civil superannuations	2,800,000 0 0		
	£ 34,234,884 18 7½	1,235,444 12 1½	35,520,329 10 9½

ABSTRACT.

	ANNUAL CHARGE.																	
	Capitals.			Capitals transferred to the Commissioners.			Capitals unredeemed.			Due to the public creditor.		Management.		Sinking Fund.		Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Great Britain	767,636,957	4	0½	14,469,008	16	9	753,167,948	7	3½	{ 25,893,514 16 0½ } 8,467 5 2½ }	279,360	9	9½	5,303,542	5	7	(a)	
Ireland	28,615,613	9	0	660,333	12	6	27,955,274	8	3	1,051,580	8	11¼	752	6	2	163,111	17	0½
	£796,252,570	4	9½	15,129,347	9	3	781,123,222	15	6½	26,953,562	12	2	280,112	15	11¼	5,486,654	2	7½
										2,800,000	0	0						
										£29,753,562	12	2	280,112	15	11¼	5,486,654	2	7½
<p>The trustees of military and naval pensions and civil superannuations.....</p> <p>Non-assented 4 per cents, vested in the commissioners as 3½ } per cents, 5 Geo. IV. c. 45 } Purchased with the sinking fund } Transferred for life annuities } Stock unclaimed, 10 years and upwards } Purchased with unclaimed dividends } Transferred for redemption of land-tax under schedules C and D } Total transferred to commissioners, as above..... } £16,129,347 9 3</p>																		
<p>(a) Chargeable with £538,491 5s. life annuities, per 43 Geo. III. c. 142. Ditto with the sum of £106,100 1s. annuities for a term of years to the Waterloo fund, per 59 Geo. III. c. 34. And also with the payment of £6,197,012 11s. 11d. (by quarterly instalments), being the amount of non-assented 4 per cents vested in the commissioners, per 5 Geo. IV. c. 45.</p>																		

An Account of the Unfunded Debt of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the Demands outstanding on the 5th January, 1825.

	Provided.			Unprovided.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Exchequer bills, exclusive of £5,502,000 issued for paying off 4 per cents, the payment of which is charged on the sinking fund	1,984,650	0	0	30,413,800	0	0	32,398,450	0	0
Sums remain unpaid, charged upon aids granted by parliament	3,906,077	1	2½				3,906,077	1	2½
Advances made out of the consolidated fund in Ireland, towards the supplies which are to be repaid to the consolidated fund, out of the ways and means in Great Britain	254,356	14	0½				254,356	14	0½
Total unfunded debt, and demands outstanding	£ 6,145,083	15	2½	30,413,800	0	0	36,558,883	15	2½
Ways and means	6,584,250	5	1½						
Surplus ways and means	£ 439,166	9	10½						
Exchequer bills to be issued to complete the charge upon the consolidated fund	£			1,550,031	5	6½	1,550,031	5	6½

An ACCOUNT of the Net Produce of the Revenue of Customs in GREAT BRITAIN, in the Year ending the 5th January, 1825.

Duties Inwards:—Foreign and Colonial Goods.									
	England.			Scotland.			Great Britain.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Almonds	19,681	17	0	1,135	5	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	20,817	2	9 $\frac{3}{4}$
Aloes	4,991	14	11	...	...	...	4,991	14	11
Angelica	254	15	10	...	...	...	254	15	10
Annotto	2,994	15	10	...	...	...	2,994	15	10
Antimony, crude	1,680	3	8	...	...	...	1,680	3	8
Apples	11,120	9	6	1,956	13	0	13,077	2	6
Argol	3,606	15	5	47	14	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	3,654	9	13 $\frac{3}{4}$
Arrow root	2,919	5	2	193	6	8	3,112	11	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Arsenic	657	6	0	...	...	...	657	6	0
Ashes, pearl and pot	22,158	19	11	7,572	2	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	29,731	2	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Bacon and hams	1,401	4	3	26	1	0	1,427	5	3
Balsams	3,638	6	7	0	7	0	3,638	13	7
Barilla and alkali	15,050	7	2	103	2	10	15,153	10	0
Bark, oak and cork tree	24,887	14	10	3,538	12	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	28,426	7	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bark quercitron	2,701	0	4	21	8	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,722	8	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Baskets	1,723	1	2	2	19	10	1,726	1	0
Beer, spruce	1,607	18	7	1,035	8	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,643	7	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Books	16,259	14	2	356	11	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	16,616	5	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Borax	1,671	1	11	...	...	...	1,671	1	11
Brimstone	20,121	5	8	3,569	18	4	23,691	4	0
Bristles, undressed	23,642	1	4	359	9	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	24,001	10	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bugle	1,417	3	8	42	15	0	1,649	18	8
Butter	158,626	10	9	1,651	5	9	160,277	16	6
Cabinet wares and furniture	2,587	6	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	2,587	6	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Camphire	1,059	12	11	...	...	...	1,059	12	11
Canes of other sorts	2,115	4	10	16	6	0	2,131	10	10
Cantharides	2,471	7	0	9	9	0	2,480	16	0
Capers	2,793	3	0	40	1	4	2,833	4	4
Carpets of Turkey	5,044	6	6	...	...	...	5,044	6	6
of other sorts	209	9	8	...	...	...	209	9	8
Cassia Lignea	4,932	10	3	...	...	...	4,932	10	3
Cheese	69,817	4	1	11,910	10	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	81,727	14	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
China ware, earthen-ware, and porcelain	5,359	4	4	37	15	7	5,396	19	11
Cinnamon	1,723	16	4	...	...	...	1,723	16	4
Clocks	4,836	8	3	77	0	0	4,913	8	3
Cloves	5,760	12	0	...	...	...	5,760	12	0
Cochineal, granilla, and dust	14,137	8	10	0	2	6	14,137	11	4
Coral beads	2,165	3	3	...	...	...	2,165	3	3
Cordage and cables	1,418	10	10	200	10	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,699	1	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cork, unmanufactured	14,588	16	2	1,634	2	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	16,222	18	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Corks, ready-made	463	15	0	...	...	...	463	15	0
Corn, grain, meal, and flour	157,884	19	6	17,343	8	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	175,228	8	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cortex Peruvianus	3,673	14	4	...	...	...	3,673	14	4
Cranberries	683	14	8	119	6	3	803	0	11
Cream of tartar	6,516	1	5	348	5	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	6,864	6	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Currants	236,101	12	5	...	...	...	236,101	12	5
Dye woods, Brazilletto	133	12	5	2	3	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	135	15	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
camwood	406	5	4	15	19	1	422	4	5
fustic	5,065	10	1	423	10	0 $\frac{1}{2}$	5,489	0	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
logwood	4,585	0	2	225	13	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	4,810	13	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Nicaragua	2,660	0	7	39	5	0	2,699	5	7
red and bar wood and red saunders	448	2	4	...	...	...	448	2	4
Eggs	17,984	11	2	0	2	6	17,984	13	8
Elephants' teeth	11,376	15	5	...	...	...	11,376	15	5
Essence of bergamot and lemons	2,296	3	8	...	...	...	2,296	3	8
Feathers for beds	2,531	19	7	93	17	11	2,625	17	6
ostrich	11,820	11	8	...	...	...	11,820	11	8
of other sorts	164	6	10	2	0	0	166	6	10
Figs	18,890	8	11	484	0	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	19,374	9	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
Fish, anchovies	3,567	2	0	12	17	10	3,579	19	10
eels	822	18	9	...	...	...	822	18	9

Duties Inwards:—Foreign and Colonial Goods—continued.									
	England.			Scotland.			Great Britain.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Fish, oysters.....	0	9	0				0	9	0
— of other sorts.....	68	14	9	0	13	10	69	8	7
Flax, undressed.....	7,414	19	4½	8,458	17	10½	15,873	17	2½
Flowers, artificial.....	3,203	15	8	3	3	3	3,206	18	11
Furs.....	28,061	1	1	86	17	1¾	28,147	18	2¾
Galls.....	1,309	14	9	0	9	9	1,310	4	6
Ginger, dry.....	7,874	17	10	64	3	8½	7,939	1	6½
—, preserved.....	348	10	3	2	9	1	350	19	4
Glass bottles, green or common.....	9,728	7	4	867	10	1½	10,595	17	5½
— of all other sorts.....	1,228	9	7	26	2	7	1,254	12	2
Grapes.....	2,504	11	9	259	6	7	2,763	18	4
Gums of all sorts.....	27,076	8	4	36	6	1¾	27,112	14	5¾
Hair, horse.....	4,121	8	0	10	10	11¼	4,131	18	11½
— human.....	2,508	8	9	6	0	0	2,514	8	9
— of all other sorts.....	541	5	2	30	10	4½	571	15	6½
Hard woods, boxwood.....	2,344	9	5	0	7	11¼	2,344	17	4½
— cedar.....	3,641	15	10	88	17	8	3,730	13	6
— ebony.....	107	6	2	2	5	0	109	11	2
— lignum vite.....	480	7	10	47	17	7¾	528	5	5¾
— mahogany.....	74,804	16	5	11,413	6	0½	86,218	2	5½
— rosewood.....	3,979	11	8	203	2	5½	9,182	14	1½
Hats of chip and straw.....	58,667	11	8				58,667	11	8
Hemp, undressed.....	190,919	15	1¾	39,322	10	10½	230,242	6	0
Hides, raw.....	44,084	15	1	2,743	13	6	46,828	8	7
— tanned, &c.....	506	17	0	13	3	3	520	0	3
Honey.....	1,505	6	10	253	11	7¾	1,758	18	5¾
Hops.....	313	7	4				313	7	4
Horns and horn tips.....	3,513	12	7	22	13	2½	3,536	5	9½
Jalap.....	3,579	1	4				3,579	1	4
Indigo.....	51,283	7	10	123	10	10	51,406	18	8
Iron in bars.....	70,322	6	10	4,982	3	7½	75,304	10	5½
— of all other sorts.....	1,727	18	5	31	15	2½	1,759	13	7½
Isinglass.....	3,212	11	8	19	18	8½	3,232	10	4½
Juice of lemons, limes, and oranges.....	4,726	3	9	104	13	2	4,830	16	11
Juniper berries.....	2,893	16	4	3	13	5¼	2,897	9	9¼
Lace, thread and silk.....	13,263	9	3				13,263	9	3
Lead, black.....	851	16	6				851	16	6
Lemons and oranges.....	81,690	8	7	2,764	10	8½	84,454	19	3½
Linens, foreign.....	23,689	15	3½	75	3	9½	23,764	19	0½
Liquorice juice.....	20,823	12	5	672	12	7½	21,496	5	0½
— root and powder.....									
Mace.....	2,034	4	7				2,034	4	7
Madder and madder-root.....	41,490	3	10½	11,025	1	3½	52,515	5	2
Manna.....	1,077	18	9	5	7	6	1,083	6	3
Mats of Russia.....	5,322	11	6	859	18	8¾	6,182	10	2¾
— of other sorts.....	1,866	11	2	20	12	11¼	1,887	4	1¼
Molasses.....	81,310	11	8	38,201	8	0	119,511	19	8
Moss rock.....	381	6	10	326	19	10½	708	6	8½
Mother-of-pearl shells, rough.....	1,061	5	10				1,061	5	10
Musical instruments.....	1,219	0	3	41	2	6	1,260	2	9
Myrrh.....	822	0	4				822	0	4
Nutmegs.....	16,127	1	10				16,127	1	10
Nuts, cheenuts.....	1,878	19	5	6	0	0	1,884	19	5
— small.....	25,033	19	7	0	1	6	25,034	1	7
— walnuts.....	1,643	18	7	35	1	0	1,678	19	7
— of other sorts.....	710	1	1	30	17	9½	740	18	10½
Oil, castor.....	12,768	9	3	30	12	6½	12,799	1	9½
— chemical and perfumed, of all sorts.....	7,413	12	6	4	5	0	7,417	17	6
— olive of all sorts.....	64,626	1	1	391	14	1½	65,017	15	2½
— palm.....	9,283	4	11				9,283	4	11
— seed, of all sorts.....	36	6	4				36	6	4
— train, spermaceti, and blubber.....	5,914	9	3	1,802	2	1½	7,716	11	4¾
— turpentine.....	0	4	0				0	4	0

Duties Inwards.—Foreign and Colonial Goods.—continued.									
	England.			Scotland.			Great Britain.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Oil of all other sorts	161	18	10	...	...	...	161	18	10
Oker	392	12	9	1	18	11	394	11	8
Olives	714	18	11	9	2	2	724	1	1
Onions	558	3	1	28	19	0	587	7	1
Opium	10,111	12	3	...	...	...	10,111	12	3
Orchal and orchelia	4,247	18	9	4	2	5½	4,252	1	2½
Paper of all sorts	2,981	4	0	1	6	11	2,982	10	11
Pearls	325	10	7	...	...	...	325	10	7
Pears	283	7	2	5	8	10	288	16	0
Pepper, Cayenne, Guinea, and long pepper	1	1	3	...	...	...	1	1	3
Pictures	8,704	0	0	710	12	0	9,414	12	0
Piece goods of India	36,464	11	1	101	2	8½	36,565	13	9½
Pimento	11,074	1	3	561	3	4	11,635	4	7
Pitch	668	7	2	76	6	2¾	744	13	4¾
Plattling of chip or straw	4,195	16	6	...	...	...	4,195	16	6
Plums, dried	844	14	9	18	7	6	863	2	3
Prints and drawings	1,127	14	1	6	2	4	1,133	16	5
Prunes	10,563	19	11	1,659	11	9½	12,223	11	8½
Quicksilver	12,543	12	5	0	1	8	12,543	14	1
Quills, goose	4,430	12	4	250	15	9	4,681	8	1
Radix ipecacuanhae	929	0	4	...	...	...	929	0	4
Rags for paper	10,705	10	8	1,121	12	3¼	11,827	2	11¼
Raisins	157,052	19	8	6,614	2	6¾	163,667	2	2¾
Rape and linseed cakes	4,067	11	2	57	8	2¼	4,124	19	4¼
Rhubarb	4,736	12	2	0	16	0	4,737	8	2
Rice	52,595	6	5	1,666	13	10	54,262	0	3
Rosin	47	5	2	8	2	5	55	7	7
Safflower	2,484	14	3	1	2	8¾	2,485	16	11¾
Saffron	1,330	16	0	...	...	...	1,330	16	0
Sago	2,844	12	6	...	...	...	2,844	12	6
Saltpetre	3,837	13	9	41	6	1¼	3,878	19	10¼
Sarsaparilla	4,292	14	3	335	17	6	4,628	11	9
Scammony	1,517	9	9	...	...	...	1,517	9	9
Seeds of all sorts	193,347	18	3	7,572	4	6½	200,920	2	9½
Senna	6,636	3	10	...	...	...	6,636	3	10
Shaws, and shawl manufactures of India	5,761	10	5	63	9	0	5,824	19	5
Ships' hulls and materials	2,643	15	10	59	16	6¼	2,703	12	4¼
Shumac	8,476	4	8	84	7	9¼	8,560	12	5¼
Silk, raw and thrown	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
— waste, floss, knubs, and husks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Skins (not being furs)	41,155	9	11	520	9	9¾	41,675	19	8¾
Smalts	13,120	4	3	1,872	0	5	14,992	4	8
Soap, hard and soft	2,065	3	1	0	3	5½	2,065	6	6½
Spirits, brandy	129,435	6	5	2,983	11	4	132,418	17	9
— geneva	7,526	1	11	2,152	4	1	9,678	6	0
— rum	140,808	18	6	8,485	15	2	149,294	13	8
— of all other sorts	2,767	18	3	185	11	9¾	2,953	10	0½
Sponge	6,566	15	10	16	8	0	6,583	3	10
Stones, viz. marble blocks	3,888	19	10	28	9	9	3,917	9	7
Succades	1,364	9	6	82	3	8	1,446	13	2
Sugar	3,837,111	7	4	386,129	11	1¼	4,223,240	18	5¼
Tallow	117,389	11	1	4,643	1	6¾	122,032	12	7¾
Tamarinds	3,591	6	0	263	8	10	3,854	14	10
Tapioca	1,215	15	4	0	16	7¼	1,216	11	1¼
Tar	12,782	2	2	1,791	16	4	14,573	18	6
— Balks and ufers	2,534	13	2	202	8	0	2,737	1	2
— Batters and batten ends	83,491	18	7	44,157	9	11½	127,649	8	6½
— Boards, clap and pipe	419	15	11	319	17	4¼	739	13	3¼
— — paling	1,206	10	5	48	2	2	1,254	12	7
— — of all other sorts	101	1	11	38	10	8¾	139	12	7¾
— Deals and deal ends	723,071	2	10	18,783	17	6¼	741,855	0	4
— Firewood	4,265	13	3	114	5	0½	4,379	18	3½
— Fir quarters	3,473	8	9	...	...	...	3,473	8	9
— Handspikes	1,008	1	11	24	13	4	1,032	15	3
— Lathwood	33,213	4	4	3,344	1	4¾	36,557	5	8¾

Duties Inwards:—Foreign and Colonial Goods—continued.

	England.			Scotland.			Great Britain.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Timber, viz.									
Masts and spars	24,005	0	2	1,542	12	6 ³ / ₄	25,547	12	8 ³ / ₄
Oars	1,391	4	3	136	7	11	1,527	12	2
Plank, oak	18,491	11	0	4,508	7	4 ³ / ₄	22,999	18	4 ³ / ₄
Staves	45,719	6	11 ¹ / ₄	3,068	1	8 ³ / ₄	48,787	8	8
Teake	3,193	18	5	174	10	9 ³ / ₄	3,368	9	2 ³ / ₄
Timber, fir, 8 inches square or upwards.....	568,150	9	2 ³ / ₄	96,375	17	10 ¹ / ₂	664,526	7	11 ¹ / ₂
oak, do. do.	22,092	4	11 ¹ / ₂	4,313	14	11 ¹ / ₂	26,405	19	11
of other sorts, do.	3,105	11	6	937	13	1 ³ / ₄	4,043	4	7 ³ / ₄
Wainscot logs	14,359	4	7	545	10	1	14,904	14	8
Tortoiseshell.....	3,483	5	9	43	12	0	3,526	17	9
Toys	4,717	14	9	11	2	4	4,728	17	1
Turmeric	3,095	9	7	21	11	8	3,117	1	3
Turpentine, common	69,243	5	0	18	4	4	69,261	9	4
Valonia	15,517	16	11	212	4	5 ¹ / ₂	15,730	1	4 ¹ / ₂
Verdigris	2,941	6	8	...	...	...	2,941	6	8
Vermicelli	1,886	10	6	195	2	0	2,081	12	6
Vermillion.....	1,533	16	8	0	4	0	1,534	0	8
Vinegar	249	4	6	47	3	2 ¹ / ₂	296	7	8 ¹ / ₂
Wax, bees	10,162	10	1	100	11	4	10,263	1	5
Whalefins	690	15	2	638	9	0 ¹ / ₂	1,329	4	2 ¹ / ₂
Wines of all sorts.....	830,881	16	10	60,070	0	8 ³ / ₄	890,951	17	6 ³ / ₄
Wool, cotton	236,213	8	7	14,998	10	7 ¹ / ₂	251,211	19	2 ¹ / ₂
sheep and lambs	315,891	3	5	294	15	5	316,185	18	10
Yarn, cotton.....	3,324	4	10	...	...	...	3,324	4	10
linen, raw	2,115	1	9 ¹ / ₂	749	0	1 ¹ / ₂	2,864	1	10 ³ / ₄
mohair, or camels.....	2,297	3	9	...	...	...	2,297	3	9
Yellow berries	2,667	19	3	...	...	...	2,667	19	3
Zaffar and cobalt	932	18	1	...	...	...	932	18	1
All other merchandise.....	65,146	15	5 ¹ / ₂	3,004	1	11	68,150	17	4 ¹ / ₂
Irish goods imported (countervailing duties thereon, per act 39 and 40 Geo. 3, c. 67)	21	3	10	...	...	...	20	10	2 ¹ / ₂
Tonnage of shipping inwards.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tonnage duty on French vessels	6,821	8	3 ³ / ₄	61	19	6 ³ / ₄	6,883	7	10 ³ / ₄
Total duties inwards, carried forward	9,868,094	11	5 ¹ / ₂	854,319	3	11	10,722,413	15	4 ¹ / ₂
Coals and culm exported.....	36,477	10	9 ¹ / ₂	4,054	17	2	40,532	7	11 ¹ / ₂
British sheep and lambs' wool, woollen yarn, &c. exported (per act 5 Geo. 4, c. 47).....	122	2	11	...	...	...	122	2	11
Skins	0	6	8	...	...	...	0	6	8
Linens (foreign)	309	3	0	...	...	...	309	3	0
Per centage duty on British goods exported	70,520	5	1 ³ / ₄	2,711	4	5 ³ / ₄	73,231	9	7 ¹ / ₂
Tonnage of shipping outwards .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tonnage duty on French vessels	556	14	8	...	...	...	556	14	8
Total duties outwards, carried forward	107,931	18	8 ¹ / ₂	6,766	1	7 ³ / ₄	114,698	0	4
Coals and culm, coastways	867,679	5	11 ³ / ₄	...	...	...	867,679	5	11 ³ / ₄
Slates	40,925	9	8 ³ / ₄	4,959	10	11 ¹ / ₂	45,885	0	8
Total duties coastways, carried forward	908,604	15	8 ³ / ₄	4,959	10	11 ¹ / ₂	913,564	6	7 ³ / ₄

Duties Inwards :—Foreign and Colonial Goods.

List of Articles.	Net Produce.			List of Articles.	Net Produce.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Boxes, pill . . . . .	...	...	...	Lemons and oranges	4,129	8	5
Brimstone	371	9	1	Linens, foreign, French cambric and lawns . . . . .	...	...	...
Bristles, drest and undrest	373	15	2	Liquorice root	269	11	9
Bugle, great and small . . . . .	...	...	...	Mace	32	18	6
Butter . . . . .	...	...	...	Madder and madder root	643	14	10
Camphire, refined and unrefined . . . . .	...	...	...	Manna	173	3	9
Canes of all sorts	316	0	8	Mats of Russia	976	11	10
Cantharides	271	15	6	Molasses	227	14	11
Capers	50	6	8	Mother-of-pearl shells . . . . .	...	...	...
Carpets, Turkey	70	7	5	Nutmegs	49	17	9
Cassia lignea	123	7	6	Nuts, chesnut	36	4	0
Cheese	10	11	7	— small	322	1	0
Chinaware, earthenware, and porcelaine	160	5	6	— walnuts	138	17	4
Cinnamon . . . . .	...	...	...	Oil, castor	201	4	11
Cloves	268	14	0	— ordinary olive	1,258	19	14
Cochineal and granilla . . . . .	...	...	...	— palm	3	12	9
Cocoa nuts	43	8	6	— salad . . . . .	...	...	...
Cocoa nut husks and shells	5,089	12	8	— train	89	19	0
Coffee	13,443	19	8	— turpentine . . . . .	...	...	...
Copper in bricks and pigs . . . . .	...	...	...	Opium	87	15	0
Cordage and cables	19	7	0	Orchal and orchellia . . . . .	...	...	...
Cork	959	0	0	Paper of all sorts	57	9	6
Corn, grain, meal, and flour . . . . .	...	...	...	Pearls . . . . .	...	...	...
Cortex Peruvianus . . . . .	...	...	...	Pepper	13,570	12	6
Cream of tartar	290	17	6	— Cayenne, Guinea, and long pepper	238	1	7
Currants	2,460	9	9	Pictures	98	12	0
Elephants' teeth . . . . .	...	...	...	Piece goods of India . . . . .	...	...	...
Essence of bergamot and lemons	21	10	6	Pimento	783	6	6
Feathers for beds	2	4	4	Pitch	108	3	2
— ostrich, drest and undrest	14	15	2	Prunes	413	12	3
Figs	485	13	7	Quicksilver	209	3	4
Flax, undrest	119	14	5	Quills, goose	0	12	6
Galls	0	16	3	Radix ipecacuanha . . . . .	...	...	...
Ginger, dry	135	10	2	Rags	110	6	0½
Glass of all sorts, except bottles	94	15	2	Raisins of all sorts	5,676	4	6
Gums of all sorts . . . . .	...	...	...	Rape and linseed cakes . . . . .	...	...	...
Hair, cow and ox . . . . .	...	...	...	Rhubarb . . . . .	...	...	...
— goats	7	9	6	Rice	1,298	9	8
— horse . . . . .	...	...	...	Rosin	24	9	11
— human	36	0	0	Saffron	65	5	5
Hats, chip and straw	506	7	8	Sago . . . . .	...	...	...
Hemp, rough	5,949	0	9	Salt	12,411	14	4½
Hides, raw	546	19	2	Saltpetre . . . . .	...	...	...
— tanned . . . . .	...	...	...	Sarsaparilla	69	0	0
Hops	57	17	4	Seeds of all sorts	13,936	3	6
Indigo . . . . .	...	...	...	Senna . . . . .	...	...	...
Jalap	22	8	0	Shawls of India . . . . .	...	...	...
Incle, wrought and unwrought, . . . . .	...	...	...	Ships' hulls and materials	93	19	2
Iron, bar	3,294	5	0	Shumac	353	12	3
— of all other sorts . . . . .	...	...	...	Silk, raw and thrown . . . . .	...	...	...
Isinglass	1,120	2	11	— waste, floss, knubs and husks	12	4	0
Juice of lemons, limes, and oranges	13	18	1	Skins and furs	338	9	10
Lace, thread and silk . . . . .	...	...	...	

FINANCE.—Finance Accounts.

Duties Inwards:—Foreign and Colonial Goods.

List of Articles.	Net Produce.			List of Articles.	Net Produce.		
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Smalts	1,964	8	4	Wool, cotton	4,046	9	7
Snuff				— sheep and lambs*	59	19	7
Soap, hard and soft	14	14	6	Yarn, cotton			
Spirits, brandy	738	6	9	— linen, raw	0	1	8
— Geneva	472	7	11	— mohair	42	10	10
— rum	6,097	7	1	Zaffar and cobalt			
— of all other sorts	419	2	11	All other articles	3,972	15	2½
Sponge	57	8	1	* Tonnage of shipping inwards			
Steel	0	7	8	Total foreign and colonial goods	£1,525,648	3	3
Stones, marble blocks	70	1	6	Duties Inwards:—British Goods	78	13	6
Succades	39	9	2	Apparel	0	4	1
Succus liquoritiæ	964	17	1	Beer and ale			
Sugar	418,704	3	11½	Blankets and blanketing			
Tallow	3,431	13	1	Books, maps, and prints			
Tamarinds	99	14	0	Brass, wrought			
Tapioca				Cabinet and upholstery ware			
Tar	755	11	8	Carpets and carpeting			
Tea	445,271	15	11½	Coaches and coachmakers' work			
Thread of all sorts				Coals	58,661	4	1½
Tobacco	187,484	4	0	Cotton goods, calicoes			
Tortoiseshell	32	8	0	— muslins			
Tow				— stockings			
Toys	15	8	3	— all other sorts			
Turmeric				Drapery, new			
Turpentine, common	2,205	3	3	— old			
Valonia	3,338	0	3	Earthenware			
Verdegris				Glass bottles	12	17	10
Vermicelli and macaroni	164	14	8	— other sorts	62	3	1
Vermillion	61	10	0	Haberdashery and millinery			
Vinegar	140	8	8	Hats	449	1	11½
Wax, bees'	52	3	9	Hides and skins			
Whalefins				Hops			
Wine of all sorts	185,158	11	4	Malt			
Wood, balks and ufers				Paper	16	11	10
— battens and batten ends	6,445	2	9½	Plate, wrought			
— boards, clap and pipe	379	0	9	Saddlery and other manufactured leather			
— boards, paling	18	17	4	Salt, rock and white	43,184	10	11½
— boards, wainscot				Silk ribbons and stuffs of silk only			
— boxwood	54	10	11	— stockings, fringes, lace, stitching and sewing silk			
— deals and deal ends	66,415	10	4	— stuffs of silk, mixed with incle or cotton			
— ebony	1	11	5	* Appropriated towards the maintenance of light-houses round the coast of Ireland.			
— fustic	102	11	3				
— lathwood	1,963	10	6½				
— lignum vitæ							
— logwood	234	3	11½				
— mahogany	4,560	16	10½				
— masts and spars	652	3	10				
— Nicaragua	31	11	5				
— oars	72	3	2				
— plank and boards, oak	23	19	6				
— redwood and camwood	18	4	1				
— staves	12,425	15	0½				
— timber, fir	51,033	17	0				
— oak	447	14	3				
— of all other sorts	361	15	4				
— wainscot logs	214	2	10				

Duties Inwards.—British Goods.		Duties Inwards.—Foreign and Colonial Goods.	
List of Articles.	Net Produce.	List of Articles.	Net Produce.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Silk stuffs (of silk and worsted mixed)	6,853 16 7	Duties inwards, foreign and colonial goods, brought forward	1,525,648 3 3
Spirits, British		Duties inwards, British goods, brought forward	95,939 12 0
Stockings, woollen, and worsted		Total duties inwards	£1,621,587 15 3
Sugar, refined		Duties outwards, brought down	2,419 12 1
Tin plates, wrought iron and hardware			£1,624,067 7 4
All other articles		Storage	8,645 10 0
* Tonnage of shipping inwards		Proceeds of fines and seizures	
Total British goods inwards	£95,939 12 0	Produce of surcharges	2,367 6 10
British goods exported; coals	848 10 1	Bounties and drawbacks, &c. repaid	119 17 5
Per centage on British goods exported	53 10 4	Sale of old boats, houses, stores, &c.	5,060 0 7
Per centage on Irish goods exported	1,517 11 8	Rent of revenue premises	1,478 8 3
Total duties outwards	£2,419 12 1	Other receipts	276 1 8
		Grand total	£1,614,357 0 5

* Appropriated towards the maintenance of light-boats round the coast of Ireland.

AN ACCOUNT of the Net Produce of the Revenue of Excise in GREAT BRITAIN, in the Year ended 5th January, 1825.

	England.			Scotland.			Great Britain.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Auctions.....	264,986	18	8	21,180	18	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	286,167	16	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Beer.....	3,196,588	3	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	84,462	19	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	3,281,051	3	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Bricks and tiles.....	466,277	0	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	11,177	18	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	477,454	19	3
Candles.....	438,442	18	9	21,245	3	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	459,688	2	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cocoa nuts and coffee.....	386,642	3	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	25,366	9	0	412,008	12	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cyder and perry.....	41,230	14	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	34	0	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	41,264	15	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
Glass.....	546,647	9	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	67,996	0	8 $\frac{1}{2}$	614,643	10	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Hides and skins.....	360,997	17	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	39,414	19	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	400,412	17	5 $\frac{3}{4}$
Hops.....	173,832	6	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	.....	.....	.....	173,832	6	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Licenses.....	562,989	18	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	102,335	7	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	665,325	5	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Malt.....	3,484,762	8	0 $\frac{1}{4}$	146,562	10	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	3,631,324	18	2
Paper.....	542,867	15	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	64,363	11	6	607,231	6	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pepper.....	163,982	6	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	2,723	15	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	166,706	2	4 $\frac{3}{4}$
Printed goods.....	427,267	17	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	231,407	18	8	658,675	16	0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Salt.....	219,759	3	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	339	7	0	220,098	10	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Soap.....	1,033,069	6	1	121,433	14	10 $\frac{1}{4}$	1,154,503	0	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Spirits } British.....	2,534,035	6	7	520,624	18	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	3,054,660	4	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
} foreign.....	1,586,468	19	11	71,290	18	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	1,657,759	18	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
Starch.....	62,559	16	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	3,889	15	9	66,449	12	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
Stone bottles.....	3,226	0	6	31	18	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	3,257	19	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
Sweets and mead.....	8,960	8	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	64	1	0	9,024	9	9 $\frac{3}{4}$
Tea.....	3,419,787	0	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	.....	.....	.....	3,419,787	0	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
Tobacco and snuff.....	1,744,622	16	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	241,897	7	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	1,986,520	3	8
Vinegar.....	44,563	12	11	789	6	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	45,352	19	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Wine.....	1,003,660	1	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	73,000	16	11	1,076,660	18	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Wire.....	8,292	7	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	.....	.....	.....	8,292	7	8 $\frac{3}{4}$
Total consolidated duties £	22,726,521	0	7	1,851,633	17	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	25,578,154	18	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Spirits, foreign, } 51 Geo. 3, c. 59 }.....	133,868	9	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	5,414	0	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	139,282	10	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Annual duties:									
Tobacco and snuff, comm ^d } 5th July }.....	602,334	11	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	79,449	4	6	681,783	15	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Spirits, foreign.....do.....	821,605	16	8	39,837	18	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	861,443	15	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Brandy, &c.....do.....	184,533	15	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	7,283	3	6	191,816	18	9 $\frac{1}{4}$
Sweets.....do.....	1,488	16	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	10	13	6	1,499	9	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total annual duties £	1,609,962	19	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	126,581	0	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,736,543	19	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
Fines and forfeitures.....	18,660	4	2	16,387	3	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	35,047	7	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
Totals collected:									
Consolidated duties.....	22,726,521	0	7	1,851,633	17	11 $\frac{1}{4}$	25,578,154	18	6 $\frac{1}{4}$
Spirits, foreign, } 51 Geo. 3, c. 59 }.....	133,868	9	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	5,414	0	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	139,282	10	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Annual duties.....	1,609,962	19	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	126,581	0	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	1,736,543	19	7 $\frac{3}{4}$
Fines and forfeitures.....	18,660	4	2	16,387	3	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	35,047	7	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
Grand total.....£	24,489,012	13	7	2,000,016	2	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	26,489,028	15	10 $\frac{1}{4}$

AN ACCOUNT of the Net Produce of the Revenue of Excise in Ireland, in the Year ended the 5th January, 1825.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Auctions	7,292	19	9½	Licenses	190,561	7	5½
Glass bottles	323	9	3¾	Poundage on licenses	6,325	17	1¼
Leather	28,381	8	7¼	Quit, &c. rents	81,056	12	3¾
Malt	267,624	4	10¾	Fees received by collectors on quit, &c. rents	861	1	0
Mead	175	11	3	Forfeited rents	1,134	1	11½
Paper hangings	1,965	19	8½	Fines and seizures (net)	5,525	17	6¾
Strong waters	771,690	16	0				
Tobacco	563,093	13	4				
Vinegar	260	14	9				
Writing paper	19,920	14	7½	Add collector's balances, as per general statement	1,245	12	1
Wrought plate	3,859	9	8¼				
Wine (foreign) arrear of 1814	369	4	7½				
Wine, home-made	19	13	7¼				
	1,664,978	0	2¼		1,951,683	9	7½

AN ACCOUNT of the Net Produce of the Revenue of Stamps in Great Britain, in the Year ended 5th January, 1825.

	England.			Scotland.			Great Britain.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Deeds, law proceedings, and other written instruments, (except legacy receipts, probates, administrations, and testamentary inventories, bills of exchange, and promissory notes and receipts,) and licenses to dealers in thread lace	2,009,364	15	6¾	193,875	9	0	2,203,240	4	6¾
Legacies	984,719	19	0	61,370	10	11	1,046,090	9	11
Probates, administrations, and testamentary inventories	757,224	2	5	44,054	0	0	801,278	2	5
Bills of exchange, and promissory notes	616,705	7	3½	102,159	10	9	718,864	18	0½
Receipts	191,166	13	1	17,384	6	7	208,550	19	8
Newspapers	331,125	1	1	19,029	19	4	350,155	0	5
Almanacks	30,252	7	9	8	0	0	30,260	7	9
Medicine, and medicine licenses	42,502	10	2½	88	12	5	42,591	2	7½
Fire insurances	612,090	16	9	26,618	2	4½	638,708	19	1½
Cards	25,937	4	0	...	...	...	25,937	4	0
Gold and silver plate	87,341	18	7	5,744	17	11	93,086	16	6
Dice	1,111	0	0	...	...	...	1,111	0	0
Pamphlets	1,034	2	9	39	3	0	1,073	5	9
Advertisements	134,633	19	3½	17,825	17	0	152,459	16	3½
Stage-coaches	339,378	5	11	22,164	11	6½	361,542	17	5½
Post-horses	236,295	19	5	13	3	1	236,309	2	6
Race-horses	1,394	6	7½	50	16	7	1,445	3	2½
Lottery	3,888	14	4	...	...	...	3,888	14	4
£	6,406,167	4	0¾	510,427	0	6	6,916,594	4	6¾

AN ACCOUNT of the Net Produce of the Post-office Revenue of Great Britain, in the Year ended 5th January, 1825.

	England.			Scotland.			Great Britain.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Unpaid letters outwards, and paid letters inwards, and ship letters, &c. charged on country postmasters;—unpaid letters inwards, and paid letters outwards, collected by the letter carriers, &c. in London and Edinburgh;—by and cross road letters	1,365,204	10	0½	179,847	3	7	1,545,051	13	7½
	£ 1,365,204	10	0½	179,847	3	7	1,545,051	13	7½
Two-penny and penny post letters, } at London and Edinburgh	111,511	7	5	4,349	19	2	115,861	6	7
British postage, &c. collected in Ireland	55,011	6	2½	...	...	...	55,011	6	2½
Letters charged on the postmasters } in the West Indies, and British } North America	46,546	15	10¾	...	...	...	46,546	15	10¾
Foreign letters	176,539	5	9	...	...	...	176,539	5	9
Passage money, and freight of specie, } by the packets	32,698	14	5¾	...	...	...	32,698	14	5¾
Miscellaneous (including produce of } a city bond, 12,250 <i>l.</i>)	15,937	1	0	1,273	4	7	17,210	5	7
Grand total	£ 1,803,449	0	9½	185,470	7	4	1,988,919	8	1½

AN ACCOUNT of the Gross Receipt and Net Produce of the Post-office Revenue in Ireland, in the Year ended 5th January, 1825.

	Gross Receipt.	
	£	s. d.
Allowance from Great Britain in lieu of packet postage	9,000	0 0
Letters from the country of Ireland for the city of Dublin	45,788	0 8¾
Unpaid letters outwards, and paid letters inwards, charged on country postmasters	68,277	5 6½
By and cross road letters	36,175	16 9¾
Postage received at Dublin office on post-paid letters for Great Britain and Ireland	17,632	1 2½
Irish postage on unpaid letters for Great Britain and foreign parts	13,674	16 8¾
Irish postage on paid letters for Great Britain and foreign parts	985	6 2½
Irish postage on unpaid letters from Great Britain, via Donaghadee and Waterford	3,025	8 0½
Undercharges and advanced taxes	117	10 10¾
Penny postage received at Dublin	3,878	3 1½
Postage received for returned letters	109	9 4½
Postage received for private expresses	1	1 11½
Miscellaneous receipts	937	18 0
Grand total	£ 199,602	18 5¾
	£ 199,602	18 5¾
	Amounts.	
	£	s. d.
REPAYMENTS, &c.		
Re-directed, returned, dead, unknown, refused, overcharged letters, &c.	12,473	0 0
British postage received in Ireland, on letters post-paid for Great Britain and foreign parts	7,197	17 8¾
Net produce	£ 179,932	0 9½

FOUR AND HALF PER CENT DUTY.

A RETURN of the Amount of the Four and Half per Cent Duty in the last Year, and of the several Pensions and Charges payable therefrom, with the Dates when the same were severally granted.

		£	s.	d.
The net proceeds of the 4½ per cent duty received by the husband, for the crop of 1824, after deducting the several payments for freight, duty, brokerage, commission, &c.		25,247	15	10
Pensions and charges on the four and half per cent duty.				
Salaries payable at the Exchequer.				
		Per ann.	£	s. d.
To the governor of Barbadoes		£1,200	0	0
Do. Bahamas		700	0	0
Do. Bermuda		750	0	0
Do. Tobago		1,300	0	0
Do. Grenada		1,364	0	0
Do. Dominica		1,300	0	0
Do. St. Vincent		1,300	0	0
Do. Antigua		2,000	0	0
Do. Virgin Islands		1,800	0	0
Lieutenant-governor of the Leeward Islands		300	0	0
Do. Virgin Islands		200	0	0
Do. Nevis		300	0	0
Do. Montserrat		200	0	0
Do. St. Kitt's		200	0	0
Do. Grenada		300	0	0
Do. Dominica		400	0	0
Agent for the island of Grenada		200	0	0
for Turk's Island		100	0	0
Auditor-general of the plantations		250	0	0
Total salaries		£ 14,164	0	0
Date of grant.	Pensions payable at the Exchequer.			
		Per ann.		
26 May, 1779	Earl Chatham	£3,000	0	0
	Earl Kinnoul	1,000	0	0
9 July, 1789	Sarah Martin	50	0	0
	Alice Martin	50	0	0
10 Sept. 1791	Charlotte Todd { £30 }	45	0	0
28 May, 1814	{ 15 }			
26 Sept. 1799	Elizabeth Moffatt Popham	500	0	0
30 April, 1802	Isabella Frances Masters	200	0	0
27 June, 1806	Earl Chatham, et al. in trust for lady G. Tekell {	600	0	0
11 June, 1814	Do. children lady Taylor	976	10	0
14 Aug. 1806	E. G. Boldero, in trust for miss Locks	600	0	0
1 Jan. 1817	Richard Masters	100	0	0
Total pensions payable at the Exchequer		£ 7,121	10	0
Pensions payable by the husband.				
		Per ann.		
1 July, 1814	Auckland, lord	£400	0	0
9 June, 1800	Batson, Mrs. Isabella	103	10	0
24 Oct. 1795	Burke, Edmund, esq.	2,500	0	0
15 Sept. 1801	Blackwood, lady Harriet	206	0	0
21 Nov. 1797	Cowper, Henry, esq.	1,026	0	0
28 Feb. 1818	Campbell, Mrs. Alicia	300	0	0
10 Oct. 1800	Dawson, lady Louisa	200	0	0
	— lady Anna Maria	200	0	0

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By quarterly warrants												
24 Oct., 1806 } Dickie, Andrew	218	0	0									
20 Oct., 1805 } De Ameland, lady } Augusta	1,292	10	0									
28 Sept., 1816 } De Curt, Mrs. Caroline	150	0	0									
4 Feb., 1818 } De Clifford, lady	1,200	0	0									
10 Oct., 1800 } Despard, Mrs. Eliza	100	0	0									
9 Sept., 1818 } Erskine, lady Harriet	200	0	0									
20 Oct., 1797 } Fitz Clarences, the } Misses	2,500	0	0									
3 June, 1814 } Gordon, Mrs. Patience	200	0	0									
8 May, 1819 } Grange, James, esq.	250	0	0									
20 Oct., 1797 } Gloucester, duchess of	1,000	0	0									
20 June, 1798 } Hamilton, Mrs. Elizabeth	200	0	0									
24 May, 1817 } Hamilton, Miss M. A. P.	100	0	0									
17 June, 1800 } Hewitt, John Graham	60	0	0									
8 May, 1819 } Hood, lord	1,500	0	0									
2 Dec., 1796 } Hombourg, princess } of Hesse	1,000	0	0									
10 June, 1803 } Hosier, John and } Bernard Thomas, } esqrs.	600	0	0									
8 Sept., 1816 } Hobart, Henry and } Sullivan John, } esqrs.	400	0	0									
16 July, 1804 } Houghton, Mrs. Ann	35	0	0									
28 Sept., 1816 } Huyghues, Mrs. Rosalie	91	5	0									
8 Oct., 1800 } Jordan, Thomas	78	6	0									
7 Feb., 1801 } Irving, Miss L. C. M.	80	0	0									
8 Mar., 1814 } Long, sir Charles	1,500	0	0									
15 May, 1804 } Mansfield, lady	1,000	0	0									
10 Oct., 1800 } Morgan, Miss Fanny	50	0	0									
19 June, 1800 } Parnell, lady Caroline	200	0	0									
16 Sept., 1816 } Ricketts, Mrs. Sophia	411	0	0									
3 April, 1806 } Rochatt, Mrs. Ann	20	0	0									
30 Jan., 1806 } Snow, Mrs. Charlotte	50	0	0									
14 May, 1804 } Stanhope, lady Hes- } ter Lucy	1,200	0	0									
28 Sept., 1816 } Sargent, Mrs. Charlotte	616	0	0									
18 July, 1818 } Shirley, Richard	67	6	0									
20 May, 1799 } Smith, sir Sidney	1,000	0	0									
27 Dec., 1813 } Smith, John and } Backhouse John, } esqrs.	500	0	0									
28 Sept., 1816 } Wharton, Richard, esq.	500	0	0									
28 Sept., 1816 } Waugh, William	46	16	0									
Total pensions payable by the husband				£	23,351	13	0					
Total pensions payable at the Exchequer, and by the husband				£	30,473	3	0					
Other charges payable by the husband												
Officers' salaries in the colonies					1,363	2	6					
Husband and clerk of the 4½ per cent duties					520	0	0					
Auditor of the 4½ per cent accounts					20	0	0					
Paid under orders of the commissioners of customs for expenses incurred by collectors, &c. in the West Indies, principally for casks					1,563	16	7					
Total, other charges				£	3,466	19	1					
Total, salaries, pensions, and other charges				£	48,104	2	1					

These charges, although of annual recurrence, vary in amount.

LAND-TAX.

An Account of the gross Receipt of the Land-tax unredeemed, in England and Wales, in each of the three Years 1822, 1823, and 1824.

	£	s.	d.
1822	1,191,422	7	5½
1823	1,211,917	11	10½
1824	1,254,657	16	2½

An Account of the gross Receipt of the Land-tax unredeemed, in Scotland, in each of the three Years 1822, 1823, and 1824.

	£	s.	d.
1822	36,034	7	6
1823	34,043	12	8
1824	37,803	19	9½

An Account shewing the Total Amount of £3 per Cents transferred and purchased on Account of the Redemption of Land-tax, in each of the Three Years 1822, 1823, and 1824, and the Amount of Dividend on the same.

1822.		1823.		1824.	
Amount of £3 per cents transferred and purchased.	Amount of Dividend on the same.	Amount of £3 per cents transferred and purchased.	Amount of dividend on the same.	Amount of £3 per cents transferred and purchased.	Amount of dividend on the same.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
90,935 7 6	2,728 1 2	67,055 4 2	2,011 13 1	70,366 14 5	2,111 0 0

The above return includes the £3 per cents purchased from time to time, with the dividends arising from stock provided to answer contracts for the redemption of land-tax, according to the terms of schedules (C) and (D) of the act 53 Geo. III. c. 123; which dividends are directed by the said act to be applied in augmentation of the stock purchased, until the accumulated stock shall yield an annuity exceeding the land-tax redeemed by one-tenth part thereof.

LIFE INSURANCES.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Stamps issued for policies of Life Insurance, in the Years 1814, 1815, 1816, 1817, 1818, 1819, 1820, 1821, 1822, 1823, and 1824; distinguishing the Stamps of £1, £2, £3, £4, and £5;—so far as the same can be made up.

	£1.	£2.	£3.	£4.	£5.
Year 1816	1,633	823	1,029	217	136
1817	2,270	962	1,313	232	182
1818	2,316	1,127	1,325	281	167
1819	2,181	990	1,138	225	162
1820	2,116	909	1,295	296	178
1821	2,231	887	1,315	217	154
1822	2,439	1,142	1,540	356	251
1823	2,393	1,263	1,675	305	178
1824	3,150	1,825	2,237	413	254

Note.—The foregoing scale of duties on policies of life insurance was first imposed by the Act of 55 Geo. 3, c. 184, commencing on the 1st September, 1815; the year 1816 is therefore the first complete year for which the account can be furnished.

Note.—There are not distinct stamps to denote the duties on policies of life insurance in Ireland, and therefore no separate accounts have been kept of their produce in that country; in the above account, therefore, relates to Great Britain only.

MINT.

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Gold received into His Majesty's Mint, and of Gold Monies coined in each Year, from 1st January, 1823, to 1st January, 1825.

Year.	Gold imported into the Mint.				Gold monies coined.					
	Weight.				Value.					
	lbs.	oz.	dts.	grs.	£	s.	d.			
In 1823.....	13,209	1	13	17	617,197	1	9	759,748	10	0
In 1824.....	100,385	7	1	23	4,690,516	15	2	4,065,075	0	0
	113,594	8	15	16	5,307,713	16	11	4,824,823	10	0

NEWSPAPERS.

AN ACCOUNT of the Amount of Stamps for Newspapers, in the Years 1814, 1815, 1816, 1817, 1818, 1819, 1820, 1821, 1822, 1823, and 1824; distinguishing the different Years.

Year.	Great Britain.			Ireland.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1814.....	383,658	7	7				383,658	7	7
1815.....	383,695	16	3½				383,695	16	3½
1816.....	367,505	18	0				367,505	18	0
1817.....	363,284	9	4	19,080	0	2	382,364	9	6
1818.....	367,738	16	4	20,417	0	4	388,155	16	8
1819.....	384,140	16	4	21,406	18	11	405,547	15	3
1820.....	440,228	2	4	22,878	2	5	463,106	4	9
1821.....	414,369	15	4	22,546	8	10½	436,916	4	2½
1822.....	308,873	7	8	23,757	9	6¼	422,630	17	2¼
1823.....	411,171	1	8	25,668	8	0	436,839	9	8
1824.....	426,231	16	4	25,684	12	2	452,116	8	6
£	4,340,698	7	2½	181,659	0	5	4,522,557	7	7½

RECEIVERS GENERAL.

AN ACCOUNT of the Salaries, Allowances, or other Emoluments, in any manner accruing to the several Receivers General of the Taxes, under the Act 3 Geo. IV. c. 88, within the Year ending the 5th January, 1825.

Counties.	Names of Receivers General.	Salaries.			Allowances for Expenses.		
		£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Bedford	John Gibbard.....	400	0	0	25	13	0
Berks	William B. Simonds.....	400	0	0	41	2	0
	Edward Golding	400	0	0	43	0	0
Bucks	George R. Minshull	400	0	0	29	8	0
	Walden H. Hanmer	400	0	0	30	16	0
Cambridge	Christopher Pemberton.....	500	0	0	50	10	0
Chester	Henry C. Cotton	600	0	0	49	0	0
Cornwall	John Boger.....	500	0	0	80	10	0
Cumberland	James C. Satterthwaite.....	500	0	0	55	2	0
Derby	John Crompton.....	500	0	0	42	18	0
Devon.....	John J. Fortescue	500	0	0	96	0	0
	Sir John Duntze, bart.....	600	0	0	157	8	0
Dorset.....	Walter P. Hodges	500	0	0	44	0	0
Durham and Northumberland.....	Christopher Blackett.....	600	0	0	159	8	0
York	Henry H. Pulleine	500	0	0	91	4	0
	John Tindall	500	0	0	49	1	0
	Richard R. Milnes.....	600	0	0	52	0	0
	Ralph Creyke.....	600	0	0	73	6	0
Essex	Robert Andrews.....	600	0	0	61	0	0
	Charles Round.....	500	0	0	36	6	0
Gloucester	George Talbot	600	0	0	108	6	0
Hereford	Philip Barneby	400	0	0	41	14	0
Hertford	Thomas H. Hyde.....(late)	375	0	0	32	15	0
	Adolph. Meetkerke(present)	.....	.....	.....	16	0	0
Huntingdon	Owsley Rowley.....(late)	210	19	2	9	18	0
	David Rowley.....(present)	.....	.....	.....	9	18	0
Kent	Sir Wm. J. Twysden, bart.....	600	0	0	66	0	0
	George W. H. D'Aeth	600	0	0	82	17	0
Lancaster	George Case.....	600	0	0	17	.....	.....
	Edward Falkner.....	600	0	0	55	0	0
Leicester	Richard Norman	500	0	0	41	15	0
Lincoln	Samuel Rich. Fydell	500	0	0	49	14	0
	Bartholomew Claypon	600	0	0	64	10	0
Norfolk.....	Sir Robert J. Harvey.....	600	0	0	213	16	0
Northampton and Rutland	Edward Boodle	400	0	0	61	14	0
	John Beauclerk.....	500	0	0	75	0	0
Nottingham	Charles Greville.....	500	0	0	49	16	0
Oxford	John H. Tilson	500	0	0	105	1	0
Salop	Sir Francis B. Hill, knt.....	600	0	0	83	3	0
Somerset.....	Jeffreys Allen.....	600	0	0	226	4	0
Southampton	George W. Ricketts.....	600	0	0	81	19	0
Isle of Wight.....	William Hearne.....	300	0	0	.....	.....	.....
Stafford	Edward Grove	600	0	0	71	0	0
Suffolk	Orbell R. Oakes.....	600	0	0	101	0	0
Surrey.....	Ralph Smith	600	0	0	110	1	0
	Thomas Page	600	0	0	25	16	0
Sussex.....	Charles Mitford	600	0	0	86	16	0
Warwick	William Little	600	0	0	58	3	0
Westmoreland	Edward W. Hasell.....	400	0	0	39	10	0
Wilts	John Awdry	600	0	0	74	10	0
Worcester	Sir Anthony Lechmere, bart.....	500	0	0	69	7	0
Wales, North	John Williams.....	600	0	0	132	0	0
	Charles Dallas	500	0	0	89	18	0
Wales, South.....	Eyre Coote, lord.....	500	0	0	79	10	0
Monmouth and Glamorgan	Henry Hollier.....	500	0	0	97	4	0
	£	27,485	19	2	3,795	7	0
Westminster and Middlesex part	William Bagot	1,200	0	0	1,130	0	0
London and Middlesex part	William Everett.....	1,200	0	0	700	0	0
	£	29,885	19	2	5,625	7	0

The above-stated allowances to the receivers general (except those to the two receivers of London, Westminster, and Middlesex,) have been paid for travelling charges at the rate fixed by the Act 3 Geo. IV. c. 88, of two shillings per mile; and for expenses when absent from home. At the respective receipts, at the rate of one guinea per day.

The sums inserted in this account for the two receivers for London, West. Middlesex, are the annual allowances assigned by the lords of the treasury, for expenses for offices kept open by them, and for clerks and other incidental disbursements.

RUSSIAN LOAN.

AN ACCOUNT, up to the 31st December, 1824, of the Sums which have been issued and applied within the Year 1824; by Virtue of an Act 55 Geo. 3, c. 115, intituled, "An Act for carrying into Effect a Convention between His Majesty and the King of the *Netherlands* and the Emperor of all the *Russias*, for paying and satisfying the Interest on the part of the Loan therein agreed to be borne by His Majesty, on all or any of the Securities therein mentioned, and towards paying and satisfying the Principal thereof, in case the Principal of any of the said Securities shall have been paid; and also for paying the Expenses of carrying the said Act into Execution, and the Sinking Fund for the Extinction of the same."

Date.	<u>Dr.</u>	Interest in florins.	Total.
1824.			
January 1.....	To balance remaining due on this day.....	.....	23,000,000
June 30.	To half a year's interest on 250,000 florins, the amount of sinking fund paid the 1st June, 1824.....	6,250	
December 31.	To one year's interest to this date on 22,750,000 florins, remaining due after payment of 250,000 florins sinking fund, on 1st June, 1824.....	1,137,500	
	Florins.....	1,143,750	23,000,000
	<u>Contra Cr.</u>		
June 1.....	By amount of remittance to Mr. T. Atkinson, at Amsterdam, for payment to Messrs. Hope and Co. agents to the Russian government, of 1 per cent sinking fund, for one year, to 31st Dec. 1824, on 25,000,000 florins, thereby reducing the balance due on the 1st January last, viz. 23,000,000 florins to 22,750,000 florins.....	.....	250,000
	By amount of half year's interest on 250,000 florins sinking fund, due 30th June, 1824, remitted at the same time.....	6,250	
November 25.	By amount of remittance to Holland of one year's interest at 5 per cent, to 31st Dec. 1824, on 22,750,000 florins, the amount of principal remaining due, after the preceding payment of 250,000 florins.....	1,137,500	
	By balance remaining due 1st January, 1825.....	.....	22,750,000
	Florins.....	1,143,750	23,000,000
			£ s. d.
	The amount of the above remittances was issued out of the consolidated fund; and, according to the rate of exchange when the remittances were made to Amsterdam, was, in sterling money.....		118,227 9 3
	Amount of commission on the above remittances paid Mr. Atkinson, as agent for paying the Russian Dutch loan.....		591 2 1
	Postage.....		0 17 0
			£118,819 8 4

SAVINGS BANKS.

AN ACCOUNT of the Gross Amount of all Sums received and paid by the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt, on Account of Banks for Savings (including Friendly Societies), in Great Britain and Ireland; in pursuance of the Acts of the 57th Geo. III. c. 105 and 130, from their Commencement at 6th August, 1817, to the 20th November, 1824, inclusive: made up under the following heads, pursuant to the 5th Geo. IV. c. 62, s. 32.

From 6th August, 1817, to 20th November, 1824, inclusive.	Gross amount of all sums received from savings banks and friendly societies, including interest placed to their credit.	Gross amount of all sums paid to savings banks and friendly societies, including interest.	Gross amount of all sums, stocks, funds, and annuities, standing in the commissioners' names.		Sums paid for the purchase of such stock and annuities.	Gross amount of interest or dividends received thereon by the commissioners.	Gross amount of interest paid and credited to savings banks and friendly societies.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	3 per cents.	3½ per cents.			
In Great Britain.....	11,636,271 4 4	492,526 14 10	6,666,181 2 2	6,033,837 0 5	10,914,535 6 3	1,264,900 15 9	1,475,534 4 4
Ireland, B. C.	725,648 2 0	140,144 3 2	—	684,332 15 0	629,402 1 11	52,472 8 1	65,023 0 7
Jointly	£ 12,361,919 6 4	632,670 18 0	6,666,181 2 2	6,718,169 15 5	11,544,017 8 2	1,317,382 3 10	1,540,557 4 11

TRADE.

BEER.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Barrels of Strong, Table, and Intermediate Beer, chargeable to the Duties of Excise, brewed in *England, Scotland, and Wales*, from 5th July, 1823, to 5th July, 1824; distinguishing the Number of Barrels brewed within the limits of the Chief Office of Excise, and within each of the several Collections, particularising the quantity brewed by Public Brewers, Licensed Victuallers, and Intermediate Brewers; also the Number of Barrels of Strong Beer exported during the above period.

Collections.	Number of Barrels brewed in England and Wales.					Number of barrels of strong beer exported.
	Public brewers.		Victuallers.		Intermediate Beer.	
	Strong.	Table.	Strong.	Table.		
Barnstaple.....	359	152	34,494	6,396	11	..
Bath.....	62,313	25,827	60,359	14,949	18	..
Bedford.....	49,207	5,685	23,502	6,901	144	..
Bristol.....	30,136	15,435	81,758	7,044	..	1,630
Cambridge.....	73,007	11,183	28,415	8,039	..	..
Canterbury.....	65,279	21,804	2,935	3,515	..	7
Chester.....	18,247	5,577	40,043	8,166	14	..
Cornwall.....	19,372	1,334	41,639	4,494	..	8
Coventry.....	11,733	2,593	108,745	35,300	..	..
Cumberland.....	39,180	17,247	10,577	5,052	..	11
Derby.....	6,643	1,899	114,954	26,289	..	..
Dorset.....	22,227	8,746	13,169	5,528	..	121
Durham.....	41,961	15,501	17,269	4,528	..	..
Essex.....	34,926	9,528	20,088	8,025	126	..
Exon.....	7,521	2,607	41,907	10,148	25	431
Gloster.....	22,267	5,654	54,018	14,061	696	..
Grantham.....	56,202	8,049	46,400	11,792	..	..
Halifax.....	25,542	86	94,246	822	301	..
Hants.....	53,759	27,458	6,497	6,188	142	59
Hereford.....	996	689	30,516	9,623	..	..
Herts.....	73,445	51,198	12,594	9,006	6,355	..
Hull.....	31,582	9,200	6,321	1,645	..	83
Isle of Wight.....	32,897	18,810	3,885	1,780	..	20
Lancaster.....	1,274	1,784	54,181	14,252	..	47
Leeds.....	13,515	1,840	110,258	1,361	340	..
Lichfield.....	8,974	3,040	172,509	71,062	5	..
Lincoln.....	14,405	2,692	46,540	10,628	13	..
Liverpool.....	101,973	22,126	9,008	3,249	..	9,377
Lynn.....	55,433	15,289	13,672	5,910	254	..
Manchester.....	60,614	7	99,511	39	571	..
Marlbro'.....	13,095	5,528	25,917	8,775	..	..
Newcastle.....	46,174	15,702	31,841	17,909	204	16
Northampton.....	11,326	2,153	56,400	18,291	..	..
Northumberland.....	24,822	7,302	4,279	1,045	..	..
Northwich.....	8,703	1,326	39,638	2,532	..	..
Norwich.....	70,676	15,201	6,218	5,767	243	..
Oxon.....	36,417	6,461	30,842	9,328	13	..
Plymouth.....	36,264	13,283	17,068	4,085	17	214
Reading.....	114,782	23,394	5,166	1,942	390	..
Rochester.....	100,132	53,718	2,014	1,395	278	15
Sarum.....	37,021	7,305	30,934	10,951	..	..
Salop.....	3,360	882	59,683	24,653	6	..
Sheffield.....	17,328	456	70,421	4,397	..	..
Somerset.....	7,682	2,495	19,393	4,569	..	..
Stafford.....	36,099	7,628	52,026	14,787	12	..
Stourbridge.....	3,111	925	85,983	25,330	181	..
Suffolk.....	23,792	5,157	29,310	11,609	109	..
Surrey.....	134,335	77,796	1,958	5,146	341	..
Sussex.....	72,190	37,080	6,080	4,768	318	..

An ACCOUNT of the Number of Barrels of Strong, Table, and Intermediate Beer—*continued.*

Collections.	Number of Barrels brewed in England and Wales.					Number of barrels of strong beer exported.
	Public Brewers.		Victuallers.		Intermediate Beer.	
	Strong.	Table.	Strong.	Table.		
Uxbridge.....	2,416	13,292	20,746	7,251	50	
Wales; east.....	9,365	545	72,496	5,265		
middle.....	18	22	25,734	5,606		
north.....	3,644	472	36,931	2,925		
west.....	1,510	833	24,168	9,898		
Wellington.....	2,863	1,300	24,180	7,012		
Whitby.....	25,867	5,009	12,739	2,670		
Wigan.....	65,499	5,671	66,800	3,957		
Worcester.....	6,499	2,151	46,267	12,742	45	
York.....	44,941	5,442	31,482	3,821	29	
London within the limits of the chief office.....	2,055,470	631,596	2,336,483	554,218	11,241	12,039
	1,633,773	263,159	9,255	5,404	4,716	33,532
Total in England and Wales.....	3,744,243	894,755	2,345,738	559,622	15,957	50,571
Total in Scotland.....	110,662	183,893	3,610	40,207		2,741
Total in England, Wales, and Scotland.....	3,854,905	1,083,648	2,349,348	599,829	15,957	53,312

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Brewers, Licensed Victuallers, and Intermediate Brewers, in England, Scotland, and Wales, distinguishing the Number of them within the limits of the Chief Office, of Excise, and each of the several Collections, and setting forth the Number of Licensed Victuallers who brew their own Beer, for the Year ended 5th July, 1824.

	Number of Persons Licensed in England and Wales.			
	Brewers.	Victuallers.	Intermediate Brewers.	Victuallers who brew their own Beer.
Barnstaple	11	577	...	541
Bath	43	524	...	294
Bedford	14	672	3	269
Bristol	18	463	...	365
Cambridge	76	1,038	...	157
Canterbury	46	641	...	30
Chester	18	788	...	505
Cornwall	35	537	...	375
Coventry	11	1,055	...	1,008
Cumberland	38	1,206	...	194
Derby	18	992	...	908
Dorset	33	376	...	153
Durham	43	1,258	...	201
Essex	33	604	1	113
Exon	19	470	...	386
Gloucester	17	535	4	425
Grantham	57	1,140	...	421
Halifax	13	1,024	...	869
Hants	60	667	...	36
Hereford	3	574	...	556
Herts	39	770	...	62
Hull	33	513	...	71
Isle of Wight	34	414	...	28
Lancaster	4	559	...	480
Leeds	14	926	2	828
Lichfield	5	890	...	871
Lincoln	21	713	1	571
Liverpool	67	1,224	...	45
Lynn	42	747	...	107
Manchester	30	1,129	...	757
Marlbro'	19	434	...	313
Newcastle	31	696	1	110
Northampton	11	1,045	...	860
Northumberland	20	583	...	31
Northwich	12	589	...	413
Norwich	50	990	...	39
Oxon	19	762	2	372
Plymouth	35	522	...	178
Reading	35	688	...	21
Rochester	62	1,006	...	31
Salisbury	32	463	...	200
Salop	2	599	...	582
Sheffield	10	1,033	...	910
Somerset	18	389	...	281
Stafford	17	702	...	613
Stourbridge	2	770	...	762
Suffolk	28	679	...	209
Surrey	73	827	1	7
Sussex	75	667	...	97
Uxbridge	39	933	1	150
Wales, east	13	956	...	906
middle	1	625	...	605
north	7	819	...	683
west	6	750	...	663
Wellington	10	371	...	350
Whitby	47	986	...	163
Wigan	28	927	...	439
Worcester	8	486	...	465
York	58	1,289	...	444
London (within the limits of the } chief office)	1,663 124	44,617 4,187	16 9	22,523 50
Total in England and Wales	1,787	48,804	25	22,573
Total in Scotland	236	11,455	...	321
Total in England, Scotland, and } Wales	2,023	60,259	25	22,894

A RETURN of the Number of Persons licensed, to brew BEER, under the Provisions of the 4th Geo. 4, c. 51, and of the 5th Geo. 4, c. 54; and of the Number of Barrels of Beer brewed by such Persons, from 5th January, 1824, to 5th January, 1825; distinguishing the Number of them within the limits of the Chief Office of Excise, and within each of the several Collections.

Collections.	4th Geo. 4, c. 51.		5th Geo. 4, c. 54.	
	Number of brewers.	Number of barrels brewed.	Number of brewers.	Number of barrels brewed.
Barum.....	1	13½	...	...
Bedford.....	3	109½	1	15
Essex.....	1	67	...	...
Gloucester.....	4	305½	...	...
Halifax.....	3	380	...	...
Hertford.....	2	3,897½	...	...
Leeds.....	8	288½	...	...
Lincoln.....	1	15½	...	...
Lynn.....	2	14½	...	...
Manchester.....	3	376½	...	...
Norwich.....	5	126½	...	...
Reading.....	5	451½	...	...
Rochester.....	3	158½	...	...
Stourbridge.....	3	45½	...	...
Suffolk.....	1	80½	...	...
Surrey.....	2	516	2	53½
Sussex.....	2	121	...	...
Uxbridge.....	1	10½	...	...
Wigan.....	1	17½	...	...
York.....	1	11½	...	...
Country, total in the collections.....	52	6,919	3	68½
London (within the limits of the chief office of excise).....	11	4,753	4	1,862
Total in England and Wales.....	63	11,672	7	1,930½
Do. in Scotland.....	...	...	1	...
Total.....	63	11,672	8	1,930½

BLUBBER AND TRAIN OIL.

AN ACCOUNT of the Duties received in the Year ending 5th January, 1825, on BLUBBER and TRAIN OIL, the produce of Fish caught, or Creatures living in the Sea caught by the Crews of British Vessels owned by British Subjects; and also, of the BOUNTIES paid, during the same period, to the Owners of the said Vessels; also, a similar Account of Duties and Bounties on SPERMACETI OIL; also, an Account of the Duties received on WHALEBONE and FINS during the same period.

	Year ending 5th January, 1825.
Amount of duty received in Great Britain, on oil, blubber, and whalefins, caught by the crews of British-built vessels, and owned by British subjects; viz.	£ s. d.
Blubber.....	1,779 10 8
Train oil.....	3,533 10 1½
Spermaceti oil.....	2,638 0 0
Whalefins.....	1,330 17 11
Total.....	9,281 18 8½
Amount of bounty paid to the owners of vessels employed in the British whale fisheries; viz.	£ s. d.
Greenland and Davis' Straits fishery.....	29,131 15 9
Southern fishery.....	7,300 0 0
Total.....	36,431 15 9

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity and Value of BOMBAZINES and NORWICH
distinguishing each Year,

Countries to which exported.	STUFFS OF SILK MIXED WITH WOOL, FROM LONDON:					
	YEARS					
	1822.		1823.		1824.	
	Quantity.	Declared value.	Quantity.	Declared value.	Quantity.	Declared value.
	<i>lb. oz.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>lb. oz.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>lb. oz.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
EUROPE, exclusive of Ireland.						
Russia	3,458 0	4,420 0 0	1,478 13	2,045 0 0	639 0	712 10 0
Norway .....	...	...	49 12	93 5 0	...	...
Denmark	91 0	72 0 0	66 0	56 15 0	63 0	71 13 6
Prussia	10 0	10 0 0	87 0	87 0 0	20 0	25 0 0
Germany	1,382 0	1,213 0 0	2,326 0	2,411 7 0	767 0	975 0 0
Holland	3,460 2	3,216 0 0	4,707 4	4,543 0 0	3,462 8	3,394 0 0
Flanders	1,734 0	1,981 0 0	1,075 12	1,429 0 0	979 0	1,616 10 0
Portugal, the Azores, and Madeira	3,421 3	3,871 0 0	2,461 15	3,268 10 0	1,488 0	1,363 0 0
Spain and the Canaries	18,809 4	28,730 4 0	7,967 9	11,914 15 0	29,964 12	42,225 10 0
Gibraltar	11,478 15	16,870 8 0	8,207 0	11,459 15 6	16,866 11	21,128 10 0
Italy	769 0	1,131 1 0	1,158 0	1,610 0 0	941 0	831 0 0
Malta .....	...	...	67 0	40 0 0	8 0	35 0 0
Turkey and the Levant .....	...	...	12 0	15 0 0	796 0	847 0 0
Isles Guernsey, Jersey, Alder- ney, and Man }	...	...	...	...	...	...
	44,613 8	61,514 13 0	29,664 1	38,973 7 6	55,994 15	73,224 13 6
ASIA	6,187 9	7,285 19 0	6,606 15	9,470 4 0	4,095 0	7,238 3 0
AFRICA	1,141 0	1,248 12 0	1,802 6	1,795 5 0	2,863 4	2,875 6 0
AMERICA:						
British colonies in North Ame- rica	2,596 10	2,601 9 0	2,961 7	3,011 10 0	4,292 4	3,584 1 0
British West Indies	3,992 6	4,747 18 0	4,092 8	4,076 2 6	3,551 1	3,660 10 0
Foreign West Indies	193 8	223 0 0	995 0	1,123 10 0	1,018 0	825 0 0
United States	21,107 15	16,563 0 0	11,692 14	10,348 15 0	75,041 4	63,480 7 0
Brazil	73 0	85 0 0	296 8	297 0 0	4,753 5	4,632 6 0
Mexico .....	...	...	357 12	580 0 0	373 0	470 0 0
Columbia .....	...	...	850 8	1,240 0 0	375 0	332 0 0
Peru	596 0	925 0 0	177 0	290 0 0	...	...
Chili	1,700 0	1,920 10 0	201 0	141 0 0	324 0	300 0 0
Buenos Ayres and Monte- video	2,303 2	2,878 0 6	591 12	755 0 0	251 0	277 10 0
Total, exclusive of Ireland ... }	84,504 10	99,993 1 6	60,289 11	72,101 14 0	152,932 1	160,899 16 6
IRELAND	634 12	808 0 0	284 2	340 0 6	40 0	46 0 0
Total to all parts	85,139 6	100,801 1 6	60,573 13	72,441 14 6	152,972 1	160,945 16 6

CRAPES, exported from *London* and *Liverpool*, in the last Three Years; and the Places to which they were sent.

COTTON, OR WORSTED, EXPORTED FROM LIVERPOOL :

YEARS					
1822.		1823.		1824.	
Quantity.	Declared value.	Quantity.	Declared value.	Quantity.	Declared value.
<i>lb.</i> <i>oz.</i>	£ <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>	<i>lb.</i> <i>oz.</i>	£ <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>	<i>lb.</i> <i>oz.</i>	£ <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>
—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—
532 12	630 12 0	99 0	100 0 0	1,207 0	1,539 0 0
—	—	—	—	—	—
332 11	428 0 0	466 15	535 0 0	846 11	896 0 0
30 0	34 0 0	116 0	160 0 0	607 0	748 0 0
—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	19 0	42 0 0	640 0	797 0 0
—	—	—	—	80 0	90 0 0
895 7	1,092 12 0	700 15	837 0 0	3,380 11	4,070 0 0
660 12	1,312 0 0	18 0	100 0 0	1,608 0	3,179 0 0
—	—	—	—	6 0	6 0 0
548 11	528 0 0	911 8	850 10 0	2,011 8	1,350 2 0
650 15	761 18 0	1,027 8	1,045 0 0	645 2	624 0 0
45 0	60 0 0	710 2	1,020 0 0	2,685 12	3,073 0 0
24,445 11	20,335 0 0	30,150 8	28,834 0 0	45,293 4	37,985 16 0
240 0	240 0 0	316 4	356 0 0	2,664 4	2,663 0 0
1,097 0	973 0 0	167 12	598 0 0	1,352 0	1,220 0 0
7 0	20 0 0	80 0	120 0 0	319 4	468 0 0
—	—	—	—	835 0	695 0 0
111 0	140 0 0	91 0	225 0 0	1,141 8	1,601 0 0
2,701 11	2,998 0 0	808 0	831 0 0	5,283 3	5,289 16 0
31,412 3	28,460 10 0	34,981 9	34,816 10 0	67,225 8	62,724 14 0
42,838 5	40,442 1 0	14,816 1	15,727 0 0	6,440 0	8,124 0 0
74,250 8	68,902 11 0	49,797 10	50,543 10 0	73,665 8	70,848 14 0

Note. — Bombazines and Norwich crapes, with other articles of similar material, are indiscriminately entered at the custom-house under the general description of stuffs of silk mixed with worsted, &c. The foregoing account, therefore, exhibits the export of such stuffs in the aggregate, of which bombazines and Norwich crapes form a large proportion.

BONDED WINES AND SPIRITS.

AN ACCOUNT of the total Number of CASKS of WINES and of SPIRITS, distinguishing each which have been bonded in the *London Docks* during the years 1823 and 1824; shewing the Quantity remaining in Bond on 5th January, 1825, specifying the number of Casks housed or deposited in Places other than in Vaults.

Number of casks deposited in vaults.	Number of casks deposited in other places.	Total number of casks bonded.	Total number of casks bonded in 1823 and 1824, and remaining 5th January, 1825.	
			WINES.	
			In vaults	44,477
99,538	603	100,141	In other places	603
			Total	45,080
			SPIRITS.	
			In vaults	9,585
23,492	9,007	32,499	In other places	4,013
			Total	13,598

TRADE

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BRIMSTONE.

AN ACCOUNT of the Duties received, and Drawbacks paid, on Rough Brimstone,

Years ending 5th January.....	1816.	1817.	1818.	1819.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Gross amount of duty received on brimstone.	England	74,650 7 5	47,743 8 6	67,348 6 1	82,145 10 5
	Scotland	4,471 6 3½	10,373 13 11	7,357 5 5½	11,257 16 2½
	Ireland	7,336 3 9	11,160 12 3	10,734 18 4	9,462 15 10
	Total.....	86,457 17 5½	69,277 14 8	85,440 9 10½	102,866 2 5½
Amount of drawbacks allowed thereon.	England	37,566 12 0	38,251 19 6	33,287 12 11½	42,566 9 1
	Scotland	9,890 18 4½	10,026 18 4½	10,609 4 3	12,650 6 3½
	Ireland .....	... ..	... ..	8,083 13 1	8,014 5 2
	Total.....	... ..	... ..	51,980 10 3½	63,231 0 6½
Repayments on account of over-entries and damages.	England	315 0 5	275 11 5	273 10 8	1,024 0 0
	Scotland	45 1 11½	147 3 7½	2 3 10	13 18 2
	Ireland .....	... ..	... ..	... ..	... ..
	Total.....	... ..	... ..	275 14 6	1,037 18 2
Net produce of the duty on brimstone.	England	36,768 15 0	9,215 17 7	33,787 2 5½	38,556 1 4
	Scotland .....	... ..	199 11 11½	... ..	... ..
	Ireland .....	... ..	... ..	2,651 5 3	1,448 10 8
	Total.....	... ..	... ..	33,184 5 1	38,597 3 9

in England, Scotland, and Ireland, for the last Ten Years, ending the 5th January.

1820.	1821.	1822.	1823.	1824.	1825.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
69,079 0 6	64,509 0 7	71,596 7 5	85,636 16 3	84,582 7 10	87,806 3 9
8,266 11 3	10,998 15 4½	12,392 14 4½	16,215 6 3½	18,262 15 9	24,275 9 0
11,475 6 2	9,713 9 2	11,658 19 0	13,818 2 10	14,792 4 10	14,250 14 4
88,820 17 11	85,221 5 1½	95,648 0 9½	115,670 5 4½	117,637 8 5	126,332 7 1
48,305 13 11	45,155 4 2	45,773 4 3	51,471 8 7	64,525 14 7	67,318 18 1
12,963 10 2½	8,660 15 2½	12,277 2 9½	13,338 12 7½	17,205 4 0	20,656 11 5
9,567 18 5	7,915 9 9	10,210 8 10	11,794 7 7	13,216 10 5	13,858 7 2
70,837 2 6½	61,731 9 1½	68,260 15 10½	76,604 8 9½	94,947 9 0	101,833 16 8
1,452 10 7	192 15 5	268 2 0	427 7 2	392 3 3	366 0 0
64 7 0½	...	39 9 1	7 13 2	20 16 3	48 19 3
...	...	...	20 8 6	9 15 9	20 18 1
1,516 17 7½	192 15 5	307 11 1	455 8 10	422 15 3	435 17 4
19,320 16 0	19,161 1 0	25,555 1 2	33,738 0 6	19,664 10 0	20,121 5 8
...	2,338 0 1½	76 2 5½	2,869 0 6	1,036 15 6	3,569 18 4
1,907 7 9	1,797 19 5	1,448 10 2	2,003 6 9	1,565 18 8	371 9 1
16,466 17 9	23,297 0 6½	27,079 13 9½	38,610 7 9	22,267 4 2	24,062 13 1

Note.—The above account, in so far as it relates to the revenue of Ireland, cannot at present be rendered in a perfect form for the first two years of the series; the records from which alone the particulars of the drawbacks, re-payments, and net produce of the duty can be supplied, being now in the course of removal from Dublin to London, for the purpose of being permanently deposited in the office of the inspector-general of the customs.

AN ACCOUNT of the total Number of Gallons of Spirits distilled from Corn, in *England, Ireland,* and Gallons of those that paid Duty; the Rate of Duty per Gallon, and the total Amount of Duty in each and the Number of Gallons exported to Foreign Parts: (so far as relates to England.)

Years ended 5th July.	Number of gallons of wash from corn.	Rate of duty per gallon.		Number of gallons of spirits, by computation.	Amount of duty paid upon the wash.		Number of gallons of wash from corn, for Midstone Geneva.	Rate of duty per gallon.		Number of gallons of spirits, by computation.
		s.	d.		£	s.		d.	d.	
1791	9,032,688	0	6	1,716,210	225,817	4	0	625,615	2 ¹ / ₂	80,707
	14,366,048	0	7	2,729,549	419,009	14	8	304,133	2 ¹ / ₂	
1792	26,042,688	0	7	4,948,110	759,578	8	0	1,181,183	...	102,533
1793	24,311,058	0	7	4,619,101	709,072	10	6	1,131,356	...	98,208
1794	13,921,380	0	7	2,645,062	406,040	5	0	1,278,130	...	170,027
	12,061,027	0	8	2,291,595	402,034	4	8	680,583	2 ¹ / ₂	
1795	11,918,051	0	8	2,264,429	397,268	6	10	1,098,941	...	187,154
	14,148,405	0	9	2,688,196	530,565	4	3	1,057,076	3 ³ / ₈	
1796	1,269,749	0	9	241,252	47,615	11	9	...	...	...
1797	2,033,918	0	9	386,444	76,271	18	6	138,456	3 ³ / ₈	61,898
	14,055,752	0	10	2,670,592	585,656	6	8	574,617	3 ¹ / ₈	
1798	20,448,583	0	10	3,885,230	852,024	5	10	915,896	...	79,505
1799	23,273,266	0	10	4,421,924	969,719	8	4	1,002,406	...	87,014
1800	14,603,302	0	10	2,774,627	608,470	18	4	1,130,487	2 ¹ / ₂	112,682
	10,144,724	0	11	1,927,497	464,966	10	4	209,520	2 ¹ / ₂	
1801	39	0	10	7	1	12	6	246,240	...	17,100
	5,684	0	11	1,079	260	10	4	...	...
1802	16,534,682	0	11	3,141,589	757,839	11	10	542,838	2 ³ / ₄	37,697
1803	23,952,971	0	11	4,551,064	1,097,844	10	1	1,033,036	...	71,739
1804	14,648,046	1	4 ¹ / ₂	2,783,128	1,007,053	3	3	924,480	4 ¹ / ₂	64,200
1805	16,354,279	...	...	3,107,313	1,124,356	13	7 ¹ / ₂	812,160	...	56,400
1806	13,775,522	...	...	2,617,349	947,067	2	9	1,067,040	...	74,100
1807	20,648,032	...	...	3,923,126	1,419,552	4	0	946,080	...	65,700
1808	22,085,180	...	...	4,196,184	1,518,356	2	6	1,347,840	...	93,600
1809	140,161	...	...	26,630	9,636	1	4 ¹ / ₂	...	...	...
1810	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1811	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1812	13,531,128	1	9	2,570,914	1,183,973	14	0	855,378	5 ¹ / ₂	59,401
1813	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1814	18,878,324	...	...	3,586,881	1,651,853	7	0	...	...	...
1815	19,886,453	...	...	3,778,426	1,740,064	12	9	...	...	...
1816	18,273,516	...	...	3,471,968	1,598,932	13	0	...	...	...
1817	19,582,307	...	...	3,720,638	1,713,451	17	3	...	...	...
1818	19,677,407	...	...	3,738,707	1,721,773	2	3	492,604	5 ¹ / ₂	34,208
1819	19,055,394	...	...	3,620,524	1,667,346	19	6	...	...	...
	193,145	2	0	36,697	19,314	10	0	...	...	...
1820	78,726	1	9	14,957	6,888	10	6	...	...	...
	16,019,312	2	0	3,043,669	1,608,819	14	6	...	...	...
1821	15,615,762	...	...	2,966,995	1,561,576	10	0	...	...	...
1822	17,502,883	...	...	3,325,547	1,750,288	6	0	...	...	...
1823	14,770,515	...	...	2,806,397	1,477,051	10	0	...	...	...
1824	14,178,932	...	...	2,693,997	1,417,893	4	0	...	...	...
5th Jan. 1825	4,709,416	...	...	894,789	471,941	12	0	...	...	...

SPIRITS.

Scotland, respectively, in each Year from 5th January, 1790, to 5th January, 1825; the total Number of Country, in each Year; distinguishing the Number of Gallons exported from each Country to the other,

Amount of duty paid upon the wash.			Number of gallons of excess of spirits.	Rate of duty per gallon.	Amount of duty.			Total amount of duty.	Number of gallons of spirits exported to					
									Ireland.	Scotland.	Foreign parts.			
£	s.	d.		s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			
{ 5,322	1	5½	}	...	...	...	...	...	653,168	11	1¼	...	...	654,284
{ 3,019	11	0												
11,727	4	9¼							771,305	12	9¼			390,068
11,232	10	8¾							720,305	1	2¾			255,948
{ 12,689	14	8	}	...	...	...	...	...	418,729	19	8	}	...	350,503
{ 7,724	10	2¾												
{ 12,472	16	8¾	}	...	...	...	...	...	409,741	2	6¾	}	...	19,955
{ 13,500	4	0												
...	...	...							47,615	11	9			192,774
{ 1,768	5	2	}	...	...	...	...	...	78,040	3	8	}	...	479,407
{ 8,155	7	5½												
12,999	0	11¼							865,023	6	9¼			611,503
14,226	17	0½							983,946	5	4½			325,273
{ 12,335	13	9	}	...	...	...	...	...	621,306	12	1	}	...	124,569
{ 2,617	4	6¾												
{ 3,075	17	3	}	...	...	...	...	...	3,077	9	9	}	...	86,189
...												
6,780	15	3							764,620	7	1			338,689
12,903	19	7¼							1,110,748	9	8¼			359,163
11,556	0	0							1,018,609	3	3			73,911
10,152	0	0							1,134,508	13	7½			78,754
20,007	0	0							967,074	2	9			96,809
17,739	0	0							1,437,291	4	0			40,812
25,272	0	0							1,543,628	2	6			51,610
...	...	...							9,636	1	4½			6,814
...
20,434	0	7¼	{ 1,473	5	0	368	5	0	1,214,607	2	5¾	}	...	...
			{ 23,938	7	11¼	9,500	7	10½						
			{ 720	9	2¼	330	15	0						
...	...	...	304	...	...	123	13	0	1,651,977	0	0			...
...	...	...	3,003	5	0	750	18	9	1,740,815	11	6			...
...	...	...	1,117	5	0	279	8	9	1,599,212	1	9			...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,713,451	17	3			...
11,767	15	2¾	11,789	9	2½	5,428	1	7¾	1,738,968	19	1½			...
...	...	...	154,760	1	3½	9,994	18	4	1,677,341	17	10			...
...	...	...	23,315	9	2½	10,734	16	10¾	30,049	6	10¾			...
...	...	...	15,635	1	3½	1,009	15	2½	7,898	5	8¼			...
...	...	...	17,739	10	6	9,323	14	9	1,618,143	9	3			...
...	...	...	25,860	...	...	13,576	10	0	1,575,153	0	0			...
...	...	...	38,818	...	...	20,379	9	8½	1,770,667	15	8½			...
...	...	...	32,940	5	0	17,293	15	0½	1,494,345	5	0½			...
...	...	...	5,084	5	0	1,271	0	0	1,271	0	0			...
...	...	...	39,364	10	6	20,666	6	6¼	1,438,559	10	6¼			...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	471,941	12	0			...

AN ACCOUNT of the total Number of Gallons of Spirits distilled from Corn in *England, Ireland, and Scotland*, respectively, in each Year from 5th January, 1790, to 5th January, 1825; the total Number of Gallons of those that paid Duty; the Rate of Duty per Gallon, and the total Amount of Duty in each Country, in each Year; also the Number of Gallons exported from each Country in each Year; distinguishing the Number of Gallons exported from each Country to the other, and the Number of Gallons exported to Foreign Parts:—(so far as relates to *Ireland*.)

	Number of gallons of spirits.		Rate of duty.	Amount of duty.	Number of gallons of spirits exported to		
	Distilled from corn.	Which paid duty.			England.	Scotland.	Foreign parts.
	Gallons.	Gallons.					
From 25 Dec. 1789, to 25 Mar. 1790.	986,869	...	Irish currency. s. d. 1 2	£ 57,567 8 0½	—	—	—
Years ended 25 Mar.							
1791	3,508,244	...	...	204,647 12 2½	9	...	399
1792	3,482,055	...	...	203,119 17 7½	...	...	299
1793	3,407,468	...	...	198,769 0 2½	100	...	329
1794	3,907,020	...	...	227,909 10 7	...	...	133
1795	4,232,647	...	...	246,904 8 2	...	...	1,011
1796	3,681,103	...	1 6	276,082 12 6	...	10	1,216
1797	3,860,148	...	...	289,511 2 0	4,195	...	54,420
1798	4,783,954	...	...	358,796 11 0	1,105	...	1,761
1799	4,253,187	...	2 0	425,318 14 0	...	...	4,055
1800	3,621,498	...	2 6	452,687 5 0	8	...	3,144
1801	277,747	...	...	34,718 7 6	...	...	2,765
From 25 Mar. 1801, to 5 Jan. 1802.	2,522	...	...	325 8 8	163,734	63,676	109
Years ended 5 January,							
1803	4,805,196	...	3 0½	730,790 4 6	1,085,787	120	44,112
1804	4,426,085	...	3 9½	727,591 2 11½	883,359	127	47,314
1805	3,611,312	...	4s. British	736,757 2 2	1,155,617	1,376	39,576
1806	3,756,671	...	...	713,074 3 8½	989,377	45,890	9,281
1807	3,931,829	...	...	785,814 8 3½	526,618	...	5,030
1808	5,704,158	...	...	1,236,244 19 1½	643,745	...	4,961
1809	3,643,751	...	...	903,570 0 0½	510,996	...	1,102
1810	72,996	...	...	21,131 4 6½	75,713	...	1,277
1811	4,719,159	...	2 6	668,689 19 6½	...	...	136,955
1812	6,500,361	...	...	880,313 10 5½	47,911	...	745,229
1813	4,085,913	...	2 6 } 5 0 } 5 0 }	1,021,454 0 4½	27,679	...	384,164
1814	1,844,431	...	5 6 }	540,320 5 1½	...	...	144,351
1815	5,495,499	...	5 6 }	1,575,556 3 5	271,484	19,558	650,996
1816	4,406,466	...	5 6 }	1,422,317 16 3½	332,212	40,809	207,538
1817	3,625,172	...	6 0 }	1,123,617 16 8½	32,249	...	164,019
1818	3,655,473	...	5 6 }	1,097,142 17 5½	1,268	...	46,992
1819	4,367,396	...	...	1,306,402 1 9½	13,339	...	30,494
1820	3,747,782	3,770,633	...	1,122,262 10 4½	120,940	...	115,773
1821	3,363,611	3,346,154	...	1,007,818 0 4½	436,947	...	79,938
1822	3,375,652	3,408,913	...	1,014,082 9 4½	370,039	...	46,873
1823	2,966,901	{ 1,326,119 } { 2,753,261 }	2s. from 9 Oct.	892,760 15 1½	604,607	685	51,688
1824	4,090,785	6,400,090	...	691,734 18 1	808,854	...	1,841
1825	7,749,712	7,796,759	...	845,508 7 6½	342,314	...	921

AN ACCOUNT of the total Number of Gallons of Spirits distilled from Corn in *England, Ireland, and Scotland*, respectively, in each Year from the 5th January, 1790, to 5th January, 1825; the total Number of Gallons of those that paid Duty; the Rate of Duty per Gallon, and the total Amount of Duty in each Country in each Year; also the Number of Gallons exported from each Country in each Year: also the Number of Gallons exported from each Country to the other, and the Number of Gallons exported to Foreign Parts:—(so far as relates to *Scotland*.)

Years ended 5th July,	Total number of gallons of spirits distilled from corn.	Total number of gallons paid duty.	Rate of duty per gallon.			Amount of duty.	Quantity exported.			
			In the Lowlands.	In the Highlands.	Intermediate district.		To England.	To Ireland.	To foreign parts.	
1791	During this period no account was kept of the quantity of spirits made; the distillers not being under survey.	..	£3 per gallon on still contents.	£1 per gallon, still contents	..	£ 43,965 2 3 ³	Prior to 30th November, 1806, no account of the quantity of spirits distilled and exported to England was kept at the head office.	
1792		..				52,104 15 7		
1793		..				53,366 7 4 ²		
1794		..	113,054 5 6	..	..			
1795		..	£9 do. do. .. £1 10s. do.	140,023 18 10	..	..		
1796		..	8,249 17 2 ⁴	..	..			
1797		..	£54 do. do. .. £2 10s. do.	226,725 11 0 ²	..	..		
1798		..	£6 10s. do.	£9 per gall. still contents	215,352 3 4	..		..
1799		1,873,233 ¹	1,873,233 ¹	£54 do. do. with 1/ per gallon on spirits made ..	£6 10s. do. with 1s. per gallon on spirits made ..	£9 p. gall. on do. with 1s. per gall. on spirits made.		255,085 18 0 ⁴
1800		870,233 ¹	870,233 ¹		82,368 17 5
1801	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1802	1,299,665	1,299,665	3/5 ⁸ / ₁₀ per gallon of spirits	{ 3s. per gallon of spirits .. }	nil.	217,866 0 0	..	..
1803	2,268,728	2,268,728	do.	do. ....	..	370,086 1 5 ²	..	..
1804	2,119,921	2,119,921	5/2 ¹ / ₂ do.	4/6 do. ....	..	499,002 3 3 ¹	..	..
1805	1,824,025 ¹	1,824,025 ¹	do.	do. ....	..	421,096 16 2	..	..
1806	2,002,358 ¹	2,002,358 ¹	do.	do. ....	..	461,835 11 6	..	..
1807	3,040,001 ¹	3,040,001 ¹	5/1 ² / ₅ do.	{ 4/6 do. } 4/5 do. ....	..	733,547 8 2 ¹	..	70,448	
1808	2,968,367 ¹	2,968,367 ¹	{ do. }	4/5 do. ....	..	778,029 17 10 ¹	..	58,046	
1809	115,167	115,167	..	..	..	24,403 5 9	..	437,460
1810	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1811	1,828,193 ¹	1,647,708 ¹	{ 5/1 ² / ₅ per gallon of spirits } 7/1 ² / ₅ do.	4/5 do. } 5/11 ¹ / ₂ do. ....	..	444,834 11 5	106,343	..	
1812	3,124,089 ¹	1,606,379 ¹	7/1 ² / ₅ do.	5/11 ¹ / ₂ do. ....	..	586,427 0 8 ¹	1,427,406	..	
1813	..	..	..	..	..	149,197	..	..
1814	2,948,950	1,619,808	7/1 ² / ₅ do.	do. ....	..	578,741 0 1 ¹	1,010,062	..	
1815	3,392,790 ¹	1,702,211 ¹	{ 7/1 ² / ₅ do. } 0/4 ¹ / ₂ do.	5/11 ¹ / ₂ do. } 8/4 ¹ / ₂ do. ....	..	707,921 11 5 ²	1,683,056	..	
1816	2,406,660 ¹	987,602 ¹	8/4 ¹ / ₂ do.	8/4 ¹ / ₂ do. ....	..	411,920 3 9	1,327,529	..	
1817	3,433,252	2,091,307	{ 8/4 ¹ / ₂ do. } 5/6 ¹ / ₂ do.	8/4 ¹ / ₂ do. } 5/6 ¹ / ₂ do. ....	..	602,238 5 10 ¹	1,205,479	..	
1818	3,435,955 ¹	1,958,111 ¹	5/6 ¹ / ₂ do.	5/6 ¹ / ₂ do. ....	..	551,051 12 7 ¹	1,628,447	..	
1819	3,979,230 ¹	2,342,292 ¹	{ 5/6 ¹ / ₂ do. } 5/6 ² / ₅ do.	5/6 ¹ / ₂ do. } 5/6 ² / ₅ do. ....	..	652,164 13 11 ¹	1,439,305	..	
1820	3,677,387	2,221,494	5/6 ² / ₅ do.	5/6 ² / ₅ do. ....	..	620,283 13 0	1,314,015	..	
1821	3,608,655	2,429,858	{ 5/6 ² / ₅ do. } 5/6 & a variable fraction not exceeding ¹ / ₂ of 1d.	5/6 ² / ₅ do. } 5/6 & a variable fraction not exceeding ¹ / ₂ of 1d.	..	678,571 18 5 ¹	1,174,780	..		
1822	3,363,394 ¹	2,489,859 ¹	5/6 and do.	5/6 and do. ....	..	692,747 15 3 ¹	1,298,192	..	
1823	3,327,492	2,296,695	5/6 and do.	5/6 and do. ....	..	637,351 11 10 ¹	1,036,509	12,722	
1824	5,272,560	4,110,015 ¹	{ 5/6 and do. } 2/ ..	5/6 and do. } 2/ ..	..	424,711 19 0	1,047,800	201,702	
Half year to 5th Jan. 1825.	3,254,810 ¹	2,641,968 ¹	2/ per gallon ..	2/ per gallon	266,214 7 0	736,036	263,207	1,056	

AN ACCOUNT of all Spirits made in *Scotland* and *Ireland*, distinguishing those of each Country, made between 10th October, 1823, and 5th January, 1825; shewing on how much thereof respectively the Duty was immediately paid, and how much put into Warehouse without paying Duty; also shewing the Quantities thereof exported, distinguishing in such Exports the Spirits from Warehouse without Duty from those on which the Duty had been previously paid.

	Spirits at proof.			Exported.	
	Quantity made.	Quantity on which the duty was immediately paid.	Quantity warehoused without paying duty.	From warehouse without duty.	On which duty had been previously paid.
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
Scotland	6,603,233½	5,173,027¾	1,430,205¾	446,836¼	19,849
Do. at 7 per cent. } over proof..... }	1,377,861	.. .. .	1,337,861	1,563,930	..
Ireland.....	7,831,828	5,978,822	1,853,006	563,168	...

Note.—The excess in the number of gallons exported from Scotland above the quantity made, arises from part of the preceding years' stocks having been exported between 10th October, 1823, and 5th January, 1825.

AN ACCOUNT shewing in one Sum the total Number of Gallons of Spirits, of the Distillation or Manufacture of the United Kingdom, that paid the Duty of Excise in each Country respectively, from 10th October, 1823, inclusive, to 10th October, 1824.

	No. of gallons.
England	4,361,256
Scotland.....	5,189,109½
Ireland	8,158,048
Total.....	17,708,413½

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Spirits made within the Highland Line of *Scotland*, and which has paid the Duty of Excise, from the 10th October, 1823, inclusive, to the 10th October, 1824;—also, the Quantity of Spirits distilled within the United Kingdom, permitted into, and the Quantity of such Spirits permitted out of that District during the above Period; and shewing the Number of Gallons that have been left for the Consumption of that District.

	Number of gallons at proof.			
	Made within the Highland line.	Permitted into that district.	Permitted out of that district.	Left for the consumption of that district.
From 10th October, 1823 } To 10th October, 1824 ... }	421,862	36,179 Aq. vitæ	330,558	127,503 Aq. vitæ
		978½ Comp ^{ds}		128,481½
		37,157½		

CANADA.

AN ACCOUNT of the Real and Official Value of British Manufactures exported to Upper and Lower Canada in the Years 1821, 1822, 1823, and 1824.

Years.	* British and Irish produce and manufactures exported from Great Britain to Upper and Lower Canada.			
	Real or declared value.		Official value,	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1821.....	465,233	1 6	451,584	0 1
1822.....	605,323	10 0	667,517	18 3
1823.....	619,035	9 8	710,626	7 6
1824.....	738,999	18 3	842,259	11 11

COALS.

AN ACCOUNT of all Coals exported from *Great Britain*, from the 5th of January, 1824, to the 5th of January, 1825, Coastwise or Foreign.

	Quantities of coals shipped from the ports of Great Britain, between the 5th January, 1824, and the 5th January, 1825.			
	Quantities entered by measure.		Quantity entered by weight.	Total estimated weight.
	Chaldrons, Newcastle measure.	Chaldrons, Winchester measure.	Tons.	Tons.
To foreign parts	71,116 $\frac{1}{2}$	48,321 $\frac{1}{3}$	23,161 $\frac{1}{3}$	278,695
To Ireland .....	...	380,774 $\frac{2}{3}$	162,878 $\frac{5}{8}$	691,430
Coastways	1,180,805	402,670	426,499 $\frac{5}{8}$	4,114,577
Total...	1,251,921 $\frac{1}{2}$	831,765 $\frac{2}{3}$	612,539 $\frac{5}{8}$	5,084,702

AN ACCOUNT of all Coals imported into *Ireland*, from the 5th January, 1824, to the 5th January, 1825.

728,066 Tons.

LIST of the Entries of all Colliers at the Coal Market, Port of London, from 1818 to 1824, inclusive.

Years.	Ships.
1818	5,492
1819	5,602
1820	5,924
1821	5,735
1822	5,904
1823	6,485
1824	6,876

AN ACCOUNT of Coals, Culm, and Cinders, delivered by the Sea Coal Meters of the City of London, from 1818 to 1824, inclusive.

		Coals.	Culm.	Cinders.
1818 :				
Coals		1,203,159 2	4,743 2	899 3
Culm		4,743 2		
Cinders		899 3		
Total		1,208,802 3		
1819 :				
Coals		1,179,544 2	9,459 1	1,085
Culm		9,459 1		
Cinders		1,085 0		
Total		1,190,088 3		
1820 :				
Coals		1,313,736 3	4,317 1	1,199 1
Culm		4,317 1		
Cinders		1,199 1		
Total		1,319,253 1		
1821 :				
Coals		1,270,272 1	6,947 0	647 2
Culm		6,947 0		
Cinders		647 2		
Total		1,277,866 3		
1822 :				
Coals		1,254,031 3	6,989 2	201
Culm		6,989 2		
Cinders		201 0		
Total		1,261,222 1		
1823 :				
Coals		1,426,158 0	10,208 3	884 3
Culm		10,208 3		
Cinders		884 3		
Total		1,437,251 2		
1824 :				
Coals		1,505,577 1	17,893 1	1,337 1
Culm		17,893 1		
Cinders		1,337 1		
Total		1,524,807 3		

AN ACCOUNT of the Total Number of Vessels, of every Description, with their Tonnage, which entered the Commercial Docks in the Year 1824, shewing the Average Tonnage.

Number of vessels.	Total of their tonnage.	Average tonnage.
505	131,223	260

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Ships of the Average Burthen of 300 Tons, which the Commercial Docks are capable of containing at one time; the greatest Number of Vessels, with their Register Tonnage, which were loading or discharging at any one time, in the Year 1824; and the Number of Vessels which were loading or discharging in the said Docks on the 5th April, 1825.

	Capable of containing.		Greatest number, with their register tonnage, loading or discharging at any one time in 1824.		Greatest number, with their register tonnage, which were loading or discharging on 5th April, 1825.	
	No.	Average tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Ships or vessels	330	300	62	16,141	4	1,457

COFFEE.

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Coffee imported into *Great Britain*, from the several British Colonies and Plantations, from the British Possessions in the East Indies, and from foreign Countries, from 5th January, 1824, to 5th January, 1825; distinguishing the several sorts of Coffee, and the Colonies and Countries from which the same was imported.

Countries from which imported.	Coffee imported into Great Britain, in the year ending 5th January, 1825.			
	British plantation.	Foreign plantation, or uncertified.	East India.	Total quantity imported.
	cwts. qrs. lbs.	cwts. qrs. lbs.	cwts. qrs. lbs.	cwts. qrs. lbs.
British colonies and plantations:				
Antigua.....	376 3 25	...	...	376 3 25
Barbadoes	826 2 6	71 0 5	...	897 2 11
Dominica	18,537 0 23	...	...	18,537 0 23
Grenada	624 3 12	...	...	624 3 12
Jamaica	221,987 2 10	168 0 6	...	222,155 2 16
Montserrat	2 3 24	...	...	2 3 24
Nevis	5 3 18	...	...	5 3 18
St. Kitt's	0 2 17	...	...	0 2 17
St. Lucia	1,808 3 26	...	...	1,808 3 26
St. Vincent's	69 3 7	...	...	69 3 7
Tobago	0 0 11	...	...	0 0 11
Trinidad	1,012 3 27	...	...	1,012 3 27
Bahamas .....	...	1,417 1 22	...	1,417 1 22
Demerara	47,930 1 20	3 3 22	...	47,934 1 14
Berbice	17,549 3 0	...	...	17,549 3 0
Honduras .....	...	0 3 23	...	0 3 23
British North American colonies	...	0 1 22	...	0 1 22
New Holland	0 2 23	...	...	0 2 23
East Indies and China .....	...	...	51,436 2 24	51,436 2 24
Coast of Africa	26 0 5	675 3 23	...	702 0 0
Foreign colonies; viz.				
Cuba .....	...	4,722 1 0	...	4,722 1 0
St. Thomas .....	...	1,992 2 25	...	1,992 2 25
St. Domingo .....	...	45,765 3 8	...	45,765 3 8
America; United States				
Columbia .....	...	697 3 21	...	697 3 21
Peru .....	...	7,882 0 17	...	7,882 0 17
Brazils .....	...	0 0 18	...	0 0 18
...	...	25,171 1 27	...	25,171 1 27
Foreign countries in Europe				
...	81 0 17	55 0 0	...	136 0 17
Ireland				
...	183 1 8	...	...	183 1 8
Total	311,025 3 27	88,625 1 15	51,436 2 24	451,088 0 10

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Coffee imported into *Ireland*, from the several British Colonies and Plantations, from the British Possessions in the East Indies, and from Foreign Countries, *from the 5th January, 1824, to the 5th January, 1825; distinguishing the several sorts of Coffee, and the Colonies and Countries from which the same was imported.

Countries from which imported.	Coffee, British plantation.
	lbs.
Norway	150
Barbadoes	36,733
Jamaica	81,173
St. Lucia.....	10,924
Trinidad.....	15,451
Demerara	28,484
Total.....	172,915

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Coffee exported from *Great Britain*, from 5th January, 1824, to 5th January, 1825; distinguishing the several sorts of Coffee, and the Countries to which the same was exported.

Countries to which exported.	Year ended 5th January, 1825.			
	Coffee exported from Great Britain.			
	British plantation.	Foreign plantation.	East India.	Total.
	cwts. qrs. lbs.	cwts. qrs. lbs.	cwts. qrs. lbs.	cwts. qrs. lbs.
FOREIGN EUROPE.				
Russia	21,490 2 21	485 2 0	42 1 22	22,018 2 15
Sweden.....	7,465 1 5	226 0 7	...	7,691 1 12
Norway	3,793 1 12	312 3 11	...	4,106 0 23
Denmark.....	8,087 0 27	1,401 1 8	561 1 6	10,049 3 13
Prussia.....	21,614 3 12	1,612 1 20	836 1 0	24,063 2 4
Germany.....	109,642 0 13	32,530 1 26	15,583 0 11	157,755 2 22
Holland.....	10,298 1 24	4,552 2 23	2,445 0 7	17,296 0 26
Flanders.....	10,851 1 1	31,788 3 15	17,923 0 10	60,563 0 26
France.....	864 1 9	1,770 0 3	2,344 2 7	4,978 3 19
Portugal and Madeira	2 3 20	14 0 12	11 2 6	28 2 10
Spain and Canaries.....	...	96 2 13	5 2 4	102 0 17
Gibraltar.....	...	...	255 3 18	255 3 18
Italy.....	21,823 2 20	5,250 0 25	635 3 25	27,709 3 14
Malta.....	1,170 2 14	1,068 1 24	811 3 5	3,050 3 15
The Ionian Islands.....	136 2 14	...	...	136 2 14
Turkey and the Levant.....	3,088 3 15	7,228 0 25	624 3 25	10,942 0 9
	220,330 1 11	88,337 3 16	42,081 2 6	350,749 3 5
The East Indies and China	23 2 11	...	30 2 15	59 0 26
New Holland	19 1 13	16 1 11	2 3 27	38 2 23
Cape of Good Hope.....	...	128 2 11	...	128 2 11
Africa, other parts of.....	20 0 10	312 2 12	10 2 25	343 1 19
British colonies in North America	1,138 2 4	244 2 4	1 0 20	1,384 1 0
The West Indies	8 3 22	2 1 9	...	11 1 3
Foreign colonies on Continent of America	4 2 21	9 1 3	1 1 16	15 1 12
Total, exclusive of Ireland and the British Isles	221,550 2 8	89,051 2 10	42,128 1 25	352,730 2 15
Ireland, and the isles of Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, and Man	956 1 5	7 0 7	34 3 22	993 1 6
Total to all parts.....	222,506 3 13	89,058 2 17	42,163 1 19	353,728 3 21

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Coffee exported from Ireland, from 5th January, 1824, to 5th January, 1825; distinguishing the several sorts of Coffee, and the Countries, to which the same was exported.

	Coffee, British Plantation.
Norway	<i>lbs.</i> 1,348
Canada	3,454
Total	4,802

AN ACCOUNT of the Amount of Duties received on Coffee imported into Great Britain, from 5th January, 1824, to 5th January, 1825; distinguishing each sort of Coffee, and the Net Produce of the Duties on Coffee in Great Britain in such year.

Coffee.	Pounds weight.	Amount of duty.	Net produce.	
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
England {	British plantation	7,173,392	358,669 12 0	} 370,659 11 0
	East India ditto	313,082	23,481 3 0	
	Foreign coffee	1,540½	192 11 3	
Scotland ...	British plantation	505,046	25,252 6 0	25,252 6 0
		407,595 12 3	395,911 17 0	

AN ACCOUNT of the Amount of Duties received on Coffee imported into Ireland, from 5th January, 1824, to 5th January, 1825; distinguishing each sort of Coffee, and the Net Produce of the Duties on Coffee in Ireland in such year.

Coffee.	Amount of duty received.	Net produce of the duties on coffee.
	British currency. £ s. d.	British currency. £ s. d.
East India	32 6 6	32 6 6
British plantation	13,467 12 0	13,411 13 2
Total	£ 13,499 18 6	13,443 19 8

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN SPIRITS.

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Rum imported into Great Britain, distinguishing the several Colonies and Countries from which the same was imported, and the Quantity imported from each; from 5th January, 1824, to 5th January, 1825.

Countries.	Rum imported into Great Britain in the year ending 5th January, 1825.
	Gallons.
British Colonies and Plantations,	
Antigua	17,543½
Barbadoes	488½
Dominica	27,885½
Grenada	267,079½
Jamaica	3,003,008½
Montserrat	19,819½
Nevis	7,006½
St. Kitt's	68,215½
St. Lucia	1,978
St. Vincent's	56,689½
Tobago	312,369½
Tortola	311
Trinidad	18,162½
Bermudas	109
Demerara	930,132½
Berbice	44,393½
British North American colonies	712½
Foreign colonies in America	5½
Ireland	1,670
Other countries	5,257½
Total	4,782,337½

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Rum imported into *Ireland*, distinguishing the several Colonies and Countries from which the same was imported, and the Quantity imported from each; from the 5th of January, 1824, to the 5th January, 1825.

Colonies and Countries from which imported.	Quantity imported.
	Gallons.
Norway	11
Antigua	9,966
Barbadoes	10
Jamaica	11,900
Trinidad	1
Demerara	15,619½
Total.....	37,507½

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Rum exported from *Great Britain*, distinguishing the Countries to which the same was exported, and the Quantity exported to each; from 5th January, 1824, to 5th January, 1825.

Countries to which exported.	Rum exported from Great Britain, in the year ended 5th January, 1825.
	Gallons.
Russia	9,857
Sweden	523
Norway	9,059
Denmark	103,410
Prussia	185,813
Germany	420,950
Holland	37,688
Flanders	7,353
France	164
Portugal and Madeira	12,339
Spain and Canaries	4,339
Gibraltar	20,111
Italy	208,539
Malta	55,696
The Ionian Islands	7,253
Turkey and the Levant	28,930
	1,112,024
The East Indies and China	14,158
New Holland	135,060
Cape of Good Hope	2,140
Africa, other parts of	166,479
United States of America	11,989
British Colonies in North America	269,470
The West Indies	37,800
Foreign Colonies on Continent of America	104,203
The Whale Fisheries	10,235
Total, exclusive of Ireland and the British Isles Ireland, and the Isles of Guernsey, Alderney, and Man	1,863,558 86,446
Total to all parts.....	1,950,004

An Account of the Quantity of Rum, exported from *Ireland*, distinguishing the Countries to which the same was exported, and the Quantity exported to each, from the 5th of January, 1824, to the 5th of January, 1825.

Countries to which exported.	Quantity exported: Gallons.
Russia	184
Norway	1,061
Turkey	120
Coast of Africa	114
Canada	13,776
Cape Breton	111
New Brunswick	2,742
Nova Scotia	115
Antigua	64
Barbadoes	303
Jamaica	260
Trinidad	161
Demerara	63
New York	735
Maryland	226
South Carolina	460
New Orleans	115
Brazils	132
Total	20,042

AN ACCOUNT of the total Number of Gallons of Rum, and Amount of Duty paid the Customs and Excise thereon in Great Britain, from 5th January, 1824, to 5th January, 1825, distinguishing England from Scotland.

Countries.	Rum.				Other foreign spirits.				
	England. Gallons.	Scotland. Gallons.	Great Britain. Gallons.	England. Gallons.	Scotland. Gallons.	Great Britain. Gallons.	England. Gallons.	Scotland. Gallons.	Great Britain. Gallons.
Holland .....	...	...	...	82,113 and 9,478 flasks of Cologne water.	23,753½ and 390 flasks.	105,866½ and 9,868 flasks.	...	...	...
France.....	107½	...	107½	1,411,166½ and 9,871 flasks.	...	1,443,804 and 9,901 flasks.	...	...	...
East Indies	4	53	57	1,319½	...	1,319½	...	...	...
British North American Colonies	6½	...	6½	5,708½	...	5,708½	...	...	...
British West Indies	2,252,993½	155,716	2,388,709½	3,241	163½	3,404½	...	...	...
Other parts.....	61½	3	6½	3,490½ and 2,527 flasks.	9½ and 354 flasks.	3,500 and 2,861 flasks.	...	...	...
Total quantity on which Customs duty has been paid ...}	2,253,172½	155,772	2,388,944½	1,507,039½ and 21,376 flasks.	56,563½ and 774 flasks.	1,563,603 and 22,650 flasks.	...	...	...
Total quantity on which Excise duty has been paid (including quantities over proof, not charged with duty of customs).....}	2,869,033	161,944	3,050,977	1,522,992	57,132	1,580,124	...	...	...
Amount of duty paid thereon; viz.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Customs	140,969 8 2	8,485 15 2	149,455 3 4	139,793 4 0	5,322 0 11½	145,105 4 11½	...	...	...
Excise	1,405,060 2 3½	76,613 12 7	1,481,673 14 10½	1,320,692 2 2½	48,562 0 0	1,369,254 2 2½	...	...	...
Total	£ 1,546,029 10 5½	85,099 7 9	1,631,128 18 2½	1,460,475 6 2½	53,884 0 11½	1,514,359 7 2½	...	...	...

AN ACCOUNT of the total Number of Gallons of Rum; and Amount of Duty paid the Customs and Excise thereon in Ireland, from the 5th January, 1824, to the 5th January, 1825.

	Number of gallons.	Amount of the duties of customs received thereon.	
		British currency.	
Rum, British plantation	10,315	£	5,097 7 1
			Rum, British plantation.

A similar ACCOUNT of all other Spirits imported from Foreign Countries, distinguishing such Countries, for the same period, as far as applies to the Quantity charged with Duty.

Countries from which imported.	Brandy.		Geneva.		Other spirits.		Total foreign spirits, except rum.	
	Gallons.	Duty. £ s. d.	Gallons.	Duty. £ s. d.	Gallons.	Duty. £ s. d.	Gallons.	Duty. £ s. d.
Prussia . . . . .	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1
Holland . . . . .	...	...	...	...	53 ³ / ₄	85 18 4	53 ³ / ₄	85 18 4
France	279 ¹ / ₄	271 6 3	...	...	232 ¹ / ₄	321 8 3	511 ³ / ₄	592 14 6
Barbadoes . . . . .	...	...	...	...	5 ¹ / ₂	6 6 4	5 ¹ / ₂	6 6 4
Trinidad . . . . .	...	...	...	...	7 ¹ / ₂	8 13 2	7 ¹ / ₂	8 13 2
Demerara . . . . .	...	...	...	...	1 ³ / ₄	1 16 1	1 ³ / ₄	1 16 1
Total direct from foreign countries	279 ¹ / ₄	271 6 3	...	...	302 ¹ / ₄	425 4 8	581 ³ / ₄	696 10 11
Quantity through Great Britain	547	517 14 11	494	472 7 11	...	...	1,041	990 2 10
Total	826 ¹ / ₄	789 1 2	494	472 7 11	302 ¹ / ₄	425 4 8	1,622 ³ / ₄	1,686 13 9

Note.—Foreign spirits not subject to any excise duty in Ireland.

COMBINATION LAWS.

REPORT from the Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into the effects of the Act 5 Geo. IV. c. 95. in respect to the Conduct of Workmen and others in different parts of the United Kingdom, and to report their Opinion how far it may be necessary to repeal or amend the said Act.

In order to enable themselves to form an opinion on the points referred to them, the first object of your committee was to ascertain the actual state of the country in respect to combinations existing among the working and manufacturing classes; and for this purpose they inspected various communications which had been received, and were laid before them by his majesty's secretary of state for the home department, and the president of the committee of trade. From these it appeared, that, in almost every part of the United Kingdom in which large bodies of men are collected for the purpose of carrying on any craft or manufacturing combination exists in a more or less objectionable form, and has been the subject of complaint and representation.

A list of the various places from which the communications adverted to have been transmitted, and the description of trade or manufacture to which they apply will be found in the Appendix.

While the nature of these communications led your committee to believe that some legislative measure might be expedient, the number and variety of them, as well as the advanced period of the session, obviously precluded the hope of prosecuting an investigation into each particular instance: they have thought, therefore, that they should best fulfil the intentions of the house, by selecting a certain number from among the cases which had been laid before them, and endeavouring, by their examination of these cases, to collect the general character that belonged to the whole.

Among the cases they have examined are those of the coopers, the seamen in the Tyne and the Wear, the papermakers, the shipwrights at Bristol, at Shields, and in the river Thames; the coachmakers in Dublin, the workmen in some of the collieries in Scotland. They have also inquired into the cases of the cotton-spinners and the trades in Ireland. In the latter instances, the evidence has been chiefly received from persons who had become acquainted officially with the circumstances they stated. In these cases it appears either that the associations had commenced since the passing of the act of the last session, or that having previously existed, they had taken a more open and avowed character. That they vary considerably in extent, consisting in some instances of only a few hundred individuals, while in others they comprehend many thousands; that they are constituted with the utmost regularity, having their presidents, secretaries, committees, and printed re-

gulations, by which they are ostensibly governed. The superintendence of the business of these associations is generally assigned to a committee periodically elected, by the direction of which they appear to be governed in their discussions with their masters, and in respect to the circumstances under which the labour of the whole body was to be continued or withdrawn.

Some of the sets of regulations under which these societies are constituted have been laid before your committee, and will be found in the Appendix to their Report. To these regulations your committee desire to direct the attention of the house, and particularly to those parts of them which mark the objects for which the societies are constituted, or for which they are contending, the powers exercised, the contributions collected, the fines imposed, and the degree in which individual liberty is sacrificed by those who become members of these and similar associations.

The different occupations in which the associating parties were employed, created necessarily a corresponding variety in the details of the several cases. Their objects appear to be in most instances the regulation of wages, combined with the assumption, in certain particulars, of a power of dictation in the conduct of the business in which they are engaged; the effect of which, if submitted to, would be totally to subvert the independence of the masters, and deprive them of all means of resistance to the further demands of their workmen, of whatever nature those demands might eventually be.

To illustrate this, your committee will shortly advert to what they have collected from the evidence received by them relative to the proceedings of some of the associations which they have examined.

The objects of the society of the coopers of London is to raise and equalise their wages, to restrain the future admission of apprentices into the trade; and, in addition to these, to limit the hours during which any man should be permitted to work, though working by task, so as to fix a maximum upon the exertions and the consequent profits of the skillful and laborious workman, who is not to be allowed to reap the full fruits of his powers and industry, for the purpose of securing employment to those less able or active. The printed and known rules of this society have been exhibited; but it is admitted that there exist other regulations, and that some of their proceedings are by agreement to be kept secret; what the real character and objects of the society are cannot therefore be fully understood from the rules produced, in which some of its proceedings are in evident contradiction. The mode of enforcing the submission of the masters to the demands of the workmen of the union is in this case, as in others, the simultaneously withdrawing from their employment, and precluding the employment of others not in the association, by sit-

working with such men in particular parts of the business, and rendering their situation uncomfortable. What degree of ill usage, insult, or intimidation this may include, is uncertain; but the result seems to be, that when the employment of such workmen is resorted to, the conduct of those of the society leaves to them no real option but that of abandoning their employment or joining the association, to which latter alternative they have generally submitted.

The association of the seamen in the North, known by the name of the "Loyal Standard Union," comprehends the seamen of the Tyne and the Wear. The societies belonging to North and South Shields and Sunderland are indeed separate, but are constituted under the same articles, which set forth the professed purposes of their institution. The objects however which, together with the increase of the wages, they are contending to effect, are set forth in a printed dialogue between "Tom and Harry," which will be found in the evidence of Mr. Heath, and which is acknowledged by the clerk to the society as the by-law by which the conduct of the members is regulated. Under this by-law many of the services which for years have formed a part of the usual duty of the seamen they are in future to desist from performing, as such; it contains also an obligation to sail only with a mate and crew belonging to the union, which necessarily reduces the ship-owner either to confine himself to crews so composed, or to relinquish the hope of manning his ship in any of the ports mentioned. The adherence of the seamen to this engagement is stated to have been in several instances so firm, that the masters have been constrained to yield to it, and to advise the mates and men on board their ships to enrol themselves amongst the members of the union.

It is true, that contests between the seamen and the ship-owners in these ports have previously taken place, both in the year 1815, and preceding it, and that they were conducted, particularly in 1815, with circumstances of much greater violence than any that can be charged upon the subsisting one; but although formidable from the outrages that attended them, neither the extended objects, nor the same systematic combination and regulated character were displayed in the proceedings of the seamen that distinguish the associations of the present period. In this case, an endeavour has been made to set up a society of the masters as a justification for that of the men; but your committee do not find any such to have existed previously to the establishment of the union, or have any reason to consider it as more than it describes itself a mere protective society against the novel and dangerous pretensions of the union.

The associations in Yorkshire comprehend a great district of country, and include in them several branches of the woollen trade, as well as many thousands of the operative weavers. Those

to which the inquiries of your committee have been directed are among the workmen of broad cloth, flannels, and the fancy trade.

The constitution of the association in the latter trade is rather more complicated than that of others they have examined; it has its council and its district committees, its committee of examination, its president, vice-presidents, secretary, &c. The vice-presidents are delegates elected by districts; they preside in the district committees, and have each a district assigned to their care and inspection. They also form the council, and consider the references made by the committees of examination, by whom all business is previously considered, and direct the conduct of the workmen in continuing or desisting from their employment with the different masters by whom they are engaged. Nor, as it appears, can a "strike" take place in any part of the trade without the previous consultation and instruction of the examining committee or council. The proceedings of the workmen in this branch of trade towards their masters are stated in the testimonies of several manufacturers. The measures of solicitation and intimidation to seduce or alarm those who are disposed to continue to work, and to prevent others to whom the masters might resort from engaging in their service, will be found in the evidence; by these means submission, both on the part of the masters and workmen, has been in a great degree obtained; and in one instance a master was obliged to indemnify the association by a sum of money, for the losses their funds had sustained by supporting his workmen while withdrawn from his manufactory.

Your committee cannot quit these societies without calling the notice of the house to that of Rochdale, and its rules respecting the employment of apprentices, women, and other persons.

This society, as it is alleged, has had the countenance of some of the masters, and was used as their instrument against a manufacturer who was underselling them, for the purpose of obviating a competition that might be injurious to their profits. Of a course so reprehensible and inconsistent with every principle of fair dealing and justice, either towards the individual or the public, your committee cannot too strongly express their reprobation.

At Bristol, the shipwrights' association appears to have been organised by the secretary of the London Shipwrights' Provident Union, the object of it is to force upon the masters terms and conditions of labour, and regulations as to regard to apprentices and persons to be employed in their service. In consequence of a strike for wages among the carpenters in Mr Taylor's yard, at a time when business was particularly urgent, workmen were sent for from distant places, on the arrival of these workmen they were surrounded by the directing committee; they were pressed to return, they were

assured that they would not be permitted to work, nor be safe in walking the towns; and by these intimations, without any circumstances of actual violence, they were induced to forego their engagement, and return to the place from whence they had been brought, to which their expenses were borne by the association.

The last case to which your committee feel it necessary to advert is that of the shipwrights in the river Thames. Their association, under the title of the Shipwrights' Provident Union, commenced a few months ago. The origin and object of it are stated by a witness of the name of Lomax, who appears to have been one of the principal agents in its formation. Its effects and proceedings are detailed by the masters. It has a permanent committee, to which every thing is reported, and to which reference on all points is made: this committee appears to direct the conduct of the working shipwrights employed in the several yards, according to the rules prescribed by the general meetings of the association, and exercise a power wholly incompatible with the legitimate authority of the ship-builder over his own property and establishment.

The contest has been for some time continued.

It is stated on one side, and distinctly admitted on the other, that it is not a question of wages, and is therefore described by the masters to be a question of the power of regulating the mode of conducting the business; this is confirmed not only by some of the articles of the union, but by resolutions and proceedings which appear in a book delivered by the secretary (as containing the minutes of their meetings or committees, and from which extracts will be found in the Appendix), which will shew the subjects on which the managers of the union exercise their authority, and the manner in which they prescribe to the members of the body the course they are to pursue.

A further confirmation of the spirit of this union arises from the circumstances that have occasioned the retirement of the men from their work in the different yards. In one instance it has taken place on account of the dismissal of a man brought into the yard (as alleged) by order of either the ship-builder or his foreman. The right to do this is confidently claimed on the part of the shipwrights, and peremptorily denied by the masters as contrary to all usage, and never having been heard of till within the last few months. In another, on account of the removal of an inefficient workman (said also to have been sent in by the union) from a particular work to which he was thought incompetent, although other employment was offered to him in the yard. In the principal ones, however, the cause stated is that the masters have fixed in their yards, and refused to remove, a copy of certain regulations, in conformity to which they have jointly determined

their work should be conducted. Your committee do not here advert to the demand for a book, fixing the prices of all work; for although it is among the proposed objects of the union to obtain such an one, it does not appear to be the immediate cause of the present cessation of work in any of the establishments.

From the examinations of Mr. Lomax and Mr. Gast, and others, it will be seen that your committee entered into a minute examination of the regulations referred to, for the purpose of discovering what there was in them which could furnish to the men a subject of well-grounded complaint and resistance to their masters; they have not, however, been able to find that the regulations, so fixed up by the masters, contain any thing inconsistent with what has been hitherto the general practice in the principal yards of the river Thames, nor, to any one of them, have either Mr. Lomax or Mr. Gast, two of the leading members of the association, stated objections, founded on any practical grievance arising out of them, that in the smallest degree operate on the minds of your committee as a rational explanation of the course taken by the shipwrights. They have, in fact, admitted the real difference between the men and their masters, in regard to the regulations themselves, to be scarcely intelligible, and it evidently consists less in the matter of the regulations, than in the promulgation of them.

In the contemplation of your committee, this gives the character to the present contest, which they cannot but consider as chiefly a struggle for power on the part of the shipwrights, and an attempt to establish a control over the conduct of their masters, not can they adduce a more striking proof of the dangerous effect of the spirit of combination, than that so large a body of men should be led to abandon their employment, and array themselves against their employers, without a substantial interest to serve, or a real grievance of which to complain.

In the evidence, it is affirmed on the authority of communications with the men themselves, that although they express an earnest desire to return to work, they are deterred by the apprehension of being subject to insult from the other members of the union. Beyond this, it is not stated (except in one instance, on which there is conflicting evidence) that intimidation has yet proceeded, but your committee cannot shut their eyes to the natural and almost necessary progress of associations of this nature, in the prosecution of their purposes, and dreadfully exemplified in the evidence received of the occurrences that have taken place both in Ireland and Scotland. In the evidence of the police officer of Dublin, it is stated, that within the last few months, not less than sixty or seventy cases, have occurred of violence committed in the streets, that thirty or forty persons have had their skulls fractured, a great number have been assaulted and beaten,

and two persons have died of the wounds inflicted upon them. The connexion between these crimes and the combinations existing, appears to your committee hardly to admit of question; when the circumstances are considered attending the murders of *Chambers* and *Daly*, as well as the attacks upon *Carroll*, *Mr. Butterworth*, and *Mr. Greenham*; and the evidence of *Mr. Campbell*, *Mr. Robinson*, and *Mr. Muckecknie*, gives a frightful detail of the means practised to effect intimidation and submission to the regulations of the combined workmen, both in the collieries and among the cotton-spinners. Warnings, threats, assaults, and the infliction of the most cruel injuries by throwing vitriol, deeply concerted attempts to assassinate, and, as far as intention went, the perpetration of actual assassinations, for which conviction has been obtained. The degree to which this system has been carried cannot be more forcibly conveyed by your committee than by mentioning the fact, that they have been deterred in some instances from pressing inquiries, lest they should lead to some suspicion of the quarters from whence information had been derived, and place in jeopardy the lives of the individuals on whom the suspicion of having given the might fall.

It is unhappily too well known, that both in Ireland and Scotland, combinations amongst workmen have existed, and been highly organised and formidable; but if it is alleged that their number has been by no means so great, and that as they have become more numerous, their proceedings have acquired a greater degree of openness and audacity.

The instances above referred to appear to your committee sufficient to convey the general character of the associations which have recently spread to so many parts of the United Kingdom, and embraced almost every branch of its industry. In referring to them, your committee have not thought it necessary to go into many points of detail, which will be found in the evidence of the persons examined. It will be seen that in their general construction these societies are nearly similar; their objects, although in most cases connected with the rise or maintenance of wages, usually extend to conditions affecting the conduct of the business or manufacture in which the members of the respective combinations are occupied, particularly the number and description of apprentices or persons to be engaged; and the exclusive employment of persons connected with the society. The resources on which they depend are derived from general contributions, but form a bond of connexion, and supply powerful means of carrying into effect their purposes by the application of them to the support of such individuals as, in maintaining the common cause against the masters, may be deprived of employment; and require assistance. As in all contests carried on by a combination of the workmen, it is indispensable to success to deprive

the masters of the power of substituting other workmen for those who may be dismissed, or withdrawn from their service, every effort is necessarily directed to draw or retain as large a portion of workmen within the circle of the combination as possible; to effect this, every art of seduction and persuasion, every application of threats, insult, intimidation, and outrage, in circumstances requires to be put in practice. Nor is the co-operation of the associates confined to the particular crafts or trades to which they belong. Besides the associations of workmen of each description amongst themselves, they are in Ireland united with those of other trades, for the purpose of effecting their particular objects, by common means and mutual assistance; and it is alleged that this assistance has been afforded to produce intimidation, by the perpetration of the most atrocious outrages, in which the different associations became instruments to each other. This union was stated, in December last, to comprehend nineteen of the trades in Dublin, by one witness; and fifteen or sixteen by another at the present period; some indication also of a union, or a unusual understanding existing amongst some of the trades in London, will be found in the testimony given by *Mr. Young*.

For the description of the other associations examined in the course of their inquiry, your committee beg to refer to the evidence, which will show them to partake of the same general character as those above referred to, to which, more than the minute particulars, by which they are distinguished from each other, your committee are desirous of calling the attention of the house. In that general character, and the collection of funds, in the imposition of fines, in the attempts to limit the employment of apprentices; to regulate the conduct of manufacture; as well as in the means used of extending their influence over workmen, and carrying on measures against the legitimate authority of the masters, is to be found, in the opinion of your committee, the necessity of some further legislative provision, if not to check the progress of the association, to confine its operation to those objects alone which were essential to the protection of both the workman and the master, and may be secured without impairing the freedom of either, or endangering the public tranquillity.

As it has appeared to your committee, that for these purposes the provisions of the existing law are insufficient, their attention has been applied to the alterations which in consequence it became their duty to submit to the consideration of the house with this view they have referred not only to the provisions of the act of the 6th Geo. IV, but the resolutions of the committee which sat in the last session, on which it was professedly founded, and they have the satisfaction of stating, that there is no alteration which they think it necessary to propose for

restraining the system of combination, in a manner consistent with the interests of all parties affected, by it, which will not be found in strict conformity to the principle of those *resolutions*.

The first object of the act in question was the repeal of all the statutes which were in force against combination, at the period of its enactment. In the wisdom of this repeal the opinions entertained by your committee fully coincide; and considering the partial effect of those statutes, as well as their admitted insufficiency to the ends for which they were intended, so far from recommending the re-enactment of them, they should deem it a measure of objectionable severity towards the workmen, against whom they chiefly operated.

The alterations your committee propose, although not departing from what they believe to have been the intention of the act of the last session, so far pervade the whole of the remainder of it, that they think it expedient to recommend, in the first instance, its total repeal, with a view of re-enacting such parts of it as it may be advisable to retain, and comprehending all that relates to combination, both in point of repeal and enactment, in a single act.

The effect of this repeal would be to restore the operation of the common law in those particular instances in which it is suspended by the second and third clauses of that act. Your committee, however, in recommending that the common law should be restored, are of opinion that an exception should be made to its operation, in favour of meetings and consultations amongst either masters or workmen, the object of which is peaceably to consult upon the rate of wages to be either given or received, and to agree to co-operate with each other in endeavouring to raise or lower it, or to settle the hours of labour; an exception, they trust, which, while it gives to those in the different classes of masters and workmen the ample means of maintaining their respective interests, will not afford any support to the assumption of power or dictation in either party to the prejudice of the other; least of all, that assumption of control on the part of the workmen in the conduct of any business or manufacture which is utterly incompatible with the necessary authority of the master; at whose risk, and by whose capital, it is to be carried on.

In recommending that liberty of associating and co-operating together, so far as wages or hours of labour are concerned, should be preserved alike to masters and workmen, your committee feel it essential to the regard which is due to the free exercise of individual judgment, to propose that the resolutions of any such association should be allowed to bind only parties actually present, or personally consenting. Not to impose this limitation, would be to afford a dangerous opening to the operation of influence of the most pernicious kind, and by taking away the protection of that competition which arises

out of the perfect freedom of individual action, destroy the best defence possessed both by the masters and workmen, against the efforts of each other, in support of their conflicting pretensions and interests.

This is all the freedom in respect to combination that seems essential for any beneficial purpose; and your committee are of opinion, that all combination beyond this should be at the risk of the parties, and open, as heretofore, to the animadversion of the common law, and to be dealt with according to the circumstances of each case.

In providing for the security of those who may engage in any association to obtain a better remuneration for their labour, your committee feel it incumbent upon them, to recommend that every precaution should be taken, to insure a safe and free option to those who, from whatever motive, may have no inclination to take a part in such associations. The necessity of extending or maintaining combination when once commenced, and the means of doing it, have been already adverted to. Examples of the use and effect of these means, in their different gradations, will be found in the evidence; and against these, in every shape and character, your committee recommend the most effectual security should be taken, that legislative enactment can afford; that in becoming parties to any associations, or subject to their authority, individuals should be left to act under the impulse of their own free will alone; and that those who wish to abstain from them should be enabled to do so, and continue their service, or engage their industry, on whatever terms, or to whatever master, they may choose, in perfect security against molestation, insult, or personal danger of what kind soever. To this your committee attach the highest importance, as being indispensably necessary, not less to the real interests of the working classes, than to the public peace.

Against much of the evil now so prevalent, a remedy will be found in the powers of the common law, but through a slow and expensive process, by which the protective effect of it is liable to be in a great measure defeated; in conformity, therefore, with the act of the last session, your committee recommend for all offences of this description, mentioned in any act to be brought in, a summary jurisdiction should be established, with a provision that would afford greater facility to its operation, by permitting conviction to take place on the oath of one credible witness, and by giving a larger discretion in respect to the punishment to be inflicted in case of conviction, to the extent of six months imprisonment, with or without hard labour, according to the circumstances of the case.

These are the alterations of the law to which, on the best view they can take of the nature of the combinations now existing in the country, your committee think it expedient to confine

their recommendations, in the hope that it may have the effect of restraining the operation of those associations to the objects which they have above described. In doing this, however, they are most desirous that their impression of the importance of imposing such a restraint on the system of combination as now pervades the country, directed to purposes, as it appears in many instances, highly prejudicial, and supported by means, amongst which may be reckoned distribution of money, insult, intimidation, and the most atrocious crimes, should not be measured by the lenity with which they recommend it should in the first instance be treated. The danger arising from it, unless cautiously restrained, appears to your committee to be of the most formidable character, and to affect equally the individual interests of those immediately concerned, the interests of the public, and the internal tranquillity of the country. If the spirit of dictation now manifested be suffered to prevail among the working classes; if the application of capital is to be controlled, and the principle of free labour totally subverted; every part of the process of manufacture and trade subjected to the judgment of committees, and every improvement by machinery or otherwise admitted or rejected at their discretion; the necessary consequence must be, that capital will be withdrawn or transported, the source of every branch of our industry gradually cut off, and the whole labouring population of the country consigned to the distress and misery which it is the tendency of the ill-advised combinations, in which so great a proportion of it is implicated, rapidly and inevitably to produce. Against such a state of things, should it be continued, involving in its consequences the most important objects, to the security of which the superintending vigilance of the legislature can be directed, it will become the duty of parliament to look for effectual remedies, nor to cease till, by the successful application of them, the public protection is secured. Whatever those remedies may eventually be, whatever may be their effects upon any particular classes of the community, whether increased restraint on combination, or the relaxation of the laws by which our manufactures, ship-building, and other branches of domestic industry are protected from foreign competition, they must be submitted to, as the fruits of this pernicious system, and the necessary defence of the commerce and navigation, the capitalists and consumers of the country, against the dangers and

privations to which they will be exposed. At this moment, the greatest part of the manufacturing labour of the kingdom may be said to be under the dominion of the committees of the respective associations, which are themselves under the influence of agitators, who dispose and govern it according to their will, deriving power and importance from the dissensions they foment, and, after subverting the natural relation between the employers and the employed, are rashly urging the destruction of trade itself, reckless of the individual misery, the crimes and public calamities, with which it must be attended. If, however, on the one hand, your committee cannot but anticipate the fatal results the working classes are bringing upon themselves, by a perseverance in the course in which they are engaged; on the other, they derive hope from their confidence in the good sense and good dispositions of by far the greatest proportion of those who, mistaking their own interest, and misapprehending the intentions of the law of last session, are now enrolled amongst the members of these combinations. They are sanguine in believing, although, perhaps, under momentary delusion or intimidation, their good sense and their good disposition will prevail, and they require only to understand their danger to seek the means of avoiding it. The recommendations contained in this Report, if carried into effect by the legislature, and firmly executed by the magistracy, will, as your committee trust, afford those means, by giving protection to all who wish to emancipate themselves from any association into which they have been reluctantly forced, or in which they are involuntarily retained. By availing themselves of these, they will not only recover the exercise of their own free will, in disposing of their labour to the persons, and on the terms, they find most advantageous, but at the same time restore to the various branches of our national industry that liberty by which they have so long flourished, equally to the advantage of every class dependent upon them, and to the strength, the security, and happiness of the empire.

16th June, 1825.

The Appendix contains the communications made to the committee, shewing the existence of combination in almost every part of the United Kingdom.

The minutes of evidence are exceedingly voluminous, comprehending the examinations of seventy witnesses.

COPPER.

AN ACCOUNT of all Copper imported into Great Britain, in the Year ending 5th January, 1824; distinguishing each sort of Copper, and from what Country imported.

Countries from which imported.	Unwrought in bricks, pigs, &c.	Part wrought viz. bars, rods, or ingots, hammered or raised.	Plates and coin.	Old for re-manufacture.	Ore.	Total quantity imported (including copper ore).
	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.
Russia	1,684 0 10	...	...	...	...	1,684 0 10
Sweden	20 0 15	...	...	...	...	20 0 15
Belgium .....	...	3 3 3	0 2 27	41 1 17	...	45 3 19
France .....	...	0 0 10	0 0 25½	...	...	0 1 7½
Spain .....	...	...	0 1 14	...	...	0 1 14
Gibraltar	247 1 0	...	...	...	...	247 1 0
Italy .....	...	...	0 1 20	...	...	1 0 20
Turkey	1 1 14	...	...	...	...	1 1 14
East Indies .....	...	...	0 0 6	49 1 12	...	49 1 12
British North American Colonies ...	...	...	...	0 2 22	...	0 2 22
British West Indies .....	...	...	...	25 2 3	0 0 14	25 2 17
United States of America	102 2 15	...	...	...	...	102 2 15
Columbia .....	...	193 2 6	...	...	...	193 2 6
Chili	381 3 7	...	...	...	0 1 19	382 1 8
Buenos Ayres .....	...	0 3 26	...	...	...	0 3 26
Ireland .....	...	...	12 0 0	91 0 0	82,422 0 0	82,525 0 0
Total quantity imported ... }	2,437 1 15	198 1 17	13 3 3½	207 3 26	82,422 2 5	85,208 0 15½

AN ACCOUNT of all Copper imported into Great Britain, in the Year ending 5th January, 1825; distinguishing each sort of Copper, and into what Ports imported.

Ports into which imported.	Unwrought in bricks, pigs, &c.	Part wrought viz. bars, rods, or ingots, hammered or raised.	Plates and coin.	Old for re-manufacture.	Ore.	Total quantity imported (including copper ore).
	Cwt. q. lbs.	Cwt. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwt. q. lbs.	Cwt. q. lbs.	Cwt. q. lbs.
London	2,437 1 15	3 3 13	1 2 14	89 1 12	0 1 19	2,532 2 17
Dover .....	...	...	0 0 22	...	...	0 0 22
Rye .....	...	...	0 0 0½	...	...	0 0 0½
Dartmouth .....	...	...	...	0 2 22	...	0 2 22
Bristol .....	...	...	...	50 0 0	0 0 14	50 0 14
Swansea .....	...	...	...	...	80,422 0 0	80,422 0 0
Llanely .....	...	...	...	...	2,000 0 0	2,000 0 0
Liverpool .....	...	194 2 4	2 0 0	66 3 20	...	263 1 24
Whitehaven .....	...	...	...	1 0 0	...	1 0 0
Glasgow .....	...	...	10 0 0	...	...	10 0 0
Total quantity imported ... }	2,437 1 15	198 1 17	13 3 3½	207 3 26	82,422 2 5	85,200 0 15½

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantities of Copper exported from Great Britain in the Year ending 5th January, 1825; distinguishing each sort, and from what Port sent.

Ports from which exported.	British copper exported.						Foreign copper exported.	
	Unwrought in pigs, bricks, &c.	Coin.	Sheets, nails, &c.	Wire.	Wrought copper of all other sorts.	Total of British copper exported.	Unwrought in bricks, pigs, &c.	Part wrought, viz. bars, rods, or ingots, hammered or raised.
	cwts. q. lbs.	cwts. q. lbs.	cwts. q. lbs.	cwts. q. lbs.	cwts. q. lbs.	cwts. q. lbs.	cwts. q. lbs.	cwts. q. lbs.
London	17,700 0 0		49,079 2 2	8 1 19	46,536 2 20	76,324 2 13	23,001 2 1	
Portsmouth			216 3 18			216 3 18	1,639 3 22	
Southampton			87 3 0		35 3 20	123 2 20		
Poole					0 1 25	6 1 25		
Weymouth					0 1 0	0 1 0		
Dartmouth			8 0 20		1 2 0	9 2 20		
Plymouth			14 2 14		21 3 6	36 1 20		
Falmouth					1 0 0	1 0 0		
Bristol	80 0 0		1,759 0 10		2,520 0 13	4,339 0 23		
Cardiff			0 2 8			0 2 8		
Swansea	1,409 2 16		294 2 25		27 1 15	1,731 3 0		
Liverpool	20 0 0	79 3 0	17,048 0 10	281 2 0	3,052 2 25	20,432 0 3		130 2 6
Lancaster					1 0 0	1 0 0		
Whitehaven			0 3 0		16 3 4	17 2 4		
Newcastle			6 3 0		20 3 6	27 2 6		
Sunderland			8 0 14			8 0 14		
Hull			15 1 9			15 1 9		
Glasgow, Greenock, &c.	15 0 0		1,379 2 13	2 0 0	1,337 1 19	2,734 0 4		
Total	19,209 2 16	94 3 0	62,920 0 3	291 3 19	23,579 3 14	106,096 0 24	24,631 1 23	193 2 6

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Copper exported from Great Britain, in the Year ending 5th January, 1825, distinguishing each sort, and to what Country exported.

Countries to which exported.	British copper exported.						Foreign copper exported.	
	Unwrought in bricks, pigs, &c.	Coin.	Sheets, nails, &c.	Wire.	Wrought copper of all other sorts.	Total of British copper exported.	Unwrought in bricks, pigs, &c.	Part wrought, viz. bars, rods, or ingots, hammered or raised.
	cwts. q. lbs.	cwts. q. lbs.	cwts. q. lbs.	cwts. q. lbs.	cwts. q. lbs.	cwts. q. lbs.	cwts. q. lbs.	cwts. q. lbs.
Russia				1 0 15	14 0 0	15 0 15		
Sweden			0 3 0			0 3 0		
Denmark			400 1 12	1 0 0	136 1 0	537 2 12		
Prussia				1 0 18	0 3 0	1 3 18		
Germany			244 1 15		165 2 13	410 0 0		
Holland			5,147 3 5		1,913 3 7	7,061 2 12		
Flanders			1,037 3 9	0 0 14	269 1 25	1,307 1 20		
France			223 1 13		0 1 0	223 2 13		
Portugal, Azores, and Madeira			570 1 4		172 2 27	743 0 3	10,650 3 5	
Spain and the Canaries	1,409 2 16		405 1 2	2 1 0	311 1 14	2,128 2 4	248 2 21	
Gibraltar			93 3 4		235 0 7	328 3 11		
Italy			906 1 3		503 3 25	1,410 1 0		
Malta			52 0 14		1 2 0	53 2 14		
Ionian Islands					7 0 0	7 0 0		
Turkey					247 0 0	247 0 0		
Ireland		94 3 0	4,073 2 24	283 2 0	3,408 0 27	7,860 0 23		
Isle of Man			1 2 0		11 0 15	12 2 15		
Isles of Guernsey and Jersey			876 3 1		160 1 18	1,037 0 19		
Asia	17,700 0 0		24,962 3 11		5,134 0 7	47,816 3 18	13,532 0 17	193 2 6
Africa			310 0 17		300 2 2	610 2 19		
United States of America	100 0 0		9,777 0 11		812 3 15	10,689 3 26		
British provinces in North America			4,016 0 20	0 2 0	1,599 0 15	5,615 3 7		
West Indies, British			1,360 3 9	2 1 0	4,467 1 3	5,830 1 12		
Foreign			1,585 0 0		212 0 20	1,797 0 20		
The Brazils			6,479 0 25		3,328 1 20	9,807 2 23		
Spanish and other colonies on Continent of America			374 2 0		166 3 0	541 1 0		
Total	19,209 2 16	94 3 0	62,920 0 3	291 3 19	23,579 3 14	106,096 0 24	24,631 1 23	193 2 6

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantities of Copper exported from the Port of London, in the Year ending 5th January 1825; distinguishing each sort, and to what Country exported.

Countries to which exported.	British copper exported.						Foreign copper exported.
	Unwrought, in bricks, pigs, &c.	Sheets, nails, &c.	Wire.	Wrought copper of all other sorts.	Total of British copper exported.	Unwrought, in bricks, pigs, &c.	
	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.	
Russia.....	1 0 15	14 0 0	15 0 15	.....
Sweden.....	0 3 0	.....	.....	0 3 0	.....
Denmark.....	400 1 12	1 0 0	136 1 0	537 2 12	.....
Prussia.....	1 0 18	0 3 0	1 3 18	.....
Germany.....	240 1 15	.....	165 2 13	406 0 0	.....
Holland.....	5,147 3 5	.....	1,891 1 20	7,039 0 25	.....
Flanders.....	1,022 2 0	0 0 14	260 1 25	1,292 0 11	.....
France.....	223 1 13	.....	0 1 0	223 2 13	9,020 3 11	
Portugal, Azores, and Madeira.....	493 3 4	.....	71 0 20	564 3 24	199 3 11	
Spain and the Canaries.....	405 1 2	2 1 0	311 1 14	718 3 16	248 2 2	
Gibraltar.....	65 3 4	.....	235 0 7	300 3 11	.....
Italy.....	306 1 3	.....	499 1 25	805 3 0	.....
Malta.....	44 0 0	.....	1 2 0	45 2 0	.....
Ionian Islands.....	7 0 0	7 0 0	.....
Turkey.....	12 0 0	12 0 0	.....
Ireland.....	86 3 11	.....	722 1 0	809 0 11	.....
Isles of Guernsey and Jersey.....	242 2 18	.....	18 2 0	261 0 18	.....
Asia.....	17,700 0 0	23,700 2 12	.....	4,972 3 5	46,373 1 17	13,532 0 11
Africa.....	297 2 17	.....	284 3 18	582 2 7	.....
United States of America.....	4,015 0 8	.....	543 0 20	4,558 1 0	.....
British provinces in North America.....	450 0 17	0 2 0	300 2 26	751 1 15	.....
West Indies, British.....	568 1 18	2 1 0	3,385 2 5	3,956 0 23	.....
Foreign.....	127 0 0	.....	166 2 0	293 2 0	.....
The Brazils.....	4,152 1 11	.....	2,368 0 18	6,520 2 1	.....
Spanish and other colonies on Continent of America.....	88 2 0	.....	158 3 0	247 1 0	.....
Total.....	17,700 0 0	42,079 2 2	8 1 19	16,536 2 20	76,324 2 13	23,001 2 11	

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantities of Copper exported from the Port of Liverpool, in the Year ending 5th January, 1825; distinguishing each sort, and to what Countries exported.

Countries to which exported.	British copper exported.						Foreign copper exported.
	Unwrought, in bricks, pigs, &c.	Coin.	Sheets, nails, &c.	Wire.	Wrought copper of all other sorts.	Total of British copper exported.	Part wrought, viz. bars, rods, or ingots, hammered or raised.
	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.
Germany.....	4 0 0	.....	.....	4 0 0	.....
Portugal, the Azores, and Madeira.....	56 0 0	.....	.....	56 0 0	.....
Gibraltar.....	28 0 0	.....	.....	28 0 0	.....
Italy.....	4 2 0	4 2 0	.....
Turkey.....	235 0 0	235 0 0	.....
Ireland.....	79 3 0	3,986 0 23	281 2 0	408 0 6	4,755 2 1	.....
Isle of Man.....	1 2 0	.....	9 1 11	10 3 11	.....
Isles of Guernsey and Jersey.....	71 1 0	71 1 0	.....
Asia.....	1,282 0 27	.....	157 1 2	1,439 2 1	193 2 6
Africa.....	12 2 0	.....	15 2 12	28 0 12	.....
United States of America.....	20 0 0	.....	4,711 2 0	.....	63 2 0	4,795 0 0	.....
British Provinces in North America.....	2,240 1 18	.....	381 2 2	2,621 3 20	.....
West Indies, British.....	654 3 12	.....	692 2 21	1,347 2 5	.....
Foreign.....	1,458 0 0	.....	45 2 20	1,503 2 20	.....
The Brazils.....	2,326 3 14	.....	960 1 8	3,287 0 22	.....
Spanish and other colonies on Continent of America.....	286 0 0	.....	8 0 0	294 0 0	.....
Total.....	20 0 0	79 3 0	17,048 0 10	281 2 0	3,052 2 26	20,482 0 8	193 2 6

COTTON AND COTTON GOODS.

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Cotton Wool, Cotton Twist, and Manufactured Cotton Goods exported, during each of the last Five Years, from *Great Britain to Ireland.*

Species of goods.	Years ending 5th January,				
	1821.	1822.	1823.	1824.	1825.
Cotton wool	1,386,564	1,716,395	1,950,288	2,177,703	2,598,893
British cotton twist & yarn, <i>lbs.</i>	1,219,320	2,120,515	1,919,994	2,361,786	2,919,560
Entered, per yard	1,819,176	2,827,285	2,749,124	3,392,924	4,452,506
British manufactured cotton goods.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	7,331 19 1	7,595 12 0	5,879 19 0	7,234 7 9	6,443 15 0
	Entered at value	354,216	354,456	365,752	322,648	267,765
Pairs of stockings..					

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Cotton Wool, Cotton Twist, and Manufactured Cotton Goods, exported from *Ireland to Great Britain*, during each of the last Five Years.

Species of goods.	Years ending 5th January,				
	1821.	1822.	1823.	1824.	1825.
Cotton wool	183,316	240,652	68,783	199,907	74,503
Cotton twist & yarn, Irish, <i>lbs.</i>	27,551	29,070	46,972	41,005	124,268
foreign, <i>lbs.</i>	...	915	...	...	...
Entered, per yard...	516,717	406,687	556,046	3,840,699	6,418,645
Irish manufactured cotton goods.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	1,593 4 3	1,324 0 0	2,368 6 5	7,768 11 7	...
	Entered at value	6	...	1,212	...
Pairs of stockings...					

AN ACCOUNT of all Ships or Vessels having Cotton on board from Alexandria, which have arrived this Year (1825).

Ports.	Dates of arrival.	Names of the vessels.	Tonnage.	
London	January	28 Penelope	218	
	—	31 Golden Grove.....	213	
	—	— Henry	252	
	March	1 William and Henry	194	
	—	10 Calypso	150	
	—	11 Ardgaun	167	
	April	5 Cossack	131	
	—	19 Arethusa.....	152	
	—	21 Albion	107	
	Liverpool	January.....	1 Siren	182
		—	6 Ospray	382
		—	21 Rosina	214
		—	22 Margaret.....	145
		February	7 Columbia.....	509
—		18 Levant	183	
—		28 Iphigenia	273	
—		— Leander	361	
March		5 Three Sisters	262	
—		— Mangrove Bay	208	
—		— Caroline	236	
—		— Alexander	284	
—		7 Liddell.....	328	
—		— Calcutta	369	
—		— Bristol	416	
—		— Europe	242	
—	14 Caroline	281		
—	15 Heroine	168		
—	31 Nottingham	463		
April	6 James	145		
—	14 Science	326		
Total 30 ships.....			7,521	

DISTILLERY.

A letter to the right honourable the chancellor of the exchequer from the corn distillers in England, dated 30th May, 1825, and signed by twenty individuals, strongly protests against the permission to rectifiers to convert West India rum, or other colonial spirit, into English gin, as a measure threatening the English corn distillery with utter destruction. After adverting to the benefits which the revenue has derived from the English distillery, the expense to which they had been recently put in remodelling their plants to adapt them to the new order of things, and the intention to allow rum to go to the rectifier at the entirely inadequate protecting duty to the distiller of 1s. 3d. per gallon, the letter proceeds:—

“ Sir, you are aware that, in the London market, rum can be had in abundant supply, without duty, at from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. per gallon proof, and that, if to this be added the 1s. 3d. of nominal protection, it would still enable the rectifier to buy his rum, fit for making into gin, at the low price of from 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d.

“ Rum, we need scarcely mention, is manufactured by the planter from an article forming the very refuse of his estates, and otherwise of little value. The use of this material, although subject to the expense of freight, and to a duty on importation into England, is even denied to the English distiller. In all matters with respect to his process, the planter is totally unfettered and unrestricted by government. His rum, when brought to market, he may keep in warehouse for an unlimited period, without payment of duty; and, when it is taken out for consumption, duty is charged only on the quantities remaining in the casks, instead, as was formerly the case, of the quantities ascertained by the landing guage. The difference between that mode and the present is well understood to be worth at least three-pence per gallon in favour of the proprietor.

“ The corn distiller, on the other hand, at the price of corn either now or in prospect, is disabled from affording his spirits on terms at all similar to rum. Taking twenty gallons as the produce of one quarter, (and for this it requires the use of good corn,) with 1s. 3d. per gallon for yeast, coals, and other expenses of manufacturing, the cost, without any profit whatever to himself, would be 3s. 3d. When the spirits are made entirely from malt, unmixed with raw corn, such as are now made and consumed in Scotland, it would be 1s. more, or 4s. 3d. per gallon.”

After stating several other arguments in opposition to the proposed measure, the letter concludes by expressing a hope that the same influence which, in 1811, shielded the corn distillery from colonial interference will not now desert it.

EAST COUNTRY DOCK.

AN ACCOUNT of the Total Number of Vessels which entered the East Country Dock, in the Port of London, in the Year 1824, shewing the Average Tonnage of each; viz.

48 vessels, 12,871 tons;

The average tonnage of each vessel being 268 tons.

EAST INDIA DOCKS.

AN ACCOUNT of the total Tonnage of Private Trade and other Indiamen, not in the Service of the East India Company, which have entered the East India Docks in the Years 1823 and 1824; and a Statement of the Rates and Charges to which such Vessels and their Cargoes are subject in those Docks.

Years.	Number of ships.	Total tonnage.
1823.....	75	36,139
1824.....	89	38,773

The charge for unloading the cargoes of private ships using the dock is now at the rate of ten shillings per ton, according to the register tonnage of the vessel; and the charge for unloading ships built in the East Indies (called country ships), manned with not less than two-thirds of their crews Lascars, is at the rate of eight shillings per ton; both these rates being subject to a deduction amounting to about one shilling per ton, in case the ship leaves the dock immediately after completing the delivery of her cargo. On the goods imported by the said ships a rate of two shillings per ton is charged in satisfaction of the use and convenience of the docks; and by the act 46 Geo. III. cap. 113, a further rate of two shillings per ton is authorised to be taken for the wharfage of such goods as may be landed, and for loading the same in caravans for conveyance to the warehouses.

The charge for loading a ship outwards is two shillings per ton on the register tonnage of the vessel.

AN ACCOUNT shewing the total Number of Vessels, of every description, with their Tonnage, which entered the East India Docks in the Year 1824; with the average Tonnage of the Vessels.

Number of ships.	Total tonnage.	Average tonnage.
120	75,194	627

AN ACCOUNT shewing the Number of Ships, of the average burthen of 300 Tons, which the East India Docks are capable of containing at one time; the greatest Number of Vessels, with their Register Tonnage, which were loading or discharging at any one time in the Year 1824; and the Number of Vessels which were loading or discharging in the said Docks on the 5th of April, 1826.

Number of ships of the average burthen of 300 tons, which the East India Docks are capable of containing.		Greatest number of ships, of different tonnages, which unloaded and loaded at one time in the year 1824.		Number which was unloading and loading on the 5th of April, 1826.	
Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
246	73,800	25	17,103	10	6,776

EXPORT OF TOOLS AND MACHINERY.

REPORT from the Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into the State of the Law, and its Consequences, respecting the Exportation of Tools and Machinery.

It is necessary, for the purpose of reporting fully to the house on this subject, to advert to the proceedings of the committee, appointed in the last session "to inquire into the state of the law in the United Kingdom, and its consequences, respecting artisans leaving the kingdom and residing abroad; also into the state of the law, and its consequences, respecting the exportation of tools and machinery; and into the state of the law and its effects, so far as relates to the combination of workmen and others to raise wages, or to regulate their wages and hours of working; and to report their opinion and observations thereon."

From the minutes of evidence taken before that committee, it appears that a considerable number of persons were examined respecting the exportation of tools and machinery, and the laws relating thereto, and that considerable apprehensions of evil from the repeal of the laws which forbid the exportation of tools and machinery were entertained by many persons engaged in the manufacture of cotton goods, lace, &c., and also by some manufacturers of machinery, whilst other manufacturers of machinery, persons of great experience and intelligence, were decidedly of opinion, that the prohibition to export tools and machines was beneficial to no one, and highly injurious to the

commerce and manufactures of this and other countries. The committee, therefore, in order that a more correct judgment might be formed on matters of so much importance, refrained from proposing any measure to the house at that time, but came to the following resolution:—

"That your committee have examined evidence respecting the export of machinery, which will be found in the Appendix; but they are of opinion, that further inquiry and a more complete investigation should take place before this important subject can be satisfactorily decided on; and they therefore recommend that the consideration of this important question should be resumed in the next session of parliament."

With respect to the laws which forbid the exportation of tools and machinery, and their general inefficiency to accomplish the ends for which they were enacted, very conclusive evidence was given by Mr. Dean, the chairman of the board of customs, by several of the principal officers of the customs, and others.

It appears, that in consequence of some tools and machines being legally exportable, and others being altogether prohibited, and from the circumstance of new tools and machines being daily invented, and not prohibited by name in any act of parliament, it is extremely difficult, and frequently impossible, for the officers of the customs to decide upon what is and what is not prohibited to be exported. Every one of the officers examined by the committee proved the inadequacy of the laws for the purposes intended, and expressed their doubts as to

the possibility of any law being rendered efficient, while any tool or machine whatsoever was permitted to be exported. It was also proved by several witnesses*, that considerable quantities of prohibited machinery were exported; and the minutes of evidence accompanying this Report exhibit a system of smuggling carried on to a considerable extent. This system is safely carried on by the insurance of the machinery which is prohibited by law to be exported; and there is reason to believe that, in regard to the exportation of such prohibited machinery to France, the premium paid to the insurer does not much exceed the duty charged on the importation of such machinery into that country.

Your committee cannot better express themselves on these subjects than by extracting a part of the evidence taken:—

“ Could you at the present moment, if you wished to export cotton or other machinery, do so by paying the insurance?—Yes, any quantity; the greater the better.

“ Then are you of opinion that the laws are not effectual to prevent those articles that are prohibited from being exported?—They are wholly inefficient, both as regards direct and indirect exportation; the direct mode of sending out machinery in quantities I have stated; the indirect mode is accomplished by mixing the prohibited with the unprohibited articles: it is worth any man's while to order a quantity of unprohibited machinery to get out a quantity of prohibited; for under this mode it is very difficult to separate prohibited from unprohibited machinery, and this never can be detected by custom-house officers.

“ Then while the exportation of machinery and tools to any extent is allowed, it is impossible to prevent the exportation of prohibited machinery?—You never can prohibit every kind of machinery from going, while you permit any to go; it must either be wholly open or wholly closed; there can be no middle course.

“ What is the highest rate of insurance for the safe transit of goods illegally exported, the highest that has come to your knowledge?—I think it is from 45 to 30 per cent, the large premium for small quantities; if I had 20,000*l.* worth to send, I should pay 30 per cent to any port in France; but for 1,000*l.* or 1,500*l.* perhaps 40 per cent would be required: the reason is, that a vessel engaged in such commerce is subject to all the inconveniences in taking 1,000*l.* worth that it would for 20,000*l.*, and the profit on small quantities of machinery is not equivalent to the increased price of insurance.

“ Do you know how persons export prohibited machinery?—I know of no other means but those I have explained. A circumstance, that is perhaps a little curious, came to my

* Mr. Martineau, Galloway, and Mr. Maudslay.

“ knowledge, that the officers, two or three years ago, actually seized a quantity of machinery going to France, and some of that machinery was sold at the custom-house, and bought, and sent there to the person afterwards in France who originally ordered it, and that transaction, I understand, took place last year; and I believe the government and the custom-house employed all due diligence, but the plans of the shippers were so complete, that all the precaution and diligence of the custom-house went for nothing*.”

Evidence was given before the committee of 1824 †, and also before this committee, that a considerable portion of prohibited machinery consists of such ordinary and common parts and pieces of machines, applicable as well to machines which are not by law prohibited, as to those which are prohibited, so that it is difficult, if not nearly impossible, for any one to say that they are actually parts of a prohibited machine. Other machines, or parts of machines, may be disguised; many parts of prohibited machines are so small that they may be easily concealed, while other parts by being packed with tools that can be exported, and also by exporting them from different ports, may be so disposed of as to render detection impossible.

“ There are vast numbers of packages,” says Mr. St. John, *controlling searcher of the customs in London*, “ which we open, where there are parts of machinery packed with other iron and steel articles from Birmingham, purposely packed for deception; and it is almost an impossibility for an officer to know whether they are or are not prohibited, being only parts of machinery.” To the same effect it is stated by Mr. Boyd, general surveyor of the customs: “ Out of a vast number of packages exported, but a small proportion can be opened at all; and in opening a proportion of those packages occasionally, they do discover something that is machinery; but it is always in detached pieces and in parts; large machines cannot all be made up in one package, and they have a great deal of difficulty in telling whether those proportions belong to a machine that is prohibited; and a great many pass in packages which are not opened because they cannot be opened. It is a very rare occurrence indeed to meet with prohibited machinery which appears so.”

It is however asserted, by Mr. Ewart and Mr. Kennedy, that if the searchers at the custom-houses were well instructed, that they might distinguish the prohibited from the unprohibited machinery; admitting at the same time, however, that it would be difficult to put the law rigidly into effect.

Considerable discrepancies in the laws were also pointed out by the officers of the customs

* Mr. Alexander Galloway.

† By Mr. Martineau, Mr. Bramah, Mr. Maudslay, and Mr. Galloway.

and other witnesses: thus, presses of all sorts in metal, with or without the screw, are prohibited tools, but the screw alone is not a prohibited tool; and hence it follows that nothing belonging to a press is prohibited, except the frame, which is the least important part, and that too, when sent in pieces, which it may be, is not considered a frame. In other cases tools and machines are prohibited, but the tools to make them are not generally prohibited. Lathes, with the exception of potters' lathes, are not prohibited, be their power ever so great. Steam engines are not prohibited, and yet by means of steam engines and lathes, with other common tools allowed to be exported, almost every other tool and machine may be manufactured.

It was stated to the committee, that newly invented machines in the iron or steel manufacture might generally be exported; but that those in the cotton, woollen, linen, or silk, if known, would be prohibited; and all the gentlemen from the custom-house affirmed, that the law was so defective, that, by a little contrivance, the facility of evading it was such, that all the stock machinery at Portsmouth might be exported.

Much more might be stated from the evidence on this subject; but enough, it is hoped, has been brought forward to shew the inefficiency of the laws intended to prevent the exportation of machinery and tools; and it must be evident to every one, that laws that cannot be executed, and thereby become an incentive to fraud, ought either to be amended so as to render them efficient, or totally repealed.

Another important part of the inquiry relates to the policy, in a political and commercial view, of prohibiting the exportation of tools and machinery upon the supposition that the laws could be rendered efficient to that end. And here your committee beg leave to observe, that at the times when the several laws were made which prohibit the exportation of tools and machinery, very erroneous notions were generally entertained in regard to commerce and manufactures. It was then a received opinion, that the liberty of exporting any thing that was likely to increase the commerce and manufactures of another country, would be injurious to those of the country from which the exportation was made; and hence arose those various enactments respecting trade, as well as those which prohibit the exportation of tools and machinery from the United Kingdom.

The history of the acts which still remain on the statute book relating to the exportation of tools and machinery, would, if unfolded, shew both from the intervals of time which elapsed between the passing of these acts, and the perplexity which prevails in the enactments themselves as to what may or may not be exported, that no fixed principle was kept in view, but that they were dictated by a mistaken jealousy of permitting other nations to benefit by our

improvements. In order, however, to draw the attention of the House more particularly to the present state of the law respecting the exportation of tools and machinery, your committee have deemed it proper to put, in an Appendix to their Report, the various clauses of the existing statutes relating to this subject; the slightest attention to which, in the opinion of your committee, will be sufficient to confirm the observations which they have thought proper to make upon them, and the recommendation with which they have closed their Report.

The first act pointed out by the commissioners of the customs, as a rule for their conduct, is the 7th and 8th of William III. (1696), when the exportation of the new stocking frames (invented by William Lee, A. S. of Cambridge, about the year 1600) was first prohibited, being about 100 years after their invention, and nearly 30 after their introduction in France; and it will be seen by sect. 9, that even the removal of these frames from place to place in England was prohibited in all cases, unless due notice was given to the company of framework-knitters in London. It is still illegal to remove any of these stocking frames from one town or place to another, although it would be altogether impossible to give the notice required; or to obtain such leave, as the framework-knitters' company has ceased to exist for upwards of half a century.

It is also worthy of observation, that although so early as the year 1497, woollen cloth was one of the greatest articles of exportation, and is so considered in a supplementary treaty of commerce concluded in that year between Henry VII. and the archduke Philip, sovereign of the Netherlands; and although that manufacture continued to be a staple of great importance to this country, arising partly perhaps from the quality of the wool, and partly from the improvements in our machinery; yet no legislative enactment was deemed necessary for its protection, as regarded the implements used, till the year 1750, when the 23d Geo. II. c. 13, was passed, in order to prohibit the exportation of the tools or utensils employed in its fabrication. An interval of more than half a century had thus elapsed, during which period no interference on the part of the legislature to prevent the exportation of any kind of tools appears to have taken place. In the same act, however, of 1750, prohibiting the exportation of tools or utensils used in the woollen trade, there is most unaccountably included a prohibition of the tools or utensils employed in the silk trade, although at that period the manufacture of silk in this country was still in its infancy, and the implements and tools in use in Great Britain were confessedly inferior to those on the continent.

It will be in the recollection of the House, that one of the principal objections made in the last session of parliament to the importation of silk manufactures, was the alleged superiority

in implements and tools possessed by the manufacturers on the continent, a strong proof, in the opinion of your committee, of the folly of prohibiting, by the act of 1750, what there could not be the smallest inducement to export, and of the total absence of any sound principles or correct data in the commercial legislation of that period.

The 14th Geo. III., c. 71 (1774), the next act on the statute book, exhibits a similar inconsistency in prohibiting the tools and utensils used in the cotton and linen manufactures, or a mixture of either. It is well known, that in France, Germany, and other parts of Europe, the linen trade had then arrived at a very high degree of perfection, and that, whatever precautions might have been deemed necessary in regard to our improvements in cotton machinery, no tool or utensil possessed by Great Britain at that period, for the manufacture of linen, could have been an object of importation on the continent.

Your committee cannot pass over the act of the following year, 15th Geo. III., c. 5 (1775), without observing, that it permits the exportation of wool cards, or stock cards, and spinners' cards, to the British colonies in North America; because, says the act, "the prohibition to export them had proved extremely prejudicial to great numbers of poor families in England." And your committee may be permitted to remark, that every prohibition of the same kind, if not followed by the same consequences, has at least been productive of no apparent benefit to any part of the community.

Although actual injury to the industry of the country had thus become evident, in one branch, from restraining exportation, the legislature, in compliance with the application of several manufacturers, proceeded, by the 21st Geo. III., c. 87 (1781), in the spirit of former enactments, to forbid, not only the exportation of all tools, but also of all models and plans connected with the wool, cotton, linen, or silk manufactures, under a penalty of 200*l.* for each offence, and the forfeiture of all articles, so prohibited, if attempted to be exported.

A further prohibition took place in 1782, by the 22d Geo. III., c. 60, of all blocks, plates, engines, tools, &c. used in the calico, cotton, muslin or linen printing manufactures; and in 1785, by 25th Geo. III., c. 67, the iron and steel manufactures appear, for the first time, to have occupied the attention of the legislature, and a long list of tools and utensils, including, in fact, almost every tool or utensil that could be used in repairing, working, finishing or completing the iron and steel manufactures of this kingdom, by whatever name or names soever the same shall be called, or known, now or at any time, hereafter, and also of any models or plans of any such tool, utensil, or implement," under severe penalties, as if to prevent the industry of the country from being employed in

the manufacture of any of those numerous articles required for any other part of the world than the United Kingdom.

That act would appear, however, to have had a particular reference to the button and buckle trade, which the legislature seems to have been anxious to monopolise for this country, as almost every tool employed in their manufacture (as will be seen in the Appendix) is especially designated; but the buckle trade may be said to have entirely ceased along with the fashion which gave it birth, notwithstanding these bolstering precautions. With respect to the button trade, great improvements have been made in those kinds used for home consumption, and though our manufacture of them is equal, if not superior, to any in Europe, yet it appears by the evidence of Mr. Osler from Birmingham, that the fancy button trade is almost entirely lost to this country, notwithstanding the precautions of this act to retain it. From this statement, on the authority of Mr. Leadam, one of the largest button manufacturers in Europe, it would appear that England at one period supplied France, Germany, Italy, and Switzerland with buttons; and that in Birmingham alone 20,000 gross were made every week for the foreign market. The reasons assigned by Mr. Osler for the loss of that trade, partly explain the cause; namely, that copper could be obtained on the continent at 60 per cent. less than in England, owing to the protecting duties imposed in favour of the mining interests in Cornwall; and that the stamp duty on silver, and other charges, raised the price of the article so as to render competition with the French and other manufacturers utterly impossible. An additional proof, if any were required, that the low price of any article of equal quality, is a better security for an extended market than any legislative restriction on exportation of the tools employed in its manufacture.

Your committee have deemed it proper to notice this act (25th Geo. III., c. 67) the more particularly, as being the most comprehensive and sweeping in its enactments against the exportation of tools, in order that the House may judge of the inconsiderate manner in which it must have been passed, as by the acts of the following year. (26th Geo. III., c. 76 and 80) it is repealed, and another long list of exemptions, (inserted in the Appendix) enumerated, which render the law at present so complicated, that, exclusive of the difficulty of discriminating the particular kinds of machinery, as stated in the evidence, it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to ascertain what are and what are not prohibited.

It is deserving of notice, that by the 26th Geo. III., c. 76 (1786), it is declared, that "as the exportation of wool cards to North America had been beneficial to this country, and as the allowing of a general exportation thereof to foreign parts will be highly service-

able to a great number of poor families in England, employed in the trade of making such wool cards," the same were then and are now allowed to be exported to all parts of the world but now and of course not to Russia. Neither the grounds on which these acts were passed and repealed, nor the advantages expected to be derived from them, appear to have been well understood; as by the 25th (c. 67) the prohibition was perpetual, while by the 26th (c. 89) it was provided, that the prohibition should only continue in force till the end of the next session of parliament, and no longer.

Your committee beg leave to state their opinion, that changes in laws which regulate the export and import of any article should be made as seldom as possible, as by every change new establishments and connexions in commerce must necessarily be formed; and, exclusive of the loss of capital consequent thereon, the uncertainty to which they give rise in the minds of merchants and manufacturers must greatly tend to impede the commerce and check the prosperity of the country. Many able and intelligent men have even gone so far as to assert, that it is often much better to submit to inconvenience and loss than to make a sudden change in any extensive branch of the industry of the country; although that change might ultimately remove the inconvenience and loss suffered; yet so great has the uncertainty been as to what line of conduct the legislature would ultimately pursue; that the statute-book affords, in the instance of machinery, a notable example of the total want of any fixed principle, exhibiting, in the same year, one act to permit the exportation of one kind of tools, because their prohibition had proved injurious to the industrious classes of the community; and another prohibiting the exportation of other kinds, because such exportation was considered to be detrimental; and the provisions of that act, which would have expired in 1767, were continued from year to year by the 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32d, 33d, 34th, till, by the 35th Geo. III. c. 38, it was rendered perpetual.

These acts also prohibit the exportation of all tools, implements, and machines used in coining money, although it would be extremely difficult to shew why any country should have impediments thrown in its way for coining money for its own use; or what possible injury this country could sustain from supplying other nations with the various and expensive machinery which is necessary in large quantities to the establishment of mints. No permission, however, appears to have been granted by legislative authority for this purpose, except in one solitary instance, and that of Mr. Matthew Bolton, an engineer of Birmingham, who, by the 39th Geo. III. c. 96 (1799), was permitted to export the machinery necessary for the erection of a mint in the dominions of the emperor of Russia, and to send workmen there to erect the same.

But his majesty's government, as appears by the evidence, have, under the exigencies of the case, thought it right from time to time, on special applications, to grant licenses for the exportation of different articles of machinery to various parts of the world.

The committee, in 1824, examined many practical men* for the purpose of ascertaining how far, in their opinion, the prosperity of our manufactures had been promoted by the laws which prohibit the exportation of tools and machinery; and how far the improvement of the manufactures of other countries had been thereby retarded. Many of these witnesses were of opinion that considerable advantage had accrued to this country from the protection which these prohibitory laws gave to our manufacturers, by their operation in preventing foreign nations from becoming our rivals in several branches of manufactures; but a careful perusal of their evidence will best shew the grounds on which those opinions are founded.

In addition to the examination of persons practically conversant with machinery and manufactures, the committee called before them and examined two gentlemen eminently qualified to determine, on general principles, the policy of prohibiting the exportation of tools and machines. These gentlemen gave their reasons at length for believing the prohibition to export tools and machines to be injurious to the commerce and manufactures of this country, inasmuch as we thereby shut ourselves out from a new branch of business which would give employment to a large number of our people, increase our own capabilities, and considerably to the amount of our production; and consequently to the increase of capital; particularly so, as the materials of which tools and machinery are made are almost entirely the products of our own soil, and may be procured by the labour of our own people in unlimited quantities.

Your committee beg leave, however, to call the attention of the house more particularly to their evidence, which contains matter of the greatest importance, as it explains many of the grounds on which, in the opinion of those gentlemen, commercial intercourse, in order to be prosperous, should be founded.

Another circumstance of some moment, to which your committee beg leave to request the attention of the house, is the commercial jealousy which the prohibition to export tools and machines is calculated to perpetuate, and the effect which the repeal of these laws would produce on the policy of other nations towards us; and how far the removal of all such causes of jealousy would operate in respect to many regulations and restrictions now existing in our commerce, which the members of every enlightened government must necessarily wish to see removed.

* Mr. S. Walker, Mr. W. Bates, Mr. P. East, Mr. J. Kennedy, Mr. Thomas Oaker, Mr. William Brunton, Mr. McCulloch, and the Rev. Mr. Mathews.

and which the legislature appears to have had in view in the late various important alterations in the commercial relations of this country.

The evidence taken by the committee in the last session was such as to induce them, at that time, to decline recommending any measure to the house beyond that of a renewal of the inquiry in the present session; and in order to make this inquiry as complete as possible, the chairman of your committee caused a notice (inserted in the Appendix) to be sent to the principal municipal officer and chambers of commerce in many of the great manufacturing towns of the United Kingdom; some of whom, it appears, caused it to be inserted in several of the provincial newspapers.

It is necessary to observe, that, notwithstanding this public notice, no person from any of the manufacturing districts has requested to be examined before your committee; and that only two answers to his circular were received by the chairman; one from the chamber of commerce in Birmingham, inclosing a copy of the resolution of that chamber, of the 12th of March, 1824, which objected both to the emigration of artisans and to the exportation of machinery; and as the evidence of the witnesses deputed by that chamber at that time will be found in the minutes of the committee of last year, it is presumed that they had no additional evidence to offer; the other, from the master cotton-spinners of the county of Renfrew, appointing Mr. Dunlop (whose evidence on the subject will be found in the minutes of last year) to oppose any bill for permitting the exportation of machinery. As no person, therefore, came forward from the country to offer evidence to your committee, it was necessary more particularly to revert to the evidence taken by the committee in the last session, for the purpose of more fully shewing its tendency.

Almost all the principal engineers whose factories are situated in the metropolis were examined. Their evidence tends to shew the injurious consequences of the laws which prohibit the exportation of tools and machines, and all of them concurred in recommending their repeal. Several machine-makers resident in the country were also examined before the committee, all of whom agreed in recommending a revision of the laws, or that particular kinds of machinery might still be legally exported, while other kinds might be prohibited. They also concurred in opinion that much of the machinery at present prohibited might be advantageously exported; but gave it as their opinion that other kinds of machinery, and particularly those used in the manufacture of cotton goods, should not be permitted to be exported. This opinion was grounded on an apprehension that foreigners might in time be able to manufacture such goods, not only for their own use, but also for exportation cheaper than we could, and might thus supersede us in the foreign market. They

were also apprehensive that the orders which might be received from abroad for tools and machines would raise their price at home, and prevent our own manufacturers from being supplied with the machinery they wanted; and several manufacturers concurred in these opinions.

The objections made by the machine-makers and manufacturers were thus reduced to two; viz.

1st. That in consequence of the large foreign orders which would probably be sent from abroad, the price of the tools and machines, if the free exportation were permitted, would be considerably and permanently raised at home.

2d. That it was to be feared that, in a short time after the repeal of those laws, foreigners would be able to undersell us in cotton goods, in lace made in frames, and in some other branches of manufacture.

To these two principal objections your committee more particularly turned their attention; and in the evidence of all the London engineers it is distinctly stated, that they do not believe that any considerable rise of price would, for any length of time, follow the repeal of the prohibiting laws. On this subject, however, your committee submit to the consideration of the house an extract from the evidence of Mr. Alexander Galloway:

“Do you then think that we should secure a very considerable and profitable branch of permanent manufacture, without injuring our home manufacturers, if this law was repealed?”
 “I am decidedly of opinion we should improve our condition; and if I was a considerable machine user in any of our principal manufactures, I should say I should be very much benefited by taking off the prohibiting laws, as it would ultimately lessen the price of machinery.”

“Do you mean by the increased competition and skill that would be brought into action?”
 “Yes; and that will all end in making machines cheaper. At first it may increase the price with certain individuals, but not with the manufacturers generally; and ultimately it will increase the means by which machinery is produced.”

The principal difficulty, which seemed to your committee likely to occur, from any considerable increased demand for machines from abroad, was the number of hands which could in a comparatively short space of time be procured to meet the demand.

It has always hitherto happened, and on general principles it may safely be affirmed, that it will always happen, that where a commodity can be supplied in unlimited quantities (which machinery may be in this country) a large increase in the demand never fails, after a very short period, to reduce the prices; but the necessity of instructing men in machine-making seemed to oppose an obstacle which it would re-

quire much time to overcome; and it was apprehended that in the mean time the price of machines might be considerably increased. The opinion, however, of the London engineers was, that no difficulty whatever would exist as to the procuring of hands capable of constructing machinery in any quantity which could be required; and that, too, greatly to the advantage of a large number of persons.

Messrs. Martineau, Branah, Maudslay and Galloway, all of them eminent in their profession as engineers, affirm that men and boys in almost any number may be readily instructed in the making of machines, and that the great improvement of the tools used for making machines, and for the abridgment of labour in many important parts of the business (which enables them to employ common labourers, who may rapidly become skilful workmen), furnish reasons for believing that the price of machinery is much more likely to be reduced, and that in a short time, than increased by any considerable extension of the business of machine-making. Your committee would, however, call the attention of the house to the evidence of Messrs. Dwart, Kennedy, and other witnesses from the country, who have expressed a contrary opinion, in order that a correct judgment may be formed on the subject.

With respect to the second objection, the apprehension of being undersold in the foreign market, the evidence of those witnesses in whom this apprehension is most prevalent, contains much which seems to incline in a contrary direction to the inferences drawn by them. It is admitted by them that we possess many facilities which foreigners do not; and may not for ages possess. Our minerals are generally in immediate neighbourhood, whence from the proximity of rail-roads, canals, and rivers, they may be conveyed with great facility to all parts of the kingdom, either for home manufacture or exportation. Almost all our great manufacturing towns, and establishments for the construction of machines, enjoy similar facilities; and thus, with the continual improvement of machinery, enable us to keep down the cost of production.

Upon this subject your committee beg to refer to the following extracts from the evidence of Mr. McCulloch, which, in their opinion, deserves the most serious consideration:

“ Do you conceive that the laws rather assist the French; than otherwise, in being able to establish manufactories of machinery of their own?—I should think our preventing the exportation of machinery to France has a tendency to force the French to become machine-makers themselves, and to rival us in a branch of industry, into which, if they could get machines from England, they would have no motive to come into competition.

“ Those laws make it more a matter of necessity on the part of the French to induce our machine-makers to go to France; to instruct

them in the art of making machines?— Unquestionably.”

“ Do you conceive that if the French were to acquire equally good machinery with ourselves that it would be injurious to our manufactures?—No; I do not think it would.”

“ By their obtaining our machinery, so as to be able to meet us in the market for cotton and other goods; will not that be injurious to us?—I do not think the circumstance of getting our machinery would enable them to meet us in the market with cottons, or any other goods with advantage.”

“ Will you state what it is that would give England the advantage in that case over the foreign manufacturers?—In the first place, the French manufacturer would not have the same degree of security that the English manufacturer has; in the next place, you have the advantage of better communications throughout the country, the advantage of trained workmen, habituated to all industrious employments, and of a better division of labour; so that, though the French imported from us as good machinery as we have, you would still have many incommunicable advantages which they could not have, and you would always have cheaper machinery in proportion to the cost of the transfer of the machines into France.”

“ Will you have the goodness to state to the committee the advantages that would accrue to England from the exportation of its machinery?—The advantages would be, that in addition to all our present manufactures we should have an additional branch of manufacture, corresponding in extent to the extent that the foreigner took machines from us. You would thus have a new field created for the profitable employ of capital and industry which you have not now. Your committee think proper to notice, as a third objection entertained by many of the witnesses, viz. that, in consequence of the low rate of wages paid on the continent of Europe, manufacturers in foreign countries would be enabled to sell their goods cheaper than we could sell ours.”

Your committee are sensible of the propriety of paying due attention to this objection; as not only many of the witnesses whom they have examined form their opinion of the impolicy of allowing machinery to be exported on the grounds that the low wages of France and other nations secure to those countries advantages over England; but almost all persons of all descriptions consider this doctrine of the advantage of low wages as forming a settled axiom in political economy, and therefore as one which admits of no question whatsoever; but so far from this being a doctrine that ought to be universally received as sound and settled, your committee are of opinion that many facts exist to shew that doubts may be justly entertained respecting it.

validity. Experience proves, that in those countries where wages are low, the workmen are often indolent, and so unskilful as to be incapable of producing any commodities but such as are of the rudest and coarsest kind; one workman is employed in two or more different operations in the same fabric, and little or no assistance is given to manual labour by inventions to abridge and economise it; whereas, in those countries where wages are high, the workmen are generally active, spirited, persevering, and exceedingly skilful;—no article is too difficult or delicate for them to make; the principle of division of labour is in full operation, and every description of machinery is made to contribute extensively to the diminution of manual labour.

It is well known to those who have attended to what has taken place in respect to the cotton manufacture in Ireland (and it has been alluded to in the evidence), that when Mr. Pitt, in 1763 and at the union, proposed to lower the duties on cotton goods imported from Ireland into England, the witnesses who were then examined before committees of this House resisted his plans on the same grounds that the witnesses whom your committee have examined object to the exportation of machinery, namely, the advantages which a country with low wages has over a country in which wages are high. But although Mr. Pitt, at the union, lowered the duties on cotton goods imported from Ireland into England to ten per cent; and that cotton goods could be sent from Ireland to foreign countries, to be sold there in free competition with English cotton goods; and although Ireland has imported from time to time the best English machinery, and employed the best English workmen to imitate the Irish workmen, yet Ireland, under all these circumstances (with an average rate of wages of 2d. or 3d. a day, as proved in evidence before the committee on the state of Ireland), was not able to do any thing worthy of notice in the cotton manufacture, till the repeal of the duty of ten per cent in 1825, led to the sending of English yarn into Ireland to be woven there and returned to England, and till English capital was employed in Ireland to promote the industry of her people, by giving orders for goods to be sent to England to enable the English manufacturers to make good those orders which they could not execute in England.

The case of England herself is also in point, to shew that low wages may be counterbalanced by other circumstances; for, though wages in England are much higher than wages in other countries in Europe, yet almost every kind of manufactured goods that are required in great quantities can be made so much cheaper and better in England as to find a market in almost every foreign country.

But besides these facts, tending to disprove the doctrine that low wages always give to a

country advantages in carrying on manufactures, there exist the reasonings and conclusions of those learned and observing persons (who during the last fifty years have reduced the rules that govern the operations of industry and trade to a science) to explain in what way they consider this doctrine to be wholly untenable. These eminent persons undertake to shew, by arguments and facts, that the effect of low wages is not a low price of the commodity to which they are applied, but the raising of the average rate of profits in the country in which they exist. The explanation of this proposition occupies a large portion of the justly celebrated work of the late Mr. Ricardo, on the principles of political economy, and is also ably set forth in the following evidence of Mr. McCulloch, to which your committee particularly desire to draw the attention of the House:

“Have you turned your attention to the effect of fluctuations in the rate of wages on the price of commodities?—I have.”

“Do you consider that when wages rise, the price of commodities will proportionally increase?—I do not think that a real rise of wages has any effect, whatever, or but a very imperceptible one, on the price of commodities.”

“Then supposing wages to be really lower in France than in this country, do you think that that circumstance would give the French any advantage over us in the foreign market?”

“No, I do not; I do not think it would give them any advantage whatever. I think it would occasion a different distribution of the produce of industry in France from what would obtain in England, but that would be all. In France the labourers would get a less proportion of the produce of industry, and the capitalists a larger proportion.”

“Could not the French manufacturer, if he gets his labour for less than the English manufacturer, afford to sell his goods for less?”

“As the value of goods is made up, wholly of labour and profit, the whole and only effect of a French manufacturer getting his labour for less than an English manufacturer is to enable him to make more profit than the English manufacturer can make, but not to lower the price of his goods. The low rate of wages in France goes to establish a high rate of profits in all branches of industry in France.”

“What conclusion do you come to in making a comparison between wages in England and wages in France?—I come to this conclusion; that if it be true that wages are really higher in England than in France, the only effect of that would be to lower the profits of capital in England below their level in France, but that will have no effect whatever on the price of the commodities produced in either country.”

“When you say that wages do not affect

prices, what is it that does affect prices?—
 An increase or diminution of the quantity
 of labour necessary to the production of the
 commodity.

Supposing that there was a free export of
 machinery, so that France could get that
 machinery, do you think that under those
 circumstances we should retain those advan-
 tages which we possess at the present mo-
 ment?—Yes, we should; for the export of
 the machinery would not lower our wages, or
 increase the wages in France, so that we
 should preserve that advantage to the full
 extent that we have it at this moment.

Will you explain to the committee why
 you are of opinion that the French manu-
 facturer would not undersell the English,
 seeing that his profits are larger than the
 English manufacturer?—Because if he were
 to offer to undersell the English, he can only
 do it by consenting to accept a less rate of
 profit on his capital than the other French
 capitalists are making on theirs, and I cannot
 suppose a man of common sense would act
 upon such a principle.

Are the committee to understand that
 although a French manufacturer pays half
 the wages to his men in France which our
 manufacturers do in England, yet that his
 wages being on a par or level in general with
 the other wages in France, will render his
 profits on a par with them, and consequently
 he would not undersell the English merchant
 by lowering his profits below the average rate
 of profits in France?—Precisely so, I believe,
 in point of fact, there is no such difference;
 but he could not undersell the English manu-
 facturer unless he took lower profits than all
 the other producers in France were making.

I might illustrate this by what takes place every
 day in England, where you never find the pro-
 prietor of rich land, in order to get rid of his
 produce, offering it in Mark-lane at a lower
 rate than that which is got by a farmer or
 proprietor of the very worst land in the
 kingdom.

Would it not produce a larger sale if the
 French manufacturer were to sell at a less
 price?—Supposing that to be so, the greater
 the sale, the greater would be the loss of
 profit.

It is the opinion of many of those who object
 to the exportation of machinery, that Great
 Britain owes her present superiority in manu-
 factures solely to the excellence of her machinery;
 but the evidence already noticed, as well as that
 of Mr. Martineau and others, would incline
 your committee to believe that many other cir-
 cumstances had tended to produce that effect,
 and that if the exportation of machinery was
 generally permitted, English engineers would
 supply the greater part of the world, without
 endangering her present superiority. My
 reasons, Mr. Martineau says, for forming

this opinion principally consist in the natural
 advantages that England possesses, from the
 circumstance of the iron, stone and coal being
 invariably found in the same spot, and thus
 affording a means of manufacturing iron at a
 cheap rate; the talent and ingenuity of the
 workmen; the immense spare capital we
 have in this country; the circumstance of
 our canals and rail-roads, already established,
 enabling us to bring the raw material from
 the interior of the country at a very low rate;
 it would, of course, take a considerable time
 before France or any other country could
 possess any of these advantages, even those
 which cannot be considered as peculiar only
 to us, such as canals and rail-roads.

Supposing, indeed, that the same machinery
 which is used in England could be obtained on
 the Continent, it is the opinion of some of the
 most intelligent of the witnesses that the want
 of arrangements in foreign manufactories, of
 division of labour in their work, of skill and
 perseverance in their workmen, and of enter-
 prise in the masters, together with the com-
 paratively low estimation in which the master
 manufacturers are held on the Continent, and
 with the comparative want of capital, and of
 many other advantageous circumstances detailed
 in the evidence, would prevent foreigners from
 interfering in any great degree by competition
 with our principal manufacturers; on which
 subject the committee submit the following evi-
 dence as worthy the attention of the house.

I would ask whether, upon the whole, you
 consider any danger likely to arise to our
 manufactures from competition, even if the
 French were supplied with machinery equally
 good and cheap as our own?—They will
 always be behind us until their general
 habits approximate to ours; and they must
 be behind us for many reasons that I have
 before given.

Why must they be behind us?—One other
 reason is, that a cotton-manufacturer, who
 left Manchester seven years ago, would be
 driven out of the market by the men who are
 now living in it, provided his knowledge had
 not kept pace with those who have been dur-
 ing that time constantly profiting by the pro-
 gressive improvements that have taken place
 in that period: his progressive knowledge
 and experience is our great power and ad-
 vantage.

It should also be observed, that the constant
 and almost daily improvements which take place
 in our machinery itself, as well as in the mode
 of its application, require that all those means
 and advantages alluded to above should be in
 constant operation; and that, in the opinion of
 several of the witnesses, although Europe were
 possessed of every tool now used in the United
 Kingdom, along with the assistance of English
 artisans, which she may have in any number,

By Mr. Alexander Galloway.

yet; from the natural and acquired advantages possessed by this country, the manufacturers of the United Kingdom would for ages continue to retain the superiority they now enjoy. It is indeed the opinion of many, that if the exportation of machinery were permitted, the exportation would often consist of those tools and machines which, although already superseded by new inventions, still continue to be employed from want of opportunity to get rid of them, to the detriment, in many instances, of the trade and manufactures of the country; and it is matter worthy of consideration, and fully borne out by the evidence, that by such increased foreign demand for machinery, the ingenuity and skill of our workmen would have greater scope; and that, important as the improvements in machinery have lately been, they might, under such circumstances, be fairly expected to increase to a degree beyond all precedent.

The uniform policy of the legislature of this country has been to give, as they conceived it, every kind of encouragement to British manufactures by prohibiting the importation of foreign manufactures, and by giving premiums, bounties, and drawbacks on the exportation of British manufactures; but the great and important manufacture of machinery, tools, and utensils, has been made an exception to this system of legislation by restricting its exportation, although it is a manufacture peculiarly adapted to the circumstances of this country, and one that affords as many advantages in the way of giving employment to the people, and yielding profit to the master manufacturers, as any other manufacture.

The many important facilities for the construction of machines, and the manufacturing of commodities which we possess, are enjoyed by no other country, nor is it likely that any country can enjoy them to an equal extent for an indefinite period. It is admitted by every one that our skill is unrivalled; the industry and power of our people unequalled; their ingenuity, as displayed in the continual improvement of machinery and production of commodities, without parallel, and apparently without limit. The freedom which, under our government, every man has to use his capital, his labour, and his talents, in the manner most conducive to his interests, are inestimable advantages. Canals are cut, and rail-roads constructed, by the voluntary association of persons whose local knowledge enables them to place them in the most desirable situations; and these great advantages cannot exist under less free governments. These circumstances, when taken together, give such a decided superiority to our people, that no injurious rivalry, either in the construction of machinery or the manufacture of commodities, can reasonably be anticipated.

Your committee, before they conclude, think it proper to remark, that, by the act of last session permitting artisans to emigrate and reside abroad, this country, as regards machine-

making, is placed in a different situation from that in which it formerly was; and, from the evidence taken before the committee, both in the last and present session, in regard to the ease with which all plans, models, and drawings of new inventions in machinery are conveyed to the Continent, and the facility with which some engineers assert that good workmen can construct machinery from them, it is probable, that if the present prohibitory policy is persisted in, foreign nations will be obliged to establish manufacturing, (as has been already partly done in France, the United States, &c.) for those articles with which we refuse to furnish them, and which a liberal course of policy would entirely prevent.

The committee deem it proper to submit an extract on this subject from the evidence of Mr. Henry Maudslay, an eminent engineer, as deserving the particular attention of the house:—

“ Can you state whether the manufactures for machinery are increasing on the Continent?—Very greatly; I have seen a number of them.

“ Of what manufacture?—Of the manufacture of steam-engines and other machinery.

“ What would be the effect of exporting machinery upon the extension or diminution of the manufactures on the Continent?—

“ They would diminish them; there is no doubt; they would never see fit to work to furnish the French manufacturers with French-English machinery, if they could get them from England.

“ Do you consider the superiority of the English machinery such as to secure a demand in the foreign markets, if the laws permitted you to supply them?—There is no doubt about it.”

“ Is it within your knowledge, that the French are in possession of drawings and plans of almost every patent as soon as they are published in England?—Yes, I know from circumstances that have come to my own knowledge. On the first of every month books are

“ packed off to Hamburgh, and sent through Holland and all parts of the Continent; and a friend of mine has written to me within a

“ week of their publication, saying, I understand you have obtained a patent for so and so, and I hope it will turn out to your advantage, and so on. This is a copy of the

“ French Repertory of Arts [alluding to a book produced by the witness], and this is a drawing of a machine, and is as good a plan as a man need to work from, and I know this machine was not at work in our mint when this book was published in France: I believe they (Messrs. Bolton and Watt) had one in their manufactory; but this shews the facility of getting these things in France.

“ Can a machine-maker work from that drawing?—Perfectly well.

“ You mean to say that any man that is able

“to make that machine, can make it from that drawing?—Yes.”
 “Have you any other example of the same thing?—Here is a blowing machine to smelt ore, and that is as good a blowing machine as any man need make; some of our first mills have that machine.”
 “Whose invention is that originally?—It is the invention of Bolton and Watt, or some of the large iron-masters.”
 “Does your observation as to the facility of working from drawings apply to all sorts of machinery?—Yes; there is a set of drawings in the best Encyclopædia which will enable you to make a cotton machine.”
 “Is the drawing of that loco-motive machine [including to the engraving in the book published] such as will enable a workman to make a similar machine?—Certainly; they make a great many thousand machines from much worse drawings, no doubt.”
 “Although your committee are impressed with the opinion that tools and machinery should be

regulated on the same principles as other articles of manufacture, yet inasmuch as there exist objections in the mind of many of our manufacturers on this subject which deserve the attention of the legislature, and as it is possible that circumstances may exist which may render a prohibition to export certain tools and machines used in some particular manufacture expedient, your committee beg to recommend that, until an alteration can be made in the laws on this subject, his majesty's privy council should continue to exercise their discretion in permitting the exportation of all such tools and machines now prohibited as may appear to them not likely to be prejudicial to the trade or manufactures of the United Kingdom.”
 30th June, 1826.

Attached to this report are the minutes of evidence. The witnesses examined before the committee were Mr. John Martineau, Mr. Timothy Bramah, Mr. Henry Maudslay, and Mr. Alexander Galloway.

EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.

An ACCOUNT of the Value, as calculated at the Official Rates, of all British, Irish, and Foreign Produce and Manufactures, exported from the United Kingdom to all Parts of the World, in the Year 1794, and in each of the Years 1822, 1823, and 1824; ended 5th January 1795, 1823, 1824, and 1825.—A like Account of the Value of all Goods imported into the United Kingdom, during the same Periods.

Years ended 5th January.	Official value of Imports into the United Kingdom.	Official value of exports from the United Kingdom.		
		British and Irish produce and manufactures.	Foreign and colonial merchandise.	Total exports.
1795	£ 20,701,122 3 8	£ 16,304,254 3 10	£ 7,205,066 3 9	£ 23,509,320 7 7
1823	30,530,663 0 6	44,236,533 2 4	9,227,589 6 11	53,464,122 9 5
1824	35,738,707 5 1	43,804,372 18 1	8,603,904 9 1	52,408,277 17 2
1825	37,547,826 15 4	48,735,551 2 5	10,204,785 6 4	58,940,336 8 9

FOREIGN TRADE.

REPORT from the Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed in 1821, to consider of the Means of maintaining and improving the Foreign Trade of the Country, and to report their Opinion and Observations thereupon from Time to Time to the House. Yet our committee have deviated from the course which their former report appeared to prescribe, and instead of proceeding to examine some of the burthens that were stated to press with considerable weight upon the foreign trade of the

country generally, have applied their consideration to that particular branch of it, which embraces the importation of timber from the northern states of Europe, and the British colonies in North America. This they have done, as well on account of that branch, having (as appears by a report referred to them) already occupied the attention of a committee of the other house of parliament, appointed for similar purposes, as of the anxiety they understand to prevail among the commercial and shipping interests, connected with the trade in question, and the inconvenience of a continued suspense

in respect to the system which parliament may deem expedient to adopt, on the expiration of the existing law, which, according to the latest extension of it, will terminate on the 25th of March in the present year. In the imposition of the several duties at present in force, on the importation of timber, the consideration of the legislature appears to have been directed to two distinct objects, first, to the protection and encouragement of the wood trade in the British, American, colonies; and, secondly, to the augmentation of the revenue. Regarding them in this point of view, the first question, that obviously presented itself was, to the maintenance of what part of these duties, if of any, the public faith might be supposed to be committed. A short reference to the laws which imposed the respective duties, and to the circumstances attending the periods at which they were imposed, has been sufficient to satisfy your committee on this head. Although the policy of giving encouragement to the trade in timber from the British American colonies may be inferred to have been previously entertained from the acts 3 and 4 Ann. and 5 Geo. 3. by which bounties upon the export of it were granted, it does not appear to have been acted upon with much effect before the year 1800. At that time the course of events had placed our relations with the northern states (from whose territories our supplies of timber as well for domestic as for naval purposes had been chiefly derived) in a situation which gave rise to a well-founded apprehension, lest the resources in that quarter might entirely cease to be available for the demand of this country. Under the influence of this apprehension, it was deemed advisable by parliament to resort to the high and neglected though abundant supplies to be found in our American colonies, and by adequate protection to encourage the transport of them to meet the exigency with which we were threatened to accomplish this object, a total exemption from duty was granted to the timber imported from our North American possessions; while a large addition was made to that levied on timber from the north of Europe first by the 49th Geo. 3. c. 93. and in the ensuing year by the 50th c. 77. by which the duties of the preceding year were doubled, making the whole duty on northern timber, including the temporary duty imposed in the same year for the support and during the continuance of the war, amount to 26 lbs. 6d. per ton. These duties were again augmented by an addition of 25 per cent to the permanent duties on timber in common with all other duties of customs for the express purpose of assisting the revenue. The whole of these duties were abolished by the 59th of the late king and substituted to 10 lbs. 6d. per ton when imported in British ships.

From this statement it will appear that of these duties (however they may all alike have operated in the way of protection to the colonial timber trade) a part only can be said to have been intended for that purpose; viz. those which were imposed by the acts passed, avowedly with the object of giving encouragement to that trade, amounting to 21 lbs. per load, and which may be contended to have led to its extension by the application of capital, which, except for such inducement, would never have been so invested. With respect to the exemptions from duty in favour of colonial timber, that advantage was originally temporary, and has been since continued from time to time for limited periods, and although the persons concerned in the colonial timber trade may have had a just expectation that they should enjoy for a considerable period the advantages afforded them, as well by the exemption granted by the duties imposed by the 49th and 50th of Geo. 3. so far from any expectation being held out that the encouragement so given had been considered by government as permanent, or was intended to be indefinitely continued, it does not mean seem to have been studiously taken to produce by explanation or conviction, or a contrary tendency, and to impress them with the assurance that, previously to the expiration of the existing law, the timber trade would be brought under consideration of parliament with the view of introducing an alteration in its scale in the present duties, that should render them more equal and more favourable to our intercourse with the foreign states (with whom it was carried on). Your committee are therefore of opinion, that there is nothing which precludes the consideration of these duties, nor any part of them, which in strictness may not be open to any modification, either in respect to the rate at which they shall continue, or to the mode in which they shall be levied; that parliament, under a sense of the public interests, may deem it prudent to introduce such alterations as far as the mere supply of timber is concerned, would be to obtain it of the best quality, and at the lowest price, without reference to the quarter from whence it might be derived; and the course of your committee has been to inquire, first, to what extent the operation of this policy is infringed by the system of duties now in force; in the next place, to examine how far the limits imposed on its operation are sustained by adequate considerations of expediency; and, lastly, to determine whether, by the adoption of any and what alterations to the duties might be regarded as fair as circumstances allowed, more consistent with the regard due to the principle on which this policy proceeds, and generally more beneficial to the commercial interests of the United Kingdom, you will be able to ascertain. It appears that previously to the imposition of the duties in 1800, the supplies of wood re-

quired for the consumption of the country were principally furnished by the northern states of Europe; that subsequently to that period a great and gradually increasing proportion of its supplies has been drawn from the British North American colonies; that at present the use of the timber from the north of Europe, owing to the price, is, in comparison to American timber, in a great measure confined to the higher and more valuable description of buildings; and to purposes for which increased strength in bearing is necessary or desirable; that for less substantial buildings, and for the inferior purposes to which wood is applicable, the American timber and deals have been generally brought into consumption; and although the red pine of America (of which the quantity is relatively small) is said by several witnesses to be equal in quality to the fir from the north of Europe; yet the yellow pine, for which the great importation consists, is stated, when used for this country, to be inferior to it, except for particular purposes and in particular situations, from its supposed greater liability to dry rot, and comparative deficiency in strength and durability; At the same time there is reason to believe, from other evidence, that much prejudice subsists on this head, and that in Lancashire, where the yellow pine has been a longer time in general use than in any other part of the kingdom, as well as in the neighbourhood of Shields, its qualities are considered as more valuable than they are generally esteemed; and there is repeated testimony that when used in America, both in the construction of ships and buildings, it has been found to be free from the particular defect alluded to, and of a durability equal to that of the best timber of Europe; The scale of comparative value attached by different witnesses to the wood drawn from each particular country will be seen in the evidence of Messrs. Seppings, Mr. Holland, Mr. White, Mr. Copland, Mr. Churchill, Mr. Smith, Mr. Haigh, Mr. Bellhouse, and others, to which your committee think it sufficient to refer; That the supply of wood to meet the demands of the British and Irish markets might be obtained with greater facility and cheapness to the consumer, (as the means of purchasing and transporting it at the lowest rate were the only considerations to be attended to) a reference to the account of the charges of obtaining and transporting it from the northern ports of Europe, independent of the duty, will leave no doubt; and although, under the pressure of the duty, the demands of the country for superior purposes may have been such as to lead to the importation of a certain amount of timber from the north of Europe, it yet must be obvious, that while this duty bears upon it, with its present weight, it is so to those higher purposes alone, to which that species of timber can be applicable; and that a great proportion of wood of an inferior quality must be forced into consumption, both in

avowed substitution for the superior timber in buildings, which become less solid and lasting; and in a fraudulent application of it, when that of a superior kind has been contracted for, which according to the evidence, if practised, can be with difficulty detected; expedients of this nature would probably not be resorted to, if the difference of price was reduced, and the inducement to prefer the American wood were less powerful; It appears, too, by the admission of some of the principal dealers, that the difference is at present such as to be prejudicial to the trade itself, and to bring into the market from the colonies an excessive quantity of timber of a very inferior description, both in point of quality and preparation; and that some alteration of the duty, calculated to approximate the relative prices of the timber from the north and from the American colonies would be desirable, if only to confine the supply of the market to a more carefully selected and better prepared commodity; In addition to these inconveniences, the amount of the duty levied on Baltic timber, and the increased price which, under the operation of that duty, the American timber must have borne, may be considered as a bounty paid by the consumers of the United Kingdom for the benefit of the North American colonies and the support of the superfluous shipping, to which the transport of their wood is said to afford the only employment; The prudential considerations by which the application of the same principle appear to have been limited, are, the danger incident to want of competition, from the exclusion of colonial timber, and from a reliance for our supplies on a single source; the possible failure of supply from the north of Europe, in a moment of necessity; the maintenance and employment of our shipping; and the effect that might be produced on the various interests connected with our American trade, and the capital embarked in the establishments for carrying it on; The same prudential considerations, in the opinion of your committee, at present forbid any recommendation on this part, tending entirely to take away the legislative protection hitherto enjoyed by the colonial trade; but as the extent of that protection is admitted on almost all hands to exceed the necessary bounds, they have directed their attention to ascertain to what amount that protection, and in what mode, should be prospectively continued; In so far as any alteration introduced is favourable to foreign trade, we shall have a tendency to produce an increased importation from the north of Europe, and thereby possibly to induce an increased demand from that quarter for the manufactures of Great Britain; and your committee are inclined to believe that an increased demand would be the result, as well from the desire for British manufactures that is said strongly to prevail in those countries, as

from the extent to which the export of them has been maintained, notwithstanding the burdens imposed on the importation of this important branch of their produce into the United Kingdom. Your committee do not think it improbable that a diminution of the export of wool from the British North American colonies might, on the other hand, be experienced; some diminution, as far as the trade is concerned, would be desirable, and indeed can hardly fail to take place, even independent of any alteration of duties, owing to the excess beyond the consumption of the country, to which the importation has been, by peculiar circumstances, recently enlarged. The causes to which we may attribute this excess are, in part, the prolonged expectation of an alteration in the rate of duties, combined with the desire to take advantage of the time the present law may continue, and to anticipate the impending change by the greatest possible previous importation; and in part to the amount of shipping (greatly exceeding the actual demands of our commerce) which has been thrown out of employment by the conclusion of the war, and other circumstances, and which has been since engaged in this branch of trade, not so much because the employment was attended with advantage, as because it was preferable to the vessels lying entirely idle, incurring expense, and deteriorating in value.

As our intercourse with the northern states must be liable to be influenced by the fluctuations of political events, and as the exclusion from their ports, which has been once experienced, may at some future period recur, your committee are apprehensive that the consequences of any measure that might have the effect of placing our dependence for a supply of timber exclusively on those countries, might become eventually the occasion of serious political inconvenience and danger; and, by the exclusion of competition, possibly defeat the expectation of comparative cheapness to the consumers of this country.

The alarms represented in the petitions from the shipping interest in various quarters, which have been referred by the house to your committee, appear to proceed on a presumption of the necessarily destructive effects of any alteration made in the existing duties, a measure which is accordingly deprecated with corresponding earnestness. Your committee feel the respect due to an interest so important to the power and safety of the country; and if all the weight is not given to the representations of the petitioners which they may expect, it is because the alarms expressed in them appear to be carried to excess, and the objects sought not conducive to the general commercial interests of the kingdom, in which their own must be inseparably involved.

Your committee see no reason whatever to imagine, that the alteration which they have in contemplation would be attended with the effect

of depriving the American colonies of their due participation in the benefits of the wool trade, although it might have a moderate and temporary tendency to the reduction of the importations from thence, and so far may, in the first instance, and for a given period, affect the interests of the shipowners. In fact, the interest of the shipowners is the one most concerned in the present question; while that of the colonies themselves, important as it is, is still a comparatively subordinate one. Your committee fully concur in the wisdom of that policy which has rendered the British shipping a favourite object of the attention and vigilance of parliament; but they cannot feel that, beyond the extent which may be rationally deemed essential to the safety and defence of the country, every other consideration is to be sacrificed to that object, or that it is consistent with the public welfare that the care due to the interests of our merchants and manufacturers, and every regard to our foreign commercial relations, should be foregone for the purpose of supporting by artificial means a mercantile marine in a state of magnitude, at which it has arrived from accidental causes alone, and which is neither conducive to the commercial prosperity, nor essential to the political security of the nation; and in which (unless by the opening of new sources of employment, or the extension of those existing) the regular trade of the country is incapable of maintaining it. Of this, the great depreciation which all property in shipping is represented to have undergone, appears to your committee to furnish sufficient proof.

The degree in which the shipping may be affected by any change that is adopted must depend upon the influence which such change is likely to have in reducing the export of wool from the colonies. From the evidence of persons conversant in the uses to which wool is applied, your committee collect, that for many of those uses the wool imported from America is either indispensable, or preferable, or as good, or nearly so, as that brought from the north of Europe. In reference to the first description are mentioned masts for ships of large dimensions, both ships of war, and the more valuable description of merchantmen, which can only be found in our North American colonies, and which must therefore form a considerable article of import into this country under almost any state of duties. To the second, all articles in which facility of working, and an extensive surface and freedom from knots is required, and to whatever extent pine-timber for these purposes is employed, the American wood, even at equal prices, would have a preference. To the last, the application to all inferior purposes, as for packing-chests, and various objects in the interior of houses, or in situations where it has the benefit of a free circulation of air, for such uses it may be fairly supposed, and indeed it is more than once admitted, that the considera-

tion of mere cheapness would cast the balance in favour of the produce of our American provinces.

The aggregate of these applications of timber form a very considerable proportion of the general consumption of the country; and it appears to your committee, that it would require something little short of equality in point of price with those of the Baltic, to exclude the timber and deals of the British colonies from importation for these purposes. Nor must it be forgotten, that the experience obtained within the last few years of the qualities and value of the American wood, which has had the effect of removing much of the prejudice that prevailed against it, in so far as it must probably have contributed to induce a permanent extension of its consumption.

By the estimate of some of the witnesses, the excess of supply of American pine beyond the demand is stated to be at present considerable, inasmuch that a heavy loss is incurred by the importers. This circumstance, even under the existing duties, cannot fail to lead to a reduction in its future importation, and, of course, to a diminution of employment, in the same degree, of the shipping engaged in the trade. If the effect of an alteration of duty should for a time increase the demand for northern timber, it must also undoubtedly tend to a similar consequence, not likely to be more than partially counterbalanced by a corresponding increase of demand for British shipping in the trade with the north of Europe, from the ports of which a smaller number of vessels may be sufficient for an equal amount of importation.

By a diminution of the demand from America, the capital invested in sawmills and establishments in those colonies, stated at £50,000, may be liable to some injury. It must be recollected, however, that the advantage given to the American colonial trade, on which these establishments were founded, has already extended beyond the period on which those engaged in it had any right to calculate; and having speculated on their own views of public policy, they can have no just ground of complaint in the event of parliament taking a different view of what that policy requires, and subjecting these duties to some modification beyond the expectation which they had formed.

To the Canadian proprietor, the principal value of the timber trade appears to consist in the employment it affords to the persons concerned in agriculture, and their servants, during a certain period of the year, in conveying the wood from the places where it has been felled, to the places from which it is to be conveyed to the ports of export; while the part of the business which belongs to cutting and rafting is in many instances performed by axemen passing from the United States for this purpose, who are understood to be more expert in these operations than the labourers of the British territories.

If what has been stated by your committee leads them to expect some diminution of the export of the American colonies, from a change in the scale of existing duties, they have also reason to believe that it is only by a temporary restraint of that export that the character of the wood is likely to be improved, and its value eventually increased; such a diminution, therefore, is in itself, by no means, in the contemplation of your committee, a sufficient ground of objection, on the part of the colonies, to any alteration that may be proposed, unless it be such an alteration as shall be calculated, extensively to exclude from consumption the timber of the North American colonies, and transfer the trade to foreigners. Within certain limits, the trade of the colonies of Great Britain have a just claim to encouragement and support from the mother country; and to such claims your committee are anxious to give full weight. It is not, however, a question whether this encouragement and support should be given or withheld; but, admitting it to be due, to what extent it should be carried, in justice to other interests, which have also their peculiar claims to attention, and which are, in the opinion of your committee, also deeply involved in this discussion. On the fair regard shown to foreign countries, the extent of our commerce with them may depend, and in providing with too much partiality for the interests connected with the trade to and from our American colonies, we may put in hazard all those still more extensive interests that are engaged in the export to those countries which are directly concerned in the timber trade (if not of our furnish trade generally) by such a proof of deliberate preference of a principle of restriction as the rule of our commercial policy.

In maintaining the original duty imposed expressly for the purpose of encouragement on the North American trade, it cannot be contended that every claim on public faith is not fully satisfied. In point of expediency, however, and in consideration of the interests involved, your committee are disposed to think it may be allowed to go even something further in favour of the colonies. The difference created by duty on timber amounts at present to 3*l*. 5*s*. per load; if, by the effect of the alteration, that should be reduced to 2*l*. 5*s*., which would leave a protection, after providing for the ordinary difference in freight, in the actual selling price of the respective descriptions of timber, of 1*l*. 10*s*. per load in favour of the imports from our North American provinces, your committee cannot but think, in recommending such a difference, they shall at least be free from the charge of not having sufficiently listened to the pretensions of the parties whose interests are involved in the colonial trade, and tendered as great sacrifice on the part of the country, both to the shipping and the colonies, as they can persuade themselves the house will be disposed to sanction.

At this rate of difference, it appears to your committee, a fairer competition will be given to foreign produce, and a freedom of choice (which, under the present relative prices, can hardly be said to exist) will be secured to the consumers, between the descriptions of wood brought from the respective points of supply, while a certain and large proportion of the consumption of the United Kingdom will be assured to the American colonies, in the applications of their timber to those uses for which its qualities and comparative price must give it a preference.

However the tendency of the evidence generally may be, to recommend an alteration in the duties, to such an amount as may prove a corrective to the trade, without impairing materially the consumption of the American timber; a considerable variety of opinion was expressed by the witnesses examined, as to the extent to which an alteration of the existing duty might be carried, without danger to the fair demand for the produce of our American colonies. Amidst the different opinions given, it was difficult for your committee to determine the precise amount by which the relative difference between the colonial timber and that from the northern states should be reduced, and in fixing upon 20s. they have not only taken that sum as a point between the extremes, but have been influenced by a reference to the accounts of the market in several years, and particularly in 1816, 1817, 1818, and 1819, as it is given in a paper added in the appendix, and in the evidence of two of the witnesses; when it appears to have been, according to the remarks of one of them, in a natural and healthy state; when a fair competition existed, when the prejudice entertained against American timber seemed to be on the decline, and the demand for it augmenting. The relative price was, at this period, about or nearly three to four, which has recently been reduced to one-half, owing to the unnatural situation into which the market has been brought by excessive importations, produced by the various circumstances which, at the present moment, have contributed to disturb the channels, and change the character of the trade.

Your committee next proceed to consider in what mode that alteration of duty should be effected, whether by reduction of duty on Baltic timber, by an imposition of duty on American, or by a combination of both; and the result of their consideration has been, a preference of the last mode of producing the relative approximation they have recommended in the prices of the respective descriptions of timber, by the imposition of 10s. on the American timber, and a corresponding reduction from the duty on that imported from the north of Europe; this they conceive to be most effectual to produce the advantages they have in contemplation; by removing the excessive inequality of the present system, facilitating our intercourse with foreign nations, and marking our desire, as far as cir-

cumstances will permit, to adopt more liberal principles than those by which our commerce with them has been hitherto governed.

The state of the duty on deals will not, in the opinion of your committee, allow the same degree of relative reduction to be applied to it, which has been recommended for that on timber.

The rate of duty on long deals at present falls considerably below that on timber, whilst on those of short lengths it rather exceeds it. In what principle this distinction in favour of deals, as compared with timber in the log, originated, your committee are at a loss to discover, and are averse to recommend a continuance of it, at least to its present extent. They feel, however, considerable difficulty in proposing to equalise the duty on timber and deals, which, if effected by the reduction of duty on timber, must be attended with a large sacrifice of revenue, and if by an addition to that on deals, might tend in some measure rather to impair than assist the foreign trade of the kingdom, by the effect it would have on the exports of wood from those states, of which deals form the greatest proportion. This, in the opinion of your committee, precludes the application of a rule of strict equality to deals and to timber; but it appears to them, that while the amount of duty on timber is reduced in the degree proposed, a small increase on deals of large dimensions will in some measure lessen the distinction, at least as far as that class of deals is concerned. On the shorter deals, they recommend some reduction of duty, less with reference to the manner in which the duty at present bears upon this description of deals in comparison with timber than in consideration of the difference in the quantity of wood contained in a given number of deals of the larger and smaller dimensions, which seems to call, in respect of the latter, for a more favourable assessment. Another alteration which has suggested itself to your committee, is one that has reference to deal ends, on which a comparative low duty has been hitherto levied, in order to accommodate the ship-owner in broken stowage; this indulgence has been found to lead to great abuse, in covering the introduction of timber of this description as cargo, (a practice never contemplated) to an extent most injurious to the revenue. They therefore submit the propriety of confining the length of this class of deals to six feet, and making a moderate reduction in duty to which they are at present liable.

In consequence of the report referred to them, the mode of levying the duty on deals and wood of the other denominations, under which it is imported into this country, according to the cubic measure, has been an object of your committee's examination; and although the reduction of them all to their cubical contents in assessing the duty, seems, on the first view of it, the most easy as well as the most equitable

principle that could be adopted, your committee have found reasons in support of continuing the existing mode (both as a matter of convenience, and as producing a degree of equality between the countries by which our importations of wood are furnished), sufficient to prevent their proposing to the house to relinquish it, in preserving the mode, however, they are of opinion, that an improvement may be introduced into the scale now in use, by admitting a gradation of duty between the deal ends and deals of the largest class, which, it appears to your committee, would attain more effectually that advantage by which the existing mode of levying the duty is chiefly recommended.

Your committee have abstained from entering, in this Report, into details upon the subject of battens, oak plank, staves, deck-plank, paling-boards, masts, spars, and the other various denominations under which timber is imported, to which their attention has been directed. The duties on these will be influenced by those on the more important articles, and will make a necessary part of any measure that may hereafter be submitted to the house.

The policy of a legislative preference being given to the importation of timber in the log, and the discouragement of the importation of deals, seems to your committee very doubtful, both because they are of opinion that any advantage to be expected from the conversion of timber into deals in this country will not be sufficient to compensate for the corresponding disadvantage to the general consumer (to whom the deals would come with a considerable increase of cost), and because it is founded on a principle of exclusion, which they are most averse to see brought into operation in any new instance, without the warrant of some evident and great political expediency.

Your committee have discovered in the accounts before them, that the protective duty in favour of British shipping has been made to operate in different degrees on the importation of wood of different descriptions, varying from 2½ to 5 per cent, and in some unimportant instances falling below, as in others considerably exceeding these rates, on the value of the particular article imported. For this inequality, which introduces much perplexity into the col-

lection, of the duty, there does not appear to be any sufficient reason; and they therefore submit to the consideration of the house the propriety of making the same duty attach on all importations of wood in foreign ships alike, and that the amount of difference between the importation in the foreign ship, and that in the British ship should be fixed for the future at 5 per cent.

One only further recommendation has suggested itself to your committee, which, including their report, they are desirous of offering to the house. It has appeared in the evidence, that a great proportion of the timber which is imported from the province of Canada is the growth of the United States, and has been permitted to be received into that province free from duty, and has from thence been exported to the united kingdom, with all the benefits and immunities conceded to the produce of the British territory. To obviate the objection to which this practice appears to your committee to be liable, they are of opinion, that with every exportation of timber from the British provinces in North America, a certificate of its being the produce of those provinces should be required, and that timber imported without such certificate should be hereafter charged with the same rate of duty as would be payable on it, if imported directly from a foreign state.

In submitting the result of what has occurred to them in the course of their inquiry into this important subject, your committee have only to add, that in the recommendations which they have rendered, it has been their endeavor to use the utmost of their power, to reconcile the claims of adverse interests, and the corresponding considerations of policy that demanded their attention. If what they propose falls far short of a recurrence to those sound principles, by which all commerce ought to be regulated, they trust it will appear to the house, that they have proceeded as far as, under present circumstances, is consistent with an equitable regard to the protection due to extensive interests that have grown up, under an established system, and which must be deeply affected by any material and sudden change to which that system is subjected.

9 March, 1821.

GLASS.

AN ACCOUNT shewing what has been the Amount of Duty received, and of Drawback paid thereon, from 5th January, 1824, to 5th January, 1825, upon Glass, distinguishing the Amount of Duty and Drawback upon the several sorts of Crown, Flint, Plate, Bottles, and Broad or Spread; and distinguishing also the Amount of Drawback upon the Glass exported to Ireland, from that exported to other parts of the World.

	ENGLAND.						SCOTLAND.						IRELAND.	
	Amount of duty.		Amount of drawback				Amount of duty.	Amount of drawback				Amount of duty.	Amount of drawback.	
	£	s. d.	to Ireland.	to other parts.	Total.	to Ireland.		to other parts.	Total.	£	s. d.			
Crown.....	399,660	16 10½	25,892 4 2½	51,315 15 11	77,208 0 1½	120,219 10 0	60,722 4 5	7,950 17 4	68,673 1 9	...	...	...	...
Flint	291,699	17 2½	177 0 5½	172,390 17 0½	172,567 17 5½	22,296 12 9½	71 6 2	20,986 11 7	20,057 17 9	...	...	...	...
Plate	41,766	15 0	1,622 12 9	1,136 10 11½	2,759 3 8½	...	...	3 11 6	3 11 6	...	...	...	...
Bottles.....	114,028	12 3½	1,304 6 9	50,401 15 7	51,706 2 3	22,318 19 5	3,119 5 0	5,750 2 7	8,869 7 7	365 14 7½	59 0 11½	...	...
Broad or spread	13,942	10 0	159 11 6	...	159 11 6	...	...	10 2 9	10 2 9	...	...	...	...

AN ACCOUNT of all Glass exported to Ireland previous to 5th January, 1825, the Debentures on which were not paid; and also of all Glass exported since 5th January, 1825, up to the latest Period to which such Account can be made up.

Glass exported to Ireland previously to 5th January, 1825, the debentures on which were not paid.										
Flint.		Plate.	Crown.	Broad.	Green.					
<i>Cwts. q. lbs.</i>		<i>Feet.</i>	<i>Cwts. q. lbs.</i>	<i>Cwts. q. lbs.</i>	<i>Cwts. q. lbs.</i>					
9	0	0	348	459	2	4	...	1,324	1	5

Glass exported between 5th January and 5th April, 1825.												
Flint.		Plate.	Crown.	Broad.	Green.							
<i>Cwts. q. lbs.</i>		<i>Feet.</i>	<i>Cwts. q. lbs.</i>	<i>Cwts. q. lbs.</i>	<i>Cwts. q. lbs.</i>							
8,239	1	11	9,648	8,165	1	25	9	0	0	31,402	1	24

GOLD AND SILVER.

QUANTITY of Gold and Silver exported in each Year, from 1st January, 1815, to 1st January, 1825.

Years ending 5th January,	Total quantity of gold in bars, or otherwise, exported from the United Kingdom.											
	Gold bullion.	Foreign gold coin.	British gold coin.	Foreign gold plate.	British gold plate.	Total export of gold.						
	<i>Oz. dwts.</i>	<i>Oz. dwts.</i>	<i>Oz. dwts.</i>	<i>Oz. dwts.</i>	<i>Oz. dwts.</i>	<i>Oz. dwts.</i>						
1815	40,835	12	246,976	9	...	309	16	288,121	17			
1816	51,012	3	294,309	8	...	729	1	346,050	12			
1817	...	...	10,797	15	...	905	7	11,703	2	
1818	57,569	5	116,277	17	...	2,576	0	176,423	2			
1819	57,437	9	78,770	12	...	1,768	3	137,976	4			
1820	15,937	17	69,140	1	5,763	8	2,381	16	93,223	2		
1821	...	...	30,431	10	3,172	5	5,967	4	39,570	19
1822	181	0	13,618	1	...	...	29	19	13,829	0
1823	57,218	17	79,478	2	147,555	18	24	19	284,277	16		
1824	87,022	0	111,351	8	98,000	0	102	7	296,475	15		
1825	241,840	4	128,403	7	764,109	12	1	5	53	5	1,134,407	13

Years ending 5th January,	Total quantity of silver in bars, or otherwise, exported from the United Kingdom.										
	Silver bullion.	Foreign silver coin.	British silver coin.	Foreign silver plate.	British silver plate.	Total export of silver.					
	<i>Oz. dwts.</i>	<i>Oz. dwts.</i>	<i>Oz. dwts.</i>	<i>Oz. dwts.</i>	<i>Oz. dwts.</i>	<i>Oz. dwts.</i>					
1815	296,582	15	2,305,409	18	...	97,941	5	2,699,933	18		
1816	37,195	0	6,263,640	12	...	121,052	9	6,421,888	1		
1817	195,119	0	6,468,839	16	...	422	0	149,703	2	6,814,083	13
1818	1,300,746	15	6,878,833	0	...	195	0	142,991	1	8,322,770	16
1819	9,205,636	17	8,425,905	10	...	...	...	145,824	4	17,777,366	11
1820	658,100	0	6,546,358	0	...	300	0	151,328	0	7,356,086	0
1821	523,162	10	4,828,398	12	...	...	...	198,906	4	5,550,467	6
1822	355,929	10	4,162,782	10	...	250	0	155,195	17	4,674,157	17
1823	7,980,315	10	6,565,506	8	...	40	0	112,389	16	14,658,251	14
1824	1,511,331	15	10,056,922	5	...	690	9	155,164	16	11,724,019	5
1825	2,516,680	0	6,069,051	0	...	2,201	0	118,045	14	8,705,977	14

QUANTITY of Gold and Silver exported to each particular Country, in the Year ending the 5th of January, 1825.

Countries to which exported.	Gold bullion.		Foreign gold coin.		British gold coin.		Foreign gold plate.		British gold plate.		Total export of gold.
	Oz.	dwt.	Oz.	dwt.	Oz.	dwt.	Oz.	dwt.	Oz.	dwt.	Oz. dwt.
Germany	11,130	0	...	...	5,060	0	...	...	...	...	16,190 0
Holland	62,548	4	31,959	0	14,357	0	...	...	...	...	108,864 4
France	143,982	0	72,112	0	690,901	0	...	...	53	5	907,048 5
Spain and Canaries	...	...	661	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	661 0
Gibraltar .....	...	...	50	0	...	...	1	5	...	...	51 5
Italy .....	...	...	278	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	278 0
Malta .....	...	...	1,650	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,650 0
Ionian Islands .....	...	...	...	...	17,973	19	...	...	...	...	17,973 19
Turkey and Levant	...	...	677	5	29,117	13	...	...	...	...	29,794 18
Asia .....	...	...	45	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	45 19
Africa .....	...	...	166	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	166 15
British Colonies } in N. America }	...	...	230	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	230 0
British West Indies	...	...	6,222	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,222 8
United States of } America .....	...	...	1,400	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,400 0
Foreign West } Indies .....	...	...	2,821	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,821 0
Brazil .....	...	...	1,024	0	6,700	0	...	...	...	...	7,724 0
Foreign colonies } on continent of } America .....	...	...	5,382	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,382 0
Parts beyond sea } (not described) }	24,180	0	3,724	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	27,904 0
Total...	241,840	4	128,403	7	764,109	12	1	5	53	5	1,134,407 13

Countries to which exported.	Silver bullion.		Foreign silver coin.		British silver coin.		Foreign silver plate.		British silver plate.		Total export of silver.
	Oz.	dwt.	Oz.	dwt.	Oz.	dwt.	Oz.	dwt.	Oz.	dwt.	Oz. dwt.
Sweden and } Norway	250	0	250 0
Denmark	953	0	953 0
Prussia	166	10	166 10
Germany	896	0	...	...	272	0	2,193	16	3,361 16
Holland	138,979	10	...	...	218	10	5,669	7	144,867 7
Flanders	450	0	...	...	...	...	284	0	714 0
France	2,298,239	0	1,781,398	10	...	...	...	...	9,341	0	4,083,978 10
Portugal and } Madeira	36,707	0	...	...	...	...	2,920	15	39,627 15
Spain and Canaries	2,000	0	...	...	...	...	276	0	2,276 0
Gibraltar	172	10	2,775	4	2,947 14
Italy	12,118	0	...	...	10	0	6,523	0	18,651 0
Malta	4,000	0	...	...	...	...	2,541	0	6,541 0
Ionian Islands	45,000	0	...	...	...	...	2,292	0	47,292 0
Turkey and Levant	411,926	0	...	...	...	...	1,228	0	413,154 0
Isles, Guernsey, } Jersey, and } Man	9,533	2	9,533 2
Asia	120,177	0	...	...	244	10	34,872	0	155,293 10
Africa	157,864	0	...	...	...	...	3,323	8	161,187 8
British colonies } in N. America }	33,953	0	...	...	...	...	4,795	12	38,748 12
British West Indies	455,552	0	...	...	392	10	20,988	0	476,932 10
United States of } America	457,349	0	...	...	...	...	6,082	10	463,431 10
Foreign West } Indies	300	0	...	...	...	...	100	0	400 0
Brazil	223,441	0	2,090,381	0	...	...	451	0	334	10	2,314,607 10
Foreign colonies } on continent of } America	440	0	663	0	1,103 0
Parts beyond sea } (not described) }	320,000	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	320,000 0
Total...	2,516,680	0	6,069,051	0	...	...	2,201	0	118,045	14	8,705,977 14

QUANTITY of Gold and Silver exported from the United Kingdom, from the 5th January, 1825, to the 5th April following, and the Countries to which exported.

Countries to which exported.	Gold, in bars or otherwise.				
	Gold bullion.	Foreign gold coin.	* British gold coin.	Gold plate.	Total export of gold.
	Oz. dwts.	Oz. dwts.	Oz. dwts.	Oz. dwts.	Oz. dwts.
EUROPE:					
Germany	15,400 0	...	3,750 0	...	19,150 0
Holland.....	16,669 0	14,087 0	...	...	30,756 0
Flanders .....	...	...	13,000 0	...	13,900 0
France.....	68,875 0	90 0	249,050 0	...	318,015 0
Turkey and the Levant ....	...	...	15,406 5	...	15,406 5
	100,944 0	14,177 0	281,206 5	...	396,327 5
AMERICA:					
British colonies in North } America .....	...	500 0	...	...	500 0
British West Indies	72,127 0	10,778 4	...	...	82,905 0
United States	25,000 0	...	...	...	25,000 0
Brazil.....	...	153 14	...	...	153 14
Mexico .....	...	19,706 13	...	...	19,706 13
Columbia.....	...	7,000 0	...	...	7,000 0
Buenos Ayres.....	...	5,081 0	...	...	5,081 0
Total.....	198,071 0	57,306 11	281,206 5	...	536,673 16
	Silver, in bars or otherwise.				
	Silver bullion.	Foreign silver coin.	British silver coin.	Silver plate (British.)	Total export of silver.
	Oz. dwts.	Oz. dwts.	Oz. dwts.	Oz. dwts.	Oz. dwts.
EUROPE:					
Germany .....	...	...	...	64 0	64 0
Holland.....	...	167,908 0	...	1,176 10	169,084 10
Flanders .....	...	...	...	118 0	118 0
France.....	319,900 0	85,163 0	...	1,904 10	406,967 10
Portugal.....	...	6,000 0	...	47 0	6,047 0
Spain and Canaries .....	...	1,905 0	...	703 15	2,608 15
Gibraltar.....	...	...	...	1,022 0	1,022 0
Italy .....	...	...	...	212 0	212 0
Malta .....	...	...	...	229 0	229 0
Turkey and the Levant ...	...	297,313 0	...	282 0	297,595 0
Islands of Guernsey and } Jersey .....	...	5,592 0	...	1,614 10	7,206 10
	319,900 0	563,881 0	...	7,373 5	891,154 5
ASIA:—East Indies and China	...	44,613 10	...	10,305 4	54,918 14
New Holland .....	...	280 0	...	6 0	286 0
AFRICA:—Cape of Good Hope	..	...	...	757 0	757 0
AMERICA:					
British colonies in North } America.....	...	2,050 0	...	609 10	2,659 10
British West Indies .....	...	413,683 0	...	6,460 11	420,143 11
Foreign West Indies.....	...	3,660 0	...	284 19	3,944 19
United States .....	...	...	...	21 0	21 0
Brazil.....	...	13,000 0	...	113 0	13,113 0
Mexico .....	...	47,620 0	...	23 10	47,653 10
Columbia.....	...	2,000 0	...	279 0	2,279 0
Peru .....	...	...	...	353 0	353 0
Chili .....	...	...	...	330 0	330 0
Buenos Ayres.....	...	...	...	674 0	674 0
Total.....	319,900 0	1,095,797 10	...	27,589 19	1,443,287 9

GRAIN AND FLOUR.

AN ACCOUNT of the Average Price of each sort of GRAIN, in Great Britain, in each Q
from January 5, 1815, to January 5, 1825.

Year.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.	
Quarters ending	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s.</i>	
1815	February	59 6	29 7	21 5	37 5	36 6	41 1
	May	69 8	29 10	23 11	37 10	35 9	34 1
	August	67 11	30 11	25 3	38 1	36 0	38 4
	November	57 2	27 11	21 8	35 3	33 2	35 1
1816	February	53 9	24 2	17 8	32 3	29 7	31 10
	May	64 11	25 2	18 4	35 7	29 6	31 3
	August	76 5	30 1	22 3	42 1	34 7	34
	November	92 9	44 5	27 6	53 7	46 4	47 1
1817	February	100 10	50 9	29 8	64 0	58 0	60
	May	102 8	50 10	33 9	60 10	47 6	53 1
	August	96 11	49 3	36 4	59 10	49 10	50 1
	November	79 7	42 0	25 5	44 4	45 9	45 0
1818	February	86 0	45 6	27 2	49 10	49 7	51 10
	May	89 6	51 4	30 11	53 9	54 6	56 4
	August	83 7	49 9	34 1	51 2	62 11	67
	November	80 2	59 7	33 5	58 1	74 7	71 1
1819	February	77 7	60 6	32 8	57 6	67 10	68 1
	May	73 7	45 7	27 10	48 10	50 2	53 3
	August	74 11	39 3	26 4	46 8	47 8	48 7
	November	65 11	36 7	24 1	41 7	46 0	50 1
1820	February	63 4	32 5	22 4	40 0	42 4	46 10
	May	69 10	35 1	24 5	43 1	42 7	46 5
	August	71 11	36 5	27 1	45 2	44 5	45 11
	November	58 3	28 7	21 1	36 11	39 4	39 8
1821	February	54 5	25 0	18 6	34 8	32 6	35 0
	May	52 9	23 8	17 10	33 9	29 9	31 0
	August	52 7	24 8	19 3	32 5	30 9	31 6
	November	58 8	29 10	21 0	27 5	31 2	32 1
1822	February	49 0	19 11	16 4	21 11	22 6	24 8
	May	45 2	18 2	16 5	19 11	21 6	22 1
	August	42 11	19 0	18 9	18 10	26 0	26 9
	November	38 10	28 10	19 1	20 7	26 1	28 8
1823	February	40 7	28 3	17 9	22 10	25 7	30 7
	May	52 9	32 8	23 3	29 7	30 4	34 2
	August	59 9	32 9	24 6	36 8	33 5	36 1
	November	48 8	26 10	20 8	29 3	34 1	32 5
1824	February	61 11	33 6	23 7	42 3	38 11	38 4
	May	64 7	35 3	24 4	43 5	38 2	36
	August	59 6	33 11	27 2	40 3	37 4	38 6
	November	60 10	38 5	20 10	34 4	41 6	41 0

AN ACCOUNT of the Average Price of Wheat in each Year, from 5th January, 1819, to
January, 1825; shewing the aggregate Amount and Average Price for the Six Years.

Year.	Average.	Number of quarters.	N. B. Previous to the act of the 1st and 2d Geo. 4, the aggregate averages were taken without reference to the amount.
	<i>s. d.</i>		
1819.....	72 3	...	
1820.....	65 10	...	
1821.....	54 5	811,294	
1822.....	43 3	2,191,807	
1823.....	51 9	2,194,866	
1824.....	62 0	2,253,765	
Aggregate average of the six years	58 3		

... .. and Wales, from 15th March, 1825, to 15th March, 1826.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Rye	Beans.		Peas.
					s. d.	s. d.	
1825	10 1	9 8	7 3	7 11	31 11	35 7	
1826	10 1	9 8	7 3	7 11	31 11	35 7	

... .. March, 1825, to 15th March, 1826, taken from the English Quarters as far as the same are available.

	In the English quarters, from 15th March, 1825, to 15th March, 1826.	British currency.	
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wheat	7 3 1	2 8 0	
Barley	7 3 1	1 8 10	
Oats	10 1 1	0 10 6	
Rye	7 3 1	2 10 7	
Beans	31 11	2 16 4	
Peas	35 7	1 16 11	

... .. of the Average Prices of the same in the Kingdom, from 15th March, 1825, to 15th March, 1826.

	In the Kingdom, from 15th March, 1825, to 15th March, 1826.		Value.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Wheat	7 3 1	7 3 1	Value.—The prices of wheat and peas are not taken separately in any of the counties of Scotland, except in Kincardine, Roxburgh, and Wigton, and these counties the prices seldom differ. When any difference takes place in the two counties mentioned in the return, it is so very trifling as not to affect the general average.
Barley	7 3 1	7 3 1	
Oats	10 1 1	10 1 1	
Rye	7 3 1	7 3 1	
Peas	35 7	35 7	

... .. from 15th March, 1825, to 15th March, 1826; taken from the English Quarters as far as the same are available.

	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Rye	Beans.		Peas.
					s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1825	10 1	9 8	7 3	7 11	41 1 1/2	36 8 1/2	
1826	10 1	9 8	7 3	7 11	43 1 1/2	37 8 1/2	

AN ACCOUNT of the Average Price of all sorts of Grain in the United Kingdom, by which Importation has been governed, from 15th March, 1823, to 15th March, 1825.

Quarters ended.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	<i>s. d.</i>
15th May, 1823.....	52 9	32 8	23 3	29 7	30 4	34 2
15th August.....	59 9	32 9	24 6	36 8	33 5	36 1
15th November.....	48 8	26 10	20 8	29 3	34 1	32 5
15th February, 1824	61 11	33 6	23 7	42 3	38 11	38 4
15th May.....	64 7	35 3	24 4	43 5	38 2	36 8
15th August.....	59 6	33 11	27 2	40 3	37 4	38 6
15th November.....	60 10	38 5	20 10	34 4	41 6	41 0
15th February, 1825	66 4	38 3	23 2	39 1	39 11	44 1

A RETURN of Wheat and Flour brought Coastwise to the Port of London, from 15th September, 1823, to 7th March, 1824, and from the same Periods for the Years 1824 and 1825.

	Wheat.	Wheat flour.
	Quarters.	Cwts.
From 15th September, 1823, to 7th March, 1824.....	182,904	594,590
— 15th September, 1824, to 7th March, 1825.....	241,115	792,897

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Foreign Buck Wheat imported in each Year, from 1814 to the latest period to which the same can be made up (viz. to the Year 1824, inclusive).

Years.	Imported into the United Kingdom.
	Bushels.
1814.....	...
1815.....	...
1816.....	...
1817.....	6,005½
1818.....	155,991
1819.....	21,591¼
1820.....	34,770½
1821.....	112,684½
1822.....	61,117½
1823.....	67,239¼
1824.....	195,400¾
Total.....	654,800¼

A RETURN of all Corn, Grain, or Flour, being the Growth, Produce, or Manufacture of any British Colony or Plantation in North America, whether warehoused or imported, that has been admitted into the Home Market, under the act 3 Geo. IV. c. 60; since the 14th May, 1825.

Species.	Quantity admitted to entry for home consumption in Great Britain, under act 3 Geo. IV. c. 60. since the 14th May, 1825.
	Quarters. Bushel.
Wheat	15,036 1

ABSTRACT of an Account, shewing the quantities of Corn, Grain, Meal, and

Species.	Year 1800.	Year 1801.	Year 1802.	Year 1803.	Year 1804.	
	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	
Imports from all parts, except Ireland.	Barley and barley meal	130,897 5	113,966 4	8,135 3	1,148 1	9,074 7
	Beans and bean meal	15,796 5	16,246 3	4,138 2	85 2	8,868 1
	Indian corn and meal	11,198 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	77,470 5	1,113 3	710 1	244 5
	Malt	...	...	...	...	...
	Oats and oatmeal	542,607 2	582,668 6	241,848 0	254,807 7	500,371 6
	Peas	26,796 3 $\frac{3}{4}$	44,218 1	10,558 1	23,380 4	18,570 1
	Rye and rye meal	144,531 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	146,732 7	15,196 2	3,347 0	2,437 7
	Wheat and wheat flour	1,263,771 1	1,424,241 4	538,144 4	312,458 0	391,068 2
	Total	2,135,598 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	2,405,544 6	819,132 7	595,936 7	930,635 5
	Imports from Ireland.	Barley and barley meal	78 4	...	7,116 4	12,879 3	2,520 6
Beans and bean meal		...	...	1,654 4	1,652 4	3,060 0
Indian corn and meal		...	1 4	4,148 2	2 1	...
Malt		...	...	2,303 0	25 0	...
Oats and oatmeal		2,410 6	374 6	341,931 1	266,358 6	240,021 7
Peas		...	...	113 1	611 2	1,077 7
Rye and rye meal		...	...	282 0	752 4	206 0
Wheat and wheat flour		749 2	524 0	109,519 0	61,267 2	70,071 4
Total		3,238 4	900 2	467,067 4	343,548 6	316,958 0
Total quantities imported.		Barley and barley meal	130,976 1	113,966 4	15,251 7	14,027 4	11,595 5
	Beans and bean meal	15,796 5	16,246 3	5,792 6	1,737 6	11,928 1
	Indian corn and meal	11,198 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	77,472 1	5,261 5	712 2	244 5
	Malt	...	...	2,303 0	25 0	...
	Oats and oatmeal	545,018 0	583,043 4	583,779 1	521,166 5	740,393 5
	Peas	26,796 3 $\frac{3}{4}$	44,218 1	10,671 2	23,991 6	19,648 0
	Rye and rye meal	144,531 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	146,732 7	15,478 2	4,099 4	2,643 7
	Wheat and wheat flour	1,264,520 3	1,424,765 4	647,663 4	373,725 2	461,139 6
	Total	2,138,837 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	2,406,445 0	1,286,201 3	939,485 5	1,247,593 5

Flour imported into Great Britain from Foreign Countries, and from Ireland.

Year 1805.	Year 1806.	Year 1807.	Year 1808.	Year 1809.	Year 1810.	Year 1811.
Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.
27,644 6	2,058 1	3,043 2	4,664 1	13,350 7	17,997 1	40,127 2
8,727 0	1,045 3	9,997 1	8,674 3	27,297 4	11,684 7	357 3
23 6	113 5	1,063 6	4,308 3	1,262 1	26 7	16 3
...	...	...	1,228 0	533 0	893 0	1,493 0
275,109 1	183,430 0	426,031 4	34,679 4	297,459 5	115,978 5	11,707 3
8,583 6	171 0	4,679 6	12,807 2	33,071 1½	12,053 0	4,994 3
24,031 6	684 0	7,309 1	4,724 3	13,189 7	90,962 2	27,809 3
836,747 1¼	207,879 0	359,835 6	41,392 1	387,863 3	1,439,615 6	188,563 5
1,180,867 2¼	395,381 1	811,960 2	112,478 1	774,027 4½	1,689,211 4	275,068 6
15,656 0	3,327 4	23,048 3	30,586 0	16,619 0	8,321 3	2,713 0
2,009 4	2,361 0	3,777 0	2,065 0	2,669 1	3,541 1	4,081 0
...	...	...	...	...	9 6	...
...
203,302 0	357,076 4	389,649 1	579,974 3	845,782 7	493,230 7	275,756 5
1,633 7	1,388 4	1,390 4	75 0	38 4	215 6	50 2
235 0	330 0	431 0	573 0	425 0	20 0	21 0
84,087 2	102,463 0	45,110 4	43,496 5	68,123 6	127,510 0	147,566 6
306,923 5	466,946 4	463,406 4	656,770 0	933,658 2	632,848 7	430,188 5
43,300 6	5,385 5	26,091 5	35,250 1	29,969 7	26,318 4	42,840 2
10,736 4	3,406 3	13,774 1	10,739 3	29,966 5	15,226 0	4,438 3
23 6	113 5	1,063 6	4,308 3	1,262 1	36 5	16 3
...	...	...	1,228 0	533 0	893 0	1,493 0
478,411 1	540,506 4	815,680 5	614,653 7	1,143,242 4	609,209 4	287,464 0
10,217 5	1,559 4	6,070 2	12,882 2	33,109 5½	12,268 6	5,044 5
24,266 6	1,014 0	7,740 1	5,297 3	13,614 7	90,982 2	27,830 3
920,834 3¼	310,342 0	404,946 2	84,888 6	455,987 1	1,567,125 6	336,130 3
1,487,790 7¼	862,327 5	1,275,366 6	769,248 1	1,707,685 6½	2,322,060 3	705,257 3

Species.	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year	Year			
	1812.	1813.	1814.	1815.	1816.	1817.			
	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.			
Imports from all parts, except Ireland.	Barley and barley meal } Beans and bean meal } Indian corn and meal... } Malt..... } Oats and oat-meal..... } Peas..... } Rye and rye meal..... } Wheat and wheat flour } Total.....	40,395 5 16 4 16 7 356 4 15,108 7 660 6 72,642 2 129,867 0 259,064 3	19,708 4 950 0 593 1 9 0 60,455 7 7,526 0 34,619 6 341,846 0 465,708 2	29,252 3 37,654 3 1 2 3 4 251,151 0 9,381 7 6,040 3 626,745 6 960,230 4	2,470 0 11,992 0 3 4 ... 120,872 0 1,198 3 1,598 5 194,931 3 333,065 7	16,239 4 116 0 0 2 ... 75,993 2 922 5 15,074 2 210,860 2 319,206 1	185,045 6 3,575 5 157 4 ... 478,994 0 13,149 7 139,478 3 1,030,829 3 1,801,230 4		
	Imports from Ireland.	Barley and barley meal } Beans and bean meal } Indian corn and meal... } Malt..... } Oats and oat-meal..... } Peas..... } Rye and rye meal..... } Wheat and wheat flour } Total.....	43,262 3 5,008 0 390,926 2 51 4 177 5 160,842 5 600,268 3	63,560 0 4,455 0 691,498 4 77 0 420 0 217,153 5 977,164 1	16,779 2 5,730 7 564,010 3 459 4 4 3 225,820 7 812,805 2	27,108 2 6,370 7 597,537 2 425 4 207 1 189,543 4 821,192 4	62,254 3 5,983 5 683,714 2 238 7 43 3 121,631 1 873,865 5	26,766 0 2,274 4 611,117 4 12 0 613 5 59,025 2 699,808 7	
		Total quantities imported.	Barley and barley meal } Beans and bean meal } Indian corn and meal... } Malt..... } Oats and oat-meal..... } Peas..... } Rye and rye meal..... } Wheat and wheat flour } Total.....	83,658 0 5,024 4 16 7 356 4 406,035 1 712 2 72,819 7 290,709 5 859,332 6	83,268 4 5,405 0 593 1 9 0 751,954 3 7,603 0 35,039 6 558,999 5 1,442,872 3	46,031 5 43,385 2 1 2 3 4 815,161 3 9,841 3 6,044 6 852,566 5 1,773,035 6	29,578 2 18,362 7 3 4 ... 718,409 2 1,623 7 1,805 6 384,474 7 1,154,258 3	78,493 7 6,099 5 0 2 ... 759,707 4 1,161 4 15,117 5 332,491 3 1,193,071 6	161,811 6 5,850 1 157 4 ... 1,090,111 4 13,161 7 140,992 0 1,089,854 5 2,501,039 3

Year 1818.	Year 1819.	Year 1820.	Year 1821.	Year 1822.	Year 1823.	Year 1824.
Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.	Qrs. bus.
697,456 0	373,869 2	29,919 0	15,594 5½	19,158 5½	496 2½	28,892 5
115,944 1	186,724 2	10,772 0	140 4	...	277 7	2,086 0.
1,411 3	27,903 0	5,192 3	212 6	2,980 7	0 1½	91 4
...
989,749. 8	586,725 0	683,649 6	103,200 4½	55,642 2½	28,964 4	488,105 7½
51,996 4	42,011 5	8,479 7	711 2	424 1½	1 3	4,824 7½
78,080 7	18,672. 1	12,105 7	110 7	...	...	853 7
1,586,030 6	471,607 2	591,731 2	137,684 1½	47,598 3½	23,951 3	85,182 6½
3,530,669 3	1,707,512 4	1,341,850 1	257,654 6½	125,804 3½	53,641 5	610,037 5½
25,387 0	20,310 5	87,095 0	82,884 2	22,531 4	19,274 1	44,090 2
4,835 0	3,903 6	8,446 0	4,958 6	7,234 6	5,540 3	5,790 4
...	...	0 5	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	1,173 2
1,069,365 1	789,613 2	916,250 5	1,162,248 5	569,237 2	1,102,487 4	1,225,065 1
10 0	...	446 5	2,473 6	728 3	585 5	756 4
4 1	2 4	133 7	550 0	353 0	197 5	112 3
108,230 2	154,030 7	404,747 5	569,700 4	463,003 7	400,067 6	356,408 3
1,207,851 4	967,861 0	1,417,120 3	1,822,815 7	1,063,088 6	1,528,153 0	1,634,024 3
722,843 0	394,179 7	117,614 0	98,478 7½	41,690 1½	19,770 3½	73,591 7
120,779 1	190,628 0	19,218 0	5,099 2	7,234 6	5,768 2	7,876 4
1,411 3	27,903 0	5,193 0	212 6	2,980 7	0 1½	91 4
...	...	...	...	...	...	1,173 2
2,059,134 7	1,376,338 2	1,599,900 3	1,265,449 1½	624,879 4½	1,131,452 0	1,713,191 0½
62,006 4	42,011 5	8,926 4	3,185 0	1,152 4½	587 0	5,589 3½
78,985 0	18,674 5	12,239 6	660 7	353 0	197 5	966 2
1,694,261 0	625,638 1	996,478 7	707,384 5½	510,602 2½	424,019 1	441,591 1½
4,738,520 7	2,675,373 4	2,758,970 4	2,080,470 5½	1,188,893 1½	1,581,794 5	2,244,062 0½

GRAND SURREY CANAL DOCKS.

AN ACCOUNT of the Total Number of Vessels, of every description, with their Tonnage, which entered the Grand Surrey Canal Docks in the Year 1824; shewing also the average Tonnage of the Vessels.

201 sail, amounting to 48,283 tons per registers; and averaging 240 tons.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Ships, of the average of 300 Tons burthen, the Grand Surrey Canal Docks are capable of containing at one time.

300 sail.

THE greatest Number of Vessels, with their Register Tonnage, which were loading or discharging at any one time in the Year 1824.

19 sail . . . 4,429 tons.

THE Number of Vessels which were loading or discharging on the 5th of April, 1825.

None.

HERRING FISHERY.

REPORT by the Commissioners for the Herring Fishery, of their Proceedings, Year ended 5th April, 1824;—being Fishing 1823.

(Presented in pursuance of the Acts 48 Geo. III. c. 110, sec. 7, and 55 Geo. III. c. 94, sec. 4.)

THE provisions of the fishery acts, and the regulations made by the commissioners for improving the construction of casks, and the cure of fish intended for bounty, are now so well understood, and so generally observed, that in their proceedings during the year ended 5th April, 1824, little has occurred requiring particular notice in this Report. It has been the object of the commissioners to uphold the reputation of the official brand, and to raise the character of the British fishery, by every means they could devise. For this purpose, the attention, both of the officers and curers, has been again directed to the propriety of having the fish prepared so as to suit the different markets for which they are destined; and measures have been taken for introducing a more perfect knowledge of the Dutch mode of cure, for herrings intended for the continent of Europe. The stations have, as usual, been surveyed by the general inspectors during the fishing season; the naval superintendents have been employed in preventing depredations, and preserving order at the fishery, wherever their presence could be useful; and the accommodation of the trade has been studied by removing the officers from one district to another, as occasion required.

In these circumstances, the commissioners consider it unnecessary to advert more particularly to their proceedings in the discharge of the im-

portant trust committed to them; and they therefore, now present the following accounts of the herring and cod fisheries, for the year ended 5th April, 1824; which they are happy to say will be found most satisfactory.

Herring Fishery.

No. 1.—Account of vessels fitted out for the coast fishery.

No. 2.—Account of herrings landed therefrom.

No. 3.—Account of herrings cured on shore.

No. 4.—Account of the open sea fishery.

No. 5.—Account of the total quantity of herrings landed and cured on shore.

No. 6.—Account of herrings branded for bounty.

No. 7.—Account of bung-packed herrings, branded for bounty, now repacked and rebranded; but for which no additional bounty has been allowed.

No. 8.—Account of repacked herrings sent coast wise for exportation to a place out of Europe.

No. 9.—Account of herrings exported.

Cod and Ling Fishery.

No. 1.—Account of cod, ling, and hake, found entitled to bounty, taken or purchased by the crews of vessels fitted out on the tonnage bounty.

No. 2.—Account of cod, ling, and hake, found entitled to bounty, taken or purchased by the crews of vessels and boats not on the tonnage bounty.

No. 3.—Account of the total quantity of cod, ling, and hake, found entitled to bounty.

No. 4.—Account of cod, ling, and hake exported.

No. 5.—Account of the quantity of fish oil manufactured, and found entitled to bounty.

From a comparison of these accounts with those of the preceding year, it will be found, that although the produce of the West Highland fishery is still very deficient, the fishing, upon the whole, has been most abundant. The total quantity of herrings cured is 392,190 $\frac{1}{2}$ barrels, of which 299,631 barrels have been found entitled to bounty, and 239,630 $\frac{1}{2}$ barrels have been exported, being an increase over the preceding year of 143,321 $\frac{1}{2}$ barrels in the quantity cured, of 96,521 barrels in the quantity branded, and of 69,185 $\frac{1}{2}$ barrels in the quantity exported. The condition of the herrings has been represented to the commissioners as superior to that of any former year; and although the prices continued low, they have every reason to believe, notwithstanding the great quantity taken, that few herrings remained in the hands of the curers in this country at the commencement of the ensuing season.

It will be found, also, that the accounts of the cod and ling fishery exhibit a comparison equally favourable. In the year under consideration, the number of vessels cleared out for the tonnage bounty is 102, while the total quantity of

fish found entitled to bounty is 63,590 cwts. cured dried, and 5,437 barrels cured in pickle; and the total quantity exported is 23,089 cwts. cured dried; being an increase over the preceding year of fourteen in the number of vessels; of 9,016½ cwts. dried fish, and 1,746 barrels pickled fish, in the quantity found entitled to bounty; and of 3,699 cwts. in the quantity exported. The cure of the fish has also been represented to the commissioners as having been much improved, and the demand for them so

great, that the whole were quickly disposed of at remunerating prices.

AL. OSBORN.
GILBERT INNES.
JOHN HAY.
WM. RAE.
J. CLERK RATTRAY.
WILLIAM FORBES.

Office for the herring fishery, Edinburgh, }
1st November, 1824.

The following is an abstract of the accounts referred to in the foregoing Report:—

NUMBER of Vessels, including their repeated Voyages, which have been cleared Outwards for the British Herring Fishery, not on the Tonnage Bounty, in the Year ended 5th April, 1824; distinguishing the Number of Men on Board; the Tonnage, Netting, Salt, and Barrels carried out.

Vessels.	Men.	Tonnage.	Netting.	Salt.	Barrels.
No.	No.	Tons.	Square yards.	Bushels.	No.
487	2,099	14,779¾	1,186,680¼	128,023½	68,950½

NUMBER of Vessels, including their repeated Voyages, which have been entered Inwards from the British Herring Fishery, not on the Tonnage Bounty, in the Year ended 5th April, 1824; distinguishing the Tonnage, Netting, Salt, Empty Barrels, and Barrels of Herrings landed; and distinguishing also the Herrings cured Guttet, from those cured Unguttet.

Vessels.	Tonnage.	Netting.	Salt.	Empty barrels, including those with salt.	Herrings landed.				Total herrings landed.
					Guttet.		Unguttet.		
					Guttet and packed within 24 hours after being caught.	Guttet and packed not within 24 hours after being caught.	Barrels.	Barrels of bulk.	
No.	Tons.	Square yards.	Bushels.	No.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.
467	14,321¾	1,141,700¾	40,441¼	22,330	43,542	84	632	7,640¾	51,898¾

NUMBER of Barrels of White Herrings which have been cured by Fish Curers on shore in the Year ended 5th April, 1824; distinguishing the Herrings cured Guttet, from those cured Unguttet.

Herrings cured gutted.		Herrings cured unguttet.		Total.
Guttet and packed within 24 hours after being caught.	Guttet and packed not within 24 hours after being caught.	Barrels.	Barrels of bulk.	
Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.
287,559	854½	25,483¾	22,900¾	336,797¾

NUMBER of Vessels which have been fitted out in Scotland for the Open Sea Fishery in the Year ended 5th April, 1824, under the Conditions and Regulations published by the Commissioners for the Herring Fishery, in virtue of the 55th Section of the Act 48th Geo. III. c. 110, and 37th Section of the Act 55th Geo. III. c. 94; distinguishing the Tonnage, Netting, and Number of Men; together with the Number of Barrels of Herrings landed; distinguishing also the Herrings Guttled from those Unguttled, and the Amount of the Premium allowed.

Vessels.	Tonnage.	Men.	Netting.	Herrings landed.		Total herrings.	Amount of premium allowed.
				Guttled and packed within 24 hours after being caught.	Barrels of bulk.		
No.	Tons.	No.	Square yards.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	£. s. d.
45	1,202½	343	486,560	3,410½	84	3,494½	3,000 0 0

NUMBER of Barrels of White Herrings which have been landed from the Fishery, and cured on Shore, in the Year ended 5th April, 1824; distinguishing the Herrings which were cured Guttled from those which were cured Unguttled.

Herrings cured guttled.		Herrings cured unguttled.		Total herrings cured.
Guttled and packed within 24 hours after being caught.	Guttled and packed not within 24 hours after being caught.	Barrels.	Barrels of bulk.	
Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.
334,511½	938½	26,115½	30,625½	392,190½

NUMBER of Barrels of White Herrings which have been branded for the Bounty of 4s. and of 3s. 6d. per Barrel, granted by the Act 55th Geo. III. c. 94, in the Year ended 5th April, 1824; distinguishing the Herrings which were Bung-packed from those which were Repacked; together with the Amount of Bounty allowed.

For the bounty of 4s. per barrel, having been guttled with a knife.		For the bounty of 3s. 6d. per barrel, having been guttled not with a knife.		Total herrings branded.	Amount of bounty allowed.
Bung-packed.	Repacked.	Bung-packed.	Repacked.		
Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.	£. s. d.
218,295½	81,077½	248	10	299,631	59,919 15 0

NUMBER of Bung-packed Barrels of White Herrings, branded for Bounty, which have been Re-packed and Rebranded, in virtue of the 23d Section of the Act 55th Geo. III. c. 94, in the Year ended 5th April, 1824, but upon which Herrings, so Rebranded, no additional Bounty has been allowed.

Number of barrels originally bung-packed, produced to be repacked and rebranded.	Number of barrels so repacked and rebranded.
Barrels.	Barrels.
4,270	4,680

NUMBER of Barrels of re-packed White Herrings, not branded for Bounty, sent Coastwise for Exportation to a Place out of Europe, in the Year ended 5th April, 1824; distinguishing the Ports to which sent; distinguishing also the Herrings which were cured gutted from those which were cured ungutted.

Ports to which sent.						Total.
Greenock.	Port Glasgow.	Leith.	Liverpool.	Bristol.	London.	
Gutted.	Gutted.	Gutted.	Ungutted.	Gutted.	Gutted.	
Barrels. 185	Barrels. 15	Barrels. 10	Barrels. 40	Barrels. 22	Barrels. 97	Barrels. 369

NUMBER of Barrels of White Herrings, which have been exported in the Year ended 5th April, 1824; distinguishing the Quantity exported to Ireland, to other Places in Europe, and to Places out of Europe; distinguishing also the Herrings cured gutted, from those cured ungutted.

Exported to Ireland.		To other places in Europe.		To places out of Europe.		Total exported.
Gutted.	Ungutted.	Gutted.	Ungutted.	Gutted.	Ungutted.	
Barrels. 115,649½	Barrels. 1,098	Barrels. 40,204	Barrels. 27	Barrels. 82,652	Barrels. ...	Barrels. 239,630½

QUANTITY of Cod, Ling, and Hake, cured dried, and Quantity cured in Pickle, found entitled to Bounty, which have been taken or purchased by the Crews of Vessels fitted out for the Cod and Ling Fishery, for the Bounty of 50s. per Ton, granted by the Act of 1 Geo. 4, c. 103, in the Year ended 5th April, 1824, distinguishing the Number of Vessels, Men, and Tonnage, and the Amount of Bounty allowed.

Vessels.	Men.	Tonnage.	Bounty on the tonnage.	Number of fish taken or purchased.
No. 102	No. 869	Tons. 4,253½	£ s. d. 4,205 0 0	419,758

Quantity found entitled to bounty, with the amount of bounties allowed.						
Cured dried.	Bounty on fish cured dried.	Cured in pickle.	Bounty on fish cured in pickle.	Total amount of bounty on tonnage and cargo.	Deductions therefrom, in consequence of the total bounty exceeding 50s. per ton, or the vessel being above 60 tons burthen.	Net amount of bounty allowed.
Cwt. 13,586½	£ s. d. 2,717 7 0	Barrels. ...	£ s. d. ...	£ s. d. 6,922 7 0	£ s. d. 184 16 0	£ s. d. 6,737 11 0

QUANTITY of Cod, Ling, and Hake, cured dried, and Quantity cured in Pickle, found entitled to the Bounty of 4s. per Cwt. or of 2s. 6d. per Barrel, granted by the Act 1 Geo. 4, c. 103, which have been taken or purchased by the Crews of Vessels or Open Boats employed in the Cod and Ling Fishery, *not on the Tonnage Bounty*, in the Year ended 5th April, 1824, distinguishing the Number of Fish taken or purchased, and the Amount of Bounty allowed.

Number of fish taken or purchased.	Quantity found entitled to bounty, with the amount of bounty allowed.				
	Cured dried.		Cured in pickle.		Total amount of bounty allowed.
		Amount of bounty.		Amount of bounty.	
	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
1,806,751	50,003½	10,000 13 0	5,437	679 12 6	10,680 5 6

QUANTITY of Cod, Ling, and Hake, cured dried, and Quantity cured in Pickle, found entitled to Bounty, under the Act 1 Geo. 4, c. 103, in the Year ended 5th April, 1824, distinguishing the total Number of Fish taken or purchased, and the total Amount of Bounty allowed.

Number of fish taken or purchased.	Quantity found entitled to bounty.			Total amount of bounty allowed.
	Cured dried.		Cured in pickle.	
	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	
2,226,509	63,590	5,437	17,417 16 6	

QUANTITY of Cod, Ling, and Hake, which have been exported in the Year ended 5th April, 1824; distinguishing the Quantity exported to Ireland, to other Places in Europe, and to Places out of Europe; and distinguishing also whether cured dried, or cured in Pickle.

Exported to Ireland.		To other places in Europe.		To places out of Europe.		Total exported.	
Cured dried.	Cured in pickle.	Cured dried.	Cured in pickle.	Cured dried.	Cured in pickle.	Cured dried.	Cured in pickle.
<i>Cwts. qrs. lbs.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Cwts. qrs. lbs.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Cwts. qrs. lbs.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Cwts. qrs. lbs.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>
4,395 3 17	...	13,433 1 8	...	4,768 3 6	...	23,098 0 3	...

QUANTITY of Oil manufactured from Fish taken on the Coasts of Great Britain, Ireland, or the Isle of Man, in the Year ended 5th April, 1824; distinguishing the Quantity found entitled to the Bounty of £3 per Ton, granted by the Act 1 Geo. IV. c. 103; and the Amount of Bounty allowed.

Quantity of oil manufactured.	Quantity at the rate of 8 barrels per ton, found entitled to bounty.	Amount of bounty allowed.
<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
1,679½	206½	620 5 0

AN ACCOUNT of the Duty on Hops of the Growth of the Year 1824; distinguishing the different Districts, and the Old and the New Duty.

Districts.	Duty.	
	£	s. d.
Barnstaple	49	8 10
Bedford	156	13 10
Cambridge	24	13 2
Canterbury	56,394	18 4
Chester	27	18 10
Cornwall	49	6 5 1/2
Derby	332	11 6
Dorset	128	15 10
Essex	1,895	11 6
Exeter	111	11 10
Gloucester	22	2 2
Grantham	95	18 8
Hants	7,050	17 6
Hereford	15,132	1 6
Herts	5	12 0
Isle of Wight	7	9 4
Lichfield	18	0 6 1/2
Lincoln	1,887	19 2
Marlboro'	23	2 4
Northampton	7	5 0
Oxford	39	15 4
Plymouth	34	19 0
Reading	76	7 0
Rochester	95,169	17 6
Sarum	5,196	19 0
Somerset	23	9 2
Stourbridge	1,099	7 2
Suffolk	710	18 6
Surrey	140	16 9
Sussex	68,161	18 6
Uxbridge	12	5 10
Wales, East	1	8 2
Wales, Middle	192	17 2
Wales, West	5	0 7 1/2
Wellington	1	13 6 1/2
Worcester	4,621	0 6
Total	258,838	5 3 1/2
Old duty, at 1d. 1/2 p. lb.	148,832	0 0 1/2
New duty, at 1/2 p. lb.	110,006	5 2 1/2
Total	258,838	5 3 1/2

QUANTITY of Hops exported from Great Britain to Ireland, from 5th January, 1824, to 5th January, 1825; also, an Account of Hops exported to Foreign Countries; also, an Account of Hops imported during the same Period.

Quantity of hops exported from Great Britain.		
Countries to which exported.	Year ending 5th January, 1825.	
	Cwts.	qrs. lbs.
Ireland	9,522	0 15
Other parts:		
Russia	23	0 10
Sweden	167	2 18
Norway	14	2 7
Denmark	26	0 24
Germany	20	3 17
France	4	2 0
Spain	16	2 7
Italy	0	2 0
Turkey	1	0 0
Isles of Guernsey, Jersey, and Man	247	0 5
East Indies and China	10	0 20
New Holland	133	1 23
Cape of Good Hope	114	3 0
British North American colonies	12	0 0
British West Indies	4	3 22
The Brazils	0	2 0
Total	10,320	0 0
Quantity of hops imported into Great Britain.		
Year ending 5th January, 1825	2,131 1 27	

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

Copy of a Proclamation and also of a Notification in Relation to the Act of 6 Geo. I., c. 18, for restraining several extravagant and unwarrantable Practices.

By the King.

A proclamation for putting in execution an act for the better securing certain powers and privileges intended to be granted by his majesty, by two charters for assurance of ships and merchandises at sea, and for lending money upon bottomry; and for restraining several extravagant and unwarrantable practices therein mentioned.

GEORGE R.

Whereas in and by an act made the last session of parliament (intituled "An act for better securing certain powers and privileges intended to be granted by his majesty, by two charters for assurance of ships and merchandises at sea, and for lending money upon bottomry; and for restraining several extravagant and unwarrantable practices therein mentioned,") reciting that several projects of different kinds

have, since the four-and-twentieth day of June, 1718, been publicly contrived and practised within the city of London and other parts of this kingdom, as also in Ireland and other our dominions, which manifestly tend to the common grievance of our subjects in their trade and other their affairs; and the persons contriving or attempting such mischievous projects, under false pretences of public good, had presumed to open books for public subscriptions, and drew in unwary persons to subscribe therein towards raising great sums of money, whereupon the subscribers or claimants under them paid small proportions thereof; which mischievous project related to several fisheries and other affairs wherein the trade and welfare of our subjects were concerned: and reciting, that in many cases the said undertakers or subscribers had, since the said twenty-fourth day of June, presumed to act as if they were corporate bodies, and had pretended to make their shares in stocks transferable without legal authority; and in some cases the undertakers or subscribers had acted, or pretended to act, under some charter or charters formerly granted for some particular

purposes, but had used the same for raising joint stocks, and for making pretended transfers or assignments for their own private lucre; and in some cases the undertakers or subscribers had acted under some obsolete charter or charters, although the same became void or voidable by non-user or abuser; or for want of making lawful elections which were necessary for the continuance thereof; and many other unwarrantable practices had been and might thereafter be contrived to the ruin of many of our good subjects, if a timely remedy were not provided: and reciting further, that it was become absolutely necessary, that all public undertakings and attempts, tending to the common grievance and prejudice of our subjects in their trade or other lawful affairs, should be effectually suppressed by suitable and adequate punishments, for that purpose to be established. Therefore, for suppressing such mischievous and dangerous undertakings and attempts, and for preventing the like for the future, it is in and by the said act enacted, that from and after the twenty-fourth day of June, one thousand seven hundred and twenty, all and every the undertakings and attempts described as aforesaid, and all other public undertakings and attempts tending to the common grievance, prejudice, and inconvenience of our subjects in their trade, commerce, or other lawful affairs, and all public subscriptions, receipts, payments, assignments, transfers, pretended assignments and transfers, and all other matters and things whatsoever for furthering, countenancing, or proceeding in any such undertaking or attempt, and more particularly the acting or presuming to act as a corporate body or bodies, the raising or pretending to raise transferable stock or stocks, the transferring or pretending to transfer or assign any share or shares in such stock or stocks without legal authority, either by act of parliament or any charter from the crown, to warrant such acting as a body corporate, or to raise such transferable stock or stocks, or to transfer shares therein, and all acting or pretending to act under any charter formerly granted from the crown for particular or special purposes therein expressed, by persons who should use or endeavour to use the same charters for raising a capital stock, or for making transfers or assignments or pretended transfers or assignments of such stock not intended or designed by such charter to be raised or transferred, and all acting or pretending to act under any obsolete charter become void or voidable by non-user or abuser, or for want of making lawful elections which were necessary to continue the corporation thereby intended, should (as to all or any such acts, matters, and things as should be done, attempted, and proceeded upon after the said twenty-fourth day of June, one thousand seven hundred and twenty) forever be deemed to be illegal and void, and should not be practised or in anywise put in execution. And it is in and by the said act further enacted,

that from and after the said twenty-fourth day of June, one thousand seven hundred and twenty, all such unlawful undertakings and attempts, so tending to the common grievance, prejudice, and inconvenience of our subjects in their trade, commerce, and other lawful affairs, and the making or taking of any subscription, for that purpose, the receiving or paying any money upon such subscriptions, the making or accepting of any assignment or transfer, or pretended assignment or transfer, of any share or shares upon any such subscription, and all and every other matter or thing whatsoever for furthering, countenancing, or proceeding in any such unlawful undertaking or attempt, and more particularly the presuming or pretending to act as a corporate body, or to raise a transferable stock or stocks, or to make transfers or assignments of any share or shares therein without such legal authority as aforesaid, and all acting or pretending to act under any charter formerly granted from the crown, for any special purposes, by persons making or endeavouring to make use of such charter for any such other purpose not thereby intended, and all acting or pretending to act under such obsolete charters as is before described, and every of them, (as to all or any such acts, matters, or things, as should be so done, attempted, or proceeded upon after the said twenty-fourth day of June one thousand seven hundred and twenty), should be deemed to be a public nuisance and nuisances; and the same, and all causes, matters, and things relating thereto, and every of them, should forever thereafter be tried and determined as common nuisances; and all offenders therein, being thereof lawfully convicted, upon information or indictment in any of our courts of record at Westminster, or in Edinburgh, or in Dublin, should be liable to such fines, penalties, and punishments, whereunto persons convicted for common and public nuisances are by any of the laws and statutes of this realm subject and liable, and moreover should incur and sustain such further pains, penalties, and forfeitures as were ordained and provided by the statute of provision and præmunire made in the sixteenth year of the reign of king Richard the Second: And it is in and by the said act further enacted, That if any merchant or trader, at any time after the said twenty-fourth day of June, one thousand seven hundred and twenty, should suffer any particular damage in his, her, or their trade, commerce, or other lawful affairs, by occasion or means of any undertaking or attempt, matter or thing by the said act declared to be unlawful as aforesaid, and should sue to be relieved therein, that then and in every such case such merchant or trader should and might have his and their remedy for the same by an action or actions to be grounded upon the said statute against the persons, societies, or partnerships, or any of them, who, contrary to the said acts, should be engaged or interested in any

such unlawful undertaking or attempt; and in every such action the plaintiff should recover treble damages, with full costs of suit: And it is in and by the said act further enacted, That if any broker, or person acting as a broker for himself, or in behalf of any others, at any time or times after the said twenty-fourth day of June, one thousand seven hundred and twenty, should bargain, sell, buy, or purchase, or contract or agree for the bargaining, selling, buying, or purchasing of any share or interest in any of the undertakings by the said act declared to be unlawful, or in any stock or pretended stock of such undertakers; that then and in every such case, every such broker, or person acting as such, should not only be disabled and rendered incapable to be or act as a broker for the future, but should also lose and forfeit the sum of five hundred pounds, to be recovered, one moiety thereof to the use of us, our heirs and successors, and the other moiety thereof to the use of any person or persons who should inform or sue for the same; in any of our said courts of record, with full costs of suit, as by the said act, amongst other clauses and things therein contained, more at large may appear: And whereas we are deeply sensible of the many mischievous consequences that must inevitably ensue from the unwarrantable practices in the said act mentioned, by ensnaring and defrauding unwary persons to their utter impoverishment and ruin, by taking off the minds of many of our subjects from attending their lawful employments, and by introducing a general neglect of trade and commerce, upon which the wealth and prosperity of our kingdoms so much depend, the promoting and encouragement whereof we have always at heart; and we, being determined, for the reasons aforesaid, to cause the said act to be effectually put in execution, but being also willing and desirous that none of our loving subjects should be ignorant of the same, nor unwarily subject themselves to the forfeiture of their lands and tenements, goods and chattels, and imprisonment of their persons, by incurring the penalty of praemunire thereby justly inflicted, have, by and with the advice of our privy council, thought fit to issue this our royal proclamation; And we do hereby strictly charge and command, that no person or persons whatsoever, bodies politic or corporate, do presume to commit or attempt any act, matter, or thing whatsoever, contrary to the provisions of the said act, and that the said act of parliament be in every particular punctually observed and kept, upon pain of the several penalties by the said act inflicted upon offenders against the same: And we do hereby declare, that we will cause the said act effectually to be put in execution; and that all assistance and due encouragement shall be given to all persons who shall discover and detect any offender or offenders against the same: And we do hereby strictly charge and command all

mayors, sheriffs, justices of the peace, and all others our officers and ministers, and all other our subjects, whom it may concern, to be very vigilant and strict in the discovery and effectual prosecution of all persons who shall in anywise offend in the premises, and that they do use their utmost diligence in causing the said act to be put in execution, upon pain of incurring our highest displeasure.

Given at our palace of St. James's, the eleventh day of June, 1720, and in the sixth year of our reign.

God save the King.

A true copy.

Council office, Whitehall,

28 April, 1825. C. GREVILLE, to

NOTIFICATION.

Whitehall, August 18th, 1720.

THE lords justices having received a memorial from the right honourable the lords commissioners of his majesty's treasury, and thereupon taking into consideration the great trade now carrying on in the buying and selling of stocks, not warranted by law, which must unavoidably turn to the destruction of public credit, and to the ruin of trade and of many private families, who unadvisedly engage therein; notwithstanding his majesty, out of his tender regard to the good of his subjects, had, by his royal proclamation of the 11th of June last, given sufficient warning of the severe penalties that would be incurred by such practices, which were such fines, penalties, and punishments, whereunto persons convicted for common and public nuisances are, by any of the laws and statutes of this realm, subject and liable; and moreover, such further pains, penalties, and forfeitures, as were ordained and provided by the statute of provision and praemunire, made in the 16th year of king Richard II. viz. forfeiture of lands and tenements, goods and chattels, and imprisonment, and a penalty of 500*l.* for every broker, or person acting as a broker; (besides inability and incapacity to act as a broker for the future), one moiety thereof to the crown, and the other moiety thereof to the informer; or person suing for the same in any of his majesty's courts of record, with full costs of suit.

Their excellencies being attended this day by Mr. Attorney-General, according to their order, gave him express directions to bring writs of *scire facias* against the charters or patents of the companies following:

York Buildings Company,

Lustring company,

English Copper,

Welsh Copper and Lead.

And also against any other charters or patents which have been or shall be made use of or acted under, contrary to the intent or meaning of an act passed in the last session of parliament, for restraining several extravagant and unwarrantable practices therein mentioned, intituled *ff. An.*

<p>“ Act for better securing certain powers and privileges intended to be granted by his majesty, by two charters, for assurance of ships and merchandise at sea, and for lending money on bottomry ; and for restraining several extravagant and unwarrantable practices therein mentioned.” And likewise to prosecute with the utmost severity all persons who have opened or shall open any books for public subscriptions ; who have paid or received, or shall pay or receive, any money upon such subscription ; who have made or accepted, or shall make or accept, any transfer or pretended transfer of any share</p>	<p>or shares upon such subscriptions, contrary to the true intent and meaning of the said act ; or who have acted, or shall in anywise act or offend against the same.—Of which their excellencies have ordered public notice to be given in the Gazette, as a further caution to prevent the drawing of unwary persons for the future into practices contrary to law ; and of which the consequences may prove so grievous and fatal to the offenders.</p> <p>A true copy.</p> <p>Whitehall, April 22, 1825.</p>
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H. HORHOUSE.

LABOURERS' WAGES.

ABSTRACT of the Answers to the three following Queries, put to the various Districts and Parishes of the several Counties of England and Wales.

Counties.	Answers.	Answers.	Average answers.
Bedfordshire.....	Neither	Fivepence	Eight shillings and sevenpence
Berks.....	Diminished	Sixpence	Eight shillings and ninepence
Bucks.....	Diminished	Fivepence	Eight shillings and threepence
Cambridgeshire.....	Increased	Sixpence	Nine shillings
Cheshire.....	Diminished	One shilling and fourpence	Ten shillings and eightpence
Cornwall.....	Neither	Sixpence	Eight shillings and threepence
Cumberland.....	Diminished	One shilling and twopence	Twelve shillings and twopence
Derbyshire.....	Diminished	Sixpence	Ten shillings and ninepence
Devonshire.....	Diminished	Eightpence	Seven shillings and ninepence
Dorsetshire.....	Diminished	Sixpence	Seven shillings
Durham.....	Diminished	One shilling	Twelve shillings and sixpence
Essex.....	Diminished	Sixpence	Nine shillings and fourpence
Gloucestershire.....	Diminished	Sixpence	Nine shillings and twopence
Hants.....	Increased	Sixpence	Eight shillings and sixpence
Herefordshire.....	Diminished	Sixpence	Seven shillings
Hertfordshire.....	Neither	Sixpence	Nine shillings
Huntingdonshire.....	Increased	Sixpence	Seven shillings and sixpence
Kent.....	Increased	Eightpence	Eleven shillings and fivepence
Lancaster.....	Diminished	One shilling	Twelve shillings and threepence
Leicestershire.....	Diminished	Sixpence	Ten shillings
Lincolnshire.....	Neither	Eightpence	Ten shillings and twopence
Middlesex.....	Diminished	Ninepence	Eleven shillings and threepence
Monmouth.....	Diminished	One shilling and twopence	Ten shillings
Norfolk.....	Increased	Sixpence	Nine shillings
Northamptonshire.....	Increased	Sixpence	Eight shillings
Northumberland.....	Diminished	One shilling	Eleven shillings and fivepence
Nottinghamshire.....	Diminished	Ninepence	Ten shillings and threepence
Oxfordshire.....	Increased	Sixpence	Eight shillings and twopence
Shropshire.....	Diminished	Eightpence	Nine shillings
Somersetshire.....	Diminished	One shilling	Nine shillings
Staffordshire.....	Diminished	One shilling	Ten shillings and sixpence
Suffolk.....	Increased	Sixpence	Eight shillings and twopence
Sussex.....	Increased	Sixpence	Nine shillings and sixpence
Surrey.....	Diminished	Eightpence	Ten shillings and sixpence
Warwickshire.....	Diminished	Sixpence	Eight shillings and ninepence
Wiltshire.....	Increased	Fourpence	Seven shillings and sixpence
Worcestershire.....	Diminished	Eightpence	Ten shillings and fourpence
Yorkshire, North Riding.....	Diminished	Eightpence	Ten shillings and threepence
Yorkshire, East Riding.....	Diminished	Eightpence	Eleven shillings and eightpence
Yorkshire, West Riding.....	Diminished	One shilling and fourpence	Twelve shillings and fivepence
Anglesey.....	Increased	—	Seven shillings and sixpence
Breconshire.....	Diminished	Tenpence and meat	Nine shillings and fourpence
Caermarthenshire.....	Increased	Ninepence	Seven shillings and fourpence
Denbighshire.....	Diminished	Fifteenpence	Nine shillings and fourpence
Flintshire.....	Diminished	Eighteenpence	Eleven shillings
Glamorganshire.....	Diminished	Eightpence	Twelve shillings and eightpence
Merionethshire.....	Increased	Sixpence	Seven shillings
Montgomeryshire.....	Neither	One shilling	Eight shillings and threepence
Pembrokeshire.....	Diminished	Eightpence	Six shillings and twopence
Radnorshire.....	Diminished	One shilling	Seven shillings and sixpence

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantities and Official Value of Hemp and Flax, dressed and undressed, from Foreign Parts, in the Year ended 5th January, 1835:

	Countries whence imported.	Imports into
		Hemp dressed.
		Cwt. q. lb.
Import into Great Britain.	Russia	
	Sweden	
	Prussia	
	Germany	
	Holland	
	Flanders	
	France	
	Madeira	
	Italy	
	Malta	
	Turkey	
	Guernsey, Jersey, and Man (produce)	
	(foreign)	
	East Indies	
	Cape of Good Hope	
America, British Colonies		
United States		
	Total into Great Britain	
Import into Ireland.	Russia	
	Prussia	
	Holland	
	Italy	
	Guernsey, Jersey, and Man (foreign)	
	Total into Ireland	
Total quantities imported into the United Kingdom from foreign parts		
	Official value thereof, viz.	£ s. d.
	Great Britain	
	Ireland	
	Total	

Hemp Tow, Flax Tow, and Linen Yarns, imported into Great Britain and Ireland, respectively, distinguishing the Countries whence imported.

Great Britain and Ireland from foreign parts, in the Year ended 5th January, 1825.									
Hemp undressed.		Flax dressed.		Flax undressed.		Hemp tow.	Flax tow.	Linen yarn.	
Cwts.	q. lbs.	Cwts.	q. lbs.	Cwts.	q. lbs.	Cwts.	q. lbs.	Cwts.	q. lbs.
532,753	2 14	...	...	443,184	1 19	...	993 1 6	13,968	1 6
1,595	0 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
422	2 25	...	...	43,654	2 20	...	...	21,611	2 15
...	...	...	...	1,069	3 2	...	3 3 0	20,200	2 6
16	2 15	...	...	105,255	3 26	...	531 2 23	3 1 0	...
13	3 5	0 0 1½	...	93,527	0 12	...	10,294 1 11	2 0 24	...
...	...	0 0 8	...	29,430	2 22	...	6,355 3 19	9 2 13	...
...	...	...	...	1 0 0	...	...	...	...	...
2,645	3 24	...	...	488 0 15	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	271 1 24	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	1,805 2 12	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	60 2 6	...	...	...	2 0 20	...
...	...	...	...	40 0 0	...	...	...	...	...
3,951	3 21	...	...	41 0 21	...	...	...	...	...
30	0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
0	2 24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
550	2 12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
547,036	0 6	0 0 9½	...	718,630	2 11	...	18,184 0 3	55,797	3 0
24,606	0 23	...	...	4,711 2 20	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	406 1 16	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	438 2 16	...	...	...	1 2 16	...
273	1 13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	0 1	...	...	20 0 0	...	...	...	...	...
24,899	2 9	...	...	5,576 2 24	...	...	...	1 2 16	...
571,935	2 15	0 0 9½	...	724,407 1 7	...	...	18,184 0 3	55,799	1 16
£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
464,980	12 7	0 10 3	...	1,455,709	10 10	...	8,364 12 8	336,379	6 3
17,812	15 6	...	...	9,008	10 9	...	...	16 16 0	...
482,793	8 1	0 10 3	...	1,464,718	1 7	...	8,364 12 8	336,396	2 3

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantities and Official Value of Hemp, Flax, and Linen Yarn, exported January, 1825; distinguishing British, Irish, and Foreign

	Countries to which exported.	Quantities exported from		
		Hemp dressed, British.	Hemp undressed.	
			British.	Foreign.
		Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.	Cwts. q. lbs.
Export from Great Britain.	Russia . . . . .	...	...	...
	Norway . . . . .	...	...	...
	Germany . . . . .	...	...	...
	Holland . . . . .	...	...	160 0 0
	France . . . . .	...	...	506 1 10
	Portugal, the Azores, and Madeira . . . . .	...	...	3,732 3 8
	Spain and the Canaries . . . . .	...	...	1,030 0 0
	Gibraltar . . . . .	...	...	0 2 7
	Italy . . . . .	...	...	...
	Isles of Guernsey, Jersey, and Man . . . . .	...	...	702 0 10
	British North American colonies	1 0 0	...	1,739 3 5
British West Indies	39 0 12	2 2 0	...	
United States of America . . . . .	...	...	200 0 0	
	Total export from Great Britain	40 0 12	2 2 0	8,011 2 12
Export from Ireland.	Norway . . . . .	...	...	...
	Portugal . . . . .	...	...	...
	Isle of Man . . . . .	...	...	...
	British North American colonies . . . . .	...	...	...
	British West Indies . . . . .	...	...	...
	Total export from Ireland	...	...	...
	Total quantities exported from the United Kingdom to foreign parts	40 0 12	2 2 0	8,011 2 12
	Official values; viz.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
	Great Britain	200 10 8	3 2 6	10,014 10 2
	Ireland . . . . .	...	...	...
	Total	200 10 8	3 2 6	10,014 10 2

from Great Britain and Ireland, respectively, to Foreign Countries, in the Year ended 5th Produce, and the Countries to which exported.

Great Britain and Ireland to foreign parts, in the year ended 5th January, 1825.							
Flax dressed.			Flax undressed.			Linen yarn.	
British.	Irish.	Foreign.	British.	Irish.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
<i>Cwts. q. lbs.</i>	<i>Cwts. q. lbs.</i>	<i>Cwts. q. lbs.</i>	<i>Cwts. q. lbs.</i>	<i>Cwts. q. lbs.</i>	<i>Cwts. q. lbs.</i>	<i>Cwts. q. lbs.</i>	<i>Cwts. q. lbs.</i>
...	...	...	...	...	1 0 0	0 3 6	...
1 2 0	...	...	...	...	2 0 0	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0 0
...
...	40 0 0	...	8 0 0	...	6,718 0 27	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	4,782 0 2	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	3 2 8	...
...	...	...	...	134 2 2	68 2 22	24 0 26	...
...	...	...	...	...	20 0 0	...	...
...	...	4 3 8	...	900 0 0	...	77 2 20	...
1 2 0	40 0 0	4 3 8	8 0 0	1,034 2 2	11,591 3 23	106 1 4	8 0 0
...	...	...	...	11 0 0	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	7 3 0	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	41 0 0	...	...	...
...	2 1 18	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	20 0 0	80 0 0	...	...
...	2 1 18	...	...	79 3 0	80 0 0	...	...
1 2 0	42 1 18	4 3 8	8 0 0	1,114 1 2	11,671 3 23	106 1 4	8 0 0
<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>	<i>£ s. d.</i>
12 0 0	320 0 0	38 11 5	16 0 0	2,069 0 0	24,632 18 1	637 14 3	89 12 0
...	3 17 10	...	...	73 12 4	129 4 7	...	...
12 0 0	323 17 10	38 11 5	16 0 0	2,142 12 4	24,762 2 8	637 14 3	89 12 0

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantities and Official Value of Irish Hemp, Flax, Flax Tow, and Linen Yarns imported into Great Britain, in the Year ended 5th January 1825.

Imports into Great Britain from Ireland, in the year ended 5th January, 1825.																		
	Hemp dressed.		Hemp undressed.				Flax dressed, Irish.		Flax undressed, Irish.		Flax tow, Irish.		Linen yarn, Irish.					
	Cwts.	q. lbs.	Cwts.	q.	lbs.	Cwts.	q.	lbs.	Cwts.	q.	lbs.	Cwts.	q.	lbs.				
Quantities imported	0	2 16	62	2	0	1	2	20	39,250	0	12	9,992	2	6	2,207	0	20	
Official value thereof.....	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
	0.	10 11	53	2	6	6	14	3	74,303	18	10	4,281	16	4	17,192	17	6	

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantities and Official Value of Hemp, Flax, and Linen Yarn exported from Great Britain to Ireland, in the Year ended 5th January 1825.

Exports from Great Britain to Ireland.												
	Hemp undressed, Foreign.		Flax undressed, Irish.		Flax undressed, Foreign.		Flax dressed, British.		Linen yarn, British.		Linen yarn, Foreign.	
	Cwts.	q. lbs.	Cwts.	q. lbs.	Cwts.	q. lbs.	Cwts.	q. lbs.	Cwts.	q. lbs.	Cwts.	q. lbs.
Quantities exported	2,660	3 0	41	0 0	911	2 6	2	1 14	1,991	1 4	9	0 0
Official values thereof	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
	3,316	1 2	82	0 0	1,937	1 0	11	0 0	12,210	3 9	54	0 0

AN ACCOUNT of the Values real and official, and the Number of Yards of British and of Irish Year ended 5th January, 1825; distinguishing the Countries to which the Exportations were Bounty was paid in England, Scotland, and Ireland, respectively, and the Amount of Bounty

Quantity of British and Irish Linen Cloth of all sorts, exported from England,

Countries to which exported.		England.	
		British linen.	Irish linen.
		Yards.	Yards.
Europe	Russia . . . . .	...	...
	Norway	6,529	60
	Denmark	835	27
	Prussia . . . . .	...	103
	Germany	14,863	2,234
	Holland	4,639	1,367
	Flanders	7,740	2,739
	France	19,068	700
	Portugal, Azores and Madeira	940,064	484,954
	Spain and the Canaries	1,876,031	728,651
	Gibraltar	4,466,634	1,447,815
	Italy	111,254	16,226
	Malta	105,110	81,864
	The Ionian Islands	1,000	...
Turkey	10,304	1,235	
Isles Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney and Man	255,033	7,069	
		7,819,104	2,774,984
Asia	423,297	7,542	
Africa	292,985	11,069	
America	833,130	135,371	
	British colonies in North America	1,165	...
	Columbia river	6,067,328	2,046,991
	British West Indies	3,807,676	1,181,244
	Foreign West Indies	5,284,265	4,133,921
	United States	5,472,046	2,620,045
	Brazil	123,741	87,255
	Mexico	667,247	120,612
	Columbia	165,494	67,110
	Peru	418,131	242,829
	Chili	633,998	555,686
	Buenos Ayres and Monté Video		
	Total	32,009,607	13,984,659
	Of the above total, the proportion exported on bounty was	Yards. 29,772,655½	Yards. 11,852,392
	And the amount of bounty paid thereon	£185,679 8 6½	£73,955 16 0½

Linen Cloth exported to foreign Parts from England, Scotland, and Ireland respectively, in the made, together with the aggregate Number of Yards of British and Irish Linens, upon which paid thereon in the same Year.

Scotland, and Ireland to foreign Parts, in the Year ending 5th January, 1825.

Scotland.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.	
British linen.	Irish linen.	British linen.	Irish linen.	British linen.	Irish linen.
Yards.	Yards.	Yards.	Yards.	Yards.	Yards.
724	...	...	2,947	724	3,007
1,031	...	...	...	7,560	27
...	...	...	...	835	103
4,006	...	...	...	18,869	2,234
...	...	...	...	4,639	1,367
...	...	...	...	7,740	2,739
...	...	...	...	19,068	700
42,095	...	...	36,275	932,159	521,229
812	1,038	...	25	1,876,843	729,714
2,610,802	8,668	...	46,755	7,077,436	1,503,238
725	60	...	...	111,979	16,286
10,354	...	...	...	115,464	81,804
...	...	...	...	1,000	...
...	...	...	...	10,304	1,235
5	...	...	27,887	255,038	34,956
2,670,554	9,766	...	113,889	10,489,658	2,398,639
1,886	40	...	...	425,183	7,582
...	...	...	...	292,985	11,069
1,121,634	101,324	2,340	146,703	1,957,104	363,308
...	...	...	...	1,165	...
4,292,567	715,549	...	1,277,902	10,359,895	4,040,442
879,903	67,386	...	...	4,687,579	1,248,630
4,457,765	52,801	...	1,425,307	9,742,030	5,612,089
347,589	43,460	...	60,226	5,819,635	2,723,731
18,041	...	...	...	141,782	87,255
...	...	...	...	667,247	120,612
60,767	...	...	...	226,261	67,110
...	...	...	...	418,131	242,829
8,881	16,894	...	...	642,879	572,580
13,859,587	1,007,220	2,340	3,024,087	45,871,534	18,015,966
Yards. 12,474,234½	Yards. 920,837	Yards. ...	Yards. 2,768,840½	Yards. 42,246,890	Yards. 15,542,069½
£75,920 11 10½	£5,755 4 7½	...	£17,114 13 10½	£261,600 0 5	£96,825 14 6½

Official Value of British and Irish Linen Cloth, of all sorts, exported from Englan

Countries to which exported.		England.	
		British linen.	Irish linen.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Europe	Russia . . . . .	...	...
	Norway	297 0 9	3 0 0
	Denmark	35 3 0	1 7 0
	Prussia . . . . .	...	5 3 0
	Germany	734 2 5	111 14 0
	Holland	284 12 0	68 7 0
	Flanders	352 17 0	136 19 0
	France	938 10 0	35 0 0
	Portugal, Azores, and Madeira	46,886 2 0	24,247 14 0
	Spain and the Canaries	93,711 15 0	36,432 11 0
	Gibraltar	223,031 15 0	72,400 15 0
	Italy	5,435 17 8	811 6 0
	Malta	5,116 1 7	4,190 4 0
	The Ionian Islands	50 0 0	...
	Turkey	443 8 0	61 15 0
Isles Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, and Man	11,354 3 9	353 9 0	
	388,671 8 2	138,759 4 0	
Asia	18,270 5 7	377 2 0	
Africa	13,817 10 1	553 9 0	
America	British colonies in North America	38,243 9 3	6,771 3 0
	Columbia River	58 5 0	...
	British West Indies	301,898 4 7	102,594 11 0
	Foreign West Indies	189,999 4 0	59,062 4 0
	United States	263,568 1 0	206,695 1 0
	Brazil	271,251 14 0	131,002 5 0
	Mexico	6,177 3 0	4,362 15 0
	Columbia	33,324 6 0	6,030 12 0
	Peru	8,199 18 0	3,351 2 0
	Chili	20,840 15 0	12,141 9 0
Buenos Ayres and Monte Video	30,927 1 0	27,784 6 0	
Total	£1,585,247 4 8	699,285 3 0	

Scotland, and Ireland, to Foreign Parts, in the Year ending 5th January, 1825.

Scotland.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.	
British linen.	Irish linen.	British linen.	Irish linen.	British linen.	Irish linen.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
34 1 6	...	...	...	34 1 6	...
55 16 11	...	...	193 12 2	352 17 8	196 12 2
...	...	...	...	35 3 0	1 7 0
...	...	...	...	...	5 3 0
187 2 11	...	...	...	921 5 4	111 14 0
...	...	...	...	284 12 0	68 7 0
...	...	...	...	352 17 0	136 19 0
...	...	...	...	938 10 0	35 0 0
2,280 2 11	...	...	2,232 6 2	49,166 4 11	26,480 0 2
37 18 4	77 17 0	...	1 10 9	93,749 13 4	36,511 18 9
141,013 16 4	650 2 0	...	2,877 4 7	364,045 11 4	75,928 1 7
30 5 5	4 10 0	...	...	5,475 3 1	815 16 0
485 8 6	...	...	...	5,601 10 1	4,090 4 0
...	...	...	...	50 0 0	...
...	...	...	...	443 8 0	61 15 0
0 5 0	...	...	1,716 2 5	11,354 8 9	2,069 11 5
144,133 17 10	732 9 0	...	7,020 16 1	532,805 6 0	147,512 9 1
95 6 9	3 0 0	...	..	18,365 12 4	380 2 0
...	..	...	...	13,817 10 1	553 9 0
59,266 8 7	7,599 6 0	126 0 0	9,056 6 7	97,635 17 10	23,426 15 7
...	...	...	...	58 5 0	...
232,051 18 8	53,666 3 6	...	79,918 6 2	533,950 3 3	235,979 0 8
47,640 12 1	5,053 19 0	...	...	237,639 16 1	64,113 3 0
241,195 3 5	3,960 1 6	...	90,852 0 8	504,763 4 5	301,507 3 2
18,827 14 9	3,259 10 0	...	3,711 2 2	290,079 8 9	137,972 17 2
977 4 5	...	...	...	7,154 7 5	4,362 15 0
..	...	...	...	33,324 6 0	6,030 12 0
3,291 10 11	...	...	...	11,491 8 11	3,351 2 0
..	...	...	...	20,840 15 0	12,141 9 0
473 7 4	1,267 1 0	...	...	31,400 8 4	29,051 7 0
747,953 4 9	75,541 10 0	126 0 0	190,558 11 8	2,333,326 9 5	965,385 4 8

Declared Value of British and Irish Linen Cloth, of all sorts, exported from England.

Countries to which exported.		England.					
		British linen.		Irish linen.			
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Europe	Russia .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Norway	331	5	0	2	0	0
	Denmark	61	19	0	3	0	0
	Prussia .....	...	...	...	6	10	0
	Germany	1,111	7	0	289	0	0
	Holland	390	0	0	147	0	0
	Flanders	537	0	0	277	12	0
	France	1,908	16	0	60	0	0
	Portugal, Azores, and Madeira	33,976	7	6	21,368	1	0
	Spain and the Canaries	72,304	6	9	29,397	15	0
	Gibraltar	165,413	14	4	65,507	6	0
	Italy	10,454	12	11	1,484	10	0
	Malta	4,425	12	0	4,212	17	0
	The Ionian Islands	80	0	0	...	...	...
	Turkey	668	0	0	135	0	0
Isles Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, and Man	17,229	6	10	516	0	0	
		308,892	7	4	123,406	11	0
Asia		24,980	12	1	1,060	18	0
Africa		13,542	4	5	830	12	0
America	British colonies in North America	45,911	12	11	8,070	6	8
	Columbia River	36	10	0	...	...	...
	British West Indies	210,353	5	2	108,958	15	7
	Foreign West Indies	131,548	8	6	55,626	12	0
	United States	189,057	11	0	262,988	9	5
	Brazil	204,207	11	11	117,926	18	2
	Mexico	5,051	10	0	4,520	0	0
	Columbia	24,635	15	0	4,609	0	0
	Peru	6,683	0	0	2,983	0	0
	Chill	19,346	0	0	12,899	0	0
	Buenos Ayres and Monte Video	25,769	0	0	25,884	0	0
	Total	£ 1,210,015	8	4	729,764	2	10

Scotland, and Ireland, to Foreign Parts, in the Year ending 5th January, 1825.

Scotland.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.	
British linen.	Irish linen.	British linen.	Irish linen.	British linen.	Irish linen.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
52 0 0	...	...	...	52 0 0	...
128 10 8	...	...	212 0 6	459 15 8	214 0 6
...	...	...	...	61 19 0	3 0 0
...	...	...	...	...	6 10 0
262 11 0	...	...	...	1,373 18 0	289 0 0
...	...	...	...	390 0 0	147 0 0
...	...	...	...	537 0 0	277 12 0
...	...	...	...	1,908 16 0	60 0 0
1,370 2 4	...	...	2,174 10 0	35,346 9 10	23,542 11 0
34 10 0	56 10 3	...	2 7 6	72,338 16 9	29,456 12 9
82,834 13 8	459 11 6	...	1,543 1 9	248,248 8 0	67,509 19 3
50 0 0	3 0 0	...	...	10,504 12 11	1,487 10 0
461 1 10	...	...	...	4,886 13 10	4,212 17 0
...	...	...	...	80 0 0	...
...	...	...	...	668 0 0	135 0 0
2 0 0	...	...	1,763 14 5	17,231 6 10	2,279 14 5
85,195 9 6	519 1 9	...	5,695 14 2	394,087 16 10	129,621 6 11
140 0 0	3 0 0	...	...	25,120 12 1	1,063 18 0
...	...	...	...	13,542 4 5	830 12 0
38,011 1 11	4,944 3 10	181 0 0	9,073 12 3	84,103 14 10	22,088 2 9
...	...	...	...	36 10 0	...
120,593 6 3	28,550 6 1	...	68,713 8 2	830,946 11 5	206,222 9 10
21,338 9 1	2,786 17 10	...	...	152,886 17 7	58,413 9 10
122,245 14 0	2,099 0 8	...	88,200 2 2	311,303 5 0	353,287 12 3
8,884 11 9	1,112 5 10	...	3,434 15 6	213,092 3 8	122,473 19 6
629 19 11	...	...	...	5,681 9 11	4,520 0 0
...	...	...	...	24,635 15 0	4,609 0 0
1,690 7 5	...	...	...	8,373 7 5	2,983 0 0
...	...	...	...	19,346 0 0	12,899 0 0
323 9 4	708 4 2	...	...	26,092 9 4	26,592 4 2
399,052 9 2	40,723 0 2	181 0 0	175,117 12 3	1,609,248 17 6	945,604 15 3

AN ACCOUNT of the respective Quantities of Foreign and Irish Linens retained for Home Consumption in Great Britain in the Year ended 5th January, 1825.

Species of linen.		Quantity of linen retained for home consumption in Great Britain.	
		<i>Ells.</i>	
Foreign linen.....	Plain of Germany, Silesia, &c.	8,921 $\frac{1}{4}$	
	— of Russia	179,453 $\frac{3}{4}$	
	— of the Netherlands.....	444 $\frac{1}{4}$	
	Canvass, Hessen.....	181	
	— packing or spruce	4,391 $\frac{1}{4}$	
	Hinderlands, brown	26	
	Drilling and pack duck.....	7,418	
	Sail cloth.....	198	
	Total number of ells	201,033 $\frac{3}{4}$	
			<i>Yards.</i>
		Damask and diaper of Silesia, &c.	8,671
		— of the Netherlands	103 $\frac{3}{4}$
	Total number of yards	8,774 $\frac{3}{4}$	
			<i>Pieces.</i>
	Cambrics and French lawns	29,447 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	Silesia lawns	5	
	Total number of pieces	29,452 $\frac{1}{2}$	
		<i>Declared value.</i>	
	Unrated, chequered, striped, &c.....	48 6 2	
	— not chequered, striped, &c.	671 12 11	
	Sails (foreign made)	1,085 5 6	
Total entered at value	1,805 4 7		
		<i>Yards.</i>	
Linen of Ireland and the Isle of Man	31,314,533		

AN ACCOUNT of the Values, real and official, and the Number of Yards of Irish Linen exported from Ireland to England and Scotland respectively, in the Year ended 5th January, 1825.

		Irish linen exported from Ireland.
		<i>Yards.</i>
Quantities exported to	England	41,045,178
	Scotland	5,421,772
	Great Britain	46,466,950
Values thereof, viz.	Real value	£ 2,412,858
	Official value	£ 1,933,124

AN ACCOUNT of the Values, real and official, and the Number of Yards of British Linen exported from Great Britain to Ireland, in the Year ended 5th January, 1825.

	British linen cloth exported from Great Britain to Ireland.		
	Quantity.	Official value.	Real or declared value.
	Yards.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Year ended 5th January, 1825	76,649	3,863 18 2	6,352 11 8

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of all Foreign Linens, imported and exported into and from which exported, in the Year ended 5th January, 1825:

Species and quantities of foreign linens,						
Countries from which imported.	Plain of Germany, Silesia, &c.	Plain of Russia.	Plain of the Netherlands.	Canvass Hessen.	Canvass packing or spruce.	Hinderlands brown.
	<i>Ells.</i>	<i>Ells.</i>	<i>Ells.</i>	<i>Ells.</i>	<i>Ells.</i>	<i>Ells.</i>
Russia .....	...	197,469½	...	...	...	26
Sweden and Norway .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Denmark .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Prussia	129	...	...	...	225	...
Germany	15,377½	...	...	181	674	...
Holland	5,242½	...	38	...	20	...
Flanders .....	...	...	38	...	40	...
France	62½	...	355½	...	3,047½	...
Guernsey and Jersey .....	...	6,610	...	...	60	...
Other countries in Europe	282	...	13	...	...	...
East Indies .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
America, &c. ....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total into Great Britain ...	21,093½	204,079½	444½	181	4,066½	26
Import into Ireland.						
Russia .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Prussia	12	...	...	...	...	...
Germany .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Holland	152	...	...	...	...	...
Portugal .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Guernsey and Jersey	42	...	...	...	...	...
United States of America .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total into Ireland ...	206	...	...	...	...	...
Total quantities of foreign linen imported into the United Kingdom ...	21,299½	204,079½	444½	181	4,066½	26

Great Britain and Ireland respectively; distinguishing the Countries from which imported, and together with the Amount of Duty paid upon the Transit.

imported into Great Britain and Ireland.								
Drilling and pack duck.	Sail cloth.	Damask and diaper of Silesia, &c.	Damask and diaper of the Netherlands.	Cambrics and French lawns.	Silesia lawns.	Sails.	Unrated, chequered, striped, &c.	Unrated, not chequered, striped, &c.
<i>Ells.</i>	<i>Ells.</i>	<i>Yards.</i>	<i>Yards.</i>	<i>Pieces.</i>	<i>Pieces.</i>	<i>Declared value.</i>	<i>Declared value.</i>	<i>Declared value.</i>
11,903	18	...	...	...	...	£155 3 0	...	£25 11 6
...	...	...	...	...	...	53 18 6	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	10 17 1	...	0 2 6
...	...	...	...	...	...	28 16 4	...	136 8 2
...	20	8,020 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	5	79 9 0	...	38 13 1
...	...	...	...	...	8	29 10 4	£ 5 8 6	...
...	...	...	33	...	...	11 3 0	2 17 0	8 18 0
...	...	258 $\frac{1}{2}$	70 $\frac{1}{2}$	30,496 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	58 1 6	30 14 8	455 4 0
...	...	...	...	...	...	3 10 4	...	...
...	160	244 $\frac{1}{2}$	...	...	...	39 8 9	...	20 18 0
...	...	...	...	...	...	454 11 8	...	24 18 0
...	...	...	...	...	...	110 16 0	0 6 0	5 16 8
11,903	198	8,524	103 $\frac{1}{2}$	30,496 $\frac{1}{2}$	13	1,085 5 6	48 6 2	716 9 11
...	...	...	...	...	...	£ 10 13 10	...	...
...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	2 7 7	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	3 10 0	...	£ 8 0 0
...	...	...	...	...	...	16 4 6	...	...
...
...	...	...	...	...	...	10 0 0	...	2 10 0
...	...	2	...	...	...	42 15 11	...	10 10 0
11,903	198	8,526	103 $\frac{1}{2}$	30,496 $\frac{1}{2}$	13	1,128 1 5	48 6 2	726 19 11

Countries to which exported.	Species and quantities of foreign linens					
	Plain of Germany, Silesia, &c.	Plain of Russia.	Plain of the Netherlands.	Canvass, hessen.	Canvass, packing, or spruce.	Hinderlands brown.
	<i>Ells.</i>	<i>Ells.</i>	<i>Ells.</i>	<i>Ells.</i>	<i>Ells.</i>	<i>Ells.</i>
Madeira .....	...	644	...	...	...	...
Gibraltar.....	2,849	...	...	...	...	...
Asia.....	...	2,400	...	...	...	...
Africa .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
America, British colonies .....	...	10	...	...	...	...
British West Indies.....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Foreign West Indies .....	...	6,600	...	...	...	...
United States	1,807	16,887½	...	...	...	...
Columbia	6,549	...	...	...	...	...
Brazil	3,556	...	...	...	...	...
Total from Great Britain.....	14,761	26,541½	...	...	...	...
Export from Ireland. } United States of America .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total quantities of foreign linens exported from the United Kingdom }	14,761	26,541½	...	...	...	...

Amount of duty received on the transit of foreign linens ; viz:—

Duty of £15 per centum ad valorem on exportation from the warehouses, by act 50 Geo. 3, c. 26

Rated duties retained on foreign linens imported and secured in warehouses, and exported from such warehouses to foreign parts, by act 51 Geo. 3, c. 44, continued by act 59 Geo. 3, c. 52

exported from Great Britain and Ireland.

Drilling and pack duck.	Sail cloth.	Damask and diaper of Silesia, &c.	Damask and diaper of the Netherlands.	Cambrics and French lawns.	Silesia lawns.	Sails.	Unrated, chequered, striped, &c.	Unrated, not chequered, striped, &c.
<i>Ells.</i>	<i>Ells.</i>	<i>Yards.</i>	<i>Yards.</i>	<i>Pieces.</i>	<i>Pieces.</i>	<i>Declared value.</i>	<i>Declared value.</i>	<i>Declared value.</i>
221	11	...	...	...	...
...	34	...	...	...	...
...	...	345	...	70	...	...	...	...
...	£15 17 0
...	265	...	...	...	...
...	268	...	...	...	...
...	2 0 0
...	8	...	...	...
...	26 0 0
221	...	345	...	648	8	...	...	43 17 0
...	£22 0 0	...	...
221	...	345	...	648	8	£22 0 0	...	43 17 0

	Great Britain.	Ireland.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.]
..	309 3 0	...	309 3 0
..	230 18 3	...	230 18 3
	540 1 3	...	540 1 3

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Linen Cloth of all sorts, exported from Great Britain to Ireland, and to Foreign Countries, in the Year ended 5th January, 1825; distinguishing British, Irish, and Foreign Linens.

		Linen of all sorts exported from Great Britain.													
		To Ireland.				To foreign countries.				Total export.					
		Pieces.	Yards.	Pieces.	Ells.	Yards.	£	s.	d.	Pieces.	Ells.	Yards.	£	s.	d.
British linens	.....	..	76,649	...	...	45,869,194	...	...	...	..	...	45,045,843	...	...	...
Irish linens	.....	...	182,513	...	...	14,991,879	...	...	...	..	...	15,174,302	...	...	...
Foreign linens	.....	808	...	656	41,523½	345	43	17	0	1,464	41,523½	345	43	17	0
Total	.....	808	259,162	656	41,523½	60,861,418	43	17	0	1,464	41,523½	61,120,500	43	17	0

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Linen Cloth of all sorts exported from Ireland to Great Britain and Foreign Countries, in the Year ended 5th January, 1825; distinguishing British, Irish, and Foreign Linen.

	Quantity of linen exported from Ireland: to		
	Great Britain.	Foreign countries.	All parts of the world.
British linen	Yards. ...	Yards, 2,340	Yards, 2,340
Irish linen	46,466,950	3,024,087	49,491,037
Foreign linen	...	Declared value £ 22.	Declared value £ 22.
Total	46,466,950	3,026,427 and £ 22.	49,493,377 and £ 22.

LIVERPOOL.

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantities of the principal Articles imported into Liverpool during each of the last Five Years.

Principal articles.	Years ending 5th January.				
	1821	1822	1823	1824	1825
Ashes, pearl & pot.....cwts. }	82,165	85,220	65,013	153,563	140,654
Bark, quercitron .....cwts. }	7,181	26,382	22,881	15,417	26,630
Brimstone, rough, cwts }	27,968	56,665	25,136	61,673	47,069
Coffee.....lbs.	5,644,420	5,265,861	5,751,170	4,450,757	6,782,048
Corn.....quarters	137,847	36,735	38,279	5,350	37,968
— Meal & flour.....cwts. }	247,523	113,460	15,789	24,151	146,650
Currants.....cwts.	4,694	7,278	12,486	9,712	15,910
Hemp, rough, cwts }	37,838	26,474	30,593	46,106	43,268
Hides, not tanned, number }	324,180	449,067	898,590	647,065 & 43,598	190,768
Indigo.....lbs.	404,689	292,275	501,665	507,337	398,531
Iron, in bars, tons	635	493	977	814	1,852
Lemons & oranges, number }	9,764,046	15,566,122	14,385,385	15,089,745	9,271,957 & 20,853
Madder & Madder roots, cwts }	17,537	36,195	41,037	40,733	61,011
Molasses.....cwts.	13,679	29,949	26,182	68,910	101,312
Oil, olive.....tuns	281	476	836	1,460	861
— palm .....cwts.	10,286	82,870	49,526	55,466	59,788
Pimento.....lbs.	61,138	249,925	332,482	297,447	463,025
Raisins.....cwts.	15,306	26,603	19,358	26,942	28,196
Rice.....cwts.	77,444	46,760	60,045	65,251	Bushels. 78,429 & 74
Spirits,					
Brandy, gallons	177,783	140,726	158,647	242,605	233,190
Geneva, gallons	53,307	62,484	75,507	39,169	95,785
Rum.....gallons	1,225,783	912,672	821,603	1,024,588	1,094,548
Sugar, raw, cwts.	583,415	647,384	569,106	670,247	750,135
Tallow.....cwts.	86,096	97,174	94,849	119,638	79,274
Tobacco.....lbs.	14,266,239	6,604,922	11,516,028	17,210,037	7,104,932
Turpentine, common, cwts. }	72,293	81,139	102,198	145,083	207,758
Wines.....gallons	353,598	408,964	463,963	477,853	444,514
Woods,					
Deals.....C. No	2,441	1,939	2,069	3,115	4,021
Fustic.....tons	778	938	1,356	2,102	1,870
Logwood, tons	1,217	1,828	4,717	4,809	8,042
Mahogany, tons	3,027	2,366	2,543	3,227	3,889
Staves.....C. No	24,689	20,525	24,170	20,595	25,640
Fir, timber, lds.	80,076	99,545	129,069	114,956	151,973
Wool, cotton, lbs.	113,376,309	180,252,347	116,562,744	159,824,646	119,067,250
— sheeps, lbs.	188,313	140,272	229,536	320,221	395,035
Bacon & hams, cwts	13,436	29,724	11,449	13,352	12,606
Beef & pork tierces & bar. }	5,820 & 24,268	6,444 & 24,836	5,014 & 15,815	14,198 & 19,919	6,399 & 17,670
Butter.....cwts.	115,051	125,764	90,104	146,867	179,904
Cattle; viz.					
Cows & oxen, No	17,346	17,256	16,860	23,108	25,025
Horses, numb.	1,371	999	546	432	632
Sheep.....numb.	20,744	29,346	31,289	43,888	44,879
Swine.....numb.	40,054	40,613	37,989	30,322	25,120
Corn.....quarters	563,867	712,698	466,345	537,875	635,889
— Meal and flour.....cwts. }	126,154	231,652	176,268	289,271	240,349
Linen.....yards	28,439,205	25,826,502	22,295,392	23,966,924	20,761,182
Spirits.....gallons	50,748	86,344	60,659	74,631	8,943
Wool, sheep's, lbs.	171,365	55,110	265,019	1,471,286	1,302,321

Foreign and Colonial Produce.

Produce of Ireland and the Isle of Man.

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantities of the principal Articles of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise exported from Liverpool during each of the last Five Years.

Principal articles.	Years ending 5th January,					
	1821	1822	1823	1824	1825	
Ashes, pearl and pot . . cwts.	12,946	43,332	18,016	22,404	34,145	
Bark, quercitron . . . cwts.	3,430	7,779	4,501	2,812	4,691	
Brimstone, rough . . . cwts.	2,726	2,131	2,848	164	855	
Coffee lbs.	5,223,665	3,945,733	3,841,346	1,104,103	3,475,598	
Corn quarters.	14,535	30,581	43,252	34,410	8,637	
— meal and flour . . . cwts.	134,180	122,274	55,734	40,584	112,511	
Currants cwts.	592	218	719	535	959	
Hemp, rough cwts.	3,680	3,915	1,087	2,496	1,757	
Hide					cwts.	
Hides not tanned . . number	78,515	85,370	112,724	142,014	32,645	
Indigo lbs.	164,976	81,900	103,481	110,242	71,899	
Iron in bars tons	519	328	816	220	766	
Foreign and colonial produce.	Lemon and oranges . . number	439,220	690,610	130,650	382,475	746,340 & 558
	Modder & madder roots . cwt.	271	950	481	4,230	1,086
	Molasses cwt.	966	836	728	443	1,481
	Oil, olive tons	31	20	20	210	204
	— palm cwt.	1,632	1,981	2,177	1,734	3,357
	Pimento lbs.	168,041	279,432	164,999	293,540	262,007
	Raisins cwt.	1,422	2,639	2,102	1,544	3,410
	Rice cwt.	35,180	32,508	61,040	21,123	52,920
	Spirits, brandy gallons	74,089	36,993	35,007	93,108	87,657
	— Geneva gallons	55,248	63,113	68,000	43,494	79,101
	— rum gallons	436,064	452,026	337,969	364,877	364,368
	Sugar, raw cwt.	122,003	123,664	107,474	115,332	106,452
	Tallow cwt.	1,545	2,030	1,041	1,504	4,289
	Tobacco lbs.	7,017,678	5,913,658	4,858,261	5,862,737	4,014,321
	Turpentine, common . cwt.	782	1,038	3,073	731	845
	Wines gallons	104,389	130,062	66,933	100,434	107,167
	Wood, deals C. No.	216	136	157	94	404
	— fustic tons	186	161	250	324	155
	— logwood tons	334	532	381	1,329	1,291
	— mahogany tons	569	926	661	353	866
— staves C. No.	6,366	7,216	7,300	6,661	7,929	
— fir timber loads	152	536	584	154	439	
Wool, cotton lbs.	1,982,390	2,674,117	4,621,772	3,605,506	5,668,566	
— sheep's lbs.	66,022	201,656	121,937	87,807	47,215	

A RETURN of the Number of Vessels (and the Gross Tonnage) which have cleared out of the Port of Liverpool in the Years 1812 and 1824.

	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Note.—The returns for 1812 and 1824 are given exclusive of vessels trading to Ireland, and those coast-wise.
In the year 1812	1,198	259,462	
— 1824	2,434	531,398	

AN ACCOUNT of the Value of the Exports from Liverpool in the Years 1814, 1821, and 1824.

Years.	Declared value of British and Irish produce and manufactures.	Value of foreign and colonial merchandise.	Total exports.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1814	11,001,266 6 6	1,816,166 2 2	12,817,432 8 8
1821	14,740,032 0 8	1,598,478 18 6	16,248,510 19 2
1824	19,052,800 18 4	1,549,786 8 4	20,602,587 6 8

AN ACCOUNT of the Value of Cotton and Woollen manufactured Goods, exported from Liverpool to South America, in the Years 1814, 1821, and 1824.

Years.	Declared value of British cotton and woollen manufactured goods, exported from Liverpool to South America (including the exports to Mexico).					
	Cotton manufactured goods.			Woollen manufactured goods.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1814	757,006	9	8	265,936	18	0
1821	1,280,755	7	0	461,950	15	0
1824	2,946,180	16	0	723,742	4	0

A RETURN of the Number of Vessels moored between London Bridge and Limehouse, exclusive of Ships and Vessels which have entered the Docks and Canals, for the Years 1823 and 1824, respectively.

1823.....	{ Vessels from foreign, } { Colliers and Coasters }	13,112
1824.....	{ Vessels from foreign, } { Colliers and Coasters }	15,085

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Vessels moored along Mill Wall, below Limehouse.

1823.....	454 vessels.
1824.....	828 ditto.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Vessels which have entered the Port of London, in each of the Three Years ended 5th January, 1825; distinguishing the Vessels which have entered from Foreign Parts, the number of Colliers, Coasters, and Fishing Vessels.

Vessels,	Year 1822.		Year 1823.		Year 1824.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Entered from foreign parts, (exclusive of Ireland).....	3,230	597	3,031	865	3,132	1,648
Ireland.....	479	...	{ 617* } { 157* }	...	513	...
Colliers.....	5,756	...	6,490	...	7,117	...
Coasters.....	10,623	...	10,815	...	11,213	...
Fishing vessels.....	4,172	...	3,827	...	3,769	...

* This distinction is made in vessels trading with Ireland in the year 1823, owing to 617 having entered as foreign, and 157 as coasters, in consequence of all vessels trading with that country having been directed to be considered as coasters from the 10th October, 1823.

Note.—The above account contains a return of such vessels only as are taken cognizance of at the Custom House.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Ships, with their Tonnage and Men, which have entered the Port of London during the Years 1822, 1823, and 1824, from Russia, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Prussia, Germany, and Belgium, distinguishing each Year, and British Ships from Foreign Ships.

Entered from	For the year 1822.						For the year 1823.						For the year 1824.					
	British.			Foreign.			British.			Foreign.			British.			Foreign.		
	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
Russia	442	88,841	3,926	19	4,905	247	373	78,939	3,458	14	3,909	186	364	79,560	3,552	42	10,426	481
Sweden	41	9,777	415	41	8,642	449	35	8,998	357	77	16,937	813	32	8,025	325	112	26,327	1,261
Norway	8	1,487	71	75	25,489	1,015	3	227	11	127	39,662	1,601	3	316	18	193	57,894	2,327
Denmark	20	2,894	128	6	466	24	6	671	32	16	1,406	69	15	1,901	84	110	6,800	362
Prussia	188	37,215	1,887	81	16,866	701	91	18,897	791	153	37,823	1,483	129	28,218	1,155	298	67,312	2,642
Germany	156	26,898	1,212	23	4,072	170	141	24,034	1,092	26	4,029	167	176	27,610	1,318	199	18,425	864
Belgium	457	40,097	2,555	200	19,220	844	337	31,413	1,853	291	28,591	1,305	374	33,318	2,052	501	44,060	1,889

A RETURN of the Tonnage of the total Number of Merchant Ships and Vessels which entered the Port of London in the Year 1794, and in each of the Three Years preceding and ending 5th January, 1826, distinguishing the British from the Foreign.

Entered from foreign parts, exclusive of Ireland	Year 1794.		Year 1822.		Year 1823.		Year 1824.	
	Tonnage.		Tonnage.		Tonnage.		Tonnage.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
Colliers { No account having ever been kept, distinguishing colliers and coasters, as to tonnage, this return shows their tonnage jointly..... }	459,715	191,130	603,167	106,099	611,451	161,705	607,106	264,693
Coasters { No account having ever been kept, distinguishing colliers and coasters, as to tonnage, this return shows their tonnage jointly..... }	1,028,600	.....	.....	.....	2,130,111	.....	2,296,982	.....
				A return for this year cannot be rendered, as no account of coasting tonnage has been kept since 1795, until 1823.....				

Note.—Having been enabled, by reference to documents returned to parliament in 1794, to give a return of the foreign trade for that year (but which return was not given exclusive of Ireland), it is to be observed, that the trade with that country is included, although it is excluded in the other years, in consequence of vessels trading to Ireland having been directed to be considered as coasters from 10th October, 1823.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Vessels, with their Tonnage, which entered the Port of London, laden with Oats or other Grain, in the Year 1824; distinguishing British Ships from Foreign.

	Vessels which entered the port of London from foreign countries, laden with grain, in the year 1824.	
	Number.	Tonnage.
British ships	63	7,922
Foreign ships	444	36,385
Total	507	44,307

AN ACCOUNT of the Value of the Transit Trade of the Port of London, (calculated at the Official Rates,) for the Years 1822, 1823, and 1824, ended 5th January in 1823, 1824, and 1825.

Year ended 5th Jan.	Official value of foreign and colonial merchandise exported from the port of London.	
	£	s. d.
1823	3,414,414	2 11
1824	8,191,177	4 3
1825	9,466,486	18 5

AN ACCOUNT of the Places of special Security in the Port of London, in which Wines, Spirits, and other Excisable Articles, prohibited Goods, Colonial and East India Produce, are by Law permitted to be bonded.

- The East India Docks,
- West India Docks,
- London Docks, and
- Hall's Warehouse, Custom House Quay.
- Except Tobacco,
- Coffee,
- Cocoa Nuts,
- Wines,
- Pepper, and
- Snuff

LONDON DOCK COMPANY.

An Account of the Progress of the Works of the London Dock Company; in pursuance of the 137th section of the 39-40 Geo. 3. c. 47. and of the Powers continued by 4 Geo. 4. c. 124; shewing the Extent of the Additional Accommodation, and the Sum to be expended in relation thereto.

PROGRESS OF THE WORKS.

In pursuance of the 137th section of the 39-40 Geo. 3. c. 47, and of the powers continued by the 4 Geo. 4. c. 124.

The company, in the year 1800, purchased 74 acres of land, of which about 60 acres were appropriated to two docks and wharfs, equal to the reception of 250 vessels, of the average burthen of 300 tons; and warehouses equal to the reception and accommodation of about 168,000 tons of general merchandise, and 24,000 hhd. of tobacco (equal to 30,000 tons of general merchandise); and vaults, for containing from 57,000 to 60,000 casks of wine and spirits; all which works were completed in the year 1821.

The works contained within the above-mentioned 60 acres have, from their origin, been so laid as to admit of an extension of warehouses, capable of containing 44,928 tons of merchandise, without deranging any of the works (the foundations having been laid, and preparations made), but which extension has never been carried into effect, by reason that the warehouses already built have never been full.

EXTENT OF THE ADDITIONAL ACCOMMODATION

In contemplation, and the sum to be expended in relation thereto.

Considerable progress has been made in the building of vaults and cellar-room; and, in deference to what appears to be a very general opinion, that the trade of the port of London will considerably increase, in consequence of the recent change in the laws relating to foreign commerce, the company have determined on appropriating their remaining 14 acres to a dock of 7½ acres, and the rest to the making a channel of communication, and further wharfs, vaults, &c., which, when complete, will be capable of accommodating 75 vessels at one time, and of housing 10,435 tons of general merchandise, and 10,000 casks of wine and spirits. Of these works, the company have nearly completed the first necessary step, by making a sewer round the premises. The whole, it is expected, will cost about 300,000l.

RECAPITULATION.

	Docks for	Warehouses for	Vaults for
Works completed in 1821	250 ships	198,000 tons	60,000 pipes
Works in progress	75 —	10,435 —	10,000 —
Total	325 ships	208,435 tons	70,000 pipes

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Ships of the average Burthen of Three Hundred Tons, which the London Docks are capable of containing at one time; the greatest Number of Vessels, with their Register Tonnage, which were loading or discharging at any one time in the Year 1824; and the Number of Vessels which were loading or discharging in the said Docks on the 5th April, 1825.

The London Docks are capable of containing at one time,		The greatest number of ships which were loading or discharging at any one time in the year 1824.		The number of vessels loading or discharging on 5th April, 1825.	
Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
250	75,000	167	30,762	73	11,897

AN ACCOUNT of the total Number of Vessels of every Description, with their Tonnage, which entered the London Dock in the Year 1824, shewing the average Tonnage of each Vessel.

Vessels.	Tons.	The average tonnage of each vessel.
1,348	214,481	159

AN ACCOUNT of the total Number of Cases of Wines and Spirits, and also of Casks of Wines and Spirits respectively; the Casks calculated according to the Number of Gallons usually contained in each Cask, which remained in Bond in the London Docks on the 5th January, 1825; and shewing the total Number of Cases of Wines and Spirits, and also of Casks of Wines and Spirits respectively, the Casks calculated in the like Manner, which have been bonded in the said Docks between the 5th day of January last past, and the 30th day of March, 1825, the latter day inclusive.

Wines.		Spirits.	
Cases in bond 5th January, 1825.	Casks in bond 5th January, 1825.	Cases in bond 5th January, 1825.	Casks in bond 5th January, 1825.
1,960	50,071	nil.	14,613

Wines.		Spirits.	
Cases bonded from 5th January to 30th March, 1825.	Casks bonded from 5th January to 30th March, 1825.	Cases bonded from 5th January to 30th March, 1825.	Casks bonded from 5th January to 30th March, 1825.
1,256	8,816	241	2,578

AN ACCOUNT of the total Number of Casks and Cases of Wines and Spirits respectively housed, lodged, or deposited within the Premises, of the London Dock Company, in other places than Vaults, or lying upon the Quays and Wharfs of the said Company, upon the 30th day of March, 1825.

Wines.			
Casks in warehouses.	Casks on quays, &c.	Cases in warehouses.	Cases on quays, &c.
615	4,043	2,088	1,453

Spirits.			
Casks in warehouses.	Casks on quays, &c.	Cases in warehouses.	Cases on quays, &c.
3,846	1,163	120	nil.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Casks and Cases of Wines and Spirits, which the London Dock Company can afford convenient Vault Accommodation to, so as that easy and convenient Access may be had to every Cask and Case, according to the Provisions of the 25th Section of the 4th Geo. IV. cap. 24.

45,000 pipes of wine and spirits, piled two high, equivalent to 60,000 casks.

At present, it is the practice in some of the vaults to stow a tier of hogsheads on the pipes, and 10,000 hogsheads in addition might be so piled; but it is a question whether such piling of the hogsheads is not objectionable.

Cases of wine are deposited almost entirely in the warehouses of the London Dock Company, and no convenient vault accommodation can be afforded to cases in addition to the number of casks before stated.

MALT.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Bushels of Malt charged with Duty in the United Kingdom, separating each Country, from 5th January, 1824, to 5th January, 1825; distinguishing the Quantity used by Brewers and Victuallers, and the Quantity used in the Distillery, so far as the same can be ascertained.

	Bushels of malt charged with duty.	Bushels of malt used by	
		Brewers and victuallers.	Distillers.
Year ended 5th January, 1825			
{ England	28,502,390	21,775,584	
{ Scotland	2,864,702	661,488	1,974,365
{ Ireland	2,210,036	1,336,992	825,684

Note.—The quantity of malt consumed in the distilleries for Scotland and Ireland only can be given: no account whatever being kept of the quantity used by distillers in England.

NAVIGATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Vessels, with the Amount of their Tonnage, that were built and registered in the several Ports of the British Empire, in the Years ending the 5th January, 1823, 1824, and 1825, respectively.

	In the Years ending the 5th January,					
	1823.		1824.		1825.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
United Kingdom	564	50,928	594	63,151	799	91,063
Isles Guernsey, Jersey, and Man...	7	605	10	637	38	2,136
British Plantations	209	15,611	243	22,240	174	21,968
Total.....	780	67,144	847	86,028	1,011	115,187

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Vessels, with the Amount of their Tonnage, and the Number of Men and Boys usually employed in Navigating the same, that belonged to the several Ports of the British Empire, on the 30th September, in the Years 1822, 1823, and 1824, respectively.

	On 30th September, 1822.			On 30th September, 1823.			On 30th September, 1824.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.
United Kingdom	20,756	2,288,999	147,529	20,573	2,275,995	147,058	20,803	2,321,953	149,742
Isles of Guernsey, Jersey, and Man	452	26,404	3,788	469	26,872	3,680	477	26,361	3,806
British Plantations	3,404	203,641	15,016	3,500	203,893	14,736	3,496	211,273	15,089
Total.....	24,642	2,519,044	166,333	24,542	2,506,760	165,474	24,776	2,559,587	168,637

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Vessels, with the Amount of their Tonnage, and the Number of Men and Boys employed in Navigating the same (including their repeated Voyages), that entered Inwards and cleared Outwards, at the several Ports of the United Kingdom, from and to all Parts of the World (exclusive of the intercourse between Great Britain and Ireland respectively), during each of the three Years ending 5th January, 1825.

Years ending 5th January,		Shipping entered inwards in the United Kingdom, (exclusive of the intercourse between Great Britain and Ireland.)								
		British and Irish vessels.			Foreign vessels.			Total.		
		Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.
1823	11,087	1,663,627	96,980	3,389	469,151	28,421	14,476	2,132,778	127,401	
1824	11,271	1,740,859	112,244	4,069	582,996	33,828	15,340	2,323,855	146,072	
1825	11,731	1,797,089	108,686	5,655	759,672	42,126	17,386	2,556,761	150,812	

Years ending 5th January,		Shipping cleared outwards from the United Kingdom, (exclusive of the intercourse between Great Britain and Ireland.)								
		British and Irish vessels.			Foreign vessels.			Total.		
		Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.
1823	10,023	1,539,260	95,998	2,843	457,542	25,394	12,866	1,996,802	121,392	
1824	9,666	1,546,976	95,596	3,437	563,571	29,323	13,103	2,110,547	124,919	
1825	10,156	1,657,270	103,085	5,025	746,729	38,782	15,181	2,403,999	141,867	

NAVIGATION OF GREAT BRITAIN:

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Vessels, with the Amount of their Tonnage, that were Built and Registered in the several Ports of the British Empire (except Ireland), in the Years ending 5th January, 1823, 1824, and 1825, respectively.

	Year ending 5th January, 1823.		Year ending 5th January, 1824.		Year ending 5th January, 1825.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
England	442	43,212	468	54,068	625	76,428
Scotland	87	6,162	92	7,418	132	12,640
Isle of Guernsey	2	304	4	261	16	1,137
Jersey	3	254	2	216	6	586
Man	2	47	4	160	16	413
British Plantations	209	15,611	243	22,240	174	21,968
Total (exclusive of Ireland)	745	65,600	813	84,363	976	113,372

Note.—The account delivered last year (for the year ended 5th January, 1824), is now corrected; and as several returns from the Plantations for the year ending 5th January, 1825, are not yet received, a similar correction will be necessary when the next account is made up.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Vessels, with the Amount of their Tonnage, and the Number of Men and Boys usually employed in Navigating the same, that belonged to the several Ports of the British Empire (except Ireland) on the 30th September, 1822, 1823, and 1824, respectively.

	On the 30th September, 1822.			On the 30th September, 1823.			On the 30th September, 1824.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.
England	16,331	1,943,178	121,118	16,188	1,935,583	120,850	16,466	1,981,635	123,332
Scotland	3,071	276,931	19,831	3,007	270,798	19,622	2,961	266,975	19,631
Isle of Guernsey	64	7,991	544	68	8,288	571	70	7,281	529
Jersey	107	10,593	1,076	114	11,265	1,062	116	11,477	1,164
Man	311	7,820	2,168	287	7,319	2,047	291	7,603	2,113
British Plantations	3,404	203,641	15,016	3,566	203,893	14,736	3,496	211,273	15,089
Total (exclusive of Ireland)	23,268	2,450,154	159,753	23,164	2,437,146	158,888	23,400	2,486,204	161,858

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Vessels, with the Amount of their Tonnage, and the Number Inwards and cleared Outwards at the several Ports of Great Britain, from and to all Parts Number-and Tonnage of Shipping entered Inwards, and cleared Outwards during the same

Shipping entered inwards in Great Britain, from all parts of the world.									
Years ending 5th January.	British and Irish vessels.			Foreign vessels.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.
1823.....	20,212	2,390,238	147,603	3,113	419,694	25,307	23,325	2,809,932	173,410
1824.....	20,303	2,469,053	154,958	3,806	534,674	31,329	24,109	3,003,727	186,287
1825.....	19,164	2,364,249	142,923	5,280	694,880	38,662	24,444	3,059,129	181,585

Shipping cleared outwards from Great Britain, to all parts of the world.									
Years ending 5th January.	British and Irish vessels.			Foreign vessels.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.
1823.....	19,436	2,286,713	139,487	2,582	408,417	22,371	22,018	2,695,130	162,358
1824.....	19,177	2,297,975	140,291	3,179	515,774	26,844	22,356	2,813,749	167,135
1825.....	20,732	24,92,402	152,584	4,717	690,374	35,823	25,449	3,182,776	188,407

of Men and Boys employed in Navigating the same (including their repeated Voyages), that entered of the World, during each of the three Years ending 5th January, 1825;—also, shewing the period, exclusive of the Intercourse with Ireland.

Shipping entered inwards in Great Britain, from all parts (except Ireland).									
Years ending 5th January,	British and Irish vessels.			Foreign vessels.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.
1823.....	10,444	1,574,244	93,888	3,089	415,968	25,611	13,533	1,990,212	119,499
1824.....	10,698	1,668,336	108,027	3,758	528,720	30,975	14,456	2,197,056	139,002
1825.....	11,124	1,705,495	103,482	5,280	694,380	38,662	16,404	2,400,375	142,144

Shipping cleared outwards from Great Britain, to all parts (except Ireland).									
Years ending 5th January,	British and Irish vessels.			Foreign vessels.			Total.		
	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.
1823.....	9,501	1,458,599	91,436	2,582	468,417	22,871	12,083	1,867,016	114,307
1824.....	9,240	1,463,592	91,938	3,179	515,774	26,844	12,419	1,999,366	118,782
1825.....	9,743	1,566,953	99,059	4,717	690,374	35,823	14,460	2,277,327	134,882

NAVIGATION OF IRELAND.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Vessels, with the Amount of their Tonnage, that were built and registered in the several Ports of Ireland, in the Years ending the 5th of January, 1823, 1824, and 1825, respectively.

	Vessels.	Tons.
Year ending 5th of January, 1823	35	1,554
Ditto ditto 1824	34	1,665
Ditto ditto 1825	35	1,815

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Vessels, with the Amount of their Tonnage, and the Number of Men and Boys usually employed in Navigating the same, that belonged to the several Ports of Ireland, on the 30th of September, in the Years 1822, 1823, and 1824, respectively.

	Vessels.	Tons.	Men and boys.
On the 30th of September, 1822	1,354	68,890	6,580
Ditto ditto 1823	1,378	69,614	6,580
Ditto ditto 1824	1,376	73,293	6,779

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Vessels, with the Amount of their Tonnage, and the Number of Men and Boys employed in Navigating the same (including their repeated Voyages), that entered Inwards, and cleared Outwards, at the several Ports of Ireland, from and to all Parts of the World, during each of the three Years ending the 5th January, 1825;—also shewing the Number and Tonnage of Shipping entered Inwards, and cleared Outwards, during the same Period, exclusive of the Intercourse with Great Britain.

Shipping entered inwards in Ireland, from all parts of the world.																	
British and Irish vessels.			Foreign vessels.			Total.			British and Irish vessels.			Foreign vessels.			Total.		
Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.
Years ending 5th January,																	
1823.....																	
11,254	965,536	57,837	307	54,819	2,683	11,561	1,040,355	60,175	522	80,661	4,562	961	49,125	2,523	783	129,766	7,085
10,622	897,709	52,577	314	54,979	2,855	10,936	952,688	55,462	426	3,384	3,658	258	47,797	2,479	684	111,181	6,137
11,594	1,036,977	60,072	375	64,792	3,464	11,969	1,101,769	63,536	413	70,317	4,026	308	56,355	2,959	721	126,672	6,985
Shipping entered inwards in Ireland, from all parts of the world.																	
British and Irish vessels.			Foreign vessels.			Total.			British and Irish vessels.			Foreign vessels.			Total.		
Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.
Years ending 5th January,																	
1823.....																	
10,632	906,257	52,366	312	56,456	2,966	10,945	962,713	55,272	522	80,661	4,562	961	49,125	2,523	783	129,766	7,085
9,753	842,716	48,886	313	55,103	2,886	10,066	897,818	51,774	426	3,384	3,658	258	47,797	2,479	684	111,181	6,137
7,947	685,713	41,555	308	56,355	2,959	8,255	742,068	44,514	413	70,317	4,026	308	56,355	2,959	721	126,672	6,985
Shipping cleared outwards from Ireland, to all parts of the world.																	
British and Irish vessels.			Foreign vessels.			Total.			British and Irish vessels.			Foreign vessels.			Total.		
Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.
Years ending 5th January,																	
1823.....																	
10,632	906,257	52,366	312	56,456	2,966	10,945	962,713	55,272	522	80,661	4,562	961	49,125	2,523	783	129,766	7,085
9,753	842,716	48,886	313	55,103	2,886	10,066	897,818	51,774	426	3,384	3,658	258	47,797	2,479	684	111,181	6,137
7,947	685,713	41,555	308	56,355	2,959	8,255	742,068	44,514	413	70,317	4,026	308	56,355	2,959	721	126,672	6,985
Shipping cleared outwards from Ireland, to all parts (except Great Britain).																	
British and Irish vessels.			Foreign vessels.			Total.			British and Irish vessels.			Foreign vessels.			Total.		
Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.
Years ending 5th January,																	
1823.....																	
643	69,383	5,092	300	53,183	2,810	643	69,383	5,092	522	80,661	4,562	961	49,125	2,523	783	129,766	7,085
573	72,523	4,217	311	54,276	2,853	573	72,523	4,217	426	3,384	3,658	258	47,797	2,479	684	111,181	6,137
607	91,594	5,204	375	64,792	3,464	607	91,594	5,204	413	70,317	4,026	308	56,355	2,959	721	126,672	6,985

NEW SOUTH WALES.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Ships, and the Amount of their Tonnage, which have cleared out from the Ports of Great Britain and Ireland, for New South Wales and Van Dieman's Land; and also the Number of Ships and their Tonnage which entered from those Ports in each Year, for the Three Years from 5th Jan., 1822, to 5th Jan., 1825.

Years ending 5th January,	Outwards.						Inwards.					
	Great Britain.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.		Great Britain.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.	
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.
1823.....	35	11,424	1	280	36	11,704	5	1,706	...	...	5	1,706
1824.....	34	12,377	1	360	35	12,737	11	3,863	...	...	11	3,863
1825.....	30	11,439	...	...	30	11,439	12	3,968	...	...	12	3,968

OFFICIAL VALUE of the Exports to, and Imports from, New South Wales and Van Dieman's Land, in each Year, for the Three Years from 5th Jan., 1822, to 5th Jan., 1825.

Years ending 5th January,	Exports;—viz.												Imports.																	
	British and Irish produce and manufactures.						Foreign and colonial merchandise.						Total exports.			Imports.														
	Great Britain.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.		Great Britain.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.		Great Britain.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.		Great Britain.		Ireland.		United Kingdom.							
1823	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.						
1823	176,130	5	4	5,295	16	8	181,426	2	0	37,612	12	11	747	1	4	38,359	14	3	213,742	18	3	6,042	18	0	219,785	16	3	16,592	5	5
1824	137,008	6	10	1,956	9	11	139,864	16	9	42,807	18	2	265	12	0	43,073	10	2	180,716	5	0	2,222	1	11	182,938	6	11	51,376	18	0
1825	145,182	9	5	...	...	...	145,182	9	5	67,511	16	6	...	...	...	67,511	16	6	212,694	5	11	...	...	...	212,694	5	11	47,409	16	9

ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

1.
ORDER in Council, permitting the importation and exportation of goods, wares, and merchandise, in *Hamburgh vessels*, on payment of the same duties that are charged on similar articles imported or exported in *British vessels*:—dated 30th June, 1824.
2.
Order in Council, permitting the importation and exportation of goods, wares, and merchandise, in *Danish vessels*, on payment of the same duties that are charged on similar articles imported or exported in *British vessels*:—dated 30th June, 1824.
3.
Order in Council, permitting the importation and exportation of goods, wares, and merchandise, in *Bremen vessels*, on payment of the same duties that are charged on similar articles imported or exported in *British vessels*:—dated 14th August, 1824.
4.
Order in Council, permitting the importation and exportation of goods, wares, and merchandise, in *Lubeck vessels*, on payment of the same duties that are charged on similar articles imported or exported in *British vessels*:—dated 14th August, 1824.

5.
Order in Council, permitting the importation and exportation of goods, wares, and merchandise, in *Oldenburgh vessels*, on payment of the same duties that are charged on similar articles imported or exported in *British vessels*:—dated 19th October, 1824.

6.
Order in Council, for exempting all vessels belonging to the inhabitants of *Bremen*, and being of less burthen than sixty tons, from taking on board pilots to conduct them into the ports of the *United Kingdom*:—dated 19th October, 1824.

PARCELS.

Substance of the Report from the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the Operation of so much of the Acts of 3 William and Mary, c. 12.; 21 Geo. 2. c. 28.; and 39 Geo. 3. c. 58, as relates to the Carriage of Parcels, and the Porterage thereof, in and near the Metropolis.

THE committee after describing the objects of the several acts which they were called upon to consider, and the evidence which had been adduced before them on the subject, declare it to be their opinion that the acts of *William and Mary*, and of *George 2d* ought, from being inapplicable to the present times, and indeed from their complete inoperativeness, to be repealed; and that several parts of the *39 Geo. 3* (commonly called the *porterage act*) required amendment.

POT AND PEARL ASHES.

A RETURN of the Quantity of Pot and Pearl Ashes imported into *Ireland* from *His Majesty's Possessions in America*, as well as from all *Foreign Parts*, and from *Great Britain*, distinguishing each annually; also, the Quantity exported from *Ireland*; from the 5th day of *January, 1820*, to the 5th day of *January, 1825*, inclusive.

Years ended 5th January,	Ashes, pearl and pot,									
	From									
	His majesty's possessions in America.		Other foreign parts.		Great Britain.		Total quantity imported.	Total quantity exported.		
	Cwts.	q. lb.	Cwts.	q. lb.	Cwts.	q. lb.	Cwts.	q. lb.	Cwts.	q. lb.
1821	9,417	3 14	10,060	1 0	1,891	3 21	21,370	0 7	2,437	1 7
1822	15,762	0 14	13,068	3 7	11,934	1 26	40,765	1 19	181	2 21
1823	8,390	0 7	5,542	2 21	16,001	3 26	29,934	2 26	151	3 0
1824	12,182	0 20	10,429	2 13	18,342	2 19	40,954	1 24	1,114	0 0
1825	10,538	1 25	15,246	0 3	22,853	3 25	48,638	1 25	115	3 5

SALMON FISHERIES.

FIRST REPORT from the Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to take into Consideration the State of the Salmon Fisheries of Scotland, and of the United Kingdom, and the Laws affecting the same.

THE committee beg to state that their resolutions are founded partly upon the evidence taken in the last and present session of parlia-

ment, but materially also upon a minute inspection of the returns received in answer to the queries sent in the last session of parliament to all parts of the United Kingdom, which are necessarily so voluminous, and so various in form and substance, as to render them unfit to be presented to the house. In reporting these resolutions, the committee have been desirous to make known as soon as possible the result of their investigations, upon some of the least

difficult branches of the inquiry committed to them; with the intention of continuing their researches into the more difficult, but very important parts of the subject.

1. Resolved, that it is the opinion of this committee, that the salmon fisheries of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland have for many years past rapidly decreased, and that there is every reason to apprehend that they will be diminished still more rapidly, unless effectual measures be resorted to for their preservation.

2. That it is of the utmost importance that the fence months, or close time, should be extended, and should commence and cease at the same period in all the salmon fisheries of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

3. That the taking or attempting to take, the having in possession, the selling or purchasing salmon, grilse, sea trout, botcher, whittling, whiting or innhook, during the fence months, or close time, ought to be declared illegal, and to subject parties offending to a penalty.

4. That during the fishing season there ought, throughout the rivers, streams, lakes, estuaries, and sea coasts of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to be a close time weekly, commencing at sunset in the evening on Saturday, and terminating at sunrise on Monday, guarded by such penalty as may be deemed sufficient.

5. That it ought to be declared illegal, maliciously to injure or molest in any way the salmon, grilse, sea trout, botcher, whittling, whiting or innhook, when in the rivers, streams, or in the lakes, during the fence months or close time, or in any way maliciously to injure or disturb the spawning beds, banks, or shallows, and to subject parties offending to a penalty.

6. That the owners or occupiers of mills or other buildings, for the benefit of which water is taken from a river, stream, or lake, in which salmon exist, for the driving of machinery, or any other purpose, ought to be required to erect and maintain such gratings or fenders as shall be sufficient to prevent fish, going from or returning to the sea, from entering the stream so taken from the main current; a specific description of such fender or grating to be furnished for their regulation; the maintenance of such fender or grating to be enforced under a penalty.

7. That it is indispensable to guard against the admission into all rivers, streams, estuaries, and lakes, in which salmon exist, of any matter proceeding from manufactories of any description which is known or deemed to be poisonous or deleterious to fish.

8. That the use of lights in taking salmon, or any other species of fish, ought to be declared illegal, and to subject the parties offending to a penalty.

9. That the size of the meshes of all nets used

where salmon fisheries are carried on, ought to be regulated.

10. That there ought to be established on each river and estuary, including such streams, lakes, and coasts as may be connected therewith, such number of conservators or water-bailiffs as may be necessary, proportioned to the value of the salmon fishery; for the purpose of giving effect to such regulations as are or may be provided by law; the expense of such establishment to be defrayed by the proprietors or lessees of salmon fisheries in the proportion of their respective interests; and to be compulsory upon all persons having legal right to salmon fisheries; the conservators or water-bailiffs to have right to traverse and inspect the banks of all rivers, streams, lakes, estuaries, and coasts; within their respective districts; to inspect all weirs, sluices, dams, mill-streams, and mills, &c. with power to seize and destroy all nets or other engines used for or calculated to kill fish, in any way or at any time, contrary to law.

11. That a process at law ought to be established by which the summary conviction of offenders may be had.

12. That the chairman be instructed forthwith to move for leave to bring in a bill or bills to carry into effect the foregoing resolutions; throughout England, Scotland, and Ireland; respectively.

30th March, 1825.

An appendix contains minutes of evidence taken before the committee; a letter from Dr. Flemming to T. F. Kennedy, esq. dated 16th March, 1825; a paper delivered to the committee by Sir G. S. Mackenzie, bart. (with three plans) and a plan of the lower part of Tweed.

Second Report from the same Committee.

Your committee have, since their last report, proceeded in their inquiries into some of the more difficult branches of the subject of the salmon fisheries; in particular, the important consideration of obstructions to the free passage of salmon between the sea and the upper parts of rivers and lakes, where the spawn is deposited, and the young fish come into life. They have been particularly desirous to consider this point in all its bearings, because upon such free passage being afforded depends the possibility of the breed being multiplied; and they have approached the inquiry with additional anxiety, because they are fully aware of the delicate ground in some, and of the difficult circumstances in all cases on which they have felt themselves called upon to touch. In some cases such obstructions exist, connected with the salmon fishery, in so far as parties have become possessed of rights to take salmon by means of those obstructions placed across rivers, and which can never exist without a greater or less degree of injury. In other cases, similar rights

are claimed, although, probably on no good foundation. And another class of cases, and that of no small magnitude, is, the obstructions arising from the application of water to the purposes of manufactures. Your committee are abundantly aware of the difficulty of this part of the subject, and while they beg to express the strongest opinion as to the injurious tendency of all obstructions extending across rivers, they think as each case may be in some degree different from another, the best course they can at present adopt is, to recommend that individuals should endeavour, as far as may be possible, to ascertain the foundation of right on which such obstructions may have been erected, and are maintained, and, except in such cases as those in which the interests of the salmon fishery must and ought to be permanently subordinate to manufacturing and other interests, that persons interested should endeavour to accommodate differences by uniting in securing a free passage to the salmon. Your committee do not hesitate to say, that the attainment of this object must be the foundation of all future prosperity to the salmon fishery, and that individuals who possess a temporary advantage by the enjoyment of an undue facility of taking salmon, by means of fixed works across rivers, in many instances mistake their own ultimate and real interest by maintaining them. Your committee consider it essential that this free passage should be afforded during the fence months, or close time, for the purpose of securing the multiplication of the species; and they are equally of opinion that it should be afforded in a considerable degree during the fishing season, because if those persons in whose property, or within reach of whom salmon breed, be not permitted to take, when of a mature size, some proportion of the countless multitudes of fish which their care and protection may bring into life, it is in vain to expect that such care will be exercised, or that any protection will be given, or to hope that any law will be effectual to prevent the injurious practices during the breeding season, which, wherever they exist, almost extirpate the race. In those rivers on which large commercial cities are situated, and on which the interests of manufactures have led to the expenditure of vast capital, it is not to be looked for that the salmon fishery should flourish; and while it may be from those causes nearly extinct, it would be chimerical to expect that it should ever be restored. Such cases must be obvious, and the committee by no means wish to make recommendations respecting them, which could end only in failure. But while they wish not to be misunderstood in this respect, they are equally sure that there scarcely is a river in the United Kingdom in which the salmon fishery may reasonably be expected to prosper, on which obstructions do not exist, and on which a vast general and public advantage would not arise

from the removal or regulation of such obstructions. Your committee have also gone into evidence, at considerable length, respecting the modes of taking salmon practised in different parts of the United Kingdom, with a view to ascertain the circumstances attendant on each, which ought to recommend it to the sanction, or suggest it to the regulation or condemnation of the legislature. In pursuing this branch of the inquiry, the end in view has been to ascertain what modes of fishing are adapted to the greatest variety of circumstances, and calculated to secure the largest permanent supply of fish in fine condition, and, being adapted to the habits of the animal, do not interfere with those habits, so as to restrain its vast prolific powers. Such a subject is necessarily complicated in its nature; but the committee trust their proceedings may not be deemed wholly unavailing, and that the evidence may be considered as containing the ground-work of principles on which the legislature may be justified in proceeding, in a future session of parliament, to sanction a measure having for its object the general regulation of the salmon fisheries of the United Kingdom. Although your committee were of opinion that they possessed abundant evidence on which to found the resolutions contained in their last report, they have, in taking further evidence, excluded no branch of the subject, but have availed themselves of the full extent of the information of all witnesses who have come before them. The testimony of some witnesses may appear to militate against the opinions which have been expressed by your committee, but they beg to state, that upon the whole, they have not seen cause to alter the opinions which they have already formed; and they report the evidence with a conviction, that when fully examined and understood, it will be felt, that while anomalies and excursions are to be met with, no great or permanent good can be effected without an adherence to uniform principles, which, if called into full operation, will, even to individuals, much more than compensate the partial sacrifices which the adoption of sound and general principles may call upon them for a time to make. In conclusion, your committee cannot refrain from expressing an opinion, that the salmon fisheries of the United Kingdom are eminently deserving, and greatly stand in need, of the protection of the legislature; and that there is every reason to believe, under the influence of a general law, founded in sound principle, that they might rise to an importance and magnitude hitherto unknown.

3d June, 1825.

An appendix contains minutes of evidence taken before the committee, and various plans and miscellaneous papers.

SHIPS AND TONNAGE.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Ships, with their Tonnage and Men, which have entered the Ports of the United Kingdom during the Years 1822, 1823, and 1824, respectively; specifying the Ports of Entry, and distinguishing the British Ships from the Foreign; with the names of the different Kingdoms or States to which they belong.

		ENGLAND:—Year 1822.					
Ports of entry.		British.			Foreign.		
		Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
London		3,230	603,167	32,392	597	106,099	4,749
Aberystwith		4	285	16			
Albro'				Nil.			
Arundel		2	340	18	1	125	
Barnstaple		3	491	29			
Beaumaris		27	1,915	127	2	335	14
Berwick		20	3,567	226	5	448	29
Bideford		6	1,463	77			
Blackney		1	107	6	1	80	5
Boston		12	2,285	104	1	119	7
Bridlington		9	882	49			
Bridgewater		8	1,328	67			
Bristol		291	53,908	2,756	56	8,165	411
Cardiff		17	2,240	125	30	1,896	173
Cardigan		3	462	24			
Carlisle		12	2,270	116			
Chepstow		16	3,262	157			
Chester		23	3,002	185	3	239	19
Chichester		3	258	12	2	169	9
Colchester		32	2,311	190	7	651	35
Cowes		6	398	27	38	7,738	425
Dartmouth		52	4,526	326	1	150	10
Deal				Nil.			
Dover		600	38,317	5,286	285	12,099	2,162
Exeter		61	6,351	394	2	192	14
Falmouth		23	2,245	142	4	444	31
Faversham		36	4,100	393	2	192	10
Fowey		2	198	10	6	1,008	54
Gloucester		2	161	8			
Grimsbay		36	4,489	263	42	4,728	276
Gweek		1	156	7	4	795	40
Harwich		147	8,460	1,101	1	28	4
Hull		696	139,726	7,951	106	14,165	757
Infracomb		3	618	33			
Ipswich		8	938	50	7	450	48
Leamington		29	2,266	235			

Ports of entry.	British.			Foreign.		
	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
Leigh			- Nil. -			
Liverpool	1,263	261,137	14,062	699	174,607	8,298
Llanelli	13	1,333	87	62	2,636	277
Looe			- Nil. -			
Lyme	44	2,578	218	5	355	23
Lynn	39	7,526	360	6	789	41
Maldon	67	3,085	317	13	620	69
Milford	6	723	43			
Minhead	2	249	14	4	564	26
Newcastle	311	45,969	2,408	108	8,282	623
Newhaven	42	2,746	217	11	170	44
Newport			- Nil. -			
Padstow	4	301	20	1	130	9
Pembroke	7	963	55			
Penzance	5	635	32	10	1,478	80
Plymouth	191	19,503	1,196	21	3,770	198
Poole	107	12,451	774	6	391	31
Portsmouth	105	11,485	973	125	6,445	397
Preston	11	1,569	77			
Rochester	151	15,496	998	345	8,609	3,018
Rye	43	1,454	181	3	89	16
Saint Ives	2	243	12	7	1,375	73
Sandwich	10	463	46	11	574	55
Scarborough	7	1,056	56	3	145	26
Scilly			- Nil. -			
Shoreham	133	11,099	770	63	2,070	326
Southampton	380	27,715	2,191	11	1,275	80
Southwold	1	96	4			
Stockton	32	5,383	268	37	2,864	206
Sunderland	147	23,789	1,101	32	2,383	197
Swansea	30	3,411	198	4	155	18
Truro	3	832	33	37	5,579	294
Wells	4	584	26	1	60	3
Weymouth	96	3,567	402	5	583	35
Whitby	15	3,592	400	3	58	25
Whitehaven	539	21,834	1,865			
Wisbech	4	650	31	1	145	9
Woodbridge	2	348	18	1	120	7
Yarmouth	39	6,167	306	22	1,176	171
Total	9,416	1,398,476	82,661	2,860	387,812	23,964

Ports of entry.	ENGLAND:—Year 1823.					
	British.			Foreign.		
	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
London	3,031	611,451	32,606	865	161,705	6,996
Aberystwith	4	406	24	...	...	...
Aldbro' .....	...	...	...	1	78	4
Arundel	6	618	38	2	41	7
Barnstaple	1	70	5	...	...	...
Beaumaris	10	989	56	1	189	6
Berwick	11	2,789	174	13	857	71
Bideford	11	2,138	118	...	...	...
Blackney	5	563	29	1	55	3
Boston	14	2,956	139	2	167	8
Bridlington	8	738	39	1	60	4
Bridgewater	9	1,857	86	...	...	...
Bristol	305	57,166	2,936	39	7,121	386
Cardiff	14	1,764	97	31	2,206	189
Cardigan	3	425	23	...	...	...
Carlisle	13	2,150	117	...	...	...
Chepstow	17	3,134	143	...	...	...
Chester	23	3,238	208	...	...	...
Chichester	4	231	15	2	206	13
Colchester	50	3,292	321	7	730	39
Cowes	6	474	33	7	1,216	68
Dartmouth	61	5,201	331	5	577	38
Deal	1	91	5	...	...	...
Dover	657	38,161	5,331	317	12,742	2,408
Exeter	67	8,152	474	5	686	43
Falmouth	20	1,959	122	12	2,582	134
Faversham	113	5,550	540	15	1,290	72
Fowey	4	661	38	18	3,040	172
Gloucester .....	...	...	...	2	386	20
Grimsby	38	4,688	264	50	6,598	368
Gweek	2	312	14	4	751	37
Harwich	163	10,324	1,267	1	70	3
Hull	779	154,058	17,194	205	26,355	1,398
Ilfracombe	2	412	20	...	...	...
Ipswich	12	1,225	64	6	576	40
Lancaster	30	3,790	210	...	...	...
Leigh	74	3,040	361	...	...	...
Liverpool	1,459	296,710	15,996	798	199,866	9,351
Llanelly	13	1,438	83	62	3,066	285
Looe .....	...	...	- Nil -	...	...	...

Ports of entry.	British.			Foreign.		
	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
Lyme	36	1,662	162	4	357	23
Lynn	46	8,876	425	14	1,445	87
Maldon	85	3,868	414	10	546	55
Milford	9	1,093	61	3	479	28
Minehead	2	256	16	...	...	...
Newcastle	269	43,717	2,242	121	9,566	652
Newhaven	9	789	64	9	251	50
Newport	4	720	37	9	657	56
Padstow	3	409	24	3	306	21
Penbroke .....	...	...	Nil.	...	...	...
Penzance	9	761	43	6	946	49
Plymouth	212	21,504	1,456	21	3,959	212
Poole	123	12,353	817	2	79	9
Portsmouth	82	9,420	551	165	6,048	713
Preston	9	1,484	80	...	...	...
Rochester	120	10,969	788	349	10,479	2,991
Rye	50	1,656	229	6	268	36
Saint Ives	3	447	26	10	1,789	98
Sandwich	45	2,687	289	26	1,986	178
Scarborough	8	1,227	64	2	50	22
Scilly	2	674	26	...	...	...
Shortham	128	11,416	1,012	74	2,925	377
Southampton	288	24,813	1,733	32	3,160	243
Southwold .....	...	...	Nil.	...	...	...
Stockton	40	7,282	368	33	3,076	197
Sunderland	133	22,630	1,058	31	3,383	216
Swansea	35	3,776	220	3	196	18
Truro	6	1,263	57	37	7,879	378
Wells	7	525	31	1	58	4
Weymouth	104	4,269	447	4	555	34
Whitby	19	4,589	466	2	37	13
Whitehaven	651	34,258	2,949	...	...	...
Wisbech	6	1,086	52	9	1,072	69
Woodbridge	2	352	16	5	406	29
Yarmouth	50	8,126	403	23	1,975	152
Total	9,635	1,481,198	96,197	3,486	497,149	29,103

Ports of entry.	ENGLAND:—Year 1824.					
	British.			Foreign.		
	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
London	3,132	607,106	33,012	1,643	264,098	11,331
Aberystwith	4	410	23	1	151	8
Aldbrough	1	77	4	3	204	8
Arundel	9	1,418	77	1	182	9
Barnstaple	1	179	11			
Beaumaris	18	1,993	120	1	189	6
Berwick	16	3,146	206	15	949	77
Bideford	10	2,325	141		Nil.	
Blackney	10	1,221	63	3	213	13
Boston	20	3,746	178	4	659	25
Bridlington	11	1,088	59	7	496	35
Bridgewater	9	1,657	82	2	358	18
Bristol	338	65,878	3,356	64	10,177	470
Cardiff	19	2,887	138	18	1,612	113
Cardigan	6	970	52		Nil.	
Carlisle	13	2,236	118			
Chepstow	17	3,439	147	2	348	19
Chester	24	2,952	184	4	364	23
Chichester	3	274	18	2	219	13
Colchester	20	2,298	148	13	1,485	77
Cowes	11	1,099	69	5	999	56
Dartmouth	73	5,539	427	6	635	39
Deal	1	18	3	1	40	2
Dover	652	34,274	5,246	322	14,495	2,377
Exeter	69	9,089	502	5	705	39
Falmouth	29	2,499	157	8	1,953	94
Faversham	61	3,304	294	7	728	41
Fowey	8	811	51	16	2,580	151
Gloucester	2	172	11			
Grimsby	39	6,057	316	179	14,976	940
Gweek	1	125	7	11	1,866	96
Harwich	52	2,487	323	4	488	20
Hull	776	142,615	8,064	510	58,603	3,142
Ilfracombe	3	557	29			
Ipswich	23	1,799	119	7	927	59
Lancaster	33	5,126	286			
Leigh	71	3,337	346			
Liverpool	1,554	327,198	18,459	702	174,593	8,089
Llanelly	13	1,569	88	48	2,102	208
Looe			— Nil. —			

Ports of entry.	British.			Foreign.		
	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
Lyme.....	57	3,037	260	4	394	22
Lynn.....	42	7,690	368	66	5,647	310
Maldon.....	81	4,046	404	6	383	38
Milford.....	14	2,358	121	2	570	25
Minehead.....	1	102	6	1	123	6
Newcastle.....	259	40,402	2,118	196	15,264	1,071
Newhaven.....	21	1,512	118	12	902	72
Newport.....	10	1,658	85	9	579	72
Padstow.....	4	476	26	5	597	39
Pembroke.....			-Nil-			
Penzance.....	16	1,275	75	17	2,944	140
Plymouth.....	250	30,755	1,800	43	6,695	372
Poole.....	127	13,819	895	8	697	43
Portsmouth.....	134	11,833	994	157	9,342	839
Preston.....	10	1,347	67			
Rochester.....	123	11,491	759	337	14,338	2,862
Rye.....	48	1,773	220	11	776	67
Saint Ives.....	1	42	4	10	1,846	104
Sandwich.....	70	3,927	373	49	4,090	280
Scarborough.....	8	1,588	76	2	129	12
Scilly.....	3	210	13			
Shoreham.....	238	16,089	1,857	110	5,871	592
Southampton.....	308	26,645	2,140	20	2,242	132
Southwold.....	4	365	23			
Stockton.....	43	7,796	392	42	3,496	236
Sunderland.....	81	14,142	670	28	2,347	196
Swansea.....	38	4,528	248	3	104	12
Truro.....	8	1,291	64	29	4,908	277
Wells.....	8	704	41	17	1,041	65
Weymouth.....	103	3,577	407	3	318	21
Whitby.....	19	4,439	434	5	216	23
Whitehaven.....	630	25,057	2,261	2	338	15
Wisbech.....	9	1,895	90	5	692	43
Woodbridge.....	4	372	23	4	504	31
Yarmouth.....	51	7,871	404	62	5,341	358
Total.....	9,975	1,507,107	90,770	4,879	650,128	35,970

SCOTLAND :—Year 1822.							
Ports of entry.	British.			Foreign.			
	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	
Aberdeen.....	110	18,815	1,647	8	618	37	
Air.....	24	2,486	156	..	..	..
Allea.....	1	94	6	3	170	19	
Anstruther.....	2	320	19	7	355	34	
Banff.....	7	417	32	5	360	28	
Bonness.....	9	2,106	237	4	285	21	
Campbeltown.....	4	529	37	2	582	24	
Dumfries.....	11	2,106	108	1	179	9	
Dunbar.....	9	1,303	67	1	120	8	
Dundee.....	147	20,023	1,468	5	704	40	
Fort William.....	1	418	14	..	..	..
Glasgow.....	25	2,410	164	12	1,578	88	
Grangemouth.....	33	6,218	328	28	3,656	214	
Greenock.....	162	38,934	2,227	21	5,236	245	
Inverness.....	9	1,223	64	..	..	..
Irvine.....	37	4,174	255	1	117	6	
Kirkcaldy.....	29	4,328	342	12	981	70	
Kirkcudbright.....	8	703	53	..	..	..
Kirkwall.....	1	228	12	3	360	21	
Leith.....	209	34,335	1,969	77	8,752	549	
Lerwick.....	4	445	26	3	365	20	
Motitrose.....	65	7,555	597	6	563	33	
Oban.....	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Perth.....	10	1,735	85	5	365	23	
Port Glasgow.....	75	22,430	1,118	2	402	15	
Port Patrick.....	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Preston Pans.....	2	391	18	19	1,392	97	
Rothesay.....	2	334	18	..	..	..
Stornoway.....	1	140	7	1	206	14	
Stranraer.....	3	336	51	1	207	7	
Thurso.....	1	204	11	1	141	31	
Tobermory.....	..	..	..	Nil	..	..
Wick.....	..	..	..	1	520	20
Wigtown.....	22	1,037	87	..	..	..
Total.....	1,028	176,327	11,223	229	28,156	1,647	

Ports of entry:	SCOTLAND:—Year 1823.					
	British.			Foreign.		
	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
Aberdeen	100	17,676	1,589	8	711	48
Air	13	1,302	80	..	..	..
Alloa	3	563	27	2	100	7
Anstruther	3	332	16	6	206	23
Banff	7	437	30	10	687	55
Boness	7	1,664	214	6	560	34
Campbeltown	3	379	25	..	..	..
Dumfries	11	1,784	107	..	..	..
Dunbar	5	914	45	4	277	21
Dundee	147	20,351	1,519	5	561	39
Fort William .....	..	..	— Nil. —	..	..	..
Glasgow	40	3,487	236	11	1,347	72
Grangemouth	41	8,544	425	47	6,381	359
Greenock	192	46,762	2,675	12	3,301	148
Inverness	14	1,521	92	..	..	..
Irvine	34	3,736	246	..	..	..
Kirkaldy	25	4,603	371	15	1,439	90
Kirkcudbright	6	510	33	..	..	..
Kirkwall	1	191	10	1	48	3
Leith	222	37,466	2,081	94	11,518	678
Lerwick	4	592	33	4	419	26
Montrose	72	8,156	627	18	996	84
Oban .....	..	..	— Nil. —	..	..	..
Perth	11	1,423	82	5	471	27
Port Glasgow	68	21,721	1,075	1	244	10
Port Patrick .....	..	..	— Nil. —	..	..	..
Preston Pans	8	1,208	57	18	1,564	95
Rothsay	2	335	20	..	..	..
Stornoway	2	173	12	1	301	11
Stranraer	6	723	44	..	..	..
Thurso .....	..	..	— Nil. —	..	..	..
Tobermory .....	..	..	— Nil. —	..	..	..
Wick .....	..	..	..	4	360	42
Wigtown	16	585	59	..	..	..
Total	1,063	187,133	11,830	272	31,571	1,872

Ports of entry.	SCOTLAND :—Year 1824.					
	British.			Foreign.		
	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
Aberdeen.....	130	21,970	1,942	17	1,023	86
Air	17	1,703	110	...	...	...
Alloa	1	197	9	4	191	17
Anstruther	1	141	9	10	561	43
Banff	6	403	29	7	312	29
Borl'ess	9	1,900	225	22	1,806	112
Campbletown	5	725	46	...	...	...
Dumfries.....	8	1,450	78	...	...	...
Dunbar	5	732	33	6	400	34
Dundee	149	21,348	1,524	11	879	72
Fort William .....	...	...	- Nil -	...	...	...
Glasgow	62	5,665	384	15	2,165	129
Grangemouth	44	9,051	457	49	7,079	376
Greenock.....	181	46,494	2,664	19	5,190	229
Inverness.....	14	1,461	87	1	140	7
Irvine	36	4,194	262	...	...	...
Kirkaldy	41	6,209	477	22	1,561	117
Kirkcudbright	11	750	56	...	...	...
Kirkwall	3	638	54	2	111	8
Leith	222	36,479	2,133	146	16,630	980
Lerwick	3	149	13	...	...	...
Montrose.....	92	10,179	756	18	1,411	122
Oban .....	...	...	- Nil -	...	...	...
Perth.....	13	1,962	108	14	1,449	83
Port Glasgow	67	21,057	1,047	3	573	25
Port Patrick .....	...	...	- Nil -	...	...	...
Preston Pans	9	1,368	75	27	3,228	154
Rothesay.....	2	301	18	...	...	...
Stornoway	3	376	23	2	281	16
Stranraer.....	4	664	35	...	...	...
Thurso .....	...	...	...	2	220	10
Tobermory .....	...	...	- Nil -	...	...	...
Wick	2	176	10	4	440	43
Wigtown.....	9	646	43	...	...	...
Total.....	1,149	198,338	12,712	401	44,752	2,692

		IRELAND:—Year 1822.					
Ports of entry.		British.			Foreign.		
		Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
Baltimore	1	343	20	...	...	...
Belfast	110	19,910	1,108	64	12,043	597	
Coleraine	13	1,318	81	3	296	17	
Cork	107	14,017	753	52	8,191	473	
Donaghadee	1	41	4	...	...	...
Drogheda	13	704	65	4	490	35	
Dublin	200	28,062	1,604	75	14,948	780	
Dundalk	5	684	37	5	818	38	
Galway	7	863	49	4	717	39	
Killybegs	6	515	30	2	280	14	
Kilrush	1	241	12	...	...	...
Kinsale	4	606	33	...	...	...
Larne	1	58	4	7	1,005	58	
Limerick	22	3,517	189	4	647	41	
Londonderry	21	3,016	174	22	3,512	179	
Newry	62	5,955	380	32	5,898	308	
Sligo	15	1,731	114	10	1,354	84	
Tralee	1	189	9	1	144	9	
Waterford	43	6,453	359	12	2,543	118	
Westport	1	137	9	...	...	...
Wexford	7	752	42	1	125	8	
Wicklow	...	...	...	...	...	...
Youghal	2	271	16	2	172	12	
Total	643	89,383	5,092	300	53,183	2,810	

Ports of entry.	IRELAND: — Year 1823.					
	British.			Foreign.		
	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Mén.
Baltimore	2	434	21	3	363	26
Belfast.....	92	12,710	772	53	9,742	487
Coleraine.....	5	434	30	4	449	24
Cork	105	15,206	793	64	10,009	556
Donaghadee	3	253	20	...	...	...
Drogheda	3	231	17	7	1,024	54
Dublin.....	182	23,777	1,378	77	15,674	782
Dundalk	5	622	33	1	178	8
Galway	2	233	13	9	1,535	79
Killybegs.....	4	326	19	1	140	8
Kilrush	1	79	6	...	...	...
Kinsale	3	330	18	1	409	12
Larne	1	43	4	3	452	26
Limerick.....	20	2,946	168	6	955	60
Londonderry	15	1,888	102	27	4,198	236
Newry.....	60	4,128	299	27	4,444	231
Sligo	11	1,126	65	10	1,763	100
Tralee.....	3	436	25	2	249	17
Waterford	41	5,663	338	10	1,949	104
Westport	1	128	7	1	156	9
Wexford	9	976	59	2	276	14
Wicklow.....	...	...	— NIL —	...	...	...
Youghal	5	554	30	3	311	20
Total	573	72,523	4,217	311	54,276	2,853

Ports of entry.	IRELAND:—Year 1824.					
	British.			Foreign.		
	Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Ships.	Tons.	Men.
Baltimore	2	502	24	1	184	14
Belfast	100	19,123	1,090	66	11,992	621
Coleraine	43	1,152	76	7	533	46
Cork	86	15,025	723	39	13,976	792
Donaghadee	5	269	24	...	...	...
Drogheda	9	890	54	3	420	23
Dublin	198	24,306	1,530	53	10,467	512
Dundalk	11	1,532	88	6	670	40
Galway	4	546	33	11	2,020	104
Killybegs	6	448	34	4	596	27
Kilrush .....	...	...	Nil	...	...	...
Kinsale	4	778	40	1	146	10
Larne	1	42	3	3	258	19
Limerick	29	5,223	269	16	3,439	171
Londonderry	23	3,293	183	32	5,479	313
Newry	40	6,705	367	43	7,612	403
Sligo	10	1,085	80	16	2,463	137
Tralee	3	490	27	2	368	21
Waterford	48	7,600	430	15	3,137	158
Westport	1	...	...	2	245	15
Wexford	11	1,409	77	1	232	9
Wicklow	1	362	15	...	...	...
Youghal	5	1,045	51	2	193	15
Total	609	91,825	5,218	373	64,561	3,450

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Ships and their Tonnage, which cleared out, in the Years ending 5th January, 1824, and 5th January, 1825, for China, the East Indies, Sierra Leone, the Cape of Good Hope, the Mauritius, each of the Foreign West India Islands, the Island of St. Domingo or Hayti, and each of the British West India Colonies respectively.

Countries, &c.	1823:				1824:			
	British.		Foreign.		British.		Foreign.	
	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.
China	15	20,128	1	260	23	30,002	1	642
East Indies	99	49,042	3	974	96	49,123	4	1,430
Sierra Leone	32	7,427	...	...	67	16,364	...	...
Cape of Good Hope	30	7,107	...	...	27	6,154	...	...
Mauritius	1	471	...	...	5	1,822	...	...
Foreign West India Islands, viz.								
Cuba	28	6,149	11	3,329	22	5,314	14	3,768
Porto Rico	1	189	...	...	...	...	...	...
Curaçao	2	258	...	...	...	...	...	...
St. Croix .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	240
St. Martin .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	131
St. Thomas	27	5,611	1	268	27	5,692	1	174
St. Domingo or Hayti	39	6,349	...	...	46	7,069	...	...
British West India colonies, viz.								
Antigua	40	8,949	...	...	42	9,614	...	...
Barbadoes	32	21,268	...	...	30	20,288	...	...
Dominica	11	2,623	...	...	11	2,966	...	...
Grenada	33	10,189	...	...	37	10,927	...	...
Jamaica	284	88,055	...	...	299	90,923	...	...
Montserrat	6	1,441	...	...	4	993	...	...
Nevis	10	2,324	...	...	6	1,492	...	...
St. Christopher	13	3,644	...	...	20	5,957	...	...
St. Lucia	13	2,670	...	...	13	2,800	...	...
St. Vincent's	39	10,425	...	...	41	11,122	...	...
Tobago	22	5,816	...	...	22	5,587	...	...
Tortola	2	504	...	...	2	475	...	...
Trinidad	57	12,938	...	...	71	15,480	...	...
Bahamas	10	1,935	...	...	11	2,217	...	...
Bermuda	6	1,647	...	...	5	1,166	...	...
Demerara	145	41,137	...	...	130	37,593	...	...
Berbice	25	5,413	...	...	27	6,212	...	...
Honduras	43	11,241	...	...	27	7,485	...	...
Total United Kingdom, &c.	1,115	335,000	16	4,831	1,151	354,657	22	6,385

A RETURN of the Number of British Vessels, with the Amount of their Tonnage, which have cleared from the Ports of the United Kingdom, during the Years 1823 and 1824, for Places to the Westward of Cape Horn, and the Eastward of Calcutta.

Places to the westward of Cape Horn.	1823:		1824:	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
Chili: Valparaisa	14	2,718	20	3,798
Peru: Lima	9	1,799	12	2,061
California	1	336	...	...
Total	24	4,853	32	5,859

Places to the eastward of Calcutta.	1823.		1824.	
	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
China	15	20,128	23	30,002
Malacca	3	1,301	3	997
Java	7	2,210	7	1,655
Timor .....	..	..	1	128
New Holland and the South Sea islands	36	12,794	33	11,701
Southern fishery	59	17,669	31	9,122
Total	120	54,102	98	53,605

A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of British and Foreign Tonnage, cleared Outwards from the Ports of Great Britain, distinguishing the several Countries, for the Year ending the 5th January, 1825.

Countries.	Tonnage.	
	British.	Foreign.
Russia	156,443	20,430
Sweden	9,698	18,643
The Baltic	401	46,039
Norway	8,557	122,586
Denmark	44,418	57,799
Prussia	49,200	78,908
Germany	70,933	43,004
Belgium	44,354	96,659
France	68,370	44,355
Portugal	43,370	10,746
Spain	25,361	8,304
Gibraltar	18,867	494
The Mediterranean .....	..	1,348
Italy	43,428	578
Malta	5,876	..
Ionian Islands	794	..
Turkey	27,108	566
Foreign Parts	617	3,556
British Isles: viz.		
Ireland	905,449	..
Isle of Man	23,983	..
Guernsey	21,988	74
Jersey	27,488	..
Alderney	560	..
Asia	93,482	2,072
Africa	31,339	..
Whale fisheries	44,316	..
Seal fishery	62	..
British northern colonies	375,318	..
British West Indies	216,573	..
United States	43,062	126,892
Foreign West Indies	18,075	3,983
Foreign continental colonies	67,892	3,343
Total	2,492,402	690,374

A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of British and Foreign Tonnage cleared outwards from the Ports of Ireland, distinguishing the several Countries, for the Year ending 5th January, 1825.

	Countries.	Tonnage.	
		British.	Foreign.
	Russia	3,930	554
	Sweden	...	609
	Norway	1,599	13,356
	Denmark	141	1,510
	Prussia	943	9,176
	Germany	...	407
	Belgium	...	344
	France	1,057	378
	Portugal	1,729	9,861
	Spain	960	1,618
	Gibraltar	690	1,045
	Turkey and the Levant	136	146
	British Islands; viz.		
	Isle of Man	390	...
	Guernsey	130	...
	Jersey	1,638	...
	Africa	328	...
	British northern colonies	36,755	345
	British West Indies	16,524	...
	United States	3,236	16,457
	Foreign West Indies	...	330
	Foreign continental colonies	131	219
	Total	70,317	56,355

SILKS.

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Raw and Thrown Silks imported during the Year ending 5th January, 1825; distinguishing the Countries from which the same have respectively come.

Countries from which imported.	Silk Imported into Great Britain in the Year ending 5th January, 1825.		
	Raw.	Thrown.	Total.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Germany	14,773	...	14,773
Belgium	804	...	804
France	1,047,640½	416	1,048,056½
Portugal	1,729	...	1,729
Spain and Canaries	4,534½	1	4,535½
Gibraltar	12,978	...	12,978
Italy	334,444	334,233½	668,678
Malta	4,437	1½	4,438½
Turkey	318,397	...	318,397
East Indies and China	1,307,300½	...	1,307,300½
Foreign West Indies	289	...	289
Ireland	379	...	379
Total	3,047,705½	334,652½	3,382,357½

AN ACCOUNT of the Amount of Drawback paid on Silk and Silk Goods warehoused under the Act of last Session; distinguishing that paid on Raw and Thrown Silks, and Manufactured Goods, and also the Towns where the same were warehoused.

Towns where warehoused.	Amount of drawback paid		Total.	
	on raw and thrown silk.	on manufactured silk.		
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Towns of England.	Bristol	...	1,341 13 1	1,341 13 1
	Beaumaris	...	954 10 4	954 10 4
	Bridgewater	1,486 7 2	...	1,486 7 2
	Chichester	...	160 15 8	160 15 8
	Colchester	423 8 9	117 12 3	541 1 0
	Coventry	19,932 0 7	18,860 9 7	38,792 10 2
	Exeter	287 4 0	524 12 2	811 16 2
	Hull	947 15 6	428 13 10	1,376 9 4
	Lancaster	2,938 15 11	349 1 3	3,287 17 2
	Leek	6,931 13 3	4,189 12 9	11,121 6 0
	Liverpool	4,661 13 9	3,765 18 6	8,427 12 3
	London	144,971 16 3	103,111 19 6½	248,083 15 9½
	Llanelly	...	79 14 11	79 14 11
	Macclesfield	47,405 2 2	8,182 9 4	55,587 11 6
	Manchester	16,444 0 7	14,203 10 3	30,647 10 10
	Newcastle	...	386 7 4	386 7 4
	Nottingham	11,655 2 9	4,467 12 0	16,122 14 9
	Southampton	...	224 18 1½	224 18 1½
	Stockton	...	113 18 40	113 18 10
	Weymouth	1,216 7 8	81 7 8½	1,297 15 4½
Yarmouth	10,495 2 6	15,238 14 10	25,733 17 4	
Towns of Scotland.	Aberdeen	...	262 10 7½	262 10 7½
	Glasgow	1,943 18 3½	3,234 1 4½	5,177 19 8
	Paisley	4,115 15 8½	355 0 8	4,470 16 4½
	Leith	688 18 2	3,706 10 7	4,395 8 9
Towns of Ireland.	Belfast	...	448 14 6	448 14 6
	Dublin	5,644 14 8	5,275 10 10	10,920 5 6
Total	282,189 17 7½	190,066 0 10½	472,255 18 6	

SMUGGLING.

Abstract of a Return of the Denomination and Quantity of Seizures made by the Coast Guard, the Preventative Water Guard, the Riding Officers, the Revenue Cruizers, and his Majesty's Vessels under the Boards of Customs and Excise, in England, Scotland, and Ireland; for the three Years 1821, 1822, and 1823.

129 vessels; 748 boats; 920 anchors and warps; 255 horses, carriages, &c.; 57 head of cattle; 135,348½ gallons of brandy; 253½ gallons of rum; 227,443½ gallons of geneva; 596½ gallons of wine; 10,518½ gallons of whiskey; 3,891½ gallons of aquavite; 45½ bottles of cordials; 902,684½ lbs. of tobacco; 3,049 lbs. of snuff; 19,804½ lbs. of tea; 15,861½ lbs. of salt; 1,994½ lbs. of pepper; 508½ bushels of malt; 399 empty casks; 1,656 lbs. of grocery; 365 cocoa nuts; 83 pieces of silk; 42,248½ yards of silk and velvet; 2,186 pieces of bandanas;

2,390 silk and crape handkerchiefs, shawls, scarfs, pelisses, and gowns; 219 pairs of silk shoes; stockings, and garters; 1,358 lbs. of silk; 55 tippets; 15,960½ yards of ribbon; 1,190 yards of tiffany; 954½ yards of crape; 7 lace dresses and veils; 10 yards of lace; 4,458 pieces of cambric; 3,779½ yards of miscellaneous articles of cotton, muslin, and worsted; 1,466 pieces of the same; 6 bales of cottons and wools; 8,956 pairs of gloves; 23 leghorn hats; 18 lbs. of ostrich feathers; 798 miscellaneous articles of jewellery; 7 musical snuff boxes; 3,632 packs of cards; 72 pieces of porcelain; 3,779 miscellaneous articles of glass; 2 cases of machinery; 8,778 pieces, and 1,357½ feet of timber; 6 pieces of logwood; 20 barrels of herrings; 301 bottles of Dutch drops; 155 chaldrons of coals; 86 lbs. of horse hair; 43 cwt. 3 lbs. of rags; 49 cwt. 13 lbs. of feathers and quills; 95 cwt. 2 q. of hops; 46 cwt. 12 q. 14 lbs. of iron; 75 stills; 30 heads, and 44 worms.

AN ACCOUNT of the Produce from the Sale of Seizures, and also the Value of the Seizures transferred to the Victualling or other Departments, for the last Three Years, 1821, 1822, 1823.

	Produce from the sale of seizures.						Value of seizures transferred to the victualling or other departments.					
	1821.		1822.		1823.		1821.		1822.		1823.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
England	28,987	11 11½	50,867	0 7	70,811	4 2½	5,015	16 6	...	...	...	...
Scotland	19,287	12 8½	10,332	4 1½	7,519	4 7	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ireland	54,921	0 1½	8,261	14 10	31,603	15 4½	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total.....	103,146	4 9½	69,460	19 6½	109,934	4 1½	5,015	16 6	...	...	...	...

AN ACCOUNT of the Produce of such Seizures paid to the Revenue Officers, or others by whom such Seizures were made, and likewise the Amount remaining as the King's Share, for the last Three Years, 1821, 1822, 1823.

	Amount paid to seizing officers.						Amount remaining as the King's share.					
	1821.		1822.		1823.		1821.		1822.		1823.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
England	95,469	12 9½	70,653	7 2½	64,431	12 7½	...	...	...	...	15,808	9 8½
Scotland	15,116	8 4½	11,913	1 2½	4,226	16 0	5,462	1 3	2,128	11 2½	2,323	19 4
Ireland	87,850	19 6½	86,257	13 11½	52,207	11 2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total.....	198,437	0 9½	168,824	2 4½	120,865	19 9½	5,462	1 3	2,128	11 2½	18,132	9 0½

Note.—The amount remaining as the king's share in 1821 and 1822, and in Ireland in 1821, 1822, and 1823, is returned "nil," it not having been sufficient to meet the payments to the seizing officers, &c.

SOAP.

AN ACCOUNT of the Amount of Duty and Drawback, paid in England, upon Hard and Soft Soap, for the Years ended 5th January, 1824, and 5th January, 1825.

	Duty.		Drawback.		Allowance.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Year ended 5th January, 1824.....	1,154,651	0 0	55,911	0 0	58,001	0 0
Year ended 5th January, 1825.....	1,149,719	0 0	55,584	0 0	61,061	0 0

AN ACCOUNT of the Duty received on Soap, and the Charges of collecting the same, during the Year ended 5th January, 1825.

Year ended 5th January, 1825.	Total amount of duty received.	Total charges of excise collection paid out of soap duty.
England	£ 1,187,402 4 6½	£ 35,980 0 8½
Scotland	133,658 17 0	6,814 12 8
Total.....	£ 1,321,061 1 6½	42,794 13 4½

Note.—The officers of this revenue are employed in charging and collecting the duties generally, so that the expense of collecting any particular duty cannot be ascertained. The sums, therefore, included in this column, are not the expenses of collecting the soap duty, but the amount of the general charge of the whole establishment of excise, which has been paid out of the soap duty.

STEAM VESSELS.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Voyages made by Steam Vessels in the Port of London, in the Years 1823 and 1824.

Vessels' names.	Voyages.	
	1823.	1824.
King of the Netherlands	30	30
Queen of the Netherlands	7	7
Lord Melville	61	50
Earl of Liverpool	44	46
Albion	35	45
Eclipse	49	39
Venus	46	23
Royal Sovereign	58	52
City of London	...	33
Soho	3	15
James Watt	15	13
City of Edinburgh	13	9
Tourist	8	11
Sir Joseph York	68	80
Eagle	60	...
Victory	41	51
Hero	31	52
Kingston	5	...
Talbot	41	60
Rapid	14	...
Engineer	24	32
Yorkshireman	25	32
Prince Frederick	26	33
Favourite	...	...
Swiftsure	...	...
Sons of Commerce	...	...
London	...	...
Made by them together during the respective years, to Gravesend only.	287	429
	984	1,142

SUFFERANCE WHARFS.

AN ACCOUNT of each of the Species of Merchandise permitted by Law to be bonded at Sufferance Wharfs in the Port of London.

Wines, Nil.	Bristles.	Timber.
Hemp.	Flax.	Deals.
Tallow.	Ashes, Russia.	Staves.
Pitch.	Do. America.	Lathwood.
Tar.	Barilla.	Mahogany.
Rosewood.	Cork.	Wood goods, for tanners and dyers' use (East India excepted).
Whalebone.	Russia Mats.	Speltre.
Turpentine, raw.	Iron.	Battens.
Do. spirits.	Steel.	Spokes and other wood goods.
Seal skins.	Linseed.	
Brimstone.	Rapeseed.	
Fish oils.	Tares.	
Valonea.	Hempseed.	
Shumach.	Buck wheat.	

SUGAR.

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantities of Refined Sugar exported from England and Scotland respectively, in the Year 1824; distinguishing the Double Refined from the Single, and stating the Quantities of each, and the total Quantities from each Port.

Ports from which exported.	British refined sugar exported, year 1824.					
	Double refined sugar.		Single refined sugar.		Total.	
	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>q. lbs.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>q. lbs.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>q. lbs.</i>
Ports of England :						
London	5,351	0 27	340,763	1 12	346,114	2 11
Plymouth . . . . .	...	...	2	0 23	2	0 23
Bristol	1,539	2 13	12,009	1 16	14,140	0 1
Cardiff . . . . .	...	...	0	0 11	0	0 11
Liverpool	73	2 4	30,539	3 20	30,613	1 24
Whitehaven . . . . .	...	...	556	3 18	556	3 18
Hull	7	3 21	...	...	7	3 21
Quantities exported from England	6,972	1 0	384,471	3 16	391,444	0 25
Ports of Scotland :						
Dumfries . . . . .	...	...	61	0 8	61	0 8
Glasgow . . . . .	...	...	7,251	2 3	7,251	2 3
Greenock	3,476	3 24	26,353	1 16	29,830	1 12
Port Glasgow	189	2 13	2,984	2 19	3,174	1 9
Dundee	147	1 14	359	2 4	506	3 18
Leith	8	2 27	2,994	1 8	2,993	0 7
Quantities exported from Scotland	3,822	2 27	39,994	2 2	43,817	1 1
Total quantities exported from Great Britain	10,795	0 8	424,466	1 13	435,261	1 26

TALLOW.
AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Tallow imported into Great Britain from Foreign Parts, in each Year, from January 5th, 1800, to January 5th, 1825; distinguishing the Country from whence imported.

Countries from which imported.	1800.	1801.	1802.	1803.	1804.	1805.	1806.	1807.	1808.	1809.	1810.	1811.
Russia	410,260 0 0	290,316 1 16	515,674 2 12	500,679 3 10	501,717 2 12	349,461 0 8	463,405 3 16	395,686 3 20	85,389 2 18	294,982 2 18	356,290 0 24	198,553 0 21
Sweden	..	3,125 0 0	686 2 3	57 3 25	501,880 1 7	..	1,253 2 22	400 0 4	1,476 3 25	3,980 1 19	1,113 1 13	7,524 1 6
Norway	..	1,637 3 10	98 0 27	..	893 2 14	61 2 26	54 2 0	..	132 0 25	2,100 0 0	1,389 2 4	410 0 1
Denmark	101 1 14	5,047 2 2	550 3 17	1,661 2 24	476 2 16	376 0 3	64 0 20	..	..	192 1 19	1,891 3 4	1,395 0 23
Prussia	601 1 13	18,075 1 23	24,269 3 22	568 1 22	1,641 4 8	364 3 4	60 3 9	..	..	5,935 1 13	8,706 1 9	144 3 3
Germany	75 1 13	..	3,680 0 0	2 0 0	1 1 9	300 0 0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Poland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Holland	1,270 3 23	910 0 83	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
France	..	675 2 14	1,473 2 19	3,626 1 20	4,120 3 5	6,065 1 1	5,040 0 11	4,697 3 21	1,892 1 10	769 2 14	2,398 1 15	..
Portugal	..	5 0 0	4,564 2 19	2,941 2 19	2,889 2 0	2,978 3 12	251 0 9	..	..	1,643 2 2	1,829 2 20	..
Spain	..	..	..	469 3 24	188 2 25	1,718 1 1	141 2 16	..	..	113 2 15	..	..
Genoa	..	..	..	200 0 0	9 3 16	2 1 7	13 3 27	..	..	..	..	..
Italy	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malta	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tonnan Islands	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Isle of Man	..	..	..	144 0 0	240 3 1	220 1 5	..	..	..	..	..	..
Isle of Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, and Man	..	..	..	32 1 18	25 0 7	382 1 3	423 3 5	..	447 0 1	354 2 8	3,004 1 17	541 1 19
East Indies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
New Holland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Africa, viz.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Coast of Africa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cape of Good Hope	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
British North American colonies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
British West Indies	..	623 0 4	..	..	223 1 3	13 0 0	..	10 0 0	3 1 8	137 3 26	7 1 16	..
United States of America	..	..	..	..	..	30 1 18	..	..	..	..	..	..
Foreign West Indies	..	..	5 2 26	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mexico	..	..	..	797 3 1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chili	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Buenos Ayres	..	..	2,081 2 18	10,120 2 27	11,608 3 4	16,372 1 8	45,721 3 24	16,944 1 9	42,433 3 15	11,961 1 27	31,017 0 2	36,947 3 27
Monte Video	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brazils	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Peru	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Prize	1 3 16	616 2 27	793 0 9	297 3 19	849 1 17	7,732 1 14	7,604 3 11	746 1 25	2,642 0 3	295 3 22	8,135 3 27	7,218 2 24
Total	413,131 0 15	327,008 1 16	554,310 0 16	530,590 3 13	594,814 1 4	968,137 3 26	524,040 2 2	359,305 2 23	134,161 0 4	335,605 2 13	471,709 3 3	501,137 2 3

TALLOW CANDLES.

An Account of the Duty received on Tallow Candles, and the Charges of collecting the same, during the Year ended 5th January, 1825.

Year ended 5th January, 1825.	Total amount of Duty received.	Total charges of excise collection paid out of candle duty.	
	s. d.	<i>See note.</i>	
England	434,955 3 94	54,144 14 93	<p><i>Note.</i>—The officers of this revenue are employed in charging and collecting the duties generally, so that the expense of collecting any particular duty cannot be ascertained. The sums, therefore, included in this column are not the expense of collecting the candle duty, but the amount of the general charge of the whole establishment of excise which has been paid out of the candle duty.</p>
Scotland	22,693 19 11	422 10 104	
Total	£ 457,649 3 84	54,567 5 84	

Timber, unenumerated.	Loads, feet.																		
	Number.	Value.																	
Denmark	1	34	1	0	0	44	28	41	28	41	28	28	41	28	41	28	41	28	
Norway	1	24	1	25	46	3	0	44	90	47	30	47	30	47	30	47	30	47	
Sweden	1	24	1	25	46	3	0	44	90	47	30	47	30	47	30	47	30	47	
Russia	1	24	1	25	46	3	0	44	90	47	30	47	30	47	30	47	30	47	
Prussia	1	24	1	25	46	3	0	44	90	47	30	47	30	47	30	47	30	47	
Total	5	124	5	125	192	13	172	192	381	192	192	381	192	381	192	381	192	381	
Masts un-	2,984	3,124	2,970	3,077	6,201	8,796	6,688	8,974	32,992	261	13,243	261	13,243	261	13,243	261	13,243	261	13,243
der 12	0	36	0	36	0	36	0	36	0	36	0	36	0	36	0	36	0	36	0
Norway	4	32	4	32	4	32	4	32	4	32	4	32	4	32	4	32	4	32	4
Sweden	3	12	3	12	3	12	3	12	3	12	3	12	3	12	3	12	3	12	3
Russia	796	10	796	10	796	10	796	10	796	10	796	10	796	10	796	10	796	10	796
Prussia	705	43	705	43	705	43	705	43	705	43	705	43	705	43	705	43	705	43	705
Total	1,510	33	1,510	33	1,510	33	1,510	33	1,510	33	1,510	33	1,510	33	1,510	33	1,510	33	1,510
Masts 12	3,248	0	3,248	0	3,248	0	3,248	0	3,248	0	3,248	0	3,248	0	3,248	0	3,248	0	3,248
inches in	2,000	3	2,000	3	2,000	3	2,000	3	2,000	3	2,000	3	2,000	3	2,000	3	2,000	3	2,000
diameter	5,837	2	5,837	2	5,837	2	5,837	2	5,837	2	5,837	2	5,837	2	5,837	2	5,837	2	5,837
and	3,725	2	3,725	2	3,725	2	3,725	2	3,725	2	3,725	2	3,725	2	3,725	2	3,725	2	3,725
upwards.	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812
Total	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812
Denmark	3,248	0	3,248	0	3,248	0	3,248	0	3,248	0	3,248	0	3,248	0	3,248	0	3,248	0	3,248
Norway	2,000	3	2,000	3	2,000	3	2,000	3	2,000	3	2,000	3	2,000	3	2,000	3	2,000	3	2,000
Sweden	5,837	2	5,837	2	5,837	2	5,837	2	5,837	2	5,837	2	5,837	2	5,837	2	5,837	2	5,837
Russia	3,725	2	3,725	2	3,725	2	3,725	2	3,725	2	3,725	2	3,725	2	3,725	2	3,725	2	3,725
Prussia	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812	1	14,812
Total	30,622	9	30,622	9	30,622	9	30,622	9	30,622	9	30,622	9	30,622	9	30,622	9	30,622	9	30,622
Denmark	3,032	1	3,032	1	3,032	1	3,032	1	3,032	1	3,032	1	3,032	1	3,032	1	3,032	1	3,032
Norway	1,060	1	1,060	1	1,060	1	1,060	1	1,060	1	1,060	1	1,060	1	1,060	1	1,060	1	1,060
Sweden	2,169	3	2,169	3	2,169	3	2,169	3	2,169	3	2,169	3	2,169	3	2,169	3	2,169	3	2,169
Russia	1,557	0	1,557	0	1,557	0	1,557	0	1,557	0	1,557	0	1,557	0	1,557	0	1,557	0	1,557
Prussia	7,859	3	7,859	3	7,859	3	7,859	3	7,859	3	7,859	3	7,859	3	7,859	3	7,859	3	7,859
Total	14,615	8	14,615	8	14,615	8	14,615	8	14,615	8	14,615	8	14,615	8	14,615	8	14,615	8	14,615

TABLE

AN ACCOUNT of all Tin imported into Great Britain in the Year ending 5th January, 1825 ;
distinguishing from what Countries imported.

		Tin imported into Great Britain in the year ending 5th January, 1825.	
		<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>qrs. lbs.</i>
From the East Indies and China		6,377	2 21
Chili		42	2 21
Total		6,420	1 14

AN ACCOUNT of all Tin exported from Great Britain in the Year ending 5th January, 1825 ;
distinguishing to what Countries exported.

Countries to which exported.	Quantity of tin exported.			
	Year ending 5th January, 1825.			
	British tin.	Foreign tin.		
	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>qrs. lbs.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>qrs. lbs.</i>
Russia	2,456	2 12	59	3 9
Sweden	468	3 14	...	...
Norway	8	1 0	...	...
Denmark	293	3 15	...	...
Prussia	591	3 0	...	...
Germany	694	1 16	162	0 13
Holland	2,558	0 9	628	3 3
Flanders	174	1 6	18	1 26
France	10,454	0 15	3,386	1 6
Portugal	430	0 0	...	...
Spain and the Canaries	1,074	0 0	25	3 5
Gibraltar	293	0 0	...	...
Italy	9,174	0 14	36	0 26
Malta	320	0 0	...	...
Ionian Islands	100	0 0	...	...
Turkey	5,441	0 0	...	...
Ireland	884	0 5	...	...
Isle of Man	0	2 0	...	...
Isles, Guernsey and Jersey	40	1 19	...	...
Asia	3	0 0	...	...
United States of America	857	0 0	392	0 16
British provinces in North America	52	0 0	...	...
West Indies, British	190	1 0	...	...
Foreign	115	0 0	...	...
The Brazils	205	2 0	...	...
Spanish and other colonies on continent of America	10	0 0	...	...
Total	36,890	0 13	4,709	2 20

AN ACCOUNT of Tin Plates exported
distinguishing the Years, and specifying the

DECLARED VALUE OF TIN PLATES.....

Countries to which exported.	1815.			1816.			1817.			1818.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Russia.....	93	0	0	11,147	0	0	15,326	0	0	14,744	18	0
Sweden.....	5,139	0	0	57	0	0	12	0	0	20	0	0
Norway.....	355	0	0	267	0	0	147	0	0	141	14	0
Denmark.....	3,325	19	0	1,156	0	0	2,973	0	0	1,657	1	0
Prussia.....	3,946	10	0	8,979	14	0	13,417	9	0	6,831	0	0
Germany.....	17,524	18	0	22,128	13	0	11,828	5	0	20,612	11	0
Holland.....	18,514	9	0	20,402	11	0	12,324	15	0	15,602	14	0
Flanders.....	11,577	9	0	3,698	10	0	6,447	3	0	4,326	10	0
France.....	12,294	18	0	18,993	18	6	18,045	6	0	44,159	17	0
Portugal, Azores, and Madeira.....	8,222	8	0	8,265	10	0	6,238	0	0	6,142	15	0
Spain, and the Canaries.....	7,389	13	0	10,932	15	5	16,236	16	0	9,588	13	0
Gibraltar.....	1,260	0	0	2,984	0	0	3,753	10	0	1,835	5	0
Italy.....	10,402	8	0	19,309	0	0	26,490	1	0	21,224	17	0
Malta.....	4,903	0	0	9,663	0	0	5,162	8	0	1,897	0	0
The Ionian Islands.....	250	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Turkey, and the Levant.....	1,132	0	0	3,649	10	0	5,899	0	0	4,381	10	0
Ireland.....	12,383	6	0	10,627	11	0	17,206	2	0	16,721	3	0
Isle of Man.....	65	0	0	33	10	0	45	0	0	43	16	0
Guernsey, Jersey, and Alderney.....	1,498	10	0	650	6	0	665	10	0	692	14	0
Asia.....	3,780	10	0	12,635	8	0	26,567	18	0	19,800	6	0
Africa.....	790	0	0	1,271	0	0	752	18	0	381	7	0
British colonies in North America.....	16,148	5	0	9,334	3	2	7,425	15	6	10,567	8	6
West Indies.....	9,194	17	0	723	8	0	2,253	19	0	1,332	1	0
Foreign West Indies.....	3,339	9	0	3,976	4	0	3,139	8	0	1,655	0	0
United States of America.....	111,759	2	0	104,798	11	0	31,531	13	0	59,729	7	0
The Brazils.....	457	10	0	3,416	3	0	4,814	0	0	12,295	6	0
Foreign colonies on con- tinent of America.....	9,389	17	0	290	0	0	355	0	0	1,074	5	0
Total.....	£275,136	18	0	289,390	6	1	283,062	16	6	277,458	18	6

during the last Ten Years,
several Countries to which they were exported.

EXPORTED FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

1819.	1820.	1821.	1822.	1823.	1824.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
13,637 0 0	606 0 0	2,609 0 0	5,250 9 6	815 0 0	2,750 0 0
16 0 0	79 0 0	...	8 0 0	55 0 0	98 12 6
187 13 0	235 16 0	92 0 0	206 15 0	407 12 0	496 10 0
2,430 10 0	1,539 18 0	1,623 12 0	2,412 1 0	1,711 0 0	1,582 15 0
6,530 0 0	11,693 0 0	7,455 10 0	10,951 2 0	6,932 0 0	5,444 0 0
11,723 0 0	20,151 0 0	11,659 2 0	17,291 17 0	15,916 0 0	20,354 19 0
14,440 10 0	17,728 0 0	15,706 0 0	20,951 2 0	15,051 17 5	18,896 5 0
4,514 10 0	4,708 5 0	3,412 0 0	4,740 0 0	3,875 5 0	3,561 0 0
13,447 0 0	13,550 10 6	15,547 3 6	12,070 2 0	10,025 5 1	15,084 11 0
6,769 18 0	2,971 4 0	7,204 17 6	5,869 11 0	3,569 3 0	10,099 15 0
11,923 14 0	7,003 5 0	3,051 10 0	5,294 5 0	4,330 10 0	15,286 13 0
698 0 0	3,646 5 0	5,104 1 0	1,872 5 0	2,646 0 0	3,822 5 0
13,693 10 0	12,208 5 0	29,116 4 0	17,473 0 0	15,528 7 0	35,019 5 0
1,642 15 0	995 0 0	1,332 0 0	2,351 0 0	935 0 0	1,625 0 0
...	...	76 0 0	116 0 0	...	420 0 0
3,029 0 0	7,446 0 0	4,662 0 0	100 0 0	4,883 0 0	5,081 0 0
14,337 5 11	14,343 17 0	15,139 16 0	16,157 19 0	17,066 5 0	21,478 0 9
17 10 0	60 0 0	90 18 0	76 10 0	114 0 0	40 0 0
891 15 0	1,296 9 0	414 19 0	394 5 0	594 13 0	477 3 0
5,268 3 6	3,971 18 0	1,847 13 0	7,288 2 0	7,787 14 0	5,799 0 0
194 0 0	500 10 0	813 5 0	234 0 0	1,339 0 0	611 0 0
7,625 16 6	3,625 18 0	5,020 4 0	2,555 8 0	5,537 9 0	11,277 3 0
704 8 7	508 8 0	1,904 9 0	1,085 2 0	1,126 0 6	1,370 8 9
720 16 0	1,657 10 0	2,008 0 0	2,035 5 0	1,927 3 0	3,738 14 0
31,607 6 0	40,358 3 0	35,283 10 0	51,807 14 0	94,143 19 0	65,255 0 0
1,760 0 0	2,107 0 0	1,947 15 0	1,725 0 0	7,169 0 0	2,337 0 0
33 16 0	2,024 0 0	3,328 0 0	1,221 8 0	2,724 1 6	2,008 0 0
167,343 17 6	175,015 1 6	176,449 9 0	191,438 2 6	226,210 4 6	254,514 0 0

TOBACCO AND SNUFF.

A RETURN of the Stock of every Manufacturer of Tobacco, as it stood in the Surveying Officer's Books upon the 10th October, 1824.

	Unmanufactured Tobacco.	Manufactured and in operation.	
		Tobacco.	Snuff.
	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
England	665,393	725,685	419,156
Scotland	193,531	21,970	22,560
Ireland	172,821	270,643	103,750
	1,031,745	1,018,298	545,466

A RETURN of the Quantity of Tobacco on which Duty has been paid up, in the United Kingdom, from 5th January, 1824, to 5th January, 1825.

		Pounds weight.
Year ended 5th January, 1825	England	11,583,969
	Scotland	1,595,069
	Ireland	3,752,634

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Certificates delivered by the Excise to the Manufacturers of Tobacco and Snuff, in the Ports of London, Bristol, Liverpool, and Chester; and the Quantities of the several Denominations of Tobacco and Snuff sent out of the Stock of such Manufacturers by Certificate; from 10th October, 1821, to the 5th January, 1825.

From 10th October, 1821, to 5th January, 1825.	Number of certificates.	Quantities and denominations of tobacco sent out of stock.						
		Cut.	RoR.	Lug.	Segars.	Scotch.	Brown Scotch.	British rappee.
		<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
London	879,754	1,916,024	109,372	123	33,339	304,084	2,280	243,899
Bristol	94,761	208,034	4,949	45	893	42,059	108	3,322
Liverpool	61,925	150,148	28,662	210	4,028	18,006	128	2,609
Chester	16,578	43,761	3,191	...	65	15,726	31	208

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Pounds Weight of Tobacco and Snuff imported from Holland, upon which Duty has been paid up, in the United Kingdom; from 5th July, 1819, to 5th January, 1825; distinguishing each Year.

Years ending 5th July.	England.		Scotland.		Ireland.	
	Tobacco.	Snuff.	Tobacco.	Snuff.	Tobacco.	Snuff.
	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
1820 .....	...	...	23,723	...	...	...
1821	3,191	...	1,335	...	...	...
1822	1,599	2,501	15	3	...	...
1823	9,113	1,747	...	...	...	...
1824	7,429	...	...	...	...	...
From 5th July 1824 to 5th January, 1825	2,898	...	...	...	...	...

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Pounds Weight of Foreign Segars upon which Duty has been paid up, from 5th July, 1819, to the 5th January, 1825.

		Pounds weight of foreign segars.		
		England.	Scotland.	Ireland.
		<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Years ended 5th July	1820	61	...	...
	1821	115	...	...
	1822	74	...	...
	1823	27,849	...	...
	1824	17,806	...	1
From 5th July, 1824, to 5th January, 1825		2,043	...	4

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Pounds Weight of Foreign Segars which have been exported from the United Kingdom to Foreign Ports from 5th July, 1819, to 5th January, 1825.

		Foreign segars exported from		
		England.	Scotland.	Ireland.
		<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Years ended 5th July	1820 .....	...	...	...
	1821 .....	...	...	...
	1822 .....	...	...	...
	1823	698	...	...
	1824 .....	...	...	...
From 5th July, 1824, to 5th January, 1825		5,207	...	...

ABSTRACT of an Account of the Number of Vessels seized in the Ports of the United Kingdom, in consequence of having Smuggled Tobacco on board, from 5th July, 1819, to 5th January, 1825.

	From 5th July, 1819, to 5th January, 1820.	Years ended 5th January.				
		1821.	1822.	1823.	1824.	1825.
England	24	42	49	37	45	38
Scotland	1	4	7	3	...	2
Ireland	5	11	14	9	7	10
	30	57	70	49	52	50

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Pounds Weight of Tobacco shipped for Foreign Ports from the United Kingdom, distinguishing each Port for which such Tobacco was entered out, from 5th July, 1819, to 5th January, 1825.

Pounds weight of tobacco.	Ports for which entered out.	Pounds weight of tobacco.	Ports for which entered out.	Pounds weight of tobacco.	Ports for which entered out.
England.		England—continued.		England—continued.	
266,911	Alicant.	38,381	Honduras.	5,647	Van Dieman's Land.
1,091,121	Amsterdam.	31,831	Koningsberg.	78,811	Valencia.
2,006	Antigua.	637,729	Leghorn.	64,454	Waterford.
50,191	Arendahl.	9,656	Labrador.	5,153	Wolgast.
12,376	Alderney.	15,425	Lima.	2,281	Yucatan.
423,502	Africa.	1,011,355	Lisbon.		
4,425,408	Antwerp.	7,190	Longuin.		
7,119,846	Bremen.	634,944	Malta.	Scotland.	
50,159	Bruges.	282,307	Messina.	119,269	Antwerp.
974,973	Bilboa.	11,629	Montreal.	219,189	Bremen.
140,236	Barbadoes.	8,943	Mandahl.	14,480	Berbice.
181,051	Bergen.	2,956	Moldie.	19,271	Christiansand.
274,852	Buenos Ayres.	1,192,969	Marseilles.	3,828	Copenhagen.
7,248	Bahia.	256,172	Morlaix.	1,801	Chaleure Bay.
11,324	Brazils.	114,577	Jamaica.	78,769	Drontheim.
2,652	Batavia.	3,628	Jansoy.	249,712	Dram.
26,567	Brussels.	106,280	Jersey.	34,326	Demerara.
5,099	Bay Chaleure.	35,281	Isle of France.	12,019	Elsinore.
234,578	Berbice.	434,309	Newfoundland.	5,443	Fredericksand
2,081,552	Bourdeaux.	1,947	{ New South Shetland	77,628	Gibraltar.
17,375	Cape Breton.	410	New South Wales	1,097	Grenada.
175,058	Cape Good Hope.	11,940	Nassau.	203,154	Hamburgh.
14,930	Calefornia.	1,266	New Orleans.	326,515	Havre.
70,989	Christiansand.	1,459	New London.	4,850	Jamaica.
11,551	Calcutta.	128,180	Norkoeing.	37,267	Lisbon.
31,449	Calais.	2,310	Nova Scotia.	4,329	Mandahl.
196,600	Cork.	5,059	Orendahl.	31,255	Montreal.
2,988	Calmar.	895,654	Ostend.	29,991	Newfoundland.
1,220,072	Corunna.	58,500	{ Prince Ed- ward Island.	2,600	Pictou.
525,433	Copenhagen.	13,867	Peru.	210,452	Quebec.
15,812	Canada.	39,137	Palermo.	790,782	Rotterdam.
392,673	Christiana.	2,629	Petersburgh.	6,454	Sierra Leone.
132,490	Chili.	248,956	Quebec.	2,287	St. Vincent's.
107,642	Cape Coast Castle.	12,323,445	Rotterdam.	15,597	Talmund.
550,476	Demerara.	7,534	Rostock.		
628,278	Dublin.	2,501	Rio Janeiro.		
174,891	Drontheim.	1,867,714	Sierra Leone.		
532,061	Dantzic.	126,717	St. Sebastian.		
4,743	Dominica.	28,454	{ South Wales Fishery.		
588,897	Dunkirk.	23,269	Stavangar.	158,487	Belgium.
126,151	Dundroght.	1,214,540	Sicily.	28,826	Barbadoes.
4,974	Dordt.	141,268	St. Mary's.	24,059	Coast of Africa.
6,321	Dram.	97,909	Stockholm.	92,353	Canada.
289,546	Elsinore.	436,806	Stettin.	7,986	Demerara.
7,038	Embden.	389,644	Santander.	23,381	Guernsey.
3,797	Elbing.	12,860	St. Andero.	7,753	Gibraltar.
1,041	Faulkland Isl ^{ds} .	1,267	Stralsund.	8,680	Jamaica.
2,644,261	Flushing.	5,140	Sengin.	462,304	Norway.
4,373	Farsand.	60,244	Tobago.	67,812	Newfoundland.
229,555	Gottenburg.	6,863	Trinidad.	740	New Holland.
1,130,607	Gibraltar.	98,946	Tromsol.		
21,439	Gijon.	244,711	Trieste.	24,167	Sweden.
2,600	Grenada.		Valparaiso.	3,278	Trinidad
1,424,599	Genoa.				
1,867,189	Ghent.				
151,945	Guernsey.				
200,719	Geffle.				
35,442	Havannah.				
2,259,590	Hamburgh.				
9,668,472	Havre.				
2,230	Harlingen.				

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Pounds Weight of Tobacco and Snuff seized by the Customs or Excise, or captured by the Preventive Service, from 5th January, 1824, to 5th January, 1825.

Year ended 5th January, 1825.	England.		Scotland.		Ireland.	
	Tobacco.	Snuff.	Tobacco.	Snuff.	Tobacco.	Snuff.
Customs	<i>lbs.</i> 67,074	<i>lbs.</i> 10,600½	<i>lbs.</i> 1,434½	<i>lbs.</i> 25	<i>lbs.</i> 280,534	<i>lbs.</i> 64
Excise	41,950	1,564	498	1,391	1,553½	8½
Total	109,024	12,164½	1,932½	1,416	282,087½	72½

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Pounds Weight of Foreign (other than from the United States of America) Leaf or Manufactured Tobacco, Snuff, and Segars, which have been taken by Permit into the Stock of the Manufacturers and Dealers in Tobacco and Snuff, within the Port of London, from 5th July, 1821, to 5th January, 1825.

Pounds weight.	
Segars.	Snuff.
162	3,167

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Pounds Weight of Scotch Snuff actually manufactured within the Port of London from 5th July, 1821, to 5th January, 1825.

lbs. weight.
1,621,056.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Pounds Weight of Scotch Snuff received into the Stock of the Manufacturers of Tobacco and Snuff, within the Port of London, by Permit, from 5th July, 1821, to 5th January, 1825.

lbs. weight.
544,643.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Pounds Weight of Snuff exported from the Port of London, and the Drawback paid upon the same, from 5th July, 1819, to 5th January, 1825:

Years ended 5th July,	Exported to Ireland.				Exported to foreign parts.	Amount of drawback
	Scotch snuff, 4s. 3d. per lb.	Scotch snuff, 3s. 9½d. per lb.	Rappee snuff, 3s. 6d. per lb.	Rappee snuff, 2s. 8½d. per lb.	Snuff, 3s. 2d. per lb.	
1820	<i>lbs.</i> 7,862	<i>lbs.</i> 9,179	<i>lbs.</i> 1,503	<i>lbs.</i> 2,236	...	£ s. d. 4,163 13 3¼
1821	1,890	...	1,219	...	...	662 4 0
1822	10,370	...	2,698	...	...	2,935 0 6
1823	8,711	...	1,506	...	...	2,332 8 3
1824	2,965	...	477	...	...	787 13 3
From 5th July, 1824, to 5th January, 1825 )	...	...	...	...	16,760	2,653 13 4
	31,798	9,179	7,403	2,236	16,760	13,534 12 7¼

AN ACCOUNT of all the seized Tobacco remaining in the King's Warehouses in Ireland on the 5th day of January, 1821.

Pounds:
408,788

AN ACCOUNT of all the Tobacco seized since 5th January, 1821, up to 5th January, 1825, and deposited in the King's Warehouses in Ireland; distinguishing the Quantities seized in each Year.

Years ending 5th January,	Pounds seized.
1822	403,211½
1823	521,343
1824	248,129½
1825	200,534

Total.....1,453,217¾

AN ACCOUNT of all the seized Tobacco sold out of the King's Warehouses in Ireland from 5th January, 1821, to 5th January, 1825; distinguishing the Quantity sold in each Year.

Years ending 5th January,	Pounds sold.
1822	230,768
1823	158,772
1824	221,673
1825	110,940

Total.....722,153

AN ACCOUNT of all the seized Tobacco remaining in the King's Warehouses in Ireland on the 5th January, 1825.

Pounds.
549,176

WEST INDIA DOCKS.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Ships, of the average Burthen of Three Hundred Tons, which the West India Docks are capable of containing at any one time.

	Ships.
In the import dock.....	237
In the export dock.....	190
In the Blackwall basin.....	40
In the Limehouse basin.....	11
Total.....	478

The greatest Number of Vessels, with their Register Tonnage, which were loading or discharging, at any one time, in the Year 1824.

	Ships.
Discharging.....	29
Loading in the export dock.....	66
Total.....	95

Number of Vessels which were loading or discharging on the 5th April, 1825.

	Ships.
Loading in the import dock.....	3
Loading in the export dock.....	20
Discharging in the import dock.....	2
Discharging in the export dock.....	0

An Account of the Quantity of Wool and Yarn exported from Great Britain to Foreign Countries.

Countries to which exported.	Quantities of British sheep or lambs' wool, and woollen yarn exported from Great Britain to foreign countries, between 10th December, 1824, and 5th April, 1825, (being the latest period for which the account can be given).		
	Sheep or lambs' wool— Raw, or unwrought:	In wools, coverlets, &c.	Woollen and worsted yarn.
Europe,			
Germany.....	458		4,591
Holland.....	8,618		1,005
Flanders.....	1,924	2,304	178
France.....	5,237		
Portugal.....			300
Gibraltar.....		171	6
Italy.....			2,316
Isles Guernsey, Jersey, and Man.....	2,327		1,079
	18,564	5,475	9,475
Asia.....			20
Africa.....			24
America,			
British colonies in North America.....	13		3,377
British West Indies.....	27		100
United States.....	34,627	140	2,929
Brazil.....			1,071
Total.....	53,436	2,615	16,996

WOOL AND

AN ACCOUNT of the Quantity of Wool imported into Great Britain from Foreign Parts, in each Year,

Countries from which imported.	Year 1800.	Year 1801.	Year 1802.	Year 1803.	Year 1804.
	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Russia.....	...	30,530	...	...	...
Sweden .....	...	...	...	...	...
Norway	} 819	96,300	...	105,956	212,086
Denmark					
Prussia	8,956	304	228	3,539	7,925
Germany.....	412,394	195,245	426,091	238,256	21,628
Holland	141,739	66,070	195,843	155,270	63,089
Flanders .....	...	...	40,437	...	...
France.....	...	...	160,758	54,714	...
Portugal, Azores, and Madeira	1,731,934	902,691	495,213	230,430	161,204
Spain and Canaries	6,062,824	5,394,994	5,646,522	4,355,254	6,990,194
Gibraltar.....	33,748	...	25,000	107,876	155,398
Italy	732	5,619	86,258	193,689	189,208
Malta .....	...	60,868	...	...	3,778
Ionian Islands .....	...	...	...	...	...
Turkey	17,153	49,499	...	244,167	17,218
Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney, and Man ...	1,583	1,879	1,440	1,036	6,424
Produce, Foreign		8,419	...	154	71
East Indies.....	...	...	...	...	...
New Holland .....	...	...	...	...	...
Cape of Good Hope .....	...	1,010	878	4,000	...
Other parts of Africa.....	...	168,887	445,075	159,746	3,360
British North American colonies	...	567	...	718	...
British West Indies .....	...	...	458	114	3,409
United States of America	173	13,964	39,758	25,241	1,530
Peru	}	}	}	20,012	36,898
Chili					
Buenos Ayres.....					
Monte Video					
Brazil	}	}	}	}	}
Prize					
Total, exclusive of imports from Ireland	8,609,368	7,371,774	7,669,798	5,904,740	7,921,595

WOOLLEN YARN.

from January 5th, 1800, to January 5th, 1825; distinguishing the Country from whence imported.

Year 1805.	Year 1806.	Year 1807.	Year 1808.	Year 1809.	Year 1810.	Year 1811.
...	7,567	5,211	168	896	32,149	...
...	...	...	...	8,633	15,424	540
445,125	61,783	481,606	11,253	...	11,930	2,629
25,189	30,767	...	...	35,523	351,741	9,452
36,787	683,988	192,010	66,363	76,528	123,057	...
30,224	1,127	34,536	...	613,813	778,835	30,577
...	...	...	...	237,052	2,873	...
...	...	61,633	...	...	...	...
200,366	299,945	289,067	30,619	969,033	3,018,961	1,790,286
6,858,738	5,444,165	10,291,316	1,961,750	4,283,674	5,952,407	2,581,262
41,395	1,235	610	1,496	244,625	349,053	153,319
25,625	6,249	2,346	...	10,244	21,554	...
...	26,981	13,739	76,634	52,820	40,040	56,917
...
9,548	2,430	4,646	...	...	...	780
7,758	15,118	13,933	4,738	5,858	9,249	3,163
586	3,439	...	1,423	504	32,158	...
...	...	2,660	...	...	701	...
...	245	562	...	...	167	...
...	...	6,298	10,717	2,320	29,717	11,791
...
...	948	...	4,758	...	1,217	1,623
5,079	...	...	...	...	2,894	224
225	688	406	9,438	...	...	18,345
...	...	...	...	...	...	6,333
...
21,649	20,493	61,176	67,193	53,899	51,866	36,665
...	...	...	...	17,932	21,293	10,174
...	...	...	...	141,981	43,014	16,151
361,499	168,468	25,205	37,927	3,619	23,837	2,551
8,069,793	6,775,636	11,487,050	2,284,482	6,758,954	10,914,137	4,732,782

Year 1818.	Year 1819.	Year 1820.	Year 1821.	Year 1822.	Year 1823.	Year 1824.
lbs. 772,483	lbs. 585,643	lbs. 75,614	lbs. 67,147	lbs. 180,937	lbs. 198,101	lbs. 260,618
414	...	...	...	...	...	199
...	...	...	...	...	...	143
1494,033	817,878	13,527	1,301	72,465	...	34,092
241,855	1768,460	107,101	29,749	17,634	17,321	20,382
8432,237	4,489,478	5,113,442	8,615,526	11,125,114	12,562,434	15,412,275
5768,875	103,025	80,189	151,226	240,785	137,628	156,094
325,566	33,564	105,862	159,361	377,822	83,786	401,294
2,129,677	998,644	230,909	231,567	675,148	409,872	103,697
1,409,490	1,808,251	95,187	118,573	125,209	1,132,513	491,977
8,760,627	5,528,966	3,536,229	6,968,927	5,994,298	4,318,708	5,020,679
81,181	14,909	3,851	3,518	993	...	8,015
56,082	158,652	2,815	16,965	23,917	3,334	22,811
65,244	374,440	5,050	...	...	...	...
...	167	...	...	...	...	...
556,979	348,602	189,584	29,376	853	...	196,965
31,610	5,974	19,015	9,461	14,284	11,404	8,132
112	...	...	...	...	...	...
2,038	...	8,056	18,175	9,454	437	7,165
86,525	74,284	99,415	175,433	138,498	477,261	382,507
14,481	20,655	13,869	12,153	49,028	23,631	25,199
...	...	...	11,969	...	...	...
737	...	139	...	...	136	...
849	1,008	760	..	1,835	1,372	1,654
268,596	57,851	578	308	3,770	20	895
...	...	...	...	15,660	...	...
...	...	14,792	...	160	...	...
204,712	1,109,855	68,759	7,905	13	169	2,994
4,867	...	...	...	...	...	...
...	667	4,277	3,368	4,467	...	1
...
24,749,570	16,100,973	9,789,020	16,632,028	19,072,364	19,378,129	22,558,222

TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

AN ACCOUNT of the Value of all Imports into, and of all Exports from, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, during each of the Three Years ending the 5th January, 1825 (calculated at the Official Rates of Valuation, and stated exclusive of the Trade between Great Britain and Ireland reciprocally); distinguishing the Amount of the Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom exported, from the Value of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise exported: also, stating the Amount of the Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom exported therefrom, according to the real and declared Value thereof.

Years ending 5th January,	Value of imports into the United Kingdom, calculated at the official rates of valuation.	Value of exports from the United Kingdom, calculated at the official rates of valuation.			Value of the produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom exported therefrom according to the real and declared value thereof.
		Produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom.	Foreign and colonial merchandise.	Total exports.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1823.....	30,530,663 0 6	44,236,533 2 4	9,227,589 6 11	53,464,122 9 3	36,968,964 9 8
1824.....	35,798,707 5 1	43,804,372 18 1	8,603,904 9 1	52,408,277 7 2	35,458,048 13 1
1825.....	37,547,826 15 4	48,735,551 2 5	10,204,785 6 4	58,940,336 8 9	38,396,300 17 1

TRADE OF GREAT BRITAIN.

AN ACCOUNT of the Value, as calculated at the Official Rates, of all Imports into, and of all Exports from, Great Britain, during each of the Three Years ending the 5th January, 1825; showing the Trade with Foreign Parts separately from the Trade with Ireland, and distinguishing the Amount of the Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom exported, from the Value of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise exported: also, stating the Amount of the Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom exported from Great Britain, according to the real and declared Value thereof.

TRADE OF GREAT BRITAIN WITH FOREIGN PARTS :

Years ending 5th January,	Value of imports into Great Britain, calculated at the official rates of valuation.	Value of exports from Great Britain, calculated at the official rates of valuation.			Value of the produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom exported from Great Britain, according to the real and declared value thereof.
		Produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom.	Foreign and colonial merchandise.	Total exports.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1823.....	29,432,375 14 0	43,558,488 12 9	9,211,927 16 10	52,770,416 9 7	36,176,896 13 11
1824.....	34,591,264 9 1	43,144,466 1 6	8,588,995 18 0	51,733,461 19 6	34,691,124 8 10
1825.....	36,141,339 8 3	48,030,036 11 4	10,188,596 9 2	58,218,633 0 6	37,573,918 0 0

TRADE OF GREAT BRITAIN WITH IRELAND.

Years ending 5th January,	Value of imports into Great Britain, calculated at the official rates of valuation.	Value of exports from Great Britain, calculated at the official rates of valuation.			Value of the produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom exported from Great Britain, according to the real and declared value thereof.
		Produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom.	Foreign and colonial merchandise.	Total exports.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1823.....	4,873,610 2 0	2,894,125 0 11	1,298,593 7 10	4,192,718 8 9	3,386,548 8 3
1824.....	5,821,036 1 11	3,141,825 11 0	1,359,376 6 5	4,501,201 17 5	3,488,591 0 8
1825.....	5,588,146 9 6	3,688,570 6 4	1,318,069 0 8	5,006,639 7 0	4,261,113 11 10

TRADE OF GREAT BRITAIN WITH ALL PARTS.

Years ending 6th January.	Value of imports into Great Britain, calculated at the official rates of valuation.	Value of exports from Great Britain, calculated at the official rates of valuation.			Value of the produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom exported from Great Britain, according to the real and declared value thereof.
		Produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom.	Foreign and colonial merchandise.	Total exports.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1823.....	34,305,985 16 0	46,452,613 13 8	10,510,521 4 8	56,963,134 18 4	39,563,445 2 2
1824.....	40,412,300 11 0	46,286,291 12 6	9,948,372 4 5	56,234,663 16 11	38,179,715 9 6
1825.....	41,729,485 17 9	51,718,606 17 8	11,506,665 9 10	63,225,272 7 6	41,835,031 11 10

TRADE OF IRELAND.

AN ACCOUNT of the value of all Imports into, and of all Exports from, Ireland, during each of the Three Years ending the 5th January, 1825, (calculated at the Official Rates of Valuation, and stated exclusive of the Trade with *Great Britain*); distinguishing the Amount of the Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom exported, from the Value of Foreign and Colonial Merchandise exported:—also stating the Amount of the Produce and Manufactures of the United Kingdom exported from *Ireland*, according to the Real or Declared Value thereof.

Years ending 5th January.	Value of the imports into Ireland, calculated at the official rates of valuation.	Value of exports from Ireland, calculated at the official rates of valuation.			Value of the produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom, exported from Ireland, according to the real or declared value thereof.
		Produce and manufactures of the United Kingdom.	Foreign and colonial merchandise.	Total exports.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1823	1,098,287 6 6	678,044 9 7	15,661 10 1	693,705 19 8	792,067 15 10
1824	1,207,442 16 0½	659,906 16 7½	14,908 11 1½	674,815 7 8½	766,924 4 0½
1825	1,406,487 7 1½	705,514 11 0½	16,188 17 2½	721,703 8 3	822,382 17 3

TRANSIT TRADE.

AN ACCOUNT of the Value of the Transit Trade of Great Britain, calculated at the Official Rates, for the Years 1822, 1823, and 1824; ended 5th January, 1823, 1824, and 1825.

Years ended 5th January.	Official value of foreign and colonial merchandise exported from Great Britain to foreign ports.
	£ s. d.
1823.....	9,211,927 16 10
1824.....	8,588,095 18 0
1825.....	10,188,596 9 2

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES:
Letter from the Commissioners of Weights and Measures, dated 14th January, 1825, to J. C. Herries, Esq., Secretary of the Treasury; transmitting, A Report of the Progress made in the preparation of the Models of the new Weights and Measures.

London, January, 14th, 1825.

SIR,—I am directed by the commissioners of weights and measures to transmit to you, for the information of the lords commissioners of his majesty's treasury, the enclosed report from Captain Kater, stating the progress which he has made in the preparation of the models of the new weights and measures, in pursuance of the directions contained in your letter of the 13th of July, 1824, enclosing a copy of a treasury minute, dated the 29th of June, 1824; respecting the steps necessary to be taken for carrying into effect the act 5th Geo. 4, for ascertaining and establishing uniformity of weights and measures.

In consequence of the delay which unfortunately has occurred, from the difficulties which have been experienced in the construction of the new bushel measure, I am further directed to submit to you, for the consideration of the lords commissioners of his majesty's treasury, the propriety of bringing in a bill immediately after the meeting of parliament, to extend the time fixed by the act of last session, for carrying into effect the provisions of the said act into execution.

As Captain Kater now confidently hopes that the models will be completed and deposited at the Exchequer in the course of the month of February, the commissioners are of opinion, that if the period at which the new weights and measures are to be declared to be the only standards was postponed from the 1st of May, 1825, (the day fixed by the act of last session), to the 1st of January, 1826, sufficient time would be afforded for providing the models of the standard weights and measures required for the several counties and corporations of the United Kingdom, and for carrying into effect such of the enactments of the said act as are preliminary to the general establishment of the new standards.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient humble servant,

(Signed) GEORGE CLERK.

J. C. Herries, esq., &c. &c. &c. Treasury.

Having been requested to superintend the construction of the new models of weights and measures, and very unexpected delays having taken place in their execution, I beg to offer a short report of the progress which has been made, and of the impediments which have occurred.

On the 16th August, the making of the models of weights and capacity was confined to Mr. Bate, Mr. Troughton, in consequence of his advanced age, having declined the undertaking. Brass being a metal peculiarly liable to injury from the atmosphere of London, I directed Mr.

Bate to make experiments on the best combination of tin and copper, which might serve as a substitute. These experiments occupied the remainder of the month of August.

In the beginning of September, I left London, having previously given Mr. Bate ample and detailed instructions respecting every particular necessary for the construction of the models.

On my return, early in October, I learnt from Mr. Bate, that he had applied to Mr. Dinkin the beginning of September, and that Mr. D. had then undertaken to turn the models for the bushel, but that on the 5th of October, and not before, he informed Mr. Bate, that he declined the execution of his engagement. Mr. Bate then proceeded to have models for the bushel cast by the best foundry in London; but most unexpectedly, out of twelve which were cast in various modes, only one proved sufficiently sound to be employed; the metal, on the removal of the exterior crust, appearing full of small holes of various sizes. The attempt to conquer the difficulties of this part of the work occupied the remainder of October, the whole of November, and the greater part of December. In the mean time, Mr. Bate proceeded with the other measures of capacity, and with the weights; but as these presented no difficulties, his chief attention was directed to perfecting the bushel.

Two troy pounds were made, which I compared, on the 28th October, with the standard troy pound at Mr. Whittam's, in Abingdon-street. These weights were intended merely as the means of obtaining a near approximation to the avoirdupois pound, and to the weight of a gallon of distilled water.

On the 20th December, Mr. Bate reported, that he had six avoirdupois pounds ready, all the troy weights, and the subdivisions of the troy pound, to grains.

It had been my intention to ascertain the capacity of the bushel by measurement, and I had employed myself in constructing the apparatus necessary for that purpose; but as it did not appear probable that the difficulties in casting the bushel would be speedily surmounted, I proposed, at a meeting of the commissioners, on the 21st of December, to determine the capacity of the bushel by the weight of distilled water it should contain, as this, under existing circumstances, would be the more accurate method, and would render unnecessary that nice attention to figure which would otherwise be indispensably requisite.

All difficulty in the construction of the bushel being thus removed, Mr. Bate engaged to deliver to me, on the 1st of February, the following models: viz. four bushels, four gallons, four quarts, four pints, four troy pounds, one avoirdupois pound, with subdivisions to drams, a two-pounds, a four, a seven, a fourteen, a twenty-eight, and a fifty-six pounds avoirdupois. Four weights, each equivalent to the weight of a gallon of distilled water, four to that of a quart

of distilled water, and four to that of a pint. These models are intended to serve for constant use at the Exchequer, Guildhall, Edinburgh, and Dublin; the set of avoirdupois weights which will be ready by that time being for the Exchequer. Another set of models, superior in point of workmanship, though not in accuracy, will be afterwards made, and kept as standards to be transmitted to posterity.

I am in daily expectation of receiving from Mr. Bate a set of weights, for the purpose of enabling me to derive the avoirdupois from the troy pound, and thence the weight to be employed in determining the capacity of the gallon.

As no balance exists, either at the Mint or at the Bank of England, capable of weighing upwards of 230 pounds avoirdupois, I have given Mr. Bate the plan of a beam for this purpose, of great simplicity; and which, I trust, will be

more accurate than any that has been hitherto made. This beam is also to be finished by the 1st of February.

The standards of linear measure have been prepared by Mr. Dollond, and are now ready for my final adjustment.

The commissioners will perceive that no further difficulty exists; and should I receive the models from Mr. Bate by the 1st of February, according to his engagement, I trust I shall be able speedily to complete their adjustment, and that they will be ready for delivery in two or three weeks from that period.

HENRY KATER.

York Gate, Regent's Park,
12th January, 1825.

To the Commissioners of
Weights and Measures.

ARMY AND NAVY.

AGENTS AND PAYMASTERS.

AN ACCOUNT shewing the Amount of Balances declared due, in the Arrear Department of the War Office, by Government to Individuals, in each Year since the 27th November, 1815; when the Arrear Department was first formed, on the Accounts of Regimental Agents, and Regimental and District Paymasters, for Periods prior to the 25th December, 1810, and the actual Amount paid, or allowed in account, by Government on such Accounts.

Year in which the balances were declared.	Number of accounts.		Balances declared due by government.					
	Agents.	Paymasters.	Total amount.		Paid, or allowed in account, by government.			
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1816	171	...	59,208	15	10	58,606	0	3
1817	374	...	131,196	0	3	128,544	5	6
1818	218	...	83,539	0	4	83,278	10	6
1819	242	...	82,531	0	8	76,265	19	10
1820	86	...	17,952	11	7	15,791	3	11
1821	92	...	47,526	3	7	37,276	3	5
1822	101	...	41,334	11	0	32,828	8	3
1823	62	...	33,895	7	5	20,017	18	8
1824	97	...	47,258	15	9	30,612	13	3
	1,443	£	544,442	6	5	483,221	3	7

AN ACCOUNT shewing the Amount of Balances declared due, in the Arrear Department of the War Office, from Individuals to the Government, in each Year since 27th November, 1815, when the Arrear Department was first formed, on the Accounts of Regimental Agents, and Regimental and District Paymasters, for Periods prior to 25th December, 1810, and the actual Amount which has been paid in each Year into the Bank of England, on such Accounts.

Year in which the balances were declared.	Number of accounts.		Balances declared due to government.					
	Agents.	Paymasters.	Total amount.		Amount paid into the Bank of England.			
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1816	170	2,641	77,616	17	10	76,604	8	7
1817	304	1,082	120,603	6	10	117,665	3	6
1818	239	347	116,795	15	3	105,584	6	6
1819	305	454	183,488	13	6	178,317	18	9
1820	99	1,065	61,220	19	5	36,226	19	11
1821	114	734	110,642	2	9	87,980	11	4
1822	161	948	87,472	3	5	67,101	3	7
1823	233	1,950	87,118	0	10	57,337	14	6
1824	103	4,856	89,032	9	3	56,066	1	7
	1,728	14,077	933,990	9	1	782,884	8	3

AN ABSTRACT of the Monies actually received and paid by the Government, for Balances declared since 27th November, 1815 (when the Arrear Department of the War Office was first formed), on the Accounts of Regimental Agents, and Regimental and District Paymasters, for Periods prior to 25th December, 1810; and of the Amount of Balances now due on those Accounts; and shewing whether such Balances are good or bad Debts: also, a Statement of the whole Expense of the Department employed on those Accounts since 27th November, 1815; distinguishing the Amount for Establishment, and that for Retired Allowances, in each Year.

Total amount of balances received by the government (as per return)	£ 782,884	s. 8	d. 3
Total amount of balances paid by the government (as per return)	483,221	3	7
Total amount of balances now due to government	151,106	0	10
Total amount of balances now due by government.....	61,321	2	10

STATEMENT of the whole Expense of the Department employed on these Accounts; distinguishing the Amount for Establishment, and that for Retired Allowances, in each Year.

Period.	Amount of salaries and contingent expenses.			Retired allowances:			Total expense.			Remarks.
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
1816	8,577	15	10	8,577	15	10	<p>A.—It is to be observed, that a proportion of the sums included in the total for salaries, would have been chargeable under the head of pensions, if the arrear department had not existed, and the individuals composing it had been placed on the pension list.</p> <p>B.—This is the amount which has been issued on account of pensions to persons who, at the time of their retirement, belonged to the arrear department; but it is to be observed, that such pensions were granted for services which commenced long previously to 27th November, 1815, when the arrear department was formed.</p>
1817	10,580	19	3	...	...	...	10,580	19	3
1818	12,242	17	5	90	0	0	12,332	17	5	
1819	10,537	1	10	504	19	3	11,042	1	6	
1820	10,214	17	8	750	0	0	10,964	17	8	
1821	10,562	18	0	750	0	0	11,312	18	0	
1822	8,178	14	1	3,405	5	0	11,583	19	6	
1823	8,232	3	6	3,614	0	0	11,846	3	6	
1824	7,681	13	5	3,614	0	0	11,295	13	5	
£	86,809	1	0	12,728	4	8	99,537	5	8	

A B

ARMY ESTIMATES.

ABSTRACT of the Estimates of Army Services for the Year 1825.

I.			Numbers.			Charge.						
Horses.	Rank and file.	Numbers, including officers.	Horses.	Rank and file.	Total, including officers, non-commissioned officers, and private men.	Great Britain.	Ireland.	Total.				
No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.				
Landforces to the 24th March	5,834	62,546	71,165	(omitted in these columns, being included in the next item)		478,024	7 0	195,201	13 0	666,316	7 0	
Ditto, from 25th March to 24th December	5,834	76,161	86,436			1,753,411	0 1	646,263	18 4	2,399,674	18 5	
Public departments						93,270	17 1	24,581	0 8	117,851	17 9	
Medicines						116,470	18 10			116,470	18 10	
Volunteer corps						13,270	14 6	5,188	17 0	18,458	11 6	
						128,000	0 0	19,305	12 0	147,305	12 0	
3,468,078									13 6			
III.												
Regiments in the East India Company's territories (exclusive of recruiting troops and companies)	2,804	22,620	25,612			783,971	8 10			783,971	8 10	
Recruiting troops and companies for ditto			184	437		27,338	5 9			27,338	5 9	
811,309									14 3			
IV.												
Royal Military College						13,189	9 2			13,189	9 2	
Army pay of general officers						151,522	16 3			151,522	16 3	
Garrisons						29,632	8 10	135,491	0 3	165,123	7 13	
Full pay for retired officers						131,000	0 0			131,000	0 0	
Half pay and military allowances						800,048	2 6			800,048	2 6	
Foreign half-pay						109,710	0 0			109,710	0 0	
In-pensioners of Chelsea and Kilmainham hospitals						33,696	9 0	12,075	13 10	45,771	2 10	
Out-pensioners of Chelsea Hospital						1,240,913	2 11			1,240,913	2 11	
Royal Military Asylum						24,334	14 2			24,334	14 2	
Widows' pensions						135,369	16 8			135,369	16 8	
Compassionate list, bounty warrants, and pensions for wounds						186,608	13 9			186,608	13 9	
Superannuation allowances						44,305	16 10	5,690	8 0	49,995	4 10	
Exchequer fees						33,000	0 0			33,000	0 0	
2,957,468									10 2			
Total			6,638	98,965	112,505	6,327,988	14 10	903,888	3 1	7,231,876	17 11	
Deduct: the regiments for service in India			2,804	22,620	25,612	783,971	8 10			783,971	8 10	
Remains, exclusive of the Royal Veteran Battalions			5,834	76,345	86,893	5,544,017	6 0	903,888	3 1	6,447,905	9 1	
V.												
Add, Royal Veteran Battalions	3,000	3,334		(omitted here, being included in the first item)		9,657	18 5	17,904	4 10		27,642	3 3
Remains: the charge for 1825			5,834	76,345	86,893	5,553,675	4 5	921,792	7 11	6,475,547	12 4	

COMMISSARIAT.

ESTIMATE of Sums required for the Supply of Bread, Meat, and Forage, Coals, Candles, and Straw, for the Troops in Great Britain and Ireland; and for Coals, Candles, &c. for the Troops at certain Foreign Stations; also for the Pay of the Commissariat Department, in the Year 1825.

	Great Britain.			Ireland.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Estimated expense of bread, meat, and forage	119,200	0	0	38,329	15	3	157,529	15	3
Ditto, for coals, candles, and straw, for barracks in Great Britain and Ireland	35,000	0	0	39,371	10	9	74,371	10	9
Ditto, for the supply of coals, candles, oil for light, wine for the hospitals, and oats for sundry foreign stations	15,400	0	0				15,400	0	0
Ditto, for the pay of the commissariat of stores and provisions at all his majesty's foreign garrisons and possessions	39,450	8	4				39,450	8	4
Ditto, for the pay of the commissariat of accounts at his majesty's foreign garrisons and possessions	8,125	16	3				8,125	16	3
Ditto, for the half-pay of commissariat officers, and allowances to persons superannuated, or for offices abolished	46,158	13	8	3,709	3	3	49,867	16	11
Ditto, for the pensions of widows of commissariat officers	2,580	0	0	276	17	8	2,856	17	8
Ditto, for the pay of the establishment of the officers in Great Britain and Ireland	10,421	0	9	5,421	5	5	15,842	6	2
Estimated amount of the contingent expenses of the commissariat officers, including coals, candles, and advertisements, clothing for waggons, &c. in Ireland, and stationery for the office in Ireland	2,000	0	0	5,035	8	2	7,035	8	2
Ditto, of the contingencies of every other description	2,700	0	0				2,700	0	0
Deduct:— The amount of the pay of the commissariat department in the Mediterranean, the pay being provided for out of the colonial revenue	£ 4,165	11	3				£ 4,165	11	3
Total	£ 276,870	7	9	£ 92,144	0	6	£ 369,014	8	3

MILITIA ESTIMATES.

ESTIMATE of the Charge of the Disembodied Militia of Great Britain, from the 25th December, 1824, to the 24th December, 1825, both inclusive, being 365 days.

£ s. d.
303,459 1 6

ESTIMATE of the Charge of the Disembodied Militia of Ireland, from the 25th December, 1824, to the 24th December, 1825, both inclusive, being 365 days.

£ s. d.
Irish £ 102,058 6 4
In British money 94,207 13 6

ORDNANCE ESTIMATES.

GENERAL Abstract of the Estimates for the Ordnance Department.

	1825.	1824.	Difference.
	£	£	£
Ordinary	453,528	452,280	1,248.....more.
Extraordinaries	218,933	214,524	4,409.....more.
Unprovided	4,592	1,090	3,502.....more.
Ireland	113,630	89,768	23,862.....more.
Charge of the effective	790,683	757,662	33,021.....more.
Military superannuated	301,948	312,572	10,624.....less.
Civil superannuated	47,860	48,140	280.....less.
Total sum to be expended.....£	1,140,491	1,118,374	22,117.... more.
Deduct,			
On account of rents, sales of old stores, &c.	89,000		
On account of savings and unexpended sums of former grants	78,000		
On account of rents, sales of old stores, and sum unexpended, Ireland	11,315		
	178,315	141,432	36,883..... } more credit.
Sum to be voted.....£	962,176	976,942	14,766.....less.

BARRACKS.

Great Britain.

	1825.	1824.	Difference.
	£	£	£
Charge	113,758	121,614	7,856.....less.
Pensions and allowances	14,073	14,736	663.....less.
Sum to be expended.....	127,831	136,350	8,519.....less.
Deduct for savings, condemned stores, rents of canteens, &c.	23,000	22,000	1,000 } more credit.
Sum to be voted.....£	104,831	114,350	9,519.....less.

Ireland.

	1825.	1824.	Difference.
	£	£	£
Charge	136,649	134,376	2,273.....more.
Pensions and allowances	5,952	4,615	1,337.....more.
Sum to be expended.....	142,601	138,991	3,610.....more.
Deduct for savings, condemned stores, rents of canteens, &c.	10,324	4,615	5,709 } more credit.
Sum to be voted.....£	132,277	134,376	2,099.....less.

Commissariat of Stores.

	1825.	1824.	Difference.
	£	£	£
Great Britain	139,415	144,895	5,480.....less.
Ireland.....	36,270	37,663	1,393.....less.
Charge.....	175,685	182,558	6,873.....less.
Pensions:	40	20	20.....more.
(Sum to be voted.....)	175,725	182,578	6,853.....less.

Recapitulation.

Charge for the effective:		
Ordnance		790,663
Barracks.....		250,407
Commissariat		175,685
Total charge.....		1,216,775
Deduct		
Rents, savings, old stores.....		211,639
Sum required for the effective		1,005,136
Charge for the non-effective:		
Ordnance, military and civil superannuations		349,808
Barrack pensions		20,025
Commissariat pensions		40
Total non-effective		369,873
Exchequer fees		1,632
Total sum to be voted for 1825.....		1,376,641
Voted for 1824.....		1,410,044
		33,403 less.

MIDSHIPMEN.

A RETURN of the Number of Midshipmen and Mates who have passed their Examination, and have not been promoted to the Rank of Lieutenant, in each Year from 1804 to the present Time, stating the Number now employed in his Majesty's Service.

	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	
	1804.	1805.	1806.	1807.	1808.	1809.	1810.	1811.	1812.	1813.	1814.	1815.	1816.	
Passed and not promoted.	27	35	41	34	23	39	52	73	58	52	106	217	109	
	14.		15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.				
		1817.	1818.	1819.	1820.	1821.	1822.	1823.	1824.	1825.	...	...	...
		124	115	99	76	64	49	50	62	17	..	..	..
	11.		12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	
	Of whom are still employed.	1814.	1815.	1816.	1817.	1818.	1819.	1820.	1821.	1822.	1823.	1824.	1825.	1826.
		13	74	60	74	70	72	56	50	39	49	55	17	12

NAVY ESTIMATES.

AN ESTIMATE of the Charge of Wages, Victuals, Wear and Tear, and Ordnance, for Twenty-nine Thousand Men, including Nine Thousand Royal Marines, to serve in his Majesty's Fleet, for Thirteen Lunar Months, commencing the 1st January, 1825.

For the wages of twenty-nine thousand men, at two pounds nine shillings a man, a month } £ 923,550

For the victuals of the said men, at one pound twelve shillings a man, a month } £ 303,300
 For the wear and tear, being the charge for the stores and materials for the use of the ships in sea service, at seventeen shillings a man, a month } £ 331,650
 For the ordnance for the sea service, at five shillings a man, a month } £ 94,350

£1,911,350

ABSTRACT of the Navy and Victualling Ordinary Estimates for the Year 1825.

PART THE FIRST:			
Containing the Salaries and Contingent Expenses of the Admiralty, Navy Pay, Navy and Victualling Offices, and other Naval Establishments; of the Wages to Artificers and Labourers employed in his Majesty's Yards at Home and Abroad; of the Charge for Timber, and all other Materials, for the Building, Repair, and Fitting of his Majesty's Ships, &c.; of the Charge for Pilotage, &c. and other Contingencies; and of the Wages and Victuals to Officers, Shipkeepers, and Men serving on board Vessels in Ordinary; distinguished under the following Heads:—			
	£	s.	d.
Admiralty office salaries and contingencies	54,886	5	1
Navy-pay office do.	29,633	1	6
Navy office do.	56,760	15	0
Victualling office do.	33,977	10	0
His majesty's yards at home	157,176	3	5
Wages to artificers and labourers employed in his majesty's yards at home	560,000	0	0
Charge for timber, and other materials, for the building, repairing, and fitting of his majesty's ships, &c. (after abating £111,694 received for old stores in 1824)	538,306	0	0
Charge for pilotage, salvage, bounty for slaves, maintenance of distressed seamen, exchequer fees, and other contingencies	40,000	0	0
Foreign yards, salaries, wages, and contingencies	52,022	13	5
Victualling yards do. (after abating £5,000 received for old stores in 1824)	73,572	0	6
Medical establishments, salaries, and contingencies	55,510	13	11
Royal naval college and school of naval architecture	6,252	12	7
Wages to officers, shipkeepers, and men belonging to vessels in ordinary	106,027	7	1
Victuals to officers, shipkeepers, and men do.	54,787	4	0
Hired packets	40,480	0	0
PART THE SECOND:			
Containing the Half-pay, Superannuations, and Pensions granted to Officers of his Majesty's Navy, their Widows and Relatives, &c.			
Half-pay to flag-officers, &c.	897,500	0	0
Superannuations and pensions to officers, their widows, &c.	131,692	13	2
Bounty to chaplains	1,500	0	0
Compassionate list	7,000	0	0
Widows' charity	90,000	0	0
Greenwich hospital	260,000	0	0
PART THE THIRD:			
Containing the Superannuations and Pensions to Commissioners, Secretaries, Clerks, &c.; to the Officers, Artificers, &c. of the Dock Yards; and of Allowances, in lieu of Half-pay, to Naval Officers formerly employed in the Naval Departments			
			168,503 13 2
			£ 3,415,538 17 10

ABSTRACT of an Extra Estimate of the Charge of what may be necessary for Works of the Yards, &c.; together with the Sums that will be wanted for the Transport Service, and by the Victualling Board, for the Cost of Provisions for the Use of the Army on board Transports and in Garrisons abroad.

For repairs and improvements in the yards, &c.	£ 182,688
For army provisions	255,000
For transports	188,300
	£625,988

ABSTRACT of the Navy Estimates for the Year 1825.

	£	s.	d.
1. Wages, victuals, wear and tear, and ordnance, for 29,000 men	1,941,550	0	0
2. Ordinary estimate (after abating 111,694. for navy, and 5,000. for victualling, old stores, received in 1824)	3,415,538	17	10
3. Extra estimate	625,988	0	0
	£5,983,126	17	10

MILITARY AND NAVAL PENSIONS.

AN ACCOUNT of the several Sums which, pursuant to two several Acts of the 3d and 4th of his Majesty, will become payable between the 5th Day of April, 1825, and the 5th Day of April, 1826, by the Trustees in whom an Annuity was vested for providing for the Burthen occasioned by Military and Naval Pensions, and Civil Superannuations; viz.

	£
15th April 1825	1,135,000
15th July 1825	1,130,370
20th October 1825	1,107,130
15th January..... 1826	1,097,870
	£4,470,370

AN ACCOUNT of the several Sums which will become payable between the 5th Day of April, 1825, and the 5th Day of April, 1826, by the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, towards the Expense of Half-pay, Pensions, and Allowances to his Majesty's Forces serving in India; in pursuance of an Act 4 Geo IV., c. 71.

	£
5th April 1825	15,000
5th July 1825	15,000
10th October 1825	15,000
5th January 1826	16,000
	£60,000

AN ACCOUNT of the Amount of Annuity transferred by the Trustees of Naval and Military Pensions to the Bank of England, for its Advance of the under-mentioned Sums, at the Dates affixed to each; viz.

	£
1824, 5th April	67,870
— 15th July.....	1,175,000
— 20th October	27,870
1825, January.....	1,135,000

£2,405,740 : —

and stating the actual value of the said annuity on the 21st March, 1823, and the actual value of the same, if it had been contracted for on the 2d February, 1825; estimating the value of each by the prices current on the Stock Exchange at the respective periods; and

AN ACCOUNT of the Value of an Annuity transferred to the Bank of England, of £585,740,

for 44 Years, estimated at the current Prices of Annuities for the like Period on the Stock Exchange, on the 2d February, 1825.

At the rate of interest agreed on as the basis of the contract between government and the Bank (viz. 0205208 half yearly, or £4 2s. 1d. per cent per annum), the value on the 5th of April, 1823, of the four sums advanced by the Bank, as above specified, was £2,265,319; in return for which, the proportion of annuity transferred was £111,661 1s. 5½d. per annum. And the value of this annuity, at the rate of interest resulting from the prices current on the Stock Exchange on the 21st March, 1823 (viz. 02082735 half yearly, or £4 3s. 4d. per annum), was £2,243,681 12s. 10d.

But on the 3d February, 1825 (Wednesday, the 2d, being a holiday), the current rate of interest resulting from an average of all the stocks, except the Old Long Annuity, was 01713275 half yearly, or £3 8s. 6½d. per cent per annum; while the rate of interest yielded on that same day by the Long Annuity separately, was only 012993 half yearly*, which is not quite £2 11s. 11¾d. per cent per annum.

By the rate of interest, resulting from the average of the Perpetual Annuities on 3d February, 1825, the value of the above annuity of £111,661 1s. 5½d. was £2,527,878 17s. 5d. But by the rate resulting from Old Long Annuity on that day, it was worth £2,917,194 16s. 3½d.

In like manner, if the whole annuity of £585,740 be valued according to the rate of interest resulting from the Perpetual Annuities on the 3d February, 1825, it was worth on that day £13,260,483 3s. 10d. But if it be valued according to the rate of interest yielded by the Old Long Annuity on the said date, it was worth £15,302,716 3s. 3d.

* Note.—On 3d February, 1825, the price } of Long Annuity was 22l. 3s. 9d., or	23-1875
From which abating the dividend that had } then accrued, viz.	-32768

The net price was.... 22-85982

The time the annuity had still to run was 69-8342 half years; wherefore the rate of interest yielded was 0129934 half yearly. But to have been on a level with the other stocks, the Long Annuity should have had 44 years to run to be worth 22l. 12s. 9d. on 3d February, 1825.

CIVIL EXPENDITURE.

CIVIL CONTINGENCIES.

ABSTRACT of the Account of the Sum expended under the Head of Civil Contingencies in the Year 1824.

	£	s.	d.
Extraordinary disbursements of ministers at foreign courts and consuls...	80,852	0	2½
Presents to persons of distinction and ministers of foreign courts	12,376	10	0
Expenses of entertaining and conveying persons of distinction, ambassadors, governors, &c. to their respective places of destination.....	102,174	13	2½
Expense defrayed by officers of the household, not being part of the civil list.....	25,892	18	0
Various public services	96,403	16	5½
	224,471	7	8½

STATEMENT of Expenses incurred and outstanding for Civil Contingencies, on the 5th January, 1825.

	£
Extraordinary disbursements of ministers at foreign courts and consuls, together with outfit and equipage, and consuls on the coast of Barbary	21,972
Presents to ministers, &c. from foreign courts	1,621
Conveyance of ambassadors, &c. on the public service	1,947
Expenses defrayed by officers of the household, not being part of the civil list	12,148
Various public services	21,293
	£ 58,981

ESTIMATE of the Sum required to defray the Expense under the head of Civil Contingencies, for the Year 1825.

	£	s.	d.
Grant of 1823 remaining unissued on 5th January, 1824, and applied in 1824	17,975	9	4½
Issued in 1824 of the grant for 1824	206,495	18	3½
Total issued	224,471	7	8½
Remained on 5th January, 1825, of grant for 1824, unissued	11	1	8½
Total of grants to be accounted for	£ 224,482	9	4½
Of the foregoing expenditure	£ 224,471		
The amount expended to discharge demands outstanding on 5th January, 1824, was	57,982		
Expended for services accrued within the year	166,489		
Demands outstanding on 5th January, 1825	58,981		
Total charge incurred within the year 1824	£ 225,470		
Amount required for the service of the year 1825, and to discharge arrears, viz.			
To discharge the demands outstanding as above	58,981	0	0
To provide for so much of the above yearly expenditure of £225,470 as will probably be payable within the year	201,019	0	0
	260,000	0	0

MISCELLANEOUS ESTIMATES.

GREAT BRITAIN.

ESTIMATES of the probable Sums that may be required for the following Purposes, for the Year 1825.

	£	s.	d.
Public buildings in London and Westminster	40,000	0	0
Works carrying on at the college of Edinburgh	10,000	0	0
Works executing at Port Patrick Harbour	15,990	0	0
Works executing at Donaghadee Harbour	19,130	0	0
Works executing at the royal Harbour of George IV. at Kingstown (formerly Dunleary)	45,000	0	0
Buildings at the British Museum	40,000	0	0
Rebuilding the privy council office, and completing the office of the board of trade	18,000	0	0
Works executing at Windsor Castle	80,000	0	0
Salaries and allowances to the officers of the houses of lords and commons	27,630	0	0
Expenses of the houses of lords and commons	16,572	0	0
Deficiency of the fee fund in the department of his majesty's treasury	24,430	0	0
Ditto in the department of his majesty's home secretary of state	15,000	0	0
Ditto in the department of his majesty's foreign secretary of state	20,538	0	0
Ditto in the department of his majesty's secretary of state for the colonies	17,340	0	0
Ditto in the departments of the privy council and board of trade	16,571	0	0
Contingent expenses and messengers' bills in the department of his majesty's treasury	8,000	0	0
Ditto in the department of his majesty's home secretary of state	9,737	0	0
Ditto in the department of his majesty's foreign secretary of state	37,997	0	0
Ditto in the department of his majesty's secretary of state for the colonies	9,700	0	0
Ditto in the departments of the privy council and board of trade	3,200	0	0
Compensation to the commissioners of revenue inquiry	5,200	0	0
Expenses of the court and receipt of Exchequer	5,351	0	0
Salaries to the professors in the			

universities of Oxford and Cambridge	£1,050	0	0
Insolvent debtors' establishments	16,740	0	0
Alien-office, salaries and allowances	4,872	0	0
Penitentiary house at Millbank	20,000	0	0
Superannuation allowances	12,124	16	8
Allowances to Tolboose and Corsican emigrants, Dutch naval officers, and St. Domingo sufferers	6,120	0	0
National vacuity establishment	3,000	0	0
Refuge for the destitute	15,000	0	0
American loyalists	6,300	0	0
Criminal lunatics	3,806	10	0
Protestant dissenting ministers; poor French protestant refugees clergy and laymen	6,312	0	0
Foreign and other services	156,000	0	0
Printing for the house of lords and commons	99,168	0	0
Printing records	10,371	0	0
Stationery, printing, and binding, for public departments	96,240	0	0
Expenses of gold coins	34,000	0	0
Loss upon re-coining of Irish silver tokens	52,000	0	0
Expenses of prosecutions relating to coin	6,000	0	0
Furniture and fittings for the two houses of parliament	4,800	0	0
Law charges	12,000	0	0
Convicts at home and at Bermuda	78,147	0	0
Bills drawn on account of captured negroes	45,000	0	0
Commissioners for preventing illegal traffic in slaves	17,425	0	0
Special commissions to Spanish America	30,000	0	0
Consuls-general, consuls, and vice-consuls, in Spanish America	35,000	0	0
New South Wales bills	120,000	0	0
Expense of the civil establishment of the Bahama islands	3,477	0	0
Ditto of the island of Dominica	600	0	0
Ditto of Upper Canada	8,229	0	0
Ditto of Nova Scotia	9,660	0	0
Ditto of New Brunswick	5,194	0	0
Ditto of Prince Edward island	3,010	10	0
Ditto of Sierra Leone	16,513	2	0
Ditto of Newfoundland	11,081	0	0
Ditto of New South Wales	23,934	0	0
Expense of the civil and military establishments on the Gold Coast	45,930	7	3
Colonial services formerly paid out of the army extraordinary	2,442	10	0
Society for propagating the gospel	15,532	0	0
Commissioners for inquiring into education in Ireland	8,000	0	0

SUBSTANCE of Accounts, shewing the Increase and Diminution of

Offices.	Total number of persons.	Increase in the				Total amount of salaries, emoluments, allowances, and expenses.
		Salaries.	Emoluments.	Allowances.	Expenses.	
	No.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Treasury { Including the revenue, Irish and commissariat branches of the treasury	...	133 15 9½	...	...	...	133 15 9½
Vice-treasurer Ireland	...	80 0 0	...	...	...	80 0 0
Solicitor of the treasury	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Privy council office	...	583 2 9	...	...	...	583 2 9
Do. for trade, &c.	...	8 3 2	...	...	...	8 3 2
Do. Ireland	...	...	...	720 0 0	...	720 0 0
Secretary of state, home department	...	80 0 0	...	...	...	80 0 0
Chief Secretary's office, Ireland	...	...	...	1,161 5 0	...	1,161 5 0
Secretary of state, foreign department	6	...	...	2,247 6 0	...	2,247 6 0
Do., colonial do.	6	250 8 4	...	2,198 13 10	1,075 3 8	3,524 5 10
Registrar of slaves' office	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alien office	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
State paper office	...	...	...	...	...	...
India board	1	...	...	100 0 0	...	100 0 0
Commander-in-chief's office	...	105 5 8	...	...	...	105 5 8
Commander of the forces, Ireland	...	...	...	...	...	...
Quarter-master-general's office	...	6 13 4	...	...	...	6 13 4
Do., Ireland	...	10 13 6	7 7 6	...	...	18 1 0
Adjutant-general's office	...	...	...	156 0 0	...	156 0 0
Do., Ireland	...	...	...	7 10 0	...	7 10 0
War office	...	...	...	180 18 5	...	180 18 5
Army medical board	1	66 1 6	...	...	...	66 1 6
Do., Ireland	...	30 0 0	...	...	...	30 0 0
Office for military boards	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Board of general officers, Ireland	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Chaplain-general's office	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Judge-advocate-general's office	1	...	...	900 0 0	...	900 0 0
Do., Ireland	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Army pay office	1	276 2 0	...	5,128 7 9	...	5,404 9 9
Commissariat, Ireland	...	328 10 0	...	...	...	328-10 0
Ordnance office { Including Great Britain, Ireland, foreign stations and barracks	49	2,906 6 10	483 14 9	316 17 3	...	3,706 18 10
Chelsea hospital	1	7 12 3½	...	...	...	7 12 3½
Royal hospital, Kilmainham	...	...	...	...	11 7 6	11 7 6
Royal military college	...	...	...	...	...	...
Royal military asylum	...	20 0 0	...	...	...	20 0 0
King's military infirmary, Ireland	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Admiralty	...	...	...	...	...	...
Navy office, foreign establishment, (for 1823)	...	...	...	...	...	...
1.—Navy office	...	...	...	...	286 0 0	286 0 0
2.—Dock-yards (supperanations, vide Appendix)	...	90 0 0	...	...	281 17 0	371 17 0
3.—Navy pay office	...	...	...	...	...	...
4.—Royal marine pay office	...	10 0 0	...	...	...	10 0 0

OFFICES.

Salaries, &c., in the Public Offices of the United Kingdom, Jan. 1825.

Diminution in the						Total amount of salaries, emoluments, allowances, and expenses.
Total number of persons.	Salaries.	Emoluments.	Allowances.	Expenses.		
No.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
61	...	...	861 1 5	241 2 8	1,122 4 1	
0	...	...	...	201 0 7½	201 0 7½	
...	...	...	...	...	nil	
...	...	...	0 9 3	125 17 3	126 6 6½	
...	...	...	...	409 13 11	409 13 11	
...	
...	...	...	275 0 0	...	275 0 0	
6	2,063 12 6	171 0 6½	...	1,015 16 0½	3,250 9 1½	
...	1,976 19 7	...	...	1,573 17 0	3,550 16 7	
...	...	...	...	19 16 6	19 16 6	
...	...	...	...	...	nil	
...	210 0 0	...	...	79 14 11	79 14 11	
...	...	...	...	...	210 0 0	
...	...	...	...	328 10 3	328 10 3	
...	40 0 0	48 0 0	...	...	88 0 0	
...	
...	14 14 4½	...	...	306 6 10	321 10 2½	
...	89 2 5	...	...	1,372 6 10	1,461 9 3	
...	
...	
...	
...	
...	
...	...	...	...	864 19 0	864 19 0	
...	
...	
...	
...	81 11 4	...	125 16 8	14 6 2	221 14 2	
...	
...	400 0 0	...	...	...	400 0 0	
6	2,073 15 0	...	427 0 0	20 8 9	2,521 3 9	
...	1,160 0 0	...	1,020 0 0	...	2,180 0 0	
...	
6	...	...	53 10 0	...	53 10 0	
...	
...	25 19 4	...	...	244 6 0½	270 5 4½	
...	...	...	...	120 0 0	120 0 0	

Offices.	Total number of persons.	Increase in the				Total amount of salaries, emoluments, allowances, and expenses.
		Salaries.	Emoluments.	Allowances.	Expenses.	
	No.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Victualling { 1.—Victualling office ...	...	780 0 0	...	...	...	780 0 0
Victualling { 2.—Victualling yards and medical establishment.....	3	880 0 0	...	...	...	880 0 0
Tax office .....	...	...	...	531 0 0	...	531 0 0
Customs .....	...	...	6,042 1 0	3,307 9 10	...	9,349 10 10
Excise .....	...	...	...	11,422 16 0	...	11,422 16 0
Stamp office .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto, Ireland.....	...	...	...	1,337 10 0	...	1,337 10 0
Post office	58	890 4 0	...	854 14 8	...	1,744 18 8
Ditto, Ireland.....	...	...	...	...	10,447 19 4½	10,447 19 4½
Mint office	4	...	...	394 0 0	...	394 0 0
Audit office .....	...	...	...	370 0 0	...	370 0 0
Commissioners of accounts } Ireland.....	...	9 9 0	...	...	...	9 9 0
Colonial audit office }	6	643 18 1	...	112 17 8	1,232 11 7	1,989 7 4
Office of comptrollers of } army accounts.....	...	282 3 0	...	671 0 9	...	953 3 9
Commissioners of army } accounts, Ireland.....	...	...	...	1,329 0 0	116 18 1½	1,445 18 1½
National debt office	2	264 16 0	...	...	128 11 2	393 7 2
Lottery office .....	...	...	...	10 0 0	...	10 0 0
Hackney coaches, hawk- } ers &c. office .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Office of auditor of the re- } ceipt of exchequer .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pells office.....	...	645 0 0	...	...	...	645 0 0
Teller's office.....	...	...	...	400 0 0	...	400 0 0
Ditto, Ireland.....	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Tally office .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Exchequer bill office .....	...	...	...	79 2 2	1 5 1	80 7 3
Stationery office .....	...	...	...	156 6 10	163 0 4	318 7 2
Woods, forests, and land } revenue office .....	...	93 2 0	...	227 2 6	381 7 10	701 12 4
Board of works, Ireland.....	...	...	...	534 8 10	...	534 8 10
Auditors of land revenue, } England and Wales, } office.....	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Alienation office	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Remembrancer of first } fruits office	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Receiver of ditto	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Board of first fruits, Ireland	...	200 0 0	...	...	101 19 7	301 19 7
Receiver of tenths office.....	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Hanaper office.....	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Privy seal office	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Signet office.....	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Receiver's office, Isle of Man	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
The sheriffs substitute, } Scotland.....	...	3,560 0 0	...	...	...	3,560 0 0
High court of justiciary, } Scotland	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
The jury court, Scotland ...	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
The court of session, Scotland	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
High court of admiralty, } Scotland .....	...	...	...	58 2 10	...	58 2 10
Hawkers & pedlars' office, } Scotland .....	...	...	...	...	3 6 11	3 6 11
Supreme consistorial court } of Scotland .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Yeomanry office, Ireland ...	nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
Provost marshal general, } Ireland .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hibernian society for sol- } diers' children, Ireland }	...	...	...	70 0 0	...	70 0 0

Diminution in the					
Total number of persons.	Salaries.	Emoluments.	Allowances.	Expenses.	Total amount of salaries, emoluments, allowances, and expenses.
No.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
...	...	...	1,119 10 0	...	1,119 10 0
...
9	2,139 0 0	...	...	2,669 10 2½	4,828 10 2½
428	24,635 9 0½	...	...	93,522 12 1½	118,158 1 1½
567	60,663 19 9	10,300 2 3	...	25,139 0 10½	96,103 2 10½
1	75 0 0	...	365 0 0	...	440 0 0
11	1,920 0 0	3,635 8 10½	...	...	5,555 8 10½
...
2	125 13 6½	...	208 4 6¾	...	333 18 1
...	168 18 4	...	...	...	168 18 4
6	154 2 0	73 12 5	...	2,189 11 3¼	2,367 5 8¼
...	...	...	57 11 10	...	57 11 10
...
...	...	...	...	107 1 9½	107 1 9½
15	2,960 0 0	...	...	...	2,960 0 0
...
...
...	13 19 0	...	6 10 0	79 17 4	100 6 4
...	10 3 9	...	...	...	10 3 9
...
...
nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
...	...	744 18 5	...	...	744 18 5
...	469 0 9	...	...	...	469 0 9
...	139 5 0	...	...	...	139 5 0
...
2	768 0 0	9 2 0	...	23 2 11	300 4 11
nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
nil.	...	...	...	...	nil.
...	...	42 11 7	...	8 1 8	50 13 3
...
1	...	...	...	...	...
nil.	...	...	...	...	...
1	30 0 0	...	...	...	30 0 0
2	63 0 0	...	...	...	63 0 0

		Increase in the															
Office		Total number of persons.	Salaries.			Emoluments.			Allowances.			Expenses.			Total amount salaries, emoluments, allowances and expenses.		
		No.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Directors general of navigation, Ireland	3	nil.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Trustees of linen manufacture, Ireland	3	nil.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Commissioners of wide streets, Ireland	3	nil.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Registrar of deeds, Ireland	1	nil.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fishery board	1	...	13	16	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	16	0

SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES.

AN ACCOUNT of the Total Annual Amount of the several Superannuation Allowances granted subsequently to the 5th July, 1822, under the provisions of the Act 3 Geo. 4. c. 113, in the Public Departments of the United Kingdom, which remained payable on the 5th January, 1824; the Annual Amount, which ceased in the course of the year ended the 5th January, 1825; the Annual Amount which was granted in the course of the year ended the 5th January, 1825; and the Total Annual Amount remaining payable on the 5th January, 1825.

Departments.	Total annual amount of allowances granted subsequently to the 5th July 1822, and which remained payable on the 5th January 1824.	Annual amount of allowances which ceased in the course of the year ended the 5th January 1825.	Annual amount of allowances which was granted in the course of the year ended the 5th Jan. 1825.	Total annual amount of allowances remaining payable on the 5th Jan. 1825.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Privy Council office	230 0 0	...	...	230 0 0
Do..... for trade, &c.	400 0 0	...	...	400 0 0
Privy Council office, Ireland...	...	...	720 0 0	720 0 0
Chief Secretary's office, Ireland, Military branch	...	...	1,161 5 0	1,161 5 0
Secretary of State, foreign department	...	...	2,309 0 0	2,309 0 0
Do..... colonial do.....	200 0 0	...	2,500 0 0	2,700 0 0
Commander of the Forces of- } fice, Ireland	55 0 0	...	...	55 0 0
Adjutant General's office	145 0 0	...	55 0 0	200 0 0
Do..... Ireland	...	...	30 0 0	30 0 0
Judge Advocate General's of- } fice	300 0 0	...	900 0 0	1,200 0 0
Army Pay office.....	600 0 0	...	...	600 0 0
Commissariat, Ireland.....	249 8 4	...	...	249 8 4
Ordnance	3,142 5 8	45 0 0	2,635 12 11	5,732 18 7
Chelsea Hospital	765 0 0	...	...	765 0 0
Royal Military College	199 10 0	...	367 15 0	567 5 0
Royal Military Asylum.....	100 0 0	...	20 0 0	120 0 0
Trustees of Linen manufac- } ture, Ireland	...	...	175 0 0	175 0 0
Admiralty.....	...	...	275 0 0	275 0 0
Navy Office.....	2,378 17 6	33 6 8	1,293 6 8	4,768 17 6
Navy Pay office.....	513 6 8	175 0 0	...	338 6 8
Victualling office.....	750 0 0	...	358 6 8	1,108 6 8
Tax office.....	3,595 0 0	...	205 0 0	3,800 0 0
Receiver of Taxes office, } Scotland	87 0 0	...	...	87 0 0
Customs	17,666 3 10	3,798 0 0	8,794 18 9	22,663 2 7
Excise.....	17,712 0 0	1,656 0 0	8,038 0 0	24,094 0 0
Stamp office.....	753 0 0	210 0 0	165 0 0	708 0 0
Do..... Ireland.....	500 0 0	...	407 10 0	907 10 0
Post office.....	2,057 10 0	...	1,918 18 0	3,976 8 0
Do..... Ireland	1,203 16 8	21 2 6	21 2 6	1,203 16 8
Mint office.....	...	...	544 0 0	544 0 0
Audit office.....	150 0 0	...	445 0 0	595 0 0
Colonial Audit office.....	...	...	600 0 0	600 0 0
Comptrollers of Army Ac- } counts office	1,000 0 0	...	50 0 0	1,050 0 0
Commissioners of do. Ireland...	400 0 0	...	1,329 0 0	1,729 0 0
Lottery office.....	35 0 0	...	10 0 0	45 0 0
Auditor of the Receipt of } Exchequer office	1,000 0 0	1,000 0 0	...	...
Tellers office.....	...	...	400 0 0	400 0 0
Exchequer Bill office.....	245 0 0	...	...	245 0 0
Stationery office	350 0 0	...	579 0 0	929 0 0
Board of Works, Ireland.....	...	...	534 8 10	534 8 10
Hibernian Society for Sol- } diers' Children, Ireland	10 0 0	...	70 0 0	80 0 0

DIII. 620

CONVICTS.

Extract from the Report of John Henry Capper, Esq. Superintendent of Ships and Vessels employed for the Confinement of Offenders under Sentence of Transportation; — dated 15th July, 1824.

" I HAVE the honour of reporting to you, that the prisoners confined in the respective hulks have, since my last report, been orderly, both on board the ships, and when on shore at labour. Although a considerable number of convicts, (upwards of 400) were transferred from the general Penitentiary to the Hulk Establishment in the month of April last, no inconvenience resulted from that influx; and it is but justice towards those prisoners to observe, that (with a slight exception at one of the depots) they readily complied with the hulk regulations. It is also satisfactory to state, that the surgeons have not observed any peculiar illness prevailing among them. The boys, consisting of above 300, under the age of fifteen years, are fully occupied at their respective trades on board the Bellerophon hulk at Sheerness, and, generally speaking, they have behaved well. The convicts have remained healthy, notwithstanding the great exposure of many of them, when at labour, to the wet weather in the spring of the year.

" I have received accounts from the overseer of the convicts on board the Antelope, reporting the arrival of that ship at Bermuda the latter end of February, and that early in the month of March the prisoners commenced labour on shore upon the public works, carrying on at Ireland island, under the direction of the naval department; and I have the satisfaction to state that, from a communication made to me by the naval commissioner there, the conduct of the prisoners has been orderly, and that they have shewn willingness to work, which is fully supported by the overseer's Report."

Extract from Mr. Capper's Report, dated 25th January, 1825.

" The convicts confined on board the Leviathan, York and Hardy hulks, in Portsmouth harbour, have been employed in carrying on the public works under the naval and ordnance boards, and the principal officers of those de-

" partments have expressed their approbation of the prisoners' conduct when on shore executing their tasks of labour. The prisoners confined in the Retribution hulk at Sheerness have been kept at labour in the dock yard at that place, and have given satisfaction to the officers under whom they are employed. The convict boys confined in the hulk stationed at that port, have been constantly employed in making clothing and other articles for the whole of the hulk establishment, allowing a suitable time in each day for relaxation and attending school. The convicts on board the Dolphin hulk at Chatham have been employed in various works under the naval and ordnance departments, and their conduct has been orderly and industrious when at labour. At Woolwich and Deptford, the convicts confined in the Ganymede and Discovery hulks have been efficiently employed in the dock yards there, and the officers at both these depots have expressed to me their approbation of the prisoners' behaviour. The works upon which the convicts are employed under the ordnance department at Woolwich have been very limited; but as the complement of prisoners usually confined in the Justitia hulk has of late been considerably reduced by the transfer of several to other depots, and the transportation of many of them, no inconvenience has been felt for want of employment for those now on board that hulk. The convicts throughout all the ships have been healthy, and, with some slight exceptions, they have been orderly and obedient."

" On the 1st of January, 1824, there were 2,953 prisoners on board all the convict hulks in England, since which period there have been received (including 440 from the Penitentiary) 2,801; 1835 have been transported; 542 discharged by pardon or otherwise; 15 have escaped; 82 have died; and 3,230 remained in the hulks on the 1st of January instant."

" I have great satisfaction in reporting, that the convicts on board the Antelope at Bermuda, consisting of 380, have continued to carry on the works to the satisfaction of the naval department, and that they have generally conducted themselves in a very orderly manner."

AN ACCOUNT shewing the Expense of the Convict Hulk Establishment, from the 1st of January to the 30th of June, 1824; as also the Earnings of the Convicts at each Place of Confinement, the Average Number of Convicts confined at each Place, and the Number of Days' Labour performed by such Convicts; distinguishing the Work of Artificers from that of Common Labourers.

Name of ship.	Station.	Expense.	Average number of convicts daily on board.	Number of days labour performed.	Number of artificers employed.	Number of labourers employed.	Rate per day.	Amount of artificers and labourers' earnings separately.			Total amount of the earnings of each ship.		
								£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Leviathan	Portsmouth	£ 5,099 17 7	594	154	2,671	69,136	2 3	300 9 9	5,185 2 6	5,485 12 3			
York	Gosport	5,036 2 11	643	153	4,764	82,587	2 3	538 4 0	6,194 0 6	6,732 4 6			
Retribution	Sheerness	5,764 6 6	692	154	5,652	80,630	2 3	635 17 0	6,047 5 0	6,786 16 0			
Bellerophon	Sheerness	3,305 19 8	330		File drivers	1,037	2 0	103 14 0					
Dolphin	Chatham	* 9,915 1 6	330	154	1,613	40,015	2 3	181 9 3	3,001 2 6				
Justitia, Ganymede, and Discovery ... }	Woolwich	6,933 18 4	700	153	File drivers	3,258	2 0	325 16 0		3,508 7 9			
Dromedary	Woolwich	263 18 1			7,228	63,068	2 3	813 3 0	4,730 2 0	5,543 5 0			
Superintendent's salary for half a year		200 0 0											
Allowance to superannuated officers		168 10 0											
Contingent expenses of the establishment...		368 4 4											
	£	37,057 18 11											£ 28,056 5 6

At Portsmouth, Woolwich, Sheerness, and Chatham.

* In this sum is included £7,000, being the Navy Board charge for the Dolphin.

COMMITMENTS, TRIALS, CONVICTIONS, SENTENCES, &c., IN ENGLAND AND WALES: 1824.

SUBSTANCE OF RETURNS by the Clerks of the Peace of the several Counties in England and Wales, of the Number of Persons committed for Trial, indicted, convicted, acquitted, judgment respited, by Reason of no Bill being found against them, and discharged by Reason of no Prosecution; and the Sentences of such as were convicted: 1824.

Counties.	Commitments, &c.						Sentences.							
	Committed for trial.	Indicted.	Convicted.	Acquitted by jury.	No bill found.	No prosecution.	Transportation.			Imprisonment for various periods.	Whipping.	Fines.	Other judgements respited.	
							Life.	14 years.	7 years.					
Bedford	60	58	44	10	4	2			5	33	2		1	
Berks	77	68	54	8	6	9			7	38				
Bucks	105	96	66	20	10	9			5	60	1			
Brecon	6	6	4	1	1					4				
Cambridge	41	39	26	9	4	2			3	23				
Chester	242	241	187	31	23	1		2	18	167	12	12	4	
Cornwall	48	48	38	7	3				3	32	3			
Cumberland	27	26	24	2		1			11	13				
Cardigan	3	3	2	1						2		2		
Carmarthen	12	16	9	3	3				2	5		3		
Derby	52	43	44	3	3	2			2	38		2	2	
Devon	134	134	83	31	20				6	77				
Dorset	109	82	76	9	2	22			2	64	3	2	4	
Durham	59	55	39	8	8	4				38		8	6	
Essex	232	200	147	30	19	31		1	13	131		1		
Gloucester	186	154	92	36	26	32			4	77		7	4	
Glamorgan	27	26	14	6	2	5		1		12	1			
Hertfordshire	39	36	27	3	6	3				26		1		
Kent	309	271	182	43	46	38			21	161				
Lancaster	1,621	1,385	1,157	145	83	236	10	12	133	957	15	17	16	12
Leicester	43	43	34	1	8				2	32	1			
Lincoln: Kesteven	51	51	33	13	2	3			5	26		2		
Lindsey	57	57	38	11	8				6	30			2	
Middlesex	1,247	393	241	167	28	811	1	1	1	226	19	3	29	5
Monmouth	18	18	11	3	4					10		1		
Montgomery	11	11	8	3					4	4				
Norfolk	250	219	155	64	25	6			13	129	6	17	4	
Northumberland	27	27	16	10	1				2	14				
Nottingham	71	71	53	13	5				6	46		1	1	
Oxford	49	40	30	8	2	9				30				
Pembroke	8	7	4	3	1					4				
Rutland	18	17	9	6	2	1				9				
Southampton	158	130	91	23	16	28			8	78		4	1	
Salop	55	44	30	11	3	6			4	26	1		1	
Somerset	375	265	185	76	43	67			14	160	8	11	15	
Suffolk	168	161	121	30	10	7			17	87	2	5	17	
Surrey	426	323	218	67	38	102	1	2	54	156		4		1
Warwick	205	264	237	26	11	10			25	203			8	1
Wilts	210	178	144	29	5	32			10	124		10		
York: North Riding	51	46	34	8	4	5			5	24	4	1		
East Riding	53	52	38	9	5	1		1	4	28		5		
West Riding	305	297	191	58	48	8			22	167	9			

SUBSTANCE of Returns by the Clerks of the Peace and Town Clerks of Cities, Towns, and Places in England and Wales, of the Number of Persons committed for Trial at the general Quarter Sessions of the Peace, indicted, convicted, acquitted, discharged by Reason of no Bill being found against them, and discharged by Reason of no Prosecution; and the Sentences of such as were convicted: 1824.

Cities, towns, and places.	Commitments, &c.						Sentences.							
	Committed for trial.	Indicted.	Convicted.	Acquitted by jury.	No bill found.	No prosecution.	Transportation,			Whipping.	Finc.	Other judg-ments.	Judgment respited.	
							Life.	14 year.	7 year.					
Abingdon-borough } co. Berks..... }	4	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...
Axbridge, co. So- merset..... }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bedford, co. Bedford Buckingham, co. } Bucks..... }	10	0	0	3	...	1	...	...	3	3	...	1	...
Barnstaple, co. Devon Bideford.....do..... }	4	4	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
Bradnich.....do..... Berwick-upon-Tweed	8	8	6	3	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	...
Banbury, co. Oxford Bridgnorth, co. Salop Bridgwater, co. So- merset..... }	0	0	3	2	...	4	...	...	...	3	2	...	...
12	12	10	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	...	1
Bristol..... }	136	125	109	16	0	2	4	4	24	76	11	1	...	
Bury St. Edmunds, } co. Suffolk..... }	15	15	7	5	3	...	...	...	2	5	...	...	...
Beaunris, co. An- glesey..... }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cambridge..... }	28	28	19	7	2	...	...	...	4	16	...	...	...
Chester..... }	43	39	26	12	1	...	...	...	7	18	2	...	...
Congleton..... }	6	6	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	2	...
Carlisle..... }	5	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...
Coventry..... }	58	55	39	9	7	2	2	...	11	24	...	2	...	
Cawood, &c. York... }	4	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...
Derby..... }	22	22	21	1	...	...	...	...	...	11	1	1	6
Deal, co. Kent..... }	2	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Dover.....do..... }	17	7	5	2	...	10	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Ely, isle of..... }	30	28	18	6	4	2	...	...	...	16	...	2	...
Evesham, co. Wor- cester..... }	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Folkestone (Kent)..... }	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Grantham (Lincoln) Great Grimby..... }	9	9	8	1	...	...	...	...	4	4	...	...	...
Guildford (Surrey)..... }	4	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...
Hastings (Kent)..... }	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Ipswich..... }	30	30	18	3	8	1	3	...	3	12	2	9	...	
Kingston-upon-Hull King's Lynn (Nor- folk)..... }	54	47	36	9	2	7	...	...	5	31	2	...	...
4	4	4	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	...
Kidwelly, co. Car- marthen..... }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Looe, East..... }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Liverpool..... }	308	358	309	30	11	40	...	...	31	278	...	...	1
Lincoln, city..... }	17	17	14	3	...	...	...	...	2	12	...	...	...
Louth, co. Lincoln... }	3	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
Ludlow..... }	9	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	2	7	...	...	...
Lichfield..... }	8	7	6	1	...	1	...	...	1	6	...	5	...
Newport, Isle of } Wight..... }	30	23	15	8	2	5	...	...	...	15	...	1	...
Maidstone (Kent).... }	15	6	5	...	1	9	...	...	...	5	...	...	...
Norwich..... }	76	61	46	11	1	3	...	...	17	29	5	...	...
Northampton..... }	3	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...
Newcastle upon Tyne } Newark..... }	27	23	19	5	1	2	...	1	1	17	...	1	...	
26	26	19	4	2	1	...	...	...	2	16	...	1	...
Nottingham..... }	55	54	46	6	1	1	...	...	8	36	3	...	1

Cities, towns, and places.	Commitments, &c.						Sentences.							
	Committed for trial.	Indicted.	Convicted.	Acquitted by jury.	No bill found.	No prosecution.	Transportation,			Imprisonment for various periods.	Whipping.	Fine.	Other judgments.	Judgment respited.
							Life.	14 years.	7 years.					
Oxford.....	33	28	16	8	4	5	2	1	2	10	...	1	...	...
Penzance.....	5	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	...	...	1
Plymouth.....	20	20	17	2	1	...	...	...	...	13	...	...	...	...
Portsmouth.....	83	79	46	25	8	4	...	...	11	11	...	...	22	2
Preston.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pontefract.....	9	8	3	5	1	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...
Reading.....	19	17	11	5	1	2	...	...	4	6	...	...	...	1
Romney, New.....	4	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...
Rye.....	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Richmond (York)...	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Ripon.....	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Radnor, New.....	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Saltash.....	3	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...
Southmolton.....	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Southampton.....	11	11	7	4	...	...	...	...	2	3	...	3	1	...
Southwell & Serooby	5	7	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...
Stamford.....	16	8	12	1	...	3	...	...	...	8	...	1	...	...
Shrewsbury.....	27	24	21	2	1	3	1	6	6	8	1	...	...	...
Southwark (Surrey)	35	35	29	2	4	...	1	...	7	17	7	2	...	...
Stratford-upon-Avon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sarum, New.....	24	16	14	2	...	8	...	...	4	11	...	13	...	...
St. Peter of York...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Tiverton (Devon)...	3	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...
Tewkesbury.....	9	9	2	9	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
Wallingford.....	4	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	2	...
Windsor, New.....	7	7	4	1	2	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...
Wokingham (Berks)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Yarmouth, Great...	22	22	13	6	3	...	...	1	2	10	...	...	...	...
Wenlock (Salop):...	8	8	7	...	1	...	...	...	2	5	...	...	...	...
Wallsall.....	6	6	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...
Warwick.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
York, city.....	37	37	31	5	1	...	...	...	2	25	...	...	4	...

N.B.—In the return from Bristol are two convicts sentenced to death, which sentence was commuted to transportation for fourteen years.

From Chester is one convict, against whom sentence of death was recorded.

From Dover is one convict sentenced to death.

From King's Lynn is one convict, against whom sentence of death was recorded; which sentence was commuted to transportation for life.

From Oxford is one convict, against whom sentence of death was recorded.

SUBSTANCE of Returns by the several Clerks of Assize, Clerks of the Crown, and Clerks of the Sessions Oyer and Terminer and Gaol Delivery, of the Number of Persons committed for Trial, indicted, convicted, acquitted, discharged by Reason of no Bill being found against them, and discharged by Reason of no Prosecution; with the Sentences of such as were convicted, and the Number of those capitally convicted who have been executed: 1824.

	Commitments, &c.						Sentences.										
	Committed for trial.	Indicted.	Convicted.	Acquitted by jury.	No bill found.	No prosecution.	Death.	Recorded sentence of death.	Transportation			Imprisonment for various periods.	Whipping.	Fine.	Other judgments.	Judgment respited.	
									Life.	14 years.	7 years.						
Home circuit, Lent and summer assizes	746	683	458	156	69	63	138	...	1	8	76	193	...	20	15	8	
Home circuit, December ...	363	331	239	75	17	32	76	...	1	2	25	128	...	7	1	...	
Midland circuit	524	503	381	84	38	21	158	...	7	6	51	154	1	3	...	1	
Norfolk circuit	372	352	239	80	33	20	18	97	...	1	13	104	...	4	...	2	
Northern circuit	217	208	140	55	12	9	2	62	3	4	14	53	...	1	...	1	
County palatine of Durham, on the Northern circuit	42	36	23	9	4	6	2	...	...	1	2	17	...	...	...	1
County of Lancaster, at the assizes	125	116	89	27	8	1	49	...	...	1	3	21	...	...	15	...
Oxford circuit	561	526	373	107	44	35	138	...	11	10	57	144	...	8	...	5	
Western circuit	722	616	465	151	66	40	148	...	5	5	61	240	...	4	...	2	
County of Chester, at the spring assizes	57	56	37	15	2	1	1	11	...	...	2	22	...	1	...	1
County of Chester, at the summer assizes	26	25	21	4	...	1	1	11	...	1	...	8	...	4	...	...
County of Kent, at the spring great sessions ...	2	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
County of Kent, at the summer great sessions ...	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
North Wales circuit	26	26	14	7	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	12	...	...	...	...
Montgomeryshire, at the great sessions	10	10	6	3	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	...	1
Denbighshire, at the great sessions	18	18	12	6	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	4
City of London, and county of Middlesex, at the Old Bailey	2,140	2,122	1,422	488	210	18	149	...	61	30	418	628	30	94	9	3	11
Isle of Ely, at the general assizes	19	17	9	3	5	2	4	5

COURTS OF JUSTICE PATRONAGE.

A RETURN of all Places and Offices in the Gift or at the Disposal of the Lord High Chancellor of England; with the Names of the Persons by whom they are now filled.

Offices.	Officers.	Manner of appointment and tenure.
Accountant-general	John Campbell, esq.	Appointed by the court, by virtue of the stat. 12 Geo. I. c. 32, to hold such office during the pleasure of the court.
Eleven masters in chancery ...	John Campbell, esq. Francis Paul Stratford, esq. John Springett Harvey, esq. Samuel Compton Cox, esq. James Stephen, esq. William Courtenay, esq. John Edmund Dowdeswell, esq. Francis Cross, esq. James Trower, esq. William Wingfield, esq. James William Farrer, esq.	By parol; of which a constat or certificate of the appointment is enrolled. To hold for life.
Sub or deputy registers.....	Thomas Walker. Thomas Alexander Rainsford, esq. Henry Burrows, esq. Francis Benjamin Bedwell, esq.	By stat. 45 Geo. III. c. 75, it is enacted, That all appointments which from time to time during any vacancy of the office of register and keeper of the registers in the court of Chancery, shall be made by the lord chancellor, of sub-registers or deputy registers, filer, and keeper of reports and certificates, or entering clerks, or to hold any office or place, the nomination or appointment to which might be made by the register, shall be valid.
Clerk of the reports	Robert Martin Leake, esq.	These appointments are made under certain regulations as to succession.
Entering clerks	James Christmas Fry. Edward Dod Colville.	The four sub or deputy registers have each two articulated clerks, who, according to ancient custom, succeed (if no valid objection exist) to the offices or places mentioned, as vacancies occur in them, according to priority of date in their articles.
Cursitors.		Manner of appointment and tenure.
Richard Smith Appleyard	For Leicester and Cornwall. Gloucester and Cambridge. Bedford and Buckingham. Hereford and Monmouth. Surrey and Salop. Stafford and Wits. London and Middlesex. Nottingham & Northampton. Hertford and Derby. York and Westmorland. London and Middlesex. Suffolk and Huntingdon. Norfolk and Cumberland. Sussex and Worcester. Warwick and Hants. Oxford and Rutland.	Queen Elizabeth, by charter of incorporation, 4th September, in the 15th year of her majesty's reign, granted and ordained that there should be 24 cursitors of the Court of Chancery, to be cursitors for their lives, to be from time to time elected, appointed, and admitted by the chancellor of England, or keeper of the great seal for the time being, for the divisions and limits as here stated; and that they and their clerks, in their names and steads, should write and expedite all writs, as therein mentioned.
John Pensam		
Thomas Lloyd		
Jegon Wellard		
Robert Nuttall		
Craven Ord		
Robert Talbot		
Thomas Walker		
Richard Jackson		
John Halkett		
Richard Wilson		
William Villiers Surtees		
Thomas Jones		
John Bellamy		
Thomas Carr		
William Welbit		
Joseph Talbot		

Cursitors.		Manner of appointment and tenure.
Hon. William Henry John } Scott } Burton Lano } Philip Ponsan } Frederick Newman Apployard } Charles Knight Murray } Thomas Oneby Walker } (Vacant)..... }	For London and Middlesex. Kent and Devon. Lincoln and Somerset. Essex and Berks. Lincoln and Somerset. Dorset and Northumberland.	The cursitors now execute the duties of their offices, either in person, or by other cursitors acting for them. The appointment of cursitors is of such persons as have been admitted as clerks for five years, and not till at least twelve years of that time shall have elapsed.

By the laws in force relating to bankrupts, the lord chancellor is authorised to issue commissions under the great seal, and to name, assign, and appoint commissioners. The practice under this authority has been, the nomination by the lord chancellor of a number of persons (now seventy), with directions for the insertion by rotation of five of the persons so nominated, in each commission to be executed in London. Four lists of five each were nominated in 1796, with directions for one of the four to be inserted in each of such commissions, as should be executed at or within twenty miles of Birmingham; but the vacancies which have occurred in such lists have not since been filled up. All other commissions, to be executed more than forty miles from London, are directed to persons nominated by or on the behalf of each petitioning creditor; each commissioner deriving authority from the particular commission issued to him, and no further. The commissioners for each list for London commissions are now as under stated:

Lists.

1. William Gould, esq.
Hon. James Abercromby.
John Turner, esq.
Sir George Hampson, bart.
John Beames, esq.
2. John Mitford,
Francis Charles Parry,
Thomas Christopher Glyn,
Horace Twiss, esqrs.
Thomas Metcalfe, gent.
3. Burton Morice,
William Roberts,
George Banks,
John Raithby, esqrs.
Hon. William Lennox Bathurst.
4. Henry Revell Reynolds,
Robert Joseph Chambers,
William Conant,
Richard Richards, esqrs.
Joseph Hickey, gent.
5. John Reeves,
Richard Wilson.
Thomas Hall Plumer,
Francis Gregg,
Anthony Hart Rawlings, esqrs.

Lists.

6. Robert Talbot,
Francis Vesoy,
John Samuel Martin Fonblanque,
George James Pennington, esqrs.
Spencer Richard James Lowin, gent.
7. John Beauclerk,
Jefferies Spranger, esqrs.
Hon. Charles Ewan Law.
John Dyneley,
William Bond, esqrs.
8. William Welfitt,
John Pensam,
Nathaniel Clayton,
William John Law, esqrs.
Hon. Robert Henley Eden.
9. James Trebeck,
John Samuel Hudson,
Edward Goulburn, esqrs.
James Seton,
Edward Grose Smith, gents.
10. Thomas Evance,
Bryan Blundell Hollinshead,
Thomas Farrer,
John Newland,
Clement Tudway Swanston, esqrs.
11. Peter Johnston,
Henry Hall,
Basil Montague,
Thomas Meggison,
Nathaniel Ellison, esqrs.
12. John Calthorpe Gough,
George Dale Collinson,
John Lucius Dampier,
Charles Sinclair Cullen, esqrs.
Peter Hill, gent.
13. George Daniel Harvey,
George Roots,
Robert George Cecil Faue,
Robert Belt,
William Brent Brent, esqrs.
14. Archibald Elijah Impey,
Montague Farrer Ainslie,
William Villiers Surtees.
Robert Grant,
Charles Bathurst, esqrs.

Offices.	Officers.	
Register of proceedings under commissions of bankrupts.	Henry Edward Church.	<p>By a general direction given by the lord chancellor, the names of these gentlemen are of course to be inserted as the commissioners in commissions of idiocy and lunacy, unless, from particular circumstances, special orders are made for directing commissions to other persons; the commissioners deriving their authority from each particular commission, and no further.</p> <p>By nomination under the hand and seal of the lord chancellor, and confirmation thereof by his majesty, by letters patent, reciting that instrument of nomination.</p>
Five commissioners of lunatics	Thomas Evance, William Welfitt, William Phillimore, Thomas Carr, Francis Whitmarsh, esqrs.	
Clerk of the letters patent.....	Hon. William Henry John Scott.	
Examiners of letters patent ...	Thomas Lloyd.	
Secretaries and other officers personal attendants upon the lord chancellor.		
Offices.	Officers.	
Purse-bearer.....	Thomas Hand, esq.	} By parol. During pleasure.
Principal secretary.....	Thomas Farrer, esq.	
Receiver of fines in the curators' office.....	Hon. William Henry John Scott.	} By the lord chancellor, with the consent and approbation of the master of the rolls.
Secretary of decrees, injunctions, and appeals.....	William Villiers Surtees, esq.	
Secretary of commissions of peace, and of commissions of bankrupts.....	John Pensam, esq.	} By parol. During pleasure.
Secretary of commissions of lunacy.....	Thomas Carr, esq.	
Secretary of presentations.....	John Dyneley, esq.	
Secretary of briefs.....	Edward Probyn Nares, esq.	
Gentleman of the chamber.....	Thomas Hand, esq.	} By parol. During pleasure; by virtue of the stat. 50 Geo. III., c. 164.
Usher of the hall.....	J. Ridley.	
Four persons for keeping order in the court.....	Hugh Newman. James Baker. William Kerbyshire.	

The other officers of the court are appointed by his majesty by letters patent, or by the master of the rolls. The vice chancellor as to his personal officers; or by the heads of the several departments, as to officers and clerks acting in their several departments, and not by the lord chancellor.

Certified by order of the Lord Chancellor, J. PENSAM.

A RETURN of all Places and Offices, in the Gift or at the disposal of the Master of the Rolls; and the Names of the Persons by whom those Places and Offices are now filled.

Appointments for Life.

Places or offices.	By whom filled.
Two examiners.....	{ Thomas Hall Plumer, and John Nursey Dancer, esq.
Six clerks.....	{ William Luther Sewell, John Kipling, Walden Henry Hanmer,
	{ Frances Vesey, Edward Vernon Utterson, and William Turton, esqrs.

Places or offices.	By whom held.
(a) Keeper of the records in the Tower.....	Henry Petrie, esq.
Keeper of the records in the rolls chapel	John Kipling, esq.
Three clerks of the petty bag	{ John Bentall, Thomas Hall Plumer, and Lancelot Baugh Allen, esqrs.
Usher of the court	Richard Critchett, esq.

(a) The appointment of this officer is made with the approbation of his majesty under his sign manual.

Appointments during pleasure.

Places or offices.	By whom filled.
Preacher at the rolls chapel	The Rev. John Sandford.
Reader at ditto	The Rev. Edward Smedley.
Chief secretary	James Hine.
Under secretary	} James Archibald Murray.
Secretary of causes	
Secretary of decrees and injunctions	
Two gentlemen of the chamber	{ Richard Grant, (One vacant.)
Usher of the hall	
Porter at the rolls.....	Robert Corlatt.

None of the foregoing offices are saleable.

June 3, 1825.

GIFFORD.

A RETURN of all Places and Offices in the Gift or at the Disposal of the Vice Chancellor; and the Names of the Persons by whom these Places and Offices are now filled.

Secretary to the vice chancellor: Richard Pollen, esq., at a fixed salary of £500 a year, and no fees whatsoever.	Usher to the vice chancellor's court: Mr. Charles Whitaker, at a fixed salary of £200 a year, and no fees whatsoever. Trainbearer to the vice chancellor: Mr. John Spencer, at a fixed salary of £100 a year, and no fees whatsoever.
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28th May, 1825. JOHN LEACH, V. C.

A RETURN of all Places and Offices in the Gift or at the Disposal of the Lord Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, and the Names of the Persons by whom those Places and Offices are now filled.

The chief clerk	{ Lord Ellenborough and Osborn Markham, esq.
Clerk of the treasury and custos brevium	Lord Kenyon and lord Ellenborough.
Filazer, exigenter, and clerk of the outlaw- ries for all the cities and counties of England, except Essex and Monmouth.	} Lord Kenyon and lord Ellenborough.
Filazer, exigenter, and clerk of the outlaw- ries, for the counties of Essex and Mon- mouth	
Clerk of nisi prius in Middlesex.....	Mr. John Abbott.
Clerk of the errors	Mr. Richard Smith.
Associate and marshal at the sittings of nisi prius in London and Middlesex	} John Henry Abbott, esq.
Clerk at the sittings of nisi prius in London and Middlesex	
Clerk to the lord chief justice	Mr. Thomas Atibott.
Clerk of the lord chief justice	Mr. John Waters.
Crier at the sittings of nisi prius in London and Middlesex	} Mr. William Waters.
Trainbearer to the lord chief justice	
Housekeeper at the treasury chamber	Mr. James Kievan.
	Mary Coombs.

C. ABBOTT.

A RETURN of all Offices and Places in the Gift or at the Disposal of the Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas; and the Names of the Persons by whom those Places and Offices are now held.

First prothonotary	Thomas Hudson, esq.
Third prothonotary	Henry Belward Ray, esq.

amongst my brethren, the learned judges, whether the spirit of the order of the house of commons, referred to in a former letter of mine, did not require me to specify the names of my clerks employed in the business of my chambers, and as my criers on the circuit, I beg leave, in addition to my former return, to state Mr. John Reynolds and Mr. Nathaniel Joseph Wells.

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your most obedient servant,
The Right Hon. R. Peel. J. A. PARK.

II.

16, Bedford Square, 31 May.

Sir.—In compliance with your desire, expressed in your letter of the 27th instant, that I would prepare and transmit to you a return of all places and offices in the gift or at the disposal of me as one of the puisné judges of one of the superior courts at Westminster, I return to you, that I have no place or office in my gift or at my disposal, as one of such puisné judges of the court of Common Pleas.

I am, sir, your obedient servant.

JAMES BURROUGH.

P.S.—I presume, that the situations of my clerks who attend at my chambers and in court, and at sittings, is not meant to be included in the resolution of the house of commons.

The Right Hon. R. Peel.

III.

Montague Place, 30th May, 1825.

Sir.—In answer to your letter of the 27th instant, desiring me to cause to be prepared and transmit to you "A return of all places and offices in the gift or at the disposal of the puisné judges of the superior courts at Westminster, and of each of them respectively, and the names of the persons by whom these places and offices are now filled, so far as I am concerned, in order that it may be laid before the house of commons;"

I beg leave to acquaint you, that as a puisné judge of the court of Common Pleas, I have no place or office in my gift or at my disposal, unless the situations of my two clerks, who attend in court and at chambers, are considered as coming within that description.

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your most obedient and very humble servant,
Right Hon. Robert Peel. S. GASELEE.

The Puisné Barons of the Court of Exchequer.

I.

Bedford Square, June 4th, 1825.

Sir.—In answer to the honour of your letter of the 27th May last, requiring a return of all

places or offices in my gift or at my disposal, as a puisné baron of the exchequer, I beg leave to state to you, that the only places or offices in my gift or at my disposal are those of clerk and examiner; and that both those offices are now filled by Mr. William Broadhurst, whom I verbally appointed to them, and who holds them at my pleasure.

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your most obedient humble servant,
ROBERT GRAHAM.

II.

6th June, 1825.

My dear sir.—In the return which I transmitted to Mr. Peel, in answer to the requisition of the house of commons as to places and offices in my gift, I stated, according to the impression on my mind, "*None.*"

Upon conversation since with some of my brother judges, I believe I ought to have returned,—I have power to appoint an examiner, which I have not exercised. I have appointed two clerks, who attend at my chambers; namely, Henry Richards and Samuel Wiggins.

I am, my dear sir,
Your obliged obedient servant,
Henry Hobhouse, esq. W. GARRON.

III.

Bedford Place, 30th May, 1825.

Sir.—In reply to the letter which I had the honour of receiving from you on Friday last, I beg leave to state, that, as one of the barons of his majesty's court of exchequer, I have the power of appointing to the office of an examiner of that court, each baron possessing the right of appointing one officer of that description. There is no salary annexed to the office.

James Elderton, who exercised the office under the late Mr. Baron Wood, now fills this office, by virtue of my nomination.

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your obedient humble servant,
JOHN HULLOCK.

Bedford Place, 6th June, 1825.

Mr. Baron Hullock presents his compliments to Mr. Peel, and begs leave, in addition to his former return, to state, that, besides the office of examiner, he has in his gift the office or place of clerk, which is now filled by William Calvert.

Mr. Baron H., at the time of making out his first return, was not aware, that the office of clerk was comprehended within the resolution of the house of commons.

DOCTORS' COMMONS.
Charges of the Proctors of Doctors' Commons on passing Letters of Administration.

	£ 20 and under 50.		200.		500.		800.		1,000.		1,500.		2,000.		3,000.		4,000.		5,000.		6,000.		7,000.		8,000.		9,000.		10,000.	
	10s.	£1.	3.	15.	30.	45.	60.	70.	90.	120.	150.	180.	210.	240.	270.	300.	330.	360.	390.	420.	450.	480.	510.	540.	570.	600.	630.	660.	690.	720.
Sum sworn under	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Warrant and stamp	0 8 4	0 8 4	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8
Oath and attendance thereon, and on execution of bond	0 4 4	0 4 4	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8
Bond and stamp	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0
Drawing and engraving affidavit for the stamp commission	0 2 4	0 2 4	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8
Proctors' attendance	0 2 4	0 2 4	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8
Proctors' attendance on oath	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6
Paid filling the seal	1 9 10	2 1 6	4 8 2	10 4 10	13 14 10	18 8 2	26 11 6	35 18 2	43 8 2	53 8 2	70 18 2	86 5 8	101 13 4	132 8 2	163 3 2	193 18 2	224 13 2	255 8 2	286 3 2	317 8 2	348 3 2	379 8 2	410 3 2	441 8 2	472 3 2	503 8 2	534 3 2	565 8 2	596 3 2	627 8 2
Administration under seal and stamp	0 4 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8
Extracting same	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0
Clerks	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0
Total	£ 3 19 10	4 13 6	7 15 0	13 11 8	17 1 8	21 15 0	29 18 4	39 8 0	50 18 0	62 14 8	74 14 8	90 4 8	105 13 2	136 7 2	167 2 2	197 17 2	228 12 2	259 7 2	290 2 2	321 7 2	352 2 2	383 7 2	414 2 2	445 7 2	476 2 2	507 7 2	538 2 2	569 7 2	600 2 2	

	£ 10,000		12,000.		14,000.		16,000.		18,000.		20,000.		25,000.		30,000.		35,000.		40,000.		45,000.		50,000.		60,000.		70,000.		80,000.		90,000.		100,000	
	270.	300.	330.	375.	420.	485.	525.	600.	675.	765.	800.	900.	1,010.	1,125.	1,350.	1,575.	1,800.	2,025.	2,250.	2,475.	2,700.	2,925.	3,150.	3,375.	3,600.	3,825.	4,050.	4,275.	4,500.	4,725.				
Sum sworn under	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.			
Warrant and stamp	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8	0 11 8			
Oath and attendance thereon, and on execution of bond	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8			
Bond and stamp	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0	1 1 0			
Drawing and engraving affidavit for the stamp commission	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8			
Proctors' attendance	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8			
Proctors' attendance on oath	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6			
Paid filling the seal	996 3 2	216 18 2	347 13 2	930 18 2	1466 0 8	2466 0 8	3466 0 8	4466 0 8	5466 0 8	6466 0 8	7466 0 8	8466 0 8	9466 0 8	10466 0 8	11466 0 8	12466 0 8	13466 0 8	14466 0 8	15466 0 8	16466 0 8	17466 0 8	18466 0 8	19466 0 8	20466 0 8	21466 0 8	22466 0 8	23466 0 8	24466 0 8	25466 0 8	26466 0 8	27466 0 8			
Administration under seal and stamp	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4	0 13 4			
Extracting same	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6			
Clerks	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6			
Total	£ 290 2 3	320 17 2	351 12 2	397 14 8	443 17 2	489 19 8	535 19 8	581 19 8	627 19 8	673 19 8	719 19 8	765 19 8	811 19 8	857 19 8	903 19 8	949 19 8	995 19 8	1,041 19 8	1,087 19 8	1,133 19 8	1,179 19 8	1,225 19 8	1,271 19 8	1,317 19 8	1,363 19 8	1,409 19 8	1,455 19 8	1,501 19 8	1,547 19 8	1,593 19 8	1,639 19 8			

Charges of the Proctors' Commons on passing Probates of Wills.

	20 and under 100.		300.		450.		600.		800.		1,000.		1,500.		2,000.		3,000.		4,000.		5,000.		7,000.		8,000.		9,000.		10,000.			
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
Sum sworn under... £	0 4 4	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10		
Amount of duty... £ s. d.	0 4 4	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8		
Writing jurate, oath, and attendance.....	0 3 4	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	
Registering, engrossing, and collating the will	0 4 4	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	
Drawing and engrossing affidavits for the stamp commissioners.....	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	
Oath and attendance.....	0 10 10	2 14 10	6 4 10	9 14 10	13 4 10	17 12 8	26 1 6	35 8 2	47 1 6	58 14 10	70 8 2	80 13 2	111 8 2	131 18 2	152 8 2	172 18 2	193 8 2	213 18 2	233 8 2	253 18 2	273 8 2	293 18 2	313 8 2	333 18 2	353 8 2	373 18 2	393 8 2	413 18 2	433 8 2	453 18 2	473 8 2	
Stamp under seal and extracting same.....	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0	0 2 0
Clerks and parchment.....	2 14 4	5 0 10	8 10 10	12 0 10	15 10 10	20 0 10	23 7 6	28 7 6	37 17 2	49 10 6	61 10 6	73 3 10	83 16 4	114 6 4	134 16 4	155 6 4	175 16 4	196 6 4	216 16 4	236 6 4	256 16 4	276 6 4	296 16 4	316 6 4	336 16 4	356 6 4	376 16 4	396 6 4	416 16 4	436 6 4	456 16 4	
Total..... £	2 14 4	5 0 10	8 10 10	12 0 10	15 10 10	20 0 10	23 7 6	28 7 6	37 17 2	49 10 6	61 10 6	73 3 10	83 16 4	114 6 4	134 16 4	155 6 4	175 16 4	196 6 4	216 16 4	236 6 4	256 16 4	276 6 4	296 16 4	316 6 4	336 16 4	356 6 4	376 16 4	396 6 4	416 16 4	436 6 4	456 16 4	

This charge varies according to the amount of the will.....

This charge also varies according to the quantity of parchment made use of.....

	12,000.		14,000.		16,000.		18,000.		20,000.		25,000.		30,000.		35,000.		40,000.		45,000.		50,000.		60,000.		70,000.		80,000.		90,000.		100,000.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Sum sworn under... £	0 7 8	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	0 11 10	
Amount of duty... £ s. d.	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	
Writing jurate, oath, and attendance.....	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	0 6 8	
Registering, engrossing, and collating the will.....	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8	0 7 8
Drawing and engrossing affidavits for the stamp commissioners.....	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6	0 3 6
Oath and attendance.....	913 18	2,204 0	2,925 3	3,305 13	3,387 13	3,418 16	3,470 3	3,547 0	3,623 18	3,700 15	3,777 13	3,854 8	3,931 8	4,008 13	4,085 4	4,162 4	4,239 13	4,316 13	4,393 13	4,470 13	4,547 13	4,624 13	4,701 13	4,778 13	4,855 13	4,932 13	5,009 13	5,086 13	5,163 13	5,240 13	5,317 13	5,394 13
Stamp under seal and extracting same.....	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6	0 7 6
Clerks and parchment.....	216 16	4 237 6	4 238 16	4 329 11	4 370 11	4 421 16	4 473 1	4 524 18	4 575 16	4 626 16	4 677 11	4 728 11	4 779 11	4 830 11	4 881 11	4 932 11	4 983 11	5 034 11	5 085 11	5 136 11	5 187 11	5 238 11	5 289 11	5 340 11	5 391 11	5 442 11	5 493 11	5 544 11	5 595 11	5 646 11	5 697 11	5 748 11
Total..... £	216 16	4 237 6	4 238 16	4 329 11	4 370 11	4 421 16	4 473 1	4 524 18	4 575 16	4 626 16	4 677 11	4 728 11	4 779 11	4 830 11	4 881 11	4 932 11	4 983 11	5 034 11	5 085 11	5 136 11	5 187 11	5 238 11	5 289 11	5 340 11	5 391 11	5 442 11	5 493 11	5 544 11	5 595 11	5 646 11	5 697 11	5 748 11

Same as above.....

Same as above.....

EXPIRED, EXPIRING, AND CONTINGENT LAWS.

EXPIRED LAWS; viz. between 3d February, 1824, and 3d February, 1825.

Subject.	Original acts.	Last continuing acts.	Time of expiration.	
Watching and warding	52 Geo. III. c. 17.	1 Geo. IV. c. 24.	20 June,	1824
Vexatious arrests	57 Geo. III. c. 101.	... ..	25 June,	1824
			(end of session 5 Geo. IV.)	
Customs. Suspension of duties on timber, &c. of Newfound- land	59 Geo. III. c. 52. § 39. ----- c. 83. § 6.	}	5 July,	1824
Greenland fisheries ...	26 Geo. III. c. 41.	3 Geo. IV. c. 104.	31 December,	1824
Customs. Suspension of duties on oil, &c. of Newfoundland	4 Geo. IV. c. 69. § 27. ----- c. 72. § 20.	}	31 December,	1824
Salt duties and regu- lations	3 Geo. IV. c. 82. § 2. ----- c. 99. § 1, 2.	} 5 Geo. IV. c. 65. § 1.	5 January,	1825
Bounties on export of salt provisions	4 Geo. IV. c. 69. § 33.	... ..	5 January,	1825

EXPIRING LAWS; viz. at the End of the present Session; or after 3d February, 1825, and on or before 1st August, 1826, &c.

N. B.—“&c.” after any date in the following lists, signifies “to the end of, or some period in, the session next ensuing the date specified.

Acts expiring at the End of the present Session, 6 Geo. IV.

Subject.	Original acts.	Last continuing acts.
Creditors	54 Geo. III. c. 137.	4 Geo. IV. c. 8.
Seditious meetings ...	60 Geo. III. c. 6.	...
Penitentiary.....	4 Geo. IV. c. 82.	...

Acts expiring after 3d February, 1825, and on or before 1st August, 1826.

Period of duration.	Subject.	Original acts.	Last continuing acts.
1825.			
1 March	Funds (4 per cents)	5 Geo. IV. c. 11. § 4. (Dissent of parties out of Europe.)	
	Annual duties: On personal estates	5 Geo. IV. c. 15. § 5; &c.	5 Geo. IV. c. 15. § 29.
	On sugar	59 Geo. III. c. 52. § 10.	5 Geo. IV. c. 76. § 2.
	Mutiny acts: Army	5 Geo. IV. c. 13.	
	Marines	c. 14.	
25 March	Innkeepers (soldiers)	5 Geo. IV. c. 31.	
	Militia: Pay, &c.	5 Geo. IV. c. 33.	
	Allowances	39, 40 Geo. III. c. 44	5 Geo. IV. c. 33. § 23.
	Indemnity (offices)	5 Geo. IV. c. 6.	
	Coffee (permits)	52 Geo. III. c. 149	1 Geo. IV. c. 59.
	Funds (4 per cents)	5 Geo. IV. c. 24. § 4. (Dissent of parties out of Europe.)	
1 May	Weights and measures	5 Geo. IV. c. 74. § 23. (As to existing laws.)	
	Bankrupts	5 Geo. IV. c. 98. § 1. (As to existing laws.)	
1 June, &c.	Insolvents	1 Geo. IV. c. 119. 3 Geo. IV. c. 123. 5 Geo. IV. c. 61.	
	Annual duties, tobacco, &c.	5 Geo. IV. c. 15. §§ 1-4.	
	Foreign spirits, &c.	43 Geo. III. c. 81. 47 Geo. III. st. 1. c. 27.	5 Geo. IV. c. 15. § 3.
	Sugar bounties	58 Geo. III. c. 34.	5 Geo. IV. c. 35.
	Pilchards (bounties)	43 Geo. III. c. 69. Sc. C.	5 Geo. IV. c. 64. § 6.
	Fisheries (bounties)	1 Geo. IV. c. 103. 59 Geo. III. c. 109.	5 Geo. IV. c. 64. § 1.
5 July	Cape of Good Hope (trade with)	1 Geo. IV. c. 82. 49 Geo. III. c. 17. 57 Geo. III. c. 1.	1 Geo. IV. c. 11.
	Warehousing of silk manufactures (prohibited.)	4 Geo. IV. c. 24. § 96	{ See 5 Geo. IV. c. 21. § 13.
	Spirits (intercourse.)	54 Geo. III. c. 149 56 Geo. III. c. 105 58 Geo. III. c. 26	1 Geo. IV. c. 77.
11 July	Holyhead road (Menai bridge.)	4 Geo. IV. c. 74. § 60.	
26 July	Alehouses	3 Geo. IV. c. 77.	
1 August	Insurrections	3 Geo. IV. c. 1	5 Geo. IV. c. 105.
	Coals (London)	45 Geo. III. c. 128. 50 Geo. III. c. 110	1 Geo. IV. c. 54.
10 October	Salt (drawback)	5 Geo. IV. c. 65. § 4.	
31 December	Southern whale fisheries	35 Geo. III. c. 92	59 Geo. III. c. 113.
1826.			
1 January	Netherlands (colonial trade)	56 Geo. III. c. 91. § 6	1 Geo. IV. c. 34.
25 January	Flax and cotton	23 Geo. III. c. 77	3 Geo. IV. c. 25.
24 June	Pilchard fishery	52 Geo. III. c. 42	59 Geo. III. c. 77.
	Excise duties	55 Geo. III. c. 30.	3 Geo. IV. c. 27.
5 July	Customs (coals coastwise.)	59 Geo. III. c. 52. § 13.	5 Geo. IV. c. 4.
10 July	Stamp duties	1, 2 Geo. IV. c. 112.	
1 August, &c.	Insolvents	1, 2 Geo. IV. c. 59. 3 Geo. IV. c. 124.	

LIST of Laws, whereof the Duration depends on Public Contingencies.

Matter.	Original acts.	Last continuing acts.	Duration.
The king; civil list	1 Geo. IV. c. 1	...	Life of the king.
The king; South Sea company	1, 2 Geo. IV. c. 31.	...	
	1 Geo. IV. c. 2	...	Life of the king.
	38 Geo. III. c. 31	...	
	46 Geo. III. c. 145	...	Lives of grantees.
	47 Geo. III. st. 1. c. 39	...	
	52 Geo. III. c. 57	...	
	56 Geo. III. c. 24	...	
Royal family	58 Geo. III. cc. 24, 25, 53	...	Lives of grantees.
	1 Geo. IV. c. 108. § 1	...	
	§ 2	...	Life of the king.
	1, 2 Geo. IV. c. 119	...	
Cornwall duchy	3 Geo. IV. c. 78	...	While the duchy is vested in the king.
Navigation act	42 Geo. III. c. 61. § 10	...	
Malta, registry of prize-ships	49 Geo. III. c. 34	...	While Malta is under the British government, and 12 months after.
Gunpowder, &c. exportation of	49 Geo. III. c. 76	...	
Portuguese dominions; trade with	51 Geo. III. c. 47	...	Continuance of treaty with Portugal.
American trade, &c.	59 Geo. III. c. 54. § 8	...	
Naval stores, exportation	59 Geo. III. c. 54	...	Continuance of treaties.
Malt, decrease of duties	57 Geo. III. c. 17	...	
Court of Exchequer	3 Geo. IV. c. 30	...	Continuance of decrease of duty in England.
	3 Geo. IV. c. 87	...	
		...	While the court is rebuilding.

GAME LAWS.

RETURN of the Number of Persons confined in the different Gaols of Great Britain for Offences against the Game Laws, specifying where any of the Persons so confined have been put on the Tread-Wheel, and by what Authority the same has been done.

It appears, by returns from the several gaols of Great Britain, that the number of prisoners confined therein, on the 24th of February, 1825, for offences against the game laws, was 591; of whom none had been put on the tread-wheel, except in the following instances:—

Gaols in which prisoners have been put on the tread-wheel.	Number of prisoners so charged in custody on the 24th of February, 1825.	Of whom have been put on the tread-wheel.	By what authority such prisoners have been put on the tread-wheel.
Reading	7	5	{ The visiting magistrates, on the solicitation of the prisoners, in order to procure the extra allowance of provisions.
Bedford (new house of correction)	17	4	{ The court of quarter-session (for a few days only).
Bedford (old do.)	4	4	Do.
Devon (house of correction)	11	3	The committing magistrates.
Durham (do.)	2	2	{ By sentence of the general quarter-session for the county of Durham.
Chelmsford (do.)	4	1	{ By sentence of the court of session; under the 57 Geo. III. c. 90.
Gloucester (penitentiary)	4	4	By order of the court of quarter-sessions.
Horsley (house of correction)	6	6	{ As convicted prisoners, under the rules and orders of the gaol.
Winchester (bridewell)	48	48	By order of the magistrates.
Hertford (do.)	9	2	By the court at the special gaol delivery.
Huntingdon (house of correction)	9	9	The committing magistrates.
Maidstone (do.)	19	2	
St. Augustine's (Canterbury)	8	8	{ By sentence of court of quarter-sessions, in pursuance of the rules of the gaol.
Lancaster (castle)	5	1	{ By sentence of the court of quarter-session.
Kirkdale (house of correction)	6	1	Do.
Folkingham (do.)	2	2	By order of the committing magistrate.
Lowth (do.)	2	1	Do.
Swaffham (bridewell)	6	6	Do.
Walsingham (do.)	6	3	Do.
Wyndham (prison)	1	1	By rules and regulations of the prison.
Southwell (house of correction)	19	3	{ Two by court at Retford, one do. at Nottingham.
Ipswich (county gaol)	4	4	{ Two under sentence of transportation, and two condemned to hard labour.
Bury St. Edmunds	9	9	{ All convicts in this gaol who cannot maintain themselves are so employed.
Lewes (gaol)	15	2	By sentence of the assizes.
Petworth (house of correction)	12	2	By do. of quarter-sessions.
Devizes (do.)	52	52	By authority of the visiting magistrates.
Northallerton (do.)	13	11	{ In pursuance of an order, of sessions (but not to hard labour).
Wakefield (do.)	20	13	By visiting magistrates.
Beverley (do.)	3	1	By order of quarter-sessions.
Haverfordwest (castle)	1	1	By committing magistrate.
Cambridge	20	18	{ By the magistrates; the prisoners wishing it for the sake of the extra diet.

GAOLS.

Copies of all Reports transmitted to the Secretary of State, pursuant to the 24th Section of the 4th Geo. IV., c. 64, for consolidating and amending the Laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain Gaols and Houses of Correction in England and Wales.

No. 1.—COUNTY OF ANGLESEY.

Michaelmas quarter sessions, 1824.

To the justices in quarter session assembled. WE, the visitors of the county gaol, beg to repeat the sentiments expressed in our former reports, with respect to the state of the gaol buildings.

With reference to the act 5 Geo. IV., c. 85, s. 11, we beg to state our opinion that a prison, with accommodation for six classes of prisoners, would be amply sufficient for the county of Anglesey, and that the number of classes cannot with propriety be reduced lower than five.

All the prisoners now in confinement are furnished with employment, in shattering stone, or in spinning, as means of supporting themselves; and those who have been sentenced to hard labour are compelled to do so.

The system of employing the prisoners occasioning much additional trouble to the gaoler, in keeping the accounts and measuring the work executed, we beg to submit to you the justice of increasing his salary.

(Signed)

J. H. HAMPTON.

J. WILLIAMS.

Michaelmas quarter sessions, 1824, laid before the court.

J. WILLIAMS, chairman.

No. 2.—BEDFORDSHIRE.

At a general quarter session of the peace of our sovereign lord the king, holden at Bedford, in and for the county of Bedford, on Wednesday, in the first week after the eleventh day of October (that is to say), the twentieth day of October, in the fifth year of the reign of our sovereign lord George the Fourth, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, king, defender of the faith, and in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four; before the right honourable Thomas Philip Weddell lord Grantham, chairman, Francis Russell, commonly called Marquess of Tavistock, William Henry Whitbread, Thomas Potter Macqueen, Samuel Crawley, Stephen Thornton, Justinian Alston, John Lee, John Higgins, Thomas Charles Higgins, John Foster, esquires, Robert Moore, doctor in divinity, Philip Hunt, clerk, doctor of laws, James Webster, William Pierce, Nethersole Vere, John Alston, John Hull, James Beard, William Bruton Wroth, Edmund Burke Lewis, Thomas Barber, George Owsley Fenwick, clerks, and others their fellows, justices of our said lord the king, assigned to keep the peace in the said county, and also to hear and determine divers

felonies, trespasses, and other misdeeds committed in the same county:—

The general report of the justices of the said county of Bedford, assembled at their Michaelmas quarter session, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, in pursuance of the acts of 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, and 5 Geo. IV. c. 85, relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales:—

That a new ward in the gaol, containing two bed-rooms, a day-room, and a yard for the confinement of female debtors, apart from other prisoners, is now erecting, under the inspection of the visiting justices, by Mr. Wing, the original architect and builder of the county gaol.

That it is so constructed as to meet the intentions of the act of parliament which required its erection, and that it does not disturb the arrangement of the other parts of the prison.

That in the new house of correction, rooms have been annexed to the shed containing the tread-mill, in order to protect the prisoners from the cold air and rainy weather during the intervals of rest from work.

That a receiving-room and lazaretto-ward have also been added to the new house of correction, and an apartment for the residence of the turnkey, who acts as miller; a store-room for the clothes, shoes, and other prison articles of consumption, has also been added to the new house of correction.

That no further additions nor alterations seem now to be required in any of the county prisons.

That the whole of the buildings are in good repair, and that the interior apartments, the cells, mill-houses, laundries, and machinery, are in perfect order.

That the gaol and both houses of correction have been well managed.

That the chaplain and surgeon have discharged their duties with exemplary regularity.

That the visiting justices have visited and inspected all the prisons at least once in every week, and that they have the satisfaction of being able to report favourably of the general state and conduct of the prisoners.

That they have observed no abuse in the administration of the prisons, and that they have not been informed of any abuses.

That the attention of the visiting justices has been directed to a supposed tendency in tread-wheel labour to produce varicose swellings of the veins of the legs of prisoners so employed.

They therefore ordered that the surgeon, and the keepers of the two houses of correction, should carefully examine the legs of all prisoners sentenced to hard labour; and that all prisoners so affected should be excluded from the tread-wheel, and be set to work at the hand crank-mill. But, as far as the observation of three months in both prisons extended, no such affection of the veins of the legs appeared to have

been produced, except in the doubtful case of one prisoner.

The justices have arranged the rules and regulations for male and female debtors; for prisoners before trial; and for convicts and other prisoners after trial; but have not made any further or additional rules to those contained in the acts.

That such rules have been printed, and affixed in the respective wards in the three prisons.

GRANTHAM, chairman.

No. 3.—BERKSHIRE.

To his majesty's justices of the peace for the county of Berks, assembled at the Michaelmas quarter sessions, 1824.

The report of the clerk of the peace, pursuant to the 24th section of 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, intitled

“An Act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of county gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales.”

The clerk of the peace begs leave to state, that reports of the visiting justices of the county gaol and house of correction, at Reading, and of the house of correction, or bridewell, at Abingdon, and certificates of the keepers of the said prisons, have been regularly made to the court at the four quarter sessions, holden at Michaelmas, 1823, and Epiphany, Easter, and Midsummer, 1824; but that the chaplains of those prisons have not made their respective reports.

That it appears from the report of the visiting justices at Reading, particularly from the report made to the last Midsummer sessions, that they have not observed, nor have they received information of, any abuse in the management of that prison; but, on the contrary, that they considered the discipline and regulations of the gaol and house of correction had been strictly attended to by the keeper; and that the general state of the prisoners, with regard to morals, health, &c. was in every respect good.

It appears, too, that the rules and regulations laid down for the government of the gaols by the said act of parliament had been complied with in the said gaol and house of correction at Reading, under the care of the keeper, so far as the building, in its present state, would allow of.

That the visiting justices of the house of correction at Abingdon have repeatedly visited it, and have found the several wards and sleeping-rooms kept clean and in good order; that the keeper has been invariably attentive to the duties of his office; and that, with the exception of one or two slight instances of insubordination, the state of the prison, as to observance of rules and orderly conduct in the prisoners, has been quite satisfactory.

That the rules and regulations of the said house of correction at Abingdon, have been observed by the keeper, as far as the building will admit of; but that, as to the classification,

it could not be complied with, according to the new act, in consequence of not having more than five divisions for all descriptions of prisoners, debtors excepted.

Oct. 19th, 1824.

W. BUDD, clerk of the peace for Berkshire.
C. DUNDAS, chairman.

No. 4.—BRECON COUNTY GAOL.

Pursuant to the provisions of the 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, sec. 24, the accompanying return and reports were submitted to the justices assembled at the Michaelmas quarter sessions of the peace held at the town of Brecon, in the county of Brecon, on the nineteenth day of October instant, and were approved of.

There is one prison only under the jurisdiction of the justices of the county of Brecon.

HENRY ALLEN,
Chairman Breconshire quarter sessions.

The Lodge, near Brecon, Oct. 27, 1824.

The report of the chaplain to the county gaol of Brecon.

I read prayers and preach in the gaol every Sunday, every Christmas day, and every Good Friday. The prisoners attend divine service regularly, except in cases of illness; their behaviour is generally decent and orderly; they are supplied with English and Welsh Common Prayer-books and Bibles.

JOHN JONES, chaplain.

Oct. 19, 1824.

County of Brecon.—We, the undersigned, being the visiting magistrates of the gaol and house of correction of the said county, do, in pursuance of the provisions and directions of the act of the fourth year of the reign of his present majesty, c. 64, report as follows, viz.

We report the said gaol and house of correction, which are under the same roof, to be in complete repair; that hitherto no alteration or addition has been made, except the erection of a tread-mill on Mr. Cubitt's plan; that we have examined the proposed alterations and additions, as set forth in the map or plan annexed to the petition intended to be laid before the most honourable the privy council, pursuant to the act of the present reign of his said majesty, c. 85, and do fully approve of the same.

The conduct of the prisoners, in the said gaol and house of correction, has been orderly, with the exception of one female prisoner, Catherine Llewellyn, under sentence of transportation for life, whose behaviour has been unruly. There is no employment for the prisoners, excepting that derived from the tread-mill.

Oct. 18, 1824.

DAVID JONES,
DAVID JONES,

No. 5.—BUCKS.

To the right honourable Robert Peel, one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state.

The report of his majesty's justices of the

peace for the county of Bucks, in quarter-session assembled, this 19th day of October, 1824, made pursuant to the act of 4 Geo. IV. c. 64:

Sheweth, that it appears to the court of quarter session, by the quarterly reports of the visiting justices of the gaol and house of correction for this county, and of the chaplain to the prisons, and also by the certificate of the gaoler, that additions and improvements are in progress in the said gaol and house of correction, and are expected to be completed before the next session, whereby the said justices will be enabled to carry into entire effect the classification of the prisoners required by the said act.

That a chapel, upon a plan of similar classification, has been built, and will be ready for use in the course of two months.

That the health of the prisoners, in the gaol and house of correction, has, within the last year, been generally good, except that cases of sickness have occurred during the present quarter, which are attributed by the surgeon to the dampness of the atmosphere, and to the crowded state of those wards of the prison which, during the alterations, now in progress, were alone sufficiently secure for the reception of prisoners, and also to the want of exercise amongst the untried prisoners, in consequence of the restrictions, as to labour, in the act of 5 Geo. IV. c. 85.

That it appears, by the certificate of the chaplain, that divine service has been regularly performed by him at the prison, except in cases of sudden illness, and that the prisoners have regularly attended, and conducted themselves with propriety.

BUCKLEHAM and CHANDOS, chairman.

No. 6.

The general report prepared by the clerk of the peace for the county of Cambridge, pursuant to the act of the fourth of his present majesty, c. 64, sec. 24.

Gaol and house of correction.

The gaol and house of correction are comprised in the same building, have the same visiting magistrates, and are under the superintendence of the same keeper. They are capable of containing 70 prisoners, sleeping in separate cells. The total number of prisoners committed between Michaelmas 1823, and Michaelmas 1824, was 230, including 43 debtors, and the greatest number confined at one time was 95.

In consequence of a strong representation made by the magistrates of the town of Cambridge (having a separate jurisdiction) to the magistrates of the county, stating the insecure and very crowded state of the town gaol, and the intention of erecting a new one, as soon as an act can be obtained for that purpose, the magistrates of the county are about to enter into a contract, under the act of the fifth of his present

majesty, c. 85, for receiving from the town gaol a number of prisoners, not exceeding 10. The prisoners in the county gaol being now diminished; the magistrates of the county are enabled to comply with the application from the magistrates of the town; but a clause will be inserted in the contract, authorising the county magistrates to return to the town gaol the prisoners received from thence, whenever the county gaol shall, in the judgment of the visiting magistrates, be too much crowded. A plan of the gaol and house of correction has been transmitted to the office of the secretary of state for the home department.

Classification.

The classification of the prisoners has been duly attended to; and, in consequence of the latitude permitted by the act of the fifth of his present majesty, the prescribed classification has been carried into execution, which could not have been effected under the act of the fourth of his present majesty, without erecting additional wards, although upwards of 20,000*l.* were expended in the erection of the gaol and house of correction about twenty years ago.

Diet of prisoners.

Every prisoner employed at hard labour is allowed daily three pounds of bread and one pint of small beer, and every other prisoner one pound and a half of bread. Hard labour is ten hours upon the tread-mill in summer, and during daylight in winter, with the exception of two hours for meals.

Employment of prisoners.

The only employment for male prisoners is the tread-mill and pumping water for the use of the gaol; and for females, washing and picking feathers. Since the passing of the act of the fifth of his present majesty, c. 85, no prisoner is allowed to work at the tread-mill until sentenced thereto. Many of the untried prisoners are desirous of being allowed to work at the tread-mill, to entitle themselves to the extra diet; and the gaoler is of opinion that such permission would tend to the more orderly conduct of the prisoners, especially as there are no other means of keeping them employed. The earnings of the prisoners amounted, during the last year, to the sum of 6*l.* 1*s.* 5*d.* which has been appropriated to their maintenance.

Conduct of the prisoners, and their state of health, during the year.

No complaint has, during the year, been made by the keeper of the gaol to the visiting magistrates of the conduct of any prisoner; nor has complaint been made by any prisoner of the conduct of the keeper.

During the first three months of the year more than usual sickness prevailed in the gaol; but that was also the case throughout the county.

The small-pox made its appearance in the gaol, and one infant died of it; but great precaution being taken to prevent the disorder spreading, it disappeared from the gaol long before it ceased in the neighbouring villages. Subsequent to the three months above noticed, the prisoners have in general been in health.

Officers of the gaol.

A chaplain, whose salary has been lately increased from 100*l.* to 150*l.* per annum. He daily reads prayers, selected from the liturgy, and explains part of the Scriptures. A surgeon, whose salary is 40*l.* per annum, besides being paid for all the medicines and other articles provided by him for the prisoners: both the chaplain and surgeon are appointed by the magistrates. A keeper, who receives a salary of 200*l.* per annum; he is appointed by the sheriff of the county. A matron, whose salary is 30*l.* per annum, and who is appointed by the magistrates, under the act of the fourth of his present majesty. A superintendent of the treadmill, whose salary is 1*l.* 2*s.* per week, and who is also appointed by the magistrates. Two turnkeys, appointed by the keeper, one of whom receives 16*s.* per week, and is paid out of the county rate; and the other 14*s.* per week, which is paid by the keeper.

Rules and regulations.

Pursuant to the act of the fourth of his present majesty, the magistrates prepared new rules and regulations for the government of the gaol and house of correction. In consequence of the act of the fifth of his present majesty some alterations became necessary, which have been made, and it is intended to lay the rules and regulations before the judges for their approbation.

The schedule (B) of the keeper accompanies this report.

HENRY JOHN ADEANE, chairman.

No. 7.—CARDIGANSHIRE.

Michaelmas quarter sessions, 1824.

A general report of the state, condition, and management of the gaol and house of correction of the said county, from Michaelmas quarter sessions 1823 exclusive, to Michaelmas quarter sessions 1824 inclusive; founded on the report of the visiting justices, on the report of the chaplains, and on the certificates of the keepers of the said several prisons; prepared by the clerk of the peace, and submitted to the justices assembled at this present Michaelmas quarter sessions of the peace, in pursuance of the act of the 4th Geo. IV. c. 64.

Epiphany quarter sessions, 1824.

The visiting justices made no report at this quarter sessions, but the chaplain's journal, and also the surgeon's journal, were laid before the justices, then and there assembled, and were inspected by them, and signed by the chairman, and the keeper of the said prisons delivered in

his certificate, stating that the rules and regulations laid down for the government of the said prisons had been complied with; and that no deviation therefrom had taken place; and nothing further relative to the said prisons was done at this quarter sessions.

Easter quarter sessions, 1824.

2. The visiting justices reported at this quarter sessions of the peace, that no material alterations had been made in the prison since their last report; but that, from the considerable increase of prisoners, it appeared necessary that some addition should be made to the buildings for the purpose of carrying into effect the classification enjoined by the 4th Geo. IV. c. 64, and that they had every reason to be satisfied with the general behaviour of the prisoners, and the conduct of the different persons connected with the establishment. The chaplain's journal and the surgeon's journal were also laid before the justices, then and there assembled, and were inspected by them, and signed by the chairman; and the keeper of the said prisons delivered in his certificate, stating that the rules and regulations laid down for the government of the said prisons had been complied with; and that no deviation therefrom had taken place; and nothing further relative to the said prisons was then done. But an adjournment of the court was ordered, for the purpose of taking into consideration the addition to be made to the county gaol and house of correction of Cardigan, and the classification of prisoners, as required by the said act; and also as to the further continuance of the house of correction at Aberystwith; and at such adjournment, which was held on the 26th of May last, it was ordered by the court that the clerk of the peace should write to his majesty's secretary of state, to inform him that the court had that day taken into consideration the requisition of the said act, respecting the extension and classification of prisoners, as applied to the house of correction at Aberystwith; and that it was in contemplation to make a new addition to the county gaol and house of correction at Cardigan, as would meet the requisition of the said act; and that when such were carried into effect, there would be no further occasion for the house of correction at Aberystwith, but that the same should be continued as a lock-up-house only, for the safe custody of prisoners till they could be safely conveyed and lodged in the county gaol.

Midsummer quarter sessions, 1824.

3. The visiting justices reported at this quarter sessions, that they had nothing to add to their last report, but that the treadmill had been in operation since the beginning of May, and that they had found it necessary to make some trifling alterations for the additional security of the prison. The chaplain's journal, and also the surgeon's journal, were also laid

before the justices then and there assembled, and were inspected by them, and signed by the chairman, and the keeper of the said prisons delivered in his certificate, stating that the rules and regulations laid down for the government of the said prisons had been complied with, and that no deviation therefrom had taken place; and nothing further was done relative to the said prisons at this quarter sessions. But an adjournment of the court was ordered, for the purpose of again taking into consideration the additions necessary to be made to the county gaol and house of correction at Cardigan; and at such adjournment it was ordered that an application should be immediately made to Mr. Willocks, the architect, to appoint a day to meet the visiting justices, to inspect the county gaol and house of correction, in order to enter upon such plans as might be deemed necessary for the augmentation of the said prisons, for the purpose of carrying into effect the requisitions of the acts of the 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, and 5 Geo. IV. c. 45.

Michaelmas quarter sessions, 1824.
The visiting magistrates reported at this quarter sessions, that the gaol and house of correction were in the best order, on the 18th. of October instant, with the exception of the chimney, which did not draw well, and part of the roof, which required to be pointed; that the classification of the prisoners had been complied with, as far as the limits of the prison would admit, though they considered its present extent inadequate to the classification required by the 4 Geo. IV. c. 64; for which reason, they recommended such an addition to be made to the building as the magistrates, assembled at the quarter sessions, should think proper for that purpose.

That they had the satisfaction to state, that no abuses in the management of the prison had come under their cognisance, and that they were perfectly satisfied with the general state of the prisoners, as to morals, discipline, employment, and hard labour, and the observance of the rules of the prison; that no material additions or alterations had taken place in the gaol or house of correction; but some necessary repairs, of a trifling description, had been made at different periods.

The chaplain's journal, and also the surgeon's journal, were also laid before the justices then and there assembled, and were inspected by them, and signed by the chairman, and the keeper of the said prisons delivered in his certificate, stating that the rules and regulations laid down for the government of the said prisons had been complied with, and no alteration therefore had taken place.

Witness the hands of J. EDWARD WILLIAMS, chairman of the County of Carmarthen, to wit: To the wor-

shipful his majesty's justices of the peace for the county of Carmarthen, assembled at the general quarter sessions of the peace of our sovereign lord the king, held at the shire-hall in the town of Carmarthen, in and for the said county, in the week next after the 11th day of October, to wit, on Wednesday, the 20th day of October, in the fifth year of the reign of his present majesty, and in the year of our Lord 1824.

The report of Charles Morgan, clerk of the peace of the said county, in conformity to an act of parliament, made and passed in the fourth year of the reign of his present majesty, intituled, "An Act for consolidating and amending the Laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain Gaols and Houses of Correction in England and Wales," &c.

I do hereby report, and submit to your worships the reports of the visiting justices and chaplain of the gaols of his majesty's castle of the county of Carmarthen, as also the reports and schedules of the keeper of the said gaols, which have been delivered me, in pursuance of the act, since my last report to his majesty's justices of the peace assembled at the last general quarter sessions of the peace, held in and for the said county.

That it appears by the report of the visiting justices of the gaols made at the Epiphany general quarter sessions, held at the shire-hall in the town of Carmarthen, in and for the said county of Carmarthen, on the 14th day of January, 1824, that the prisons are in want of trifling repairs, which are now carrying into effect; but that in pursuance of a resolution made at the last general quarter sessions of the insufficiency of the gaols, alterations and additions were commenced pursuant to the directions of the said recited act; and it appeared also by such report, that the then state of the prisoners, as to morals, discipline, employment, hard labour, and observance of rules, was correct.

That it appears by the gaoler and master of the house of correction's certificate, that the said gaol and house of correction are undergoing a thorough repair, in compliance with the said act of the 4th of Geo. IV., and that the doors of the debtors' apartment, and the doors of the said house of correction, are in want of repair; that there were then confined in the said gaol eighteen debtors, one for misdemeanour, and six felons, and in the house of correction five prisoners.

That it also appears by another certificate of the said gaoler and master of the house of correction, that the rules and orders for the management of the said gaol and house of correction have (as far as consistently could be with the repairs and alterations required by the said act and going on) been complied with.

That it also appears by the report of the visiting justices presented to his majesty's justices of the peace, assembled at the general

quarter sessions of the peace, held at the shire-hall in Carmarthen in the week next after the close of Easter, to wit, on the 29th day of April last, that the gaol of the said county, with the house of correction annexed, not appearing perfectly secure for the detention of prisoners, the same would be forthwith put in a secure state.

That it appears also by the gaoler and master of the house of correction's certificate, that the said gaol and house of correction were not completed so as to comply with the sections of the act; that there were then confined in the said gaol fifteen debtors, two felons, and one for misdemeanor, and ten confined in the house of correction.

That it appears also by the certificate of the gaoler and master of the house of correction, that the rules and orders for the management of the said gaol and house of correction have (as far as consistently could be with the advanced state of the repairs and alterations required by the said act) been complied with.

That it appears also by the report of the visiting justices, presented to his majesty's justices of the peace, assembled at the general quarter sessions of the peace, held at the shire-hall in the town of Llandilofawr, in the week next after the translation of St. Thomas the Martyr, to wit, on Wednesday the 14th day of July last, that since their last report nothing material has occurred relative to the gaol and house of correction of the said county; further than that alterations of the same, pursuant to the said act, have been begun and are proceeding.

That it appears also by the certificate of the gaoler and master of the house of correction, that the said gaol and house of correction were not completed so as to comply with the different sections of the said act; and that there were confined in the said gaol sixteen debtors, four felons, and three for misdemeanours, and ten in the house of correction.

That it appears also by his said certificate, that the rules and orders for the management of the said gaol and house of correction have (as far as consistently could be with the advanced state of the repairs and alterations required by the said act) been complied with.

That it appears by the report of the visiting justices, presented to his majesty's justices of the peace assembled at the general quarter sessions of the peace held at the shirehall in the town of Carmarthen, in the week next after the 11th day of October, to wit, on Wednesday the 20th day of October, 1824, that the gaol of the said county, with the house of correction, have undergone many alterations and repairs, which are nearly finished; and since their last report nothing else material has occurred relative to the gaol and house of correction.

That it appears also by the certificate of the gaoler and master of the house of correction, since his last report, that the said gaol and

house of correction have undergone many alterations and repairs, which are nearly finished, in compliance with the said act; that the doors in the debtors' apartments and in the house of correction still want repairs, likewise new bed-stocks; and there were confined in the said gaol sixteen debtors, three for misdemeanours, two convicted felons, and five non-convicted felons, and in the house of correction twenty for various offences, as expressed in the schedule (B) in the said act.

That it appears also by his said certificate, that the rules and orders for the management of the said gaol and house of correction have (as far as consistently can be with the repairs and alterations nearly finished and under consideration, required by the said act) been complied with.

That it appears also by the report of the chaplain of the said gaol and house of correction, that on every Sunday from the 29th day of September, 1823, to the 16th day of December in the same year, at the hour of three in the afternoon, divine service commenced with reading prayers, conformably to the liturgy of the church of England; after which a sermon was preached; and from the 16th December to the 29th September, 1824, the appointed morning and evening services of the church were regularly performed on every Sunday, Christmas-day, and Good Friday, and a sermon preached; also prayers selected from the liturgy were read every morning in the week, which services and sermons all the prisoners attended, except such as were prevented by sickness, or some other cause, and all of whom appeared particularly attentive, and behaved with becoming decorum during the time of divine service and worship. In addition to this scale of duties, he visited the prisoners in their respective wards at least once every week under ordinary circumstances; but when the said gaols contained any convicted felons, the chaplain's visits were necessarily more frequent, and regulated, as to their nature and number, according to the exigencies of the prisoners; that such prisoners were supplied with Bibles, and most of those confined within the last year were able to read; and the chaplain had the satisfaction to find that they were in the habit of perusing them daily.

In conformity to the act, the clerk of the peace of the said county having submitted to us this general report, founded upon the several reports of the visiting justices and chaplain of the said gaols, together with the schedules according to form (B) in the said act, of the Keeper of the said gaols and house of correction;

This court doth approve of the same.

J. JONES, chairman.

No. 9.—CARMARVON.

Sir, Carmarvon, Dec. 13, 1824.

In reply to your letter of the 6th instant, I beg to inform you that I have it not in my

power to forward the reports, directed by the 24th section of the act of 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, as the reports directed to be made by the visiting magistrates and others, under section 23, have not been made. I have communicated the contents of your letter to the visiting magistrates, who desire me to state, that they did not consider the circumstances of the gaol of this county as calling for a strict compliance with the 24th section, and therefore the reports were not made; and that, as the petition lately presented from this county, in pursuance of the directions of the act 5 Geo. IV. c. 85, s. 11, contains what would have been the substance of these reports, the visiting magistrates hope the omission will not be considered of consequence.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your most obedient servant,

RICHARD A. POOLE,

Clerk of the peace of Carnarvon.
To the right hon. Robert Peel, &c. &c.

No. 10, CHESTER.

The annual report of the clerk of the peace for the county of Chester, as to the regulation of the prisons within the same county; made pursuant to the statute 4 Geo. IV. c. 64. s. 24, for the year ending 31st October, 1824.

The prisons within the jurisdiction of the justice of the peace for this county are, the county gaol, at the castle of Chester, under the superintendance of Mr. John Dunstan, and the house of correction at Nether Knutsford, of which Mr. George Hudson is the keeper. Visiting magistrates have been appointed at each quarter sessions for both prisons; and they have regularly made their reports at the subsequent sessions, which have been filed amongst the records of the court.

The reports of the visiting magistrates of the county gaol have stated, that they have gone through the different departments of the prison, at least once in each fortnight, and generally often; that they have had reason to be satisfied with the attention paid to the order, discipline, food, and cleanliness of the prisoners; they have had occasion to interfere in a few instances of misconduct in the prisoners; where the punishment which the keeper was empowered to inflict was not sufficient.

The same reports state, that the rules expressly contained in the act of parliament before mentioned, together with the rules which were in force at the time that act was passed, have been observed, except so far as relates to the extended classification of prisoners required by the act.

Many plans have been devised, for the purpose of making the necessary divisions in the apartments of the gaol, without affecting the convenience of the arrangement, and the circulation of air; and it has at length been found unavoidable to cut each of the yards into two by a

wall, which will give the number of divisions required. The materials for effecting this plan are now on the spot, and the work will be, in a great measure, performed by the prisoners.

Most of the prisoners have been constantly employed in different species of manufacture, some of which may be considered hard labour; but it has not hitherto been thought advisable to erect a tread-mill.

A matron has been appointed during the last year, whose business is to reside constantly within the prison, and to superintend the conduct and employment of the female prisoners. Certain rules have been laid down for her conduct, which appear in the copy of the rules lately established, which is now sent to the secretary of state.

The chaplain of the gaol has also made his quarterly reports. He states his duties to have been regularly performed, and that they consist of two full services on Sundays, with service on two other days of the week; to which has been added, an explanatory lecture on scriptural subjects. A school has been established in the prison, on the Madras system, under the superintendance of the chaplain and the keeper, assisted by one of the prisoners. The number attending the school are stated to fluctuate much, from various causes; and the chaplain is diffident in giving an opinion as to the general progress of the scholars; he states, however, that a desire to learn is evinced; and he anticipates much good from the reading of the Bible and religious books, in the school and different wards, for which every facility is given; by a sufficient supply of books.

The quarterly certificates of the keeper, as to the observance of the rules, have been satisfactory to the magistrates in sessions; the punishments he has had occasion to inflict have been few, and for trifling offences against the order of the prison.

The house of correction at Knutsford has also been regularly visited by the magistrates appointed at each quarter sessions for that purpose, who have reported to each sessions during the last year.

That the rules and regulations prescribed by the act have been duly observed.

That the general conduct of the prisoners has been good, and that few instances of punishment have occurred. A considerable quantity of work, in various branches, has been done by the prisoners, particularly in fitting up the infirmary, where a great expense has been saved to the county.

The tread-wheel has also been in constant employ; but that not having perceived any very beneficial effects from its use, they have lately found it necessary to extend the length of time during which the prisoners shall be employed thereon, from four to six hours per diem; but they express much doubt whether, even under this increase, any advantage whatever has arisen

from the introduction of this mode of labour in the prison. The magistrates observe that the number of prisoners, in most of the classes, are greater than at Michaelmas in the last year; but they are at a loss to assign a cause for the increase, unless it be the daily growth of the populous towns of Stockport and Macclesfield, particularly the latter; from which two places a majority of the prisoners are brought in.

The chaplain reports, that he trusts the attentive performance of his duties has been productive of some good; though, from the short periods for which very many prisoners are confined in this prison, he cannot pretend to any thing like a general effect. He performs full service twice every Sunday, reads prayers on Tuesdays, and prayers, with a lecture, on Thursdays. He has paid much attention to teaching the prisoners to read, but has in few instances found it advisable to attempt any further instructions.

He has availed himself of the opportunity afforded him of distributing Bibles, Prayer-books, and plain tracts, on religious subjects, and has had the satisfaction to find them asked for, and received in many instances with pleasure and thankfulness.

The quarterly returns of the keeper of the house of correction shew some increase of prisoners beyond the average of former quarters, the aggregate of which appears by his annual report; but his certificates do not afford any thing to remark, they having uniformly stated that he has been able to maintain an observance of the rules in force for the government of the prison, without any material exceptions.

(Signed) HENRY POTTS, clerk of the peace.

Produced to the magistrates for the county of Chester, at their quarter sessions, held at Knutsford, in the same county, on the 19th October, 1824, and approved.

TRAFFORD TRAFFORD,

Chairman of the same sessions.

No. 11.—CORNWALL.

In pursuance of an act passed in the fourth year of the reign of his present majesty, intitled, "An Act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing and regulating of certain gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales," I, as clerk of the peace of the county of Cornwall, do hereby certify that the reports and certificates, of which the following are copies, have been respectively delivered, pursuant to the directions of the said act.

The visiting magistrates of the gaol and house of correction at Bodmin have to report, that alterations have been made in both the gaol and house of correction, since the passing of the act, respecting the classification of the prisoners; that there are eight classes of prisoners, some classes being also confined in Launceston gaol,

and that the young offenders, are kept separate from the old; that there are two work-shops, eight day-rooms, and eight airing-yards; the buildings are in good condition, and no repairs necessary at present; but that a plan for a new ward for male debtors is now under consideration; that the male prisoners are employed in hard labour at the grist-mill, in cutting and polishing stones, and on the tread-wheel; but the female prisoners are employed in spinning flax and wool, in knitting stockings, and in mending and washing clothes; that the prisoners are in general orderly; and that the prison is well governed, and salutary rules enforced.

The visiting magistrates beg to add, that so far as they are able to judge, the discipline of the tread-wheel has had the effect of deterring from future crime; as well as of preventing those mischievous tricks, which are usually practised by men who are in confinement and unemployed.

ROBERT WALKER, JOHN EBBEL,

JOSEPH POMERY, JOHN NICHOLSON,

T. H. RONN, ABEL HARRIS,

E. W. W. PENDARVES.

Bodmin, October 20, 1824.

To his worship the chairman and other magistrates assembled at the Michaelmas quarter sessions for the county of Cornwall, commencing 19th October, 1824.

Gentlemen,

In conformity with the act of parliament for the regulation of gaols, I do myself the honour of reporting to you the state and condition of the prisoners within the gaol of this county.

The whole of the persons confined therein, so far as they have come under my inspection, are regular in their public religious duties, and conduct themselves in a devout and becoming manner, when daily assembled in the chapel for prayer and religious instruction.

The prisoners are in general healthy, and the subordination and respectful demeanour, so evident in each ward, speak highly for the excellent management of the governor.

The operation of the tread-wheel has not been attended with very beneficial effects; and the unusual circumstance of a re-commitment strongly evinces the good impression which it produces upon the minds and conduct of those offenders who are subjected to its labour and discipline.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble servant,

(Signed) LEON. J. BOON, Chaplain.

Bodmin, Oct. 19, 1824.

I hereby certify, that the rules and regulations for the new prisons at Bodmin have been complied with (except rule the 2d), viz. I have not seen every cell daily; for having many other duties of the prisons to attend to, has prevented

it; but I have seen the wards and prisoners daily, and I frequently inspect the cells.

(Signed) JAMES CHAPPLE, gaoler.
Michaelmas Sessions, 1824.

Cornwall.

The visiting magistrates of the gaol at Launceston report, that it is clean and in good order.

That there are two classes of prisoners confined in it; viz. females convicted of felony, and males convicted of misdemeanors.

(Signed) F. H. RODD.
FRANCIS GLANVILLE, jun.
Michaelmas Sessions, 1824.

And I further certify, that very beneficial effects continue to result from the use of the tread-wheel in the gaol at Bodmin, and that the recommitment of a person who has been subjected to its labour has been a very rare occurrence.

(Signed) EDWARD COODE.
Michaelmas Sessions, 1824.

Approved by the Court.
(Signed) J. HEARLE TREMAYNE, chairman.

No. 12.—CUMBERLAND.

Sir, Carlisle, 1st November, 1824.

I am directed by the court of general quarter sessions of the peace for the county of Cumberland, assembled at Penrith on the 19th day of October last, to state, that the classification and returns required to be made, under the 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, respecting the county gaol and prisoners, cannot be made until the new gaol, which is far advanced in progress, is finished.

I am, &c. W. HODGSON.
The right hon. Robert Peel, &c. &c. &c.

No. 13.—DERBYSHIRE.

To his majesty's justices of the peace, assembled at the general quarter sessions of the peace, held at Denbigh, in and for the county of Denbigh, on Tuesday, 19th day of October, 1824.

I, Edward Jones, deputy clerk of the peace for the said county, do respectfully report to your worships, that the visiting justices of the gaol of the said county have reported, that there are now in progress large additions to and alterations in the said gaol, for the better security and classification of the prisoners; and that Robert Williams, the gaoler, is diligent in his attention to the prison; and that the prisoners conduct themselves in a becoming manner; and that the prisoners are frequently employed in breaking stones, and that two-thirds of their earnings are paid to them on their liberation.

And that the chaplain of the said gaol has reported, that the prisoners are orderly, and in regular attendance on divine service; and that the gaoler has certified, that the rules laid down for the government of his prison have been complied with.

EDWARD JONES, D. C. P.

19th October, 1824.—Approved by the justices in open court of Michaelmas quarter sessions; held this day, in and for the county of Denbigh.

R. NEWCOME, chairman.

No. 14.—DERBYSHIRE.

To the right honourable Robert Peel, his majesty's principal secretary of state for the home department.

The report of his majesty's justices of the peace of the county of Derby, assembled at their Michaelmas quarter sessions, 1824, made pursuant to the act of the fourth year of the reign of the present king, relative to the several prisons of the said county.

Within the last twelve months no alteration has been made in the construction or arrangement of any of the county prisons; the classification of the prisoners, system of management, and general economy of the prisons, therefore, remain as they were reported, at the last Michaelmas sessions. They are also under the same establishment of officers, except that the assistant turnkey, at the gaol and house of correction at Derby, has been discharged for misconduct, and as yet his successor has not been appointed.

The number of prisoners confined, immediately before the present sessions, in the gaol and house of correction at Derby, was thirty-three; and in the houses of correction at Ashborne, twenty-seven; at Wirksworth, one; at Chesterfield, seven; and at Tideswell, one; altogether, sixty-nine.

The magistrates have to lament an almost entire want of the means of providing labour for the male convicts within the prisons. At Derby, some employment has been afforded at the works of the new gaol and house of correction; but this has, necessarily been confined to those prisoners whom the visiting justices could venture to intrust without the walls of the prison, and could not be extended to that class of convicts for whom it would have been most desirable to have procured hard labour. The female prisoners continue to work in knitting, sewing, and washing.

The utmost attention has been paid by the visiting justices, chaplain, and gaoler, to the religious and moral instruction of all the prisoners in confinement at Derby. By the extraordinary and laudable exertions of the chaplain, a considerable portion of their time has been daily occupied in reading and writing; and it is probable, owing to this cause, that, under all the disadvantages resulting from the want of more extensive classification, and the means of establishing a more perfect system of prison discipline, the prisoners, with very few exceptions, have conducted themselves in a very orderly and exemplary manner. The magistrates have great pleasure in acknowledging

their obligation to the right honourable secretary for the home department, for his early attention to their application, and his compliance with their wishes, for the mitigation of the sentences of George Parker and George Turner: The rules and regulations prescribed by the act of the fourth of the present reign, (as far as they can be applied to the present state of the county prisons,) and the additional rules and regulations approved at the last Michaelmas sessions, and certified by the judge of assize at the last Lent assizes, have been strictly enforced in every prison. The visiting justices, in every quarterly report, have represented the conduct of the gaoler and matron of the gaol and house of correction at Derby, in terms of the highest commendation. All the prisons are reported by the visiting justices to be in good repair, and kept perfectly clean; the walls, ceilings, and passages, have been lately scraped and lime-washed; the general state of health of the prisoners throughout the year has been good; no epidemic disease or sickness occasioned by confinement, or peculiar to prisoners, has been experienced; neither have any of the prisoners suffered either from the limited quantity or the quality of the food allowed them by the county.

Though every possible exertion has been made to expedite the works of the new gaol and house of correction, the magistrates have to regret, that, from the difficulty of procuring and retaining workmen, in consequence of the present extraordinary demand for labour, and from the late unfavourable weather, the progress which has been made, within the preceding year, has not been equal to their wishes and anticipation; yet the advanced state of the building, and the assurance of the architect, justify them in repeating their opinion that the whole work will be completely finished at the next Michaelmas sessions.

By order of court,

J. BALGUY, chairman.

Derby county hall, Oct. 20, 1824.

No. 15.—DEVONSHIRE.

Devon, to wit.—A general report of the state and condition of the gaol and house of correction for the county of Devon, founded on the reports of the visiting justices, the chaplain, and the keeper of the said prisons; submitted to the justices assembled at the Michaelmas quarter sessions of the peace for the said county, 1824, and approved by such justices.

At the Epiphany sessions, 1824,

The visiting justices of the gaol and house of correction for the said county reported,—

That they had inspected the said prisons since the last sessions, but that they had not taken into their consideration any question appertaining to the repairs, additions, or alterations which might be required in those prisons, under the provisions of 4 Geo. IV. c. 64. as the investigation of those important matters were pending

before a committee, to whom it had been referred by order of sessions.

The visitors further reported, that the prescribed system of prison discipline, so far as the same could be carried on without the aid of classification, was duly maintained, and good order preserved in the house of correction; but they regretted that no means of employment were provided for the prisoners confined in the gaol. And at the same sessions, the committee appointed at the Midsummer sessions preceding, for taking into consideration the provisions of the late gaol act, reported,—

That they had availed themselves of an interview with Mr. Underwood, the surveyor employed by the county of Somerset for building the prison at Shepton Mallet; and that, by the joint aid of the surveyors of Devon and Somerset, a plan had been matured for uniting the gaol and house of correction, at an estimate of 12,700*l.* with a prospect of reducing the cost, if it should be practicable to employ the prisoners in the labour of the building, as had been done in Somersetshire.

And the said committee recommended that a matron should be appointed without delay; that such matron should be resident in the prison, and should be remunerated with a salary of 60*l.* per annum; and the committee approved the nomination, by the governor, Mr. Cole, of Mr. Richard Rose, to be under-keeper of the gaol and house of correction.

And the said surveyors reported, that in the house of correction the two court-yards, to the right and left of the keeper's house, are in their plan subdivided into four, making use of the two rooms (A A) shewn on the plan as day-rooms for these additional classes; by raising the roof of three wings, additional accommodation is provided for 120 prisoners, in manner hereafter described.

The female division of the house of correction consists of four day-rooms and yards; sleeping accommodation for eighty-one prisoners; apartments for two female turnkeys; in a separate detached building, a laundry, wash-house, and three washing-rooms, with cooking-room and provision-house. The court-yards, working-rooms, &c. are under the immediate inspection of the female turnkeys, whose apartments are so situated as to overlook the yards.

In the gaol the female division consists of four day-rooms and yards, three of which are under the immediate inspection of the governor, and the fourth may be easily commanded by the matron; sleeping accommodation is provided for these prisoners, in thirty-five separate cells.

The male division consists of six separate day-rooms and yards; there are four working-rooms also provided in this division, for the general use of all the classes in the gaol, and complete inspection by the turnkeys and governors; sleeping-room accommodation for 116 prisoners, in cells and sleeping-rooms; and on the first and second

floors there are apartments for two male turn-keys, consisting of a sitting and sleeping-room each. In case of pressure, two of the working-rooms might be converted into a day-room, and the large court-yard subdivided by a wall to separate the classes of the prisoners.

The separate rooms for infirmaries, or sick wards, are by the desire of the committee placed as a detached building; and consist of wards, &c. as follow:—

On the ground floor are two day-rooms and yards, for the classes of convalescent prisoners; with a sitting-room for the nurse or assistant; overlooking the court-yard and day-rooms; a bath, water-closet, &c.

On the first floor two large wards, as sleeping-rooms, with nurse's sleeping-room, water-closet, &c.; and on the second floor similar accommodation, with a sleeping-room for a male or female assistant, if required.

ABSTRACT of present and additional Accommodation, afforded by the proposed Alterations.

House of Correction :

Male division :	Day-rooms.	Courts.	Sleeping-rooms.	Cells.	Prisoners.	
Present accommodation.....	4	4	3	4	42	45
Addition.....	4	4	3	4	48	129
	0	0	12	5	0	0
Total ..	8	8	18	0	90	0 174
<hr/>						
Female division :						
Present accommodation.....	2	2	3	3	18	27
Addition	2	2	13	3	15	54
	4	4	16	0	33	0
						81
						Prisoners 255

Gaol :

Male division :						
Present accommodation.....	2	2	0	0	100	100
Addition	4	4	61	3 deduct	52	16
	6	6	16	0	48	0
						116
<hr/>						
Female division :						
Present accommodation.....	1	1	0	0	26	26
Addition	3	3	0	0	9	9
	4	4	0	0	35	0
						35
						Prisoners..... 151

Four additional male and female apartments and working-rooms for prisoners of all classes; four males, six females.

Infirmary :

Male day-room and yard.
Female ditto..... ditto.
Sleeping-rooms, male and female.

Abstract of Estimate :

	£
Raising house of correction buildings...	2,389
Making the proposed alteration in the gaol; and supposing a part of it to be appropriated to the use of female prisoners belonging to the house of correction, as well as those belonging to the gaol	6,408
Additional building for laundry, wash-house, &c.....	616
Infirmaries, baths, &c.....	3,300
	<hr/>
	£12,713

And the said surveyors further reported, that if the works could be performed by the labour of the prisoners, the advantages arising from this method, together with the saving of profits to the tradesmen, and the advantage of purchase of materials, a saving might be effected of from twenty-five to thirty per cent.

And it was thereupon ordered, by the said court of sessions, that the said committee should be re-appointed, and be requested to circulate throughout the county the said reports and plans, or such portion of them as they should think proper.

And it was also ordered, that the said committee should be requested to advertise for a competent person to fill the office of matron to the said prisons.

And that they should be also requested to frame a set of rules and regulations for the future government of the said prisons.

And it was further ordered, that the consi-

deposition of the presentment of the insufficiency of the gaol and house of correction, made at the preceding quarter sessions, and ordered to be taken into consideration, that the present sessions should be postponed to the then next sessions, and the keeper of the said prisons then reported to the said court in writing, pursuant to the late act of parliament, that the actual state and condition of the said prisons were as follows:

In the gaol... 2 divisions for male felons and 1 division for female felons and 1 division for male misdemeanors intermixed. In the houses of correction... 2 ditto for male misdemeanors and 1 ditto for female felons and 1 ditto for female vagrants.

But that the classification required by the said act could not be carried into effect, unless material alterations and additions were made to the existing buildings.

And the said keeper also certified, that the rules and regulations subsisting for the government of the said prisons had been complied with, and that no deviation therefrom had, to his knowledge, taken place.

And it was further ordered, by the said court of sessions, that the said visiting justices should be re-appointed, until the then next quarter sessions.

At the Easter quarter sessions of the peace, 1824, the said visiting justices of the said gaol and house of correction reported...

That they had inspected those prisons since the last sessions, and found that the prisoners in the house of correction were industriously employed, but they regretted to observe, that no classification could be adopted, in either of their places, of confinement, owing to their crowded state and to their inadequate accommodation.

This important subject had been brought under their particular consideration, and consequent of a communication which they had received from Mr. Secretary Peel, who had expressed his confidence, that, as the intermixture of prisoners was a practice contrary to law, the county of Devon would lose no time in reforming it.

And it was thereupon ordered by the said court, that the said visiting justices should be re-appointed until the next sessions.

And the said committee appointed for taking into consideration the state of the said prisons, reported to the said court...

That they had instructed the clerk of the peace to circulate, throughout the county, a full account of the proceedings which had taken

place, in regard to the proposed alterations and enlargements of the prisons.

And that they had selected, from the numerous candidates for the office of matron to the gaol and house of correction, the names of five females, who had produced strong recommendations, testifying that they were well qualified to discharge the duties of the situation, which they had directed the clerk of the peace to submit for the consideration of the sessions, when the court would have to proceed, according to the provisions of the fourth of the present king, to make the appointments in question, and to adopt an arrangement for procuring the services of female turnkeys.

And it was then determined by the court, that, under the existing circumstances, it was expedient, and the said committee were thereupon directed to await the event of the bills then before parliament, for amending the late Gaol Act, and afterwards to prepare plans and estimates to meet the provisions of such bill, when and as soon as the same should be passed into a law.

And it was also ordered, that Mrs. Mary Risco should be appointed matron to the gaol and house of correction of the said county, at a salary of 60*l.* per annum, with a residence in the prison, and coals and candles.

And at the same sessions, the keeper of the said gaol and house of correction reported to the court, that the state and condition of the said prisons were the same, in every respect, as reported by him at the preceding quarter sessions, and he certified, that the rules and regulations existing for the government of the said prison had been complied with, and that no deviation therefrom had, to his knowledge, taken place.

And it was further ordered by the said court, that the presentments of the insufficiency of the said prisons should be further respited until the next quarter sessions.

At the Midsummer quarter sessions of the peace, 1824, the said visiting justices of the said prisons reported...

That they had inspected the gaol and house of correction, in the interval between Easter and Midsummer, 1824, and had found, that those prisons were in good order, that no complaint had been made by any the prisoners, except with regard to the quality of the bread supplied, which was immediately redressed.

And it was thereupon ordered by the said court, that the said visiting justices should be re-appointed.

And it was also ordered, that the said committee for taking into consideration the state of the said prisons, and the said acts of parliament, should be re-appointed, and be requested to take into full consideration all proceedings relative to the county prisons, and to report finally to the then ensuing sessions, such alterations and additions

tions to the buildings, as might be requisite to carry into effect, as soon as possible, the objects of the late acts of parliament. And it was also ordered, that the presentment of the insufficiency of the said gaol and house of correction should be further respited until the their next sessions, when it should be taken into consideration in order to a final determination; and that a copy of such order should be transmitted by the clerk of the peace to the several divisions of the said county.

And the keeper of the gaol and house of correction for the said county reported,

That the state and condition of the said prisons were the same in every respect as reported by him at the preceding sessions; and he certified that the rules and regulations existing for the government of the said prisons had been complied with, except in the matter of William Stanley and Peter Watts, who had been convicted of felony, and sentenced to die, but which sentence had been commuted to eighteen months imprisonment to hard labour; and Henry Pope, a convicted felon, in execution for the remainder of his sentence of twelve months imprisonment. That these prisoners had been guilty of great insubordination, and ultimately, with others, formed a conspiracy, and agreed to attempt an escape from prison; and to effect this purpose, and to have the dominion of their united strength, they had filled with stones the locks of their respective cells, and the locks of the whole division; and on the discovery of this plot, one of them produced a naked knife to the great peril of the said keeper and of the other officers of the said prison. And thereupon the visiting justices had immediately proceeded to inquire into the particulars thereof; and that the same having been proved upon oath before them, they had ordered the said offenders, William Stanley and Peter Watts, forthwith to be punished by personal correction; and the said Henry Pope to be punished by close confinement; which said sentences respectively had been duly executed.

At the Michaelmas quarter-sessions, 1824, the visiting justices of the said prisons reported,—

That they had visited the gaol and house of correction; and found that no complaint was brought forward on the part of any of the prisoners, excepting three, who were confined under commitments in customs and excise proceedings, who stated that the allowance of 4*d.* per day, in the former cases, is not sufficient for their maintenance; and that with regard to prostitutes of the latter description, the allowance of 7*d.* per day had been withdrawn.

And it was thereupon ordered by the said court, that the clerk of the peace should forthwith write to the honourable the commissioners of his majesty's customs, stating that the said allowance of 4*d.* per day, granted by them to every prisoner confined for offences against the laws relating to the customs, is not adequate to

his support; and expressing the wish of the court, that a further allowance should be made.

And it was also ordered, that the clerk of the peace should also write to the honourable the commissioners of the Board of excise, inquiring why the allowance of 7*d.* per day, heretofore granted by them to every prisoner confined for offences against the excise laws, had been withdrawn; and expressing the hope of this court that such allowance might be restored.

And at the same sessions, the chaplain of the said prisons reported,

That in his opinion the condition of the prisoners confined in the county gaol and house of correction was, under all circumstances, good and comfortable. That the strict attention bestowed by the governor to the objects of his care, in the encouragement of the orderly, and control of the refractory, together with his humanity and firmness towards every individual, must point out his essential worth in the situation in which he is placed, and shew that he is alive to the welfare of the prisoner, as well as to society at large.

That the continual cleanliness which pervades the whole range of cells, both in the gaol and house of correction, which cannot be excelled, must of itself not only be productive of health, but general comfort; that is, such comfort as is consistent with prison discipline.

That the sub-governor and matron were each in their respective stations, equally alert and attentive to the duties required of them.

That the cleanliness and neatness of the female prisoners at all times, particularly when in attendance at chapel, reflected great credit on the matron. The chaplain considered he was pointing out what was well known to the justices themselves—the general cleanliness of every department of every prisoner, and of every thing within the walls of the said prisons.

He looked forward with pleasure to the time when classification of prisoners should take place, which, in his opinion, is the only means of producing that kind of reformation so much wished for; and at which the legislature so much aims. A chaplain might do the utmost in his power to reclaim; but until there should be a classification, no visible good effects could shew themselves; for it almost invariably happened, that although a prisoner might have received every spiritual and kind advice from the minister attending him, and have even deeply felt its force, yet, when obliged to mix promiscuously with his more depraved fellow-prisoners, he is laughed at for attending to the advice of the parson, and too soon his religious feelings pass away as the morning dew.

That the duties performed by the chaplain are the following:—namely, on the Sabbath divine service twice, with two sermons; services on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays; services on Good Friday and Christmas day, with sermons on each day; sacraments administered

every quarter, and oftener if need require; visiting the sick in the cells; supplying the prisoners with Bibles, Prayer books, and religious tracts; giving spiritual advice to all that need it; occasionally inspecting the state of the cells; keeping a register for entering his attendances, and making such remarks as he may deem necessary.

And at the same sessions, the keeper of the said prisons reported,—

That the state and condition of the said prisons were respectively as follow :—

- In the gaol . . . 3 divisions ;
- 1 for male felons.
- 1 for male misdemeanors.
- 1 for female prisoners of every description.
- In the house of correction . . . 6 divisions ;
- 1 for male convicted felons.
- 2 for male misdemeanors.
- 1 for male vagrants.
- 1 for female felons, and misdemeanors mixed.
- 1 for female vagrants.

That by the above arrangement it would be seen that the means of classification were not adequate, or in a sufficient degree conducive to the proper discipline and good management of the prisons.

In the gaol, it was true, there were no offenders committed to hard labour, but they principally consisted of persons confined for trial for felonies and misdemeanors, and of some for offences against the revenue laws. There were not, however, any means of separating the young from the old, and the incorrigible from the less hardened offender. Felons of all descriptions were unavoidably mixed together; and therefore, very little could be feared, be expected from the best exertions towards their reformation.

Another great harm to wholesome discipline was the idle state in which all the male prisoners in the gaol are of necessity constantly kept. However willing they might be to labour, no means existed to allow it; and perhaps it might be doubted, how far it would be prudent to put into the hands of prisoners tools which would either serve them for acts of violence, or afford them the means of escape. This was the only objection which appeared to him, to bear upon the subject, and he felt it to be a weighty one. Although he certainly also felt that if it were practicable to set to work the prisoners in the gaol, much real good must result from it.

That to the house of correction these observations could not apply, for there the best and most constant labour took place. The prisoners were daily employed; the most refractory at the tread-mill, and those of a better sort at sawing and polishing marble, beating hemp, oakum, &c.

In mentioning the tread-mill, he begged to represent that although it had been established two years and upwards, no ill effects whatever

had resulted from it; on the contrary, he considered it a most wholesome employment, and one which operated materially to preserve good order and discipline, and to decrease crime.

That in both prisons the females were regularly employed in needlework and mental occupations about the prisons.

That in point of inspection at the gaol, great defect exists, the windows of the gaoler's house commanding only two of the airing grounds or divisions; but that in the house of correction the means of inspection are very good. That he need not further observe on this particular, as he knew it to be under the consideration of the court to make great and material alterations in the prisons, which would afford the opportunity both of classification and inspection.

That in the gaol, during the last year, 389 prisoners had been committed, being an increase on the number of the preceding year of 92. In the house of correction, during the last year, 946 prisoners had been committed, being a decrease, compared with the preceding year of 332. That the increase in the number at the gaol might be attributed to the mode recently adopted of committing to that prison all offenders for trial, whereas formerly persons of that description were committed to both prisons, indiscriminately.

That the decrease in the number at the house of correction, namely 332, was, he confessed, far beyond what he could have hoped. Allowing for those committed to the gaol for trial, still there would be a clear decrease of 240, as contrasted with the prior year, and this he imputed in a great measure to the salutary operation of the tread-mill, and he would hope, in some degree to the increasing reformation of the lower orders of society.

He begged leave to subjoin a statement of the numbers and descriptions of prisoners committed to each prison in the last year, viz.

	Felons.	Misdemeanors.	Vagrants.
To the gaol	279	110	389
To the house of correction	141	329	470
			946
			Total a said
			1,334

And at the same sessions, the said keeper of the said prisons certified that the rules and regulations for the government of the prisons had been complied with, so far as the same could be carried into effect; but that, for the most part, the said rules and regulations required a complete revision.

And at the same sessions, the committee appointed to take into consideration all proceedings relative to the county prisons, and to report finally such alterations as might be requisite to carry into immediate effect the objects of the late act of parliament, reported,—

That they wished to refer the justices to the former Reports made by the committee; for an

account of the existing state of the county prisons, and of the various plans which had been proposed for making the alterations requisite to carry into effect a due system of classification and discipline. That they had proceeded, in compliance with the instructions of the justices, to reconsider the plans of the proposed alterations; and the late acts of parliament relating to the subject; and that, upon an examination of Mr. Cole, the keeper, touching the number of wards and days' rooms particularised in the joint Report of Mr. Green and Mr. Underwood, laid before the court at the last Epiphany sessions, they were of opinion that it was not more than sufficient to meet the requisitions of the act of parliament, and to provide effectually for the classification and good regulation of the prison. That the only alteration which had occurred to them as desirable, in the plan submitted to the justices in that Report, was the transposition of the divisions to be appropriated to the females of the gaol and house of correction respectively, so that the females might be confined in the eastern wing of the gaol, instead of being placed in the centre of the united prison; and thus be entirely and effectually separated from all communication with the divisions allotted to the men. This alteration, however, would affect neither the general design nor the estimate of the buildings proposed by Mr. Green and Mr. Underwood. Under these circumstances, therefore, and considering the length of time during which the important subject had awaited the decision of the justices, the committee had instructed their chairman to move, at the present sessions, that, subject to the variation above mentioned, the plan for altering the county prisons, laid before the court in the joint Report of Mr. Green and Mr. Underwood, should be adopted and carried into effect.

And it was thereupon ordered by the court, that the plans recommended by the said committee for altering and enlarging the prisons of the said county should be carried into effect. That in order thereto, the clerk of the peace should advertise for tenders for completing such plans. That a committee should be appointed to receive the tenders, and to report thereon to the court at the next next sessions. That such tenders should be made in one gross sum for the whole, or in separate sums for the performance of particular parts of the said work, to be divided by the said committee in such parts as they should think proper.

That the county surveyors should be instructed to prepare specifications for executing the said plans, and deliver the same to the clerk of the peace. That the said committee should be requested to consider how far the amount of the tenders might be reduced by the employment of the prisoners about the said works; and to prepare arrangements accordingly with the persons tendering for the performance thereof. That

the said committee should be also requested to frame rules and regulations for the government of the said prisons; and that one county rate should be ordered to be raised at this and every ensuing quarter sessions, in order to meet the expenses of the said works. That the Chairman of the Michaelmas General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for Devon, 1824, should be requested to cause a General Report, prepared by the Clerk of the Peace in pursuance of the Twenty-fourth Section of the Statute 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, and submitted to the Justices assembled to an Adjournment of the Michaelmas Sessions, held at Dorchester on Saturday, October 30th, 1824; being founded on the several Reports of the Visiting Justices and of the Chaplain, and on the Certificates of the Keeper of the United Gaol and House of Correction at Dorchester.

That the various alterations and improvements in the united gaol and house of correction, before reported to have been proposed; and to be then in progress, in order to comply with the requisitions of the statute, have now been completed; and that, by the subdivisions of some of the courts or wards, and by some additions to the building, within the outer wall, a classification and separation of the prisoners have been afforded, to a greater extent than is required by the act of the 4th Geo. IV. with regard to the male prisoners; and to the full extent required for the females; that the more extended classification above alluded to, has enabled the visiting justices to separate, at their discretion, the juvenile male offenders from the older and hardier culprits; and that a school for their instruction, under the superintendance of the chaplain, has been established.

That the discipline of the tread-mill has been continued to answer the object intended, with regard to the male prisoners, without any ill effects as to their bodily health, a due attention having been paid to the proportion of labour, with respect to the time that the mill is at work, at the several periods of the year; but that its application to the female prisoners has been discontinued since the month of April last, and the machine removed into another part of the prison, where it has been divided for the separate use of the several and distinct classes of vagrants and juvenile offenders.

That the discontinuance of the use of the tread-mill with respect to females, appears to have been occasioned by the representations of the surgeon, in several instances, of its ill effects in certain complaints to which women are subject; and by the opportunity which the washing and mending the linen of the whole number of prisoners at present affords of subjecting the female convicts to a laborious occupation, which to many of them has appeared to be more agreeable

some than the operation of the tread-mill; but that a discretion is still vested in the visiting justices to provide another tread-mill for female prisoners, if circumstances should hereafter seem to require it.

That the general state of health of the prisoners has been reported to the visiting justices to be, at this time, particularly good; and those complaints which have occurred have been of a common and trifling nature.

That the addition of one pound of potatoes to the ordinary prison diet, allowed to those employed on the tread-mill, some months ago, upon the recommendation of the surgeon, completely answered its object, with a view to the preservation of their health and strength.

That since the last Report, no instances of any extended disposition to insubordination have occurred in the prison, and but few of individual misbehaviour; and that the general demeanour of the prisoners has been regular and orderly; and that in no case has it been found necessary or expedient to resort to the use of irons.

That a set of rules and regulations, founded upon the statutes 4 Geo. IV. c. 64 and 5 Geo. IV. c. 85, received the sanction of the judges at the last summer assizes, have since been in force in the prison, and have hitherto been well observed; and that those before in force were, upon the whole, so observed as not to occasion any remark from the keeper, or any particular deviation from them.

That the general demeanour of the prisoners towards the chaplain has been respectful, and that his admonitions and instructions have been listened to; that a due observance of the religious duties, prescribed by the rules and regulations, has been enforced by the several authorities of the prison; that few instances of irreverence during divine service have occurred, and that those have appeared to have been reprobated by the other prisoners; and that since the new rules and regulations have been in force, and have been made known to the prisoners to be substantially the same as those by which other gaols are governed, a more uniform obedience to them has been secured, and an increasing disposition to quiet and orderly conduct has been observed; that the remission of part of the sentence of one of the prisoners, in consequence of a recommendation to the royal mercy, founded on a remarkable change in his habits and demeanour, appears to have made an impression on the other prisoners.

C. B. WOLLASTON,
Chairman.

No. 17.—DURHAM.

Clerk of the Peace's Report.—Gaol Act,
4 Geo. IV. c. 64.

The General Report of the Deputy Clerk of the Peace of the County of Durham, to the Justices assembled at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions, holden at the County Courts in the

Suburbs of the City of Durham, in and for the said County, on the 18th day of October, 1824.

Gentlemen,—In pursuance of the act of parliament passed in the fourth year of his present majesty's reign, intituled, "An Act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales," I beg leave to state to you, that I have received Reports from the visiting justices at the last Epiphany, Easter, Midsummer, and Michaelmas quarter-sessions; and also the report of the Rev. Mr. Wheeler, the chaplain of the gaol and house of correction at Durham, at the last Michaelmas sessions; of which the following are copies, viz.

Copy Report of the Justices appointed to visit the Gaol and House of Correction at Durham, made in conformity to Sections 17 and 23 of 4 Geo. IV. c. 64.

To the magistrates assembled at the Epiphany sessions, 1824:

Repairs.

The amount of the current repairs is stated in the keeper's Report.

Alterations.

The old door to the coal-house has been shut up, and a new door made, to communicate with the coal-house through the lodge. The object of this alteration is to prevent any person having access to the coal-yard, from whence the escape is by no means difficult, without first passing through the lodge. A new door is also to be made in the west wall of the prison, against which the vagrant-house is built, there being at present no access to the vagrant-house from the prison, except by passing out of the prison gate, and re-entering through the taskmaster's lodge.

Classification.

The classification is as perfect as the building will admit, but not altogether such as the acts of parliament relative to this subject contemplated.

Classes.—Male.

1. Debtors, and persons convicted of contempt of court in civil process, are confined in the wing of the prison appropriated to debtors only.
2. Persons convicted of felony have one common day-room, and one airing-room.
3. Persons convicted of misdemeanors have a common day-room, and separate airing-grounds, except when employed at the pump.
4. Persons committed on charge or suspicion of felony have a day-room and airing-ground to themselves.
5. Persons charged with misdemeanors done, a separate day-room, but no other airing-ground than that which is used by convicted misdemeanants.
6. Vagrants have a separate room, but no air-

ing-ground, being exercised at the wheel and in pumping.

It will be observed, from this statement, that there are only three airing-grounds for the whole of the male prisoners, and only one common-hall or day-room for convicted felons of every description. It may perhaps be worthy of consideration whether the felons' common-hall or airing-ground might not each be thrown into two divisions.

No particular cells are appropriated in this prison to King's evidences and condemned prisoners, as the act requires; but it does not appear that there is any difficulty in setting apart certain cells for these purposes, when required.

The provisions of the act with respect to the sleeping cells of prisoners are complied with as far as is practicable. Such cells are not so numerous as the act contemplated, but the respective classes are not intermingled with them.

Classes of Females.

1. Debtors occupy a portion of that wing of the prison appropriated to debtors; the rest of the females (with the exception of the vagrants) are placed in a wing of the prison inhabited by themselves exclusively.

2. Females convicted of felony have a common day-room and a separate airing-ground.

3. Females convicted of misdemeanors have a separate day-room, but no other airing-ground from the preceding class.

It is proposed to divide this airing-ground, which is of considerable size, into two parts.

4. Females committed, under charge or suspicion of felony, have a separate room, inconveniently small, and no other ground than that before mentioned.

Perhaps the day-room of class 2 might be advantageously divided.

5. Females on charge or suspicion of misdemeanors are classed, for want of room, with those who are convicted of misdemeanors.

6. Female vagrants have a separate apartment. Much room has been obtained for the female misdemeanors, by transferring the female misdemeanors to a room formerly occupied by male vagrants, but found insecure for them.

Employment.

Prisoners committed to hard labour are worked at the tread-mill from nine in the morning till twelve, and from two in the afternoon till five.

Prisoners not committed to hard labour are employed in breaking flax with machines constructed for that purpose, and in the manufactory of various kinds of cloth, &c. for the use of the prison and for sale.

Mechanics are employed in weaving, joining, &c.

Females committed to hard labour are employed in breaking flax for stated periods of time, and in making and mending the clothes of the prisoners.

Rules.

The rules of the prison seem to be for the most part attended to.

Morals and Discipline.

The chaplain's report will give a favourable testimony on this head.

(Signed) W. M. NESFIELD, }
EDW. DAVISON, } visiting justices.
W. N. DARNELL, }

Copy report of the visiting justices of the gaol and house of correction at Durham, made according to act of parliament, April 1824.
To the magistrates assembled at Easter sessions, 1824.

Repairs.

Under this head the expense incurred by the judges' retiring-room forms the first and principal particular.

A communication has been made between the prison and the women's vagrant-house, by means of a door through which they are brought to work at the wash-house with greater security. Mason work, 3*l*. 19*s*. 6*d*.; iron work included in Chisman's bill.

A door also has been made into the wash-house, as a greater security to that part of the prison where the women are at work. Mason work, 4*l*. 5*s*. 6*d*.; iron work included in Chisman's bill.

Another door has been made at the east side of the boundary wall, to communicate with the wash-house, for the purpose of taking in coals, &c.; the great gateway being intended to be shut up. Mason work, 3*l*. 19*s*. 10*d*.; smith's work included in Chisman's bill.

A communication has also been made between the prison and the men's vagrant-house, by means of a door through which such men as are committed to work at the tread-mill, who formerly were obliged to be brought about by the outer gate, can now be introduced with greater ease and security. Expense of mason work, 3*l*. 2*s*. 5*d*.; iron work included in Chisman's bill.

A new drain has also been made from the felon's room D, with a cess-pool in the outer yard. Expense as per bill, 7*l*. 16*s*. 4*d*.

There is also a bill for painting and repairing glass in the different prisons, of 17*l*. 9*s*. 11*d*. *Vide* bill.

Various other minor repairs, such as locks, machinery, &c. as per vouchers produced.

Classification.

Same as in last report. Alterations that were intended for the better classification of the prisoners, by dividing the airing-grounds at the east and west ends of the prison, have not as yet been carried into effect, owing to the great expense likely to attend them. The estimates for these alterations are laid before the magistrates for their consideration. It may also be necessary to put some iron fence on the top of the

Judges' room, for which an estimate has been tendered, and will be laid before the magistrates.

Employment. The prisoners are employed in the same way as in our last report, with the exception that they commence work an hour earlier in the morning.

Rules. The rules and regulations of the prison are strictly adhered to, in almost every respect.

Morals and Discipline. The chaplain's report speaks most favourably on this head, both as to the schoolmaster's duty and the good conduct of the men.

It is further submitted to the consideration of the magistrates in sessions assembled, whether an advantage might not be gained by lighting the interior of the prison with gas. The number of lamps now in use are nine; six it is presumed would be sufficient, if gas were substituted. The three supernumerary might perhaps be advantageously employed to light the front of the courts.

As the present contracts for furnishing the prison with bread, milk, &c. expire on the 1st of May, the visiting magistrates wish to receive the directions of the sessions on that head.

In respect to the lunatic Richard Woolner, a letter has been received from the secretary of state, requesting to be informed whether a proper asylum could be had in this county; a reply to which has been sent, and the final instructions of government on the subject are daily expected.

(Signed) EDWARD DAVISON, W. N. DARNELL.

Copy Report. Durham, Midsummer quarter sessions, 12 July, 1824.

Report of the visiting justices since the last sessions.

The alterations and expenses incurred are as follow—The judges' retiring-room, at the west end of the court, is nearly finished. The estimate the same as the room built at the east end for the same purpose.

The whole expense for the quarter for repairs is 24l. 3s. 9d., of which 18s. 12d. is for materials for making cess-pools for the prison; several cess-pools have been completed, one to the room marked B, and three to the tread-mill, by which much convenience and comfort have been obtained: the work done by the prisoners.

The classification of prisoners before trial has been in a certain degree altered: four who are under commitment for the most serious crimes have been placed by themselves, in order that they might receive more effectually the benefit of the chaplain's instructions. The other prisoners before trial remain as they were.

The prisoners for minor offences, and under sentence, are in the same order of classification as before.

The female prisoners the same as before.

The divisions intended of the several airing-grounds, which were contracted for last sessions by some persons in Newcastle, are not yet begun.

The new rules and regulations which were approved of last sessions, have, as far as possible, been complied with.

The rule altering the chaplain's duty to the morning service has been attended with the best effects.

The state of the prison, as to cleanliness and comfort, is highly creditable, the discipline good, and much advantage is derived from having wardens in each room.

The chaplain's report will testify satisfactorily as to the religious discipline of the prison.

The school for male prisoners is well attended, and the master's conduct regular and orderly.

The female prisoners are attended by the matron, who speaks of their behaviour in the highest terms.

The visiting ladies attend three times a week, those who are committed for trial.

The matron is attentive, and seems calculated for her situation.

(Signed) EDWARD DAVISON, W. N. DARNELL.

Copy visiting justices' report, Michaelmas quarter sessions, October 18th, 1824.

Since the last sessions the prisons have undergone little or no material alterations.

The judges' room at the west end of the courts has been completed, and was occupied at the last assizes.

A small room has been built at the north end of the debtors' prison for the purpose of giving accommodation to such debtors as may wish to consult with their solicitors; previous to passing their respective examinations; it has also been found useful to the friends of such debtors, in affording an intercourse at seasonable opportunities.

The expense of such building, by estimate, has been 31l. 10s. 8d., and paid.

The several airing-grounds which were ordered to be divided at the last Easter sessions are in a state of considerable forwardness, and will be finished in the course of a fortnight, the estimate for which is, with the clerk of the peace.

The whole expenses for repairs incurred for the quarter up to the Michaelmas sessions, are as follow—20l. 8d.

The classification of prisoners is conformable with the act, as far as the present state of the building will allow; but as the state of the present felons' hall admits of no separation, such juvenile offenders as are committed for life are disposed of previous to trial in some other part of the prison.

The female ward is, in all respects, well con-

acted; the number confined at present fifteen, four of which are committed for trial.

The employment of prisoners is the same as in our last report, viz. the tread-mill, breaking flax, and levelling a piece of ground on the east of the boundary wall, for the purpose of bringing it into cultivation.

The female prisoners are employed, as usual, in washing, making and mending the prisoners' clothes; and such as are ordered to hard labour work at the flax machines.

The prison, as to cleanliness and comfort, is highly creditable, care being taken to white-wash the interior regularly six or eight times a year, and every attention paid to its due ventilation.

The rules prescribed by the late act, particularly the one relating to the wardsmen in each room, have been found salutary, and, as far as possible, are acted upon without variation.

The different officers employed about the prison are strictly attentive to their duty; and the conduct of the prisoners is orderly and good.

The school continues to be well attended, but the hours have been altered from five in the evening to one at noon, during the winter season; the master is steady and attentive, who reports the progress of the prisoners to be highly satisfactory, several having been discharged who have been taught both to read and write during their confinement.

The matron continues to be particularly attentive to her department, and gives general satisfaction.

The alterations made last sessions, in regard to the morning prayers by the chaplain, continue to have the best effect.

The lunatic, Richard Woolner, mentioned in our last report, whose case was referred to the secretary of state, has, conformably with an order from that office, been removed to an asylum near Gateshead, in this county.

It is suggested to the magistrates in session, as a number of the men committed to hard labour are obliged to be withdrawn from the tread-mill to pump water for the prison, whether it might not be advisable to lay a connecting chain from the pump to the wheel, by which the water could be easily drawn by one and the same operation; the expense of which, calculated at 30*l.*, could be redeemed in a short time, and the act more strictly complied with.

(Signed) EDW. DAVISON, } visiting justices.
W. N. DARNELL, }

Durham Gaol, October 20th, 1824.

Chaplain's general report, October 18th, 1824, Michaelmas quarter sessions, county of Durham.

The prisoners are healthy, clean, and orderly; their general behaviour is submissive and respectful; their attendance at church is regular, and their attention very gratifying; most of them seem desirous of religious instruction, which

very few, when they come into prison, have any knowledge of.

The prison school, I have every reason to hope, will have a very good effect, as, since its commencement in 1820, two hundred and seven have been taught to read and write, and have received much improvement in both, in proportion to the time of their confinement.

Many boys that have come into the prison since my last general report, I am happy to observe, can read tolerably well, the happy effects, I should hope, of our national schools.

I am sorry to observe, that the attendance of debtors at divine service, on Sundays, is very deficient. In a prison especially, the Sabbath-day ought to be kept holy by all the inmates.

In compliance with the last act relating to prison discipline, and the order of the magistrates at the last Midsummer quarter sessions, a form of prayer has been prepared by the chaplain; and, by order of the magistrates, 500 copies have been printed for the use of the prisoners, which is read by the chaplain to the prisoners assembled in chapel every morning; a portion of Scripture, after prayers, is also read by the chaplain, and instructive remarks made by him, to which the prisoners seem very attentive. On every Saturday afternoon also, the prisoners, except debtors, are assembled in chapel to receive religious instructions from the chaplain; and religious instructions are also given to the prisoners after evening service on Sundays, to which the prisoners seem very attentive in general.

(Signed) C. G. WHEELER, chaplain.

And I also beg leave to lay before you copies of the certificates of Mr. Wolfe, the keeper of the gaol and house of correction, together with a return of the state of the prisons in the form contained in the schedule marked (B) annexed to the said act.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen,
Your most obedient servant,
JOHN DUNN,
Deputy clerk of the peace for the county of Durham.
ARTHUR AYLMER, chairman.

No. 18.—ESSEX.

A General Report, founded on the Report of the Visiting Justices, on the Report of the Chaplains, and on the Certificates of the Keepers of the several Prisons in the County of Essex; prepared by the Clerk of the Peace, agreeably to the Act of Parliament 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, (that is to say)

County gaol and house of correction at Chelmsford.

At the present Michaelmas sessions the visitors reported,—

That it having been represented to them that several of the prisoners in the No. 8 yard, in which prisoners convicted of felony were con-

And that on the day of the said special meeting of the said visitors, (viz. the 23d day of September last,) in consequence of the report of the medical attendant, it appeared to the visitors proper to order, and they accordingly did order, that each prisoner in the No. 8 and 9 yards (in both of which the effects of the flood were experienced) should during the ensuing autumn and winter be allowed in addition to the ordinary gaol allowance per day, one pint of hot soup, containing two ounces of meat or the strength thereof, and peas and vegetables as should be directed by the medical attendant.

At the same sessions the chaplain of the above-mentioned prisons reported, that divine service according to the liturgy of the united church of England and Ireland, had been regularly performed, and a sermon preached on every Sunday, on Christmas-day, and Good Friday, morning and evening, since the last report, at each of the prisons. That prayers, selected from the liturgy by the chaplain, had been read every morning at each prison; that the sacrament of the Lord's supper had been administered once in every month; that the system of daily instruction established in the prisons had been pursued with diligence and regularity, and portions of the Scriptures read to the prisoners when assembled for that purpose, with an occasional comment or exposition; that 131 had been taught to read, who had never been before instructed; and all the rest had made great improvement; that the catechism of the church of England had been taught on Sundays, and once in a week besides to all who were willing to learn; that none who came for instruction were suffered to depart without a knowledge of the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments; at least if the term of their confinement would not allow any more to be taught them; that the sick had received moral and religious instruction adapted to their several cases; that the prisons had been regularly inspected; that the chaplain had great pleasure in reporting that the conduct of the prisoners had been generally regular and orderly in their attendance on divine service and during the time of preaching, and that they had never been suffered to absent themselves from chapel, except for good and sufficient reason; that the morning prayers at the gaol were well attended by the debtors. The chaplain was also happy to be able to mention the conduct of the matron, and schoolmaster, and the constant attention which they paid to the duties of their office as teachers, in high terms of commendation. The chaplain could not conclude his report without saying that the general good order and excellent management observed in both prisons, and the ready assistance afforded on all occasions to the promotion of the moral improvement of the prisoners by all the officers of the said prisons were deserving his highest praise and warmest thanks.

Witness our hands, this 23d day of September, 1824.

G. A. GILSON, G. A. GILSON, R. CREMER.

Surgeons appointed to the care of the above prison.

Which report the visitors submitted to the serious consideration of the court; but, in doing so, they had the satisfaction of being relieved from the duty of offering any suggestions for the prevention of a similar inconvenience in that part of the prison from floods (if so extraordinary a flood should ever be experienced again) by the knowledge that the capacity of the additional gaol which was erecting, and was far advanced in progress, was calculated to render the occupation of the cells in that part of the prison not always necessary, or by a small number of prisoners only, for whom a facility of removal to some other part of the prison, under circumstances so extraordinary, might be afforded. And the visitors had satisfaction in adding, that this disease had in no instance proved fatal, or excited in the medical attendant the apprehension of a fatal termination; and that, though some cases of that description still existed, the symptoms were of a milder, and promised to be of a less obstinate character.

Certificate of the Gaoler.

Essex.—To the worshipful the chairman and others his majesty's justices of the peace in quarter session assembled at Chelmsford, on Tuesday the 19th day of October, 1824.

I, Thomas Cawkwell, keeper of the consolidated gaol and house of correction at Chelmsford, in and for the said county, do now beg leave to report, pursuant to the act of parliament 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, s. 14, that the said gaol and house of correction are in good state and condition with regard to the repairs of the buildings, except that all the cells in the house of correction department are now in a damp state, in consequence of the late severe inundation; and that the prisoners conduct themselves orderly and properly; and that there are now confined, in the gaol and house of correction departments, as under stated:

Gaol department :	Males.	Females.	Total
Prisoners			
Debtors	15	1	
Crown ditto	1	0	
Convicts for transportation	2	0	
Fines for misdemeanors	10	0	
For trial at next gaol de-			
livery	20	0	
For trial at this session	15	2	
For further examination	1	0	
	64	3	67
House of correction depart-			
ment :			
Misdemeanants for trial	11	0	
Bastardy for the sessions	3	0	
Ditto convicted	1	3	
Committed for pecuniary			
penalties	1	0	
Felons convicted at assizes	48	1	
Ditto at sessions	30	1	
Misdemeanants tried	25	2	
Vagrants	29	1	
Insane	1	0	
	149	8	157
			224

THOMAS CAWKWELL, keeper.

Halstead House of Correction.

The visitors reported, that the prisoners (with one exception) had conducted themselves in an orderly manner, and had been set to work or employed as by law directed. That the prison was in a state of apparent security and convenience, likely to answer the purposes for which the late alterations and improvements (which had been made in the said house of correction) were made.

The chaplain reported, that the discipline and conduct of this prison had been perfectly proper, as far as it had come within his cognizance; and that the attendance of the prisoners upon divine

worship had been uniformly regular, and their behaviour orderly and decorous during the last year.

Certificate of the Keeper.

Essex.—To the worshipful the chairman and others his majesty's justices of the peace in quarter sessions assembled at Chelmsford, on Tuesday, 19th day of October, 1824.

I, Robert Whinyates, keeper of Halstead house of correction, do beg leave to report, pursuant to the act of parliament 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, s. 14, That the said prison is in a good state and condition, with regard to the repairs of the buildings, and the orderly and proper conduct of the prisoners; and that there are now confined therein prisoners, of whom there are—

	Males.	Females.	Total
Felons tried at the sessions	1	0	1
Misdemeanors	5	0	5
Felons convicted at the			
assizes	0	0	0
Ditto sessions	0	0	0
Misdemeanors tried	7	1	8
Committed for bastardy	1	0	1
Ditto for pecuniary pe-			
nalties	0	0	0
Vagrants	1	0	1
Insane	0	0	0
For further examination	0	0	0
Total	15	1	16

Newport House of Correction.

The visitors reported, That from the very small number of commitments since the preceding quarter session (only three), no circumstance had arisen on which it was necessary to trouble the court with any observations.

The chaplain reported, that the state of this prison, in regard to the keeper, was in every respect satisfactory, both as to the neatness of the wards and the attention evinced to the prisoners.

Certificate of the Keeper.

Essex.—To the worshipful the chairman and others his majesty's justices of the peace in quarter session assembled

I, Richard Mead, do hereby beg leave to report, that the house of correction at Newport, in the said county, is not in a proper state of repair with regard to the buildings, as has been reported by the visitors; and that the conduct of the prisoners is orderly; and that, there is now confined therein one prisoner, namely,

	Male.	Female.
Vagrancy	1	none.

RICHARD MEAD, keeper.

Colchester House of Correction.

The surviving visitor (the other having died during the last quarter) reported, that he had inspected the accounts of the expenditure of

this prison for the Michaelmas quarter, and transmitted a statement of the amount of that expenditure.

The chaplain reported, that divine service, according to the liturgy of the church of England, had been regularly performed, and a sermon preached every Sunday, and prayers read on every Thursday, and also service, with a sermon, on Good Friday and Christmas-day; that the prisoners had uniformly conducted themselves in an orderly manner, and had never been permitted to absent themselves from divine service. The chaplain was also happy to report the good order and management observed in the prison, and the ready assistance he had received from the keeper in the performance of this duty.

Certificate of the Keeper.

Essex.—To the worshipful the chairman and others his majesty's justices of the peace, in quarter sessions assembled at Chelmsford, on Tuesday, the 19th day of October, 1824.

I, William Parsley Smith, keeper of Colchester house of correction, do now beg leave to report, pursuant to the act of parliament 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, s. 14, that the said prison is in a good state and condition, with regard to the repairs of the buildings, and the orderly and proper conduct of the prisoners; and that there are now confined therein three persons, of whom there are,

	Male	Female	Total
Committed for bastardy	1	2	3

WM. P. SMITH.

Barking House of Correction.

Both the visitors having been absent from home, no report was made by them to the Michaelmas quarter session, 1824.

The chaplain reported, that in stating the result of his labours since his last annual report, he had to observe, in the first place, of the juvenile part of his charge, that they, with few exceptions, readily submitted to the tasks and lectures of catechism, and appeared likely to imbibe corresponding advantages, which was the more satisfactory, as they were for the most part grossly ignorant of all religious and moral duty, though many of them could read a little; and that, upon those of every age and class who from time to time were about to be discharged, he endeavoured to impress the importance of more strict attention to religious services, particularly on the Lord's day, and a more becoming regard to moral conduct; and that, while the mind and spirit were affected, if not subdued, by the dismal discipline of the place, he had reason to hope, from the manner in which his admonitions were received, and the express declaration of some of the individuals, that he should not see them again in similar circumstances; and that, with respect to the sacrament of the Lord's supper, he was sorry to state, that he had not as often as he wished found

persons desirous, or such as he deemed to be in a proper frame of mind to receive it, although his exhortations were unremitted.

Certificate of the Keeper.

Essex.—To the worshipful the chairman and others his majesty's justices of the peace, in quarter sessions assembled at Chelmsford, on Tuesday, the 19th day of October, 1824.

I, Luke Miller, keeper of Barking house of correction, do beg leave to report, pursuant to the act of parliament 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, s. 14, that the said prison is in a state of considerable dilapidation, particularly the back part of the building; and the orderly and proper conduct of the prisoners; and that there are now confined therein prisoners, of whom there are,

	Males	Females	Total
Felons for trial at sessions	3		3
Misdemeanants, ditto	3		3
Committed for pecuniary penalties	6		6
Further examinations	2		2
Vagrants	2		2
	16		16

LUKE MILLER.

The keepers of the several prisons before mentioned respectively certified, that the rules laid down for the government of such prisons had been complied with.

T. G. BRAMSTON, chairman.
Chelmsford, 5th November, 1824.

No. 19.—FLINTSHIRE.

To the right honourable his Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, &c. &c.

Flintshire.—General Report of his Majesty's Justices assembled at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions of the Peace, held at Mold, in and for the County of Flint, on Thursday, the 21st day of October, 1824, in pursuance of the Act of the fourth of his present Majesty, c. 64, s. 24.

Since the last general report of the justices assembled at the quarter sessions of the peace for the said county, on the 16th of October, 1823, no alteration whatever has taken place in the gaol or house of correction of the said county, or in the general management thereof.

The reports of the visiting justices, since that period, have been uniformly satisfactory; from which the justices now assembled are enabled to state, that no repairs, additions, or alterations have been made or required in the said gaol or house of correction; that no abuse or abuses of any kind has or have been observed, or of which any information had been received by them, with respect to the management of the prisons, or of the general state of the prisoners as to morals, discipline, employment and hard labour, and observance of rules.

The duties of the chaplain appear to have been strictly and regularly performed on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday in every week.

And, according to the certificates of the keeper of the prisons, the rules thereof have been regularly complied with.

All which is humbly submitted to the consideration of both Houses of Parliament.

(Signed) JOHN WILKINS, chairman.

21st October, 1824.

No. 20.—Glamorgan and Cardiff, 16th December, 1824.

Sir,

In reply to yours of the 6th instant, I beg leave to state, that there was no report made to the last Michaelmas quarter sessions, under the provisions of the 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, by the visiting magistrates or chaplain, so as to enable me, as clerk of the peace, to make a general report.

JOHN WOOD, Clerk of the peace for Glamorgan. H. Hobbouse, Esq. &c. &c. &c.

No. 21.—GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

The Magistrates of the County of Gloucester, assembled at Michaelmas General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, having inspected the Journals and Reports of the Visiting Justices, Chaplains, and Surgeons, and the Certificates of the Governor of the Gaol and Keepers of the several Houses of Correction within the said County, make this general Report:

That certain alterations and additions being necessary in the gaol at Gloucester, according to the provisions of the act of the fourth of the king, c. 64, and according to the views of the magistrates, a committee has been appointed for carrying such alterations and additions into effect. That since the last year's report, the magistrates have the satisfaction to state, that the chaplains of the gaol and several houses of correction appear to have continued their usual attention to the moral and religious improvement of the prisoners; and also, that the medical gentlemen have been attentive to the health of the prisoners, of which very favourable reports have been presented at each quarter sessions during the last year. That it has appeared from sessions to sessions within the last year, by the certificates of the governor of the gaol and keepers of the several houses of correction within the county, that the rules and regulations laid down for the government of the said prisons have uniformly been strictly complied with, and that without deviation, except in the county gaol, where, in consequence of the crowded state of the penitentiary house after the last assizes, the supernumerary prisoners of that division were obliged to be re-

moved to sleep in the unoccupied cells of the gaol.

As to the manner in which the prisons are constructed, and the rules carried into effect, the magistrates beg leave to refer to the annual returns from the several keepers heretofore annexed.

The magistrates beg leave to transmit herewith plans of the several prisons, as required by the said act.

GEORGE COOKE, chairman.

Michaelmas sessions, 1824.

No. 22.—HEREFORDSHIRE.

The general Report of the Clerk of the Peace for the County of Hereford, of the State of the Gaol and House of Correction for the said County, for the year ending at Michaelmas, 1824, read and approved at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, held in and for the said County, on Monday, in the week next after the eleventh day of October, (that is to say) on the eighteenth day of October, 1824, before the Very Reverend John Lilly, Clerk, Chairman; the Honourable John Somers Cocks, commonly called Lord Viscount Easton, and others their companions, Justices of our Lord the King, assigned to keep the Peace in and for the County of Hereford, and Thomas Bird, Esquire, Clerk of the Peace for the same County, for three days.

The attention of the reverend James Garbett, the chaplain of the said gaol and house of correction, to the duties of his office, hath been unremitted during the past year. It appears from the entries made by him in the book kept in the said prison for that purpose, that he hath read morning and evening prayers, with a sermon, on each Sunday, and morning prayers on Wednesdays and Fridays; that he hath continued regularly to attend the schools established in the said gaol and house of correction, for the instruction of prisoners of both sexes in reading and writing daily, and hath performed such other duties as were mentioned in the last annual report. That the annual report of the said James Garbett at these sessions is so creditable to him, and satisfactory to the court, that they have directed the clerk of the peace to annex a copy thereof to this report, marked with the letter (A).

That the committee of magistrates appointed at each general quarter sessions of the peace, for visiting and superintending the gaol and house of correction, have in the book of entry kept in the prison for that purpose, from time to time expressed their approbation of the performance of the several duties of their respective offices, by the keepers and others employed within the said prison, and have made quarterly reports to the magistrates in quarter sessions assembled, copies whereof respectively, so far as regards the said gaol and house of correction, are also herewith annexed by way of appendix, marked

with the letters (B), (C), (D), and (E). That in the present state of the funds of the county, the rate being chargeable with a heavy debt, occasioned by the recent erection of a shire-hall, courts of justice, a house for the accommodation of his majesty's justices of assize, and the enlargement of the house of correction,—the magistrates in sessions have thought it advisable to delay the erection of some of the additions recommended by the committee in their report at the last Epiphany sessions. And the magistrates have been induced to come to this conclusion, from there having hitherto been no prisoners, or only one prisoner, on many occasions, coming within the description contained in several of the classes enumerated in the act passed in the fourth year of the reign of his present majesty; consequently, the classification of the prisoners could be effected without all the additional buildings pointed out by the committee.

That the alteration recommended by the committee at the last Epiphany sessions, viz. the removal of a wall between two of the cells in the female prisoners' ward, for the purpose of forming a day camp for one of the classes of female prisoners, hath been carried into effect; and that the recommendation of the visiting magistrates, contained in their report at these sessions, of the erection of a sufficient number of additional cells for vagrants, hath been approved of at these sessions, and will be carried into effect as soon as may be, in manner directed by the said act, the necessary notice having been inserted in the Hereford Journal.

That the salary of the chaplain for the said goal and house of correction was, at the last Trinity sessions, ordered to be augmented from one hundred and twenty pounds to one hundred and eighty pounds per annum, in consideration of the very exemplary manner in which he had discharged the duties of his office, and not as the fixed amount of salary to a future chaplain.

That the salary of Samuel Can, esquire, the surgeon of the said goal and house of correction, was at these sessions ordered to be increased to the sum of seventy pounds per annum.

The annual report of Mr. James Keene, the keeper of the said prison and house of correction, delivered by him in court at these sessions, is hereto also annexed.

(Signed) JOHN LILLY, chairman.

October sessions, 1824.

Read and approved in court.

THOS. BIRD, clerk of the peace.

The Appendix to the foregoing Report.

(A.)—The Report of James Garbet, Clerk, M. A. to the Magistrates in General Quarter Sessions assembled, on Monday, the 18th day of October, 1824.

Conformably to the regulations of the new prison act, the chaplain to the county gaol of Hereford makes the following report:

The present state of the county prison ex-

hibits a fair and gratifying specimen of the effects resulting from a well-organised system of discipline upon the moral conduct and habits of the prisoners. The three powerful instruments of reform within the walls of a prison are classification, hard labour, and religious instruction; and the absence of either must greatly impede, if not wholly prevent, that greatest and best of all good works, the reclaiming a fellow-creature from vicious principles and profligate pursuits, and returning him to society with such a deep and abiding sense of civil and moral obligation upon his mind, as shall influence him to upright and virtuous conduct. The county goal of Hereford presents to the most superficial observer the appearance of cleanliness, regularity, and order; and to the more discerning eye, the operation of a judicious and salutary system, admirably calculated to effect the two important objects contemplated by the law in the infliction of punishment—the repression of crime, and the reformation of the offender.

The chaplain feels much satisfaction in bearing testimony to the general good conduct of the prisoners, as orderly, submissive, industrious, respectful, invariably attentive to religious and moral instruction, and manifesting a praiseworthy anxiety to acquire the knowledge of letters, and unwearied perseverance in prosecuting so laudable an object. Within the last twelve months, twenty prisoners who came into the goal ignorant of the alphabet, have learned to read the Bible, and a much greater number have attained sufficient knowledge to enable them to improve themselves. During the same period, the chaplain is warranted in thinking, that many prisoners have quitted the goal, reformed in principle and practice; and others, who is disposed to hope, have imbibed impressions which will never be entirely eradicated.

But a regard to truth forbids the chaplain to indulge in indiscriminate praise; for, though there is much to commend, there is not a little to condemn. There have been many prisoners in the county goal in the course of the last year, and there are several now, whose bad principles are so deeply rooted, and their vicious habits so firmly established, that no good impressions can be made upon them: they appear to be so hardened in sin, and so dead to shame, that no arguments can convince their understandings, no persuasion affect their hearts. Notwithstanding, however, these untoward and discouraging circumstances, there is much to be pleased with, and much to be thankful for, in the actual state of the county prison; and there is no just reason to doubt, but that a persevering adherence to the principles, rules, and regulations established therein, will fully answer, if not exceed, the expectations of the magis-

rates and the county at large, in reforming the gaolers, and thereby promoting the public good.

The chaplain concludes his report with assuring the magistrates, that no pains shall be wanting on his part to accomplish the important ends of his appointment; and he humbly hopes that by the Divine blessing on his labours, they will not be in vain.

(Signed) JAMES GARRETT.
October 10th, 1824.

(B.) The Report of the Visiting Magistrates of the Gaol and House of Correction, at the Epiphany General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, held on Monday, the 12th day of January, 1824.

The visiting magistrates report, that the whole of the prison continues in the best state of cleanliness, repair, industry, and discipline; that they have not observed any signs of ill-use, either; and that a new mill for grinding corn by the labour of ten prisoners has been erected, and successfully worked, since the last report.

That the number of persons (including debtors) who were committed in the year 1822, was 209; and in the year 1823, was 227.

That the number of persons confined on the first day of January, 1823, was 75; and the number on the first day of January, 1824, was 62.

That the amount of the earnings of the prisoners employed in labour during the year 1823, was £102 12s. 6d., of which sum £66 12s. 5d. were appropriated to the uses of the County; £20 16s. 3d. to the uses of the prisoners; and £16 3s. 8d. to the uses of the keeper.

That the rules and regulations prescribed by the act of the fourth of Geo. IV. have been and continue to be progressively and gradually adopted; but they cannot be acted on altogether, until some alterations or additions be made in the construction of the prison.

That it appears to the visiting magistrates that there are two modes of effecting these purposes, the one by erecting twelve new cells with suitable airings-grounds, on the north side of the debtors' yard, with an entrance from the slip yard, on the right of the prison door; and the other by building six cells only in the slip yard itself; and by appropriating six of the cells hitherto intended for female debtors, to the purposes required by the act; viz. three cells for persons condemned, three for those charged with misdemeanors; or detained for want of security, three for vagrants; and three for accomplices admitted to give evidence for the crown.

That the visiting magistrates recommend the adoption of the latter plan; which can

probably be effected at less than one half the expense of the former.

That with the same views of classifying the prisoners according to the provisions of the act before mentioned, the visiting magistrates are of opinion, that it will be advisable to take down a partition wall between two of the cells hitherto appropriated as working-rooms for females, and to erect a chimney within the same, so as to form a day camp for one of the classes of female prisoners.

That in case these suggestions and the building twelve new cells should be adopted in sessions, the county prison will be arranged in the following wards of division, House of correction, not in charge to the sheriff.

1. Ward for vagrants.
2. For males convicted of misdemeanors.
3. Ditto ditto felonies.
4. Females convicted of misdemeanors.
5. Ditto ditto felonies.
6. Gaol, in charge of the sheriff.
7. Males charged with simple felonies.
8. Ditto, ditto, capital ditto.
9. Ditto, ditto, misdemeanors.
10. Ditto, ditto, felonies.
11. Accomplices admitted to give evidence.
12. Charged with, or convicted of murder.
13. Male debtors.
14. Female debtors.

Lastly, the visiting magistrates suggest to the consideration of sessions, that city prisoners be received for the future in the county gaol, on payment of a certain sum, proportioned to the expenses of the establishment, and to the price of articles used for clothing and diet; the visiting magistrates having reason to believe that the magistrates of the city are willing to guarantee the payment of 8s. per week for each prisoner under present circumstances, which the visiting magistrates deem a reasonable compensation.

(Signed) HEN. WETHERELL.
JOHN DIXON

(C.) The Report of the Visiting Magistrates of the Gaol and House of Correction, at the Easter General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the said County, held on Monday, the 26th day of April, 1824.

The visiting magistrates, adopting the regulations and instructions of the act of 4th Geo. IV. c. 64, s. 23, report, for the information of sessions, that the number of prisoners now in confinement is 73, being one less than were in confinement on the first day of Epiphany sessions.

That the prison is in the best state and condition; that with the aid of a new mill, the expenses of which amounted to £357 16s., and are included in the accounts of the quar-

ter, 854 bushels of grain have been ground since 1st of January last, by the prisoners sentenced to hard labour, and that the two mills are fully equal to the grinding 100 bushels every week. On this subject the visiting magistrates have found, that the quantity sent by individuals is not equal to the powers of the mills, and are therefore of opinion, that the governors of the infirmary should be reminded of their engagement to send their wheat to be ground in the prison, by which they would effect a considerable saving.

They farther report, that the boundary fence on the west side of the prison grounds is insufficient for the protection of the gardens; that an estimate has been made of the expense of building an adequate wall of brick, in lieu of the present paling and hedge, and that the amount of such estimate is 367.19s.

The visiting magistrates have observed no abuse or abuses in the management of the prison; but, on the contrary, they believe that the general state of the prisoners, as to health, cleanliness, instruction, morals, discipline, employment, hard labour, and observance of rules, is particularly good, and highly creditable to the keeper, surgeon, chaplain, taskmaster, and every other officer of the establishment.

The visiting magistrates, in consequence of the surgeon's report, have allowed a third meal to the prisoners working at the corn-mill, and to the women engaged in washing: the costs of this additional meal is less than one penny each.

The visiting magistrates submit to the consideration of sessions, the propriety of abolishing the practice of prisoners' friends having access to them by tickets or otherwise on Sundays, or of limiting the privilege to two particular hours, to be stated in the future tickets of admission.

(Signed) H. HOSKINS.

HEN. WETHERELL.

K. HOSKINS.

JOHN DUNCUMB.

(D.)—The Report of the Visiting Magistrates of the Gaol and House of Correction, at the Trinity General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, held on Monday, the 12th day of July, 1824.

The visiting magistrates report, for the information of sessions, that the number of prisoners now in confinement is 80, being three more than were in confinement on the first day of Easter sessions.

They further report, that the prison is in the best state and condition as to repairs and discipline, and that no abuse or abuses in the management thereof have come to their knowledge: on the contrary, they are perfectly

satisfied that the general state of the prisoners, as to health, cleanliness, instruction, and employment, is highly creditable to the officers of the establishment. Since the last quarter sessions, 658 bushels of grain have been ground in the prison.

They further report, that in execution of orders made at the last sessions, a day camp for one of the classes of female prisoners has been prepared and fitted up, and also a boundary wall built on the west side of the garden.

(Signed)

HEN. WETHERELL.

J. BLEEK LYE.

K. HOSKINS.

(E.)—The Report of the Visiting Magistrates of the Gaol and House of Correction, at the October General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, held on Monday, the 18th day of October, 1824.

The undersigned visiting magistrates report, that the prison is in the best state and condition; that they have observed no abuses in its management; but, on the contrary, believe that the general state of the prisoners, as to health, cleanliness, morals, discipline, and observance of rules, is particularly good, and highly creditable to the keeper, surgeon, chaplain, and every other officer on the establishment.

They further report, that 738½ bushels of grain have been ground in the corn-mills by the prisoners sentenced to hard labour during the last quarter; and that they are fully adequate to the grinding 100 bushels in every week.

They also report, that no expense has been incurred by improvements, alterations, or additions to the prison since the erection of the western boundary wall in the spring of this year, and that none are required under the last act for regulations of gaols, except three or four cells for vagrants, which may be constructed at an expense of about 150*l.*, and without which this description of offenders cannot be classed according to the provisions of the act referred to.

They also report, that the number of persons now confined is 54, being two less than on the corresponding day of the last year.

Lastly, the visiting magistrates recommend that Emanuel Brydges, sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment at the last March assizes, be recommended to the royal mercy, in consideration of his former good character, and his proper behaviour since his confinement: and that Ann Black also be recommended to the royal clemency, on the strong grounds stated by the chaplain to the prison, and confirmed by the observations of the visiting magistrates, that she has been in confinement more than four years, and during that time she has been exceedingly indus-

trious, and performed much laborious work; that in her religious and moral conduct, she has not been merely correct, but exemplary; that she has uniformly endeavoured, both by precept and example, to check the bad propensities of other prisoners; that she has taken great pains in teaching the unlearned to read, and instructing the ignorant in their Christian duty, by frequently reading the Scriptures to them; and, finally, that the chaplain declares he has never had a prisoner under his care whose conduct was so entirely satisfactory.

(Signed) " E. B. CLIVE.
" HEN. WETHERELL.
" JOHN DUNCUMB.
" K. HOSKINS."

No. 23.—HERTFORDSHIRE.

At the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, holden at the Shire-Hall, Hertford, in and for the County of Hertford, on Monday the 18th day of October, 1824, before the Right Honourable Thomas Lord Dacre, Henry Cowper, Esquire, Nicholson Calvert, Esquire, and others their fellow Justices, the following General Report, under the 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, s. 24, was submitted by the Clerk of the Peace to the said Justices, and approved by them.

The court having taken into consideration the state of the gaol and house of correction at Hertford, and finding that the classifications directed by the 6th article of the 10th section of the act were not complete as to the gaol, it ordered that the alterations and additions, as shewn upon the plan annexed to this report, be made; that is to say, a wall to be raised across the debtors' yard, so as to form a division between Nos. 1 and 5; and a similar wall to be raised across the felons' yard, so as to form a division between Nos. 3 and 4; and also an additional yard and sleeping-bells for the female debtors. These works are now in progress, and will be completed without delay.

The division and addition to the female felons' yard has been completed since last Michaelmas session; and the gaol, when the works which are now in hand are completed, will be in good repair, and will consist of the following classifications; viz. No. 1. Male debtors and persons confined for contempt of court on civil process. 2. Male prisoners convicted of felony. 3. Male prisoners convicted of misdemeanors. 4. Male prisoners committed on charge or suspicion of felony. 5. Male prisoners committed on charge or suspicion of misdemeanors, or for want of sureties. 6. Female debtors and persons confined for contempt of court on civil process. 7. Female prisoners convicted or committed on charge or suspicion of felony. 8. Female prisoners convicted or committed on charge or

suspicion of misdemeanors, or for want of sureties.

The house of correction is in good repair, and contains the following classifications; viz. No. 1. Male prisoners convicted of felony. 2. Male prisoners convicted of misdemeanors. 3. Male prisoners committed on charge or suspicion of felony. 4. Male prisoners committed on charge or suspicion of misdemeanors. 5. Vagrants. 6. Female prisoners convicted or committed on charge or suspicion of felony. 7. Female prisoners convicted or committed on charge or suspicion of misdemeanors.

There are now in the said gaol, including debtors, 16 males and 1 female; total, 17; and in the house of correction, 49 males and 2 females; total, 51. At this time last year there were in the gaol, including debtors, 16 males and 1 female; total, 17; and in the house of correction, 42 males, and 3 females; total, 45.

The prisoners in the house of correction continue to be employed at the mill, and have been as healthy as the others in the gaol and house of correction; and it appears, that the prisoners in the said gaol and house of correction have been generally healthy during the last year, there having been only two cases of sickness, other than common incidental complaints, during that period, and only one prisoner died.

The rules and regulations for the government of the said gaol and house of correction (of which a copy is annexed) have been amended; and made applicable to the said act; and the classifications, &c. thereby directed, have been observed, in as far as the extent and subdivisions of the gaol and house of correction have rendered the same practicable.

The surgeon has regularly attended the prisoners, according to his duty, and kept a journal, pursuant to the act of parliament, and also given in to the court of quarter sessions a statement of the health of the prisoners; and it is with great pleasure this court observes, by this report, that the prisoners are at this time generally healthy, and free from any infectious disorder.

The chaplain regularly attends at the gaol, and reads prayers every morning, pursuant to article 9, and performs all the duties required by the said act; and it appears, by his report, that all the prisoners have attended divine service every day, at the proper time, and have uniformly conducted themselves with the strictest decorum and propriety, and that they always have paid, and continue to pay, the most respectful attention to his advice and instructions.

The house of correction at Great Berkhamstead is used chiefly as a place of confinement for prisoners under examination, or until they can be conveyed to Hertford, either for trial or punishment. It is situate in the middle of the town of Berkhamstead, and consists of a dwelling-room for the keeper, and four bed-rooms up stairs: there are two wards, connected by a passage, one used generally for male, and the

other for female prisoners; the male ward is a room with boarded floor, 17 feet by 11; the sides and tops plastered and white-washed; there is one window not glazed, and no fire-place. The females' ward is a room eighteen feet by twelve, corresponding with the other; both look into a small yard, 24 feet by 12, surrounded with high walls; in the yard is a privy; there is a wooden bedstead to each ward, provided with straw and two blankets; there are no means of keeping prisoners separate, so as to prevent communication by talking; the yard is so insecure, that prisoners are not allowed the use of it, unless in the presence of the keeper; there are no means of labour for the prisoners; the buildings are in good repair.

The house of correction at Buntingford consists of a dwelling for the keeper, and three prison rooms, two of which have fire-places and chimneys; and there is likewise a garden, occupied by the keeper. It will have appeared, from this statement, that few of the provisions of the act can be applied to this house of correction; it was intended, and is, from its dimensions and construction, adapted solely for persons adjudged to short imprisonments under summary convictions, and as a place for confinement of prisoners charged with felonies and committed for further examination, and it has not been used for any other purpose. There are some trifling repairs required to the plastering and tiling of the said house of correction, which the visiting magistrates have directed to be done. There are at present no prisoners therein.

The site of the house of correction at Hitchin is a square of 40 feet; it contains a dwelling for the keeper, comprising, with a small yard, 13 feet by 28; there are three prison rooms, two of which are 13 feet 6 inches by 12 feet, without chimneys; the third is 12 feet by 10 feet 6 inches; it has a fire-place and chimney; the remainder of the ground forming a prisoners' yard, 28 feet by 26. This is used only for the same purposes as the house of correction at Buntingford. The buildings and walls are in a proper state of repair.

At this session the following justices were appointed visiting justices of the gaol and houses of correction of and belonging to this county:

For the gaol and house of correction at Hertford:

The most noble the marquis of Salisbury, Hatfield House.

Sir Culling Smith, bart. Redwell park.

Abel Smith, esquire, Woodhall, Watton.

Thomas Daniell, esquire, Little Berkhamstead.

William Dent, esquire, Buckendonbury.

Thomas Byron, esquire, Bayford.

The reverend Henry Ridley, D.D. Hertingfordbury.

The reverend Thomas Molyneux, Hertford.

The reverend Edward Bancroft, Brentfield.

For the house of correction at Great Berkhamstead:

Thomas Dorrien, esquire, Great Berkhamstead.

The reverend James Horseman, Little Gaddesden.

The reverend David Jenks, Addbury.

For the house of correction at Buntingford:

Adolphus Meekirke, esquire, Julian, near Buntingford.

George Palmer, esquire, Much Hadham.

The reverend Henry Law, Standon.

For the house of correction at Hitchin:

The right honourable Thomas lord Dacre, The-Hoo-Kimpton.

William Hale, esquire, King's Walden.

With this report are returned ground and upper plans of the gaol and house of correction at Hertford, conformably to the directions of the act, schedule (B), of which the one relates to the gaol, the other to the house of correction; and also a correct statement of the establishment of officers and servants employed in the said gaol and house of correction at Hertford, as required by the 8th section of the act 5 Geo. IV. c. 85.

DACRE, chairman.

No. 24. HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

The General Report of the Justices of the County of Huntingdon, assembled at their Michaelmas Sessions, 1824; made in pursuance of an Act of 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, s. 24, for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain Gaols and Houses of Correction.

The act of parliament for the regulation of certain gaols and houses of correction having commenced and taken effect so recently, and from the predicament in which the gaol and house of correction for this county both are, this report, though drawn up in compliance with its enactments, can only offer the following particulars, collected from the report of the visiting justices, the journal and report of the chaplain, and the certificates and returns of the keepers of the gaol and houses of correction, delivered into court at the Michaelmas sessions, 1824, in pursuance of the 24th section of the said recited act; in substance as follows, viz.

To the chairman and justices assembled at the general quarter session of the peace for the

county of Huntingdon, 19th October, 1824.

We, the undersigned justices of the peace,

duly appointed to visit the gaol and house of

correction therein, have to report, that we

have paid attention to that duty. That each

of those prisons are perfectly clean; the cells

aired where necessary with ventilators, and

that the prisoners confined therein are

healthy; but we are sorry to repeat our

observations, that the means of classification

and of employment for the prisoners, as required by 4 and 5 Geo. IV., cannot be effected without such alterations and additions as cannot be attained in the present confined situation of the prisons: In order, then, to make due provision for these purposes, you are aware that a presentment was made by the grand jury of the county of Huntingdon, at the summer assizes, in the year 1819, of the insufficient and inconvenient state of the prisons; that in the following year it was resolved and ordered that the gaol and house of correction should be united, and that a proper building should be erected for that purpose in a dry and airy situation, unconnected with other buildings, and within two miles of the sites of the old prisons, according to the provisions contained in 24 Geo. III. c. 54. Various and unexpected obstructions have from time to time prevented this design from being carried into effect, the possessors of suitable property not consenting to a sale of their land, on proceeding to make a proper purchase of land by means of 24 Geo. III. c. 54, s. 14, which act was not repealed by 1 Geo. IV., inasmuch as the presentment by the grand jury had been previously made. We are now advised by counsel, that not having observed, all the requisite forms, and particularly those prescribed by 2d section of the former act, we are disabled from availing ourselves of the powers contained in it. It is also further to be remarked, that unless we can proceed according to the provisions of 24 Geo. III. we are wholly disabled from removing the gaol and house of correction from the present inconvenient and confined situation, and must further delay proceedings, until another presentment can be made, according to the tenour of 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, s. 50.

JOHN ARUNDEL, } visiting magistrates.
T. LINTON, }

It is to be observed, that in the county of Huntingdon there are two separate buildings for the custody of prisoners; one called the gaol, built many years ago, and from time to time altered and repaired; the other, the house of correction, built about thirty years since. They are at a considerable distance from each other; one under the superintendence of the gaoler, Mr. John Cole; the other under the care of Mr. David Bower, who is designated keeper of the house of correction; but both under the inspection of the same visiting justices.

The magistrates have at last been able to obtain a site for a new gaol and house of correction united, which is intended to be completed as soon as possible, and be capable of such classification and other regulations as the laws relating to gaols and houses of correction now require; a plan of which, before the building is proceeded in, will be sent to his majesty's secretary of state, home department, and reports will

be from time to time made for the information of government.

The chaplain performs regular duty.

The surgeons report, that they have duly attended the prisoners in the gaol and house of correction; and that all are at present, and have been for some time, in perfect health, and that proper attention is paid to cleanliness in the said prisons.

Copies of the certificates of the gaoler and the keeper of the house of correction have been regularly transmitted to the secretary of state, as required by act of parliament.

L. REYNOLDS,

Chairman of the court of quarter sessions.

No. 25.—KENT.

General Report from the Clerk of the Peace of the County of Kent; prepared pursuant to the Act 4 Geo. IV. cap. 64, and submitted to and approved by his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, assembled at the Annual General Session, holden by Adjournments at Maidstone, in and for the said County of Kent, after the Michaelmas Quarter Session, 1824.

It appears by the reports of the visiting justices, the reports of the chaplains, and the certificates of the keepers of the county prisons at Maidstone and St. Augustine's, that the management of the prisons, as well as the general state of the prisoners as to morals, discipline, employment and hard labour, and observance of rules, has been satisfactory.

That the existing rules for the government of those prisons have been complied with; but that much inconvenience has been occasioned by the altered and additional rules, which have been several times submitted to the judges of assize, not having yet received their confirmation.

A copy of the schedule (B) referred to in the act, delivered by each gaoler, is annexed to this report.

(Signed) W. SCUDAMORE,

Deputy clerk of the peace.

(Signed) ROMNEY, chairman general sessions.

No. 26.—LANCASHIRE.

Lancaster Michaelmas Session, 1824.

General Report on his Majesty's Gaol the Castle of Lancaster.

No material alterations have been made in the buildings composing this gaol since the general report of the last year.

New rules and regulations for the government of the prisoners confined in this gaol are in the course of being drawn up and allowed, in conformity with the late acts of parliament; and since the last report the former rules have been acted upon, and the officers and prisoners have in general complied with them; and the discipline of the prison remains in all cases strictly enforced, and any infractions by the prisoners

are punished; but such punishments appear to have been moderate and lenient.

The chaplain reports considerable improvement in the conduct and religious instruction of the criminal prisoners during the last year, which is also confirmed by the report of the visiting justices of the gaol.

(Signed) EDMUND HORNBY, chairman.

Preston Michaelmas Session, 1824.

General Report of the House of Correction at Preston; in the County of Lancaster.

The alterations and improvements in the buildings of this prison which have been ordered to be made are in progress, but are not yet completed; their unfinished state has prevented the making of any material alteration in the management of the prison.

The classification of the prisoners is as complete as present circumstances will allow, and with the reduced number of prisoners it may perhaps be deemed sufficient. It consists—1st, Of convicted felons;—2d, Persons committed on charges of felony before trial;—and, 3d, Misdemeanants. The males and females of each class are kept in separate wards.

The prisoners are generally employed in weaving cotton cloths, and in other employments not laborious; and some of those committed to hard labour are employed as labourers at the works carrying on within the walls of the prison. The late acts of parliament relative to gaols and prisons have been ordered to be put in force within the prison, and new rules and regulations for the government of the prison are in course of being drawn up and established, in conformity to the provisions of those acts.

Great attention is paid to the religious and moral instruction of the prisoners, as well as to their instruction in reading and writing, and considerable improvement in their conduct is apparent. The report of the chaplain upon this subject is so satisfactory, that it is deemed of sufficient importance to annex a copy to this report; and this makes it unnecessary to add any further observations on the degree of reform to be expected from the present discipline. The correctness of the chaplain's report is confirmed by the visiting justices.

Punishments for refractory conduct are still of rare occurrence, and consist of close confinement, a reduced allowance of food, and occasionally of fettering. The punishment of whipping has not taken place in this prison for several years.

The prison remains very healthy, and there is no case of serious indisposition at present.

(Signed) THOS. D. HESKETH, chairman.

In presenting his report to the magistrates of the house of correction, the chaplain is gratified by having it in his power to notice, in the first place, the general good effect evident throughout the prison, which has resulted from the regular performance of divine worship. Besides the

usual service of the Sabbath, selections from the liturgy, with a chapter from the Scriptures, have been read by the chaplain every morning. The attentive and orderly conduct of the prisoners upon those occasions has very much exceeded his expectations; he has apprehended that the frequency of their attendance in chapel might weaken their respect for the place, but his fears have proved groundless; indeed, during a period of more than three years, nearly twelve months of which time daily prayers have been read, not more than three or four instances have occurred in which it has been necessary to punish or reprimand any individual for improper behaviour at chapel.

There have been several cases in which both men and women, upon the expiration of their imprisonment, have requested to be admitted occasionally to the chapel on Sundays: their wishes have been complied with; and although not living in the immediate neighbourhood, they have frequently availed themselves of the permission granted them.

The chaplain may here, perhaps, be allowed to state, that more than one instance has occurred in which a prisoner, upon or after his liberation, has expressed himself grateful for the benefit he had derived from the religious impressions made upon him while an inmate of the house of correction.

Several of the female prisoners have attended divine worship as often as possible, although at such times they have been obliged to intrust their infants to the care of some fellow-prisoner who remained in the ward.

The sacrament has been administered about four times in the year. Upon these occasions every pains have been taken to ascertain the purity of the motive which has induced the prisoners to become communicants; but the chaplain cannot flatter himself that the holy table has been approached in every instance with the same devout resolution of amendment. When the sacrament was last administered, there were fourteen partakers of it.

In those months of the year when the days are sufficiently long, a school for the instruction of male prisoners is open twice every Sunday, when reading is taught by men selected from among the prisoners themselves, to every one desirous of learning. Besides this, spelling-books are circulated in the yards, where the prisoners willingly assist each other; and by these means many have been taught to read the Bible, who at their entrance into the prison were unacquainted with the alphabet.

Bibles, Prayer-books, and religious tracts, published by the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, are distributed amongst the various yards, and scarcely a day passes without a request being made for the loan of some of these last-mentioned publications, which in most instances are punctually returned when others are borrowed, or when the prisoner quits the

gaol. Many of the prisoners request to be allowed to keep these tracts, (some offering to pay for them;) and whenever their conduct has been such as to merit the approbation of the chaplain, their wishes have been complied with. Of course it cannot be imagined that these little works are all requested from the same proper feeling; hypocrisy, the great obstacle to contend with in estimating the moral improvement of prisoners, will no doubt frequently succeed in its endeavours to deceive; nevertheless the chaplain feels satisfied that, by the means here spoken of, no inconsiderable advantage has been gained for the general interests of society, by the diffusion of moral and religious knowledge among those who stand so greatly in need of it.

With regard to the conduct of the prisoners, in a general point of view, it may upon the whole be considered orderly and regular, although inspection is not well provided for in the architecture of the gaol, and punishment is seldom inflicted beyond three days' solitary confinement, or a temporary deprivation of their accustomed allowance of food. The class of prisoners upon whom the former of these punishments seems to produce the least effect, is composed of boys; between twelve and eighteen years old; at that age the spirits are more elastic, and the hours of solitude, which an older person would tediously pass in silence and thought, are rapidly spent by the young delinquents in singing or scrawling designs upon the walls of their cells. A proof of the comparative insufficiency of strict confinement, as applied to boys, may be found in the fact, that they are much more frequently re-committed to it than grown-up persons.

With regard to the female prisoners, the chaplain has but few observations to offer; they are composed for the greater part of women con-

From October 1819 to October 1820	1820	1821	1822	1823	1824
146	128	100	114	161	

From this statement it may be hoped, that the prevalence of crime has not been augmented, more particularly when the rapid increase of population in this part of the country is taken into consideration, and also when the vigilance of several gentlemen who have recently been added to the number of magistrates is so likely to enforce an observance of the laws in those neighbourhoods which have hitherto felt the want of their control.

(Signed) JOHN CLAY, chaplain.

House of Correction,

Preston, October 21, 1824.

Preston, Michaelmas Session, 1824.

Inhibited to the Court.

(Signed) THOMAS D. HASKETT, chairman.

finer under the hasty laws, and form a class more ignorant than depraved. An instance of the ignorance, and its lamentable consequence, may be found in the case of an unfortunate girl, fourteen years of age, a parish apprentice, who was committed to the prison a few weeks ago, as a vagrant for one month, in an advanced stage of pregnancy, but "more sinned against than sinning."

The chaplain has sometimes a difficult part to perform when called upon by the turnkeys to reprimand prisoners for neglect of work. It may happen that the persons brought before him have been irreproachable in their general behaviour, and after hearing their statements, he may be inclined to acquit them of that wilful and determined idleness imputed to them by those who are interested in compelling them to do as much work as possible.

The difficulty in these cases lies in estimating correctly the proneness to idleness on the one hand, and the endeavours to procure a great quantity of work on the other. Wherever the influence of this latter feeling predominates, a prisoner may be openly careless of his religious and moral obligations, and yet, by exerting himself successfully at his looms, may avoid the strict application of that discipline to which a penitent and well disposed, but less skilful man would be liable.

Within the last year, 51 young persons under twenty-one years of age have been committed to the gaol under charges of felony. Of this number, 37 have been entirely without education, 14 have been taught to read, but only one has been instructed in a national school.

The number of commitments and re-commitments to the gaol for felony during the last five years appears to be as follows:—

Commitments.	Re-commitments.	Per cent.
146	21	14
128	22	17
100	18	17
114	17	15
161	17	13

General Report on the House of Correction at Kirkdale, in the County Palatine of Lancaster.

Michaelmas Quarter Session, 1824.

The buildings are in good repair, and a house for the chaplain's residence, contiguous to the prison, is very nearly completed.

The state of the prison, with regard to its management and discipline, and the observance of the rules, is, generally speaking, favourable. The classification of prisoners directed by the acts of parliament is strictly enforced, and the females are superintended by a matron, and attended by female turnkeys.

The tread-mill has been completed, and has been at work for some time, and no effects injurious to the health of the prisoners have taken place from its use, or of its efficacy in promoting

the reformation of offenders it is hardly possible as yet to form any just opinion. The other and former modes of employment of the prisoners are also still provided and continued as usual where they are not at work on the tread-mill.

A school is established in the prison for the instruction of the younger prisoners, and, as far as can be ascertained at present, with a fair prospect of its being ultimately advantageous; but there does not appear to be much alteration in the morals or the conduct of the older offenders.

The prisoners during the last year have been tolerably healthy, and free from infectious diseases, except during the months of August and September, at which time the dysentery and bowel complaint appeared to rather an alarming extent, nearly 150 cases having occurred; none of them, however, prove fatal: a successful course of medical treatment seems to have been adopted by the surgeon immediately upon the appearance of the disorder.

(Signed) EDWARD BOOTLE WELBRAIN,
Chairman.

Salford, Michaelmas Session, 1824.

General Report on the House of Correction at Salford, in the Hundred of Salford, in the County of Lancaster.

The tread-mill mentioned in the report of the last year has been completed, and is now in constant work. A hospital for the reception of the sick is also erected, and the arrangements connected with that establishment are reported by the visiting justices and the surgeon to be well adapted to the convenience of the prison, and the objects for which it is intended. A matron has been appointed, and is now superintending the female prisoners. The requisite classifications of the prisoners are made in this prison, and sufficient employment for all the prisoners is provided. It is to be regretted that the duties of the chaplain of the prison have not as yet been so completely performed, in accordance with the tenour of the acts of parliament, and the wishes of the justices of the peace, as could have been desired, owing to the advanced age and infirmities of the chaplain; but this defect will shortly be remedied, he having just resigned, and arrangements being now in progress for the appointment of a successor, who will be required to devote the whole of his time to the performance of the duties of his chaplaincy. It is therefore anticipated, that this prison will shortly be placed fully under the regulations of the late acts of parliament, and that a fair trial will be afforded of the effects of strict discipline, of various modes of employment, in hard and other labour, and of an extensive plan of inspection, combined with a complete system of religious and moral instruction, upon the conduct of the prisoners during their confinement, their reformation afterwards, and the deterring others from the commission of criminal offences. The

magnitude of the prison; and the very great number of its inmates, consisting, as they generally do, of about 650 persons, taken from the lowest order of society, in a neighbourhood where there is an immense population of the working classes, appear to be well calculated to bring the present system of prison discipline to a proper test.

There has been no case of fever, or other contagious disease, generated within the prison during the last year; and the prisoners have been, generally speaking, in a healthy state; only seven deaths have taken place during the year.

The prisoners appear more reconciled to employment at the tread-mill; and the surgeon reports, that he has not yet observed any injurious effects from this species of labour.

Punishments of a trifling nature, such as solitary confinement for short periods of time, are obliged to be inflicted for refractory conduct and neglect of work; but, in general, the conduct of the prisoners is that of quiet, ready, and patient obedience to the rules of the prison. It appears that the number of juvenile offenders has decreased; but whether this is owing to accidental causes, or otherwise, does not appear.

(Signed) W. R. LAY, Chairman.

No. 27.—HIGHSTEPPHIRE.

A General Report submitted to the Justices assembled at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions of the Peace holden for the said County, the 18th day of October, 1824, pursuant to the Act of 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, s. 24, intitled, "An Act for consolidating and amending the Laws relating to Gaols and Houses of Correction."

By the report of the visiting magistrates of the gaol and house of correction at the Epiphany session 1824, it appears, that the visitors had increased the daily allowance of bread to each prisoner, and had also ordered an allowance of coals to be made to each ward during the winter season; also, that the change in the wheel had been carried into effect.

By the report of the said visitors at the Easter session, it appears, that the visitors had directed their attention to the subject of the site of a new prison, and the offer of a piece of ground for the purpose.

The visitors also reported they found it impossible at present to recommend any specific course of proceeding for the erection of a new prison, as the prison amendment bill, which was then in progress, contained clauses which might influence materially their opinion on the subject.

The visitors also reported, that the tread-wheel on the altered construction had been at work since the last sessions, and no accident had occurred upon it, nor had any injurious consequence been experienced.

By the report of the visitors at the translation sessions, it appears, that the visitors had recommended a change of the diet to the prisoners in the wheel, which was afterwards ordered by the court of sessions to be adopted.

By the report of the said visitors at the present Michaelmas session, it appears, that the county gaol was insufficient, insecure, and totally inadequate to give effect to the rules prescribed by the prison act. That with respect to the house of correction, the alteration in the diet had proved beneficial; that the additional building ordered at the house of correction was not then completed, but was in a progressive state.

The visitors also reported, that from the increase of labour to the governor at the house of correction, they had deemed it necessary to appoint an additional turnkey in performing the various duties at the house of correction.

At this present Michaelmas session, the magistrates having, upon mature inquiry and consideration, found the present county gaol to be insecure and inefficient, it was the unanimous opinion, that a new gaol must be erected, the old gaol enlarged and made efficient, and a committee of magistrates was appointed to consider any plans, and to take such other steps as might be necessary to carry the same into effect.

By the report of Christopher Musson, the keeper of the gaol, it appears, that in the present state of the gaol, classification of the prisoners cannot be attended to. That the number of prisoners in the gaol at this time are 17 debtors, 7 felons, and 2 for misdemeanors.

By the report of John Allen, the keeper of the house of correction, it appears, that the number of prisoners in the house of correction at this time, are 55 male and 2 female; viz. 22 convicted of felony; 26 convicted of misdemeanors; 2 vagrants; and 7 for want of straties.

It appears that journals are regularly entered by the chaplain and surgeon of their attendance at the gaol and house of correction.

THOMAS GREEN, clerk of the peace.

The above report was submitted to the justices assembled at the Michaelmas quarter-session of the peace for the said county, and approved by such justices.

G. LEGH KECK, chairman.

No. 28.—LINCOLNSHIRE.

The general Report of William Forbes, gentleman, Clerk of the Gaol-Session for the County of Lincoln.

To his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, assembled in a Court of Gaol Sessions at the Judge's House in the Bail of Lincoln, on Friday the 1st day of October, 1824.

The county of Lincoln (with the exception of places hereafter noticed) consists of the divisions

of Lindsey, Kesteven, and Holland, each of which have a separate commission of the peace, and the magistrates respectively named in such commissions exercise distinct authority. The common or county gaol, and a house for the reception of his majesty's judges during the assizes, have been erected by and at the expense of the several divisions, and the same districts are now erecting a shire-hall and courts of assize, which, with other public expenses affecting the county at large, are defrayed by rates raised in the following proportions:—Lindsey one half, Kesteven four sevenths, and Holland three sevenths.

The city of Lincoln and county thereof, and nineteen parishes within their limits, are for all purposes a distinct county.

The borough and town of Grantham, and thirteen parishes within its scope, comprising more than 9,000 inhabitants; the town and borough of Stamford, comprising five parishes and 5,000 inhabitants; and the boroughs of Boston and Great Grimsby, the former comprising more than 10,000, and the latter more than 3,000 inhabitants, are local jurisdictions in the county of Lincoln, and do not contribute by rate, or in any other way, to the erection, maintenance, and repairs of the said public buildings; although persons charged with crimes of a capital nature within such jurisdictions are sent to the county gaol for trial; and smugglers and offenders against the assize laws are committed to the gaol of Boston (which is a sea-port), by the mayor of that town; the shire-hall is used for trying causes in the county courts and at the assizes; and the sheriff is called upon to execute writs of inquiry there on behalf of suitors residing within the limits of these jurisdictions.

The town of Lincoln, or, as it is now styled, the castle of Lincoln, stands upon an elevated site in the bail of Lincoln and division of Lindsey, formerly a place of great importance, belonging to, and the residence of, John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, and is situated in an area of nearly seven acres of land, surrounded by an ancient wall of sufficient height and security. It is parcel of the possessions of the duchy of Lancaster, and has been held for many ages under successive leases granted by the duchy court to the sheriff and magistrates of this county. The present lease is dated the 4th day of May, 1814, and commenced on the 26th day of June in that year, at an annual reserved ground-rent of 40*l.* payable half yearly, and is for thirty years.

The shire-hall and assize courts, are within the castle walls; the old ones were lately taken down, and an act of parliament has been obtained to erect new ones in their place, which are now building, and when completed, are estimated to cost the three divisions of this county 20,000*l.*

Under the authority of an act of parliament passed on the 23d of March last, intitled, "An act to facilitate, in those counties which are

divided into ridings or divisions, the execution of an act of the last session of parliament, for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales. A meeting of the justices of this county was duly convened by the sheriff, to be held at the judge's house, in the bail of Lincoln, on the 22d day of April last, at which were present twenty-four justices, who formed and constituted a court of sessions for the county gaol, for the purpose of carrying into execution the provisions of the recited act, and two acts previously passed, for regulating and enlarging gaols in England and Wales. The said court being so constituted, elected the *custos rotulorum* of the county, as one of such justices, to be their chairman, and his lordship presided at the said meeting accordingly; and after appointing George Moore, of the city of Lincoln, gentleman, their treasurer, and the said William Forbes their clerk, pursuant to the directions of the said recited act, it was ordered, that courts of gaol sessions should be held quarterly at the said judge's house in Lincoln (until the shire-hall was completed, and afterwards at the shire-hall), on the first Friday in January, the first Friday in April, the first Friday in July, and the first Friday in October, in every year. And for the better constituting and regulating the said court, the clerk was ordered to call upon the keeper of the gaol, and other public officers in the county, for information, papers, and documents relating thereto, for the use of the sessions: which information and documents were afterwards procured by him, and laid before the court at a sessions held on the 2d day of July last, when the justices there assembled proceeded to and viewed the said gaol; and after taking into consideration the state thereof, and the circumstance of an escape (which will be briefly noticed in this report), and which was facilitated by the access to building materials in the castle yard, it was their decided opinion, that during the erection of the said shire-hall and courts of assize, they were precluded from interfering with or making alterations in the said gaol; and therefore, whatever might be considered as necessary to be done thereto, in compliance with the act of parliament, must wait the completion of these buildings.

The following justices have been appointed visitors of the said gaol, *viz.*

Sir Montague Cholmeley, baronet, of Norton-place; Sir Edward French Bromhead, baronet, of Thurlby-hall; Francis Chaplain of Rischom, Charles de Laet Waldo Sibthorp of Camwick, and Henry Hutton of Lincoln, esquires; and the reverend Edward Bromhead of Recphan, John Nelson of Lincoln, and Humphrey Sibthorp of Washingborough, clerks; and their post town is Lincoln.

The present gaol was erected in or about the year 1790 (near to the site of the old prison, which

had been found insufficient to accommodate the prisoners, and was otherwise in a state of decay and almost unfit for use), is well constructed and in good repair, built chiefly of brick, with stone passages and staircases, iron gratings and doors, and otherwise strong and secure, well ventilated, and has a good roof covered with Westmorland-slate. Very little alteration has been made in the building since its erection. On the ground floor in the east wing of the front of this gaol, are convenient and suitable apartments and offices for the keeper, and a room for the use of the visiting magistrates, used also by persons who have business with prisoners, and over these are bed chambers, and rooms appropriated to the same use. The west wing of the front of the building contains apartments for the debtors. On the ground floor are four day rooms. The first and second floors of the building are used as sleeping rooms for the same class of prisoners. The crown side of the prison contains the following day rooms and courts: No. 1. Day room and courts for male convicts; No. 2. Day room and court for males on suspicion of felony; No. 3. Day room and court for misdemeanors, smugglers, &c.; No. 4. Day room and court for males convicted of felony. Under the chapel there are three smaller day rooms and courts, one of which is the female ward. The other two are for any minor offenders that may be committed, or for the occasional separation of disorderly and refractory prisoners from any of the former classes. On the ground floor are nine sleeping cells. The chamber story contains seven sleeping rooms.

The whole of the prison is regularly scraped and whitewashed once a year, and the day rooms and courts very frequently.

Reports to the quarterly gaol sessions have been made and delivered by the keeper of the prison; and his journal of punishments and other occurrences of importance have been produced at the sessions, and signed by the chairman; he has also returned to the clerk of these sessions a state of the prison, in the form prescribed by the act of the 4 Geo. IV. c. 14, schedule (B), and which will be annexed to this report; and he has certified that the rules of the gaols as settled in the year 1812, and the rules and regulations directed by the several acts of parliament lately passed, have been complied with as far as was in his power.

The annual salaries to these several officers follow.

The reverend George Davis Kent, chaplain	£300
Mr. Francis Edmund Franklyn, surgeon	250
Ditto, in lieu of charges for medicine	250
Mr. John Merryweather, keeper	300
William Hobbs, house turnkey	70
Thomas Baker, gate turnkey	40
Elizabeth Barton, matron	40

Total amount of salaries £700

Plans of the prison have been made by order of the gaol sessions to accompany this report, and the rules of the gaol, before referred to, are also transmitted with it; but it may be necessary to observe, that the justices have in contemplation to settle new rules and regulations for the government of this gaol, agreeably to the directions of the acts of parliament; and with a view regard to the most improved system of prison discipline.

The reports of the visiting justices have been made and filed at each gaol sessions since the court was constituted.

In the prosecution of different works going on in the erection of the shire-hall and assize courts, they have reported, that the gates of the prison have been necessarily thrown open, and there are materials of all descriptions about the prison, which render it insecure, and give facilities to escape; that five prisoners availed themselves of advantages which these circumstances furnished, and attempted to get out of prison. One of them, John Dill, a chimney-sweep, under sentence of imprisonment for felony for one year, escaped, and has not yet been retaken; and the other four were put in irons by the keeper for their misconduct; but with the exception of this circumstance, they state that the morals and good conduct of the prisoners have been exemplary, and they have not observed or been informed of any improper conduct in the gaol on the felons' side, and that the discipline and management of it was to their satisfaction. The rules of 1812, as far as they enforce order and regulation amongst prisoners confined for debt, are reported to require regulation; and that it may be necessary to revise one of them, which gives authority to the keeper to let beds for hire to the debtors. The mode of supplying beer to this description of prisoners, although limited, and under particular regulations and restrictions, is ingeniously evaded, and for this reason will call for particular attention when new rules are under discussion. At present there is no provision made for the instruction of prisoners in reading and writing. Female prisoners assist occasionally in menial offices in the prison, and the male prisoners are employed in the summer months, under the direction of the keeper, in the castle and yard, for which they are allowed extra diet (as will be stated hereafter); but in winter and wet weather they are without occupation. The male prisoners have not been supplied with separate beds, under the 18th rule of the act, but this omission is about to be remedied. They have also reported some defects in the classification and construction of the cells, and in accomplishing close confinement, in the refractory or solitary cells, when such discipline is obliged to be resorted to. The sewers and underground drains in and about the prison call for particular attention, and in some parts the walls which surround the day wards are not of sufficient height. For the reasons before given, these ne-

cessary works could not be attended to, and the visiting magistrates have refrained from suggesting various improvements which would in their judgment (if adopted), add to the security and improve the regulation of this gaol. They have also reported the mode of dieting prisoners, and that the rule in this respect was made at the opening of the prison in the year 1790, and has continued to be acted upon; first observing that the prisoners are allowed firing, and cook for themselves.

Debtors having been certified as poor and necessitous by the minister and parish officers where they last resided, are allowed one pound and a half of good wheaten bread daily, and a pound of good beef, without bone, weekly. Prisoners under capital charges, and all others under the denomination of crown prisoners, one pound and a half of good wheaten bread daily, in three loaves of three pounds and a half weight each, on Sunday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings; and half a peck of potatoes; a half quarter of a peck of oatmeal, and a quarter of a pound of salt, weekly.

Extra diet, of one pound and a half of beef without bone, is given to prisoners who assist in performing labour, such as masons, carpenters, and all other prisoners employed under the superintendance of the keeper in the general repairs and works in and about the gaol and the castle yard.

Provisions are provided as follows—

- Bread, oatmeal, and beef are contracted for quarterly; groceries, including salt, soap, candles, brushes, mops, brooms, coals, bedding, and clothing, are provided as they are wanted by the keeper, under the direction and by the order of the visiting justices; and the average cost of these, in the last three years, are returned by him as follows—

Coals	£ 300 10 0
Bread and oatmeal	130 5 6
Beef, consisting of rounds and flanks	113 18 2
Groceries	13 13 0
Bedding, clothing, &c.	102 6 3
Shoes	10 5 0
Stationary	21 10 5
Potatoes	20 0 0
Oil and lamps	10 13 9

They have further reported, that the disbursements of the prison have been paid from time to time by the keeper, and his accounts have been settled by the justices annually in September, and paid at or about Christmas, with nine months interest thereon for money he may have disbursed out of pocket in the course of the year. At the gaol sessions, held on the 24 day of July last, this subject occupied the consideration of the court; and it was ordered, that for the future such bills should be collected quarterly, examined and allowed at the gaol sessions,

said that sums to meet their amount should be ordered from the several divisions at the same periods, and paid to the gaol treasurer. By this regulation the justices will be enabled to pay the salaries of their officers, and settle all accounts with their tradesmen, quarterly, and the charge for interest will be avoided.

The chart ordered the expenses and maintenance of the said gaol to be published annually, in the month of October, in the county papers.

The visiting justices have likewise reported, that the chaplain has complied strictly with the 9th rule in the act of parliament, and has on all other occasions zealously and diligently performed his duties; that the surgeon has duly visited the prison, and been otherwise attentive when his services were required. The journals kept by these officers have been laid before the justices at the sessions for inspection, and have been signed by the chairman; that the keeper, who has held his situation 28 years, has conducted himself much to their satisfaction, and that the present turnkeys and the matron have been very diligent in their respective situations; application has been made by the keeper to have their salaries increased.

The chaplain has reported, that during the last year the greatest order, regularity, and moral conduct have prevailed among the prisoners, except in one instance, where Thomas Wheldon, a convict, for disorderly behaviour at chapel, suffered solitary confinement for a few days, and that he afterwards conducted himself with propriety; that Bibles, Prayer-books, and religious tracts have been purchased with the annual sum of 5*l.* allowed for the purpose by the justices, and distributed in the prison with beneficial effects, and moral and religious instruction have been inculcated; that the sacrament has been administered to those who have been desirous to receive it, and always in the morning of an execution. He has also reported, that during the last year John Smith and James Wetherall, who were convicted of murder, died penitent, and confessed their guilt; and that the several officers of the prison have been attentive and regular in their attendance at chapel.

W. FORBES, Clerk of gaol sessions.
 at Seaforth, 1st October, 1824.

Lincolnshire. At a gaol sessions of our sovereign lord the king, held at the judge's house at Lincoln on Friday the 1st day of October, 1824, before sir Robert Sheffield, bart. chairman; sir Edward French Bromhead, bart.; Francis Chaplin, esq. and others, justices; the above report was laid before this court and approved.

ROBERT SHEFFIELD, chairman.
 To his Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Home Department.

The Report of Richard Ellison, esq., Chairman of the Michaelmas Sessions, held at Kirton,

in and for the parts of Lindsey, in the county of Lincoln, respecting the Bridewell at Kirton, required by the act of the 4 Geo. IV. c. 64.

In pursuance of the powers vested in the magistrates by the said act, they have made alterations in the said bridewell, to carry the classification required into execution as far as they have been able; they have also erected a treadmill for the employment of the prisoners; a plan of which, together with the alterations in the said bridewell, is transmitted herewith.

Mr. John Lee, who was keeper of the said bridewell prior to the said act, has been continued; and his mother, Mary Lee, regularly acted as matron to superintend the female prisoners. The keeper is allowed a salary of 100*l.* a year, out of which he pays the matron and turnkey's salary. The said keeper has kept a regular journal, which has been laid before the justices at every sessions; he has also made quarterly reports to the sessions, stating that the rules laid down by the magistrates had been regularly complied with, and that the rules and regulations directed by the several acts of parliament, lately passed, have been complied with as far as was in his power.

The gaoler has also furnished a return of the state of the prison in the form annexed to the said act, marked schedule (B), which is transmitted herewith. Visiting magistrates have been appointed (quarterly, and their names and places of abode transmitted to the secretary of state's office), who have regularly visited the said bridewell, and reported to the sessions the general good management thereof.

The reverend Edwin Harrison has been appointed chaplain, with a salary of 100*l.* a year, to do the duty as follows: every Sunday, at nine o'clock in the morning and half-past four in the afternoon, and during the week, once in a day, alternate weeks, at nine in the morning and five in the afternoon. The said chaplain, since his appointment, has reported that great regularity and good conduct has prevailed among the prisoners. A journal has been kept by the said chaplain, and produced and signed by the chairman at each sessions.

Mr. George Foster, of Kirton, who was surgeon to the bridewell prior to the passing of the said act, has been continued, with a salary of 30*l.* a year, and he has duly attended the bridewell; he has kept a journal, which has been regularly produced and signed by the chairman at each sessions.

RICHARD ELLISON, chairman.
 To his Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Home Department.

The Report of Charles Burrell-Massingberd, esq., Chairman of the Michaelmas Sessions, held by adjournment at Lowth, in and for the Parts of Lindsey, in the county of Lincoln,

respecting the state of the house of correction at Louth.

In pursuance of the powers vested in the magistrates by the said act, they determined to build a new house of correction at Spilsby, in the said parts, and also to make several alterations and additions to the house of correction at Louth, to enable them to carry into effect the classification of the prisoners as required by the said act.

The contracts for building the new house of correction at Spilsby were entered into on the 27th day of May last, for the sum of 13,127*l.*; and the same is to be completed on or before Michaelmas 1825. And in consequence of the insufficiency of the present house of correction at Louth, the magistrates, on the 25th day of this instant (October), let the alterations and improvements at the said house of correction, to be completed on or before Michaelmas sessions 1826, at or for the price or sum of 9,927*l.*

At an adjourned sessions, held at Louth on Tuesday the 4th day of November last, the rev. Wolley Jolland, of Louth, was appointed chaplain to the said house of correction, with a salary of 100*l.* per annum; Richard Cox, the former keeper, with a salary of 180*l.* per annum; Mary his wife, matron, with a salary of 20*l.* per annum; Mr. William King, the former surgeon to the house of correction, continued, with a salary of 20*l.* a year, and 20*l.* for medicines. The said surgeon has kept a journal, which has been regularly produced at the sessions, and signed by the chairman, as required by the said act.

The chaplain to the said house of correction has done the duty as follows, viz. twice on every Sunday, and twice during the week, and has kept a journal, which has been produced and signed by the chairman at each sessions; and also reported to the court that great regularity and good conduct has generally prevailed amongst the prisoners.

The said gaoler has also kept a journal, and has also made quarterly reports to the said sessions, stating that the rules laid down by the magistrates had been regularly complied with; and that the rules and regulations directed by the several acts of parliament lately passed have been complied with, as far as the present state of the building admitted, save and except that the gaoler has heretofore supplied the provisions by contract, there being no tenders made to the satisfaction of the magistrates for the supply of the same, after due advertisements for the same.

The gaoler hath also furnished a return of the state of the prison in the form annexed to the said act, marked schedule (B), which is transmitted herewith.

Visiting magistrates have been appointed quarterly, and their names and places of abode transmitted to the secretary of state's office, who have regularly visited the said house of correction, and reported, to the sessions the general good management thereof.

C. B. MASSINGBERD, chairman.

The parts of Kesteven in the county of Lincoln.

—The general Report of William Forbes, gentleman, clerk of the peace for the said parts: to his majesty's justices of the peace, assembled at the general Michaelmas quarter-sessions, 1824.

The house of correction for these parts, and the ground and moat which surround it, are situated in a central and healthy situation in the division (immediately adjoining the market-town of Folkingham), and of which the justices of the peace acting in and for these parts, and their successors, are seised in fee-simple. The present prison (which was erected in the year 1808) is a brick building, covered with blue slate, and surrounded by a lofty brick wall. At the last Epiphany sessions it was presented as insufficient to contain the number of prisoners usually confined therein, and to give effect to the rules and regulations prescribed by certain acts of parliament recently passed for amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating certain gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales. The justices of the peace acting in and for the said parts, afterwards examined into the circumstances of the said presentment, and were of opinion that it was well founded. In obedience to the said acts of parliament, they procured plans and estimates for enlarging the said house of correction, and for the erection of a tread-mill, and caused contracts to be entered into with various workmen for such enlargement. The estimated expense of which, including the tread-mill, is £3000, or thereabouts. The works are in great forwardness, and, under the contracts, are to be completed by the 1st day of January next. The following justices have been appointed visitors at the said house of correction, viz.

Charles Allix, esquire, of Willoughby-house, near Grantham; and

The reverend William Waters, clerk, of Dunsby, near Bourn.

Journals are kept in the prison by the chaplain, surgeon, and governor, in which all occurrences relating thereto are entered; they are produced at the quarter-sessions, and signed by the chairman. The governor has made his return (schedule B), which will be annexed to this report. Rules for the government of the said house of correction were made at the said Epiphany sessions (since confirmed by the judge of assize), and have been strictly observed and enforced: a printed copy of these rules is intended to accompany this report. A plan of the house of correction, as constructed in 1808, was lately transmitted to the secretary of state, and another plan thereof, comprising the additions and improvements, is intended to be made and transmitted when the works now executing are completed. The visiting magistrates have reported, that the conduct of the prisoners has been exemplary, and they have not observed or been informed of any improper conduct or mis-

management in the prison; that the surgeon, governor, matron, and turnkey, are attentive to their respective duties. The office of chaplain being now vacant, a clergyman has been selected, who reads prayers and preaches a sermon every Sunday, and reads prayers twice in every week.

The salaries of the several officers follow:

Reverend Joseph Dodsworth, officiating chaplain	£50
Mr. Charles Bloomfield, surgeon	30
John White, governor	30
Mary White, matron	10
Henry Hill, turnkey	35
	£205

Beef and coals are contracted for by tender; other articles are purchased by the governor; and the salaries and general expenditure are audited by the justices, and paid quarterly.

The said Charles Allix and William Waters, as visitors, have reported in writing, that Mary Lowe, who was convicted of felony at the assizes and general session of gaol delivery, holden at Lincoln on Saturday, the 12th day of July, 1823, before the right honourable Sir Richard Richards, knight, chief baron of our lord the king of his court of Exchequer, the honourable Sir William Garrow, knight, one other of the barons of the said court, and others their fellow justices, and was ordered to be imprisoned, and kept to hard labour in the said house of correction at Folkingham, for two years, has behaved exceedingly well since her confinement, and appeared very penitent, and therefore recommend her for the remission of the remaining part of her sentence.

W. FORBES,
Clerk of the peace for the said parts.
Seaford, 10th October, 1824.

At the general quarter-sessions of the peace of our sovereign lord the king, held at Bourne in and for the said parts, on Monday, the 15th day of October, 1824, before William Augustus Johnson, esquire, chairman, Thomas Birch Reynardson, esquire, and others, justices of our said lord the king, and afterwards continued and held by adjournment at New Steaford, in and for the said parts, on Thursday, the 21st day of the same October, before Charles Chaplin, esquire, chairman, Sir Robert Heron, baronet, and others, justices of our said lord the king, the above report was laid before the courts and approved.

W. A. JOHNSON, chairman at Bourne sessions.
C. CHARLIN, chairman at Steaford sessions.

Lincolnshire, Holland.—At a general quarter-sessions of the peace of our sovereign lord the king, held by proclamation at Boston, in and for the parts of Holland, within the county of Lincoln, on Tuesday, the 19th day of October, in the fifth year of the reign of our sovereign

lord George the fourth, that now is king of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and in the year of our Lord 1824, before the reverend Henry Butler Pacey, doctor in divinity, the reverend John Caparn, clerk, Henry Clarke, esquire, the reverend Martin Sheath, clerk, Charles Tannard, esquire, the reverend Charles Boothby and Basil Berridge, clerks, and others their fellows, the justices of our said lord the king, assigned to keep the peace of our said lord the king within the parts of Holland aforesaid, and also to hear and determine divers felonies, trespasses, and other misdemeanors done and committed within the said parts in the said county, and one of whom is of the quorum. The justices of the peace here assembled, having taken into consideration the provisions of the act, 4 Geo. IV., c. 64, intitled "An act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulation of certain gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales," and of the several amended acts, as relates to the house of correction at Skirbeck Quarter, in the parts of Holland, in the said county of Lincoln, reports that from the incompetency of such building, being appropriated according to the extended classification required by the act, the justices are unable to proceed in carrying the act into effect; and that when the house of correction now building at Spalding, in the said parts and county, is completed, the justices will be enabled to determine whether the building at Skirbeck Quarter should be continued and maintained in addition; for the reception of such class of prisoners as may be prescribed pursuant to the third section of the act 4 Geo. IV., c. 64.

By the court,

(Signed) F. A. THURKILL,

Clerk of the peace for the said parts.
Lincolnshire, Holland.—At a general quarter-sessions of the peace of our sovereign lord the king, held by proclamation at Boston, in and for the parts of Holland, within the county of Lincoln, on Tuesday, the 19th day of October, in the fifth year of the reign of our sovereign lord George the fourth, that now is king of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and in the year of our Lord 1824, before the reverend Henry Butler Pacey, doctor in divinity, the reverend John Caparn, clerk, Henry Clarke, esquire, the reverend Martin Sheath, clerk, Charles Keightley Tannard, esquire, the reverend Charles Boothby and Basil Berridge, clerks, and others their fellows, the justices of our said lord the king, assigned to keep the peace of our said lord the king within the parts of Holland aforesaid, and also to hear and determine divers felonies, trespasses, and other misdemeanors done and committed within the said parts, in the said county, and one of

whom is of the quorum, and afterwards by adjournment (to wit), at Spalding, in and for the said parts, on the 21st day of the said month of October, in the fifth year of the reign aforesaid, before the reverend William Moore, clerk, and the reverend Maurice Johnson, doctor, in divinity, and other, their fellows, also the justices of our said lord the king, assigned to keep the peace of our said lord the king within the parts of Holland aforesaid, and also to hear and determine as aforesaid, within the said parts in the said county, and one of whom is also of the quorum.

The justices of the peace here assembled having taken into consideration the provisions of the act 4 Geo. IV, c. 64, intitled, "An act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales," and of the several antient acts as relates to the present house of correction at Spalding, in the parts of Holland, in the county of Lincoln, report, that the house of correction now building at Spalding, conformable to the directions of the act, is in a state of forwardness; and will most probably be completed the early part of next year; and that, from the insufficiency of the present house of correction at Spalding for the extended classification required by the acts, the justices are unable, as stated in the report of last year, to proceed in carrying the acts into effect.

By the court,

(Signed), FRAS. THIRKILL, Clerk of the peace for the said parts.

No. 29.—MERIONETHSHIRE.

Dolgelly, 31st December, 1824.

Sir,—No report was made to the Michaelmas, or any preceding quarter-session for the county of Merioneth of the state of the gaol by the visiting magistrates to enable me, as clerk of the peace, to prepare a general one, founded on the report of the visiting justices, the chaplain, and the certificate of the keeper of the county gaol, pursuant to the fourth of the king, c. 64, s. 24. No general report could be prepared by me, or submitted to the justices assembled at the last quarter, for their approbation, and therefore I am still unable to send the report required.

I enclose a copy of the gaoler's schedule, which if it could should have been accompanied by the general report.

A petition has been presented to the petty council from the magistrates at the last quarter-sessions, pursuant to the 5th of the king, c. 65, s. 11, praying a dispensation with all, or some of the wards or accommodations required by the act. I am, sir,

Your very obedient humble servant,

(Signed), HUMPHREY WILLEMS.

No. 30.—MIDDLESEX.

1824.—The Annual Report of the Justices of the Peace for the County of Middlesex, to the Secretary of State, relative to the House of Correction, Cold Bath Fields, and the New Prison, Clerkenwell.

A true copy and correct account of the proceedings of the justices of the peace for the county of Middlesex, for carrying into effect the act of parliament made in the fourth year of the reign of his present majesty, intitled, "An Act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales;" and also another act of parliament made in the fifth year of the reign of his present majesty, intitled, "An act for amending an Act of the last session of Parliament, relating to the building, repairing, and enlarging of certain gaols and houses of correction, and for procuring information as to the state of all other gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales."

That there had been established, and was existing, before the time of passing of the act of the fourth year of the reign of his present majesty, intitled, "An act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales," (independent of his majesty's gaol of Newgate, and the house of correction for the city and liberty of Westminster,) a house of correction situate in Cold Bath Fields, and a prison, called the New Prison, Clerkenwell, under the management and direction of the justices of the peace for the said county of Middlesex.

That the number of prisoners now confined in the said house of correction is four hundred and sixty; and in the new prison, one hundred and ninety-four prisoners; and that the said house of correction not being deemed by the justices assembled at their general quarter-session, sufficient for the extended classification required by the said act, the cabinet has been presented by two justices, and the courts directed plans on a more extensive scale to be prepared, with a separation for the female prisoners distinct from the male prisoners, and the same is now under their consideration.

That, in the interim, on account of the great number of vagrants being committed, temporary buildings have been made within the boundary wall of the house of correction for their accommodation.

That a boundary wall is now building around the county ground behind the house of correction in Cold Bath Fields, to facilitate the erection of any additional buildings or alterations which may be found necessary.

That a tread-wheel had been erected in the eight yards of the prison, for the employment of the prisoners, prior to the passing the late acts of parliament.

That the prisoners in the new prison, being committed there previous to their trials, and not being under sentence, are employed in such occupations as present themselves within the said prison.

That two chaplains have been appointed, one for each prison, to do the duties, conformable to the act of parliament. The chaplains of the house of correction and new prison reported, that the prisoners have uniformly conducted themselves with attention and propriety during divine service, and that the boys are making progress in reading, and in their catechisms. They further state, that the prisoners generally appear in a progressive state of improvement, as far as the time of their continuance there will allow.

That the following is a true and correct statement of the establishment of officers and servants employed in the house of correction, Cold Bath Fields, with the numbers and descriptions of such officers and servants, the salaries and emoluments of each, and by whom such officers and servants are respectively appointed:—

	Per annum.
	£ s. d.
The chaplain, appointed by the justices in session, at a salary of . . .	300 0 0
A surgeon at 150 <i>l.</i> with a gratuity of 50 <i>l.</i>	200 0 0
The governor is appointed by the justices in session, at a salary of 400 <i>l.</i> per annum, without any other perquisites or emoluments .	400 0 0
The clerk of the said house of correction is appointed also by the said justices in sessions, at a salary of 155 <i>l.</i> per annum, without other emolument or perquisites, with a gratuity of 50 <i>l.</i>	205 0 0
The storekeeper is also appointed by the said justices, at a salary of 2 <i>l.</i> 2 <i>s.</i> per week, without other emoluments or perquisite . . .	100 4 0
The head turnkey is allowed 2 <i>l.</i> per week	104 0 0
Two gatekeepers are allowed 30 <i>s.</i> per week each	78 0 0
A porter is allowed 30 <i>s.</i> per week	78 0 0
Nine turnkeys are allowed 25 <i>s.</i> per week each	65 0 0
Six watchmen are allowed 25 <i>s.</i> per week each	65 0 0
A gardener is allowed 25 <i>s.</i> per week	65 0 0
A cook is allowed 25 <i>s.</i> per week	65 0 0
The clerk to the chapel is allowed 10 <i>l.</i> per annum	10 0 0

The weekly servants and clerk to the chapel are appointed by the governor, with the approbation of the visiting justices, and are allowed no other perquisites or emoluments.

A matron, appointed by the justices in session, at a salary of 150*l.* per annum, without other emoluments or perquisites

Two female turnkeys, appointed by the visiting justices, at a salary of 20*s.* per week each, without other emoluments or perquisites

A portress is allowed 12*s.* per week

A schoolmaster and a schoolmistress are selected from the most able and deserving of the prisoners, and are rewarded according to their merits and the length of their services.

That the following is a true and correct statement of the establishment of officers and servants employed in the new prison, Clerkenwell, with the numbers and description of such officers and servants, the salaries and emoluments of each, and by whom such officers and servants are respectively appointed:—

The chaplain, appointed by the justices in session, at a salary of

The surgeon, at a yearly salary of 150*l.* with a gratuity of 50*l.*

The keeper of the said new prison is appointed in like manner, at a salary of 400*l.* per annum, without any other perquisites or emoluments

The clerk of the new prison is appointed in like manner, at a salary of 155*l.* per annum

The head turnkey is allowed 30*s.* per week

Five other turnkeys are allowed 25*s.* per week each

Three watchmen are allowed 25*s.* per week each

The clerk of the chapel is allowed 10*l.* per annum

The weekly servants and clerk of the chapel are appointed by the keeper, with the approbation of the visiting justices, and are allowed no other perquisites or emoluments.

A matron is appointed by the court of session, at a salary of 75*l.* per annum, without perquisites or emoluments

Two female turnkeys are appointed by the visiting justices, at 20*s.* per week each, without perquisites or emoluments

A schoolmaster is appointed by the keeper, and approved of by the visiting justices, at 20*s.* per week

That the court, at the general quarter-session of the peace held after Michaelmas last past, nominated the following-mentioned gentlemen as visiting justices of the said house of correction and new prison until the next general session:

Francis Const, esq. (chairman of the sessions), Soho Square; William Marmaduke Sillon, Public Office, Hatton Garden; Jno. Baker,

Torrington Square; Wm. Ballantine, Thames Police Office, Wapping; Wm. Bird, Howland Street; Jno. Ed. Conant, Public Office, Marlborough Street; Wm. Flower, Upper Bedford Place; Sam. Hoare, junior, Hampstead Heath; Sam. Everingham, Sketchnley; Phillimore Place; Kensington; Geo. Saunders, Oxford Street; Nicholas Tomlinson, Dorset Square; and Wm. Wilk, equires; Islington.

That the surgeon appointed to each of the said prisons attends the same daily, to visit the prisoners, and to report to the visiting justices the state of the health of the prisoners, &c.

That there are two infirmaries in each prison for the men, and two in each prison for females, one of which in each is appropriated in each division to the sick, and one for the convalescent.

That there is enjoined hereto the state of the house of correction, and the new prison, agreeable to the form prescribed in the said act by the schedule (B).

House of Correction, Cold Bath Fields
November 25th 1824

No. 31. MONMOUTHSHIRE.

County of Monmouth. — At the General Quarter-Sessions of the Peace of Our Sovereign Lord the King, holden at the Town-Hall in Usk, for the County aforesaid, on Monday, in the week next after the Feast of St. Michael, the Archangel, in the fifth year of the reign of Our Sovereign Lord George the Fourth, King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland; before William, Taddy, esq., Serjeant at Law, Chairman; Granville Charles Henry Somerset, commonly called Lord Granville Charles Henry Somerset, and others their Fellows, his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County.

The several reports of the respective visiting justices, the respective chaplains, and the respective keepers of the gaol and the house of correction, in this county, made in pursuance of the 22d, 23d, and 34th sections of the act 4th Geo. IV. c. 64, having been respectively taken into consideration by the justices here assembled, the said justices have approved thereof, and are of opinion that the provisions of the said act have been carried into effect to as great an extent as the time elapsed since its enactment has permitted; and that measures have also been adopted for a further compliance with its provisions.

W. TADDY, chairman.

No. 32. MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

Montgomeryshire. — The Report of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Montgomery, in Quarter-Sessions assembled at Montgomery, on the 21st day of October, 1824, pursuant to the Directions of the Act passed in the fourth year of his present Ma-

reign, intituled, "An Act for consolidating and amending the Laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain Gaols and Houses of Correction in England and Wales."

Copy of the visiting justices report
Montgomery, Michaelmas quarter sessions, 1824
We have the satisfaction of reporting, that the prisoners have in general enjoyed a good state of health; and that their conduct has been orderly.

The prisoners in the house of corrections who have been sentenced to hard labour have been employed in breaking stone as usual.

No alterations have been made either in the gaol or house of correction, and we abstain at present from suggesting any, as that will become more immediately before the committee we recommend the court to appoint

We beg leave to call the attention of the court to the statute of the 5th Geo. IV. c. 85, and recommend that a committee be appointed to prepare a petition to the Lords of his Majesty's privy council, according to the provisions in that section.

We also call the attention of the court to the gaoler's report, and the 5th section of the same act, and the schedule (B) alluded to in a 64 of 4 Geo. IV.

(Signed) F. BOX CORNER
DEV. MYRTON.

The present gaol consists of convenient apartments for the gaoler, with a chapel and infirmary, together with the following accommodations for the prisoners, viz.

- 1st. A court for debtors; a day-room and eight airy lodging-rooms on the male side, with two on the female side, unconnected with the former.
- 2d. A court for male criminals; a day-room, six cells, and two airy lodging-rooms.
- 3d. A court for female criminals; a day-room, one cell, and two airy lodging-rooms.

(Signed) WILLIAM OWEN,
Chairman of the said quarter sessions.

No. 33. NORFOLK.

The General Report of the Justices of the Peace for the County of Norfolk, assembled at the General Quarter-Sessions of the Peace, held for the said County, at the Castle of Norwich, in the Shire-house there, on the 20th day of October, 1824, and which Report is made in pursuance of the Act of Parliament 4th Geo. IV. c. 64.

The justices of the peace for this county having, in the year 1821, approved of a plan for a new gaol, house of correction, and shire-house, to be built in pursuance of an act of parliament then lately obtained for that purpose, and having resolved to carry that plan into immediate effect to a certain extent, with a view to its completion at a future period, the work

was begun accordingly, and has been carried on with all possible expedition : and at the quarter-session held in January last, the justices then assembled being of opinion that the provisions of the late acts of parliament respecting prisons could not be complied with in the now gaol until the whole of the plan before approved should be executed, that the relinquishment of any part of an effective system of prison discipline would be very inadequately compensated to the public by any saving that could be effected by delaying the completion of the plan, and that uniformity in the materials and execution of the buildings, and ultimate economy, would be best consulted by such completion by the persons engaged in the parts then in progress, it was resolved, that the whole plan should be carried into immediate effect, and that the sum necessary for that purpose should be raised without borrowing any money under the authority of the act of the 4th Geo. IV. c. 64.

In consequence of the unfinished state of the buildings, the county gaol has, since our former report, been appropriated almost exclusively to the confinement of debtors.

It appears to this court by the report of the justices appointed visitors of the house of correction at Aylsham, that its construction is in all respects defective, and that there is no employment for the male prisoners except grinding corn by a hand-mill, which is supposed to require an exertion too severe for those who are not sentenced to hard labour, and not sufficiently so for those on whom such a sentence has been passed.

It appears by the reports of the justices appointed to be visitors of the house of correction at Swaffham, that the tread-wheel there has been in operation upwards of a year; that they consider it the properest prison-labour that has ever been adopted; and that it is in no respect whatever injurious to the health of prisoners, but rather conducive to it, as the prisoners there have never enjoyed such general good health as they have since its introduction.

And it appears to this court by the reports and certificates, delivered in pursuance of the said act of the 4th Geo. IV. c. 64, that the directions therein respecting the classification of prisoners have been complied with in the several houses of correction in this county, as far as the state of the buildings will admit; that the health of the prisoners has been generally good, and their conduct quiet and orderly; and that the duties of all the officers of the several prisons have been satisfactorily performed.

CHARLES SAVILL ONLEY, chairman.

No. 34.—NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

The Report of the Justices assembled at the Michaelmas Quarter-Sessions of the Peace for the County of Northampton, under the 24th

Section of the Act of Parliament 4 Geo. IV. c. 64.

As to the visiting justices.

The visiting justices have made their report at each quarter-sessions of the peace; and it appears therefrom that every thing during the last year has been conducted within the gaol and house of correction with regularity, and without complaint.

That the employment of prisoners in grinding corn by a crank-mill, which is, employed in this gaol, and baking, has in each quarter yielded a profit to the county. That the employment of the prisoners in wire-work, has also yielded a small profit.

That one untried prisoner having declined to work at the mill, no attempt was made to persuade him to do so. That most of the prisoners have voluntarily engaged to dress flour, and do sundry other works.

As to the chaplain.

It appears from the report of the chaplain, that the liturgy of the Church of England has been read in the chapel of the gaol every Sunday morning and evening, in its respectively appointed parts, also on Christmas-day and Good Friday; that the sacrament has been administered on the great festivals, and at other times, as occasion required; that each yard has been supplied with Bibles and Testaments, and occasionally with other religious books; that religious instructions have been privately given to all willing prisoners; and that the ignorant, as far as has been practicable, have been taught to read.

As to the jailor's report.

A copy of the return, by the jailor, of the state of the prison, as required to be made by him by the 22d section of the before-mentioned act of parliament, is hereunto annexed; and it appears from his reports, that the state and condition of the gaol and house of correction is satisfactory, and that the classification, as required by the act, has been duly observed and attended to.

SPENCER, chairman.

No. 35.—NORTHUMBERLAND.

The Report of Robert Thorp, Clerk of the Peace for the County of Northumberland, to his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County, assembled at the Michaelmas General Quarter-Sessions of the Peace, holden at Alnwick, in and for the said County of Northumberland, the 21st day of October, 1824.

Whereas, by an act of parliament made and passed in the fourth year of the reign of his present majesty, intituled, "an act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain gaols and houses of correction in England and

“Wales,” the clerks of the peace are directed to make a general report of the state and condition of the several prisons within their respective counties, founded on the report of the visiting justices, on the report of the chaplain or chaplains, and on the certificates of the keepers of the several prisons, and submit the same to the justices assembled at every Michaelmas quarter-sessions; which report is to be disposed of according to the directions of the said act. Now I, the said Robert Thorp, do hereby certify to the said justices so assembled as aforesaid, that in the said county of Northumberland there is one common gaol for debtors, and such felons and persons charged with misdemeanors as may be from time to time committed thereto, and four houses of correction, situated at the places following, (that is to say,) Hexham, Morpeth, Alnwick, and Tynemouth, all in the said county of Northumberland. And I do further certify, that there is a chaplain attached to the establishment of the said common gaol at Morpeth, but none to any of the before-mentioned houses of correction. And I do further certify, that no report in writing hath been made by any of the justices, in pursuance of the 23d section of the said act, (save and except the visiting justices at the common gaol and house of correction at Morpeth,) neither has any report been made by the chaplain of the said common gaol at Morpeth; and therefore I, the said Robert Thorp, cannot make the general report required to be made by me to this sessions, so far as regards the report of the visiting justices and chaplain, (save and except as aforesaid,) and can only report from the information I have obtained from such the report of the said visiting justices, and by the certificates of the keeper of the said common gaol, and the keepers of the said several houses of correction; which report and certificates enable me to make a report as follows, viz., First, with regard to the said common gaol at Morpeth, that the said common gaol is a building in such a state and condition, and of such a construction, as to render it totally impracticable to carry into effect the classification required by law; but it appears by the certificate of the said gaoler or keeper, that the said common gaol is now under presentment, and by virtue of an act of parliament passed in the first year of the present reign, the building of a new gaol and house of correction, at Morpeth aforesaid, is now in a state of forwardness, and is proceeding in with every possible despatch; which building, when completed, will have all the requisites to enable the said gaoler to effect the classification required by the before-in-part-recited act of parliament. And it appears from the report of the said gaoler, that there are now confined within the walls of the said gaol five male debtors, and that there are also confined therein one person for a misdemeanor, viz. for a riot and assault, and four persons who have been tried and convicted of

felony, viz., three males and one female; that one of the males is insane, and ordered to be continued in custody on that account; and also a boy, under conviction of a magistrate, for six months, or until he pays a penalty of ten pounds; that there is one person under commitment for trial in the said gaol on a charge of felony; and further, that the prisoners have behaved themselves in an orderly manner during the last year, so that no punishments have been inflicted by order of the visiting justices or himself, except in the case of one male prisoner, put in irons for attempting to escape; and that no cases of extreme sickness have occurred, but one case of sudden death in the course of the year. From the certificate delivered in at the sessions by the keeper of the house of correction at Hexham, it appears that this prison was until lately in a very insufficient and unsafe state for the purposes of health, security, and classification of the prisoners confined therein; but that the same has been enlarged, and is now divided into three distinct classes, viz. males, females, and boys. That there are two wards or rooms attached to the class for males, two wards or rooms for the female class, and one room for the boys' class, with an airing yard attached to each class; that in addition to which there is a room where vagrants are usually confined, but no airing yard attached thereto; that there is at present no prisoner whatever confined within the walls of this prison; and that the prisoners who have during the year been confined therein have conducted themselves in an orderly manner, to the satisfaction of the visiting justices and of the said keeper. With regard to the house of correction at Alnwick, it appears from the certificate of the keeper thereof, that this building is now, and for many years past hath been, of such a construction as to render the whole of the classifications and other rules and regulations required by the act of parliament, passed in the fourth year of the reign of his present majesty, for regulating gaols and houses of correction, impracticable; and that the same is only capable of being divided into two distinct classes, one for males and the other for females, and that such classification consists as follows, viz. two day rooms and six sleeping cells; that there are only two rooms appropriated to the use of the keeper and family, viz. a kitchen and a very small sitting room. That there is a large room up stairs, which is solely used for the justice meetings of that district; that there is attached to this prison two airing yards, but that the walls being so low the keeper is afraid of allowing the prisoners to be alone therein, lest an escape should take place. That an intended alteration is to take place in this prison immediately; that the plan is drawn and approved, and the contract for the execution of the work signed. That there are at present confined within the said house of correction five prisoners, viz. three for misdemeanor and two for felony: and also

that the prisoners confined in the said prison during the last year have behaved in an orderly manner, and that no case of punishment has occurred by order of the visiting magistrates, who have been in the habit of inspecting the prison almost every week during the year. By the certificate delivered into court at this session by the keeper of the house of correction at Morpeth, it appears that this building now is, and for many years past hath been, of such a construction as to render the whole of the classification, and other rules and regulations required by the said last-mentioned act of parliament, impracticable, but that the same is capable of being divided into two classes, with one day room, one airing yard, and six sleeping cells attached to each class; and further, that a new house of correction is now building, and which will be attached to an intended new common gaol, both of which are in a state of forwardness, and that when completed such intended buildings will have the means of classification required by the same act; and further, that all felons and others committed to hard labour are employed as labourers about the building of the said intended new gaol and house of correction, the site of which is contiguous to this prison; the act of parliament for building such intended new gaol and house of correction giving power to the justices to order convicts and others committed to hard labour to be employed on the site and walls of the said building. That there is a tread-mill erected in the yard of the said intended new building, on which the prisoners are frequently employed in raising stones for the building. That there were, at Michaelmas day last past, confined within the said house of correction eight prisoners, viz. four for misdemeanors and four for felonies; that the prisoners have, during the year, generally conducted themselves in an orderly manner. And by the certificate of Robert Robson, the keeper of the house of correction at Tynemouth, it appears that this building is likewise of such a construction as to be altogether incapable of the classification required by the before-mentioned act of parliament, and that the same is only capable of being divided into two classes, having only two airing yards with nine sleeping cells, and three stone cells for work materials; that there is one day-room only, which is made by two cells having been thrown into one room. That this prison has no means of employing the prisoners in their separate cells, otherwise than by teasing oakum, there being no work-rooms attached to the building; that there is an airing yard for females; in which is a small room, which may be used for the purpose of the sick. That this prison is well calculated for persons committed to solitary confinement, and that there were on Michaelmas day last past, seventeen male prisoners confined on charges of vagrancy and various other offences under penal statutes, &c. &c.; and that there are two females under

sentence who had been convicted of felony; that one of the said females was an infant of the age of twelve years or thereabouts; she had the use of a Bible, and was occasionally instructed in religious duties by the keeper's family; and lastly, that the prisoners in this prison have so conducted themselves during the last year as not to render necessary any case of punishment.

(Signed) ROBERT THORP,

Michaelmas Sessions, 1824.

THOMAS CLENKELL, chairman.

No. 36.—NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

The Report of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace acting in and for the County of Nottingham, assembled at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions, held at the Shirehall in Nottingham, the 18th day of October, 1824, respecting the State and Condition of the County Gaol and House of Correction in the said County, pursuant to the Act of Parliament passed in the 4th year of his present Majesty's reign.

First.—As to the County Gaol situate at Nottingham.

The said justices report, that in pursuance of the directions of the said act of parliament, the chapel belonging to the said gaol has been put into good repair. That certain alterations and additions to the said prison being necessary for the accommodation of female felon prisoners, and in order to give effect to the rules and regulations prescribed by the said act of parliament, a presentment was made by two justices of the peace at the last Michaelmas quarter sessions, and in pursuance thereof, and of the orders of sessions made thereupon, a day-room and sleeping-room, to contain three beds; with sufficient accommodation for six females, (being a greater number than was ever known to be confined at any one time in the said prison) has been built and completed in a convenient part of the said prison, and a day-yard for the exercise of such female prisoners has been also appropriated within the confines of the said gaol; and the cell formerly used for female felon prisoners has been altered and made convenient for the reception and classification of male prisoners tried and convicted of felonies and misdemeanors, so that such felons as may be committed for trial for the like offences are kept separate and apart from them; and that the whole of the prison has been whitewashed.

That no abuses have been observed to exist in the management of the said prison; and the morals and conduct of the prisoners confined therein are tolerably good. That religious tracts and books are provided for the use of the felon prisoners; and that Divine service is performed twice on the Sabbath day, and once every other day in the week.

That there is no hard labour to which the prisoners can be put; and employment can be given to a few only who are mechanics.

That the rules of the prison are as strictly observed as the nature of the same will admit.

That the health of the prisoners has been good; it appearing, by the reports of the surgeon, that at the last Epiphany sessions the number of prisoners was twenty-six, of whom three were convalescent, and the rest well; at the Easter sessions the number was seventeen, of whom two were convalescent, and the rest healthy and well; and at the Midsummer sessions the number was twelve, of whom only one was unwell.

That the duties of the chaplain have been duly and regularly performed, with a trifling exception occasioned by indisposition; and that an improvement in the moral discipline of the prisoners may be expected from the alterations in the prison, and the consequent classification of the prisoners.

Secondly.—As to the House of Correction situate at Southwell.

The said justices report, that previous to the passing of the act of parliament, such additions and repairs had been made in the said house of correction as to render any further alterations unnecessary to carry into effect the provisions of the said act; and that the same is now in a complete state of reparation.

That the classification, inspection, instruction, employment, and hard labour, required by the said act, are all duly observed and enforced.

That the behaviour and conduct of the respective officers have been humane, firm, and faithful; and that the keeper is entitled to distinct and special commendation for the exemplary perseverance with which he devotes the whole of his time to the superintendance of his trust: and that the treatment, behaviour, and conduct of the prisoners have been quite satisfactory, with the exception of one person, who was convicted of vagrancy and confined in the said prison for the third time, and who was ordered by the visiting justices to be publicly whipped, in the presence of all the prisoners, for gross indecency of conversation, and repeated acts of disobedience to the governor.

That the male prisoners committed to hard labour are almost invariably employed upon the tread-wheels, and are allowed the sum of one penny each daily, to be expended, according to the discretion of the visitors, in the purchase of apparel, or to be paid them on their discharge.

That male prisoners, not committed to hard labour, are set to work in the employments of framework-knitting, flax-breaking, cooking, gardening, breaking stone into scouring sand, tailoring, and in any trade which a prisoner possesses skill and means to exercise within the walls of the prison; and they receive one-half of the profits arising from their earnings.

That female prisoners are employed in washing, spinning, seaming, cooking, making and mending county bedding, and other works.

That the effects of the tread-wheels upon the health of prisoners having excited public discussion, the salubrity of its operation has been fully ascertained by the visitors, with the assistance of the surgeon, whose printed "Observations" upon the subject have been submitted to all the acting justices of the peace for this county, and to his majesty's secretary of state, and appear to decide the question at issue in favour of the utility resulting from this species of hard labour, at the same time producing beneficial effects upon the discipline of the prison, by increasing the measure of punishment, without, in any respect, proving injurious to the health of the prisoners; but that, on the contrary, the health, as well as the conduct of the prisoners, seems to have undergone a very considerable improvement since the use of the wheels has been established.

That the visiting or other justices have never directed or permitted any prisoner committed for trial to work upon the tread-mill.

That the average number of prisoners during part of the year was increased partly by the numerous vagrants committed thereto; but that the prisoners committed a second time have been comparatively much fewer in number than before the erection of the tread-wheels.

That the rules laid down for the government of the said prison have been complied with, and that no deviation therefrom has taken place.

That the health of the prisoners has been good, it appearing, by the reports of the surgeon, that at the last Epiphany sessions the number of prisoners was 116, of whom only three were then upon the sick list with slight indisposition, and one female delivered of a child. At the Easter sessions the number was ninety-three, of whom twelve were upon the sick list, and the majority of them only slightly indisposed, and three of them were affected with inflammatory disorder of the spleen, liver, and intestines. And at the Midsummer sessions the number was 103, of whom thirteen were on the sick list, two of the males labouring under different symptoms of the venereal disease, one under tertian intermittent fever, and the rest suffering from complaints and derangements of the stomach, bowels, and chest; one of the two females affected with inflammation of the chest, and the other with dyspeptic symptoms.

That the duties of the chaplain have been punctually and zealously performed, and that great benefits are derived in regard to the conduct and moral habits of the prisoners by the classification effected conformably to the provisions of the late act of parliament.

W. SHERBROOKE, chairman.

No. 37.—OXFORDSHIRE.

Oxfordshire, 1824. — At the general quarter-sessions of the peace of our sovereign lord the king, holden at Oxford, in and for the county

of Oxford, on Monday in the first week next after the eleventh day of October, in the fifth year of the reign of our sovereign lord George the Fourth, by the grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland king, defender of the faith; before William Henry Ashhurst, esquire, chairman, John Fane, esquire, and others their fellows, justices of our said sovereign lord the king, assigned to keep the peace of our said lord the king within the county aforesaid, and also to hear and determine divers felonies, trespasses, and other misdemeanours, within the said county done and committed.

Ordered, by the court, that the subjoined report, submitted by the clerk of the peace to this sessions, be approved of by the court.

W. H. ASHHURST, chairman.

County of Oxford.—The Report of the clerk of the peace to his majesty's justices of the peace, assembled at the Michaelmas quarter-sessions, 1824, made pursuant to the act of the fourth George the Fourth, for consolidating and amending the laws relating to gaols and houses of correction in England.

The clerk of the peace respectfully reports to the court of quarter-sessions, that it appears by the reports of the visiting justices that they have regularly visited the county gaol and house of correction, and have found every thing in good order, and the prisoners healthy; and further, that in consequence of the alterations that have been lately making in the prison, pursuant to the orders of the quarter-sessions, the classification of the prisoners has not, as yet, been so exactly preserved as might have been wished, but that the works, which are at present nearly completed, will give a much more effectual classification than heretofore; and that in addition to these works, it is proposed, in the ensuing spring, to carry into effect the remainder of the plan recommended by the county architect for more completely effecting the due classification of the prisoners.

That it appears by the reports of the reverend the chaplain, that he has not only performed the regular morning and evening services of the Church of England, and delivered a sermon on each Sabbath-day, but has also read prayers every morning at the gaol, and regularly catechised and instructed the prisoners, dividing them into classes, two of which he has taken daily to instruct; the one class reading a chapter in the gospels, which the chaplain has explained; and the other class, composed of such prisoners as read but indifferently, he has used his best endeavours to improve. That he has likewise visited the cells, and observed the other directions of the act applicable to the duties of his office; and that the prisoners have hitherto received his admonitions with becoming respect and attention.

That it appears by the certificates delivered

in by the keeper of the gaol and house of correction, that the rules and regulations made and laid down for the government of the prison have been strictly observed and complied with.

(Signed) THOS. HENRY TAUNTON,
Clerk of the peace.

No. 38.—RADNORSHIRE.

To his majesty's justices of the peace for the county of Radnor.

In pursuance of the act of the 4 Geo. IV. c. 64. s. 24, I have the honour to report, that from the reports of the visiting justices of the gaol and house of correction of this county, and of the chaplain and the keeper, it appears that the state and condition of the said gaol and house of correction is satisfactory, with the exception of the wet coming into several of the rooms from the tiles being improperly secured, and there being no coping on the walls; but it is strongly recommended that some effectual repairs be done in these respects without delay. Alterations of the chimnies, which smoked very much, have been made; benches and tables for the two day-rooms have been furnished, and the well and pump effectually repaired.

It appears that an attempt was lately made by six felons (five of whom have since been conveyed to the hulks) to escape from the prison by making an aperture through the wall of their day-room into the garden, and that by the vigilance of the gaoler their attempt was rendered futile; and the visiting justices felt it their duty to put the offenders in double irons, and to confine them great part of each day in their separate cells.

No abuses have been observed in the management of the prisons, and the general state of the prisoners now left is healthy and their morals, discipline, employment, and observance of rules, very respectable.

(Signed) JAMES DAVIES,
Clerk of the peace.

Approved. HARBORD JONES.

October 20th, 1824.

No. 39.—RUTLANDSHIRE.

Rutland (to wit).—Proceedings had and taken at the general quarter-sessions of the peace of our sovereign lord the king, holden at the Castle at Oakham, in and for the said county, on Thursday the 21st day of October, in the fifth year of the reign of our sovereign lord George the Fourth, by the grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland king, defender of the faith, and in the year of our Lord 1824; before the reverend William Baker, clerk; the right honourable George, earl of Winchelsea and Nottingham; Samuel Barker, esquire; the reverend Thomas Kaye Bonney, and the reverend Heneage Finch, clerks, justices of our sovereign lord the king, assigned to keep the peace of our said lord the king in the county aforesaid; and

also to hear and determine divers felonies, trespasses, and other misdeeds in the said county committed, and of the quorum.

The justices at the said sessions having further considered a certain act of parliament made and passed in the fourth year of the reign of his present majesty, intituled, "An act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales;" and having also considered a certain other act made and passed in the last session of parliament, intituled, "An act for amending an act of the last session of parliament, relating to the building, repairing, and enlarging of certain gaols and houses of correction, and for procuring information as to the state of all other gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales;" it was ordered that the further discussion thereof should be deferred until the then next general quarter-sessions of the peace to be holden in and for the said county.

The said justices appointed the earl of Winchelsea; George Fludyer, of Ayston in the said county, esquire; Samuel Barker, of Lyndon in the same county, esquire; the reverend William Baker, of Lyndon aforesaid; the reverend Thomas Kaye Bonney, of Normanton in the said county; and the reverend Heneage Finch, of Oakham aforesaid, clerks, visitors of the gaol and house of correction for the said county; and the said earl of Winchelsea, Samuel Barker, William Baker, Thomas Kaye Bonney, and Heneage Finch, being present in court, consented to such appointment.

WILLIAM BAKER, chairman.

29th October, 1824.

No. 40.—SHROPSHIRE.

To the justices assembled at the Michaelmas quarter-sessions, 1824.

A General Report, founded on the report of the visiting justices, on the report of the chaplain, and on the certificate of the keeper of the prison, prepared by the clerk of the peace, submitted by him to, and approved by, the justices assembled at this Michaelmas quarter-sessions, and signed and transmitted by the chairman, (together with a copy of the schedule (B) delivered by the gaoler, under the fourth of king George the Fourth, c. 64, s. 22 and 24.) to one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state.

The prisoners are not only free from any infectious disease, but their health, with but very few exceptions, hath been good.

Cast iron brackets should be used to support the outer galleries, from time to time, as the timber-ones become decayed.

Such part of the timber as was faulty hath been painted with white lead and oil by the prisoners.

The roof of the chapel is decayed; the county

surveyor hath made a plan and estimate for a new roof, which will improve the interior of the chapel, both with respect to air and light; it will be completed next spring, and in the meantime the present roof can and will be secured.

John Wynne, an under turnkey, hath been discharged, for conversing in such a manner with the prisoners as to have a tendency to create dissatisfaction among them, and to produce insubordination in the prison.

A taskmaster hath been advertised for, in the room of Edward Oliver, resigned.

An under turnkey hath been advertised for, in the room of John Wynne, removed.

A poor man, of the name of Thomas Phillips, was committed for shooting at his wife. At the Lammass assizes, 1822, the jury found him to be insane, and the judge ordered him to be confined during his majesty's pleasure. This unfortunate man was discharged from the 46th regiment of foot, on account of insanity, which is supposed to have been occasioned by the following accident: while he was recruiting in Herefordshire, there was a house erecting, and he went up a ladder to assist the bricklayer in some part of the building, and unfortunately fell.

While he is in prison, and allowed only a proper quantity of liquor, he appears very well and contented. He works as a bricklayer and mason, for the county, in the gaol; he is constantly employed there; and the gaoler reports him, in schedule (B), No. 35, answer to general observations, to be *perfectly rational, tranquil, and orderly*. The gaoler also thinks that his work is very beneficial to the county. An account is ordered to be kept of his earnings, under the 4 Geo. IV., c. 64, s. 38. Thomas Phillips's wife is desirous of his being released; and his brother, John Bawdrick Phillips, a master bricklayer in Shrewsbury, is willing to give security for his good behaviour: his brother states, that the prisoner's principal cause of complaint is a difficulty of passing his water at times, and when it so happens, he is apt to fly to gin to assist him in that operation; this affects his head to such a degree, that he is then incapable of conducting himself as he ought to do.

His discharge from the regiment being lost, it is not known how long he has been insane; but it is supposed a very few years.

With respect to Mary Price, the gaoler reports of her in schedule (B), No. 35, answer to general observations, that she is *perfectly rational, tranquil, and orderly*. Her master states, in answer to the inquiry made, that he never knew her to be insane till the time of the arson. On inquiry from the surgeon, it appears that he fully concurs in the above report respecting Phillips and Price.

The bills for the present quarter at the gaol, exclusive of 220*l.* 18*s.* salaries, amount to 357*l.* 3*d.*

Although it is expedient to employ prisoners, and the mill established in this gaol (which is

not a tread-mill) is a most suitable discipline, yet the labour thereat has been attended with a loss to the county in the grinding of corn in the last quarter, equal nearly to the rate of 20*l.* a year.

In the women's spinning there appears to have been a loss of 7*d.* out of every 1*s.* 10*d.*, viz.

	£	s.	d.
The cost of two pounds of clearings to the county is	—	1	4
The price paid weekly to a woman spinning is	—	—	6
Price to the county	—	1	10
The same quantity may be bought ready spun for	—	1	3
Weekly loss by every woman so employed	—	—	7

But in the making of pins, an employment lately established in the gaol, at the suggestion of the present gaoler, there has been a gain of 8*l.* 5*s.* upon 922 lbs. weight of pins, out of which 8*l.* 5*s.* there was paid to untried prisoners 1*l.* 5*s.* as one-half of their labour, and to convicted prisoners 1*l.* 15*s.* as one-third of their labour.

The chaplain's attention has been directed, during the last year, towards carrying into effect (in his own department) the act of parliament for regulating gaols, passed the 10th July, 1823.

The gaoler hath carried into effect the rules and regulations for this gaol, agreeably to the same act of parliament.

(Signed) JOSEPH LOXDALÉ,
Clerk of the peace.

(Signed) THOMAS PEMBERTON,
Chairman of the quarter-sessions for the county of Salop.

No. 41.—SOMERSETSHIRE.

To the Justices of the Peace assembled at the Michaelmas General Quarter-Sessions of the Peace, held at the Castle of Taunton, in and for the said County, on Monday, the 18th day of October, 1824.

A General Report, founded on the Reports of the Visiting Justices and others of the several Prisons in the said County, from the Michaelmas General Quarter-Session of the Peace, 1823, to the Michaelmas General Quarter-Session of the Peace, 1824; prepared by the Clerk of the Peace, and submitted to the Justices above assembled, pursuant to the Statute of the 4 Geo. IV. c. 64.

That very considerable repairs, additions and alterations have been made, and are still making; as well in the common gaol of Ivelchester as in the two houses of correction at Wilton and Shepton Mallet, to meet the provisions contained in the said statute; that the rules laid down for the government of the said prisons, respectively, have been observed, and classification carried into effect as far as circumstances would permit.

That during the alterations in the gaol at Ivelchester, a prisoner therein confined, for the non-payment of a fine, made his escape; but that no culpable negligence attached to the keeper or his assistants. That a complaint was made against the matron of the said gaol, by one Sarah Bowers, late a prisoner, for cruelty towards Mary Ann Bowers her daughter, also lately a prisoner, and who had died since her discharge; that the mother attributed her daughter's illness, and subsequent death, to the inhumanity of the matron; but which, after a long and patient investigation, was considered groundless. That several complaints had also been made against the keeper of the said gaol by sir Thomas Champneys and some other prisoners, and that on inquiry into the latter, on the part of the visiting justices, they were not found to be of sufficient importance to make a special report thereon; and sir Thomas Champneys had requested that an inquiry into the charges brought forward by him might be postponed until he was out of gaol. In all other respects, the general state of the gaol had been orderly, the prisoners healthy, and diligent in their employment, which had been in the new buildings and alterations effecting in the said gaol.

That the general state of the health of the prisoners confined in the houses of correction at Wilton had been good; the greatest cleanliness and good management of the prison had prevailed, and free from abuse; and the conduct of the keeper and officers had merited approbation. That the male convicted prisoners, or who were lawfully subject to hard labour, and in good and sufficient health, had undergone regular labour at the tread-wheel, from the 10th of November last; and there was every reason to be satisfied with that mode of labour, as it afforded not only a constant source of bodily employment, but seemed also likely to prove an efficient measure of corrective punishment; and that no case of accident or injury had befallen any of the prisoners, nor had they suffered in their general health. None of the female prisoners, nor any of the male prisoners, previous to trial, had been so employed or allowed to work on the wheel. That the dietary which had been adopted by the court of quarter-session was deemed sufficient for the use of the prisoners in general; but as the labour and bodily exertion it occasioned those who worked on the tread-wheel, an additional allowance of food was required for them. That the female prisoners in the said house of correction at Wilton had been employed in the wash-house and laundry, and mending and taking care of the prisoners' clothes. Male convicted prisoners had also been employed in cleaving wood and breaking stones; and many others had voluntarily worked at the different trades to which they had been accustomed.

That the tread-wheel at the house of correc-

tion at Shepton Mallet had been at work since the 1st of January last; and that so far as it had been tried, was found a healthy labour; conducive to the good order and quiet of the prison. That male convicted prisoners were chiefly employed on the wheel, but no females; which employment had been considered highly beneficial to their health and morals, and that no accident had occurred from its use.

That the general state of the health of the prisoners had been good, and their conduct orderly.

EDWARD GOLES, clerk of the peace.

Approved,

T. PHELPS, chairman.

No. 30.—SOUTHAMPTON.

The General Report, founded on the Reports of the Visiting Justices, on the Reports of the Chaplains, and on the Certificates of the Keepers of the several Prisons in the said County; prepared by the Clerk of the Peace of the said County, and submitted to the Justices assembled at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions, 1824; approved by the Justices at such Sessions, and signed by the Chairman of such Sessions, pursuant to the Statute 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, s. 24.

Belonging to the county of Southampton, and supported out of its county stock, there are three prisons, viz: the common gaol at Winchester, which includes the sheriff's ward, the Bridewell or House of Correction, also at Winchester, and a Bridewell or House of Correction at Gosport. The two prisons at Winchester are under the superintendance of the same visiting justices; but as they report to the sessions relative to each prison under a different head, it is deemed best to frame this general report with reference to each prison separately.

The common gaol is appropriated to—

1st. Debtors and persons confined for contempt of court on civil process;

2d. Prisoners committed for trial on charges of felony or misdemeanor, either at the assizes or quarter sessions;

3d. Prisoners convicted of capital offences, previous to the execution of their sentence;

4th. All persons committed for the purpose of being examined as witnesses on behalf of the crown;

5th. Prisoners convicted of offences against the revenue laws;

6th. Deserters.

The court, at the Michaelmas quarter sessions, 1823, ordered, that prisoners convicted, and not subject to hard labour, should be sent to the common gaol; but the visiting justices finding that this mode too considerably increased the numbers in the gaol, and also kept many prisoners who might be beneficially put to work in a state of idleness, at the following Epiphany sessions recommended that the above-mentioned

descriptions of prisoners only should be confined in the gaol; which recommendation was adopted by the court. It appears from the reports of the visiting justices to the first three quarter sessions of the past year, that they refrained from preparing any new rules or regulations for the government of the prison in pursuance of 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, considering it probable that the act of the last session may render some further alterations therein necessary; and in their report to the present Michaelmas sessions, they stated their intention to submit such new rules and regulations to the next court of quarter sessions, in conformity with the act of parliament.

Certificates of the Keeper.

The certificates of the gaoler, delivered to the respective courts of quarter-session during the past year, in pursuance of the 21st section of the statute 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, state, that the existing rules and regulations for the government of the prison have been complied with; but that the classification required by the above-mentioned act has not been strictly complied with, there not being the requisite divisions in the prison to effect it.

Chaplain's Report.

By the chaplain's report, made to the present sessions, it appears that the duties required by the new gaol act have not yet been performed. The duties required of him by the present rules and regulations (which have remained unaltered for the reasons above stated), are one service, with a sermon on Sunday, and prayers every Wednesday morning; which duties have been regularly performed. That the conduct of the prisoners in general has been correct; that those who could read have been furnished with Bibles, Testaments, and Prayer-books, which have been received with thankfulness, and perused with much apparent attention.

That although no school has been established or any uniform system, much has been done by means of mutual instruction; and many who entered the prison ignorant of the alphabet, have, on leaving it, been able to read the Bible.

Bridewell, or House of Correction, at Winchester.

By the arrangements of the visiting justices, recommended in their report made in pursuance of the statute, and adopted by the court at the Epiphany quarter sessions, 1824, this prison has been made applicable to the following classes of prisoners:

1st. Prisoners convicted upon summary informations, before magistrates, and committed for nonpayment of fines and penalties under such conviction;

2d. Prisoners convicted of felony;

3d. Prisoners convicted of misdemeanors;

4th. Vagrants.

In the same report to the Epiphany sessions, the visiting justices state, that on the representation of the keepers, they had directed the al-

allowance of an additional pint of oatmeal per day for prisoners working at the tread-mill.

The visiting justices at the Easter sessions, 1824, in pursuance of the 23d sect. of the act 4 Geo. IV., reported that the sleeping cells of this prison were inadequate to such a classification of the prisoners as is prescribed by the rules and regulations comprised in that statute, inasmuch as the same were not sufficiently large for the reception of three prisoners in each, and were insufficient in number to allow a separate cell to each single prisoner: the court, in consequence, ordered that the notice required by the 45th section of the statute should be given, that the report would be considered at the next sessions; which being done, the court, at the Midsummer sessions, ordered that the proper measures should be immediately proceeded in to increase the number of such cells; and the report to the present Michaelmas sessions states, that the enlargement is proceeding with all possible expedition.

The same reasons which have prevented the preparation of new rules and regulations at the gaol have operated as to this prison; but the intention, expressed in the present report of submitting new rules, &c., to the next Epiphany sessions, is equally applicable to this prison as to the gaol.

Certificates of the Keeper.

The certificates of the keeper of this prison, made to the respective quarter-sessions, state the impracticability of complying with the classification prescribed by the act, in consequence of the want of a sufficient number of sleeping cells; and his certificate to the present session states, that the enlargement of the prison, for the purpose of augmenting the number of sleeping cells, is proceeding with all possible despatch, and that an extra allowance of half a pound of bread per day, for prisoners working at the tread-wheel, has been lately made.

Chaplain's Report.

The same chaplain who attends the gaol also attends this prison, and the same service is performed by him as is set forth in his report, as above stated, with respect to the gaol. Such report refers to both prisons; and the statement relative to the conduct of the prisoners, the distribution of Bibles, Testaments, and Prayer-books, and the instruction of the prisoners, of course, therefore, has reference to this prison as well as to the gaol.

BRIDEWELL, OR HOUSE OF CORRECTION, AT GOSPORT.

This prison, by the order of the Michaelmas sessions, 1823, is applicable to the following description of prisoners:

- 1st, Prisoners committed on charge or suspicion of felony.
- 2d, Prisoners committed on charge or suspicion of misdemeanor.

3d, Vagrants.

4th, Prisoners convicted of felony.

5th, Prisoners convicted of misdemeanors.

The reports of the visiting justices state their approbation of the friction machine used in the prison as a means of non-productive labour, when there are not a sufficient number of prisoners to work the corn-mill; but that at all times, when there are a sufficient number to work the corn-mill, they are employed at it.

Certificates of Keeper.

The certificates of the keeper to the respective quarter-sessions state, that the rules and regulations in force at this prison are those adopted at the Easter sessions 1822; (a copy of which was forwarded to the secretary of state by the chairman of the quarter-sessions 1823,) no alterations therein having been made in pursuance of the recent acts of parliament.

Chaplain's Report.

The report of the chaplain states the conduct of the prisoners to have been generally orderly and correct; and that he has performed divine service to the full extent required by the act of parliament; and that he has imparted moral and religious instruction to the prisoners.

(Signed) GEORGE HERBERT, chairman.

NO. 43.—STAFFORDSHIRE.

REPORT of the Clerk of the Peace, pursuant to Statute 4 Geo IV. c. 64, s. 24.

It appears by the report of the visiting justices, that the gaol and house of correction of this county are in a perfect state of repair; that the management of the prisoners has been satisfactory, their conduct in general regular and orderly, and that work has been provided for such as were sentenced to labour; that the manufactories in the prison have continued to supply the usual articles; and that by the employment of prisoners as artificers and labourers, a considerable reduction of the expenses of the establishment has taken place.

The objection made by the sheriff to the separation of the building, noticed in the report of last year, not having been obviated by any provision of the 5th Geo. IV., c. 85, the visiting justices have been under the necessity of confining themselves to such a classification of the prisoners as would not affect his responsibility.

The chaplain reports, that in consequence of the formation of schools, considerable progress has been made in the attainment of religious knowledge, and in reading, by the prisoners of both sexes, whose general behaviour during the time of divine service, and when under the inspection of the monitors, has been such as to merit his approbation.

New rules for the government of the prison (a printed copy of which accompanies this report) have been framed, and approved by the judges of assize; and it appears from the certi-

ficate of the gaoler, that they have been strictly complied with.

GEORGE CHETWYND,

Chairman of the general quarter-sessions of the peace for the county of Stafford.

13th November, 1824.

No. 44.—SUFFOLK.

Suffolk.—A General Report, founded upon the Reports of the Visiting Justices, on the Reports of the Chaplain, and on the Certificates of the Keeper of the Gaol and House of Correction at Ipswich, in the County of Suffolk; prepared by the Clerk of the Peace, and submitted to the Justices assembled at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions of the Peace, held by adjournment at Ipswich, in and for the said County, on Friday the 19th Day of November, 1824, and approved by the Justices at the said Sessions, pursuant to an Act of Parliament passed in the Fourth Year of his present Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act for consolidating and amending the Laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain Gaols and Houses of Correction in England and Wales."

The visitors appointed pursuant to the said act, during the preceding year, at Michaelmas sessions 1823, and at the Epiphany and Easter sessions 1824, reported to the chairman and magistrates, at the several quarter-sessions immediately succeeding their appointments, that they had personally visited the gaol and house of correction under their superintendance, pursuant to the several duties required of them by the said act, at least three times in each quarter, and at all times when necessary, and had examined into the state of the buildings, and that the same were all in good repair, and that no alterations or additions were required, except of two tread-wheels, in addition to those already erected at the gaol, with a building over the same, for the custody and employment of two classes of prisoners, of twelve each, beyond the number before capable of being employed; and that they were well satisfied with the state and condition, and with the behaviour and conduct of the several prisoners, except as after-mentioned, and with the behaviour and conduct of the keeper and matron, and all officers retained and employed in the said prisons; but that during the last quarter an application was made on behalf of Mrs. Barlee, the wife of Charles William Barlee (a prisoner in the said gaol, upon a process of attachment issued against her for a contempt of the law and jurisdiction ecclesiastical, under which she has been detained for the space of three years and upwards), for permission to be allowed a servant to sleep at the gaol, and that she might be permitted to walk without the pales of the gaol; which requests were refused, as being contrary to the regulations of the prison: and the visitors further state, that the said Mrs. Barlee has had every

proper indulgence, as far as with reference to the regulations of the prison, and her peculiar circumstances and situation, could be granted, and particularly that of a servant to wait upon her during the day. And this report further states, that at the several quarter-sessions of the peace before mentioned, the journal of the chaplain was laid before the justices for their inspection, and signed by the chairman, in proof of the same having been produced; in which were entered the times of his attendance, on the performance of his duty; but no particular observations occurred to him in the execution thereof, he having no complaint to make as to the conduct of the prisoners. And at each of the said several general quarter-sessions the keeper of the said prisons delivered to the court his quarterly return of the state and condition of the said prisons, and that the several rules and regulations prescribed by the said act had been complied with.

Suffolk.—At the general quarter-sessions of the peace, holden by adjournment at Ipswich, in and for the said county, on Friday, the 19th day of November, 1824, before the rev. Thomas Methold, clerk, (chairman), John Gibson, esq., Thomas Burch Western, esq., Charles Berners, esq., Ambrose Harbord Steward, esq., the Rev. John Longe, clerk, justices assigned &c.; this report was submitted to the justices assembled at the above sessions, and approved by them.

(Signed) THOMAS METHOLD,

Chairman of the general quarter-sessions, holden at Ipswich, by adjournment, on Friday, the 19th day of November, 1824.

Suffolk.—A General Report, founded upon the Reports of Visiting Justices, on the Reports of the Chaplain, and on the Certificates of the Keeper of the Gaol and House of Correction at Bury St. Edmunds, in the County of Suffolk; prepared by the Clerk of the Peace, and submitted to the Justices assembled at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions of the Peace, held by adjournment at Bury St. Edmunds, in the said County, on Monday the 25th day of October, 1824, and approved by the Justices at the said Sessions, pursuant to an Act of Parliament passed in the Fourth Year of his present Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act for consolidating and amending the Laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain Gaols and Houses of Correction in England and Wales."

And, first, at the general quarter-sessions of the peace, holden by adjournment at Bury St. Edmunds aforesaid, on Monday, the 19th day of January, 1824, the visiting justices made their report, that no material repairs, additions, or alterations, had been made in the gaol during the last quarter; and that they had reason to

be satisfied with the management of the prisons, as well as of the general state of the prisoners as to morals, discipline, employment, hard labour, and observance of rules. And at the same sessions the journal of the chaplain was laid before the justices for their inspection, and signed by the chairman, in proof of the same having been there produced; in which were entered the times of his attendance on the performance of his duty, with such observations as occurred to him in the execution thereof, and no complaint was made as to the conduct of the prisoners. And at the same sessions, also, the keeper of the said prisons delivered to the court his quarterly return, and a certificate that the several rules and regulations contained in the copy transmitted to the secretary of state had been complied with.

And, secondly, at the general quarter-sessions of the peace, holden by adjournment at Bury St. Edmunds aforesaid, on Monday the 3d day of May, 1824, the visiting justices appointed at the former sessions reported that they had inspected the gaol and house of correction at least once a month, and found good order strictly observed therein, and the existing rules and regulations properly observed; and that the keeper and other officers of the said gaol and house of correction had respectively performed their duty. They further reported, that the gaol was in very good repair; but the bridewell, which is used as a house of correction for females, was in a very dilapidated state, and required much repair.

They further reported, agreeably to the powers given them by the 16th section of the act, (upon the information they had received from the chaplain and keeper of the gaol), that Abraham Hammond, convicted at the January sessions, 1823, and ordered to two years' imprisonment, had shown extraordinary merit and diligence, by his constant attendance upon four convicts, lately executed, and reading to and praying with them from the time of their condemnation until their execution; and that during the time of his imprisonment he had conducted himself with strict propriety; and they recommended him to the royal mercy. And at the same time the journal of the chaplain was laid before the justices for their inspection, and signed by the chairman, in proof of the same having been produced; in which were entered the times of his attendance on the performance of his duty, but without any particular observations or complaint as to the conduct of any of the prisoners. And the keeper delivered his quarterly report of the actual state and condition of the said gaol and house of correction, and of the number and description of prisoners confined therein; as required by the 14th section of the said act; and also a certificate, pursuant to the 21st section of the same; that the several rules and regulations for the government of the prisons had been complied with.

And, thirdly, at the last general quarter sessions of the peace, holden by adjournment at Bury St. Edmunds aforesaid, on Monday the 19th day of July, in the said year 1824, the visiting justices appointed at the preceding sessions reported, that they had visited the gaol and house of correction, according to the directions of the act of parliament, and found all in good order, and the rules and regulations therein mentioned complied with; and that in consequence of the powers given by the last sessions, they had directed proper measures to be taken for the repairs of the house of correction, which was before reported to be in a dilapidated state.

And at the said last-mentioned sessions, the journal of the chaplain was laid before the justices for their inspection, and signed by the chairman, in proof of the same having been produced; in which were entered the times of his attendance on performance of his duty, and stating that twenty-five prisoners had been instructed in reading during the quarter, and that several tracts from the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge had been distributed among them; and that the progress of the prisoners had been generally satisfactory, and several of them had purchased Bibles, Testaments, and Prayer-books. And at the same sessions the keeper of the said gaol and house of correction delivered his quarterly report of the actual state and condition of the said gaol and house of correction, and of the number and description of prisoners confined therein, and a certificate that the several rules and regulations for the government of the said prisons had been complied with.

Suffolk.—At the general quarter-sessions of the peace, holden by adjournment at Bury St. Edmunds, in and for the said county, on Monday the 29th day of October, 1824, before Thomas Sherlock Gooch, esquire (chairman), the right honourable George Lord Calthorpe, and others, justices assigned, &c. this report was submitted to the justices assembled at the above sessions, and approved by them.

(Signed) T. S. GOOCH, chairman.

Suffolk.—A General Report, founded upon the Reports of Visiting Justices, on the Reports of the Chaplain, and on the Certificates of the Keeper of the House of Correction at Beccles, in the county of Suffolk; prepared by the Clerk of the Peace, and submitted to the Justices assembled at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions of the Peace, begun and held at Beccles, in the said County, on Monday the 18th day of October, 1824, and approved by the Justices at the said Sessions, pursuant to the Act of Parliament passed in the Fourth Year of his present Majesty's Reign, entitled, "An Act for consolidating and amending the Laws relating to the build-

ing, repairing, and regulating of certain Gaols and Houses of Correction in England and Wales;" comprising the Reports of the Visiting Justices, Chaplain, and Certificates of the Keeper, delivered by them respectively at the several Quarter Sessions of the Peace, in the year 1824.

And, first, at the general quarter sessions of the peace, holden at Beccles aforesaid, on Monday, the 12th day of January, 1824, John Farr, esquire, and Gunton Postle, clerk, two of the visiting justices, made their report in writing, wherein they stated that they had personally inspected the house of correction at the least three times in the quarter of the year ending at Christmas, 1823, and always when occasion required; that they had examined from time to time into the state and condition of the buildings, and had made inquiries respecting the conduct of the respective officers, and as to the treatment and condition of the prisoners, and into all other matters corresponding with their duties as visitors.

And they certified that certain defects in the passages, tiling and gutters, and window-frames, mentioned in their last report, were repaired; and that the additions and alterations which had been ordered by the sessions, for the classification, inspection, and hard labour of the prisoners, were completed. And further, that the tread-mill erected for the hard labour of the prisoners was daily worked by two classes of the prisoners, from nine o'clock in the morning until twelve, and from one in the afternoon until four. And that the prisoners were occupied from eight o'clock to nine in the morning in cleaning their cells, in attendance at prayers, and in taking their breakfast. And they testified their approbation of the conduct of the respective officers, of the good treatment and condition of the prisoners, and of their observance of the rules established for the improvement of their morals, and for the discipline and labour of the prison. And at the same sessions, the journal of the chaplain of the said house of correction was laid before the justices for their inspection, and signed by the chairman, in proof of the same having been there produced; in which were entered the times of his attendance on the performance of his duty, with such observations as occurred to him in the execution thereof; and his report, with respect to all the prisoners, stated that they had all attended, and were uniformly orderly and well-behaved. And at the same sessions, the keeper of the house of correction delivered to the court a certificate, signed by himself, containing a declaration that the rules and regulations laid down for the government of the prison had been enforced therein, so far as the same was capable of affording the classification required by the act.

And, secondly, at the general quarter sessions of the peace, holden at Beccles aforesaid, on Monday the 26th day of April last past, John Farr, esquire, Henry Bence Bence, esquire, and

Gunton Postle, clerk, the visiting justices appointed at the former sessions, made their report in writing, wherein they stated that they had personally inspected the said house of correction, at the least three times in the quarter of the year ending at Lady-day 1824, and always when occasion required; that they had examined from time to time into the state and condition of the buildings; and had made inquiries respecting the conduct of the respective officers, and as to the treatment and condition of the prisoners, and into all other matters corresponding with their duties as visitors. And they further stated, that since their last report the lodge had been put in good repair; and that two rooms, each 17 feet by 18, had been separated from the apartments formerly appropriated to the vagrants, and had been fitted up as infirmaries, one for the male prisoners, the other for the female prisoners; and that iron window-blinds had been affixed to all the windows of the prison; and that five iron bedsteads and twelve wooden bedsteads had been received for the use of the prisoners. And they further stated, that the tread-mill was daily worked, at the velocity of forty steps in a minute, by the male convicts, from eight o'clock in the morning until twelve, and from one o'clock in the afternoon until five.

And the visitors further stated, that in consequence of numerous commitments of prisoners to hard labour since the last quarter sessions, the tread-mill has not been found large enough to afford to the prisoners their due proportion of labour; to remedy which, they suggested the expediency of adding to the tread-mill a small wheel capable of furnishing labour to four men, the estimated expense of such additional wheel being 10*l*. And further, that the reservoir for the reception of water for the uses of the prison was not sufficiently large to supply the increased consumption of water by the prisoners; and they recommended that another reservoir, of nearly equal dimensions with the present, be added to it, the estimated expense of which would also amount to 10*l*.; and that it appeared to them to be necessary to paint the outside of the said house of correction, the wood-work taking injury for the want of it. And the said visitors testified their approbation of the conduct of the respective officers, of the good treatment and condition of the prisoners, and of their observance of the rules established for the improvement of their morals, and for the discipline and labour of the prison. And at the same sessions, the journal of the chaplain was laid before the justices for their inspection, and signed by the chairman, in proof of the same having been produced; in which were entered the times of his attendance in the performance of his duty, with observations on the attendance, general orderly and good behaviour of the prisoners, corresponding with his report at the last sessions. And the keeper certified that the several rules and regulations had been observed and

complied with in every thing which concerned his department.

And, thirdly, at the last general quarter sessions of the peace, held at Beccles aforesaid, on Monday the 12th day of July last, the aforesaid Henry Bence Bence, esquire, and Gunton Postle, clerk, two of the visitors appointed at the last sessions, made their report in writing, as to their inspection of the said house of correction at least three times within the quarter of the year, and always when occasion required; and examined the state and condition of the buildings; and had made inquiries respecting the conduct of the respective officers, and as to the treatment and condition of the prisoners, and into all other matters corresponding with their duties as visitors; and also, that, in compliance with the orders of the last sessions, another reservoir for the reception of water had been added, the necessity of which was mentioned in the last report, and that the outside of the prison had been painted; that an additional wheel to the tread-mill, calculated to furnish labour for four men, was at that time erecting, and would be completed in the course of a few days; and they testified their approbation of the conduct of the respective officers, of the good treatment and condition of the prisoners, and of their observance of the rules established for the improvement of their morals, and for the discipline and labour of the prison, with the exception of one act of disobedience in refusing to attend the morning prayers. And at the same sessions the journal of the chaplain was laid before the justices for their inspection, and signed by the chairman, in proof of the same having been produced; in which were entered the times of his attendance in the performance of his duty, with observations on the attendance and conduct of the prisoners, which was in all respects orderly and good, with the exception of one case of disobedience referred to in the report of the visitors on the 19th of May, when the convicted felons became refractory, and refused to attend the gaoler to chapel. And at these sessions the keeper certified that the several rules and regulations had been complied with in every respect as regarded his department.

Suffolk.—At the general quarter sessions of the peace, holden at Beccles, in and for the county of Suffolk, on Monday the 18th day of October, 1824, before Thomas Sherlock Gooch, esquire, chairman, Henry Bence Bence, esquire, Matthias Kerison, esquire, and others, justices assigned to keep the peace in and for the said county; and also, &c. this report was submitted to the justices assembled at the above sessions, and approved by them.

(Signed) T. S. GOOCH, chairman.

Suffolk.—A General Report, founded upon the Reports of Visiting Justices, and of the Chaplain of the House of Correction at Woodbridge, in the County of Suffolk; prepared by

the Clerk of the Peace, and submitted to the Justices assembled at their Michaelmas Quarter Sessions of the Peace, holden by adjournment at Woodbridge aforesaid, in and for the said County, on Wednesday the 20th Day of October, 1824, and approved by the Justices at the said Sessions, pursuant to an Act of Parliament passed in the Fourth Year of his present Majesty's Reign, intituled, "An Act for consolidating and amending the Laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain Gaols and Houses of Correction in England and Wales."

First, this report states, that the visitors appointed at the Michaelmas sessions, 1823, reported and certified to the chairman and magistrates of the Epiphany quarter sessions of the peace, held by adjournment at Woodbridge, on Wednesday the 14th day of January, 1824, that they had personally visited the house of correction at least three times in the last quarter of the year, and at all times when occasion required; and had examined the state of the building; but that no additions or alterations had been made to the same, inasmuch as it was not capable of the extended classification required by the act without great expense, which it had not been deemed expedient to incur, in consequence of the county gaol, to which the division of Woodbridge is contributory, being within a short distance.

And that they had examined into the behaviour and conduct of the keeper and those under him, and matron, and the treatment, behaviour, and condition of the prisoners, and into all other matters required of them as visitors, and were well satisfied with the same respectively; and in consequence of the ill state of health of the keeper, that he was unable to attend at the sessions, and make the report required by the 14th section of the said act, or the certificate required by the 21st section thereof; but that from their personal inspection, they were fully satisfied that the several duties required to be performed by the keeper had been well executed, and that the rules and regulations for the government of the prison had been complied with. And this report further states, that at the said sessions the journal of the chaplain to the said house of correction had been laid before the justices for their inspection, and was signed by the chairman, in proof of the same having been so produced; and in which were entered the times of his attendance in the performance of his duty, with such observations as occurred to him, and without any complaint of the conduct or behaviour of the prisoners.

Secondly, at the general quarter sessions of the peace, holden by adjournment at Woodbridge aforesaid, on Wednesday the 28th day of April last past, the visitors appointed at the former sessions reported, as in their former report, that they had personally visited and inspected the house of correction at least three times in the

last quarter of the year, and at all times when occasion required, and examined into the state of the buildings, but that no additions or alterations had been made, for the reasons stated in their last report. And that they had examined into the behaviour and conduct of the keeper and those under him, and matron, and the treatment, behaviour, and condition of the prisoners, and into all other matters required of them as visitors, and were well satisfied with the same respectively. But that notwithstanding, by the continuance of the keeper's illness, he was then again unable personally to attend the sessions and make his report, and deliver his certificate, they were satisfied that the several duties required to be performed as keeper had been well executed, and the rules of the prison complied with. And that in consequence of such incapacity of the keeper, they recommended to the sessions that another keeper should be elected in his place, and that, in consideration of his services, an annuity proportioned to his merits might be granted to him, pursuant to the act. And at the same sessions the journal of the chaplain was laid before the justices for their inspection, and signed by the chairman, in proof of the same having been so produced; wherein were entered the times of his attendance in the performance of his duty, with such observations as occurred to him, and without any complaint as to the conduct or behaviour of the prisoners.

And, thirdly, at the general quarter sessions of the peace, holden by adjournment at Woodbridge aforesaid, on Wednesday the 14th day of July now last past, the visitors reported to the effect of their former reports at the two preceding sessions, expressing their perfect satisfaction of the behaviour and conduct of the assistants of the keeper and matron, and the treatment, behaviour, and condition of the prisoners. And at the same sessions, the journal of the chaplain was laid before the justices for their inspection, and signed by the chairman, in proof of the same having been produced; wherein were entered the times of his attendance in the performance of his duty, without any complaint as to the conduct and behaviour of the prisoners.

Suffolk.—At the general quarter sessions of the peace, holden by adjournment at Woodbridge, in and for the said county, on Wednesday the 20th day of October, 1824, before John Hinde Groome, clerk, chairman, William Carthew, esquire, and others, justices assigned, &c. this report was submitted to the justices assembled at the above sessions, and approved by them.

(Signed) JOHN HINDE GROOME,
Clerk, chairman.

No. 45.—SURREY.

Surrey.—A General Report, founded on the Reports of the Visiting Justices, on the Reports of the Chaplains, and on the Certif-

icates of the Keepers of the Common Gaol and several Houses of Correction in the County of Surrey; prepared by the Clerk of the Peace, and submitted to and approved by the Justices of the Peace assembled at a General Quarter Session, holden by Adjournment on Saturday, the 4th Day of December, in the Year 1824, pursuant to an Act passed in the Fourth Year of his present Majesty's Reign, relating to Gaols and Houses of Correction.

The County Gaol.

It appears from the reports of the visiting justices of this prison, that they have, at each quarter session during the year, uniformly reported that every thing relative to the prison and its offices was in a state of cleanliness and good order.

It also appears, that the gaoler having represented that, in consequence of the late prison act having prohibited the putting any prisoner in irons, except in cases of urgent necessity, he considered the security of the gaol to be endangered, and particularly that the two airing courts in which felons were confined were not of sufficient height for securing the desperate characters usually placed there; that the visitors at the last Easter session reported that Mr. Maudsley, the engineer, had laid before them a plan which appeared to them calculated to render the airing courts secure; namely, an iron barbed fence, erected on the division walls, and surmounted with a chevaux-de-frise, which, being made to revolve, should strike on wires communicating with bells, if laid hold of by the prisoners in attempting to escape, and thereby give an alarm; and they had directed Mr. Maudsley's plan to be laid before the court for their opinion and order thereon. It also appears, that the gaoler having represented the crowded state of the debtors' wards, in consequence of the commissioners of the court of requests in Southwark being authorised, by an act then lately passed, to commit debtors to the common gaol; and also, that there being no receiving rooms, he was compelled to pass both male and female prisoners to their wards before they were examined by the surgeon; and that the surgeon having at the same session represented the necessity of having a ward in the infirmary for the reception of infectious fever cases, the visitors at the same session suggested several alterations and additions in the debtors' wards, in the entrance lodge, and in the infirmary, whereby greater accommodation might be afforded to the debtors, and reception rooms for male and female prisoners, and a fever ward, a laundry, bread room, and other accommodations might be provided; which several works, so recommended by the visitors, were approved by the court, and ordered to be carried into execution.

It appears, that at the last Michaelmas quarter session, the chaplain reported that he had reason to hope some good had been already effected, in

consequence of the new regulations of the gaol; so far as related to the moral habits and daily conduct of the prisoners during their confinement; but that the period of trial as yet had been too short to enable him to come to any certain conclusion, or to authorise any sanguine expectation respecting their real reform: that he had to regret that no opportunities had yet occurred for the administration of the sacrament to any of the prisoners; nor for catechising children or young persons: that he had explained the nature and obligations of the ordinance, and given notice at the proper seasons of his readiness to converse with and examine any of the prisoners who might be properly disposed to receive the sacrament, but only two individuals had hitherto offered themselves as candidates: that the reason of this would be obvious to the magistrates, who understood the difference between a penitentiary or house of correction, in which the prisoners are for a considerable time stationary, and a county gaol, where, in consequence of so many gaol-deliveries and other causes, there are very few who remain longer than a month in the prison: that the same reason equally operates against any regular catechetical instruction; as a substitute for which he had assembled all the prisoners in the chapel once every week; read part of the church service, and some portion of the New Testament, containing some elementary and essential doctrine or duty of Christianity, on which he lectured in a familiar manner: that there were, in every class, Bibles, Testaments, Prayer-books, and other books and tracts suitable to the condition of the prisoners, with a few spelling-books for the boys and other persons who manifested any disposition to improve themselves in learning during their short stay in the prison: that he visited the sick in the different wards of the infirmary two or three times in the week, or every day in the week, as necessity required; and these to the sick patients, with other more private visits to individuals in the prison who were in mental trouble: were among the most satisfactory, and perhaps the most useful duties of the chaplain: that the behaviour of the male and female prisoners in the chapel was, in that seriousness and attention which appeared to be excited among them both by the prayers and the sermon; in many respects truly exemplary: that it was proper, however, to add, in conclusion, that the above observations referred to felons, fines, transports, &c.: respecting the debtors, the chaplain had no favourable report to make, except in the case of one or two individuals.

It appears from the certificates of the governor, that the rules and regulations laid down for the government of the common gaol had been strictly complied with (with one exception, authorised by the visiting justices):

House of Correction at Brixton.

It appears from the reports of the visiting

magistrates of this prison, that they had held frequent visits during the year at the prison, and minutely examined into the behaviour of the prisoners, their state of health, and moral improvement; the conduct of the officers, the amount of the earnings of the prisoners; and the cleanliness of the prison; and that they had at each quarter session uniformly expressed their entire satisfaction with the conduct of the officers, the cleanliness of the prison; the health of the prisoners; and with their orderly conduct, except in one instance, which occurred in the month of November, 1823, when serious insubordination and disposition to violence were manifested immediately after, and occasioned, as they believe, by the visit of a magistrate of the county, and by his indiscreet conversation with the prisoners, and refusal to hear such explanation as the turnkey in attendance requested to be allowed to give with respect to the answer made by the prisoners to the questions put to them by such magistrate.

It appears, that in the report made to the last Epiphany session, the visitors state, that they were particularly gratified in being enabled to report that the number of prisoners had of late considerably decreased; the number being at that time as follows:—males 113, females 29, making a total of 142; of which 27 were soldiers or marines committed under sentence of courts martial, and 6 were persons committed by the aldermen of London as justices of the peace for the borough of Southwark daily, neither of which descriptions of prisoners was contemplated as necessary to be provided for when the house of correction was built: that owing to the diminished number of prisoners, the earnings of the tread-mill during the last year had been less than those of the preceding year; plenty of grist had, however, been sent to the mill, and there was every reason to expect the continuance of an ample supply.

It appears from the report of the visitors at the last Midsummer quarter session, that the earnings of the prisoners, up to the 5th of January last, amounted to £282 8s. 3d., which had been paid over to the treasurer of the public stock in aid of the county rate, and that the further earnings of the prisoners since that period, amounting to £124, had been left in the hands of the governor, as a fund out of which to pay the allowance directed to be made to the prisoners on their discharge.

It appears from the report of the chaplain, at the last Michaelmas session, that the number of prisoners confined in the house of correction at Brixton was 192; that their conduct then was exceedingly regular and good; and was so during the early part of the year; but four or five months since a spirit of insubordination showed itself, which appeared to have originated in the discussions respecting the propriety of using the tread-wheel as an instrument of prison discipline: it continued about two months; and then

subject, when that question went to rest, that with regard to the moral improvement of the great bulk of the prisoners, little that was satisfactory could be said; they were generally too far advanced in crime, and had indulged in vicious habits, too long to be easily reclaimed; there had been a few cases, however, of individuals leaving their former course of life after their discharge, and becoming honest industrious members of society; the number of such cases appeared on the whole to increase.

It appears from the certificates of the governor, that the rules and regulations for the government of the prison had been strictly enforced, except that prayers had been read on week days only on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

House of Correction at Guildford.

It appears from the reports of the visiting justices, that they had repeatedly visited the house of correction during each quarter of the year, and minutely inspected the wards, cells, and other buildings, and had invariably found the greatest cleanliness prevail throughout the whole prison; that the garden had been well cultivated and fully stocked for the use of the prisoners; and that the regulations established for the government of the prison had been strictly and beneficially enforced by the governor; that Mr Jackson, the surgeon, had reported favourably of the general health of the prisoners, and continued to think that the system of discipline established did not appear to be productive of any particular disease or injury to those subjected to it; that the chaplain reported favourably of the conduct of the prisoners at chapel.

It appears that at the last Epiphany session the visitors reported, that they apprehended it could not have escaped the attention of the court that incessant efforts had been made, and were still making, to prejudice the public mind against the modern system of punishing criminals by labour on the tread-wheels; that in addition to and in support of the general clamour excited against the application of that system to the punishment of females, a strong and pathetic appeal had been lately made to the sympathies of a British public against the practice of subjecting women with infants at their breast to this discipline, and two cases of alleged cruelty had been held up to public execration, in which the conduct of the magistrates at the bench at Guildford, and of the visiting magistrates of that house, had been reprobated; and the higher authorities called on to interpose and liberate the sufferers from torture; and dismiss the committing magistrates from the future exercise of their functions; and a strong call was made upon the surgeon attached to that establishment to give, through the medium of the public press, explanatory particulars relative to the cases alluded to; that the visitors had not felt themselves amenable to calls made upon them through such channels; and having disapproved a for-

mer communication made by Mr Jackson to the editor of a public print, they had felt it their duty, peremptorily to restrict him in this and all future cases from making any reply to calls of any nature, except from the secretary of state, the houses of parliament, or the court of quarter-session, unless by the special authority of the visiting magistrates for the time being; they had nevertheless felt it their duty, to inform themselves of the facts of the cases alluded to, and for the guidance of their own future conduct in this respect to examine Mr Jackson, not only as to these particular cases, but to require his opinion as to the effects likely to result from the infliction of labour on the wheel upon women, similarly circumstanced; and lest the minds of any members of the court should have been influenced by the high-coloured and inflammatory misrepresentations thus exhibited to the public, or that the court should think it right to correct the false impression the statements made in these prints were calculated to (and, as it appeared to them, had for their object) make upon the public mind, to the prejudice of this most efficient system of corrective punishment, they had prepared, and were ready to exhibit it if it should be the pleasure of the court to call for it, a supplementary report on the two cases, together with the opinion of the surgeon, especially as to them, and generally as to the application of work upon the wheel to women suckling infants. On their own behalf, however, they felt it due to themselves, and did not hesitate to declare, that the result of their inquiry had fully satisfied their own minds, that what has been done in the commitment and punishment of these women, had not only been in strict conformity to the directions of the statute, but had violated no feeling of humanity, by which they were sensible it was their duty, as it was their inclination, to regulate their conduct in the execution of that statute; and so fully were they satisfied on this point, that till an alteration should be made in the law to restrict them from so doing, they should continue to execute its provisions in all cases where, (as they thought of the present cases) nothing in the actual state of health, or strength of the offenders would warrant the exercise of their discretion, in mitigation of the severity they enjoined. Upon motion, it was ordered that the said report should be presented, which was read accordingly, as follows:—

The woman Loder was committed by the petty sessions at Guildford (the Rev. G. Walton Onslow, chairman), on the 11th of October last, on a charge, by the parish officer of Godalming, of having been delivered of a bastard child, and being then chargeable to that parish. It appeared that the said bastard was her third child by three several fathers; and the court, considering her case too aggravated to admit of an entire remission of the punishment directed by the statute in such cases, and the overseer of

the parish; by direction of the vestry, requesting an example to be made, sentenced her to the mitigated term of three months' confinement to work in the house of correction. She was put upon the wheel on the 13th; but on account of the feeble and emaciated state in which she appeared at that period, which she represented as the effect of poverty and insufficiency of food, having, as she stated, had none but potatoes for many days prior and three days subsequent to the birth of her child, and of her insufficient supply of milk for the nourishment of her infant, the preservation of whose life was considered very precarious by the surgeon, she was not put upon the wheel again for the next fourteen or fifteen days of her imprisonment, nor till extra allowance of food for her, and twelve ounces of bread and an ounce of sugar per diem, for pap for the child, had insured the life of the child, and so far recruited the mother's strength, that at her own desire, as being a preferable state to remaining alone all day in her ward, she desired to go to work with the other women upon the wheel. Her hours of actual work upon the wheel were from half past eight or nine to twelve in the forenoon, and from half past one to four in the afternoon; her periods of work upon the wheel never exceeded fifteen minutes; nor the remission ever less than ten, and frequently fifteen minutes, when the numbers at work admitted of it. She was weighed on the 31st of October, after four or five days of work, and then weighed eight stone two pounds; and again on the 13th of December, having worked through the whole of that interval, and was found to have gained nine pounds weight; on the 15th of December she took cold, and was by the surgeon's order confined to her ward; and between that day and the 2d of January, the period of her liberation, lost two and a half pounds weight. She has declared she was better fed, and had more care taken of her, and was altogether more comfortable, during her imprisonment, than she had ever been before; that she had gained health and strength during the time she was subject to work on the wheel; and on her leaving the prison expressed much apprehension that she should not fare so well on her return home. The woman Hall, a vagrant, was in robust health when committed by the Rev. Mr. Onslow, and continued so during the month's imprisonment to which she was sentenced; and so far from her or her child failing in health during that period of regular work on the wheel with other women, the exuberance of her milk, beyond what her infant could consume, was such, that to relieve her from the pressure of it, during the greatest part of her stay there, she prayed to be permitted to suckle Loder's child, and did so to the end of her confinement. Milk needed none, and had no extra allowance of food for herself, and her child was so abundantly nourished from her breast, that the allowance of bread and sugar for pap for her

child, was seldom, if ever, in a day consumed; the children of each woman were on the laps of the women at rest, during the time the mothers were respectively employed on the wheel.

It appears that at the Easter session the visitors reported, that it having been observed that no service was performed by the governor on the days on which the chaplain's attendance was not required by the regulations of the prison, agreeably to the enactment of rule 3, s. 10, in the new prison act, Mr. Richards, the chaplain, had undertaken to select from the liturgy such prayers as he thought proper to be read daily by the governor, in his absence; and that with a view to give effect to requisition of rule 10, Mr. Richards had undertaken to establish a Sunday school, and to give his personal attendance for one hour on each Sunday, for the instruction of prisoners under twenty years of age.

It appears that at the Midsummer session the visitors reported, that they had examined the chaplain as to the conduct of the prisoners, which, as far as respected his department, he reported to have been invariably decorous and attentive in chapel; and respectful to himself during his intercourse with them for the purpose of conveying religious instruction to their minds; and that he had observed with pleasure an eagerness among such of them as could read to pass the unemployed hours of the Sabbath in reading the Holy Scriptures, and such tracts as he submitted to their perusal; and that the existing regulations of the house not requiring him to preach more than one sermon in a week, Mr. Richards had proffered his services to read prayers in the chapel more often than he was required to do. And they further report, that they had examined Mr. Jackson, the surgeon, as to the general state of health of the prisoners, and particularly as to the effects of the discipline of the wheel upon their constitutions; and had much satisfaction in observing, that while his journal exhibited an uncommonly small proportion of patients in the infirmary (considering the liability to disease in this class of persons), the proportion of those on extra allowance of food was greatly and progressively diminished among the males, and among the females only two had been in the infirmary, and not one on extra food during the last five months; that Mr. Jackson reported, that every additional month's experience served to confirm the opinion he had before expressed to the court, and to his majesty's principal secretary of state for the home department; that no effects prejudicial to the health or strength of the prisoners of either sex had resulted from the labour on the tread-wheel; and judging from the more general increase of weight of the female prisoners when subject to this discipline, and their appearing to require extra food in fewer instances, he was inclined to draw the conclusion

that the prisoners of that sex sustain less inconvenience than is felt by their more robust associates in crime. The consideration of the subject of establishing schools for the instruction of prisoners, to which the late act for the regulation of prisons had called the attention of visiting magistrates, had of necessity been again postponed, on account of the delay in printing that act, which they had hitherto been unable to obtain. They further reported, that they thought it right to draw the attention of the court to the register of commitments, from the diminished number of which they were led to hope, either that progress had been made in the work of reformation, or the tenor of the present system of prison discipline had in some degree operated to repress the commission of crime.

It appears that at the Michaelmas quarter-session the chaplain reported, that he certainly considered the prisoners in general under his care improved in a religious point of view; they evidently seemed pleased, upon the Sunday, to attend upon the services of the chapel; and both upon that day, and upon the two other prayer days, they took pleasure in reading the lessons after the minister; indeed, when he had taken a general survey of the moral state of the prisoners, he had seen cause to be pleased: that the prisoners were certainly more contented with their confinement than formerly; the cause of which, he considered, arose from some little addition being made to their comfort by the visiting magistrates.

It appears, from the certificates of the governor, that the rules and regulations for the government of the prison (except that prayers on week days were only read on Tuesdays and Thursdays), had been strictly enforced.

House of Correction at Kingston-upon-Thames.

It appears from the reports of the visitors of this prison, that they had held several meetings during each quarter of the year, and from time to time made the necessary orders for the better regulation and management of the said house of correction, and the inmates therein; and that they had uniformly presented the good order of the house, and of the prisoners confined therein.

It also appears that at the last Midsummer session the visitors reported, that the surgeon had recommended that a room should be set apart in the prison for the use of invalids, as he had frequently occasion to salivate prisoners, and in many cases of dangerous illness a warm room was requisite; and it appears that the quarter-session, approving of such recommendation, ordered a room in the prison to be set apart and fitted up for the purposes above mentioned.

It appears that at the Michaelmas-quarter session the chaplain reported, that the prisoners conducted themselves with propriety during the last year, and that they had paid great attention to divine service; but with respect to religious

instruction, their stay had generally been too short, and the changes too frequent, to enable him to make that progress with them, he could have wished: that he was preparing them, by explaining the catechism, &c. to receive the sacrament, and to obtain a general knowledge of their religious duties.

It appears from the certificates of the governor, that the rules and regulations for the government of this prison had been strictly enforced.

(Signed) BEN. BARNARD,
Chairman.

No. 42.—SUSSEX.

The general Report of his majesty's justices of the peace, made at the Michaelmas quarter-sessions of the peace, holden at Chichester, within and for the western division of the county of Sussex, on Tuesday, the 19th day of October, 1824, and at Lewes, within and for the eastern division of the said county, on Thursday, the 21st day of the same month, pursuant to the statute 4th Geo. IV. c. 64, sec. 24.

As respects his Majesty's Gaol at Horsham,

In making this report, these courts, in the first place, refer to the proceeding of the courts, of quarter-sessions, at Epiphany 1824, which was transmitted to his majesty's secretary of state, and from which will appear what measures were taken for carrying into effect the said act.

They further report, that the classification required by the said act has since been made (with the exception hereinafter stated), and the same regularly continued; and that additional regulations for the management of the said gaol were since made and agreed to by the justices assembled at a general quarter-sessions of the peace for the county at large, holden by adjournment for general county purposes at the county hall in Lewes, on Wednesday, the 18th day of August last, and that the same have been submitted to, and are now before his majesty's justices of gaol delivery for approval; that a copy thereof will be transmitted to one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state; that copies of the same will be fixed up in the said gaol, as directed by the said act, and the same ordered to be observed and attended to as regulations for the government thereof.

They further report, that it appears to them, from the result of the several reports of the visiting magistrates, and of the keeper of the said gaol, and of such other inquiries as they have had the opportunity of making, that the said gaol is in good and perfect repair, and sufficient to provide for the classification required by the act of parliament, except that there is no separate ward for prisoners committed on charge or suspicion of misdemeanor; but such prisoners, when there are any (which rarely occurs), are placed either in wards appropriated to those committed on minor charges of felony, or to those under sentence for misdemeanors: that

the keeper, matron, turnkeys, and other officers of the said prison, have been throughout the year attentive to their duty; the prison in all respects cleanly and in good order, and the conduct of the prisoners generally regular and orderly.

They further report, that the situation of the prison is dry and airy, and plentifully supplied with excellent water; and that the general state of the health of the prisoners through the year has been good.

They further report, that as the commitments of prisoners to hard labour are (they believe), in every instance, made to one or other of the houses of correction within the county (both of which are amply provided with the means of enforcing it), it has been deemed by the magistrates unnecessary to make provisions in the said gaol for that purpose; and that with respect to other prisoners confined therein, and maintained at the expense of the county, who may be lawfully set to work, directions have been given, that they shall be employed in any moderate labour, which from time to time may be approved and directed by the visiting justices, due regard being had to the strength, condition, and habits of the respective prisoners, and the precautions necessary for the security and regularity of the said gaol.

They further report, that the attention of the late and present chaplains, and also of the surgeon, to their respective duties in the said gaol, has been exemplary.

They further report, that on the decease of the reverend Thomas Williams, the late chap-

lain to the said gaol, the reverend Robert Witherby (a clergyman of the church of England), had been nominated to succeed him in the performance of such sacred duties, at the salary of 160*l.* per annum; of which nomination a notification had been transmitted to the bishop of the diocese by the clerk of the peace, pursuant to the direction of the 29th section of the said act.

They further report, that on the 10th day of June last, two prisoners, (named Henry Bolton and Edmund Brown), who had been confined in the said gaol on charge of felony, effected their escape, the former of whom has been since retaken, tried and convicted of the offence for which he was committed, and for which he received sentence of death, but has been since reprieved; but that the latter remains at large; that the circumstances attendant on the escape of the said two prisoners came under the particular consideration of the justices assembled at the aforementioned adjourned general quarter-sessions of the peace, who, upon a full investigation, expressed their satisfaction that the same was not occasioned by or in consequence of any culpable negligence of the keeper or his officers.

They further report, that visiting justices of the said gaol have been regularly appointed at each of the respective general quarter-sessions of the peace during the year.

And finally they report, that the number of prisoners confined in the said gaol immediately previous to the respective quarter-sessions held within the year have been—

	Epiphany.	Easter.	Midsummer.	Michaelmas.	
Debtors	Males	48	39	37	40
	Females	1	...	...	...
	—49	—39	—37	—40	
Felons tried	Males	15	...	2	4
	Females .....	...	1	2	2
	—15	—1	—4	—6	
Felons for trial	Males	7	8	29	10
	Females	1	...	3	1
	—8	—8	—32	—11	
Misdemeanors tried	Males	2	2	...	2
	Females	1	1	...	...
	—3	—3	—	—2	
Misdemeanors for trial	Males .....	...	...	...	1
	Females	1	...	...	...
	—1	—	—	—1	
	—27	—12	—36	—20	

RECAPITULATION.

	Epiphany.	Easter.	Midsummer.	Michaelmas.
On the debtors' side.....	49	39	37	40
On the criminal side	27	12	36	20
	76	51	73	60

(Signed)

JOHN SARGENT,

Chairman of the western division.

(Signed)

T. PARTINGTON,

Chairman of the eastern division.

The General Report of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, made at the Michaelmas General Quarter-Sessions of the Peace, holden at Chichester, in and for the Western Division of the County of Sussex, on Tuesday the 19th day of October, 1824, pursuant to the Act 4th Geo. IV. c. 64. sec. 24.

As respects the House of Correction at Petworth.

This court, pursuant to the said act, from the reports of the visiting justices, the chaplain, and the certificates of the keeper of the said prison, as delivered to the clerk of the peace for the said county at the several general quarter-sessions of the peace for the county aforesaid, from the last Michaelmas quarter-sessions held in and for the division aforesaid, doth report, that since the passing of the said act the said house of correction has been ascertained and declared, by an order of the court of quarter-sessions, to be applicable to all the purposes required by the said act, and particularly to the classification of the prisoners to be confined therein, a copy of which order was directed, and has since been transmitted to his majesty's secretary of state for the home department.

That rules and regulations for the better government of the said house of correction have been made, founded on and incorporated with the rules mentioned and contained in the said act, which have since received the approbation and confirmation of his majesty's justices of gaol delivery, and a copy thereof transmitted to his majesty's principal secretary of state; copies also have since been fixed up in the said house of correction according to the directions of the said act, and the same have been fully complied with.

That visiting justices have been appointed to the said house of correction (who have consented thereto), also a keeper, matron, chaplain, and surgeon, with other officers, as directed by the said act; that the classification of the prisoners, as also directed, hath been made, and each prisoner provided with suitable bed, bedding, and other requisites.

That the visiting justices had not in their weekly or other visitations received any information or noticed any abuses in the management of the said prison; but, on the contrary, were fully satisfied with the general state of the prisoners, as respects their morals, discipline, employment, hard labour, and observance of rules; and it is extremely satisfactory to the court to be enabled to state, that from the visiting justices and chaplain's reports, the conduct of the prisoners generally has been such, in every instance of the chaplain's daily attendance, as to allow him to report them all as having been orderly, and that the improvement they had made in their learning had been such as fully to equal his expectation: that the reports of the surgeon are likewise satisfactory; for, considering the number of prisoners who had been committed, those upon the sick list had been as few as might have been expected, and that the only contagious disease had been the itch, which had extended to four prisoners only, and which disease was introduced by a vagrant at the time of the commitment.

That the visiting justices being sensible of the benefit to be derived from making a selection of prisoners, even of the same class, they recommended an alteration to be made in the prison for the reception of the prisoners, by appropriating two rooms, then used as a store-room and working-room, to be used as day-rooms, and erecting other rooms in their stead, to be built in the yard of the said prison, which rooms are specified and described in the plan accompanying, and which the court then ordered, and has since been put into execution.

That a tread-wheel has been erected in the said house of correction for the employment of such prisoners as might be liable to hard labour, and other employments also established, so that the whole of the prisoners are now employed; and with additional satisfaction they state, from the surgeon's report, that no prejudicial effects have arisen to the health or safety of the prisoners employed on the wheel; in addition to which, the declarations of the prisoners who had

been employed thereon were taken individually when discharged, which confirms such report, and that only one prisoner since the erection of the tread-wheel has been committed a second time to such labour.

That in proof of the beneficial effects of the tread-wheel, the number of prisoners which it could have employed at the same time has exceeded the number which have been in the prison sentenced to hard labour, and who were capable of working thereon: and it is not only satisfactory, but highly gratifying to this court in being enabled to state the diminution of

crimes in this district during the present quarter, compared with those of the two preceding years.

That it appears to this court, from the report of the visiting justices and the keeper of the said house of correction, that the said house of correction, and also the keeper's house, are in a good state of substantial repair and condition, and the same properly clean, wholesome, and healthy, and have been lately white-washed, cleansed, and painted.

That by the certificate of the keeper, the number of prisoners confined in the said prison in each quarter is as follows:—

	SESSIONS.				
	Epiphany.	Easter.	Midsummer.	Michaelmas.	
Felons tried	{ Males.....	12	8	4	4
	{ Females.....	...	...	1	...
	— 12	— 8	— 5	— 4	
Felons for trial	{ Males.....	15	11	8	6
	{ Females.....	5	1	1	1
	— 20	— 12	— 9	— 7	
Misdemeanors tried	{ Males.....	25	17	11	5
	{ Females.....	1	1	2	2
	— 26	— 18	— 13	— 7	
Misdemeanors for trial	{ Males.....	19	11	4	6
	{ Females.....	1	...	...	...
	— 20	— 11	— 4	— 6	
Vagrants	{ Males.....	11	4	4	5
	{ Females.....	...	1	...	1
	— 11	— 5	— 4	— 6	
Confined for insanity		1	1	1	1
Children with their mothers .....		...	...	...	...
		90	55	36	31

(Signed)

JOHN SARGENT, chairman.

The General Report of his Majesty's Justices, made at the Michaelmas Quarter-Sessions of the Peace, holden at Lewes, within and for the Eastern Division of the County of Sussex, on Thursday, the 21st day of October, 1824, pursuant to the statute 4th Geo. IV. c. 64, sect. 24.

As respects the House of Correction at Lewes.

In making this report, the court, in the first place, refer to the proceedings of the court of quarter-sessions at Michaelmas 1823, which was transmitted to his majesty's secretary of state, and from which it appears what measures were then taken for carrying into effect the act of 4th Geo. IV. c. 64.

They further report, that the classification required by the said act has been made and regularly continued, and that additional regulations for the management of the said house of correction were made and agreed to by the magistrates assembled at the last Epiphany sessions, and that the same have been submitted to and approved by his majesty's justices of gaol delivery; that a copy thereof has been since transmitted to one of his majesty's secretaries of state; that copies of the same have been fixed up in the house of correction as directed by the said act, and that the same are now ordered to be observed and attended to as regulations for the government thereof.

They further report, that it appears to them

from the result of the several reports of the visiting magistrates and chaplain, and of the keepers of the said house of correction, and of such other inquiries as they have had the opportunity of making, that the said house of correction is in good and perfect repair, and sufficient to provide for the classification required by act of parliament: that the keeper, matron, turnkeys, and other officers of the prison, have been throughout the year attentive to their duty; the prison in all respects cleanly and in good order, and the conduct of the prisoners generally regular and orderly; that some slight instances of insubordination which occurred were instantly checked by the steadiness and vigilance of the keeper and his assistants; that in one instance the visiting magistrates thought it necessary, for the sake of example, to continue a prisoner in solitary confinement for five or six days who had refused to work at the tread-wheel, and incited others to do the like; but who, at the end of that time, expressing his penitence, was permitted to return to his work, and continued afterwards to behave orderly and properly; in a few other instances the same mode of punishment has been resorted to, but not for more than twenty-four, or at most forty-eight hours, being found a sufficient time to bring the offenders to a proper sense of their misconduct.

They further report, that the general state of the health of the prisoners through the year has been good, but to this there has been two exceptions; the first was of a casual nature, arising from the introduction of the small-pox by a vagrant brought into the prison, which was not discovered early enough to prevent the infection spreading in some degree, and which was increased by the misconduct of some of the prisoners, as stated in the surgeon's report; but by the precautions adopted under the directions of the surgeon, and especially by the general introduction of vaccination upon all the prisoners who had not had the disorder, or been vaccinated before they came in, it was not attended with any serious consequences (except in the case of one unfortunate man, who had not been vaccinated in consequence of his having concealed his liability to the disease, and who fell a victim to it); there were indeed several cases of modified small-pox in subjects who had been formerly vaccinated, all of which passed off quickly, and without any serious disturbance of the constitution.

The second exception is of a nature more general, and more immediately connected with the state of a prison: during the course of the winter a considerable number of prisoners were found affected with scurvy; the disease, as described by the surgeon, had completely the symptoms of the true sea scurvy; it is to be observed, that at that period the prison was extremely crowded, and the season being excessively damp and wet, it was difficult to obtain a thorough circulation of dry air in all parts of

the prison; by a proper attention to diet and medicine, the symptoms of this disease were speedily checked; nor did it in any instance produce fatal or dangerous consequences; and as the spring came on, and the prison likewise became less crowded, it gradually diminished, and at length disappeared. It might be proper to observe, that a disease of the same kind was observed in the prison at about the same period of the preceding winter, the same causes being then in operation, and which likewise disappeared as the season advanced.

To obviate as far as possible the causes which might give rise to such effects in future, the court have, under the recommendation of the surgeon and the visiting magistrates, directed that movable stoves shall be placed from time to time in those parts of the passages leading to the cells which appear liable to damp, and have likewise directed some improvements to be made in the general ventilation. They have likewise ordered that prisoners kept to hard labour for any longer period than a month, shall receive a pound of potatoes daily, over and above the ordinary diet. Upon this part of their report they beg leave to refer to a report made by Mr. Roberts, the surgeon, to the last Easter sessions, and a copy of which is hereunto annexed.

At present the prison is so completely healthy, that not only is there no prisoner in the infirmaries, but when the surgeon went over it on the day of the last visitation by the magistrates, there was not one prisoner who required advice or medicine.

They further report, that the greater part of the male prisoners committed to hard labour are regularly employed upon the tread-wheel (being divided into two classes, the one consisting of felons convict, the other of persons sentenced for minor offences); and the rest in pumping water, and doing other work in the prison; and the women in spinning, or else in washing and other domestic offices. They are fully satisfied that no inconvenience, in point of health or otherwise, results from the labour of the tread-wheel, and, under that impression, they, at the last Epiphany sessions (in consequence of the increased number of prisoners, and especially of felons convict), ordered a second tread-wheel to be erected, which has been since completed, and is now in work.

They further report, that some occasional work has been at times provided for prisoners not committed to hard labour; and in particular, that the clothing for the use of the prison is made up by the prisoners; but that it has not been hitherto found practicable to introduce a regular system for employing them constantly.

That in consequence of some circumstances which occurred respecting the communication of the small-pox last spring, they have directed rooms to be fitted up for infirmaries in a situation less exposed to danger of communicating

infection than those hitherto appropriated for that purpose, which are now nearly completed.

That they have also made alterations in the chapel, which were rendered necessary by the increased number of prisoners, and which is now made equal to the accommodation of all the prisoners, even when the prison is most full.

That proper measures have been taken for affording separate beds for each male prisoner, according to the directions of the statute, placing three such beds in each cell in such of the wards as are most likely to require it.

They further report, that by an order of the last Epiphany sessions they have increased the chaplain's salary from 50*l.* to 80*l.* per annum, and have required that the chaplain should be resident in or close to Lewes, but that the late

chaplain, Mr. William Gwynne, not having complied with that requisition, and having for a considerable period previous to the last Midsummer sessions absented himself from his duty without any communication to the visiting magistrates or otherwise where he was to be found, they were under the necessity of removing him from his office, and they have since elected the reverend Anthony Nott as his successor.

That Mr. Roberts, the late surgeon, having resigned his office, they have elected Mr. Richard Turner to succeed him.

They further report, that the number of prisoners confined in the said house of correction immediately previous to the respective quarter-sessions held within the year, have been,—

	Epiphany.	Easter.	Midsummer.	Michaelmas.
Felons convicted.....	41	37	26	15
{ Males.....	5	2	4	1
{ Females.....	—	—	—	—
	—46	—39	—30	—16
Misdemeanors convicted, in- cluding summary convic- tions.....	70	40	31	26
{ Males.....	6	5	4	4
{ Females.....	—	—	—	—
	—76	—45	—35	—30
For trial for felony.....	18	37	21	7
{ Males.....	5	8	2	—
{ Females.....	—	—	—	—
	—23	—45	—23	—7
Ditto misdemeanors.....	3	3	6	12
{ Males.....	2	1	2	—
{ Females.....	—	—	—	—
	—5	—4	—8	—12
Vagrants.....	13	6	13	4
{ Males.....	6	—	6	3
{ Females.....	—	—	—	—
	—19	—6	—19	—7
Children with their mothers.....	3	2	2	4
	172	141	117	76

In respect to the house of correction at Battle, they report, that that prison is fit and sufficient for the purposes for which the same is directed to be applied by the order of Michaelmas quarter-sessions, formerly transmitted to the office of the secretary of state for the home department; that every thing respecting it is orderly and regular, and that the number of prisoners therein confined immediately previous to the respective sessions is as follows :—

Epiphany 6 all males.
Easter 10 ditto.
Midsummer —
Michaelmas 2 ditto.

(Signed) T. PARTINGTON.

No. 47.—WARWICKSHIRE.

Alverton, near Stratford-*on*-Avon,

October 24, 1824.

Sir,—I have the honour to report to you,

that at the late sessions held for the county of Warwick the magistrates determined on a set of additional rules and regulations for the government of the county prisons, which will be submitted to the consideration of the justices of gaol delivery at the next assizes.

They also accepted the resignation of the chaplain of the prisons, who retires on an annuity of 100*l.*, and appointed a successor, with a salary of 250*l.* per annum.

In the course of the last year the alterations in the gaol have been pretty nearly completed, according to the plan which was transmitted to you after the Michaelmas sessions.

In consequence of the difficulties which were met with in getting possession of the ground and buildings required for the enlargement of the house of correction, I am sorry to say that nothing new has been done in that prison towards the proper classification of its inmates.

The purchase which was contemplated as being effected, and the alterations and additional buildings are being proceeded in, in such a manner that I have every reason to expect that the whole will be completed and occupied in the course of the ensuing summer.

I have, &c.

G. SKIPWICH,

Chairman of Warwick quarter-sessions.

The right honourable Robert Peel,

&c. &c. &c.

No. 48.—WESTMORLAND.

Westmorland to wit.—At the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King, holden at Appleby, in and for the said County, on Monday, the 18th Day of October, in the Year of our Lord 1824, before the Reverend James Satterthwaite, D.D. Chairmen, John Rippon, Joseph Milner, Thomas Bellas, Clerks, and others, their Associates, Justices of our said Lord the King, assigned to keep the Peace in the said County, and also to hear and determine divers Felonies, Trespasses, and other Misdemeanors in the said County committed, &c.

Pursuant to the provisions contained in the act of parliament passed in the fourth year of the reign of his present majesty, intituled, “An Act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales,” I do hereby certify the following general report, founded upon the several reports of the visiting justices, the chaplain, and the certificate of the keeper of the gaol or prison at Appleby, in and for the said county; viz.—the visiting justices report;

That the number of wards in the county gaol at Appleby is so small that it has hitherto been impossible to comply with the requisitions of the act with respect to the classification of the prisoners; they have the satisfaction, however, to state, that additions and alterations are now in progress, which, when completed, will enable the magistrates of the county of Westmorland to enforce a strict observance of the act, both with respect to the classification and employment of the prisoners. Arrangements have been made for the introduction of steel mills, by means of which they hope to be able to give constant employment to the prisoners, however small or great the number; and at the Michaelmas sessions, 1825, the visiting magistrates will probably be able to report, that the alterations and additions are completed.

The prisoners in the gaol and house of correction who have been sentenced to hard labour are now employed in the breaking of stones for the road, a species of employment which they find very suitable for those prisoners who are strong enough to undertake it; and that every possible care is taken to prevent immoralities and vice in the prison.

The chaplain reports, that both the felons and debtors are very regular in attending the chapel on the Sundays, and in reading the Bible on other days of the week; their conduct while at chapel very good; that there is only one debtor who had not attended divine service the two Sundays preceding the report; that the reverend Thomas Bellas, one of the visiting justices, and secretary to the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge at Appleby, had furnished four Bibles and six Common Prayer books for the use of the prisoners, which books the chaplain and governor of the prison pay particular attention are not abused.

The governor of the gaol's report is hereunto annexed.

JAMES SATTERTHWAITE, chairman.

No. 49.—WILTSHIRE.

The General Report of the Justices of the County of Wilts, prepared by the Clerk of the Peace of the said County, founded on the several Reports of the Visiting Justices, on the Reports of the Chaplains, and on the Certificates of the Keepers of the Gaol of Fisherton Anger, the House of Correction at Devizes, and the Bridewells of Devizes and Marlborough, in the said County, delivered in at Michaelmas Quarter Sessions, 1824, in pursuance of an Act of Parliament, passed in the Fourth Year of the Reign of his present Majesty, for consolidating and amending the Laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain Gaols and Houses of Correction in England.

The justices of the peace of the county of Wilts have, within the last fifteen years, built a new county gaol at Fisherton Anger, and a new house of correction at Devizes; and they have much satisfaction in stating, that after some alterations shall have been made in the new county gaol (and which are now nearly completed) those prisons will be well adapted to the classification of prisoners directed by the act, and according to the system ordered by the justices of the Michaelmas sessions, 1823.

The two bridewells at Devizes and Marlborough remain as they were, and are used principally for confinement of prisoners before trial.

In the house of correction at Devizes a treadmill was erected about twelve months ago, in addition to a mill worked by crank handles, and used for grinding corn at that prison; and the prisoners are further employed in working a machine for raising water to supply the prison and offices.

In the county gaol at Fisherton Anger the justices have erected a machine for raising water for the use of the prison, on which such prisoners as are committed to hard labour are employed.

The female prisoners are employed in wash-

ing, ironing, and other labour suitable to the sex.

The respective visiting justices report the several prisons under their care to be clean, the conduct of the prisoners orderly, and the discipline at such prisons properly attended to; and that the keepers and other officers have been attentive in their respective offices.

The visiting justices of the house of correction at Devizes report, that since the erection of the tread-mill there, a very great decrease has taken place in the number of commitments for misdemeanors, particularly of poachers, of whom there were ten at the corresponding period in 1823, and at Michaelmas, 1824, only one; and commitments to this prison now seldom occurring, they are induced to believe that such improvement arises from the adoption of this mode of labour.

The several chaplains report the general good state and condition of the prisoners confined in the respective prisons, and the conduct of the governors in regard to their observance of the prison rules and orders of the visiting justices, to be satisfactory.

The chaplain of the house of correction and bridewell at Devizes having entered rather fully on the subject of prison discipline, the justices think it proper to send a copy of his reports herewith, although they beg to state that they do not entirely agree with him in the opinion he entertains on the subject of public whipping, and are inclined to think that, on a more minute inquiry, he will find that the circumstance of two or three persons having been hanged, as therein alluded to, must have been communicated to him by persons unacquainted with the real facts.

The governor of the county gaol certified that the same is in good and substantial repair, but not yet adapted for the classification of prisoners, as directed, the buildings not being quite finished; that there is no fever or other infectious disorder, and that the rules and regulations have been duly observed in that prison.

The Number of Prisoners :

Male debtors	25
Female ditto	2
Male felons	19
Female ditto	1
Male misdemeanants.....	11
Hard labour	2
Insane	1

61

The governor of the house of correction at Devizes reports that prison to be in good and substantial repair, and that there is no fever or other infectious disorder therein. He further certifies that all the rules and regulations have been duly observed therein.

The Number of Prisoners :

Male felons.....	63
Female ditto	4
Male misdemeanants.....	49
Female ditto	6
One prisoner's child.	—
	122

The keeper of the bridewell at Devizes certified, that the prison was under repair by direction of the justices, under the superintendance of the county surveyor; that the rules for classification had been observed as far as practicable; and that the number of prisoners were—

Male felons	12
Female ditto	2
Male misdemeanants.....	20
	—
	34

The keeper of the bridewell at Marlborough certified, that the prison is in good state and condition, the prisoners in good state of health, and very orderly, and that the rules for classification have been observed.

The Number of Prisoners confined :

Male felons.....	6
Female felon	1

The justices further report, that the several surgeons have reported the state and condition of the several prisons to be clean, and the prisoners healthy, there being but few cases of illness, and none of a serious nature.

The surgeon of the house of correction at Devizes in his report adds, that having uniformly paid very particular attention to, and examined every prisoner, both before and during the time of his being employed on the tread-mill in that prison, for the last twelve months, he can confidently affirm that he has never known illness occasioned thereby; but, on the contrary, he thinks the health of the prisoners generally, and of the felons in particular, benefited by its operation.

The justices of Wilts, on reading the several reports and certificates before alluded to, and on examining the several governors and keepers of the several prisons of that county thereon, do thereupon report to his majesty's secretary of state their satisfaction with the general good conduct of the several officers, and that the rules and regulations of each prison are duly and properly observed.

They further report, that they have every reason to be satisfied with the beneficial effects of the tread-mill, and are convinced that such labour is by no means injurious to the health or limbs of the prisoners.

They cannot conclude their report without observing, that the time and attention of the clerk of the peace was so fully employed at the Michaelmas sessions, 1824, when the several reports directed by the act were delivered into the court, according to the directions of the act, as to prevent his drawing up and presenting this report at that sessions, and the same was necessarily deferred till the January sessions, 1825; and, though this may not be within the strict letter of the law, the justices hope it will be considered within the spirit of it, and that the delay will cause no inconvenience to his majesty's secretary of state, to whom they beg most respectfully to submit the propriety of extending the time for making up the general annual report to the January sessions; in case it should be necessary further to amend the act of parliament.

JOHN SWAYNE, clerk of the peace.

Wilts, Hilary Sessions, 1825.

This report was submitted to the justices assembled, and was by them approved.

T. G. BUCENALL ESTCOURT, chairman.

Michaelmas Sessions, 1824.

The Report of the Chaplain of Devizes Prison.

The prison having been under repair, the whole of the preceding quarter, the chaplain was requested by the governor not to read prayers during the week days, for fear of accidents.

The chaplain has great reason to be pleased with the general good conduct of the prisoners during the last twelve months, as far as regards himself; and the judicious way in which the chapel has been altered will improve the discipline in that place very materially.

But all the labours of the chaplain must and will be thrown away as long as such unrestrained communication is permitted among prisoners previous to trial. Those who are jealous of the liberty of the subject, consider it would be an infringement of those rights which are deservedly dear to every Englishman, to keep men in solitary confinement previous to trial; but permit me to ask, what greater injury can be done a man than to put him in the way of imbibing the worst of principles, by a necessary association with bad characters? Could a moderate solitary confinement be once substituted for the present plan, the best results might be expected. The chaplain is convinced that men would very rarely return to prison at a second time; and there would be a much greater chance of their again becoming good members of society; a prison would then be in reality, what indeed it is intended to be—a school for improvement; instead of what it is most certainly in many cases at present—a step to the gallows.

(Signed) J. MAYO, chaplain.

Exhibited in court.

T. G. B. ESTCOURT, chairman.

Michaelmas Sessions, 1824.

Report of the Chaplain of the House of Correction at Devizes.

The chaplain is happy in being able to make a favourable report of the general good conduct of the prisoners during the past twelve months; and he has reason to hope his labour has not been altogether unavailing. The chaplain is much indebted to the visiting justices for the facility with which he is able to instruct the felons, since permission was granted him to assemble them, a ward at a time, in the school-room; he was induced to propose the plan from having found much benefit to arise from the practice of it, in the infirmary, and he is happy to say he has not yet seen any reason to wish for an alteration in the system; the men, on the whole, conduct themselves with great attention and propriety. The mere teaching them to read is not so much an object with the chaplain as making them apply what they hear or read to their own particular case; for this purpose he makes use of Doddridge's Expositor, and reads out of it at the end of every ten or more verses, in this manner taking them through the New Testament at the rate of five or six chapters a day. The chaplain flatters himself that much good may arise from this plan; as those who can read are obliged to make a good use of their books, and those who cannot read have the same opportunity of learning their duty with those that can. They then repeat Crossman's Catechism, and the chaplain concludes with reading a portion of some book which he judges most likely to benefit them. The strictest discipline is kept up in the school-room; and not the slightest communication takes place during the time they are assembled.

The men on the misdemeanant's side, being few in number, and fully occupied with the necessary work of the prison, receive no instruction of any kind except on the Sunday, and being confined for short periods, they would comparatively derive but little benefit.

But there are two evils connected with prison discipline, which as long as they exist will always prove a bar to the general improvement of prisoners; viz. public whippings, and the too frequent intercourse of prisoners previous to trial.

It can be proved by the prison books, that in almost every instance; those who are sentenced to be publicly whipped immediately before liberation, uniformly return to prison in a short time; and it has happened within the last twelve months, that two or three have been hanged under similar circumstances. The chaplain has very attentively studied the feelings of men previous to this public exposure; and he is inclined to think it has a decidedly bad effect; and that much good might have resulted from the previous imprisonment; if that part of the sentence had been remitted.

With regard to the other evil, the chaplain begs to state thus much as his opinion, deliberately formed upon nearly two years' experience:

That all the labour bestowed by the legislature in framing laws, and by the justices in putting them in force, will be comparatively of little avail as long as prisoners before trial are allowed such unrestrained intercourse. The greatest possible mischief arises from it, and the too frequent recommendation of prisoners may be mainly attributed to it; and it frequently happens that men are found to commit burglaries and highway robberies soon after their liberation from prison, in company with those very persons whom they had formed an intimacy with before trial.

There is one more circumstance the chaplain begs to state to the court, and he thinks much good might result from it: that the chaplain and governor might be permitted once a year to recommend one or two prisoners, who may have conducted themselves in an exemplary manner, to the attention of the court for a remission of sentence.

(Signed) J. MAYO, chaplain.

No. 50.—WORCESTERSHIRE.

The Report of George Hill, of the City of Worcester, Gentleman, the Deputy-Clerk of the Peace for the County of Worcester, in pursuance of the 24th Section of an Act of Parliament, passed in the Fourth Year of the said Reign of his present Majesty, intitled, "An

Act for consolidating and amending the Laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain Gaols and Houses of Correction in England and Wales."

By the reports of the visiting magistrates of the gaol of the county of Worcester aforesaid, from Michaelmas, 1823, to and including the present session, it appears, that under the provision of the 16th sec. of the act, the visiting magistrates earnestly recommended to the notice of the court the case of Margaret Williams, as one in which they conceived to be deserving of mercy. This woman was convicted of stealing at the Easter sessions, 1821, and sentenced to seven years' transportation; she had four children, the eldest of whom was then nine years of age, and the youngest was born in the gaol four months after her conviction; her conduct in the prison had been so uniformly orderly, quiet, and industrious, as to make the visiting magistrates confidently hope she might become an useful member of society.

That the visiting magistrates had congratulated the court on the satisfactory circumstances, that in all the important regulations contained in the recent act, namely, classification, the provision of labour, the instruction of the prisoners in reading (so far as such instruction had been deemed expedient), and the appointment of female officers, the enactments of that humane law had been interpreted in that prison.

That in order to conform as nearly as possible to the enactments contained in the 4th Geo. IV. in regard to the arrangement and classification of the prisoners, the visiting magistrates had fitted up fifty-two beds in the upper rooms of the several buildings, by which means the gaoler was enabled to provide a separate bed for each prisoner.

That a facility of inspection of the prisoners in the day-room had been given by means of loop-holes in the walls of three of the wards, and others were directed to be made; that two ventilators had been erected in the upper ward, which had had the effect of rendering them perfectly free from disagreeable effluvia, and that the iron railings of the yards had been entirely completed.

That the system of ventilation of the upper wards, commenced the last quarter, had been completed throughout the prison with manifest advantage, and that the inspection of the prisoners had been facilitated by the adoption of the most improved slides to each of the day-rooms, by means of which the prisoners could be overlooked without their seeing the inspector; that the conduct of the governor, warden, and other officers had deserved their approbation, and the discipline and employment of the prisoners had been steadily enforced under the regulations of the 4th Geo. IV. and the rules founded thereon.

That from the report of the reverend William Faulkner, chaplain to the gaol of Worcester, to the present Michaelmas sessions, it appears that divine service was performed in the gaol every Wednesday and Friday, on mornings and evenings on Sundays, and examination and instruction of the prisoners in the catechism, and the duties and doctrines of Christianity, and that the chaplain also visits the prison and prisoners two or three times at least every week.

That from the certificate of John Nelson Lavender, the keeper of the said gaol, sworn at the present Michaelmas sessions, it further appears that the whole of the rules and regulations of the 4th Geo. IV. c. 64, had been complied with in the said gaol, except part of rule 10, which relates to writing.

GEORGE HILL, deputy clerk of the peace of the county of Worcester, sheweth to Worcester-shire, Michaelmas sessions, 1824, a prisoner approved by the justices.

PLYMOUTH, chairman.

No. 51.—YORKSHIRE.

1.—Castle of York.

A Court of Gaol Sessions for the County of York, held on Tuesday the 4th January, 1825, being the first Court held after the 1st October, 1824.

General Report of his Majesty's Gaols the Castle of York.

The buildings and area composing the gaol consist of five yards for men; and one yard for

women; in the men's buildings are sixty-two beds, and in the women's, eight beds; on the *dehors*, side there are sixty-eight beds in twenty-two rooms, and eighteen other rooms, in which the number of beds varies; the open area of the castle-yard is 6,527 square yards, the un-built parts take up 5,345 square yards, the buildings 1,436 square yards, and the whole site of the castle occupies about two acres and three roods.

At the first gaol sessions, held pursuant to the act of the 5th of the king, c. 12, the magistrates then assembled resolved, that the classification required by the gaol acts could not be carried into effect till some enlargements, alterations, and additions were made in the gaol, and therefore that the directions of the 4th sec. of the act of the 4th of the king could not then be complied with.

At a court of gaol sessions, held on the 11th May, 1824, it was determined that an advertisement should be inserted in the newspapers, offering premiums to architects for plans for making the alterations and improvements rendered necessary in the gaol to carry into effect the classification and regulations of the new gaol acts.

At another court of gaol sessions, held on the 5th August, 1824, a committee of magistrates was appointed to inspect the several plans given in pursuance of the advertisement, and to award the premiums; and at the same court a committee of three magistrates was appointed, with a power to add six to the number, to make such additions or alterations in the gaol on the ground which at present belongs to the county, as might make it convenient for the reception of prisoners, in conformity with the several acts of parliament relative to gaols, with a power to appoint an architect.

The committee accordingly met, and appointed Messrs. Atkinson and Sharpe of York, to be the architects, and directed them to prepare a plan of a prison for 80 male and 10 female criminal prisoners, and 200 debtors, to be classified according to the acts. The architects have prepared the plan, and circulated lithographic copies amongst the committee, which are now under their consideration.

The rules and regulations for the government of the gaol prescribed by the act of the 4th of the king are observed and carried into effect, so far as the present buildings and accommodations will admit.

No abuses have been observed, nor have the visiting justices reported any in the management of the gaol.

The chaplain reports, that as the visiting justices have hitherto been unable to put into execution the designs of the legislature in the late enactments for the regulation of gaols, his duties have remained unaltered since the 12th March, 1818, the date of his appointment.

The duties prescribed to the chaplain at that period were, these, public service and sermon every Sunday morning, with prayers in the

chapel every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings; sacrament administered six times in the year, together with private instruction to prisoners under sentence of death, the sick, and others whose cases might require such attention.

The chaplain furnishes books of devotion and instruction to the prisoners, at the expense of the county.

In addition to the chaplain's duties, the prisoners attend the chapel every Thursday morning to hear public prayers and a sermon, which are provided for by the will of the Rev. Rhineas Hodgson, formerly chancellor of the cathedral of York: the appointment is vested in the vicars choral of the cathedral, and usually held by one of their own body.

The reverend James Richardson, A.M. is the present preacher, by the will of Mr. Hodgson.

The duties as above stated have been regularly performed by the chaplain and the preacher. The chaplain cannot report any material change for the better in the moral and religious conduct of the prisoners in general, which he attributes in a great measure to the want of proper classification.

A plan of the present gaol, drawn upon a scale of one sixteenth of an inch to a foot, and a copy of the return directed to be made annually by the keeper of the gaol, in the form contained in the schedule annexed to the act of the 4th of the king, marked (B) are transmitted herewith.

The above report was laid by the clerk of the court of gaol sessions before the court, held this 4th January, 1825, and was then approved.

BENJAMIN DEALTRY, chairman.

No. 2.—NORTHALLERTON.

The Report of the Clerk of the Peace for the North Riding of the County of York, founded on the Report of the Visiting Justices, on the Report of the Chaplain, and on the Certificates of the Keeper of the House of Correction at Northallerton, in pursuance of Statute 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, s. 24.

That pursuant to the 16th section of the said act, the magistrates, assembled at each general quarter-sessions, have nominated certain magistrates residing in the vicinity of the house of correction at Northallerton, as visitors of the said gaol, being the only gaol within their jurisdiction.

That the visiting justices have, at each general quarter-sessions, made a report in writing of the state and condition of the said gaol, from which it appears that the said justices have frequently, both individually and collectively visited and inspected every department of the gaol, and that they have uniformly found it clean and well-ventilated.

The particulars of each visit appear in their journal produced to the sessions.

That the visiting justices have given their best attention to introduce, so far as is practicable, all those regulations which the said statute has laid down as the code of prison discipline.

That in the arrangement of the prisoners, so far as the present accommodations will admit, the visiting justices have never lost sight of the great principle of classification, and in their employment of prisoners have pursued the provisions of the act.

That the behaviour of the prisoners has (generally speaking) been orderly, and the conduct of the officers such as to meet the approbation of the visiting justices.

The court are aware that the present state of the buildings prevents the classification required by the act from being carried to the full extent; but the visiting justices have kept the principle of the statute steadily in view, by removing the juvenile and less-hardened from the intercourse of older and more vicious offenders.

The dieting of the prisoners is by contract.

The gaoler's accounts are audited by a committee (of whom the visiting justices form a part) previous to each general quarter-sessions, the items of which appear in the quarterly reports of the committee, and the reports of the visiting justices; the said accounts are published annually, and a copy sent to each magistrate of the riding.

The reverend John Bowness has been appointed by the court of quarter-sessions, and licensed by the archbishop of York, to officiate as chaplain in the gaol, with a salary of one hundred guineas per annum. Since his appointment, prayers have been read daily in the chapel of the gaol, and the morning and evening service of the church, and a sermon preached by him on Sundays, and such other days as is required by the said act. The chaplain reports that there is an obvious improvement in the outward conduct of the prisoners; the officers of the gaol state to him that the prisoners shew an increased obedience and civility towards them. The chaplain has kept a journal, in which he has entered the times of his attendance in the performance of his duty, which has been laid before the justices for their inspection at each quarter-sessions.

The gaoler reports, that the rules laid down in the 10th section of the said act, with respect to the government of the said gaol, have been complied with, except so much of the sixth rule as relates to classification. Rule 18th is complied with.

Provision is intended to be made for rule 10th. The gaoler also certifies to each general quarter-sessions the number of prisoners confined in the said gaol, both male and female, with a description of their several offences, their classification and employment.

WILLIAM WATKES, deputy clerk of the said court of peace for the said North Riding.

Examined and approved by the court.

JOHN HEADLYM, chairman.

No. 3.—BEVERLEY.

To the right honourable Robert Peel, his majesty's

principal secretary of state for the home department.

The General Report of John Lockwood, the Deputy Clerk of the Peace for the East Riding of the County of York, made in pursuance of the Act of the 4th Geo. IV. c. 61, and founded on the Reports of the Visiting Magistrates of the House of Correction of the said Riding, and of the Chaplain of the said House of Correction, and also on the Certificates of the Keeper thereof,—who state,

That the conduct of the keeper, and of all the other officers of the establishment of the house of correction at Beverley, has in all respects continued to be highly satisfactory to the visiting magistrates, and that they had received a good account of the general demeanor of the prisoners; that the work of the tread-mill had been continued without intermission; and that there appeared a well-grounded hope to the visiting magistrates, that all the beneficial results which were anticipated from the introduction of that system of hard labour, under regulations which had been sanctioned by the legislature, would be realised.

Also, that the religious and moral instruction afforded to the prisoners since the passing of the above act has been regulated in strict compliance with its requisitions; that prayers are read to the prisoners early in the morning by the governor, at which they have all been in the habit of attending; that on the Sunday the full morning duty has been performed, with prayers and public catechising in the afternoon; and that in discharging this latter duty, the chaplain has been in the habit of using Crossman's Introduction, Watts's First Catechisms, and other books of that description; that a school has been established in the prison, which has been regularly attended by the chaplain, from which he has ascertained the progressive improvement of the boys; that the sacrament has also been administered, and it is made known to the prisoners that if any are desirous of receiving it, the chaplain is ready to converse with them on the subject; and that upon the whole the religious and moral improvement of the prisoners is, in the opinion of the chaplain, as great, under all the circumstances of the case, as could reasonably be expected.

And also, that the rules, orders, and regulations required by the 21st section of the above act, and delivered to the keeper of the house of correction for the government thereof, have been duly adhered to and strictly enforced the last quarter, except that in one case an untried felon boy, aged 15 years, has been confined with the convicted boys who attend the school.

Dated this 23d October, 1824.

JOHN LOCKWOOD, deputy clerk of the peace for the said North Riding.

I confirm the above statement, which was submitted to the magistrates at their Michaelmas quarter-sessions,

RICHARD BETHELL, chairman, E. R. Y.

HOUSE OF CORRECTION AT BEVERLEY.

The diet table for prisoners in general.			
	Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.
Sunday	One quart of oatmeal pottage, half a pound of bread.	One quart of stew of heads and bones, &c. with half a pound of potatoes.....	Same as breakfast.
Monday	Same	One quart of oatmeal pottage, half a pound of bread.....	Same.
Tuesday....	Same	Same as Sunday.....	Same.
Wednesday..	Same	Same as Monday.....	Same.
Thursday...	Same	Half a pound of boiled beef, one pound of potatoes.....	Same.
Friday.....	Same	One quart of broth from beef of yesterday, &c. half a pound of bread, with leeks or onions, and a quarter of an ounce of oatmeal, for each prisoner.....	Same.
Saturday...	Same	Same as Monday.....	Same.
For prisoners employed at the tread-mill.			
	Breakfast.	Dinner.	Supper.
Sunday.....	One quart of oatmeal pottage, half a pound of bread.	One quart of stew of heads and bones, with half a pound of potatoes, and half a pound of bread.....	Same as breakfast.
Monday....	Same	One quart of oatmeal pottage, half a pound of bread.....	Same.
Tuesday....	Same	Same as Sunday.....	Same.
Wednesday..	Same	Half a pound of boiled beef, one pound of potatoes, and half a pound of bread.....	Same.
Thursday...	Same	Three fourths of a quart of broth from beef of yesterday, &c. half a pound of bread, with suitable vegetables, and six ounces of flour made into a dumpling.....	Same.
Friday.....	Same	Same as Wednesday.....	Same.
Saturday...	Same	Same as Thursday.....	Same.

At the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King, held at the New Sessions House in Beverley, in and for the East Riding of the County of York, on Tuesday the 27th Day of April, in the 5th Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Fourth, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith; and in the Year of our Lord 1824;—before Richard Bethel, Esq. Chairman; the Honourable Godfrey Bosville Ralph Creyke, William Beverley, Jonas Brown, Daniel Sykes, Robert Denison the Younger, Charles Grinston, Yarburgh, Greame, and George Schonswar, Esqrs.; and the Rev. John Bell, D.D.; John Gilby, Christopher Sykes, Charles Constable, William Harry Edward Buntinck, Joseph Coltman, Daniel Ferguson, John Blanchard, Robert Croft, Danson Richardson Carrer, William Robinson Gilby, George Sampson, and William Canning, Clerks, Justices, &c.—the following order was made:—

Ordered, — That no portion of the earnings be

allowed to prisoners sentenced to hard labour, but that the visiting justices be empowered to grant to them such an allowance upon their release as their general conduct may appear to deserve; reference being also had to their distance from home:

That all prisoners previous to trial, who may be able and willing to work, be allowed three pence per day for every day on which work can be supplied to them by the governor, and on which they actually do work:

That all such prisoners previous to trial, who can provide such work for themselves as can be carried on consistently with the established rules of the gaol, be allowed so to employ themselves, and to receive whatever they can earn: And,

That convicted prisoners, not sentenced to hard labour, be allowed one half of the allowance made to unconvicted prisoners, on such days as they are employed by the governor, under the direction of the visiting magistrates.

By the court,

JOHN LOCKWOOD, deputy clerk of the peace.

No. 4.—WEST RIDING.

A General Report of the State, Condition, and Management of the House of Correction at Wakefield, in the said Riding, founded on the Report of the Visiting Justices, on the Report of the Chaplain, and on the Certificate of the Keeper of the said House of Correction, prepared by the Deputy Clerk of the Peace, and submitted to the Justices assembled at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions of the Peace, holden by Adjournment at Wakefield aforesaid, on the 2d Day of December, 1824, in pursuance of the 4th Geo. IV. c. 64.

The visiting justices state, that they have frequently visited the said house of correction, and have every reason to be satisfied with the management thereof, which is apparent from the general good health of the prisoners, the due observance of the rules, and the general state of the prisoners as to morals, discipline, employment, and hard labour.—That the female prison, which is now completed, affords accommodation for dividing the female prisoners into six classes:—That when the alterations in the chapel, which are now in a state of great forwardness, are completed, the said house of correction will fully answer the purpose for which it is intended, and will allow the means of carrying into effect all the rules laid down in the said act.

It appears from the report of the chaplain, that the general conduct and behaviour of the prisoners has been very satisfactory; their attendance on divine worship regular, and their behaviour during service decent and devout. The boys in the school are attended by a proper master, and are regularly visited and examined; they are carefully instructed in reading, and are furnished with such books as are deemed proper for them.

The gaoler by his certificate, delivered and filed at this present Michaelmas sessions, states that the several rules laid down in the said act are now complied with in the said house of correction, except rule 9.

(Signed) J. P. HEYWOOD, chairman.

No. 52.—BRISTOL.

At the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, held in and for the City of Bristol and County of the same City, on Monday, the 18th Day of October, 1824, before the Right Worshipful Thomas Hassell, Esquire, Mayor, John Noble and Thomas Daniel, Esquires, Aldermen, and others their Associates, Justices, &c.

The court took into consideration an act of parliament, passed in the fourth year of the reign of his present majesty, intituled, “An act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales;” and, in pursuance of the directions of the said act, examined the several reports made by the visiting justices,

and presented to the court at the several quarter-sessions held in and for the said city of Bristol and county of the same city, since the last Michaelmas sessions, and also the several certificates and returns made to the said court during the same period; and thereupon it was ordered, that copies of the said several reports, and also copies of the annual returns from the governor of the common gaol, and keeper of the house of correction in the said city, according to the form of the schedule (B), annexed to the said act, be transmitted to one of his majesty's principal secretaries of state, as the general report from this sessions required by the said act.

To the Right Worshipful John Barrow, Esquire, Mayor of the City of Bristol, and the Worshipful the Aldermen of the said City, Justices assigned to keep the Peace in and for the said City, assembled at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace held in and for the said City and County, at the Guildhall in the said City, on Monday, the 12th Day of January, 1824.

We, the undersigned, being visiting justices of the common gaol of this city, appointed under the authority of an act of parliament, made and passed in the fourth year of the reign of his present majesty, intituled, “An act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales,” now report, that we have employed the male prisoners who have been convicted, in erecting an outward boundary wall to the said gaol, by which the time of such prisoners has hitherto been fully occupied; and that the female prisoners convicted have been and are regularly employed in making and repairing prisoners' clothes and the ordinary work of the gaol, suited to the employment of females; and that we have made no other repairs, additions, or alterations, in the said gaol, except the building of the said wall; and that we have not observed, nor have we received information of any abuses existing in the management of the prison. And we further report, that the general state of the prison and prisoners is good; and that the morals of the prisoners are attended to, and the observance of the rules, by which the prison is governed, is strictly enforced.

JOHN NOBLE. WM. FRIPP, JUNR.
GEO. HILHOUSE. STEPHEN CAVE.

To the Right Worshipful John Barrow, Esquire, Mayor of the City of Bristol, and the Worshipful the Aldermen of the said City, Justices assigned to keep the Peace in and for the said City, assembled at the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, held in and for the said City and County, at the Guildhall in the said City, on Monday, the 12th Day of January, 1824.

We, the undersigned, being the visiting magistrates of the common gaol of this city, now re-

port, that, agreeably to the directions of the justices at the last Michaelmas sessions, we have examined the said gaol under our superintendance; with a view to determine how far the classification of the prisoners is consistent with the provisions of an act of parliament, passed in the fourth year of the reign of his present majesty, intituled, "An act for the regulation of gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales;" and we find it is in strict conformity therewith, except that persons convicted of misdemeanors are not separated from those who are committed on charge of misdemeanor, but have it in contemplation to make some alterations in the arrangements of the gaol, in hope to accomplish the separation of the class of prisoners before alluded to.

We have also directed our attention to the bridewell or house of correction, which we find wholly inadequate to the classification required, and, from its situation and formation, incapable of being made so without an expenditure of a large sum of money; we therefore beg to recommend the magistrates either to use this prison only as a place of confinement for persons pending an examination on charge of felony, and for vagrants and deserters, in which cases the separation of the sexes appears to be all that is required; and that prisoners convicted of offences at the assizes and sessions, subjecting them to imprisonment, or imprisonment and hard labour, should be sent to undergo their punishments at the common gaol; or, if it should be deemed more advisable, to build a new house of correction on the void ground adjoining the gaol, by which means the greater part of the expense of a second establishment may be saved.

JOHN NOBLE. WM. FRIPP, jun.
GEO. HILHOUSE. STEPHEN CAVE.

Epiphany Sessions, 1824.

City and County of Bristol.—To the Right Worshipful the Mayor, the Worshipful the Aldermen, assembled at the General Quarter Sessions for the said City and County, January 12th, 1824.

I, William Humphris, governor or keeper of the common gaol of the said city and county, do hereby certify and declare, that the rules, orders, and regulations for the government of the said prison are as strictly as possible acted upon and complied with.

WM. HUMPHRIS.

City and County of Bristol.—We, the undersigned, being the visiting magistrates of the common gaol of this city, in pursuance of an act of parliament, passed in the fourth year of the reign of his present majesty, intituled, "An act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating certain gaols in England and Wales," now report to the justices in session assembled, that we have not observed or received informa-

tion of any abuse or abuses in the management of the said prison, and that the general state of the prisoners is good. Dated this 26th day of April, 1824.

JOHN NOBLE. HENRY BROOKE,
WM. FRIPP, jun. STEPHEN CAVE.

Easter Sessions.

City and County of Bristol.—To the Right Worshipful the Mayor, the Worshipful the Aldermen, assembled at the General Quarter Session for the said City and County, held this 26th of April, 1824.

I, William Humphris, governor or keeper of the common gaol of the said city and county, do hereby certify, that the rules and regulations, made by the magistrates of this city for the well governing of the said gaol, are as strictly as possible acted upon and complied with, without any particular deviation therefrom.

WM. HUMPHRIS.

Bristol Gaol.

A Return of all the Prisoners now in the said Gaol, sentenced to Hard Labour by the Court at any previous Assize or Gaol Delivery, for the City and County of Bristol, this 16th April, 1824.

— None. —

WM. HUMPHRIS,

Governor of his majesty's gaol.

City and County of Bristol.—We, the undersigned, being the visiting magistrates of the common gaol of this city, in pursuance of an act of parliament, passed in the fourth year of the reign of his present majesty, intituled, "An act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating certain gaols in England and Wales," now report to the justices in session assembled, that we have not observed or received information of any abuse or abuses in the management of the said prison, and that the general state of the prisoners is good. Dated this 12th day of July, 1824.

H. BROOKE. WM. FRIPP, jun.
GEO. HILHOUSE. STEPHEN CAVE.

Midsummer Sessions.

City and County of Bristol.—To the Right Worshipful the Mayor, the Worshipful the Aldermen, assembled at the General Quarter Session for the said City and County, held this 12th July, 1824.

I, William Humphris, governor or keeper of the common gaol of the said city and county, do hereby certify, that the rules and regulations, made by the magistrates of this city for the well governing of the said gaol, are as strictly as possible acted upon and complied with, without any particular deviation therefrom.

WILLIAM HUMPHRIS.

City and County of Bristol.—We, the undersigned, being visiting justices of the common

gaol in the said city, in pursuance of an act of parliament, passed in the fourth year of the reign of his present majesty, intituled, "An act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales," now report to the justices in session assembled, that we have not observed or received information of any abuse or abuses in the management of the said gaol, and that the general state of the prisoners is good, except that great inconvenience has been experienced in the said gaol in consequence of deserters, who are from time to time brought there in considerable numbers from Ireland, and who frequently conduct themselves in a riotous and disorderly manner, and many of whom, at the time of their admission, are infected with the itch and with venereal diseases; and these deserters often remain a considerable time in the gaol, in consequence of the want of a military escort; and except that the debtors confined in the gaol have, on one or two occasions, manifested a disposition to disobey the orders of the visiting magistrates, contending that they are not subject to the regulations of the visiting magistrates. Dated this 18th day of October, 1824.

(Signed) JOHN NOBLE, HENRY BROOKE.

WILLIAM FRIPP, jun.

THOMAS HASSELL, Mayor, chairman.

No. 53.—CHESTER.

The Annual Report of the Clerk of the Peace for the County of the City of Chester, as to the Regulations of the Prisons within the same City; made pursuant to the Statute 4th Geo. IV. c. 64, s. 24, for the Year ending 21st October, 1824.

The prisons within the jurisdiction of the justices of the peace of this city, are the city gaol and house of correction, under the superintendence of Mr. James Voyce, keeper, enclosed in the same boundary wall, and under the inspection of the same visiting justices, appointed at each quarter-sessions, who have regularly made their reports, which have been filed amongst the records of the court.

The reports of the visiting magistrates of the said united gaols have stated, that they have made frequent visits to the prisons under their inspection; that the classification directed by the said act has been completed, according to a plan accompanying this report; that an enlargement of the gaol, for the purpose of more efficiently employing the prisoners sentenced to hard labour, is now carrying into effect.

That the classification has had a good effect on the conduct and behaviour of the prisoners; that since they have been fully employed, there has been a visible alteration in their demeanor; that previous to their being put to work, punishments were frequently necessary; but for the last quarter, there has not been a single instance

requiring the visiting magistrates' interference, and only one instance in which the keeper has had to reprimand any prisoner.

No school has yet been established.

That they are perfectly satisfied with the order and discipline now instituted in the prisons under their inspection.

A matron, who resides in the prison, has been appointed during the last year, whose business is to superintend the conduct and employment of the female prisoners.

A turnkey has also been appointed, residing in the gaol, to assist the keeper, and at present acts as a task-master.

The chaplain of the said prisons appointed under the said act, has also made his report. He states, he performs divine service once (and that, according to a late order of the magistrates, he shall do so hereafter twice) on the sabbath day; that prayers are read, and lectures given, on Wednesday and Friday in the week, and he hopes the prisoners generally are rising to a better standard of behaviour and morals than heretofore. This, however, he does not attribute so much to his individual labours among them, as to that general co-operation which he receives from the visiting magistrates and those connected with the prisons; and to the effect of classification, and the labour to which the prisoners are now subject. This last clause, he is sure, has been and will be productive of much good, if it were only in keeping the people fully engaged, and so preventing (in a measure) their idle talk, their recourting to each other their feats, and plotting plans for future wickedness.

The certificates of the keeper, as to the observance of the rules, have been satisfactory to the magistrates in sessions.

GEORGE HARRISON, mayor, chairman.

Michaelmas session for the county of the city of Chester.

54.—COVENTRY.

I, the undersigned John Carter, clerk of the peace for the city and county of the city of Coventry, do hereby report to his majesty's justices of the peace assembled at the Michaelmas general quarter-sessions of the peace, held in and for the said city and county on the 18th day of October, 1824, that the report and certificates from the visiting magistrates and respective keepers of the gaol and house of correction for the said city and county, copies of which are herewith annexed, have been respectively made and delivered to me, with a view to my reporting the same to the said justices so assembled as aforesaid, and which I do hereby report accordingly. As witness my hand, this 18th day of October, 1824.

JOHN CARTER, clerk of the peace.

Exhibited to the justices assembled at the Michaelmas quarter-sessions, held at the city of Coventry, on the 18th day of October, 1824, and approved.

T. MERRIWEH, chairman.

We, the undersigned, William Whitten and James Weare, esquires, two of his majesty's justices of the peace for the city and county of the city of Coventry, being the visiting magistrates for the time being of the gaol and house of correction of and for the said city and county, do hereby report, that the said gaol and house of correction are both inadequately formed for the proper classification of the prisoners therein, agreeably to the provisions of the act of the 4th year of his present majesty's reign; but that it affords us pleasure, that his majesty's justices of the peace for the said city and county are actively engaged in carrying into effect the powers and provisions of the said statute, with a view effectually to relieve the evil complained of; that they have actually agreed for the purchase of a messuage or tenement and premises adjoining to the said gaol, for the purpose of appropriating the whole site thereof in the enlargement of the gaol and forming a new house of correction; that they did, upwards of twenty-one days antecedently to the last general quarter-sessions of the peace held for the said city and county, make an offer for the purchase of six other messuages or tenements and hereditaments, also adjoining to the said gaol, for the like purpose, but that the persons interested in the same messuages or tenements and hereditaments, for the space of twenty-one days after such notices were respectively given, neglected or refused to treat, or refused to accept such prices as were respectively offered by the said justices, or otherwise did not agree with the said justices for the same; and that the said justices have, agreeably to the provisions of the said act, at the said last-mentioned sessions, ordered and directed that the notices or advertisements required by the said act, to the several proprietors of the said last-mentioned messuages or tenements, hereditaments and premises, to be given three times in both the public newspapers circulating within the said city and county, of their intention to take into consideration, at the next ensuing general quarter-sessions, the matter of such neglect, refusal, or omission to treat, or to accept such price offered; or to agree for such sale as aforesaid, and the cause and reasons thereof respectively; and at which time and place the persons interested in the said messuages or tenements, or hereditaments and premises, or some person on their behalf respectively, have liberty to attend if they shall think fit; and state to the said justices of the peace there assembled their reasons for such neglect, refusal, or omission, as aforesaid. And we do further report, that we are not aware, nor have we been informed of any abuses in the management of either of the above prisons; that the chaplain appointed under the provisions of the said act is regular in the performance of his duties prescribed by the said act, both at the said gaol and house of correction; that the

are observed within the said gaol and house of correction; that the morals of the prisoners are attended to, and that the prisoners are provided with Bibles and other suitable books; that the prisoners in the house of correction, who are sentenced to hard labour, are employed upon the tread-mill agreeably to the rules and orders of the prison, and that their health has not at all suffered therefrom; that as a small profit is now making by the use of the tread-mill, we recommend to the said justices to take into consideration and direct the application thereof. For further particulars connected with the state and management of the said prisons, we beg to refer to the respective returns of the gaoler and keeper of the house of correction. Dated this 16th day of October, 1824.

WILLIAM WHITTEN,
J. WEARE.

Exhibited to the justices assembled at the Michaelmas quarter-sessions, held at the city of Coventry on the 18th day of October, 1824, and approved.

T. MERRIDEW, chairman.

No. 55.—EXETER.

Michaelmas Sessions, 1824.

City and County of the City of Exeter (to wit).—

A General Report, founded on the Report of the Visiting Justices, on the Report of the Chaplain, and on the Certificates of the Keeper of the Gaol and House of Correction for the said City and County, as directed by the Act of the 4th Geo. IV. c. 64.

That it appears from the report of the visiting justices appointed at the Michaelmas sessions, 1823; (viz.) William Crockett, esq. mayor; Reuben Phillips, and John Hart, esquires;

That on the 19th November, 1823, the above magistrates visited the prison and house of correction, and examined every room and cell, and found them perfectly clean, and in every respect as they could wish.

1823, Dec. 6th,—visiting magistrate, William Crockett, esq. mayor.—The gaoler having reported that Handford and Fox had attempted to escape, and that he had put them in irons, the gaoler's conduct was approved, and he was directed to keep the prisoners in irons for four days from that time.

1823, Dec. 10th,—visitors, Reuben Phillips and John Hart, esquires.—The prisoners Handford and Fox were directed to be continued in irons till further notice.

Dec. 18th,—visitors, William Crockett, mayor; Reuben Phillips and John Hart, esquires. Every part of the prison was examined, and found in good order.

1824, Feb. 19th, March 16th, April 22d, May 24th,—the magistrates appointed visited the prison on those days, and found the same in good order.

June 15,—the prison was visited by all the appointed magistrates, and found in good order,

and that it had been white-washed by the prisoners, since their last visit.

The following regulations were recommended with respect to the prisoners' earnings; viz.

That the task-master shall be allowed one-quarter part of the prisoners' earnings, the same as yet being small.

That the prisoners shall not be allowed any part of the earnings.

That, upon the discharge of a prisoner, he shall receive such a sum as the visiting magistrates in their discretion shall think fit, having regard to the behaviour of such prisoner during the time of his confinement.

That the task-master do provide a work-book to make the necessary entries.

1824, June 30th,—prison visited, and found in good order.

That the gaoler do put Knight under solitary confinement, and allow him bread and water only, for a week, on account of misbehaviour.

August 24th,—the prison was visited, and found in good order.

A complaint against the baker, for supplying unwholesome bread, was investigated, and the contract disannulled.

Sept. 18th,—the prison visited, and found in good order.

Sept. 30th,—the prison visited, and found in good order, except that several of the cells and one day-room require white-washing, which was ordered to be done.

That the said visiting justices, with the exceptions before stated, had no further report to make respecting the state and conditions of the said gaol and house of correction, nor of any repairs, additions, or alterations, or of any abuse or abuses, either from observation or information, in the management of the prison; and that, with the exception of the instances before mentioned, as to the conduct of two of the male prisoners, they report satisfactorily as to the morals, discipline, employment, and hard labour, and observance of rules by all the prisoners.

It appears from the chaplain's diary, that from the Michaelmas sessions, 1823, to 17th October, 1824, the prayers were regularly read and sermons preached; and on the 17th October instant, the chaplain reported that he had much pleasure in bearing testimony to the general attention paid by the prisoners during divine service, which he believes may, in a great measure, be attributed to the excellent example set them by the governor and matron of the prison.

That it appears by the gaoler's quarterly certificates, duly returned at the respective general quarter-sessions from Michaelmas, 1823, to Michaelmas, 1824, that all the established rules for the government of the said prison and house of correction had been fully complied with in every respect, and that there had been no deviation therefrom.

That by the certificate of the said gaoler, at this present Michaelmas sessions, 1824, he re-

ports with respect to all persons in his custody sentenced to hard labour since the 26th day of April last, two male prisoners were taken off the tread-wheel by order of the apothecary; and Reuben Phillips, esq. one of the visiting magistrates certified that he had no observation to make upon the report of the gaoler in that respect.

And the said mayor and justices assembled at this present general quarter-sessions, have no further report to make as to the classification of the prisoners, by providing additional rooms and cells, than what is contained in their report at the Michaelmas sessions, 1823; and for the reasons therein stated, the mayor and magistrates are as yet still unable to carry into full effect the provisions of the 4th Geo. IV. c. 64, further than was stated in that report.

That the schedule (B), duly delivered by the gaoler, is annexed to this report.

And the said justices did further proceed to nominate and appoint Humphry Hill Pinhey, esq. mayor, Samuel White, and John Hart, esquires, all residing within the said city and county of the city of Exeter, three of the justices in and for the said city and county, to be visitors of the said gaol and house of correction; and the said Humphry Hill Pinhey, Samuel White, and John Hart, did then and there consent to accept such appointment.

THOMAS STEVENS, recorder.

No. 56.—GLOUCESTER.

The Report of Henry Hooper Wilton, Deputy Clerk of the Peace of the City of Gloucester, submitted pursuant to the Directions of the 24th Section of the 4th Geo. IV. to His Majesty's Justices of the Peace of and for the said City, at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions of the Peace, holden by Adjournment on the 3d Day of January, 1825.

I beg to report, that from the report of the visiting justices of the gaol of this city, and also from the report of the chaplain, and certificate of the keeper of the prison, it appears, that since the passing of the late act of parliament for the regulation of gaols and houses of correction, much attention has been bestowed on the gaol of this city, for the purpose of enlarging and improving the same, so far as the site of ground on which it stands and circumstances will admit.

Prior to the passing of the said act, felons and persons imprisoned for misdemeanors, both before and after trial, were confined in the same apartment, and occupied the same day-room, and no employment was then provided for convicted persons; since that period, however, the prison, which then contained three wards or divisions only (that is to say), one for male debtors, one for female prisoners, whether debtors or felons, and the third for all other descriptions of prisoners, has been enlarged and amended at an expense of upwards of 4,500*l.*, and a classification made, which, although not so extensive

as could be wished, is made as conformably to the directions of the act as the space of ground on which the buildings are erected will permit.

It appears, further, that the tread-mill, which has been lately erected in the prison, is now used by the prisoners for the purpose of unproductive labour; and that it is the general opinion that the effect produced by it will be the means of preventing a commission of crimes.

It appears also from the report of the chaplain, that he has provided the prisoners with Bibles and Prayer-books, and such other religious books as he considers necessary; and that they have behaved well, and are attentive to their religious duties.

In conformity too with the directions of the act, a matron has been appointed; and likewise a turnkey, both of whom, as well as the gaoler, reside in the prison; and are attentive to the duties allotted to them.

A set of rules for the regulation and classification of the prison has been formed, with the approbation of the magistrates of the city, a copy of which was delivered, at the last assizes for this city, to the honourable Mr. Justice Little-dale for his perusal, pursuant to the statute. These rules have not yet been returned by his lordship, but as soon as they are, the new regulations, which are so much better calculated for the management of the prison than those hitherto acted upon, will be enforced by the magistrates at large, and their observance will be attended with beneficial consequences.

I hereby certify, that the above report was approved by the justices assembled at the general Michaelmas quarter-sessions of the peace for the city of Gloucester, holden by adjournment on the 3d day of January, 1825.

JOHN COOKE, chairman.

No. 57.—LONDON.

GARRATT, Mayor.—Tuesday the 18th Day of January, 1825, and in the Fifth Year of the Reign of George the Fourth, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King, &c.

A general report of the court of aldermen, for the year ending at Michaelmas 1824, respecting the gaol of Newgate, the Giltspur-street prison and house of correction, and the new prison for debtors in the city of London, and the Borough compter, prepared pursuant to the directions of the act of parliament of the 4th Geo. IV. c. 64, intituled, "An act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales."

That the said gaols, prisons, house of correction; and compter, have, in the last year, been kept in clean and good order and condition.

That some inconvenience has been sustained

at the gaol of Newgate in the w... and yards appropriated to untried prisoners; in consequence of two separate apartments being occupied by twelve prisoners, who are under sentence of imprisonment for misdemeanors, and some of them for long periods of time.

That a further inconvenience is likewise sustained there, by reason of several female prisoners, who have been under sentence of transportation for a considerable time, being still confined therein, some of whom (even when sent to the transport ships) having been refused to be taken on board, and were consequently returned to the said gaol.

That directions have been given for extending the chapel in the gaol of Newgate.

That alterations have been made in the debtors' prison, by providing suitable accommodation for the matron; that a refractory ward has been fitted up for the disorderly prisoners there; an oven erected for general use, and other requisite works done during the year.

That the number of prisoners (debtors) in the Borough compter has been greatly decreased, by reason of the operation of the recent act of parliament, respecting the court of requests for the town and borough of Southwark, the said compter being released from the charge of maintaining prisoners from the eastern half hundred of Brixton, in the county of Surrey.

That the prisons have respectively been cleansed and lime-whited.

That matrons have been appointed in all the prisons, as directed by the act.

That the several prisoners are treated, as far as practicable, agreeably to the rules and regulations of the said act; and the keepers and other officers have received express directions to comply with the said rules and regulations, and the other enactments, in all respects, as far as circumstances will admit.

That the conduct of the prisoners, in general, has been orderly and satisfactory.

That the general state of health of the prisoners has been good, only nine cases of death having occurred in all the prisons throughout the year; although the total number of prisoners committed during that time was 9,912.

That new rules and regulations have for some time been under consideration, but are not yet completed; and as soon as the same are finally settled, copies will be transmitted, agreeably to the directions of the act.

That during the year several prisoners have been committed to the new debtors' prison, in consequence of the forfeiture of their recognizances, under the operation of the act 4 Geo. IV. c. 37, intituled, "An act to amend an act for the more speedy return and levying of fines, penalties and forfeitures, and recognizances estreated;" all of which are cases of extreme distress, the subjects thereof having no means of procuring their liberation.

That plans of the several prisons, with copies of

the annual Journals of the keepers, are herunto annexed.

WOODHOORNE.

No. 58.—NORWICH.

Norwich, to wit.—At the General Quarter Session of the Peace of our lord the King, holden at the Guildhall of the city of Norwich, in and for the said city and county, the 23d day of October, in the fifth year of the reign of our sovereign lord George IV. by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, King, defender of the faith, and so forth; before Henry Francis, esq. mayor of the said city, Charles Savill Onley, esq. recorder of the same city, John Patteson, esq. and others their fellows; justices of our said lord the king, to keep the peace of our said lord the king in the city and county aforesaid, and also and so forth assigned:

This court do, in pursuance of the 24th sec. of the act of the 4th year of his present majesty, c. 64, report, that as well the gaol as house of correction in this city have been, in the last year, well managed by intelligent and active keepers, and the general state of the prisoners hath been good as to morals, discipline, employment, hard labour, and observance of rules; that a tread-mill has been put up, in the house of correction, and is at work, and that an entire new gaol for this city and county is erecting, and in great forwardness.

(Signed) HENRY FRANCIS, mayor.

(Signed) CHARLES SAVILL ONLEY,
Recorder and chairman.

No. 59.—WESTMINSTER.

The General Report of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the City and Liberty of Westminster, assembled at the Michaelmas Quarter Sessions, held in and for the said City and Liberty, in the Year of our Lord 1824; made pursuant to the 24th sec. of the Act of Parliament, passed in the 4th Year of the Reign of his present Majesty, intitled, "An Act for consolidating and amending the Laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain Gaols and Houses of Correction in England and Wales."

That the only gaol or house of correction within the jurisdiction of the justices of the peace for the said city and liberty, is a prison situate in Tothill-fields, and called Tothill-fields' Bidewell, to which five justices have, at each sessions since the commencement of the said act, been appointed as visitors; and the said visiting justices have, during their respective appointments, personally visited and inspected the said prison three times, and oftener when occasion required; and they have examined into the state of the building, with a view to form a judgment as to the repairs, additions, or alterations, that might appear necessary; and under their orders and recommendations various

repairs and alterations have from time to time been made and done:

That the said prison is clean and in general good order, but very old, in a state of great decay, and totally insufficient to meet either of the purposes of classification, employment, or hard labour (to, which the 16th sec. of the said act requires that strict regard should be had, not only as to the building, but also with reference to the want of space.

That the court, at the present quarter sessions, resolved that a new prison, in lieu of the present gaol, should be erected without delay, and appointed a committee to negotiate with the city of London for the purchase of a piece of ground within the borough of Westminster, belonging to them, which appeared to be eligible for the site of such new prison.

That the male and female prisoners are separately confined, so as to prevent any communication or intercourse between them; and a matron and two female turnkeys have been appointed to attend the female prisoners, and reside within the prison.

That the number of persons now confined in the said prison is 172.

That a chaplain has been appointed to the said prison, to perform the duties enjoined by the said act; and he has reported that the prisoners have attended and joined in divine service on Sundays, festivals, and other days, and conducted themselves to his satisfaction.

That the subjoined is a true copy of the schedule (B) delivered by the gaoler of the said prison to the clerk of the peace, previous to the present sessions, for the use of the court, pursuant to the 22d sec. of the said act.

J. COXSON, chairman.

No. 60.—YORK.

A General Report, founded on the Report of the Visiting Justices, on the Report of the Chaplain, and on the Certificates of the Keepers of the Gaol and House of Correction in the City of York.

It appears, from the entries made by the visiting justices in the books kept by them, and produced at the Michaelmas quarter sessions 1824, that they have frequently visited both the gaol and house of correction; that they have been white-washed, and are in every respect clean and wholesome; that some of the prisoners in the gaol have misconducted themselves, in attempting to break out and otherwise misbehaving themselves, for which offences the visiting justices have been under the necessity of putting them under close confinement for a limited time; and that some of the prisoners in the house of correction have likewise misbehaved, and been punished in like manner.

It also appears, from the statement made by the reverend George Conpland, the chaplain to the said prisons, that from the time of his appointment he has performed divine service twice,

and preached once, at each of the prisons, on Sundays; and read a portion of the scriptures and prayers selected from the Liturgy on the week-day mornings; and that on these occasions the prisoners have in general behaved with great propriety; joined in the responsive parts of the church service, and paid attention during the time of prayers being read, or sermons addressed to them; that he has distributed New Testaments, Prayer-books, and tracts, amongst such prisoners as have expressed a wish to possess them; that he has twice or thrice weekly offered to catechise and instruct in reading the scriptures those who might be willing to receive instruction, and that several of them have attended for the purpose; and that the condition of some of the prisoners, in respect to religion and morals, has been improved.

The rules regarding classification, and the prisoners' sleeping, have been complied with as far as practicable under the present state of the gaol, which is intended to be altered, agreeable to plans already prepared and approved, so that the act may be fully complied with; and in the house of correction they have been strictly put in force; and those prisoners under sentence of hard labour have been employed on the treadmill in grinding corn.

Wm. DUNSEAY, chairman.

No. 61.—KINGSTON-UPON-HULL. Town of Kingston-upon-Hull, and County of the same Town.—General Report of the State and Condition of the Common Gaol of and for the said Town and County, founded on the Report of the Visiting Justices, the Chaplain, and the Certificate of the Keeper of the said Gaol, and submitted to, and approved by, the Justices of our Lord the King, assembled at their General Quarter-sessions of the Peace, held at the Guildhall, in and for the said Town and County, on the 21st day of October, 1824, and from thence continued by adjournment to the Guildhall aforesaid; to the 5th day of November following, as follows; (that is to say),

The total number of prisoners committed to the said gaol in the course of the year ending the 9th day of October last, has been 111; the greatest number in the gaol at one time 39, of which have been for debt 8; for misdemeanors 10, and for felony 18.

The weekly allowance to the prisoners per head has been 3s. 6d., out of which they provide themselves with bread; milk, potatoes, oatmeal, and half a pound of flesh meat two days in the week; and the allowance for clothing and bedding has been 7s. 6d. each prisoner.

The labour of the male prisoners who have been held to hard labour has been beating cement, or pounding broken tiles, also in teasing oakum; and the females have been employed in

spinning, knitting, and sewing, and are likewise employed in sweeping, washing, and cleaning the gaol.

In the winter season the hours of labour are from nine in the morning until four in the afternoon; and in the summer, from nine in the morning until six in the evening; allowing one hour for dinner and exercise.

The amount of earnings of the prisoners cannot be correctly stated, not more than five or six pounds having yet been received from the produce thereof, and the remainder of the produce being still on hand in the keeper's possession, unsold; so far as the money which has been received, a proportionate distribution of the same has been paid to the prisoners upon their discharge.

From the very limited number of cells, and the inconvenient arrangement of the gaol, it is impossible to class the prisoners further than keeping the tried from the untried, and the males and females separate.

There is one tried male felon ward, and one tried female ward; one untried male felon ward, and one untried female felon ward; and one ward for persons confined for misdemeanors; one debtors' large day-room, seven sleeping-rooms for debtors, and one large airing yard for debtors.

The prisoners have been provided with Bibles, Prayer-books, and other religious tracts; and the service of the church of England has been regularly performed by the chaplain once every Sunday; he has also visited those in solitary confinement, and the sick, on other days in the week, when required.

The surgeon visits the gaol weekly, and at all other times when required so to do; but there are no sick-rooms, or any infirmary in the gaol.

There have been 47 cases of sickness in the year; 17 the greatest number who have been sick at one time; and there have been no deaths.

Upon the whole, the prisoners appear to have conducted themselves in a very quiet and orderly manner, except in one instance, where an attempt was made by six of the prisoners to escape out of a day-room; they were foiled in the attempt, and some of them were afterwards punished by the visiting magistrates with solitary confinement in irons.

It appears from the visiting magistrates' report, that the prison is in a tolerable state of repair, and kept clean; and that the management of the prison, as well as the general state of the prisoners as to morals and discipline, is as satisfactory as can be expected from the confined and limited means in the power of the keeper.

The gaol is under the jurisdiction and superintendence of the sheriff of the town and county of the town of Kingston-upon-Hull, and two visiting magistrates of the same town and county; and there is one gaoler or keeper ap-

pointed by the sheriff, and a deputy or turnkey appointed by the gaoler.

Given under my hand, this 5th day of November, 1824,

GEO. COBB, common clerk.

(Signed) W. W. BOLTON, mayor and chairman.

Town of Kingston-upon-Hull, } General Report
and } of the State and
County of the same Town. } Condition of the
House of Correction of and for the said Town
and County, founded on the Reports of the
Visiting Justices, the Chaplain, and the Cer-
tificate of the Keeper of the said Prison, and
submitted to and approved by the Justices of
our Lord the King, assembled at their General
Quarter-Sessions of the Peace, held at the
Guildhall in and for the said Town and
County, on the 21st day of October, 1824,
and from thence continued by Adjournment
to the Guildhall aforesaid, to the 5th day of
November following, as follows; (that is to
say),

The total number of prisoners committed to the said house of correction in the course of the year ending the 9th day of October last, has been 309, of which 89 have been for debt, 167 for misdemeanors, and 53 for vagrancy; and the greatest number in the prison at one time has been 26, which includes those taken over-night by constables and watchmen, but not committed by the magistrates.

The poor debtors are allowed sixpence per day, and the vagrants sixpence per day, out of which they provide themselves with bread, milk, potatoes, and sometimes meat, and the allowance for clothing and bedding has been about 20s.

The prisoners being seldom committed for a long time, so that little clothing is wanted, and they are supplied therewith when in want.

The labour of the male prisoners who have been held to hard labour has been beating cement, and the females in washing and spinning.

In the summer season, the hours of labour are from eight in the morning until five in the afternoon; and in winter, from nine in the morning until four in the afternoon.

The prisoners have four-pence per bushel for beating cement, which is paid them on discharge, and the remainder is applied in maintaining the prisoners.

Owing to the confined state of the prison, classification cannot be attended to; a new united gaol and house of correction is now building to remedy this defect.

There is one day-room for male prisoners of all descriptions, except debtors; two day-rooms and one sleeping-room for debtors; one day-room for female prisoners; nine sleeping cells, and no airing-yards.

There is no chaplain appointed for the house of correction, but there are Testaments in all the rooms, and religious tracts are distributed

every Sunday by different gentlemen, who also address the prisoners.

A surgeon visits the prisoners when sick, but no separate apartments are provided for them.

There have been 25 cases of sickness during the year; and four the greatest number who have been sick at one time; and there has been one death.

From the report of the visiting justices, it appears that the prison is in a tolerable state of repair, and is kept clean; and the management of the prison, as well as the general state of the prisoners as to morals and discipline, appears to be upon the whole as satisfactory as can be expected from the confined and limited means in the power of the keeper.

The house of correction is under the jurisdiction and superintendence of the magistrates of the town and county of the town of Kingston-upon-Hull, and two visiting magistrates are appointed for the more particular superintendence of the same; and there is one keeper appointed by the magistrates.

Given under my hand, this 5th day of November, 1824,

GEO. COBB, common clerk.

(Signed) W. W. BOLTON, mayor and chairman.

No. 62.—LIVERPOOL.

Liverpool Michaelmas Sessions, 1824.
General Report relative to the Borough Gaol of Liverpool, prepared by the Clerk of the Peace, under the 4th Geo. IV. c. 64, s. 24.

From the reports of the visiting justices, and the several entries made by the chaplain in the book provided for that purpose, it appears that the rules and regulations of the said gaol have been adhered to, and the gaol itself is in good repair and condition.

(Signed) J. B. HOLLINGSHEAD, mayor.

No. 63.—NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

The General Report, prepared by John Clayton, Clerk of the Peace for the Town and County of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and submitted by him to His Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the said Town and County, assembled at the Michaelmas General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, holden in and for the said Town and County, at the Guildhall in the said Town, on Wednesday, the 20th day of October, 1824, for the approval of the said Justices, and by such Justices approved of at such Sessions, and signed by the Chairman at such Sessions.

Whereas by the 24th section of an act of parliament made and passed in the 4th year of the reign of his present majesty king George IV., intituled, "An act for consolidating and amending the laws relating to the building, repairing, and regulating of certain gaols and houses of correction in England and Wales," the several clerks of the peace are directed to prepare a general report of the state and condition of

the several prisons within their respective counties, founded on the report of the visiting justices, on the report of the chaplain or chaplains, and on the certificates of the Keepers of the several prisons, and submit the same to the justices assembled at every Michaelmas quarter sessions; and when approved by the said justices in sessions, the said report is to be signed by the chairman of such sessions. Now, in compliance with the directions of the said act, the said clerk of the peace has prepared the following report:

That in the said town and county there are two temporary prisons, which are now used instead of the common gaol of the said town and county, (lately pulled down) viz. the ancient tower or keep of the castle of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, for the confinement of debtors, and the prison of the new Moot Hall, at Newcastle aforesaid, for the confinement of all prisoners who have been usually confined in the common gaol in the said town and county (except debtors); and that there is, and has been for several years past, one house of correction and bridewell in and for the said town and county; and that a new gaol and a new house of correction are now building, in and for the said town and county.

That there are two chaplains, who officiate at the temporary prison for debtors; one of whom attends and reads prayers twice a week, and preaches a sermon once a month; and that they respectively perform such duty, each alternate month; that such chaplains, before the pulling down of the late common gaol, performed the said duty only on the debtors' side of that prison; that no religious instruction is afforded to the prisoners in the other temporary prison, or in the said house of correction, save that the prisoners in both are furnished with Bibles, Testaments, and Prayer-books, by the respective keepers; that the said chaplains were nominated at the last Michaelmas sessions, to officiate at all the said three prisons; and an arrangement with the said chaplains is now in progress to secure the performance of duty at the said three prisons, by a proportionate increase of salaries of the said chaplains; that the said chaplains have not made any report in writing, nor has any report been made by the visiting justices appointed during the last year. The said two temporary prisons, and the said house of correction, do not contain a sufficient number of rooms to render the classification required by the aforesaid act practicable, though the male are separated from the female prisoners. It appears by the returns made by Robert Gee, the gaoler or keeper of the said two temporary prisons, that in that used for debtors there are 14 debtors, viz. 13 males and one female; that there is no airing-yard, but the roof of the prison is set apart for airing and exercise during the day; that in the other temporary prison there are 10 prisoners, viz. nine males and one female, and that two of them are charged with felony; and eight with misdemeanors; and that there are no

prisoners therein who have been tried; that there is no airing-yard to the said last-mentioned prison, nor any place set apart for exercise.

That it appears from the return made by John Scott, the keeper of the said house of correction, that there are 25 prisoners confined therein, viz. seven males and three females, convicted of felony, and undergoing punishment; 10 males and five females, convicted of misdemeanors, and undergoing punishment (the greater part of whom have been convicted by justices out of sessions, for offences in the nature of misdemeanors); that a tread-mill has been erected in such house of correction, the power of which is applied in crushing corn and sand; and that there is no airing-yard in the said house of correction, neither is there any place for exercise.

(Signed) H. CRAMINGTON,
Mayor, chairman.

NO. 64.—NOTTINGHAM.

Town and County of the Town of Nottingham.—

At the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, held at the Guildhall, in and for the said Town, on Thursday, the 21st Day of October, 1824, the following General Report of the State and Condition of the Gaol, and of the House of Correction, of the Town and County of the Town of Nottingham, founded on the Report of the Visiting Justices, on the Report of the Chaplain, and on the Certificates of the Keepers of the said Prisons, was prepared and submitted by the Clerk of the Peace to the Justices assembled at the said Sessions, pursuant to the Statute of 4 Geo. IV. c. 64, s. 24, and which said general Report was approved by the said Justices at such Sessions.

That the gaol and house of correction of the said town have been found clean and healthy:

That the daily services of religion have had a good effect upon the general conduct of the prisoners, particularly upon those whose imprisonment has been protracted:

That the rules of the prison have been observed:

That two spacious day-rooms, and a yard to each, with bed-rooms and infirmary over the same for male prisoners, are in the course of erection at the house of correction:

That on the female side of the prison, at the house of correction, a new wing is now erecting, which, when finished, will contain two spacious day-rooms, two yards and work-rooms, and a chapel over the same, about 60 feet long and 18 feet wide:

That proper discipline has been observed in both prisons: And,

That employment has been provided for the prisoners in the house of correction.

(Signed) SAMUEL DEVERILL, chairman.

NO. 65.—PORTSMOUTH.

Borough of Portsmouth.—General Report of the Justices of the Peace in and for the Borough

of Portsmouth, at the Michaelmas Sessions, on Friday, the 22d Day of October, 1824, concerning the Gaol of the said Borough.

Since the passing of the act of the last session of parliament, for amending the act of the preceding session, relating to gaols, the justices have caused a survey to be made of the lands and buildings adjoining the gaol, and plans to be prepared of the necessary alterations and additions thereto, in order to the classification of the prisoners according to the acts; and such plans have been taken into consideration, but no determination has yet taken place thereon. It is of great importance that the plan to be adopted should be calculated to carry into effect the beneficial purposes of the legislature, and at the same time should be as little burthensome to the inhabitants as possible. To accomplish these objects upon the site which must be necessarily appropriated to the purpose, requires that the measures in contemplation should be deliberately and fully considered.

Although the classification required by the gaol acts has hitherto been impracticable, from the gaol in its present form admitting of four divisions only, yet the provisions of the acts have in other respects been carried into execution, and strictly observed. The appointment of a chaplain has not yet been made, from the office, not being compatible with the duties of

those clergymen in the neighbourhood who have been nominated for the purpose, and who have on that account declined the situation.

The average number per annum for 20 years (to Michaelmas 1823) of prisoners committed for trial at the borough sessions for felony, amounted to 66, of convictions to 42, of misdemeanors on the sessions calendar to 118, of committals to the county gaol for capital offences, &c. to 11. During the present year, the committals for trial at the borough sessions for felony have amounted to 71, of convictions to 42, of misdemeanors on the sessions calendar to 63, of committals to the county gaol to 18.

The greatest number of prisoners in the gaol at one time during the present year has been 61, and the number has generally been under 50. The whole number of prisoners of every description who have been committed in the course of the year amounted to 410. Offenders under seventeen years of age have not exceeded 13.

The prison has been generally in a healthy state, and the cases which have required medical attention have, with few exceptions, been slight cases.

The prisoners subject to be put to hard labour have been mostly employed in the beating of old rope, and picking it into oakum.

JAMES CARTER, mayor.

these forty-seven in the whole number who have been nominated for the purpose, and who have on that account, included the situation. The average number per annum for 20 years (to December 1823) of prisoners committed for trial at the borough sessions for felony amounted to 86, of convictions to 42, of misdemeanors on the sessions calendar to 18, of commitments to the county gaol for capital offences, &c. to 11. During the present year the commitments for trial at the borough sessions for felony have amounted to 71, of convictions to 42, of misdemeanors on the sessions calendar to 63, of commitments to the county gaol to 18.

The greatest number of prisoners in the gaol at one time during the present year has been 61, and the number has generally been under 50. The whole number of prisoners of every description who have been committed in the course of the year amounted to 410. Offenders under seventeen years of age have not exceeded 13.

The prison has been generally in a healthy state, and the cases which have required medical attention have, with few exceptions, been slight cases.

The prisoners subject to be put to hard labour have been mostly employed in the heating of soap and picking it into cakes.

JAMES CARTER, Mayor.

of Portsmouth, at the Middlesex Sessions on Friday the 23d Day of October last, concerning the Gaol of the said Borough.

Since the passing of the act of the last session for amendment of the act of the preceding session, relating to gaols, the justices have caused a survey to be made of the lands and buildings adjoining the gaol, and plans to be prepared of the necessary alterations and additions thereto, in order to the classification of the prisoners according to the acts; and such plans have been taken into consideration, but no determination has yet taken place thereon. It is of great importance that the plan to be adopted should be calculated to carry into effect the principal purposes of the legislation, and as the same time should be as little burdensome to the inhabitants as possible. To accomplish these objects upon the one hand must be necessarily appropriated to the purpose, requires that the measures in contemplation should be deliberately and fully considered.

Although the classification required by the gaol acts has hitherto been impracticable, from the gaol in its present form consisting of four divisions only, yet the necessities of the acts have in other respects been carried into execution, and strictly observed. The appointment of a chaplain has not yet been made, and the office, not being compatible with the duties of

SUBSTANCE of the Schedules (B) transmitted to the Secretary of State, pursuant to 24th Section of and Regulating of certain Gaols and Houses

Counties.	Number of prisoners each prison is capable of containing in separate sleeping cells.	Number of prisoners each prison is capable of containing, where more than one prisoner sleeps in one cell.	Total number of prisoners.		Number of debtors.		Number of misdemeanors.		Number of felons.		Number of prisoners committed in the course of the year.		Number of tried prisoners.	
			Michaelmas, 1823.	Michaelmas, 1824.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
ANGLESEY. Common gaol and house of correction	5	20	11	13	9	1	26	5	4	7	49	2		
BIRMINGHAM. Common gaol	50	150	26	33	3		4	3	23		182	17		
House of correction	40	64	27	26			16	3	0		224	25		
BERKS. Common gaol and house of correction	54	150	78	77	3		38		35		422	50		
House of correction and bridewell	32	8	183	156			100	18	36	2	156	133		
BRECON. Common gaol and house of correction	24	48	16	17	5	1	2	1	4	4	80	4		
BUCKS. Common gaol and house of correction	131	200	90		6		30	2	40	2	507	16		
CAMBRIDGE. Common gaol and house of correction	70	126	27	3	42	1	145	26	56	3	239	56		
CAMBRIDGE. Common gaol and house of correction	22	51	20	21	10	1	1	1	6	2	58	8		
CARMARTHEN. House of correction	12	24	77	76			54	16	3	3	78	9		
Common gaol	20	51	78	65	32	2	10			3	65	25		
CARNARVON. No report														
CHESTER. Common gaol	48	100	75	106	25	2	5	15	104	11	242	67		
House of correction	128	304	185	219			89	15	104	11	332	126		
CORNWALL. New prison at Bodmin	71	213	185	117	16		60	19	19	3	439	69		
Launceston gaol	10	{ If three in a cell } 38	3	3			1			2	21	1		
DEVON. Common gaol	10	30	19	10	2		1	1	5	1	45	4		
DEVON. Common gaol and house of correction	27	93	39	40	2		24	1	0	4	195	21		
House of correction at Ashborne	15 cells	45	23	6			19	5	11	2	134	18		
House of correction at Chesterfield	3	22		6			4	2			136	3		
House of correction at Wirksworth	6	{ when three in a cell } 18		50			46		4		50	49		
House of correction at Tideswell	4	8		1							21	1		
DEVON. County gaol	198	166	95	62			24	1	23	14	389	23		
House of correction	72	272	207	189			91	26	55	17	946	131		
DOBBY. Common gaol and house of correction	86	163	129	151	12		77	21	32	9	484	93		
DURHAM. Common gaol and house of correction		150	128	128	33		48	4	28	15	591	64		
ESSEX. Gaol and house of correction	93	329	242	223	15	2	62	7	114	3	1,273	150		
Chelmsford														
FLINT. Common gaol and house of correction	9	18		17	5	1	5	2	3	1	56	8		
GLAMORGAN. Common gaol	16	36		127	36	2	50	13	20	6	127	62		
GLOUCESTER. Common gaol, or she-will's prison	112	{ never but one in a cell }	65	45	13		4	2	21	5	417	1		
House of correction at Northleach	43	{ never but one in a cell }	20	20	1		10	5	3	1	238	2		
House of correction at Lawford's Gate	39	{ never but one in a cell }	9	12			6	2	4		248	6		
House of correction at Little Dean	24	{ never but one in a cell }	5	11			10	1			168			
House of correction at Horseley	54	{ never but one in a cell }	31	37	3		32	2			326	48		
HERTFORD. County gaol	72	140	63	67	10	2	9	5	24	7	301	30		
HERTFORD. Common gaol	28	84	105	161	27	1	55	3	96	5	133	117		
House of correction	40	63	232	168			153	13	2		168	164		
HUNTINGDON. Gaol	7	32	17	16	4		2	2	3		69	2		
KENT. Common gaol and house of correction at Maidstone	453	552	331	279	27		120	33	84	15	1,500	161		
Common gaol and house of correction at St. Augustine's	49	64	41	56			17	10	25	4	344	20		
LANCASTER. Lancaster castle	156	495	286	282	12	3	30	3	92	37	826	116		
House of correction at Kirkdale	304	800	514	442			73	69	193	101	1,813	221		
House of correction at Salford	473	956	604	632			176	44	336	82	2,967	356		
LEICESTER. Common gaol	22	44	51	26	17		2		6	1	31	1		
House of correction	38	132	53	65			3	2	26	1	374	55		
LINCOLN. County gaol	6	34	19	31	16	1	3	3	16	1	132	15		
Kirton bridewell	82	84	59	31			12	3	15	1	162	20		
Louth house of correction	{ no separate sleeping cells }	92		64	17		26	15	18	2		9		
Folkington house of correction	15	46	26	18			8	8	1	1	132	6		

the 4th Geo. IV. c. 64, for consolidating and amending the Laws relating to the Building, Repairing, of Correction, in England and Wales.

Number of untried prisoners.		Number of prisoners above 17 years of age.		Number of prisoners under 17 years of age.		Greatest number of prisoners at one time.	Number of prisoners who have been committed before.				Prisoners employed.	Prisoners not employed.	Punishments for offences within the prison.				Number of solitary cells, and of apartments below ground.		Cases of sickness and death.		
Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.		Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four and more.			Hard labour.	Employment not being hard labour.	Whippings.	In irons.	Solitary confinement.	Other punishments.	Solitary cells.	Apartments below ground.	Cases of sickness in the year.	Greatest number of sick at one time.	Deaths.
24	4	30	9	..	..	18	1	..	..	1	4	..	..	..	..	9	..	..	8	4	..
10	2	25	1	3	1	75	21	9	5	1	14	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	41	7	1
..	..	24	3	1	..	64	31	7	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	34	5	..
17	..	72	..	1	..	132	14	3	6	46	6	26	..	..	..	..	..	..	34	3	2
4	1	133	10	4	1	40	12	..	1	57	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35	4	..
1	1	5	4	1	1	27	3	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..
54	4	64	4	6	..	170	10	6	3	2	27	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	91	9	2
145	26	186	23	15	6	95	13	5	2	..	163	27	..	..	..	..	..	..	16	4	1
..	..	8	2	..	..	27	..	1	..	1	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	3	..
55	17	57	14	2	3	12	2	..	..	35	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	1	1
3	..	27	3	1	..	30	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
3	..	65	3	5	..	119	3	2	1	..	47	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	6	..
57	10	173	22	20	4	227	23	2	3	2	118	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	170	23	2
26	6	90	22	6	..	158	39	9	9	7	51	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	170	6	1
..	..	1	2	..	..	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2	1	6	2	..	..	21	1	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1
9	1	32	4	1	1	50	11	..	..	19	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	67	8	..
5	1	22	4	1	2	36	2	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	3	1
1	..	3	2	1	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	53	4	1
1	..	45	..	5	..	13	47	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	1	..
..	..	1	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	..
24	7	46	12	1	3	151	8	..	..	..	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	8	..
23	2	134	38	12	5	238	100	36	20	12	168	21	..	..	..	..	..	..	130	19	6
16	6	105	30	4	..	203	145	6	..	38	52	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	302	23	2
12	4	61	29	5	..	146	15	8	1	..	70	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	120	6	..
46	5	188	9	8	1	349	30	2	1	1	113	27	..	..	..	..	..	..	120	37	6
..	..	8	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3	..	64	17	6	2	41	1	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	2	..
24	7	20	7	5	..	122	3	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1
11	6	12	6	1	..	40	3	2	..	18	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4	..	7	2	3	..	26	2	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10	1	8	1	2	..	20	..	1	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..
14	..	26	2	6	..	50	21	5	4	2	21	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	4	..
3	1	33	11	..	..	102	34	9	1	..	23	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	72	8	1
8	..	114	8	11	..	45	6	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	..
8	..	149	13	6	..	68	5	2	1	..	108	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	1
8	..	10	2	..	..	25	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
53	11	201	48	3	..	407	19	8	4	5	61	127	..	..	..	..	..	..	832	14	6
22	3	38	12	4	2	78	51	15	8	4	12	27	..	..	..	..	..	..	181	8	1
6	1	109	39	13	1	326	16	4	..	..	18	133	..	..	..	..	..	..	43	10	1
51	12	224	164	48	6	627	307	71	28	36	347	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	133	15	4
191	48	440	113	77	13	736	86	50	13	9	152	500	..	..	..	..	..	..	160	16	7
7	..	7	1	1	..	57	6	1	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	..
7	1	56	3	6	..	91	9	3	..	45	8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	79	19	..
1	..	16	1	..	..	50	5	..	..	1	15	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	56	5	..
1	1	26	4	1	..	59	21	4	2	1	97	45	..	..	..	..	..	..	67	8	..
8	2	87	9	6	2	100	3	2	3	1	26	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	54	10	2
3	1	8	8	1	1	50	2	..	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	89	7	..

167
(those that are employed work at their trade)

44 all poachers

finer

not to be ascertained

rebuilding

Counties.	Number of prisoners each prison is capable of containing in separate sleeping-cells.	Number of prisoners - each prison is capable of containing where more than one prisoner sleeps in one cell.	Total number of prisoners.		Number of debtors.		Number of misde-meanors.		Number of felons.		Number of prisoners committed in the course of the year.	Number of tried prisoners.	
			Michaelmas 1824	Michaelmas 1825	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.			
LINCOLN. Shirbeck house of correction	7	21	21	61	5	34	9	12	1	61	17	3	
Spalding house of correction	8	24	38	121	34	47	9	30	1	121	30	1	
MERIONETH. Gaol and house of correction at Dolgelly	3	12	5	20	5	10	4	3	3	25	4	0	
MIDDLESEX. New prison, Clerkenwell	34	340	129	15	..	3	16	16	13	4,736	1	0	
House of correction, Cold Bath Fields	221	357	659	472	9	194	53	156	60	3,831	30	112	
MONMOUTH. Common gaol	36	52	28	18	10	4	..	1	3	79	2	2	
House of correction at Usk	16	60	9	19	..	3	6	9	3	130	10	3	
MONTGOMERY. Common gaol	41	60	15	14	9	1	..	4	..	4	..	..
NORFOLK. Castle at Norwich	36	72	19	21	12	2	..	5	..	52	..	..
Windham house of correction	22	66	30	25	..	..	..	19	..	6	..	..
Walsingham-bridewell	22	44	no return	11	1	1	..	7	6	209	18	..	
Aylsham bridewell	18	50	22	19	..	2	..	1	5	200	12	..	
Swaffham gaol	40	120	50	57	..	23	..	34	..	414	45	..	
NORTHAMPTON. Common gaol and house of correction	39	75	74	52	6	24	1	18	3	316	25	3	
NORTHUMBERLAND. Common gaol at Morpeth	18	54	12	11	5	1	..	4	1	60	4	1	
House of correction at Morpeth	16	32	16	8	..	4	..	4	..	56	4	..	
House of correction at Tyne-mouth	14	28	10	19	..	17	..	2	..	164	17	..	
House of correction at Hexham	6	14	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	36	..	..
House of correction at Alnwick	6	24	10	5	..	3	..	2	..	30	..	..
NOTTINGHAM. Common gaol	18	33	11	5	..	2	..	2	..	134	..	..
House of correction at Southwell	68	12	75	90	..	45	9	31	5	546	54	9	
OXFORD. Gaol and house of correction	132	202	56	63	8	22	1	29	3	307	33	2	
RADNOR. Common gaol and house of correction	30	10	7	3	4	11	1	30	17	1
SALOP. Common gaol and house of correction, Shrewsbury	51	135	126	104	11	37	14	35	7	565	47	19	
SOMERSET. Common gaol at Ilchester	67	162	..	307	97	6	82	17	170	35	637	210	29
House of correction at Shepton Mallet	5	200	369	369	..	475	82	296	29	83	182	17	
House of correction at Wilton	19	140	366	402	..	230	17	146	19	402	112	10	
SOUTHAMPTON. Common gaol at Winchester	100	245	71	56	19	21	2	12	2	322	18	1	
Bridewell and house of correction at Winchester	73	nearly 200	134	91	..	52	7	30	2	538	81	9	
House of correction and bridewell at Gosport	29	33	20	23	..	19	..	4	..	235	19	..	
STAFFORD. Common gaol and house of correction	199	276	197	180	81	2	53	11	73	10	961	101	32
SUFFOLK. Common gaol at Ipswich	132	two cells or more	91	79	11	3	27	10	27	1	454	49	10
Gaol and house of correction at Bury St. Edmunds	140	200	112	80	9	32	8	37	2	518	44	5	
House of correction at Beccles	24	60	118	113	..	64	10	39	..	113	96	10	
SURREY. Common gaol	124	229	172	179	59	2	37	24	43	2,245	4	7	
House of correction at Brixton	124	..	1,341	1,047	..	594	329	106	10	1,047	120	22	
Guildford house of correction	62	80	62	54	..	8	8	41	2	192	47	7	
House of correction at Kingston	noseparate sleeping cells.	49	..	115	..	..	..	..	..	115	..	..
SUSSEX. Common gaol at Horsham	57	171	90	57	40	2	1	12	2	109	4	9	
House of correction at Petworth	32	96	265	279	..	185	12	75	7	233	139	26	
House of correction at Lewes	70	210	121	79	3	41	8	26	1	501	52	9	
House of correction at Battle	9	27	2	2	..	1	..	1	..	91	..	..
WARWICK. Common gaol	84	156	516	703	87	8	51	5	467	85	608	485	17
House of correction	10	238	700	649	..	403	90	137	19	649	261	36	
WESTMORLAND. Common gaol at Appleby	10	4	18	10	4	1	1	3	1	15	3	..	
WILTS. Common gaol, &c. at Fisherton Anger	96	114	151	60	25	2	13	..	19	1	278	15	..
House of correction at Devizes	108	..	38	124	..	51	6	63	4	566	114	10	
Devizes bridewell	12	50	15	31	..	17	..	12	2	180	..	..
Bridewell and house of correction at Marlborough	4	40	110	5	..	..	..	4	1	93	..	..
WORCESTER. Gaol and house of correction	70	202	104	16	..	23	10	45	0	580	49	36	
YORK. Common gaol	90	274	44	15	5	18	4	15	3	415	31	..	
House of correction at Northallerton	30	50	33	42	..	12	12	15	3	283	17	..	
House of correction at Beverley	63	122	325	50	..	19	8	16	7	264	27	..	
Wakefield house of correction	307	410	298	..	..	142	29	117	16	1,738	191	30
Cities.													
BRISTOL. Common gaol	198	..	388	193	31	32	2	106	24	164	118	34	
House of correction	16	40	158	..	..	110	48	..	..	133	110	43
CHESTER. Gaol and house of correction	27	76	22	2	..	7	7	7	7	42	1	..	
COVENTRY. Common gaol	16	40	26	16	4	1	5	2	..	151	1	..	
House of correction	10	16	16	..	..	6	..	10	..	147	16	..
EXETER. Common gaol, &c.	20	20	137	171	3	8	57	20	26	20	171	29	
GLoucester. Common gaol	10	30	20	12	0	..	..	8	1	39	4	1
LONDON. Newgate	19	400	297	235	1	12	..	179	44	2,211	158	34	

SUBSTANCE OF THE

	Number of prisoners each prison is capable of containing in separate sleeping-cells.	Number of prisoners each prison is capable of containing where more than one prisoner sleeps in one cell.	Total number of prisoners.		Number of debtors.		Number of misdemeanors.		Number of felons.		Number of prisoners committed in the course of the year.		Number of tried prisoners.	
			Michaelmas 1823.	Michaelmas 1824.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Number of prisoners committed in the course of the year.		Males.	Females.
<i>Cities.</i>														
LONDON. Giltspur-street prison and house of correction	22	150	133	117	19	40	11	56	10	1,504	78	15		
Debtors' prison	..	..	260	233	314	19	..	..	1	2,379	..	..	..	..
Southwark common gaol	16	18	46	34	17	5	3	6	1	318	2	..	..	..
NORWICH. Common gaol	14	28 or 42	..	16	3	..	..	..	2	133	4	11	..	..
House of correction	20	40 or 60	..	12	..	6	..	5	..	466	10	..	..	..
WESTMINSTER. Tothill-fields' bridewell	5	170	143	134	19	4	57	32	22	2,218	..	..	..	..
YORK. Common gaol	20	40	..	14	7	..	..	..	7	63	..	..	..	..
House of correction	30	54	..	120	11	3	52	..	38	120	23	7	..	..
<i>Towns.</i>														
KINGSTON-UPON-HULL. Common gaol	10	20	..	36	6	2	7	3	9	111	5	6	..	..
House of correction	9	18	..	9	4	1	3	1	1	249	..	..	..	..
LIVERPOOL. Common gaol	326	632	90	99	50	10	16	9	5	3,687	11	2	..	..
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. Common gaol	4	36	16	10	..	..	8	1	1	156	..	..	..	..
House of correction, &c.	13	68	49	25	..	..	10	5	7	248	47	6	..	..
Gaol for debtors	4	20	..	14	3	1	..	..	..	142	..	..	..	..
NORWICH. Common gaol	16	61	30	10	3	..	1	1	13	94	..	..	..	..
PORTRAIT. Common gaol and house of correction	38	52	49	52	3	..	21	2	15	439	21	3	..	..

Schedule (B) continued.

Number of untried prisoners.		Number of prisoners above 17 years of age.		Number of prisoners under 17 years of age.		Number of prisoners at one time.				Number of prisoners who have been committed before.				Prisoners employed.		Prisoners not employed.	Punishments for offences within the prison.				Number of solitary cells, and of apartments below ground.		Cases of sickness and death.	
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Once.	Twice.	Three times.	Four and more.	Hard labour.	Employment not being hard labour.	Whippings.	In Irons.	Solitary confinement.	Other punishments.		Solitary cells.	Apartments below ground.	Cases of sickness in the year.	Greatest number of sick at one time.	Deaths.			
18	6	88	21	8	151	141	56	94	24	66	20	31	..	..	20	38	100	63	33	0		
19	4	106	21	1	373	44	41	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20	2	139	13	1	336	36	27	11	33	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
22	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
23	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
24	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
26	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
27	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
28	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
29	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
30	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
31	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
32	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
33	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
34	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
35	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
36	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
37	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
38	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
39	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
40	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
41	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
42	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
43	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
44	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
45	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
46	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
47	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
48	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
49	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
50	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
51	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
52	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
53	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
54	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
55	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
56	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
57	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
58	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
59	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
60	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
61	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
62	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
63	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
64	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
65	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
66	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
67	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
68	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
69	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
70	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
71	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
72	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
73	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
74	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
75	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
76	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
77	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
78	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
79	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
80	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
81	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
82	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
83	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
84	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
85	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
86	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
87	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
88	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
89	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
90	2	110	13	1	338	38	31	11	..	..	..	..	..						

MIDDLESEX TRIALS AND CAUSES.

A Return of the Number of Records entered for Trial in the respective Courts of King's Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer, in Middlesex, for the Sittings in and after each Term, in the Years 1820, 1821, 1822, 1823, and 1824;—also, a Return of the Number of Causes tried in the Sittings for Middlesex, in each of the above Courts, in and after each of the above Terms respectively, stating what Number were Verdicts for the Plaintiff, and what Number were Verdicts or Non-Suits for the Defendants. Also, similar Returns for London.

RETURN FROM THE COURT OF KING'S BENCH.

Term.	Causes entered.	Causes tried.	Verdicts for plaintiffs.	Verdicts for defendants.	Nonsuits.		
1820:	Hilary Term.	Middlesex.....	158	130	97	8	25
		London.....	240	113	93	5	15
	Easter Term.	Middlesex.....	183	79	63	7	9
		London.....	257	77	66	6	5
	Trinity Term.	Middlesex.....	184	117	87	13	15
		London.....	167	228	188	9	31
	Michaelmas Term.	Middlesex.....	142	154	118	19	14
		London.....	259	145	114	17	13
1821:	Hilary Term.	Middlesex.....	124	83	62	11	7
		London.....	266	147	112	14	18
	Easter Term.	Middlesex.....	182	89	62	7	19
		London.....	241	84	68	3	11
	Trinity Term.	Middlesex.....	82	25	24	1	-
		London.....	187	157	126	10	49
	Michaelmas Term.	Middlesex.....	189	139	97	12	28
		London.....	224	99	80	11	8
1822:	Hilary Term.	Middlesex.....	183	157	122	15	21
		London.....	226	123	91	15	15
	Easter Term.	Middlesex.....	222	104	83	8	10
		London.....	198	95	83	3	9
	Trinity Term.	Middlesex.....	200	117	92	14	7
		London.....	212	165	140	15	7
	Michaelmas Term.	Middlesex.....	178	134	101	24	8
		London.....	232	156	134	13	12
1823:	Hilary Term.	Middlesex.....	166	103	90	7	5
		London.....	184	84	74	6	2
	Easter Term.	Middlesex.....	191	82	67	8	6
		London.....	147	24	19	-	5
	Trinity Term.	Middlesex.....	174	81	68	6	6
		London.....	229	173	145	21	5
	Michaelmas Term.	Middlesex.....	152	102	77	12	12
		London.....	227	158	134	18	5
1824:	Hilary Term.	Middlesex.....	176	144	119	11	12
		London.....	249	163	130	11	18
	Easter Term.	Middlesex.....	208	73	58	9	4
		London.....	226	69	57	4	7
	Trinity Term.	Middlesex.....	179	64	54	7	2
		London.....	228	124	102	10	10
	Michaelmas Term.	Middlesex.....	161	133	93	16	19
		London.....	268	121	100	9	12

In some of the causes in which verdicts are entered for the plaintiffs, the verdicts are only nominal, the causes being referred. The verdict in indictments in which the defendants were found Guilty, is included under the head of verdicts for plaintiffs; those in which the defendants were found Not Guilty, under the head of verdicts for defendants.

RETURN FROM THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

I.—Causes entered for Trial in the Court of Common Pleas for the Years 1820, 1821, 1822, 1823, and 1824.

1820.			
Hilary Term	London	in and after Term	80 } . . . 130
	Middlesex		50 }
Easter Term	London		74 } . . . 122
	Middlesex		48 }
Trinity Term	London		78 } . . . 116
	Middlesex		38 }
Michaelmas Term	London		74 } . . . 118
	Middlesex		44 }
1821.			
Hilary Term	London		81 } . . . 129
	Middlesex		48 }
Easter Term	London		84 } . . . 124
	Middlesex		40 }
Trinity Term	London		66 } . . . 125
	Middlesex		59 }
Michaelmas Term	London		100 } . . . 130
	Middlesex		30 }
1822.			
Hilary Term	London		71 } . . . 115
	Middlesex		44 }
Easter Term	London		72 } . . . 122
	Middlesex		58 }
Trinity Term	London		79 } . . . 108
	Middlesex		29 }
Michaelmas Term	London		93 } . . . 129
	Middlesex		36 }
1823.			
Hilary Term	London		86 } . . . 120
	Middlesex		34 }
Easter Term	London		77 } . . . 115
	Middlesex		38 }
Trinity Term	London		65 } . . . 97
	Middlesex		32 }
Michaelmas Term	London		71 } . . . 113
	Middlesex		42 }
1824.			
Hilary Term	London		63 } . . . 98
	Middlesex		30 }
Easter Term	London		77 } . . . 130
	Middlesex		53 }
Trinity Term	London		67 } . . . 105
	Middlesex		38 }
Michaelmas Term	London		87 } . . . 106
	Middlesex		19 }

II.—Causes tried in the Sittings for London and Middlesex, in the Court of Common Pleas, in the Years 1820, 1821, 1822, 1823, and 1824.

Hilary Term, 1820:		London:			
London	41	Verdicts for plaintiff		33	
Middlesex	39	defendant		0	
		Nonsuits		6	
	80	Juror withdrawn		2	
		Middlesex:			
		Verdicts for plaintiff		28	
		defendant		4	
		Nonsuit		5	
		Juror withdrawn		2	
				80	
Easter Term, 1820:		London:			
London	43	Verdicts for plaintiff		40	
Middlesex	37	defendant		1	
		Nonsuits		2	
	80				
		Middlesex:			
		Verdicts for plaintiff		30	
		defendant		3	
		Nonsuits		2	
		Juror withdrawn		2	
				80	
Trinity Term, 1820:		London:			
London	55	Verdicts for plaintiff		45	
Middlesex	34	defendant		5	
		Nonsuits		4	
	89	Juror withdrawn		1	
		Middlesex:			
		Verdicts for plaintiff		26	
		defendant		5	
		Juror withdrawn		3	
				89	
Michaelmas Term, 1820:		London:			
London	58	Verdicts for plaintiff		40	
Middlesex	33	defendant		13	
		Nonsuits		5	
	91				
		Middlesex:			
		Verdicts for plaintiff		27	
		defendant		4	
		Nonsuits		2	
				91	

Hilary Term, 1821 :		London :	
London	65	Verdicts for plaintiff	54
Middlesex	36	defendant	6
	<u>101</u>	Nonsuits	3
		Juror withdrawn	2
		Middlesex :	
		Verdicts for plaintiff	25
		defendant	7
		Nonsuits	4
			<u>101</u>
Easter Term, 1821 :		London :	
London	38	Verdicts for plaintiff	33
Middlesex	22	defendant	3
	<u>60</u>	Nonsuit	1
		Juror withdrawn	1
		Middlesex :	
		Verdicts for plaintiff	14
		defendant	3
		Nonsuits	3
		Juror withdrawn	2
			<u>60</u>
Trinity Term, 1821 :		London :	
London	51	Verdicts for plaintiff	42
Middlesex	34	defendant	5
	<u>85</u>	Nonsuits	4
		Middlesex :	
		Verdicts for plaintiff	25
		defendant	7
		Nonsuits	2
			<u>85</u>
Michaelmas Term, 1821 :		London :	
London	75	Verdicts for plaintiff	60
Middlesex	30	defendant	12
	<u>105</u>	Nonsuits	3
		Middlesex :	
		Verdicts for plaintiff	25
		defendant	1
		Nonsuits	4
			<u>105</u>
Hilary Term, 1822 :		London :	
London	54	Verdicts for plaintiff	46
Middlesex	28	defendant	5
	<u>82</u>	Nonsuits	3
		Middlesex :	
		Verdicts for plaintiff	18
		defendant	9
		Nonsuit	1
			<u>82</u>

Easter Term, 1822 :		London	30	London :	Verdicts for plaintiff	26
		Middlesex	35		. . . . . defendant	4
			<hr/>			
			65	Middlesex :	Verdicts for plaintiff	28
					. . . . . defendant	2
					Nonsuits	4
					Juror withdrawn	1
						<hr/>
						65
Trinity Term, 1822 :		London	65	London :	Verdicts for plaintiff	54
		Middlesex	26		. . . . . defendant	7
			<hr/>		Nonsuits	4
			91	Middlesex :	Verdicts for plaintiff	21
					. . . . . defendant	4
					Nonsuit	1
						<hr/>
						91
Michaelmas Term, 1822 :		London	67	London :	Verdicts for plaintiff	58
		Middlesex	32		. . . . . defendant	7
			<hr/>		Nonsuit	1
			99		Juror withdrawn	1
				Middlesex :	Verdicts for plaintiff	28
					. . . . . defendant	4
						<hr/>
						99
Hilary Term, 1823 :		London	52	London :	Verdicts for plaintiff	36
		Middlesex	30		. . . . . defendant	9
			<hr/>		Nonsuits	7
			82	Middlesex :	Verdicts for plaintiff	24
					. . . . . defendant	5
					Nonsuit	1
						<hr/>
						82
Easter Term, 1823 :		London	35	London :	Verdicts for plaintiff	26
		Middlesex	26		. . . . . defendant	4
			<hr/>		Nonsuits	3
			61		Juror withdrawn	2
				Middlesex :	Verdicts for plaintiff	18
					. . . . . defendant	3
					Nonsuits	4
					Juror withdrawn	1
						<hr/>
						61

		London :	
Trinity Term, 1823 :	London 53	Verdicts for plaintiff	49
	Middlesex 26	. . . . . defendant	2
	<u>79</u>	Nonsuits	2
		Middlesex :	
		Verdicts for plaintiff	21
		. . . . . defendant	2
		Nonsuits	3
			<u>79</u>
		London :	
Michaelmas Term, 1823 :	London 43	Verdicts for plaintiff	34
	Middlesex 34	. . . . . defendant	6
	<u>77</u>	Nonsuits	2
		Juror withdrawn	1
		Middlesex :	
		Verdicts for plaintiff	29
		. . . . . defendant	4
		Nonsuits	1
			<u>77</u>
		London :	
Hilary Term, 1824 :	London 54	Verdicts for plaintiff	48
	Middlesex 19	. . . . . defendant	5
	<u>73</u>	Nonsuit	1
		Middlesex :	
		Verdicts for plaintiff	15
		. . . . . defendant	1
		Nonsuits	3
			<u>73</u>
		London :	
Easter Term, 1824 :	London 37	Verdicts for plaintiff	29
	Middlesex 45	. . . . . defendant	2
	<u>82</u>	Nonsuits	6
		Middlesex :	
		Verdicts for plaintiff	34
		. . . . . defendant	6
		Nonsuits	4
		Juror withdrawn	1
			<u>82</u>
		London :	
Trinity Term, 1824 :	London 49	Verdicts for plaintiff	36
	Middlesex 25	. . . . . defendant	6
	<u>74</u>	Nonsuits	6
		Juror withdrawn	1
		Middlesex :	
		Verdicts for plaintiff	17
		. . . . . defendant	4
		Nonsuits	1
		Juror withdrawn	3
			<u>74</u>

Michaelmas Term, 1824 : London . . .	59	London :		
Middlesex . . .	17	Verdicts for plaintiff	46	
		defendant	10	
	<hr/>	• Nonsuits	3	
	76			
		Middlesex :		
		Verdicts for plaintiff	12	
		defendant	3	
		Nonsuits	2	
			<hr/>	
			76	
			<hr/>	

PENITENTIARY.

Extract from the Report of the Committee of the General Penitentiary at Milbank, pursuant to the 59th Geo. III., c. 136, s. 16: 5th March, 1825.

"In the last report of this committee, dated on the 6th March, 1824, it was mentioned, that the convicts under their care had been all removed from the penitentiary at Milbank, in consequence of the sickness which had prevailed there; and were at that time confined on board hulks fitted up for their reception at Woolwich. Between that time and the 11th April, all the male convicts, 440 in number, were transferred under act of parliament to the regular hulk establishment; and before the 19th day of June in the same year, the females, amounting to 165, were discharged by his majesty's most gracious pardon, in consequence of the degree in which the sickness still continued to affect those on board the vessels in which they had been placed at Woolwich. Of these, by far the greater number were restored to their friends, who were willing to receive them; a few, who had no friends, were taken into the families of other prisoners, through gratitude for the kindness they had themselves experienced; and two were admitted into that excellent charitable establishment, the 'Refuge for the Destitute.' No individual was discharged without some place to go to, in the first instance, and some means of immediate support. After the improvements suggested for the better ventilation of the prison, by sir Humphrey Davy, and alluded to in the last report of the committee of the house of commons which sat upon the subject of the penitentiary, had been completed, and the necessary arrangements had been made for the reception of prisoners, the penitentiary was re-opened on the 9th of August last, and the number of convicts has been gradually increasing from that time to the present; there being now within the prison 115 males, and 32 females. It was recommended by the report of the committee of the house of commons above mentioned, that the schools in which the prisoners were instructed should be held after the hours of labour; the passages of the prison being lighted up for that purpose. This had originally been the practice of the prison, but had been discontinued in consequence of the inconvenience and irregularities which had resulted from it. The practice has, however, now been revived, with better means of lighting the passages, the portable gas being employed for that purpose instead of candles, and under arrangements which, together with the increased respectability and efficiency of our present officers, have prevented the recurrence of the evils formerly experienced. The greatest decorum

"now prevails in the schools, which are held twice a week; and the prison in general is in a very high state of order and discipline. The committee have also under their consideration certain other suggestions contained in the report mentioned above, particularly one for permitting some of the prisoners to have lights in their cells during a part of the long winter evenings; and of allowing the use of books of amusement, in addition to those of a graver character, which latter indulgence has always prevailed to a certain extent in the penitentiary. In fixing the new dietary, the committee have, by the advice of eminent medical men, and in conformity to what appeared to be the weight of authority in the examination which took place before the committee of the house of commons in 1823, reverted in substance to their old dietary (under which the prisoners were uniformly healthy for six years after the prison opened), with some slight variation suggested by those whom they consulted upon this occasion. They have the great satisfaction to be able to state, that the prison is now, and has been since it has been re-opened, very healthy."

TREAD-WHEEL.

Abstract of the Result of Inquiries made by the Secretary of State for the Home Department, as to the Effect of the Tread-wheel in the Prisons where it has been established.

Of thirty-two communications from the various counties of England and Wales, and from Scotland, above four-fifths were in favour of the tread-wheel, the greater number stating that the exercise had proved salutary to the prisoners. In the remaining communications several accidents and inconveniences were described; but none of them of a serious nature, except in the instance of the house of correction at Shepton Mallet, in Somersetshire, Mr. Burrotghs, the surgeon of which, detailed eight cases of rupture, resulting, in his opinion, from the labour of the tread-wheel. Thereupon, W. Norris, esq. president of the college of surgeons, and sir W. Blizard and H. Cline, esq. members of the court of examiners of the same college, were required by the secretary of state for the home department to repair to Shepton Mallet, and investigate the circumstances of those cases; which they did, and reported it as their opinion, that only two of the ruptures alleged to have been caused by the tread-wheel were in any degree attributable to it, and that even with regard to those two, the surgeon had not ascertained that the afflicted persons were free from rupture before they were put upon the wheel. They added their unanimous declaration, that it did not appear to them that the exercise of the tread-wheel, at a velocity of forty-eight steps in a minute, could be prejudicial to the health of any person equal to common labour.

VAGRANTS.

A RETURN of the Number of Persons charged with Acts of Vagrancy, at the several Police Offices in the Metropolis, from June 21st, 1823, to June 21st, 1824; and from June 21st, 1824, to 31st March, 1825.

	No.	No.		
Mansion House.....	from June 21st, 1823, to June 21st, 1824...	312	from June 21st, 1824, to 31st March, 1825...	305
Justice Room, Guildhall	Ditto.....	79	Ditto	86
Public Office, Bow-street.....	Ditto.....	137	1st April, 1825.....	56
Ditto Great Marlborough-street	Ditto.....	783	6th Ditto	588
Ditto Hatton Garden	Ditto.....	493	9th Ditto	198
Ditto Worship-street	Ditto.....	386	8th Ditto	254
Ditto Lambeth-street	Ditto.....	725	13th Ditto	311
Ditto Mary-le-Bonne	Ditto.....	169	11th Ditto	63
Ditto Queen-square	Ditto.....	71	31st March, 1825...	45
Ditto Union Hall	Ditto.....	91	Ditto	61
Ditto Thames Police.....	Ditto.....	179	12th April, 1825'...	125
	Total.....	3,103		2,092

CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT.

NEW CHURCHES.

Extract from the Fifth Report of his Majesty's Commissioners, appointed by virtue of an Act of Parliament passed in the Fifty-eighth Year of the Reign of his late Majesty King George the Third, c. 45, intituled, "An Act for building and promoting the building of additional Churches in populous Parishes."

IN the last report made by his majesty's commissioners, it was stated, that twenty-six churches and chapels had been completed, and that thereby additional accommodation had been provided for thirteen thousand six hundred and twenty-four persons in pews, and for twenty-three thousand and twenty-six poor persons in free seats, the total accommodation therein being for thirty-six thousand six hundred and fifty persons.

They have now to report, that twenty other churches and chapels have since been completed, at the following places, viz. Ashton-under-Lyne, in the county of Lancaster; Brixham, in the county of Devon; Chelsea, in the county of Middlesex; Belper, in the parish of Duffield, in the county of Derby; Greenwich, in the county of Kent; Regent street, in the parish of St. George, Hanover square, in the county of Middlesex; Kidderminster, in the county of Worcester; Brixton, and Kennington, and in the Water-lop road, in the parish of St. Mary, Lambeth, in the county of Surrey; at Tyldesley, in the parish of Deigh, and Salford, in the parish of Manchester, both in the county of Lancaster; at Langham place, and in Stafford street, in the parish of St. Mary-le-Bonne, in the county of Middlesex; at Beckford place, and in Great Suffolk street, in the parish of St. Mary, Newington, in the county of Surrey; Fylde road, in the parish of Preston, in the county of Lancaster; Somers Town, and Regent square, in the parish of St. Pancras, in the county of Middlesex; and in Broad lane, in the parish of Sheffield, in the county of York. That accommodation has been provided in these churches and chapels for eighteen thousand six hundred and thirty-one persons in pews, and for seventeen thousand two hundred and eighty-seven poor persons in free seats, making, in the forty-six churches and chapels now completed, a total provision for seventy-two thousand five hundred and

sixty-eight persons (including forty thousand three hundred and thirteen free seats for the use of the poor), according to the scale of calculation laid down by the commissioners, but actually, as stated in a former report, extending to a much larger number.

That with the exception of the chapel built in the parish of St. Luke, Old street, all the churches and chapels stated in the last report to have been completed, have been consecrated, and opened for divine service; together with fifteen of the twenty churches and chapels since completed; and that for the remaining five preparations are making for their early consecration.

His majesty's commissioners have further to report, that thirty churches and chapels are now in progress at the following places: Bermondsey, in the county of Surrey; Dal End, in the parish of St. Philip Birmingham, in the county of Warwick; Bolton, in the county of Lancaster; Shipley and Wilsden, in the parish of Bradford, in the county of York; Chorley, in the county of Lancaster; Clerkenwell, in the county of Middlesex; Farnworth, in the parish of Dean, in the county of Lancaster; Dewsbury Moor, Earls Heaton, and Hanging Heaton, in the parish of Dewsbury, in the county of York; Gateshead, in the county of Durham; Pimlico, in the parish of St. George, Hanover square, in the county of Middlesex; Norwood, in the parish of St. Mary, Lambeth, in the county of Surrey; Quarry Hill, Meadow lane, and Woodhouse, in the parish of Leeds, in the county of York; Leicester, in the county of Leicester; Camp Field, in the parish of Manchester, and at Stand in Prestwich, in the parish of Oldham-cum-Prestwich, both in the county of Lancaster; Mile End, in the parish of Portsea, in the county of Southampton; the Parks, in the parish of Preston, in the county of Lancaster; Ramsgate, in the parish of St. Lawrence, in the county of Kent; Attercliffe, and near the Infirmary, in the parish of Sheffield, in the county of York; Haggerstone and Hoxton, in the parish of St. Leonard, Shoreditch, in the county of Middlesex; Stockport, in the county of Chester; Alverthorpe, in the parish of Wakefield, in the county of York; and at West Bromwich, in the county of Stafford; and that according to

“ the returns made by the several architects, twenty of these churches and chapels will be completed in the course of the present year.

“ That plans and tenders, for the performance of the several works for ten other churches and chapels, are now under consideration.

“ His majesty’s commissioners have further to report, that they are taking the necessary steps for assigning districts to the new churches built and building in Manchester, in the county of Lancaster; the church built in Great Suffolk street, in the parish of St. Mary, Newington, in the county of Surrey; and the chapel built in the Fylde Road, in the parish of Preston, in the county of Lancaster; and they beg leave here to state, that, duly impressed with the importance of one great duty of the commissioners, as set forth in the twenty-first section of the act of the fifty-eight of his late majesty, chapter 45, they are especially engaged in active measures to ascertain where it may be expedient to divide any populous parish into ecclesiastical districts, not only for the purpose of affording accommodation for attending divine worship, according to the rites and ceremonies of the united church of England and Ireland, to persons residing therein, in the churches and parochial chapels already built, or in additional churches and chapels to be built therein, but also of enabling the spiritual persons who may serve the same to perform all ecclesiastical duties within such district, and for the due ecclesiastical superintendance of such district, and for the preservation and improvement of the religious and moral habits of the people residing therein.

“ His majesty’s commissioners for building new churches have also agreed to advance, by way of loan, the further sum of six thousand pounds to the parish of St. Mary, Lambeth, to enable them to complete the enclosures of the sites of the four churches built and building in that parish, and to defray the incidental expenses relating thereto; and in consideration of the great increase of accommodation, especially in free sittings for the use of the poor, by taking down and rebuilding the parish church, they have agreed to lend to the parish of Rickmansworth, in the county of Hertford, the like sum, to be wholly repaid within six years.

“ His majesty’s commissioners beg leave to annex to this report a schedule, containing a list of the places from which they have already received applications for additional churches or chapels, and specifying the extent of population, and the present church accommodation in each parish, from which it appears that in these places the population amounts to one million eight hundred and sixty-five thousand five hundred and two, whilst the church accommodation therein is not for more than two

“ hundred and thirty-seven thousand one hundred and twenty-seven. In the obvious insufficiency of the means in their hands for the supply of this alarming deficiency of church accommodation, his majesty’s commissioners deemed it expedient, in the first instance, to offer the benefit of aid from the second parliamentary grant to such parishes and places, being fully qualified by population and the want of church accommodation, as might be most forward in their tender of contributions, and to propose to them, upon their contributing in money and in sites to the amount of one-half of the whole expense, an immediate grant of the remaining sum required for the erection of a church or chapel, according to plans and estimates, to be approved by the board.

“ In the next place, his majesty’s commissioners have endeavoured, where circumstances put it out of the power of any parish to meet to the full extent this condition, to ascertain how near they may be able to approach the same, so that after satisfying the claims of those that should contribute in the proportion before stated, the remainder of the grant might be appropriated with due reference to the wants of the places applying, and to the liberality of their contributions.

“ His majesty’s commissioners have received replies from many of the places, stating the extent to which the parishes can assist themselves; and from other parishes, representing the exertions which they are making to meet the offer made to them from the late parliamentary grant; and his majesty’s commissioners have further to state, that they are in immediate communication with the following places, in respect to the erection of new churches and chapels: Brighton, in the county of Sussex; Cheltenham, in the county of Gloucester; Childwall, in the county of Lancaster; Croydon, in the county of Surrey; Derby, in the county of Derby; Fulham, in the county of Middlesex; Gwennap, in the county of Cornwall; Holborn, Islington, and Kensington, in the county of Middlesex; Kenwyn, in the county of Cornwall; Lewisham, and at Margate in the parish of St. John, Isle of Thanet, in the county of Kent; Newcastle-under-Lyne, in the county of Stafford; Redruth, in the county of Cornwall; Ripon, in the county of York; St. Giles in the Fields, in the county of Middlesex; Sedgley and Stoke-upon-Trent, in the county of Stafford; Scarborough, in the county of York; Tottenham, and in the parish of St. Margaret, Westminster, in the county of Middlesex; and from the communications, there is every reason to believe that most of the undertakings will speedily be carried into effect.

“ His majesty’s commissioners have also put the powers of the act in operation, without

“ any aid from the parliamentary fund, for the
 “ enlargement of a burial ground in the parish
 “ of Eccles, in the county of Lancaster; at
 “ Sowerby Bridge, in the parish of Halifax, in
 “ the county of York; at Prestwich, in the
 “ county of Lancaster; and at Grantham, in
 “ the county of Lincoln.

“ They have also accepted of the conveyance
 “ of a piece of land, in the parish of St. Oswald,
 “ in the county of Durham, in order that a
 “ building which stands thereon may be con-
 “ verted into a parochial chapel and burial
 “ ground; they have also received the sur-
 “ render of a proprietary chapel at Old Brent-
 “ ford, in the parish of Ealing, in the county of
 “ Middlesex, with a view to the same becoming
 “ a parochial chapel.

“ His majesty's commissioners beg leave fur-
 “ ther to report, that an act having passed dur-
 “ ing this session of parliament, authorising the
 “ pulling down of the present parish church of
 “ St. Bridget, in the city of Chester, and to the
 “ rebuilding the same on a new site, under the
 “ control of his majesty's commissioners, but
 “ without an application of any part of their
 “ funds, steps are taking for carrying this mea-
 “ sure into immediate effect.

“ The exchequer bills which have been is-
 “ sued to this day, amount to the sum of six

“ hundred and forty-five thousand nine hundred
 “ pounds.

“ C. CANTUAR.

“ W. LONDON.

“ E. J. CHESTER.

“ LIVERPOOL.

“ JOS. HOLDEN POTT.

“ STOWELL.

“ BEXLEY.

“ G. O. CAMBRIDGE.

“ JOSHUA WATSON.

“ B. C. STEPHENSON.

“ C. MANNERS SUTTON.

“ FREDERICK JOHN ROBINSON.

“ J. NICHOLL.

“ CHRIST. ROBINSON.

Great-George-street,
 23th June, 1825.

—An appendix to the foregoing report contains
 the schedules referred to in the report; the new
 letters patent, appointing commissioners for car-
 rying into execution acts 53 Geo. III. c. 45, and
 59 Geo. III. c. 134, dated 16th April, 1825;
 the places where new churches or chapels are
 building, or will be built with the aid of the first
 parliamentary grant; and applications for fur-
 ther church accommodation.

PUBLIC HEALTH,

APOTHECARIES' SOCIETY.

AN ACCOUNT of the Number of Persons who have obtained Certificates from the Society of Apothecaries to practise as Apothecaries in England and Wales, conformably to the Act 55 Geo. III. c. 194, in each Year from 1st August, 1815, to 29th March, 1825; distinguishing the Number of Certificates granted for London and within Ten Miles thereof, and for the Rest of England and Wales; also, the Number of Persons who were examined and rejected in the same Period.

	Examined.	Rejected.	Certificates granted.	Of these for London practice.	For country practice.
From 1st August, 1815, to 31st July, 1816 ...	185	12	173	12	161
— 1st August, 1816, to 31st July, 1817 ...	192	11	181	17	164
— 1st August, 1817, to 31st July, 1818 ...	223	14	209	12	197
— 1st August, 1818, to 31st July, 1819 ...	268	15	253	15	238
— 1st August, 1819, to 31st July, 1820 ...	275	20	255	15	240
— 1st August, 1820, to 31st July, 1821 ...	297	13	284	16	268
— 1st August, 1821, to 31st July, 1822 ...	340	20	320	28	292
— 1st August, 1822, to 31st July, 1823 ...	405	24	381	28	353
— 1st August, 1823, to 31st July, 1824 ...	373	23	350	22	328
— 1st August, 1824, to 29th March, 1825	183	23	160	22	138
	2,741	175	2,566	187	2,379

Note.—Of the persons who received certificates qualifying them to practise beyond ten miles from the city of London, 48 have, since receiving such certificate, paid the sum of 4*l.* 4*s.* each, in addition to the sum of 6*l.* 6*s.* each paid by them on receiving their certificates, in order to enable themselves to practise in London and within ten miles thereof, pursuant to the act of 55 Geo. III. c. 194, viz.

In the year commencing,	In the year commencing,
1st Aug. 1815, and ending 31st July, 1816 One.	1st Aug. 1820, and ending 31st July, 1821 Six.
— 1816 1817 Five.	— 1821 1822 Two.
— 1817 1818 Five.	— 1822 1823 Nine.
— 1818 1819 Three.	— 1823 1824 Eight.
— 1819 1820 Six.	— 1824 29th March, 1825 Three.

LUNATIC HOUSES.

A RETURN of the Number of Licensed Houses within the Bills of Mortality, and also within the County of Middlesex, and of the Number of Lunatics contained therein, in each Year from 1813 to 1824, both inclusive.

Years.	Licensed houses.	Number of lunatics.
1813	33	1,365
1814	36	1,466
1815	34	1,558
1816	36	1,433
1817	40	1,613
1818	39	1,667
1819	40	1,539
1820	40	1,683
1821	40	1,703
1822	43	1,725
1823	44	1,727
1824	47	1,761

QUARANTINE LAWS.

Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed, in 1819, to consider the Validity of the Doctrine of Contagion in the Plague, and to report their Observations thereupon; together with the Minutes of the Evidence taken before them to the House.

Your committee being appointed to consider the validity of the received doctrines concerning the nature of contagious and infectious diseases, as distinguished from other epidemics, have proceeded to examine a number of medical gentlemen, whose practical experience or general knowledge of the subject appeared to your committee most likely to furnish the means of acquiring the most satisfactory information. They have also had the evidence of a number of persons whose residence in infected countries, or whose commercial or official employments enabled them to communicate information as to facts, and on the principle and efficacy of the laws of quarantine; all the opinions of the medical men whom your committee have examined, with the exception of two, are in favour of the received doctrine, that the plague is a disease communicable by contact only, and different in that respect from epidemic fever; nor do your committee see any thing in the rest of the evidence

they have collected which would induce them to dissent from that opinion. It appears from some of the evidence, that the extension and virulence of the disorder is considerably modified by atmospheric influence; and a doubt has prevailed whether, under any circumstance, the disease could be received and propagated in the climate of Britain. No fact whatever has been stated to shew that any instance of the disorder has occurred, or that it has ever been known to have been brought into the lazarettos for many years: but your committee do not think themselves warranted to infer from thence that the disease cannot exist in England; because, in the first place, a disease resembling in most respects the plague is well known to have prevailed here in many periods of our history, particularly in 1665-6; and further, it appears, that in many places, and in climates of various nature, the plague has prevailed after intervals of very considerable duration.

Your committee would also observe, down to the year 1800, regulations were adopted which must have had the effect of preventing goods infected with the plague from being shipped directly for Britain; and they abstain from giving any opinion on the nature and application of the quarantine regulations, as not falling within the scope of inquiry to which they have been directed; but they see no reason to ques-

tion the validity of the principles on which such regulations appear so have been adopted.

14th June, 1819.

Substance of Communications received from his Majesty's Consuls in any of the Ports of the Mediterranean or elsewhere, or of any Representations made by Foreign Ministers, or others, to the British Government on the Subject of the proposed Relaxation in the Quarantine Laws, so far as relates to the Foreign Office and the Board of Trade.

A despatch from his excellency viscount Granville to Mr. Secretary Canning, dated Paris, 12th May, 1825, encloses a copy of a letter from Mr. Turnbull, his majesty's consul at Marseilles, dated May 3, 1825, stating that a British vessel, which arrived at that port direct from Bristol, after a passage of twenty-one days, was placed under ten day's quarantine, and that on his inquiring into the cause of so unusual a proceeding, he was informed that England was not now considered "sain," on account of information having been received from the French consul-general in London, that by recent regulations relative to quarantine, all vessels arriving in England, from any part, with clean bills of health, were immediately admitted to pratique.

A letter from Mr. Consul Stirling to Joseph Planta, junior, esquire, dated Genoa, 3d May, 1825, reports that the board of health of that city had put in quarantine four British vessels which arrived there on the preceding day from England, under the pretext that 12,514 bales of cotton were landed in Liverpool, between the 25th of February and the 5th March, in free pratique, immediately on its arrival there from Alexandria.

Another letter from Mr. Consul Stirling to Joseph Planta, junior, esquire, dated Genoa, 9th May, 1825, states that the board of health had imposed a quarantine of fifteen days on all British vessels from Great Britain, and to discharge the cargo in the lazaretto, when, if susceptible goods, the produce or manufacture of the Levant, were found, a quarantine of thirty-five days was to be imposed.

A letter from Mr. Consul Parke to Mr. Secretary Canning, dated Ancona, 20th May, 1825, states, that in consequence of communications from the magistrate of health at Marseilles and Leghorn of the decision of his majesty's privy council to admit derivations from Turkey and Barbary in all the ports of England, when furnished with clean bills of health, and of the fact of a vessel from Smyrna having been admitted to free pratique on the day of her arrival, together with the opinion which now prevailed in England that the plague was not contagious, the magistrate of health had determined to take measures of precaution, by refusing to admit arrivals from England into any of the ports of the papal coast on the Adriatic, except that of Ancona, and to place them under formal and indefinite quarantine, with landing the sus-

ceptible goods in the lazaretto, until orders should be received from the sagra consulta on the subject; and that the sagra consulta subsequently approved of the step taken by the magistrate of health, but delayed giving positive instructions as to the period of quarantine until it was known what was done at Trieste, from which health office no communication had been received.

A letter from Mr. Consul-general Lushington to Mr. Secretary Canning, dated Naples, 14th May, 1825, states, that in consequence of information received by the Neapolitan board of health from that Marseilles, that the quarantine regulations in England had been lately dispensed with in respect to vessels coming from the Levant laden with cotton, the Neapolitan government had thought proper to increase the quarantine of all vessels direct from England.

Copy of a note from count Ludolf to Mr. Secretary Canning:—"The undersigned has the honour to state to his excellency Mr. Canning, &c., that the question discussed in the houses of parliament respecting the contagious disease, and the measures to be adopted for modifying and abolishing the laws of quarantine established in England, have occasioned the most lively alarm in the Mediterranean; and the rumour of a large quantity of cotton from Egypt having been lately landed at Liverpool without any of the usual sanitary precautions, has induced the magistrates of health at Genoa, Marseilles, Leghorn, and Trieste, to establish a rigorous system of quarantine in regard to all vessels and goods coming from British ports. The same precautions, which are of so much importance for the preservation of public health, will be, or have already been, taken at Naples. The government of his Britannic majesty will doubtless afford, and the undersigned is directed to request satisfactory explanations upon a subject at once momentous and delicate, as also concerning its intention not to interfere with laws enacted with so much wisdom, in order to quiet the alarm and avoid the severe measures which it must become necessary to adopt, to the signal prejudice of British commerce.

"The undersigned, &c.

(Signed) "LUDOLF."

"His Excellency Mr. Canning, &c. &c. &c. Gloucester Place, June 3, 1825."

A letter from the Trinity House to the board of trade encloses a report from captain Robinson, dated 16th July, 1824, relative to the fitness of Mostyn, on the river Dee, for a quarantine station for vessels arriving from Egypt. Captain Robinson's opinion is, that Mostyn is not a fit, safe, or proper place for the purpose.

A petition to the board of trade from certain merchants residing in Liverpool and Manchester, suggests that Mostyn should be approved of as a fit place to perform quarantine. Annexed is the examination of several seafaring persons relative thereto.

A letter from Mr. Samuel Briggs, dated Gould square, 4th November, 1824, encloses extracts of various letters from Havre, Marseilles, and Amsterdam, and contains the following passages:

“From the first introduction of quarantine laws in France, all ships from the Levant bound to that country have performed quarantine at Marseilles alone. So great were the prejudices on this subject; that no establishment for quarantine has ever existed in any of the French ports out of the Mediterranean. At length the advantages of the cotton trade with Egypt have procured for Havre the same privileges as hitherto have been enjoyed exclusively by Marseilles. For this purpose the French government is actually engaged in building a land lazaretto, with a suitable port, within a league of Havre, so as to admit of a direct trade between the north of France and Egypt, without incurring the expense and delay of land-carriage, or of a circuitous voyage.

“But the French government has not merely granted this indulgence, it has evinced the importance attached to this new branch of trade by admitting Egyptian cotton at lower custom duties than any other foreign cotton of the same description. This difference of duty in the customs more than compensates for the delays and charges of quarantine, incidental and direct; and therefore it is tantamount to the repeal of all quarantine duties. The consequence of this policy is already visible in the importations of Egyptian cotton at Marseilles. By the enclosed extract from that place, it will be seen that the quantity arrived between the 1st January and 7th October was nearly 40,000 bags; and more than twenty-five vessels were loading for that port at the date of the last advices from Alexandria. The importations into England within the same period may be estimated at about 26,000 bags. In fostering this cotton trade, the French are at the same time restoring the nursery for seamen which they possessed in the Levant before the revolution.

“The practice of the Dutch, though less cautious, is equally lenient to the Levant trade, as it proved on the arrival at Amsterdam of two vessels from Alexandria loaded with cotton wool and linseed—the one with a clean, the other with a foul bill. In neither case was a bale aired or larded till it went into the merchant's stores; and both cargoes have been sold, distributed through the manufacturing districts, and worked up, without producing the slightest sensation or injury. Such was reported to be the practice also in former times in the cotton trade with Smyrna, and no bad consequences ever resulted. The expense on those vessels and cargoes has not exceeded six guineas each! Whether the confidence of the Dutch arises

“from the nature of their humid climate & from their cleanly habit, they evidently act on the conviction, confirmed by a century's experience, that the plague, like the yellow fever or Walcheren fever, is owing to local causes, and is not contagious in Holland; however destructive it may be in certain latitudes and circumstances, as it is found to be in Turkey and Egypt. This is the obvious and natural inference deducible from their conduct.

“In the present temper of the public mind at Liverpool, and other parts of England, where they have had but little experience in quarantine matters, it is by no means my wish, in adducing these examples, to see the Dutch practice too suddenly introduced into this country. Some precautions may be advisable until the public prejudices subside, or further experiments prove that cotton wool from the Levant is just as innocuous in England as cotton from the West Indies, New Orleans; or other places where the yellow fever periodically prevails, or as cotton from the East Indies, where the jungle fever and cholera morbus are fully as destructive to human life as the plague in Egypt or Turkey. But while deprecating premature innovations of so decided a cast, feeling as I do deeply interested in the export trade of Egypt to Liverpool as well as London, it is natural I should as strenuously advocate a relaxation of the English quarantine system, and be reluctant to relinquish the natural advantages offered by the rivers Dee and Mersey for forming a foul bill station near to the centre of the cotton trade. Though nature may require the aid of art in some degree to improve the station, its defects can scarcely be put in comparison with the multiplied inconveniences and expenses attending the Milford or Malta stations. The apprehension that a floating lazaretto or vessel, while performing quarantine, may be driven on shore in the river Dee, will be diminished materially when it is considered that it would be more a summer than a winter station, as the plague rarely occurs in Egypt but in the months of March to June. But granting even the possibility of any vessel or lazaretto being driven on shore in a hurricane, it is a contingency to which all ships are liable as they approach the coast from sea; and even were such an accident to occur, it would not necessarily follow that danger would ensue to the country, since we have the experience of a whole century at Stangate Creek, that no infection has ever existed in any of the cargoes imported from the Levant, and, consequently, that all the precautions taken have, *de facto*, been totally useless, except to allay the imaginary fears of the people. The question, as affecting the property of merchants and ship owners, involves an expense of thousands, while a trial in the River Dee for one season could be

“made for a few hundreds of pounds. The efficacy of hot air, applied to the cotton in the lazarettos, and other chemical processes, it is highly desirable to resort to before adopting any such expensive establishments as are being erected in other countries, and which may prove useless, should the plague ultimately be decided non-contagious.

“The enlightened policy recommended by the committee on foreign trade in its report on quarantine, for exempting the Levant trade altogether from the quarantine duty, abridging the detention both of ships and cargoes, and amending the classification of enumerated goods, will no doubt be a very material relief to merchants and ship owners, if speedily carried into effect. Even in this modified shape, the expenses inherent in the system, as regards cotton, and many other articles with foul bills, will, by detention of the property, interest on capital, and other incidental charges, still exceed two per cent at Stangate Creek, and considerably more at Milford or Malta. Inconvenient as Milford is found to be, it is far preferable to Malta, which would be as injurious to the cotton trade, as to make Corsica a quarantine depot for Marseilles, or Newfoundland for the West Indies.”

Substance of a Despatch from Lieutenant-General the Right Honourable Sir Thomas Maitland, to the Right Honourable the Earl Bathurst, K. G., dated Corfu, 8th of April, 1819, on the Subject of the Plague.

Sir Thomas Maitland having, as he states, had more practical experience on the subject than almost any other person, as he arrived at Malta in the middle of the plague, and had since witnessed the beginning and the end of three different attacks of the disorder, one in the island of Gozo, one in the island of Corfu, and one in the island of Cephalonia, declares it to be most decidedly his opinion that the plague is acquired only by contact, and not by infection; or, in other words, not by any particular temperature of the atmosphere or any local cause which may give to the human frame a predisposing tendency to the disorder. He expresses himself, therefore, perfectly convinced of the absolute necessity of adhering to the old system with respect to the treatment of the plague.

VACCINE ESTABLISHMENT.

Report received by the Secretary of State for the Home Department, from the Board of the Vaccine Establishment, 12th February, 1825.

To the Right Honourable Robert Peel, Secretary of State for the Home Department, &c. &c.

Sir,—The importance and value of this establishment is made manifest daily by the imme-

diately and certain return it makes to all applications for means of protection against one of the greatest scourges, in the form of disease, which has ever afflicted mankind.

It belongs to the improvidence of the lowest orders of the people to remain careless and inactive so long as the hour of danger is distant and uncertain, and to become, perhaps, unreasonably alarmed when it arrives. Our calls, therefore, are generally accompanied by information, that the small pox is committing great ravages in the neighbourhood, and the demands for assistance are urgent and pressing. These remarks apply to our own country more particularly; but we have frequent applications also from abroad, and even from vaccine institutions established in foreign capitals, where it is admitted to be difficult to keep up the supply; and the request for matter is made under a conviction that that which is received from this establishment is more genuine and efficacious. Happily the arrangement which we have made enables us to supply every want, wherever, and from whatever quarter it comes to us, and we have sent out 77,800 charges of lymph since our last report.

It cannot be necessary now to enter upon an estimate of the comparative merits of vaccination and inoculation, as protectives against the small pox; but the board has been engaged in endeavouring to ascertain what proportion of persons vaccinated take the small pox afterwards. By the information which we obtain from our stationary vaccinators in the metropolis, it seems that not more than eighteen out of the 3000, which are vaccinated upon an average annually, are susceptible of the variolous disease afterwards. The returns from the corresponding vaccinators in the country are less favourable; but we are fully justified in concluding, that the number of those who take the small pox after vaccination, and pass through a safe and harmless disease, is not greater than the number of those who die under inoculation. The estimate of this loss, where inoculation was greatly practised, was one in 300.

By the bills of mortality, we find that 725 persons have died of the small pox this year, within the range of those bills; but we have not been made acquainted with any fatal case after vaccination.

We are, &c.

(Signed) HENRY HALFORD,
President of the Royal College of Physicians,
WILLIAM NORRIS,
President of the Royal College of Surgeons,
Wm. LYNN, Vice President.

WM. G. MATON, M.D. }
H. J. CHOLMELEY, M.D. } Censors of the
FRANCIS WILLIS, M.D. } Royal College
JOHN WARBURTON, M.D. } of Physicians.

CLEMENT HUE, M.D. Registrar.

Vaccine Lymph sent Abroad from the National
Vaccine Establishment in the Year 1824.

January	3d.	To Malta.	July	7th.	To Jersey.
February	9th.	Jersey.		21st.	Demerara.
	10th.	Jamaica.		...	Jamaica.
	14th.	Madras.		...	Parametta, N. S. Wales.
	27th.	Madras and Bengal.		...	Sierra Leone.
March	8th.	Jamaica.		29th.	Guernsey.
	10th.	Quebec.	August	10th.	Jersey.
	11th.	Bruquebac, France.		11th.	Russia.
	25th.	Carraccas.		25th.	Lisbon.
	29th.	Jersey.		28th.	New South Wales.
April	5th.	Madrid.		31st.	Island of Granada.
	6th.	Jamaica.	September	7th.	Cape Breton.
	5th.	Demerara.		13th.	Barbadoes.
	...	Fayol.		25th.	Oporto.
	15th.	Paris.		...	Dominica.
	20th.	Guernsey.	October	7th.	Madeira.
	26th.	Harfleur.		29th.	Jamaica.
	27th.	Vienna.	November	2d.	Ditto.
	29th.	Jersey.		17th.	New South Wales.
May	11th.	St. John's, Newfound- land.		22d.	Barbadoes.
	13th.	France.		25th.	Cadiz.
	22d.	Calais.	December	14th.	Cape Coast Castle.
June	3d.	Trinidad.		20th.	Barbadoes.
	...	St. John's, Newfound- land.		...	Buenos Ayres.
	...			...	Oporto.
	...			30th.	Jamaica.

PUBLIC WORKS.

BRITISH MUSEUM.

Report from the Committee of the House of Commons, to whom the Petition of the Trustees of the British Museum, relative to Mr. Rich's Collection of Manuscripts, Antiquities, and Coins, was referred.

THE collection consists of three parts, viz. manuscripts in the Arabic, Persian, Turkish, and Syriac languages, and a few printed books; gems, and various antiquities, chiefly collected in the neighbourhood of Babylon and Nineveh; and oriental, Greek, and Roman coins.

MANUSCRIPTS.

Dr. M'Bride, laudian professor of Arabic in the university of Oxford, recommended the purchase of the collection of Arabic, Persian, and Turkish manuscripts, as the museum is particularly defective in that department of literature, and especially as there is little probability of so large and well-selected a library being again offered for sale.

Dr. Nicoll, professor of Hebrew in the university of Oxford, considered the collection of manuscripts in the Persian and Arabic languages, as containing a great number of the most esteemed works in both languages, in excellent preservation and of great antiquity. The Syriac manuscripts he thinks also of considerable value; and that the whole collection is more valuable than any which has been brought into England since the time of Pococke and Huntingdon, and so extensive and well selected, that the loss of it would be almost irreparable to the national museum of this country.

The rev. Samuel Lee, professor of Arabic in the university of Cambridge, stated, that the manuscripts, taken on the aggregate, are the best he had seen collected by any one man; considered the collection as unrivalled, from the importance and variety of matter it contains; and that the placing it in the British Museum would be conferring a real benefit upon the nation.

Mr. Lee was requested by the committee to examine the manuscripts more minutely, with a view of giving his opinion respecting the condition and value of the manuscripts, and particularly as to the Syriac part of the collection. He represented the Syriac to consist of 68 volumes; there is one copy of the Philoxenian version of the Gospels, which is valuable; he only knows

of one other copy, which is at Oxford. There are copies of the Nestorian and Jacobite editions of the Peschito version of the Scriptures, there being no other complete copy of the Nestorian edition in any of our libraries. The Nestorian and Jacobite sects separated as early as the year 500, and continued their editions in their own churches; the collection of them may be important on certain disputed passages. Some of the copies are a thousand years old; they are not all perfect, but as much so as they are generally found. There are two copies of the Gospels and two of the New Testament perfect, with the exception of the Apocalypse.

After having examined more particularly the collection, Mr. Lee stated, that the manuscripts are much less mutilated than he had before supposed; there is a history of the persecutions of the Nestorians, which he believed to be unique; there is an old chronicle, which he considers as a very curious historical document—it is written in Syriac and Arabic, in parallel columns, the Arabic in the Kufic character; it gives the dates of the bishops, and various persons of the Syriac churches, of the Persian kings, and of the dynasties of the east and west; he thinks it difficult to set a pecuniary value upon the Syriac part of the collection, but had it been offered to the university of Cambridge, he would rather that 1000*l.* had been paid for it than the university should have lost it, though he thinks that sum a little above the value. With respect to the remaining part of the collection; he has examined accurately a fourth part of the Arabic, Persian, and Turkish, and which he believes to be a fair specimen of the whole; they are extremely valuable, because they are the best books in those languages. They consist of history, poetry, and grammar; commentaries on each, and commentaries on the Koran; there are also works on geography, mathematical works, and generally works on the sciences. There is also a copy of the Koran in the Kufic character, which is, perhaps, the only copy in Europe. This collection of Arabic, Persian, and Turkish manuscripts is the best he has ever seen made by one person, and he thinks it cannot be worth less than 5000*l.*

Dr. Young, M.D. had carefully inspected the manuscripts of the late Mr. Rich, and obtained information from the best judges of oriental literature, and estimates the value of it at 5000*l.*

Sir Gore Ouseley valued the Persian, Arabic, and Turkish part of the collection at from 4000*l.* to 5000*l.*; they would sell for more if taken back to Persia.

Mr. Hine was assistant to Mr. Rich, and resided with him many years at Bagdad, and kept his accounts. Mr. Rich paid between six and seven thousand pounds for the Arabic, Persian, and Turkish manuscripts; he does not know what was paid for the Syriac manuscripts, or for the medals or antiquities.

Mr. Terrick Hamilton had examined the manuscripts; thinks the generality of them in better condition than are usually met with; the selection is a good one. He thinks the value of the Arabic, Persian, and Turkish part of the collection worth about 8000*l.*

Mr. Colebrooke represented the manuscripts as a valuable collection; they are in good order, and have been well selected; but he had examined them only cursorily.

Col. Baillie, a member of the committee, stated, that in his opinion the Persian and Arabic manuscripts might have been bought at one period for 1000*l.* or at the utmost for 1500*l.* in India, and for double that sum in Persia; but on a further and more minute examination of the collection, he considered himself to have undervalued them, having found several works in Arabic and Persian which he had not seen before, and to which he attaches considerable value. In his first estimate, too, he wished to be understood as referring to a period nearly 20 years ago, during his residence in India, when oriental manuscripts were comparatively cheap, and the demand for them extremely limited.

Mr. Trant, a member of the committee, was desirous when at Calcutta, about four years and a half ago, to make a collection of manuscripts, and was deterred by the high price asked for them; 70, 80, or 100 rupees each were demanded for books not of the first rate. There are 680 Persian and Arabic manuscripts; to make a good collection of this number when he left Calcutta, would have cost between four and five thousand pounds.

Sir John Malcolm has examined the Arabic and Persian manuscripts, but does not know anything of the Syriac or Turkish; he has purchased oriental manuscripts for many of his learned friends. Persian manuscripts have, within the last five or six years, risen in value very considerably; he has paid treble the price he paid formerly; thinks this part of the collection would not have cost less than 4000*l.* In the way in which Mr. Rich collected them, he is more likely to be 1000*l.* under what was paid than over it. In this valuation he includes the printed books.

Mr. Foss and Mr. Darling, booksellers, valued the printed books, one at 100*l.*, and the other at 90*l.*

Mr. Henry Ellis, keeper of the manuscripts of the *British Museum*, stated, that there were

very few oriental manuscripts in the *British Museum*, and none in the Syriac language.

COINS.

Mr. Marsden had examined the collection of coins and medals. There is one coin, a Kufic Derham, represented to have been struck in the 79th year of the Mahomedan era, which he believes to be worth 100*l.*; there is only one other similar, which is known, belonging to the royal academy of Sweden.

The value of the collection, independent of the Greek and Roman part, he estimates at 1000*l.* He includes, in this valuation, the Parthian and Sassanian coins.

Dr. Wilkins had examined this Kufic Derham; he believes the coin to be genuine; and agrees with Mr. Marsden as to its value.

Mr. Matthew Young, dealer in coins, examined the whole collection; observed the Kufic Derham, it is in fine preservation; believes it to be struck, not cast; such coins have never in this country sold for more than a guinea. He observed particularly a Thracian coin; considers it to have been cast, and worth only a few shillings; a genuine one, in fine condition, would be worth 100*l.* He estimates the whole collection, according to what he is in the habit of charging for such coins, at 840*l.*

Mr. William Bankes, a member of the committee, considered the Thracian coin as a cast, but being doubtless an exact impression from a true coin of extreme rarity, it may as such be worth 20*l.* to complete a series.

Mr. Francis Palgrave observed, that the appearance of a coin being cast was not a proof of its being a modern forgery; ancient moulds and ancient furnaces for casting coins have been often found; the reason for employing these moulds has not been satisfactorily explained.

ANTIQUITIES.

Mr. Edward Landseer is acquainted with antiquities similar to those shewn to him, and thinks them very valuable, and that the study of the hieroglyphical part of these gems may throw light on the inscriptions in the arrowhead character. He considers the cylinders to have been signets, and that their impression was given by rolling; with respect to pecuniary value, he remembered one of a similar kind, found at Marathon, being valued at from 15 to 20 guineas; valuing the collection at that rate, it would be worth about 3000*l.*

Sir John Malcolm had looked over these Babylonish and Nineveh antiquities; thinks, from his own experience, that this collection has been obtained at great cost; upon a cylindrical brick being shewn him, covered with the arrowhead character, he says it is the best specimen he had ever seen, he would give 50*l.* for it; and he thinks Mr. Rich could not have expended less than 400*l.* or 500*l.* upon the remainder of this part of the collection, independent of the gems.

Mr. William Bankes, a member of the com-

mittee, estimated the value of the cylindrical brick at 50*l.*, and thinks it a great object to get together a large mass of the arrowhead and cuneiform character, as the only chance hereafter of deciphering it.

Mr. Francis Palgrave considered the collection of antiquities as very valuable, and thinks such a collection may lead to important results; when we see what Dr. Young and Monsieur Champollion have done with regard to Egyptian hieroglyphics; he thinks the collection of gems and other antiquities may be fairly worth 1000*l.*

Dr. Noehden, assistant keeper of the antiquities of the British Museum, thought that this

collection of Babylonish and Nineveh gems and antiquities would be a great acquisition to the museum.

The committee, having considered the evidence adduced, submit to the house, that the sum of 5,500*l.* is a fair and reasonable price for this collection of manuscripts, the sum of 1000*l.* for the coins, and the sum of 1000*l.* for the Babylonish and Nineveh gems and antiquities, and they recommend to the house, that the whole of the collection of the late Mr. Rich be purchased at those prices, making altogether the sum of 7,500*l.*, and that it be placed in the British Museum for the benefit of the public.

General Account of all Receipts, at the British Museum, from Christmas 1823 to Christmas 1824 :

	£	s.	d.
Balance in hand December 26, 1823	3,944	5	3½
Parliamentary grant	4,847	0	0
One year's dividend on £30,000 reduced annuities.....	900	0	0
Profit on exchequer bills	190	5	10
Cash received for the sale of the Synopsis	112	6	6
	£	9,993	17 7½

General Account of all Payments, at the British Museum, from Christmas 1823 to Christmas 1824 :

	£	s.	d.
Officers' salaries	2,363	4	4
Ditto - - - for extra services	1,430	15	0
Wages and board-wages of attendants and servants.....	2,019	0	10
Rent and taxes.....	564	10	7
Bookbinding	460	14	3
Stationary	150	4	6
Coals	302	5	0
Candles and gas light company	93	17	6
Fitting up shelves, repairs, &c. not paid by the board of works.....	496	10	6
Incidents for sundry articles of domestic use.....	190	16	9½
Purchases in natural history	228	10	10
For preserving the collection of zoology	34	9	0
Purchase of coins and medals.....	21	0	0
Drawings, engravings, &c. for the publication of the Gallery of Antiquities ..	362	5	0
Purchase of engravings	207	11	0
Purchase of books and MSS.	504	2	0
Printing, &c. of the Alexandrian MS.	361	2	6
Clearing goods at the custom house, freight, &c.	15	4	9
Treasury stamp on parliamentary grant	2	2	6
	£	9,838	6 10½

Balance of { Receipts..... £9,993 17 7½
 { Expenses 9,838 6 10½

Surplus in hand £ 155 10 9

Account of Funds of the British Museum for the Year ending Christmas 1825 :

	£	s.	d.
Balance in hand	155	10	9
Dividend on £30,000 reduced annuities	900	0	0
Receipts from the sale of the Museum publications, estimated to produce about ..	200	0	0
	£	1,255	10 9

Estimated Expenditure of the British Museum, from Christmas 1824 to Christmas 1825	
Officers' salaries	£ 3,010 6 0
Do. for extra services	1,350 0 0
Wages and board-wages of attendants and servants	2,325 0 0
Rent and taxes	564 10 7
Bookbinding, portfolios, &c.	400 0 0
Stationary	350 0 0
Coals	300 0 0
Candles, and gas light company	94 2 0
Incidents, for sundry articles of domestic use	190 16 0
Fitting up shelves, repairs, &c. not paid by the board of works	500 0 0
Purchases in natural history, shells, zoology, &c. and preserving the same	700 0 0
Drawings from the Athenian marbles	350 0 0
Engravings from do.	1,300 6 0
Purchase of prints, &c.	5100 0 0
For the purchase of foreign books, and continuing the works in progress in the library of Sir Joseph Banks, and MSS.	1,000 0 0
Law expenses	300 0 0
Treasury stamp on the parliamentary grant, about	2 2 6
	13,336 9 40
Estimate for the fifth quarter	3,334 2 5½
General total	£ 16,670 12 3½
Deduct, the funds	1,253 10 9
	£ 15,415 1 4 6½
Add the fraction of £1	0 18 5½
Sum to be provided for the year ending Christmas 1825	£ 15,416 0 0

Return of the Number of Persons admitted to view the British Museum
from the 26th March, 1818, to Christmas 1824.

	From 26th March, 1818, to the 26th March, 1819.	From 26th March, 1819, to the 26th March, 1820.	From 26th March, 1820, to the 26th March, 1821.	From 26th March, 1821, to the 26th March, 1822.	From 26th March, 1822, to the 26th March, 1823.	From 26th March, 1823, to Christmas 1823.	From Christmas 1823, to Christmas 1824.
March	No. 823	No. 1,331	No. 747	No. 1,431	No. 1,592	No. 600	No. —
April	5,841	5,612	4,826	6,697	8,577	11,227	9,201
May	7,187	7,289	6,809	11,931	10,264	15,217	16,330
June	8,607	7,853	8,990	11,230	15,746	19,880	15,817
July	8,967	9,647	9,809	11,818	22,164	20,154	20,995
October	3,676	5,611	5,633	10,451	9,504	10,154	10,250
November	2,174	4,037	4,269	6,032	3,664	7,110	8,190
December	3,157	2,767	3,121	4,570	4,954	5,483	5,601
January	8,085	3,994	7,463	10,642	5,849	—	9,495
February	4,782	1,594	6,311	8,790	4,888	—	7,492
March	4,954	3,879	4,565	7,509	6,609	—	9,559
	63,253	53,614	62,543	91,151	98,801	89,825	112,840

Mem.—The days of public admission are,—*Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays,* in every week; when, between the hours of ten and two, visitors are admitted immediately on their application.

TURNPIKE TRUSTS.

Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to inquire into the Receipts, Expenditure, and Management of the several Turnpike Trusts within Ten Miles of London.

Your committee proceeded to call for the detailed accounts of the different trusts, and to inquire into the quality and price of the materials

used by them, the number of turnpike gates, and the general management of the funds. Many of the accounts were found to be in a very confused state, and the clerks of the trusts utterly incapable of affording the information which the committee required; and it appeared that in some instances no regular accounts had been kept till within these few years. The evidence shews that the amount of income raised is much larger than is necessary to keep the roads in the

best state of repair; and that, if those funds had been skilfully applied, and proper materials obtained and used for the last seven years, according to the recommendation of the committees of this house, who first instituted inquiries on this subject, the roads would have been in a much more perfect state of repair, and the debts of the trusts much reduced; and the tolls consequently lower. The committee have no hesitation in stating it as their decided opinion, that the surface of the roads has undergone considerable improvement since the first inquiry took place in 1819, and when the attention of parliament, was particularly called to the expensive management and defective state of the roads in the vicinity of the metropolis. Though the surface of the road is now of a better form, and (in some places) better materials are now used, still much remains to be accomplished; in proof of which, the committee cannot refrain from extracting part of Mr. Telford's report of last year, submitted to the house under the authority of the Holyhead commissioners, on that portion of the London road (within the Highgate and Hampstead trust) that comes within their inspection:—

“This trust is still defective as regards the transverse sectional shape of a perfect road; the degree of convexity is scarcely in any two places the same; the breadth of the road is not sufficiently uniform or defined by proper side channels; they are crooked in their direction, and of every variety of form.”

Your committee deemed it also expedient to have a survey made by Mr. John Loudon M'Adam, and Mr. Cook, the surveyor of the roads and pavement for the parish of St. Mary-le-bonne (to which your committee beg to refer), who point out the present negligent mode of superintendence, defectiveness in the form of the road, drainage, materials, &c., from which it is evident, that great improvement might be made under a uniform and better management. It is clearly proved by the evidence, that whinstone is decidedly the best material for the formation of a good, economical, and durable road, and that this material has been little used in the immediate vicinity of London. The drainage, of so much importance to the formation of a good road, requires to be directed by a more skilful and experienced executive department, and upon a more extended, uniform, and comprehensive scale. By due attention to these, and other points referred to in the evidence, additional cleanliness would be insured; the quantity of materials required for repairs very much diminished, and on the whole the expenses very considerably reduced. The frequency of repairs under the present system also causes great interruption and inconvenience to passengers. Your committee have observed, in the accounts brought before them, large items of disbursements for watching and lighting, to which they beg leave to call the particular attention of

the house. These are matters more directly belonging to the different parishes, and ought not to be levied upon the public at large in the shape of tolls. But so various is the practice in this respect upon the London roads, that your committee have found, that whilst some trusts are watched and lighted by a parish rate, the expense of others; in similar situations in populous neighbourhoods, is defrayed out of the money collected by the tolls. The misapplication of money collected by the tolls is manifested in many cases, and in some instances large sums are paid out of them for the maintenance of pavement, which ought to be defrayed from the rates. St. George's parish, for example, receives 1000*l.* per annum out of the Kensington trust for the repair of a part of Piccadilly, a sum more than adequate to keep that portion under the management of St. George's parish in a perfect state of repair; its present defective and dangerous condition ought not therefore to be continued. The parish of St. Mary-le-bonne likewise receives 500*l.* per annum from the Mary-le-bonne trust for the repair of Oxford street. These compromises and arrangements for paying a part of the funds of the turnpike trusts in aid of particular parish rates, and committing the care of a part of their street to a separate direction, appears to be very injudicious, and is attended with the bad consequences of placing the road under the direction of a body not responsible to the public, and of affording a pretext for placing gates in the streets of the metropolis. The payments to these parishes are highly objectionable in point of principle; but, of all the parishes in London, those of St. George and St. Mary-le-bonne have the least claim for extra assistance in such contributions, inasmuch as these parishes are the most wealthy part of the town, and are consequently fully capable of paying the necessary rates for maintaining their own streets in proper repair. Your committee beg to observe, that a great portion of the money borrowed is still at 5*l.* per cent; and your committee cannot but disapprove of the practice of borrowing money on annuity at a very exorbitant rate. The security which the revenue derived from these tolls affords, under proper management, would certainly enable the amount of the debts to be raised on such advantageous terms as would soon effect its final extinction. One of the numerous advantages that would arise from the consolidation of these trusts is, that the whole of the revenue might be lodged in the Bank of England, by which the many disjointed interests of the several treasurers would be annihilated, and that procrastination of payment which now appears under the head of “floating debt,” and is a source of further waste in the public fund, entirely prevented. Your committee have learned with surprise, that three of the trusts have estates independent of their revenues from tolls; and that in the instance of the Harrow road,

the income will in a short time be more than sufficient for the maintenance of the road. The judicious application of these funds would also enable the commissioners immediately to diminish the number of gates on every side of London.

The impolicy of the system of granting separate acts of parliament for short lines of road, and thereby dividing them into small, unconnected, and often opposing communities, without co-operation or mutual interest, is particularly glaring in its effects on the London Road. Your committee observe, that no less than four several acts of parliament, constituting four separate trusts, viz. City Road, Old Street, Bethnal Green, and Shoreditch, with different bodies of trustees, and all the expenses attendant on four distinct establishments, comprise within them only a distance of four miles and a half; thereby giving rise to numerous gates and vexatious delays for collecting the tolls upon each of these several roads; the amount of which appears far more than necessary for their maintenance. Your committee deem it proper to refer to the several reports of the committees of 1819, 1820, and 1821, in all of which it is strongly recommended to consolidate the whole of the trusts round London. Your committee cannot convey their sentiments in stronger or more appropriate language than by repeating the observations contained in the reports of those committees.

The report of 1819:—“ A full consideration of the evidence relative to the defective state and injudicious management round the metropolis, and of the advantages that would arise from a consolidation of the numerous small trusts into which they are most inconveniently divided, induce your committee to express to the house their strong recommendation, that a special act of parliament may be passed for uniting all the trusts within ten miles of London under one set of commissioners.”

The committee of 1820 confirmed the recommendation contained in the previous report; which was further enforced in 1821, when the necessity of the measure became more apparent, and the committee accordingly expressed themselves in the following strong terms:—

“ Of the expediency (indeed of the ultimate necessity) of providing some legislative remedy for the more efficient and more economical application of the immense revenue which is collected from the public on the roads round London, your committee still entertain no doubt whatever; a multiplicity of trusts, encumbered with numerous trustees, competitors against each other in the market for road materials, and without any combined or scientific system of management, cannot, in the opinion of your committee, effect in the most desirable manner the object for which the present heavy tolls are raised upon the public.”

Your committee consider that the peculiar

local circumstances in which these roads are placed require a very comprehensive plan for their regulation, in order to obtain the desirable objects of durability in the material, economy in the management of the finances, and removal of the injurious and vexatious obstructions which the present toll gates occasion, both to the general traffic, and the internal communication of the suburbs of London. The very insignificant extent of each trust would prevent, under any circumstances, the proper superintendence on roads subject to such constant and severe use, and which require to be maintained by materials which the district of the country in the vicinity of these roads does not afford, and which must consequently be imported. The funds are consumed and wasted by each petty trust having an expensive establishment of officers, and by the competition of so many purchasers of materials advancing their cost against themselves. Your committee are of opinion, that a consolidation of all the trusts adjoining London is the only effectual method of introducing a proper and uniform system of management in the roads, economy in the funds, and of relieving the public from the present inconvenient situations and obnoxious multiplicity of turnpike gates, with which the inhabitants are now fenced in every direction. The important object of procuring a durable material for constructing the roads in the suburbs of London, and parts immediately adjoining, can only be obtained by dealing on an extensive scale. Your committee beg leave to refer, on this head, to the evidence of Mr. Stephenson and Mr. James M'Adam, who state, that sufficient materials might be procured at a reasonable price from the coast of Northumberland and the island of Guernsey, at a much lower rate than at present, if imported in large quantities. The very small extent of the trusts, their particular situations, and the necessity of placing the toll gates of each separate trust within its own little jurisdiction, have had the effect of fixing the toll gates round London in situations the most inconvenient and vexatious to travellers; an inconvenience which has augmented with the great increase of the suburbs of London, whose intercourse and commerce within the limits of Middlesex has become as great as upon the streets of provincial towns. Hence the frequent payments, stoppages, and vexatious delays, have become very serious grievances, which still continue to increase, to the great diminution of the value of property. By consolidating the trusts into one, the commissioners would be enabled so to place the gates as would remove the present inconvenience of their number and situation; while a sufficient amount of money would be levied for the repairs of the roads, at a diminished number of gates, and at much less expense. Having stated the loss and inconvenience arising from the present very defective system under which the roads in and round the metropolis are managed,—your

committee strongly recommend a consolidation of the whole of the trusts (sixteen) in the county of Middlesex, under one act of parliament, to be conducted by one uniform system of management. The whole to be annually reported to parliament; and that leave be given to bring in a bill for that purpose.

An appendix contains the minutes of evidence taken before the committee.

Extract from the Second Report of the Commissioners appointed for the Purposes of an Act (4 Geo. IV. c. 74), intitled, an Act for vesting in Commissioners the Bridges now building over the Menai Straits and the River Conway, and the Harbours of Howth and Holyhead, and the Road from Dublin to

Howth; and for the further Improvement of the Road from London to Holyhead.

“ We have the satisfaction of being able to report, that the public works placed under our care, by the act of 4 Geo. IV. c. 74, have been successfully proceeded with during the last year.”

Whitehall,

18th June, 1825.

An appendix to the foregoing report contains two reports from Mr. Telford, the engineer, describing the progress which has been made, and the present state of each of the works; and the following account:—

LOCAL TAXATION.

COUNTY RATES.

Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into the Expenditure of County Rates.

Your committee proceed to lay before the house the result of their inquiries; premising, that by stat. 12 Geo. II. c. 29; and 55 Geo. III. c. 51, the county rate is assessed by the justices assembled in their general or quarter session of the peace, upon the full and fair annual value of the messuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments ratable to the relief of the poor; is raised by the churchwardens and overseers, paid to the high constables, and by them to the treasurer of the county.

The county rates appear to be applicable to the following purposes:—

1. The paying one moiety of the charges of prosecuting masters for ill-treating their parish apprentices.
2. The charges of carrying parish apprentices, bound to the sea service, to the port to which the master belongeth.
3. The repairing county bridges, and highways thereto adjoining, and salaries for the surveyors of bridges.
4. The money for purchase of lands at the ends of county bridges.
5. Charges attending the removal of any of the said general county rates.
6. The coroner's fee of 9d. a mile for travelling to take an inquisition, and 20s. for taking it.
7. For relief of prisoners in the county gaol.
8. For the salary of the chaplain of county gaol and house of correction.
9. For setting prisoners to work.
10. For the preservation of the health of the prisoners.
11. Charges of carrying persons to the gaol or house of correction.
12. Allowance to discharged prisoners, to enable them to return to their place of settlement.
13. The gaoler's fees for persons acquitted of felony, or discharged by proclamation.
14. Fees to clerks of assize, clerks of the peace, clerks of courts, or their deputies, upon the acquittal or discharge of prisoners.
15. For building, enlarging, and repairing county gaols.
16. For building, repairing, and fitting up

houses of correction, and employing the persons sent thither.

17. For the salary of the master of the house of correction, and for relieving the weak and sick in his custody.

18. Charges of bringing insolvent debtors before the travelling commissioner, in order to their discharge, if the prisoners are not able to pay.

19. For the relief of the prisoners in the King's Bench and Marshalsea prisons, and of poor hospitals in the county, and of those that shall sustain losses by fire, water, the sea, or other casualties, and other charitable purposes for the relief of the poor, as the justices in session shall think fit.

20. Expenses of providing, &c. county lunatic asylums; reported necessary by visiting justices.

21. For repairing shire-halls.

22. Charges of the soldiers carriages, over and above the officers pay for the same.

23. The charges of transporting felons, on conveying them to the places of labour and confinement.

24. The treasurer's salary.

25. The charges of prosecuting vagrants or incorrigible rogues at the sessions, or on appeals against their convictions, and of prosecuting constables, &c. for neglect of duty.

26. Expenses of procuring and transmitting models and copies of the standard weights and measures.

27. Allowances to persons appointed to examine mine-measures.

28. Charges of prosecuting and convicting persons plundering shipwrecked goods.

29. Charges of burying dead bodies cast on shore in England.

30. Charges of prosecuting and convicting felons.

On this last head your committee now offer the result of their inquiries.

They observe with regret, from the accounts of the treasurers of counties, from 1792 to 1823, that a gradual increase has occurred in the expense of prosecutions, both from the number of prosecutions and the increased expense of each. They refer the house to the whole of the printed returns; they have stated the amount in 1792 and 1823, as being the first and last

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years; and the years 1816 and 1817 were taken to shew the increase in two successive years. From seventeen counties no accounts have been returned; in 1792, in 1816, and 1817, four counties are deficient in their returns. With these allowances, the totals for those years appear as follow:—

	£
1792	3,977
1816	29,678
1817	45,947
1823	76,647

The increase may no doubt be attributed in part to an augmented commerce and population, of which crime is too natural a concomitant; and partly, perhaps, to an allowance to prosecutors and witnesses, which has not always been sufficiently controlled.

Your committee observe, from the evidence, that the expenses of prosecutions at the assizes are collectively, and in each separate indictment, much heavier than at the sessions; but at both, the court, by 27 Geo. II. c. 3, and by 58 Geo. III. c. 70, orders the treasurer to pay to each witness a reasonable sum for his time, trouble, and expense; which order the proper officer makes out, and delivers to the person to be paid, who receives it by himself, or through his agent, from the treasurer. Over the orders at the assizes the magistrates have no control. It appeared to your committee that the expenses of prosecutions are generally allowed in cases of felony: it sometimes happens that the poorer class complain that the sum awarded is insufficient; and it is to be apprehended, that if too small sums were awarded to prosecutors, prosecutions would diminish, and crimes go unpunished.

Your committee also observe, that since the passing of the act 58 Geo. III. c. 70, fees on acquittals, and on bills not found, are paid by the counties; before the passing of that act they were often left unpaid; for the claim was on the prisoner, who was generally unable to discharge them. Your committee also observe, that the expenses of prosecutions are sometimes increased by more witnesses than are necessary being bound over to appear at the trial.

Your committee have a difficulty in suggesting by what means the expenses of prosecutions may be diminished; but they observe, that the greater number of offences committed are aggressions on the increased and increasing chattel property of the kingdom, while the charge of prosecuting such offences falls exclusively on the poor's rate, which is derived almost exclusively from property consisting in land and houses.

Your committee observe, that the payment of prosecutors has kept pace with the progress of society, which with its advantages has brought its disadvantage, the increase of crime; the payment of their expenses first occurred in the year 1753; by 25 Geo. II. c. 36, the expense of

the prosecution of disorderly houses was allowed; and by 27 Geo. II. c. 3, the poorer sort are, by a reasonable payment for their time, trouble, and expense, to be encouraged to appear as witnesses against offenders; hence, from the original payment of the poorer sorts, it has become the practice to pay all sorts of persons: and by 58 Geo. III. it is now lawful to pay all witnesses.

Your committee conclude their report by observing, that by stat. Rich. II. c. 10, each magistrate during his attendance at the sessions is allowed 4s. a day, and the clerk of the peace 2s., which sums are severally payable through the sheriff; a circumstance now adduced to shew that the administration of justice was at that time in part defrayed by the state; and it appears at the present time, by the 58 Geo. III. that the expense of prosecuting the several offences of house-breaking, burglary, horse-stealing, and some others, are defrayed nearly in the same way. Your committee also observe, that the rewards that were allowed for the apprehension of offenders were always paid to prosecutors towards their expenses; but since the repeal of that law, the expenses are all paid from the county rate.

Your committee therefore deeply sensible of the hardship of throwing the expenses of prosecutions in great part on the county rates, are inclined to suggest to the house, that a part of those expenses should in future be borne by the general funds of the country; and they therefore recommend that those expenses of prosecutions, over which the magistrates, who may be said to represent the land, have no control, should be paid by the receiver-general of the county, and that those expenses which the magistrates can order and check, should be paid, as at present, from the county rate by the county treasurer; the result of which recommendation would be, that the expense of prosecutions at the sessions would fall upon the counties; and that at the assizes on the general funds of the country.

21st June, 1825.

Substance of the Minutes of Evidence, taken before the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the Expenditure of County Rates.

GENERAL BATHURST examined.—The expenditure of the county of Somerset had of late years increased very much, which he attributed principally to the new system of throwing on the county rates expenses which were formerly paid by the public, or individuals. Within the memory of magistrates now living, the expense in Somersetshire of prosecuting felons had increased from 22*l.* per annum to 3,700*l.* owing, partly to the different laws, and partly to the custom of the judges with regard to the allowances given, the fees of court, and allowances to counsel. The judges hardly ever refused the costs of prosecutions; which were very seldom given formerly; and the commence-

ment of which practice was in George the Second's time. The judges had a discretionary power on the subject; but they allowed the costs in all cases except where the parties prosecuting had not conducted themselves properly. In his opinion this usage had had the effect of increasing prosecutions for slight offences. The fee upon the western circuit for acquittals was 1*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*; the fee on being found guilty was smaller; so that the poorer class were frequently recommended by their solicitors to plead guilty to avoid the larger fees. In 1761, the expense for the prosecution of felons was 22*l.*; in 1791, 173*l.*; in 1821, 3,786*l.* In 1761, the expense of the conveyance of the prisoners was 21*l.*; in 1791, 177*l.*; in 1821, 1,114*l.* In 1761, the expense of the clerk of the peace was 6*s.* 8*d.*; in 1791, 6*s.* 8*d.*; in 1821, 1,180*l.* The increase in the expense of the clerk of the peace had arisen from a custom having crept in of paying him as a solicitor for every act he did as clerk of the peace; from his now obtaining fees from individuals, to which he was formerly entitled; but which he seldom got; from the power given to the magistrates in some instances to pay him for duties done in two courts, where there were two courts; and from some fees which had been given him by acts of parliament. Formerly the office of clerk of the peace was sold by the judges; but within the last five and twenty years the judges had never sold it. In 1761, the cost in Somersetshire of the maintenance of prisoners was 134*l.*; in 1791, 1,374*l.*; in 1821, 7,304*l.* This increase had mostly arisen from the increase of personal property, and the increase of manufacturing towns; but the expense was chiefly borne by landed property. The city of Bath paid about one-tenth of the county rates of Somersetshire; it expended nearly one-third of the expenses of public justice. The aggregate number of persons committed every year in Somersetshire probably exceeded 600. The expense of conveying prisoners, and still more the expense of witnesses, was much greater in Somersetshire than in other counties, from the circumstance of the assizes being held in three different places.—In his opinion, the best mode that could be adopted to remedy the evils complained of would be, first, to simplify the accounts of the county, and to confine the county expenses to those matters over which the magistrates had control. For instance, if the expense of the militia and depots of arms were thrown on the secretary of war, they would be managed with more economy and regularity; if the expense of prosecuting felons at the assizes were paid by the receiver-general, instead of by the treasurer of the county, it would have a good effect, because then the government would regulate a system for the whole kingdom, whereas at present each judge had a system for himself. Various regulations also, respecting improper allowances and fees, might be advantageously introduced.

The Rev. THOMAS BECKER examined.—Was chairman of the quarter sessions of the Newark division of the county of Nottingham. Not only did he complain of the increase of the county rates in Nottinghamshire, but he knew that there was a general disposition in the county to complain of it. This increase he attributed to a great variety of concurrent circumstances:—the increased number of prosecutions; the allowances for conducting them; the conveyance of soldiers' baggage; the establishment of lunatic asylums; the alteration of the laws, which alteration imposed burdens upon the county rate for the protection of personal property, and for other purposes which were more immediately connected with the national interest than with the interests of the individuals who paid the rate, &c.—The expenses falling on the landed interest would necessarily be reduced if the expenses not immediately connected with that interest were to be in part defrayed out of the public purse,—to be granted out of the Exchequer as a repayment to the several county treasurers; being claimed in the same form as the sheriff's aravings.

Mr. HENRY HUNT examined.—By an investigation in 1821, it appeared that the general expenses of Ilchester gaol amounted to nearly one-third of the whole expenditure of the county of Somerset. In the five years from 1814 to 1818 inclusive, that expenditure had been 84,031*l.* 13*s.* 3*d.*. During the same five years, 15,968*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* more had been collected than was expended; as appeared by the returns. From documents and information which he had received, he suspected that there had been great misapplication of the county's rates. A great deal of work had been done at the gaol by the prisoners, respecting which he had made a calculation; and he was persuaded it cost the county three times as much as it would have done had it been executed by artisans. He knew that the gaoler received 2 or 3000*l.* a year from his situation. Considerable expenses had been incurred in the county of late years to pay under-sheriffs, which were formerly never paid. There was also an enormous increase in the sum paid to the clerk of the peace. The charges of the keepers of the prisons had likewise greatly increased. To the three keepers of the prisons in the county there was paid, in 1804, 806*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.*; in 1818, 8,608*l.* 12*s.* His opinion was, that if the committee of magistrates at the quarter sessions, who had no time when there to investigate the accounts of the county, were to get one or two of their body to do so, the expenditure might be much diminished. He also thought the abuses of the gaols, the whole of which arose from the gaolers, ought to be reformed. The constables, who did the real work of the county, had very insufficient allowances. In the year 1818, when the expense for the conveyance of prisoners amounted to 1,326*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*; and that for the prosecution of felons to 4,276*l.*

5s. 11d. the constables were paid only 11l. 2s. for the discharge of their duty.

NATHANIEL VYE LEE, esq., of Ilfracombe, Devon, examined.—The county rates in Devon had diminished of late years, and would have diminished much more but for the expense attending the erection of tread-mills and additions to the prisons and county buildings. The decrease was, he thought, partly owing to the increased value of the currency. A committee of inquiry (of which he was chairman), which sat four years from Epiphany sessions 1820, had, by directing simultaneous privy searches for vagrants, who were an enormous charge to the county, much reduced their number; and sir George Chetwynd's bill had further decreased the expense very considerably, by preventing the passing of vagrants, and saving the cost of their maintenance in, and conveyance from, the bridewell. If a separate jurisdiction of the quarter-sessions were to be formed for Devonport, it would occasion an immense saving to the county. In some instances the charges for the conveyance of prisoners to the respective gaols had been reduced. There were at present great inequalities in the contracts for that purpose; they varied from 10d. to 2s. and 3s. a mile. In consequence of the investigations of the expenditure committee, considerable reduction had been made in the expense of the repairs and alterations of the county buildings, and more especially in the bridge expenditure. A considerable reduction had likewise been made in the charge for the expenses of prisoners previous to their commitment. Various diminutions were made in the expenses of witnesses and constables, who, formerly, being under recognizances to appear on several trials, had been paid their travelling charges and expenses on each. By a special committee, appointed for that purpose, a reform had also been made in the office of clerk of the peace.

THOMAS STIRLING, esq. examined.—Was deputy clerk of the peace for the county of Middlesex. There were a great variety of fees belonging to the office. The common usage with respect to the payment of witnesses in trials upon prosecutions for criminal offences, was to give them half-a-crown a day for loss of time, and likewise the exact sum of money they had been out of pocket. The fees on prosecutions at the assizes were considerably larger than at the sessions; but there were no assizes in the county of Middlesex. He had no doubt that if the allowance of expenses to prosecutors was abridged it would prevent persons prosecuting. The expense of a mere common prosecution carried on in Middlesex did not exceed 30s. or 40s. Some prosecutions were necessarily attended with more expense than others. For instance, if the bank had a prosecution, the indictment would reach from the place where he was to Westminster Abbey; but speaking generally of prosecutions for petty larceny and misdemeanors, the ex-

penses did not amount to more than 30s. or 40s. No fees were taken from a prisoner on his discharge, but a charge of (he thought) 2s. 4d. was made on the county. He believed that that was by virtue of the 58th of the late king. There was no fee on the conviction of a felon. He did not think that any inconvenience could result to the public from regulating the fees of officers, so that the same amount of fees should be paid in every part of the kingdom, or at least in each county, for the same object; but the present holders of the offices, some of which were very valuable, would not like it: On the discharge of recognizances there was a fee (he thought) of 2s. 4d. If it were proposed to pay the clerk of the peace by salary instead of fees, he (the witness) supposed that the clerk of the peace, unless he had a good salary, would rather take the fees; it would not be easy to pay him by a salary, the business was so exceedingly different at different times; there was one portion of the business which perhaps parliament might be able to remedy; by an act of parliament which passed two years and a half ago, it was required that all the recognizances should be returned, not only to the Exchequer as they issued, but also every session to the sheriff, so that they might be levied immediately. The sessions in Middlesex were eight times in the year, there were but four any where else, therefore the duty in the county of Middlesex was doubled; and this provision of the act of parliament had been a source of very great increase of labour to the clerk of the peace; one would not find so much difficulty about it, but the act of parliament required that the clerk of the peace should return not only the recognizances of that session, but that he should return all the recognizances that had been taken and not levied from the time of passing this act of parliament, and they were now got so voluminous that they would go a great deal farther than the abbey; there were forty skins of parchment, containing the recognizances, returned eight times in the year, and it was more than the labour of one clerk to do it; and they must go on accumulating every sessions, till the lords of the treasury should be pleased to order that all those recognizances should be discharged, when the lords of the treasury thought fit to do so, and to take the trouble of looking through them; it was quite impossible; if the clerk of the peace returned the recognizances of the last sessions, the sheriff having all the rest in his possession, he could return them as well as the clerk of the peace. When asked if any application had been made to the lords of the treasury, and information given to them of the extent of the grievance, the witness answered, that the access to the lords of the treasury was of that kind that one did not know how to make an application to them; there was a committee of the house of commons, who recommended the thing. The recognizances from the county of Middlesex were necessarily

very voluminous, and as the parties who were to answer were a parcel of poor Irishmen, who had no friends or connexions in town, they were obliged to be bound for one another, and when the time came at which the recognisance was to be levied, if they ever lived in the place at all, they were gone, before their recognisance came in operation; and it turned out that a great many of them never lived there at all, but there was somebody who represented them. He thought the remedy would be, that all those already returned to the sheriff, and in his office, if they could make any thing of them, they should levy on them; the clerk of the peace returning a copy of what had been in his possession seemed to be perfectly judicious, and unnecessary; they knew whether they had levied or not; if there was any mischief, it must be in the number of returns; if the first return was right, the second return might vary a little; and if the next return was made from that, it would vary a little more, so that the last return might not be so correct as the return in the first instance.

The Honourable Mr. Justice BAYLEY called on the witnesses, and examined.

Will you have the goodness to explain to the committee what is your practice with regard to ordering the expenses of prosecutions?—We generally (I believe, in almost every case,) order them, unless it is a discreditable prosecution, or attended with strong circumstances to induce us to refuse the costs. Very often, if we find that a man, by his own intoxication, has taken up with a woman and gone along with her, we think there is so much discredit in him that he ought to bear the expense of the prosecution, and that the county ought not; but although we do not allow him his own costs, yet if there are any other witnesses who are bound over by recognisances, their costs are, I believe, generally allowed. We used to be in the habit, I believe, in former times, before the late act of parliament, of refusing the costs in banker's cases, when they prosecuted for forgeries on their own banks; but they were men, generally, of opulence.

Do prosecutors of high rank and reputed large property apply now for their expenses as much as they did formerly?—I think they apply more now than they did formerly.

And are they allowed?—Generally speaking, they are allowed.

If they apply?—Yes, if they apply.

Have prosecutors in poor circumstances ever complained that the sum awarded them was not sufficient?—In some instances, particularly of late, I think they have.

Does not the allowance urge them to become witnesses?—I think not; I should say this, we very often have a police officer, or a constable, to whom we refuse the allowance, if he is unnecessarily brought forward as a witness; and it very often happens, that when there are

many articles of property stolen, part of the stolen property is put into the possession of the constable, and part into the possession of another, in order that both may attend the trial, and in that case, when the judges have occasion to exercise their discretion, they generally disallow it.

Would the marking of stolen goods, when they are handed to the constable, prevent the necessity of the constable's attending at the trial?—I think in general it might; but then there would be a difficulty about the intermediate custody. I should say this also, that the remuneration which a constable receives for attending the assizes may make him much more vigilant in the discharge of his duty, and he often assists in keeping the witnesses together.

Do you suspect it to be the practice among law attorneys to tell the prosecutor that his bill has swallowed up all the allowances for expenses?—I have found no precedent of that sort; I should think there would have been a complaint if that had been the case.

Has any application ever been made to your lordship, on the part of the county, that you were too liberal in your orders, or that they were not sufficiently specific?—The business of the assizes in general is extremely laborious to the judge; he is not in the habit in general (I am not quite sure whether there is not an exception to that in Northamptonshire); but he is not in the habit in general of looking into the allowances; that business is performed usually by one of the officers of the court.

Do you know whether that has been done in Northamptonshire for some time?—I have not been in Northamptonshire now for a very considerable length of time. I remember once when I was there having some bills sent by the clerk of the assize to me, in order that I might overlook them, saying that the magistrates had come to a determination they would not allow them unless the bills had the sanction of the judges; and I certainly felt that was a very great additional degree of labour thrown on the judge, and that the judge was very incompetent to decide upon the charges.

Would there be a danger, if less expenses were ordered, of persons not prosecuting for felonies and larcenies?—It would be a great hardship on the prosecutor in general when they go before the magistrate their minds are warm on the subject, and when they are bound over they cannot extricate themselves from the difficulty of prosecuting; I think in a great variety of instances it would be very hard if any part of the expenses were to come on themselves.

Do you think that a plan might be proposed for lessening the expenses of prosecutions, by fixing the days on which in particular cases the witnesses might go before the grand jury, as at Lancaster; and that both judges should first be employed in trying prisoners and then in trying causes?—I think there would be a very

great difficulty indeed in confining the two judges to the trial of crown cases; in the first instance, there would be a hardship felt by all those who have civil business to discharge, and it would also be a hardship on the leading counsel in a variety of cases; the leading counsel are principally employed in civil cases, and have very little to do in criminal cases, and therefore if the criminal business was to be discharged first, for a period of time they would, in a great degree, have nothing to do; and then, when the criminal business is finished, there would be an extreme inconvenience in allotting any of the business to the judge upon whom the duty regularly of sitting on the *mis prius* side does not attach; because in general, in all counties, there are great leaders, and every man is desirous of having his own leader in his own particular case, and he has given retainers with a view to that; then, if the cause comes on to be tried, and in the absence of the leading counsel whose assistance he expected to have, and perhaps in the absence of some of the other counsel he had retained, the suitor is dissatisfied, and is apt to attribute his failure to this arrangement; and then a man who fails in his case would feel, perhaps, persuaded that it was all through the leading counsel not being present; a division of the judges, therefore, would, in my opinion, be inconvenient. My brother Hullock and myself have very often experienced on the northern circuit, when there is a vast pressure of civil business, that the crown business is finished first, and then the judge who has been on the crown business generally assists the other judge, and the counsel are very desirous that that should be the case; but the clients are very often very much dissatisfied; I think, therefore, employing the two judges first in the crown business until the crown business is finished, would not be attended with any good result.

Would any particular arrangement of the witnesses going before the grand jury be of advantage? I believe that it is practised in the counties of York and Lancaster, and might be practised also in all counties in which the grand jury are likely to sit for more than one day. The plan adopted in the county of York is this: there is an advertisement prior to the assizes, which advertisement directs that in a given number of the cases standing first, the names of which it states, with the exception of particular classes of offences, the witnesses on them shall be ready to attend the grand jury as soon as they are charged, that another shall get ready to attend the morning of the second day of their sittings, another on the third, and all the remainder on the fourth; that is assuming that the grand jury are likely to sit for a period of four days; that is a great saving of expense, for instead of having all the witnesses there on the first day, you have only a limited number of them on the first day, a limited number on the

second day, a limited number on the third day, and so on the fourth day; the convenience afterwards of course must depend on the despatch of business. In Lancaster the division is according to the districts. There is another advantage which, perhaps, results from that plan; which is this, that the grand jury are regularly supplied with business in the early part of their sittings as well as the latter part.

Do you think that any mischief would arise from throwing on the general funds of the county the expenses of the prosecutors at the assizes? There might be that want of check in taking care that the charges were reasonable, which, as it is to fall on the county, it is the interest of particular persons in the county to take care of; and there may be other objections I cannot foresee.

The Honourable Mr. Baron HULLOCK called in, and examined.

Do you think, if there was an adjourned quarter-sessions just before the assizes, in order to try the petty offences, so as to lighten the assizes, that that would be of saving to the county? That subject was suggested to me at Leicester, by the nature of the calendar of trials at that place several petty felonies, which constituted a considerable portion of the offences which came before me. It occurred to me that much expense might be saved by the holding of an adjourned sessions immediately before the assizes, as I understand is done in Staffordshire. The expense of a trial at the sessions would, I apprehend, be much less than would be incurred upon a trial at the assizes. This plan, however, would throw upon the magistrates a grievous additional burden, as well as upon persons liable to serve on juries. But probably that inconvenience might be in a considerable degree obviated, and the object in view attained, by the commitment of persons accused of petty felonies to the house of correction, for trial at the sessions, and not to the gaol for trial at the assizes. This course of proceeding, however, rests altogether with the magistrates. There is another circumstance which has a tendency to increase the county expenses; the witnesses which are bound over by recognisance to give evidence in cases of felonies, sometimes much exceed the number that are necessary for establishing the charge. In the course of the last circuit, I remember a case of highway robbery, in which, there were, I believe, fourteen witnesses on the back of the indictment. The bill was thrown out, and the grand jury applied to me to disallow the expenses of the witnesses. I felt myself obliged to decline the application, inasmuch as the witnesses had been bound over to appear at the assizes, and were all in an inferior situation in life. In the case to which I allude, I believe eight out of the fourteen witnesses were altogether unnecessary.

The examination of Mr. Justice BAYLEY continued.—Do you think that the government ought to pay for the prosecutions to the extent to which it has been benefited by the abolition of rewards, and that issues should be made in aid of the county rates?—That would be extremely reasonable. I remember on one occasion, I think it was at Chelmsford, in which the sums to be paid for rewards amounted to about 760*l.*; it would have been certainly a great relief to the county if that sum had been paid by government. Government, I believe, formerly paid those rewards; they have been relieved from that to a certain extent, but not altogether, because, under the act of parliament which abolished rewards, the judges were entitled to make an allowance for the expenses of apprehension, which in other cases they had not the power of doing; and the expenses of apprehension still continue, I apprehend, to fall on the government.

Do you think it just that the land should pay the expenses of all prosecutions for stealing chattel property, as formerly, in times in which the country is daily becoming more commercial, and chattels and thefts are of course daily increasing?—I have great difficulty in answering that question, or in stating how you are to raise a fund, except out of the land; taxation of stock in trade, or upon the profits of trade, or upon funded property, would be difficult; I have a difficulty in answering that question.

Is the remedy at law for one who feels himself aggrieved by an illegal charge in the county rate very expensive?—I think it must be expensive; the expense of an appeal, if it is removed to the King's Bench, it must be more expensive.

Do you think the fee of 1*l.* 8*s.* for the discharge of a prisoner in gaol, tried and acquitted, would be a just demand if paid by himself; or the discharge of a prisoner by proclamation, the indictment being *ignoramus*, and the fee 1*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*?

I do not see why any prisoner in which there is no prosecution, or who, from being acquitted, may reasonably be considered as having been innocent, ought to be subject to the payment of any sum of money.

In a very petty assault, might it not be for the interest of a poor prisoner to plead guilty, in order to avoid the acquittal fee?—No doubt; I have known many instances, when I practised at Clerkenwell sessions, where I have heard the present Mr. Baron Garrow desire the jury to find his client guilty, in order that the expense of the verdict might fall on the prosecutor, and not upon the prisoner.

Do you think that the magistrates could in any way regulate the expenses ordered by a judge at the assizes?—No doubt the magistrates would be able to regulate the quantum; the judge only orders the expenses to be paid; and I should apprehend the magistrates are per-

fectly competent to exercise their discretion what the quantum in each case ought to be, and by entering into that subject, they would have an opportunity of seeing whether the charges imposed on the different persons who attended the assizes, by the innkeepers and others, and for lodging, were exorbitant or otherwise.

How is that to be done practically, because at the assizes your lordship orders the expenses to be paid; the clerk of the assizes makes out the order, and then it is taken to the treasurer and paid *instantly*; for the prosecutor so much, and for each witness so much?—The investigation by the magistrates must, of course, take place prior to the payment.

How is it possible that the magistrates could investigate those charges, they being made in the way the committee state; for instance, on the first day of the assizes the first prisoner who is tried, for example, is tried for a highway robbery, and an application is made to the judge for the expenses, which the judge allows; the clerk of the assize, at the early part of the assize, makes out an order, which the prosecutor or the attorney obtains possession of, and he goes to the treasurer and receives the money *instantly*?—It seems to me, that he ought not to receive the money *instantly*.

Mr. Baron HULLOCK.—The great difficulty is, that that is a labour which could not be done at the assizes; but if the magistrates were to make an inquiry at their sessions, into the sums that are reasonable, according to the existing price of provisions, and the expense of lodging and travelling, and so on, and suggest a scale of allowance to the judges, I dare say the judges would be very happy to make that the rule of their allowance at the assizes, and that would obviate the difficulty.

Mr. Justice BAYLEY.—It is very beneficial that that should be done, because then the witnesses, when they have got to the assize town, might know whether the juries would supply them according to that scale.

Who are the officers on the circuit that receive fees on a prosecution?—The clerk of the assize is one; the judges' clerk receives fees, and the judges' marshal receives fees on acquittals; I know they do; I do not know any other person.

Would there be any objection to paying the officers of the circuit by a salary, taking, for instance an average of their fees for the last three years?—It is difficult for me to answer that question.

What is your opinion?—If there is a salary adequate to the real expenditure which the officers sustain, I should think that would be a fair mode of taking it; many of them travel at their own expense; the judges' clerks, I believe, travel at their own expense; they are maintained while they are there by the judge; the judges' marshals are in general carried by the

judges, and they live entirely at the expense of the judge, and during the time they are travelling backwards and forwards.

What is the practice with regard to allowing fees to counsel?—I cannot at all say what the practice is; I believe, in general, the fees to counsel are left entirely to the discretion of the officer.

Mr. Baron HULLOCK.—Sometimes a question arises, when the prosecution is for a serious offence, as for murder, and there are two counsel employed, whether they shall both be allowed their fees; and the officer never has, in the circuit I have been lately, allowed fees to both counsel, without applying to the judge; and I certainly have occasionally sanctioned such allowance. I have thought one counsel in such and similar cases was not enough.

Mr. Justice BAXTER.—There is a practice on the midland circuit which seems to me to be a very beneficial one, and I believe I was instrumental in having counsel there in almost every case, which was a remarkable saving in point of fatigue to the judges. I believe counsel are now employed in almost every case, and the allowance there, I think, is limited to two guineas if it is a capital case, and one guinea if it is a simple felony; to a single counsel; and I think there was a rule introduced, when I was in the habit of going that circuit, that the attorney halt for his attendance two guineas, and no more. The consequence of that was, if an attorney had a great deal of business, he was willing to take it on those terms; but, generally speaking, that involved on the clerks of the magistrates who had occasion to attend there. They have also a practice on that circuit, which as it seems to me, is exceedingly beneficial with reference to counsel who conduct prosecutions; they are not in the habit of making any opening speech to the jury before the witnesses are examined, but they begin at once to examine the witnesses, and then if they examine them neatly, and only to what is really material, it is a great saving in point of time. It is advantageous also, I think, in point of effect; in this respect, when the counsel for the prosecution opens the case, and makes a short statement of the facts, it has the appearance of hardship on a prisoner, when he is called on for his defence, and he says, "I will leave it to my counsel," that he should be told, *your* counsel cannot be heard. To bystanders it certainly has this appearance; and it naturally occurs to say, "here is a hardship; a prosecutor's counsel may be heard, a prisoner's counsel cannot."

Mr. Baron HULLOCK.—In capital cases, and in cases where the facts are complicated, it is absolutely necessary that there should be a statement of the facts; but with these exceptions, the examination should be gone into at once, without any observation at all, which would save, I am quite satisfied, in the course of the

circuit, three or four days at least; I am sure that at Warwick a day or two would be saved by that course of proceeding.

Mr. Justice BAXTER.—I am perfectly satisfied that a day or two is wasted by what I should think that the allowance to the counsel might be regulated according as they make an opening speech or not.

That is, you would allow the less if they make an opening speech?—If the party who employed them chose they should make an opening speech, he should bear the expense of it; that is the impression on my mind. I have endeavoured for some time, but without much effect, to introduce elsewhere the practice which prevails in the midland circuit; I have succeeded in some degree on the northern circuit.

Can you account for the origin of the allowing fees differing on different circuits; circuit fees on an acquittal on the western, 4*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*; on the home, 8*l.* 4*s.*; on the northern, 10*l.* 6*s.*?

I cannot at all account for the origin of it.

And when no bill is found on the western it is 13*l.* 4*s.*; on the home, 6*l.* 4*s.*; and on the northern, nothing?—I cannot account for that.

What would be the effect, if the courts of quarter sessions could order payment to be made for charges incurred in the apprehension of offenders charged with felony, in cases in which the persons so charged are not committed for trial?—The judges have nothing to do with those charges; they never make an order for the charges of apprehension, except in cases in which these formerly were rewards, and then these charges fell upon government, whether the magistrates have a power to order those charges; I am incompetent to answer.

The committee are speaking of a person who is not committed for trial. If he is committed for trial we have no discretion, in common cases, as to the costs of apprehension; we allow the costs of apprehension in those cases in which there formerly were rewards, but we have no power to award them in any other case.

Pray who taxes the bill, the allowance for the expenses, the bill of costs; the allowance for the expenses at the assizes?—I believe the clerk of the assize, or some officer under him.

Would his taxation be less efficient supposing that the expenses of the prosecution at the assizes were charged on the county generally, than it is now, when it is charged on the county rate?—I should rather apprehend he would endeavour to do his duty by the public as well as by the county.

Did your lordship ever hear of any inconvenience arising from the mode that is adopted with reference to the absence of an opening speech in an ordinary case of felony, on the midland circuit?—Never.

Examination of Mr. Baron HULLOCK continued.—Do you consider it to be legal to commit a prisoner for trial at the sessions, supposing the

assizes to intervene between the committal and the time of holding the sessions?—There is nothing at all illegal, as I conceive, in it. There has been a question made when the prisoner has been committed to *gaol*, (although he was committed for the sessions,) whether he ought not to be tried at the *gaol* delivery? I certainly should leave such person on his former commitment, provided he was committed to the sessions, and the witnesses were bound over to attend at the sessions. I think one thing might be done with considerable advantage, which would save a day or a day and a half:—if both the judges were to try prisoners on the first day of the assize; it would be no inconvenience to the civil suitors, inasmuch as the suitors who had causes to try at the assizes need not come to the assize town until the night of that day, and the counsel would thereby suffer no inconvenience, because their briefs would be delivered in time for them to have an opportunity of being prepared by the next morning to go through the business, without the delay which very often takes place the first day merely because gentlemen are not prepared. And there is another circumstance, also; if the gentlemen of the grand jury would attend a little earlier the first morning, they might make the first day efficient, which is at present nearly lost. It might be attended with inconvenience to many of them who reside at a distance, and who come from their residences in the morning to the assizes, but if they were to assemble at nine o'clock on the first day, and receive the charge, and the two judges were immediately to commence the trials of the criminals, it would make the first day efficient, and there would then be a saving of a day or a day and a half; and that might be done without any inconvenience whatever resulting to the civil suitors of the county. With respect to the mode of preferring the bills, I doubt exceedingly whether the practice which prevails, either in Yorkshire, or Lancashire, is efficient for the purpose that has been suggested, because the parties do not ascertain precisely, from the advertisement that is put into the papers, when they are to be there; but if the clerk of the assize was to put into the papers that a certain number of cases (specifying them) would be brought before the grand jury on the Monday, and a certain number on the Tuesday, and so on, that would be a saving of a great expense; because those who came on the Wednesday would save the expense of the two first days. Whereas now, in point of fact, in some places, the people all come on the first day, hundreds of them unnecessarily, because by no possibility can all the bills be carried before the grand jury until after the first or second day. But an arrangement of that sort can only be efficient where the grand jury sit three days.

Are not the expenses of the prosecutions in the county of Warwick very considerably increased in consequence of their being only one judge attending the spring assizes?—They are

increased in this way, because, when there is only one judge, he must necessarily dispose of the civil business himself. The last time I was at Warwick there were about one hundred and sixty prisoners, and not a very heavy cause paper: I tried causes the first day, and I went on with the causes until I had finished the cause list: if there had been another judge, of course those three days or three days and a half, or whatever period of time was occupied in the civil business, would have been occupied in the *gaol* delivery by the other judge; but that could not be done then by any other person, because the gentleman who is so good as to assist the judge could not do so then, he being employed in the civil business. I think the *gaol* might have been delivered in six or seven days.

The prosecutions in Warwick chiefly come from the town of Birmingham, I believe?—They do.

And the constables who are there are witnesses, perhaps, in eight or ten different prosecutions; are they allowed their expenses in each?—I really do not know that; I know what they ought to be allowed.

Mr. Justice BAYLEY.—In Lancashire, coming from Liverpool and other places, they do not allow them in all; they allow them in some, but not in all.

The prosecutions in Warwick are conducted by attorneys, who also act as clerks to the justices; does your lordship see any inconvenience in that practice; the committee mean the practice of an attorney acting as magistrate's clerk?—I can hardly conceive that that practice can be attended with any beneficial result, and perhaps it is the cause of more offences being carried to the assizes than otherwise would be.

Mr. Justice BAYLEY.—I will venture to suggest this; if any check could properly be made in cases of commitments, there are many cases in which the offences are so very trivial, that if the necessity of committing did not in all cases exist, I think it might be sometimes beneficial. I think it would not be amiss if the magistrate at the time of the commitment could intimate whether, in his judgment, it was a case in which the expense ought to fall on the county or not; whether that is practicable or not, I do not know. I have seen a prosecution by a man of opulence against a person for stealing a spade; I am sure that within this last year I have tried at Durham three or four cases in which property of very small value was stolen from persons to whom the loss of the property was of no importance.

Does your lordship think that would be obviated by having an adjourned session just previous to the assizes?—I think that it would in a very great degree.

Mr. Justice BAYLEY.—I would venture to suggest one thing; I know that in some instances attorneys make claims on the prosecutors for extra costs over and above what the county allows, and I cannot help thinking it would be extremely

beneficial if there could be a legislative provision that they should be entitled to maintain no action with respect to any costs incurred unless they received the money beforehand.

The committee understand, in all those cases the attorney regularly makes out a bill against his client for the expense of the prosecution, in the same way as he makes out his bill in a civil suit?—Yes.

He begins by, "Attending to take the examination of the witnesses," and, in short, every thing in the same way as if he was making out his bill in an action? And he receives the county allowance; and that is the cause of complaints by the prosecutor, because, instead of his having to receive it for himself, he has something to pay. Do you think, if the treasurer was ordered not to pay any sum of money to any one but the individuals who had orders to receive it, that the judge at the assizes would have any objection to that regulation, and if there was a general regulation of that sort, would not that be the means of preventing that abuse?—That would have the effect of securing to the poor witness the money which now very often he does not get; I know an instance at the last assizes, where the attorney went with the order and got all the money, and then he said to the prosecutor, I still want money of you; the regulation suggested would obviate that objection, but still the attorney would be left to the charge on his original client.

Mr. Justice BAYLEY's examination resumed. What is your opinion of the advantage or disadvantage that is likely to arise to society from the committal of young offenders?—That depends very much; I should say, on the nature and character of the gaol, and the associates and friends the young person might happen to have. It must be a very good gaol indeed in which a lad does not get worse than when he went; his character is materially hurt by going to gaol; he will not have the same respect for himself as he had before; he may have friends who will take care of him if he is dismissed; he will probably feel a degree of gratitude for being dismissed; it will impress on him the necessity of keeping out of any scrape again; and therefore it might by possibility reform a lad who, if he was to go to gaol, might not be reformed.

Has your lordship ever considered whether any advantage might accrue from magistrates in petty sessions being empowered to punish offenders guilty of very small offences, instead of sending them to trial either to the sessions or assizes?—I never have particularly directed my attention to that, but I cannot help thinking that it might be beneficial if one or more magistrates were to have, in the case of petty felonies, the power of proceeding in a summary way; or if the party pleaded guilty, of inflicting at once a limited species of punishment. It would be a very great saving to the county in point of expense, and I believe in many instances it would be a bene-

ficial thing to the offenders, and a great advantage to the public.

Would not the same opinion apply with greater force in cases of assault?—Certainly.

Might it not be susceptible of considerable justice in some cases?—That would depend on the restrictions imposed, and the character of the magistrate; I believe, generally speaking, in most places there are weekly attendances of the magistrates; in most populous towns I believe there are.

Would you extend that jurisdiction to one magistrate, because your expression was one or more magistrates?—I think the greater the number of magistrates the better.

Mr. Baron HULLOCK's examination continued.—The committee understand by law the judge is not empowered to allow costs in any case whatever of misdemeanor?—I believe not.

Does not your lordship consider that in some cases of misdemeanor it is very desirable that a judge should have that power; for instance, in the case of assaults with intent to commit rapes or injuries to the persons of very young children, particularly to persons who are in humble situations in life—the children of labourers and poor persons, who are very frequently very much abused by attempts that are made on their persons; and supposing they are bound over to the assizes, there is no possibility now of getting their expense paid?—Not if the indictment is preferred merely for a misdemeanor; very often at the assizes the indictment is preferred originally for the felony; that, perhaps, is thrown out, and then another indictment is preferred immediately; that indictment is found; and the trial takes place at the same assizes, and then the judge allows the expenses of the first indictment.

Mr. Justice BAYLEY.—In my judgment, it would be a desirable thing that the party should be tried for the capital and the minor offences at one and the same time.

Mr. Justice BAYLEY's examination continued.—In cases of indictments for goods obtained by false pretences, does not your lordship think the judges should have the same power with respect to costs, as they have in cases of felony? is it not a very great hardship on small traders, and persons in that state of life, that they are to bear the whole of their costs and expenses?—In proportion as you throw the expenses on the county, you diminish those voluntary associations which there are in order to bear the expenses.

The committee conceive there are no associations which defray the expenses in the cases alluded to?—I am not sure of that; there are associations against swindlers; there is one in London, in Essex street.

Are there any associations in the country which defray the expenses of those other cases of injuries which have been alluded to?—I am not aware of any.

Is your lordship of opinion that the expenses

ought to be allowed in all cases of assault with intent to commit a rape?—I should think it would be reasonable, because that comes within the range of cases that would end in a felony; and assaults to prevent apprehension would also be proper cases for allowance.

When a constable is assaulted or wounded in the execution of his duty, is there any method by which the expenses of the prosecution can be paid?—Not at present; I would suggest, that in proportion as a power is given of allowing expenses, you probably increase the number of prosecutions; perhaps there might be this check on those cases, that the judges should have the power to allow them if the prosecution was directed by the magistrates.

Mr. Baron HULLOCK.—All that inconvenience is obviated by the discretion that is now vested in the judges with respect to the allowance for felonies.

Mr. Justice BAYLEY.—But I would have the discretion at both ends, that the person should not have the power to apply for the allowance in those cases in which the magistrates did not direct the prosecution; but when the magistrates did direct the prosecution, then the judges should have the power to allow the costs.

(To Mr. Baron HULLOCK.)—Do you think the magistrates ought to be empowered to punish offenders guilty of small offences, instead of sending them to trial?—I much doubt the propriety of such a proceeding. I conceive that such a practice would be altering the constitution of the country to a certain degree. The country is exceedingly jealous of any power of that sort being vested in the magistrates.

Charles John Lawson, esq. examined.—Was clerk of the peace for the county of Surrey. The allowance to prosecutors and witnesses, in felony, at the summer assizes of 1823, and the Lent assizes of 1824, was 1,475*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*; at the quarter-sessions for the county during the year, 570*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*; at the quarter-sessions for the borough of Southwark, 42*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*; at the quarter-sessions for the borough of Guildford, 1*l.* 18*s.* In felonies there were no fees payable

to any body by the prisoner; in misdemeanors, on either acquittal, conviction, or confession, there was a fine to the clerk of the peace of 8*s.* 8*d.* It often happened in the county of Surrey that the prisoner, when acquitted, paid a great deal more expense than the prosecutor had been put to. The party who gained the cause paid. If the prisoner was convicted, the prosecutor paid. When he said the prisoner paid, he should explain, that the prisoner formerly paid, but, under the late act of parliament, the county paid the fee. Witnesses were paid 5*s.* if they came from a distance, 3*s.* 6*d.* if they came from the neighbourhood. The effect in Surrey of adjourning the quarter-sessions till just before the assizes, in order to try petty larcenies, would, he thought, be a very considerable saving of expense to all parties, and a great convenience; but he thought it would be attended with great inconvenience to the juries that were summoned for the trial of civil causes if the judges were to proceed to the trial of prisoners in both courts first, and then to the trial of causes at the assizes. He did not see that there would be any objection to throwing the expenses of prosecutions at the assizes upon the general funds of the country instead of on the county rate or the receiver-general, unless it should be that larger sums might be allowed than when the county rate was to bear them. As to paying the clerks of the peace by a salary, or on an average of their fees for the last three years, he thought it would be almost impossible to form an average; and that the business would not be so well conducted.

Edward Jeremiah Curteis, esq. M. P. examined.—By a table which had been given him by the clerk of the peace for Sussex, by the direction of the magistrates, to be laid before the committee, it appeared that the expenses attending prosecutions at the assizes in Sussex were about three parts in five beyond the expenses attending prosecutions at the sessions. He suggested that some power should be lodged with the magistrates of directing the trial of some felonies at quarter-sessions.

ABSTRACT of an Account from the respective Treasurers of the Counties of England and Wales of the several Sums received for County Rates in the Year 1823, and of their Application, in Payments for Bridges; Clerk of the Peace; Coroners; building and enlarging Gaols; building and enlarging Houses of Correction; building and enlarging Lunatic Asylums; building and enlarging Judges' Lodgings; building and enlarging Shire-halls; building and enlarging other County Buildings; ordinary Repair of Prisons; ordinary Repair of other County Buildings; Maintenance of Prisoners; Conveyance of Prisoners; Expenses of Prosecutions; Treasurer's Salary; Apprehension and Conveyance of Vagrants; Apprehension and Conveyance of Scotch and Irish Paupers by Vagrant Pass; Clerk of Assize, and of other Officers of Assizes; Militia, Local Militia, and Volunteers; Clerk of Lieutenancy; Lieutenancy Meetings; Printing, Stationery, and Advertising; Allowances to King's Bench and Fleet Prisons, by Statute 53 Geo. III.; Parliamentary Returns; Under-Sheriff; Liberates of Debtors; Interest of Money borrowed on Mortgage of County Rate; Principal Money borrowed on Mortgage of County Rate paid off; Incidental Expenses.

		Receipt.			Expenditure.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Bedfordshire	County of Bedford	4,652	16	0	8,096	1	5
Berks	County of Berks	10,769	18	3	8,409	4	6
Bucks	County of Buckingham	6,533	15	10	7,091	15	6
Cambridgeshire	Hundred of Wisbech, and North Part of the Hundred of Wisbech, in the Isle of Ely	2,546	8	0	2,049	7	11
	Hundred of Ely, in the Isle of Ely	1,891	1	0	2,322	15	5
	County of Cambridge	2,409	3	4	2,674	7	9
Cheshire	County Palatine of Chester	29,424	3	4	30,892	16	11
	County of the city of Chester	800	0	0	785	7	3½
Cornwall	County of Cornwall	7,892	19	2	7,836	6	5
Cumberland	County of Cumberland	16,547	8	6	16,579	5	10½
Derbyshire	County of Derby	4,215	16	11½	5,628	10	3
Devon	County of Devon	18,983	0	4½	16,307	5	4
	City of Exeter	250	0	0	247	13	3
Dorset	County of Dorset	6,947	10	3½	9,112	8	2½
	Town and County of Poole	200	0	0	150	2	1
Durham	County of Durham	8,770	12	8½	7,938	17	10
Essex	Eastern division of the county of Essex	8,502	3	1¾	6,994	19	10
	Western division of ditto	6,929	6	7½	7,391	15	8
Gloucestershire	County of Gloucester	10,850	15	10½	12,994	10	2½
	County of the city of Gloucester	3,510	1	9	3,253	19	10
Hants	County of Southampton	9,160	16	2	11,265	2	9
	Town and county of the town of South- ampton	999	0	0	1,089	13	11
Herefordshire	County of Hereford*	2,791	18	3¼	3,175	18	5½
Herts	County of Hertford	4,790	14	0	4,150	7	2
Hunts	County of Huntingdon	3,171	3	7½	2,809	5	10
Kent	County of Kent	17,612	8	4	16,188	3	6
	City of Canterbury	624	3	0	461	4	4½
Lancashire	County of Lancaster	46,609	19	1	32,104	1	10
Leicestershire	County of Leicester	7,424	18	7½	8,809	12	4
Lincolnshire	Kirton and Skirbeck	2,241	1	11	2,732	4	7
	Elloe and Holland	3,149	7	2½	3,584	17	6
	Kesteven	9,255	19	8½	9,652	2	0½
	Lindsey	13,087	15	4½	13,088	12	6½
	City of Lincoln	1,423	7	2	1,117	9	9
Middlesex	County of Middlesex	32,669	9	5	38,257	13	4¾
Monmouthshire	County of Monmouth	3,048	7	11½	2,601	3	2½
Norfolk	County of Norfolk	4,550	17	10	13,019	15	8
	City of Norwich	2,860	6	0	3,153	11	8
Northamptonshire	Western division	5,216	17	3¾	4,873	19	3½
	Eastern division	2,019	13	7	1,800	0	1
Northumberland	County of Northumberland	7,014	2	0	5,844	13	6½
	Newcastle-upon-Tyne	2,400	0	0	2,292	17	10
Notts	North division	3,021	11	6½	2,960	13	9
	South division	5,187	10	8½	6,081	16	0½
	Town of Nottingham	6,300	0	0	6,113	2	1½
Oxfordshire	County of Oxford	6,666	1	3	6,163	15	7¼
Rutlandshire	County of Rutland	961	11	1	937	5	4
Salop	County of Salop	4,172	0	4½	8,337	4	8½

* Half a year only.

		Receipts	Expenditure
Somerset	County of Somerset	17,297 1 4	16,131 15 2
Staffordshire	County of Stafford	24,104 13 5	19,928 14 9
	City and county of Lichfield	287 0 3	274 10 0
Suffolk	Becles division	3,661 4 0	4,376 3 0
	Bury division	4,300 0 11	5,370 16 4
	Ipswich	3,684 15 6	3,555 7 8
	Woodbridge	32,788 9 9	2,790 2 8
Surrey	County of Surrey	28,551 10 6	22,094 19 11
Sussex	Western division	2,539 10 7	2,901 6 6
	Eastern division	5,262 1 2	5,981 15 4
Warwickshire	County of Warwick	9,775 13 4	12,060 15 6
	County and city of Coventry	3,063 7 4	2,907 5 1
Westmoreland	West Ward	1,313 5 7	909 12 8
	East Ward	2,004 0 11	1,240 8 11
	Kendal Ward	1,069 11 10	763 9 1
	Lonsdale Ward	401 9 7	218 15 5
Wiltshire	County of Wiltshire	13,073 10 0	13,507 12 0
Worcestershire	County of Worcester	6,013 17 4	6,414 14 10
	City of Worcester	925 8 4	896 11 11
Yorkshire	East Riding	9,115 15 6	6,831 19 4
	North Riding	10,520 1 3	9,046 19 11
	West Riding	34,130 2 2	37,456 9 6
	City of York	2,772 0 0	2,534 1 2
	Kingston-upon-Hull	1,615 6 8	1,605 7 6
Wales:			
	Anglesey	1,163 18 10	962 13 10
	Brecon	3,356 8 10	2,773 18 6
	Cardigan	1,200 10 0	1,205 3 6
	Carmarthen	2,262 16 2	2,904 15 2
	Carmarvon	1,791 9 6	1,954 6 4
	Denbigh	3,200 0 0	3,662 7 3
	Flint	2,500 0 0	2,512 18 10
	Glamorgan	3,000 0 0	2,640 15 8
	Montgomery	2,853 18 7	2,853 18 7
	Montgomery	4,927 17 11	2,412 19 10
	Pembroke	1,500 3 0	2,094 8 1
	Haverfordwest	1,350 0 0	549 11 7
	Radnor	1,304 0 0	1,401 7 3

(For Poor Rates, see post p. 677.—Charitable Institutions.)

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Substance of the Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to consider of the Laws respecting Friendly Societies.

THE committee commence their report with an account of the progress and present state of the law affecting friendly societies. The first legislative interference with them was in 1793, when the act passed, which was known by the name of its author, Mr. George Rose. While this act imposed certain restrictions upon friendly societies, it also conferred upon them certain privileges and immunities; all which are detailed in the report. The acts of 1795, 1803, 1809, and 1817, made a variety of further provisions on the subject. To the provisions and operation, however, of the act of 1819, the attention of the committee has been principally directed. In 1815, the members of friendly societies were enumerated at 925,429. The system was nevertheless deficient. The chief defect was the want of sufficient security against error in the original constitution of societies. Another material defect was found in the provision made against a fraudulent or inequitable disposition of the funds, or dissolution of the society. The facility given to combinations was a further abuse of the old system. The preamble of the act of 1819, in its recital, averred the utility of these institutions, as well to the community as to individuals, an avowal in which the committee fully concur.

"The opinion," says the report, "which some persons entertain, hostile to the formation of any common fund by contribution among the lower classes, and the preference given to individual savings, induce your committee to consider the claims of these societies in some detail. It has been observed, that the hostility to friendly societies has been no where more strong or controversial than among the patrons of saving banks. Of these institutions, which are not referred to them for consideration, your committee will only say, that they are undeniably calculated for many very useful purposes, some of which cannot possibly be secured by institutions of mutual assurance; but your committee affirm, without hesitation, as equally undeniable, that it is 'by the contribution of the savings

"of many persons to one common fund, that the most effectual provision can be made for casualties affecting,' or, as it would have been more correctly said, liable to affect 'all the contributors.' This proposition, which is, indeed, obviously true, has been well illustrated by a writer on friendly societies, who asks, whether the advocates of separate and exclusive saving 'will be easily persuaded to save their annual premium instead of securing their houses against fire.' Wherever there is a contingency, the cheapest way of providing against it is by uniting with others, so that each man may subject himself to a small deprivation, in order that no man may be subjected to a great loss. He upon whom the contingency does not fall, does not get his money back again, nor does he get for it any visible or tangible benefit; but he obtains security against ruin, and consequent peace of mind. He upon whom the contingency does fall, gets all that those whom fortune has exempted from it have lost in hard money, and is thus enabled to sustain an event which would otherwise overwhelm him. The individual depositor, not the contributor to a common fund, is really the speculator. If no sickness attacks him during his years of strength and activity, and he dies before he is past labour, he has been successful in his speculation; but if he fall sick at an early period, or if he live to old age, he is a great loser; for his savings, with their accumulations, will support him but for a short time in sickness; or, even if he retain something in old age, after having provided for his occasional illnesses, the annuity which he can then purchase will be very inferior indeed to that which he would have obtained, if he had entitled himself to the benefit of the accumulated savings of all those who, having contributed for many years to a superannuation fund, had never reached an age to require it. A common fund, in all cases of contingency, is not less obviously for the interest of the public. The unsuccessful speculator described in the last illustration, in other words, the depositor in a saving bank, who falls into habitual sickness, or reaches old age, must either starve or come upon his friends or neighbours, wholly or partially for support. In this country the poor laws will

"bring him upon the parish. The parishes will lose all that the man has to do as a poor labourer gain. The parish will not be able to pay the difference between the expense of his being the sick and aged part of the parish, and the amount of the accumulated deposits of the sick and aged persons out of his wages, if the people rent it out to a common tenant the parish will have to pay the difference between the expense and the accumulation of contributions of all the people; which is of no value if the society be well constituted, and nothing. Your committee observe that in this country, as they do in the saving banks with friendly societies, it should not be understood to depreciate the former; all they insist upon is, that for the particular purposes to which friendly societies are applicable, savings banks are insufficient, and that the same purposes which are beneficial to the people and the state."

One of the first endeavours of the Legislature of the act of 1819 was to define the nature of the which friendly societies should be allowed. Those were, "the maintenance of widows and the contributors thereto, their wives or children, in sickness, infancy, advanced age, widowhood, or any other natural state, or contingency, whereof the occurrence is susceptible of calculation by way of average." The first enactment of the act was intended to engage the more particular attention of the magistrates in quarter sessions in the regulation, and to point out to them some material objects of inquiry; reminding them, that the proportion between the payments of the contributors and benefits was an essential part of the plan which they were required to consider. The act provided that the magistrates were prescribed to the justices either by the bench or by any committee of no fewer than three persons. In their reports the committees are directed by opinion, that this reference to a committee will, in almost all cases, be the more advisable course. The bench, or committee of justices, were to satisfy themselves as to the fitness of the arrangements for which it was proposed to provide. There is reason to believe that this direction has not always been paid to the directors of the law, and that rules have been admitted whereby an allowance has been granted to persons *enfranchised for debt*. The committee have no hesitation in pronouncing that all rules of that sort, referring to contributions not "natural," ought in no case to be allowed. In reference to the number of persons of whom a society might consist, the common law, observing that it is clear that a very small society cannot be service, as among a few individuals the law of average will not operate and that they think it desirable that no society should consist of fewer than 200 members. A more specific provision is necessary which requires to

be of establishment, and the authentication of the regulations upon which there is some conformity to the acts and in the practice of the county of Kent, where the same has been executed with propriety. In the opinion of the committee, the tables of rates have in many counties been made with the signature, or tables of probabilities, of persons whose opinion as to the probability of sickness and the duration of life was to be depended upon. The committee especially call the attention of the house to the tables which they have pursued with a view to the formation of accurate tables for the use of friendly societies. They acknowledge, however, that the rate of mortality and sickness in the land is not at present sufficiently well ascertained to justify a parliamentary enactment of any particular set of tables. By a petition, referred by the house to the committee, and from other quarters, suggestions were made for establishing a central board, or office, for the purpose, in the first instance, of the calculations upon which friendly societies are formed, and subsequently watching over their management. The committee say they are not prepared to adopt this suggestion; but they are of opinion, that the same objects may be accomplished in a mode which will require but little extension of the law, and which will not excite any serious jealousy. By the present law, every society which desires to avail itself of the government's defences is required to send to the national debt office copies of the rules, after they have been enrolled at the sessions. The committee propose, that the rules of friendly societies should be transmitted to the national debt office *previously* to enrolment; and that the directors of that office shall perform, either singly or in conjunction with another calculator, as recommended by the commissioners, the duty of examining and verifying the tables of payments and benefits and the rules connected therewith; and he should be required to accompany his reports with such observations and suggestions as may appear to him useful towards improving and securing the object of the societies. The establishment at the sessions would then prevent as at present. The managers of saving banks are required to furnish to that office annual accounts, in a form prescribed. The committee are inclined to think, that there ought to be no reasonable objection to placing friendly societies on the same footing in this respect as the saving banks, or in requiring them to make to the office in London periodical returns in a prescribed form, whence the state of these affairs might be deduced. If this proposition should be thought likely to excite alarm, it would be enough that the office should furnish such societies with a form of the return, and with instructions as far keeping their books; and declare themselves to give an opinion upon the sufficiency

of the funds; and the prospects of the society, whenever an application, accompanied by a return in the form prescribed, should be made to it. In furtherance of these suggestions, and that the number and extent of friendly societies may be known, the committee propose, that those institutions be no longer permitted to deposit their funds in saving banks, but that they be required to draw their debentures directly from the bank. The first part of the enactment of the act of 1819, allowing the publication of general rules, to be adopted by all societies applying for enrolment, appears to the committee to be well calculated to avoid error and delay. Some difference of opinion has arisen, as to the extent to which the power may be delegated to the petty sessions (which delegation has taken place, it is understood, in the county of Devon), and it occurs to the committee, that instead of continuing this power of delegating the authority of final approbation, it may be advisable to provide that societies may tender their rules to the petty sessions, in the first instance, instead of sending them to the clerk of the peace; and that the petty sessions shall transmit them, with their opinion, and with any explanation which they may think it right to give, whether of their own motion, or upon examination of the parties tendering, to the actuary of the national debt office. The next provision of the act is one upon which the committee find some difficulty. It requires that every society shall have three trustees at the least, of whom the majority shall be "substantial householders, assessed to the relief of the poor upon a sum not less than fifty pounds." The objects of this provision assuredly were, to furnish to every society the guaranty of a certain portion of respectable and responsible persons; and also to encourage the formation of larger societies, for which there can be no difficulty in finding a sufficient number of substantial trustees. The committee believe that the difficulty of procuring trustees in the smaller societies has been great; that in some counties no care has been taken to ascertain their sufficiency, or even their existence; and that it will certainly sometimes happen that the owner of a considerable estate in the country, who retains only a small quantity of land in his own hands, may not be qualified under the act; nevertheless the committee are not prepared with any substitute for this clause; the state would perhaps not be justified in giving the important pecuniary advantage which the debentures afford to any set of persons for whose funds no two men of the degree of substance implied by the enactment are willing to answer. And that enactment operates as a preference of the larger institutions, in a degree which may be deemed neither inexpedient nor unfair.

These trustees, in whom all the property is vested, are to appoint the treasurer; a security which the committee think it right to retain.

The act of 1819 provided an entirely new secu-

rity against a fraudulent or imprudent application of the funds, or dissolution of the society. In the first place, no division of money otherwise than in the ordinary course can be made; nor the society be dissolved by the vote of any proportion of the members, without the consent of the trustees; and such consent cannot be given without the certificate of two actuaries, who shall have been already admitted as such by the justices, "that, according to the most correct calculation of which the case will admit, the interest of all the contributors to such institutions, and of all persons having claims thereon, in possession or expectancy, are, by the proposed scheme of dissolution, fairly dealt with and secured." No alteration appears necessary in this provision beyond what may be requisite to adapt it to any new arrangement which may be made as to the actuaries. But the committee take the opportunity of observing, that sufficient provision does not appear to be made by any of the acts, against a breach of the law in respect to the appropriation of the funds. Let the case be supposed, of the disregard of the provision now in question. A society is dissolved, against the will of the trustees, or by the justices, without the certificate of the actuaries. The trustees are not aggrieved in any way which entitles them to relief in the summary mode pointed out by the acts. Of themselves, it may confidently be assumed, some are considerable sufferers, because the members in general have probably not the knowledge, if they have the honesty, necessary to an equitable settlement; but these sufferers probably do not know the extent of their loss; and indeed if, as will be the most probable case, they receive a sum in hand, instead of an annuity to commence in even a few years, they will not have the inclination to complain. Nor could they be relieved in the way pointed out by the acts, which provide only for a payment of money. It appears to the committee, that a breach of the acts by any trustee, member, or officer of a society, whether it be made the subject of complaint by an individual aggrieved, or not, should be liable to punishment in a mode more easy than an indictment at common law. It might, perhaps, be expedient, that two justices, in petty sessions, informed of an intention to divide or appropriate the funds of a society otherwise than according to law, should be empowered to issue an order for staying all proceedings therein; and that all persons concerned in a breach of such order should be punishable by fine and imprisonment, by summary process. The permission to draw debentures from the bank, at a fixed rate of interest, will, the committee trust, be enjoyed by friendly societies so long as it is continued to saving banks. They, however, at the same time suggest, that it might perhaps be desirable, with a view to any new arrangement that may be made as to these debentures, that no future calculations should be made at more than

three per cent. But in this case it would be necessary to provide, as indeed all institutions should provide, for an appropriation of eventual surplus. Nothing in the act prevents the trustees from investing the money in the public funds, or from lending it upon real security, at interest. This last-mentioned facility is said to have given rise to some abuses, and it may perhaps be advisable to withdraw it. The clause which provides for the intervention of the justices, in any case in which the trustees shall be apprehensive that the funds of the society will be deficient, appears to require revision; not only so far as it respects the case in which an enrolment shall have taken place at the petty sessions (which practice it is proposed to discontinue); but because, by what must have been an accidental omission, no certificate of actuaries is in this case required. The committee are inclined to believe that the arbitration clause has not been productive of good effect; and they therefore recommend its repeal. The report of the committee which considered the combination laws was referred to the committee, in consequence, no doubt, of the following resolution of that committee: "That the committee regret to find from the evidence, that societies, legally enrolled as benefit societies, have been frequently made the cloak under which funds have been raised for the support of combinations and strikes, attended with acts of violence and intimidation; and without recommending any specific course, they wish to call the attention of the house to the frequent perversion of these institutions from their avowed and legitimate objects." Neither the evidence which has incidentally been given upon the subject before the committee, nor the evidence appended to the report referred to them, appears to justify an apprehension that the statement of the resolution is extensively true. And even if some of the older societies have been in a degree perverted to the purposes of combination, the committee say they have no reason whatever to believe that any such abuse has occurred in a society formed under the last act. The committee finally recommend, that all the laws relating to friendly societies be consolidated into one act.

The minutes of evidence taken before the committee, and a variety of documents, are attached to the report.

POOR RATES.

Extract from the Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to consider of the several Returns made to the Order of the House in 1824, relative to the Sums assessed, levied, and expended, on Account of the Poor in England and Wales.

"THE amount of the poor rates levied in the year ended on the 25th of March, 1824, was £6,833,630. This charge is less than that of

"the preceding year; but the diminution is very inconsiderable. In comparison with the year 1817-18, which has been noticed in former reports as the year of highest amount, there has been a decrease of 2,486,810l. s* but, compared with 1822-3, the returns of the money levied in 1823-4, exhibit a declension of no more than 64,523l. †

"These comparisons refer to the total sums levied, including county rates and other charges not appertaining to the poor. These other charges, which in the last triennial period had been on the increase, have within the last three years been gradually reduced; but they still amount to more than 1,200,000l. ‡

"The expenditure upon the poor in 1823-4 falls short of the amount of 1822-3 by 38,742l. only. §

"The year 1823-4 completed a fourth of the triennial periods, of which the average expenditure was as follows:—

"The average of three years ending	
"In March 1815 (the concluding period of the war) was ..	6,129,844l.
"March 1818	6,844,200l.
"March 1821	7,273,535l.
"And in the three years ending in	
"March 1824	5,955,292l.

"The house will observe, that the last of these averages is considerably lower than the preceding two.

"The diminution in the fourth period, as compared with the first or war average, is less considerable; and in seventeen counties and ridings of England, and in eight counties of Wales, there is an increase. ¶ The expenditure in the year 1823-24, being 5,734,216l., is lower than that of any year since 1815-16, and only exceeds that of 1815-16 by 9,710l.

"The most remarkable circumstance attending the returns of 1823-4 is; that although

* 1817-18	£ 9,320,440
1823-4	6,833,630
	£ 2,486,810
† 1822-3	£ 6,898,153
1823-4	6,833,630
	£ 64,523

‡ Average three years to	
March, 1815	£1,835,219
1818	1,284,470
1821	1,339,067
1824	1,207,369

§ 1822-3	£5,772,958
1823-4	5,734,216
	£ 38,742

† Bedford, Cambridge, Cornwall, Cumberland, Devon, Durham, Huntingdon, Kent, Lincoln, Middlesex, Norfolk, Northumberland, Suffolk, Surrey, Westmorland, East Riding of York, North Riding of York, Anglesey, Brecon, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Carnarvon, Glamorgan, Merioneth, Pembroke.

“ there has been, upon the whole, a diminution in the amount, the diminution has been much more partial than in former years; so that while one county (Leicester) exhibits a decrease of eleven per cent, as compared with the preceding year, another county (Wilts) returns an increase of eight per cent; and the unfavourable difference in nineteen other counties is such as to reduce the diminution in the whole of England and Wales to one per cent.

“ The counties in which the poor rates have increased, are Bedford, Berks, Cambridge, Dorset, Essex, Lincoln, Norfolk, Oxford, Southampton, Suffolk, Warwick, Wilts, Cardigan, Carmarthen, Carnarvon, Denbigh, Flint, Merioneth, Pembroke, and Radnor. The rate of increase varies; it is (as already stated) eight per cent in Wilts; seven in Berks and Suffolk; six in Southampton; five in Norfolk; four in Essex; three in Bedford and Carmarthen, and less than three in the other counties named.

“ The only two counties (Anglesey and Brecon) in which, in 1822-3, the expenditure was larger than in 1821-2, now exhibit a decrease of expenditure. In these, and in Buckingham, Cornwall, Devon, Durham, Hereford, Hertford, Huntingdon, Kent, Middlesex, Monmouth, Northumberland, Nottingham, Salop, Somerset, Stafford, Surrey, Sussex, Worcester, York, Glamorgan, and Montgomery, it is less than five per cent; it is five per cent in Chester, Cumberland, Derby, and Westmorland; six in Gloucester; seven in Lancaster and Northampton;

“ eight in Rutland; and (as before stated) eleven in Leicester.

“ As compared with 1817-18, the rate of diminution varies from seven per cent in Huntingdonshire to forty-five per cent in Lancaster, Leicester, and Worcester. To the causes to which is to be ascribed the check which has been put to the progressive diminution of the poor rates, your committee will no further refer than by citing an observation from the report of last year. The degree in which the amount of the poor rates is affected by the variation of the price of wheat will be more correctly ascertained when the expenditure of 1823-4 is known: because, in that year, wheat rose again to an average, according to the legal returns, of 56s. 8d. Your committee have inserted, in the appendix, a table, in which the counties are classed according to the degree in which their returns exhibit respectively a favourable or an unfavourable result; they have also framed a table, similar to one appended to the report of last year, in which a calculation is made of the expenditure upon the poor in each county as compared with the population. Anglesey is still the only county which shews an increased rate per head, as compared with 1812-13.

“ Sussex still appears as the county in which the expenditure upon the poor bears the highest proportion to the number of the people; and Lancaster continues at the other extremity of the scale.”

* In the report of 1824, the comparison is said to be with 1817-18; it ought to be 1812-13.

ACCOUNTS AND ABSTRACTS OF ACCOUNTS CONTAINED IN THE APPENDIX
TO THE FOREGOING REPORT.

AN ACCOUNT shewing the Amount of Monies assessed and levied in England and Wales at the several Periods for which Returns have been required by Parliament; distinguishing the Payments made thereout for other Purposes than the Relief of the Poor; the Sums expended in Law, Removals, &c., and the Sums expended for the Relief of the Poor: also, the Average Price of Wheat in each Year for which it can be ascertained.

Years.	Total sum assessed and levied.	Payments thereout for other purposes than the relief of the poor.	Sums expended in law, removals, &c.	Sums expended for the relief of the poor.	Total sums expended.	Average price of wheat.
	£	£	£	£	£	s. d.
Average of } 1748-49-50...	730,135	40,164	...	689,971	† ...	...
1776...	1,720,316	137,655	35,071	1,521,732	1,694,458	...
Average of } 1763-4-5...	2,167,748	163,511	91,996	1,912,241	2,167,148	...
1803...	5,348,204	1,034,105	190,072	4,077,891	5,302,070	63 2
1812-13...	8,640,842	1,861,073	325,107	6,656,105	8,865,838	128 8
1813-14...	8,388,974	1,881,565	332,066	6,294,584	8,511,863	98 0
1814-15...	7,457,676	1,763,020	324,664	5,418,845	7,508,853	70 6
1815-16...	6,037,425	1,212,918	* ...	5,724,506	† ...	61 10
1816-17...	8,128,418	1,210,200	* ...	6,918,217	† ...	87 4
1817-18...	9,320,440	1,430,292	* ...	7,890,148	† ...	90 7
1818-19...	8,932,185	1,300,534	* ...	7,531,650	† ..	82 9
1819-20...	8,719,655	1,342,658	* ...	7,329,594	8,672,252	69 5
‡ 1820-21...	8,411,893	1,375,868	* ...	6,958,445	8,334,313	62 5
‡ 1821-22...	7,761,441	1,336,533	* ...	6,358,703	7,695,235	53 0
‡ 1822-23...	6,898,153	1,148,230	* ...	5,772,958	6,921,187	41 11
‡ 1823-24...	6,833,630	1,137,405	* ..	5,734,216	6,871,621	56 8

* For these periods there is no particular account of the sums expended in law, or in removals.

† For these periods there is no account of the sums expended, as distinguished from those assessed and levied.

‡ For these years (1820-21, 1821-22, 1822-23, 1823-24) the orders required returns, not of the sums assessed and levied, but of the sum levied.

AN ACCOUNT shewing the Amount of Monies levied in each County in England and Wales, in the Year ending 25th March, 1824, distinguishing the Payments made thereout for other purposes than the Relief of the Poor, and the Sums expended for the Relief of the Poor; and stating the Number of Parishes in each County in which Select Vestries have been formed, or Assistant Overseers appointed, pursuant to Act 59 Geo. III, c. 12.

Counties.	Total sums levied.		Payments there-out for other purposes than the relief of the poor.		Sums expended for the relief of the poor.		Total sums expended.		Select vestries.	Assistant overseers.
ENGLAND:										
	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.		
Bedford	74,786	16	8,097	6	64,937	4	73,034	10	14	19
Berks	109,137	9	15,681	7	91,109	18	106,791	5	27	37
Buckingham	124,064	10	16,725	6	104,920	14	121,646	0	55	48
Cambridge	99,776	10	14,609	14	83,887	18	98,497	12	17	34
Chester	116,487	10	28,244	12	86,820	16	115,065	8	118	94
Cornwall	111,086	17	14,378	2	95,151	11	109,529	13	46	24
Cumberland	54,200	2	9,323	5	43,609	17	52,933	2	67	56
Derby	91,570	9	22,194	4	70,144	17	92,339	1	67	72
Devon	232,934	16	29,098	6	200,734	19	229,833	5	106	82
Dorset	92,598	8	11,933	5	78,676	17	90,610	2	43	52
Durham	93,532	19	15,224	9	76,701	17	91,926	6	80	50
Essex	286,868	1	37,701	15	247,289	18	284,991	13	43	72
Gloucester	167,484	17	35,975	8	130,060	11	166,035	19	53	71
Hereford	62,495	17	8,523	3	54,402	18	62,926	1	44	49
Hertford	95,488	0	11,200	11	82,313	7	93,513	18	18	31
Huntingdon	43,824	16	5,411	2	37,654	14	43,065	16	32	17
Kent	377,699	9	52,364	7	345,777	12	398,141	19	55	130
Lancaster	327,723	19	132,647	0	203,899	3	336,046	3	196	141
Leicester	103,367	13	17,978	5	85,481	0	103,459	5	80	50
Lincoln	206,410	17	50,359	8	156,552	16	206,912	4	158	114
Middlesex	572,955	2	80,193	10	523,386	13	603,580	3	17	51
Monmouth	28,243	3	5,453	11	23,237	3	28,690	14	14	19
Norfolk	305,254	8	42,239	0	262,393	10	304,632	10	77	77
Northampton	141,326	17	17,744	14	121,586	6	139,337	0	69	46
Northumberland	80,495	7	11,523	14	69,466	15	80,990	9	36	37
Nottingham	82,542	1	22,822	0	58,693	19	81,515	19	28	34
Oxford	122,579	8	15,297	14	106,390	6	121,688	0	34	32
Rutland	12,195	15	3,269	11	8,823	19	12,098	10	25	5
Salop	88,868	10	11,544	10	77,568	14	89,113	4	37	28
Somerset	171,447	5	21,890	10	145,556	17	167,447	7	84	89
Southampton	210,462	17	25,602	13	184,062	5	209,664	18	54	59
Stafford	139,523	0	30,070	15	109,943	19	140,014	14	58	52
Suffolk	279,808	0	32,984	16	246,829	16	279,814	12	56	81
Surrey	263,480	19	52,188	9	216,193	12	268,382	1	19	27
Sussex	266,747	19	29,008	18	241,073	10	270,082	8	61	59
Warwick	142,744	9	25,112	6	127,449	12	152,561	18	50	48
Westmorland	26,080	0	2,453	15	23,141	5	25,595	0	48	11
Wilts	174,114	1	20,299	3	150,891	14	171,190	17	39	55
Worcester	83,351	11	13,239	18	68,146	1	81,385	19	56	55
York { East Riding	107,612	15	17,187	5	89,486	3	106,673	8	74	20
York { North Riding	87,757	1	11,823	5	73,651	5	85,474	10	101	41
York { West Riding	289,595	0	64,284	15	226,065	18	291,160	13	118	113
Total of England...	6,548,725	8	1,093,905	7	5,494,467	9	6,588,372	16	2,453	2,282

Counties.	Total sums levied.		Payments there-out for other purposes than the relief of the poor.		Sums expended for the relief of the poor.		Total sums expended.		Select vestries.	Assistant overseers.
	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.		
WALES..										
Anglesey.....	15,379	10	1,882	1	13,304	4	15,186	5	29	10
Brecon.....	19,901	12	3,709	16	16,249	6	19,959	2	13	7
Cardigan.....	17,233	15	2,635	15	14,577	1	17,212	16	18	7
Carmarthen.....	32,233	14	4,632	14	27,367	18	32,000	12	45	3
Carnarvon.....	18,436	15	2,940	2	15,364	11	18,304	13	22	12
Denbigh.....	36,061	12	5,374	16	30,212	17	35,587	13	20	22
Flint.....	20,909	3	3,684	13	17,604	8	21,289	1	12	15
Glamorgan.....	38,963	2	4,892	1	33,984	4	38,876	5	29	39
Merioneth.....	14,894	11	1,481	19	13,265	6	14,747	5	8	9
Montgomery.....	32,471	8	5,667	14	26,364	16	32,032	10	22	13
Pembroke.....	24,453	6	3,940	12	20,179	10	24,120	2	23	6
Radnor.....	13,961	1	2,657	9	11,274	17	13,932	6	7	4
Total of Wales ...	£ 284,904	9	43,499	12	239,748	18	283,248	10	248	147
Total of England and Wales ...	£ 6,833,629	17	1,137,404	19	5,734,216	7	6,871,621	6	2,701	2,429

ABSTRACT of a Statement of the Monies expended on the Poor only, in England and Wales, in the several Periods commencing in the Middle of last Century, and reaching to the 25th March, 1824; with an Account of the Property assessed under Schedule (A) in 1815.

Average of three years, ending Easter 1750	639,971
Year ending Easter 1776	1,521,732
Average of three years, ending Easter 1785	1,912,241
Year ending Easter 1803	4,077,891
Average of three years, ending 25th March, 1815	6,129,844
Average of three years, ending 25th March, 1818	6,844,290
Average of three years, ending 25th March, 1821	7,273,535
Average of three years, ending 25th March, 1824	6,955,292
Property assessed under schedule (A) in 1815	51,898,423

AN ACCOUNT shewing the Rate of Increase or Diminution in the Expenditure in each County in England and Wales, in the Year 1823-24, as compared with the preceding Year, and also with the Year 1817-18.

Counties.	Rate of increase or diminution: 1823-4, compared with preceding year.		Rate of diminution: 1823-24, compared with 1817-18.
	Increase.	Diminution.	
ENGLAND.			
Bedford	3 per cent	...	12 per cent
Berks.....	7	...	42
Buckingham.....	...	1 per cent	29
Cambridge.....	...	...	19
Chester.....	...	5	32
Cornwall.....	...	2	25
Cumberland.....	...	5	24
Derby.....	...	5	35
Devon.....	...	1	19
Dorset.....	1	...	34
Durham.....	...	4	25
Essex.....	4	...	25
Gloucester.....	...	6	31
Hereford.....	...	2	42
Hertford.....	...	2	19
Huntingdon.....	...	...	7
Kent.....	...	1	13
Lancaster.....	...	7	45
Leicester.....	...	11	45
Lincoln.....	...	...	8
Middlesex.....	...	1	18
Monmouth.....	...	4	35
Norfolk.....	5	...	20
Northampton.....	...	7	25
Northumberland.....	...	4	26
Nottingham.....	...	3	42
Oxford.....	1	...	32
Rutland.....	...	8	33
Salop.....	...	3	43
Somerset.....	...	1	27
Southampton.....	6	...	35
Stafford.....	...	2	36
Suffolk.....	7	...	15
Surrey.....	...	1	20
Sussex.....	...	2	27
Warwick.....	1	...	34
Westmorland.....	...	5	22
Wilts.....	8	...	36
Worcester.....	...	3	45
York { East Riding.....	...	4	20
York { North Riding.....	...	3	20
York { West Riding.....	...	2	33
England.....£	...	1 per cent	27 per cent
WALES.			
Anglesey.....	...	1 per cent	9 per cent
Brecon.....	...	1	28
Cardigan.....	1 per cent	...	22
Carmarthen.....	3	...	21
Carnarvon.....	2	...	17
Denbigh.....	2	...	26
Flint.....	2	...	24
Glamorgan.....	...	1	34
Merioneth.....	1	...	19
Montgomery.....	...	4	32
Pembroke.....	1	...	15
Radnor.....	2	...	29
Wales.....£	1 per cent	...	25 per cent
England and Wales.....£	...	1 per cent	27 per cent

AN ACCOUNT shewing the Proportion which the Expenditure upon the Poor in each County in England and Wales, in the Years 1812-13 and 1823-24, bears to the Population of 1811 and 1821, respectively; together with the Difference of Rate per Head in the Expenditure between the two Periods.

Counties.	Population 1811.	Expenditure for the poor for the year ending the 25 March, 1813.	Proportion which the expenditure for the poor for the year 1812-13 bears to the population of 1811.	Population, 1821.	Expenditure for the poor for the year ending the 25 March, 1824.	Proportion which the expenditure for the poor for the year 1823-24 bears to the population of 1821.	Difference of rate per head in the expenditure between the years 1812-13 and 1823-24.	
							More.	Less.
ENGLAND.								
		£	per head.		£	per head.	£ s.	£ s.
Bedford	72,600	61,273	0 17	85,400	64,937	0 15	...	0 2
Berks	122,300	160,873	1 6	134,700	91,110	0 14	...	0 12
Buckingham	121,600	133,949	1 2	136,800	104,921	0 15	...	0 7
Cambridge	104,500	85,884	0 16	124,400	83,888	0 13	...	0 3
Chester	234,600	114,370	0 10	275,500	86,821	0 6	...	0 4
Cornwall	223,900	103,736	0 9	262,600	95,152	0 7	...	0 2
Cumberland	138,300	44,985	0 7	159,300	43,610	0 5	...	0 2
Derby	191,700	93,963	0 10	217,600	70,145	0 6	...	0 4
Devon	396,100	217,737	0 11	447,900	200,735	0 9	...	0 2
Dorset	128,900	109,304	0 17	147,400	78,667	0 11	...	0 6
Durham	183,600	81,752	0 9	211,900	76,702	0 7	...	0 2
Essex	260,900	312,230	1 4	295,300	247,290	0 17	...	0 7
Gloucester	295,100	165,576	0 11	342,600	130,061	0 8	...	0 3
Hereford	97,300	82,981	0 17	105,300	54,403	0 10	...	0 7
Hertford	115,400	76,701	0 13	132,400	82,313	0 12	...	0 1
Huntingdon	43,700	35,413	0 16	49,800	37,655	0 15	...	0 1
Kent	385,600	317,990	0 16	434,600	345,778	0 16	...	...
Lancaster	856,000	306,797	0 7	1,074,000	203,399	0 4	...	0 3
Leicester	155,100	110,560	0 14	178,100	85,481	0 10	...	0 4
Lincoln	245,900	129,343	0 11	288,800	156,553	0 11	...	...
Middlesex	935,100	502,967	0 10	1,167,500	523,367	0 9	...	0 1
Monmouth	64,200	28,247	0 9	72,300	23,237	0 6	...	0 3
Norfolk	301,800	291,501	0 19	351,300	262,393	0 15	...	0 4
Northampton	146,100	139,675	0 19	165,800	121,588	0 15	...	0 4
Northumberland	177,900	72,821	0 8	203,000	69,467	0 7	...	0 1
Nottingham	168,400	88,013	0 10	190,700	58,694	0 6	...	0 4
Oxford	123,200	143,108	1 3	139,800	106,390	0 15	...	0 8
Rutland	17,000	11,168	0 13	18,900	8,824	0 9	...	0 4
Salop	200,800	106,318	0 11	210,300	77,569	0 7	...	0 4
Somerset	313,300	185,407	0 12	362,500	145,557	0 8	...	0 4
Southampton	253,300	225,601	0 18	289,000	184,062	0 13	...	0 5
Stafford	304,000	124,765	0 8	347,900	109,944	0 6	...	0 2
Suffolk	242,900	225,714	0 19	276,000	246,830	0 18	...	0 1
Surrey	334,700	217,757	0 13	406,700	216,194	0 11	...	0 2
Sussex	196,500	314,270	1 12	237,700	241,073	1 0	...	0 12
Warwick	236,400	157,932	0 13	280,000	127,450	0 9	...	0 4
Westmorland	47,500	22,338	0 9	52,400	23,141	0 9	...	...
Wilts	200,300	234,352	1 3	226,600	150,892	0 13	...	0 10
Worcester	165,900	101,109	0 12	188,200	68,146	0 7	...	0 5
York { East Riding ...	173,000	83,752	0 10	194,300	89,486	0 9	...	0 1
York { North Riding...	157,600	70,860	0 9	187,400	73,651	0 8	...	0 1
York { West Riding...	675,100	323,113	0 10	815,400	226,866	0 6	...	0 4
England	9,855,400	6,421,225	0 13	11,486,700	5,494,470	0 10	...	0 3

AN ACCOUNT, &c.—*continued.*

Counties.	Population 1811.	Expendi- ture for the poor for the year ending 25 March, 1813.	Propor- tion which the expen- diture for the poor for the year 1812- 13 bears to the popula- tion of 1811.	Population 1821.	Expendi- ture for the poor for the year ending 25 March, 1824.	Proportion which the expen- diture for the poor for the year 1823- 24 bears to the popula- tion of 1821.	Difference of rate per head in the expen- diture, be- tween the years 1812- 13 and 1823- 24.	
							More.	Less.
WALES.								
		£	per head. £ s.		£	per head. £ s.	£ s.	£ s.
Anglesey.....	38,300	9,278	0 5	46,000	13,304	0 6	0 1	0 1
Brecon.....	39,000	14,976	0 8	44,500	16,249	0 7	...	0 1
Cardigan.....	52,000	12,386	0 5	59,000	14,577	0 5	...	...
Carmarthen.....	79,800	23,540	0 6	92,000	27,368	0 6	...	...
Carnarvon.....	51,000	12,493	0 5	59,100	15,365	0 5	...	...
Denbigh.....	66,400	32,427	0 10	78,100	30,213	0 8	...	0 2
Flint.....	48,100	19,454	0 8	54,900	17,604	0 6	...	0 2
Glamorgan.....	88,000	33,287	0 8	103,800	33,984	0 7	...	0 1
Merioneth.....	32,000	12,280	0 8	35,100	13,265	0 8	...	...
Montgomery.....	53,700	32,297	0 12	61,100	26,365	0 9	...	0 3
Pembroke.....	62,700	20,300	0 7	75,500	20,179	0 5	...	0 2
Radnor.....	21,600	12,065	0 11	23,500	11,275	0 10	...	0 1
Wales.....	632,600	234,880	0 7	731,800	239,748	0 7	...	...
Total of England } and Wales ... }	10,488,000	6,656,105	0 13	12,218,500	5,734,218	0 9	...	0 4

A LIST of the Counties of England and Wales, ranked according to the largeness of the Expenditure on the Poor only, in reference to the Population, in the Year ending 25th March, 1824.

Counties.	Rate perhead.	Counties continued.	Rate perhead.	Counties continued.	Rate perhead.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Sussex.....	1 0 0	Hereford.....	0 10 0	Salop.....	0 7 0
Suffolk.....	0 18 0	Leicester.....	0 10 0	Worcester.....	0 7 0
Essex.....	0 17 0	Radnor.....	0 10 0	Brecon.....	0 7 0
Kent.....	0 16 0	Devon.....	0 9 0	Glamorgan.....	0 7 0
Bedford.....	0 15 0	Middlesex.....	0 9 0	Chester.....	0 6 0
Bucks.....	0 15 0	Rutland.....	0 9 0	Derby.....	0 6 0
Huntingdon.....	0 15 0	Warwick.....	0 9 0	Monmouth.....	0 6 0
Norfolk.....	0 15 0	Westmorland.....	0 9 0	Nottingham.....	0 6 0
Northampton.....	0 15 0	York, East Riding.....	0 9 0	Stafford.....	0 6 0
Oxford.....	0 15 0	Montgomery.....	0 9 0	York, West Riding.....	0 6 0
Berks.....	0 14 0	Gloucester.....	0 8 0	Anglesey.....	0 6 0
Cambridge.....	0 13 0	Somerset.....	0 8 0	Flint.....	0 6 0
Southampton.....	0 13 0	York, North Riding.....	0 8 0	Cumberland.....	0 5 0
Wilt.....	0 13 0	Denbigh.....	0 8 0	Cardigan.....	0 5 0
Hertford.....	0 12 0	Merioneth.....	0 8 0	Carmarthen.....	0 5 0
Dorset.....	0 11 0	Cornwall.....	0 7 0	Carnarvon.....	0 5 0
Lincoln.....	0 11 0	Durham.....	0 7 0	Pembroke.....	0 5 0
Surrey.....	0 11 0	Northumberland.....	0 7 0	Lancaster.....	0 4 0

AN ACCOUNT shewing the Amount of Monies levied for Poor's Rate and County Rate, in each County in England and Wales, in the Year ending 25th March, 1823; distinguishing the Amount levied on Land, Dwelling Houses, Mills and Factories, and Manerial Profits.

Counties.	Land.		Dwelling-houses.		Mills, factories, &c.		Manerial profits, &c.		Total money levied by assessment, 1822-23.		
ENGLAND.	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.	
Bedford	66,264	8	6,387	10	643	12	142	1	73,437	11	
Berks	76,704	17	18,592	19	2,145	2	714	19	98,157	17	
Buckingham	102,610	2	13,738	2	1,659	7	379	1	118,386	12	
Cambridge	78,285	3	13,826	3	1,464	0	592	10	94,167	16	
Chester	89,796	13	20,659	16	5,219	10	1,536	14	117,212	13	
Cornwall	87,235	9	16,787	3	2,196	8	6,318	1	112,537	1	
Cumberland	43,503	0	12,624	15	894	3	1,518	9	58,540	7	
Derby	75,068	5	12,220	9	1,727	1	1,320	9	90,336	4	
Devon	175,412	1	47,461	10	2,623	18	1,927	5	227,424	14	
Dorset	70,743	19	14,571	17	1,353	4	1,512	18	88,181	18	
Durham	67,914	4	20,116	7	6,332	7	12,537	4	106,900	2	
Essex	225,493	16	44,080	6	6,204	14	1,234	14	277,013	10	
Gloucester	95,286	1	51,785	6	5,538	1	1,278	14	153,897	2	
Hereford	57,024	10	6,436	16	207	19	98	6	63,767	11	
Hertford	73,607	18	19,552	18	2,455	7	318	11	95,934	14	
Huntingdon	35,702	14	4,832	2	438	6	136	16	41,109	18	
Kent	257,917	8	106,452	5	8,258	11	1,158	12	373,786	16	
Lancaster	157,790	12	107,738	3	49,375	9	11,573	15	326,477	19	
Leicester	91,200	1	18,415	2	378	6	312	14	110,306	3	
Lincoln	166,760	13	21,872	11	4,067	1	417	11	193,117	16	
Middlesex	38,116	0	512,902	19	38,768	15	503	2	590,290	16	
Monmouth	23,210	5	4,723	4	668	18	1,330	0	29,932	7	
Norfolk	224,977	7	50,247	19	4,205	5	2,728	0	282,158	11	
Northampton	132,002	10	11,666	18	580	18	1,266	7	145,516	13	
Northumberland	54,021	18	17,998	3	8,128	11	4,038	4	84,186	16	
Nottingham	57,613	2	20,215	9	2,862	15	630	4	81,321	10	
Oxford	98,713	18	18,657	8	869	5	393	5	118,633	16	
Rutland	11,353	4	1,015	13	50	2	4	14	12,423	18	
Salop	75,619	11	13,496	12	1,167	7	2,590	0	92,873	10	
Somerset	136,841	0	32,397	13	1,993	14	3,349	17	174,582	4	
Southampton	145,277	18	42,926	1	2,528	19	293	9	191,026	7	
Stafford	99,715	11	27,144	13	6,021	1	7,375	17	140,257	7	
Suffolk	214,666	16	36,965	14	5,285	16	829	7	259,747	13	
Surrey	83,585	4	148,026	1	19,672	8	1,355	4	252,638	17	
Sussex	217,246	7	37,049	1	4,269	2	691	11	259,256	1	
Warwick	89,725	19	37,923	7	9,618	8	2,398	19	139,666	13	
Westmorland	24,528	15	3,156	5	607	7	154	17	28,447	4	
Wiltshire	132,357	13	22,323	7	2,682	11	1,389	13	158,753	9	
Worcester	65,031	4	13,379	8	3,384	3	1,819	17	83,614	12	
York	70,537	2	33,260	2	2,602	6	610	0	107,009	10	
	East Riding.	76,105	9	8,623	6	1,177	7	360	7	86,266	9
	North Riding.	185,658	9	65,887	16	21,825	13	8,596	16	281,968	14
West Riding.											
Total of England	£ 4,351,227	1	1,740,139	9	242,152	17	87,747	14	6,421,267	1	

AN ACCOUNT, &c.—*continued.*

Counties.	Land.	Dwelling-houses.	Mills, factories, &c.	Manerial profits, &c.	Total money levied by assessment, 1822-23.
WALES.					
	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.
Anglesey.....	13,355 14	1,247 0	373 3	26 13	15,002 10
Brecon.....	19,250 19	894 0	45 17	169 4	20,360 0
Cardigan.....	16,159 11	1,020 0	163 8	....	17,342 19
Carmarthen.....	28,274 9	2,722 3	460 5	349 10	31,806 7
Carnarvon.....	15,111 15	2,186 4	207 9	322 0	17,827 8
Denbigh.....	31,500 18	2,704 17	301 1	450 15	34,957 11
Flint.....	18,260 8	1,462 3	938 17	311 11	20,972 19
Glamorgan.....	30,297 14	4,756 3	1,781 1	1,469 6	38,304 4
Merioneth.....	15,431 11	277 15	10 13	....	15,719 19
Montgomery.....	29,587 9	2,399 14	464 12	34 7	32,486 2
Pembroke.....	20,784 4	2,598 9	436 12	6 3	23,825 8
Radnor.....	13,010 10	542 13	54 4	21 11	13,628 18
Total of Wales.....£	251,025 2	22,811 1	5,237 2	3,161 0	282,234 5
Total of England and Wales..... } £	4,602,252 3	1,762,950 10	247,389 19	90,908 14	6,703,501 6

Note.—The committee of 1824 made the following remark upon this table: “These returns having been required in a form to which parish officers were unaccustomed, the number of defaulting parishes is very considerable, and the returns which have been received cannot be entirely depended upon. The abstract which your committee have prepared of the returns to the order of 14th March, 1823, is therefore supplied in great part *by estimate*. They have assumed, that in the whole of each separate county, the proportion which the different descriptions of property assessed bear to each other, is the same as in that portion of each from which returns have been received.”

SUMMARY of an ACCOUNT of the Money expended for the Maintenance and Relief of the Poor, in every County of England and Wales, for the three Years ending 25th March, 1822, 1823, and 1824, respectively.

WALES.

Counties.	Years ending 25th March.		
	1822.	1823.	1824.
	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.
Anglesey.....	13,331 19	13,444 14	13,304 4
Brecon.....	16,365 15	16,375 15	16,249 6
Cardigan.....	14,884 16	14,418 19	14,577 1
Carmarthen.....	27,282 14	26,442 12	27,367 18
Carnarvon.....	16,225 10	15,029 5	15,364 11
Denbigh.....	32,658 9	29,555 14	30,212 17
Flint.....	19,470 2	17,327 13	17,604 8
Glamorgan.....	36,179 4	34,221 16	33,984 4
Merioneth.....	14,558 18	13,099 16	13,265 6
Montgomery.....	33,272 11	27,419 12	26,364 16
Pembroke.....	20,245 5	19,976 6	20,179 10
Radnor.....	11,973 19	11,091 18	11,274 17
Total of Wales.....£	256,449 2	238,404 0	239,748 18

ENGLAND.

Counties.	Years ending 25th March,					
	1822.		1823.		1824.	
	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.
Bedford.....	68,825	15	63,219	1	64,937	4
Berks.....	104,338	8	84,917	16	91,109	18
Buckingham.....	117,477	0	105,781	13	104,920	14
Cambridge.....	87,871	13	83,599	6	83,837	18
Chester.....	104,081	0	91,789	14	86,820	16
Cornwall.....	104,177	18	97,165	3	95,151	11
Cumberland.....	52,352	9	45,708	16	43,609	17
Derby.....	86,755	12	73,784	15	70,144	17
Devon.....	207,686	2	201,887	6	200,734	19
Dorset.....	85,646	17	78,124	8	78,676	17
Durham.....	91,182	0	80,973	1	76,701	17
Essex.....	254,837	1	238,484	14	247,289	18
Gloucester.....	152,994	1	138,246	13	130,060	11
Hereford.....	62,728	16	55,326	11	54,402	18
Hertford.....	89,129	3	83,834	12	82,313	7
Huntingdon.....	39,429	9	37,720	5	37,654	14
Kent.....	370,711	1	349,878	7	345,777	12
Lancaster.....	249,584	19	219,410	14	203,399	3
Leicester.....	124,244	7	96,397	17	88,162	15
Lincoln.....	168,786	9	156,184	2	156,552	16
Middlesex.....	582,055	5	527,625	6	523,386	13
Monmouth.....	26,039	13	24,261	15	23,237	3
Norfolk.....	256,043	11	250,634	4	262,393	10
Northampton.....	145,092	14	130,136	9	121,586	6
Northumberland.....	77,505	8	72,371	8	69,466	15
Nottingham.....	73,314	19	60,521	12	58,693	19
Oxford.....	115,646	14	105,197	18	106,390	6
Rutland.....	10,575	1	9,590	12	8,823	19
Salop.....	92,907	2	80,089	5	77,568	14
Somerset.....	153,905	19	147,429	17	145,556	17
Southampton.....	193,293	14	174,066	17	184,062	5
Stafford.....	133,701	11	111,947	17	109,943	19
Suffolk.....	240,383	14	231,051	15	246,829	16
Surrey.....	242,920	16	219,177	4	216,193	12
Sussex.....	262,246	2	246,826	12	241,073	10
Warwick.....	146,184	13	125,787	14	127,449	12
Westmorland.....	27,207	5	24,386	14	23,141	5
Wilts.....	163,167	18	139,851	16	150,891	14
Worcester.....	83,761	5	70,530	8	68,146	1
York { East Riding.....	97,521	18	93,435	9	89,486	3
York { North Riding.....	82,637	15	75,871	2	73,651	5
York { West Riding.....	273,300	12	232,227	12	226,865	18
Total of England.....£	6,102,253	9	5,534,554	0	5,497,149	4
Total of Wales.....£	256,449	2	238,404	0	239,748	18
Total of England and Wales...£	6,358,702	11	5,772,958	0	5,736,898	2

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

SLAVE TRADE.

Substance of Correspondence with Foreign Powers, relating to the Slave Trade, 1824-25. Presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of his Majesty, 1825.

SPAIN.

In consequence of instructions from Mr. Secretary Canning, founded on communications made by Mr. Kilbee, his majesty's commissary judge at the Havannah, of the prevalence of the slave trade at Cuba; from captain sir Thomas Cochrane, of the active commerce in slaves still carried on from Porto Rico; and from Mr. Consul Brackenbury, of the fitting out of vessels at Cadiz, evidently intended for the slave trade; strong representations were repeatedly made, during the year 1824, by the British minister at Madrid to the court of Spain, pointing out the glaring infraction of the engagements which his Catholic majesty had solemnly contracted for the abolition of the slave trade; and urging that fresh and immediate orders should be sent to the domestic and colonial authorities of Spain to put an end to that inhuman commerce. Assurances were returned by the Spanish government of their desire to throw every possible obstruction in the way of the traffic; and an order was made, that in the bond into which Spanish merchant vessels were required to enter, on receiving the royal license of navigation, the express obligation should thenceforward be inserted, of their not engaging in the said trade. No effectual check, however, appearing to have been given to it, the following instructions were transmitted by Mr. Secretary Canning to the right honourable Frederick Lamb

Foreign office, April 4, 1825.

In your communications with the government of Spain, you will take an early opportunity of adverting to the subject of the abolition of slave trade. You will express the regret which is experienced by his majesty, and the feeling of disappointment which has been excited in the parliament and people of England, by the statements which we continually receive, indicating the open and uncontrolled activity with which this traffic is still carried on by the subjects of Spain, not only in evasion, but in apparent defiance of the treaty concluded by his Catholic majesty

in 1817, for abolishing the African slave trade. Information from Cuba shews, that forty-four vessels, conveying (upon a fair calculation) above 16,000 slaves from Africa, arrived at the Havannah in the course of the last year, having landed their cargoes in that island. The authorities of the colony take no notice of these arrivals, and their negligence is seconded by the connivance of the naval officers, and by the apathy of the government of Spain. The captain-general of Cuba declares, that copies of the additional articles to the treaty, which articles were concluded so far back as December 1822, have never yet been transmitted to him by his government; and he has, accordingly, refused to act upon their stipulations. Vessel after vessel clears out from Cuba regularly for the coast of Africa, and, after an absence of the usual period for the voyage, returns laden with slaves, lands her cargo at the back of the island, and puts into the Havannah, declaring herself to have returned in ballast. These declarations are universally admitted by the local authority, without inquiry, and the ship is allowed to enter. The representations of his majesty's commissary judge at the Havannah are of no effect: he is either answered, that it does not lie within his sphere to demand an inquiry, or he is referred from one authority to another, and each authority declares that it does not feel itself called upon to interfere in the matter in any way that can be effectual: when all these evasions and excuses are exhausted, his majesty's commissary judge is told at times, that the question has been referred to Madrid; and the fact, that the articles of December 1822 have not yet been acted upon by the government of Spain, is of itself sufficient to prove how hopeless any reference from the authorities of the Havannah to the court of Madrid is become, upon a question of fulfilling the treaty for abolishing the slave trade. In the mean time the trade increases. The concerns of the traffic are carried on in shares. The adventurers in these shares do not conceal their interest in them; and it is notorious, that there is scarcely an individual in the department of the local government itself who is not directly or indirectly concerned in the trade. From the corre-

spondence in the archives of the British mission at Madrid, you will learn a detail of these facts, and also the notice which has been repeatedly given of them to the Spanish government by his majesty's representative at that court. I forward to you, herewith, copies of some further communications which have recently been received from Mr. Kilbee, and also a communication from the admiralty, dated March 19th, in corroboration of the statements which form the ground of this instruction. I particularly beg your attention to the letter of Messrs. Dutocq, merchants at the Havannah, adventurers in this traffic, descriptive of the open manner in which the trade is carried on, and of the protection of which they state themselves to be assured from the local authorities in the support of their lawless enterprises. I have his majesty's especial commands to desire that you will, referring to the several points upon this subject of deep and general interest on which the Spanish government have already been addressed, ineffectually, on the part of his majesty, frame a strong remonstrance to the government of Spain, calling upon his Catholic majesty to carry into effect with good faith the engagements into which he solemnly entered for the abolition of the traffic in slaves. I am, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

The Right Hon. Frederick Lamb,
&c. &c. &c."

PORTUGAL.

Communications from the late sir George Collier, from capt. Owen, and from lieut.-gen. sir Lowry Cole (governor of the Mauritius), state, that the slave trade was carrying on to a great extent among the cluster of islands on the western coast of Africa, near the equator, as well as in the several Portuguese settlements, between Cape Corientes and Mosambique, on the eastern coast. In a conference between sir Edward Thornton and the marquis of Palmella, at Lisbon, 5th March, 1824, on the subject of the payment, withheld notwithstanding repeated representations, of the Portuguese share of the expenses of the joint commission at Sierra Leone for the abolition of the slave trade, the marquis observed, that in the uncertainty of the future relations with Brazil, he did not wish the government of Portugal to agitate any questions with respect to the slave trade commissions, but that, if there were any one point which he could almost be willing to except, it would be that of consenting at once to the total abolition of the slave trade, in which Portugal could have no interest in case of the independence of the Brazils, and the cessation of which might enable her to turn her colonies to some other account. On receiving sir Edward Thornton's report of these observations, Mr. Secretary Canning addressed to him the following despatch:—

Foreign Office, May 13, 1824.

Sir,—Your despatches on the slave trade, to the 22d of March, have been received, and laid before the king. I have considered with the attention which they deserve the important expressions which you report the marquis of Palmella to have used when urged upon the subject of the trifling expenses of the mixed commission at Sierra Leone,—‘that in the uncertainty of the future relations with Brazil, he did not wish the government of Portugal to agitate any questions with respect to the slave trade commissions, but that, if there were any one point which he could be almost willing to except, it would be that of consenting at once to the total abolition of the slave trade, in which Portugal could have no interest in case of the independence of the Brazils, and the cessation of which might enable her to turn her colonies to some other account.’ His majesty's government cannot pass by without notice so fair an opening as is thus presented for an overture towards the abolition of the slave trade on the part of Portugal; and his majesty commands me to instruct you to avail yourself of these expressions of the Portuguese minister for that purpose. Portugal has thus unequivocally declared that she is in no way interested in the continuance of the slave trade, and his majesty is willing to accept any motive as a plea on the part of his ancient ally for proceeding in that line of humane policy which every other nation in Europe has already adopted, and which is spreading with rapidity throughout the great continent of America. Scarcely, however, does a month pass in which we do not receive distressing proofs of the prevalence of the slave trade under the flag of Portugal; a trade at all times an unhappy stain upon that flag; and now, by the confession of its government, no longer beneficial to the Portuguese nation. I furnish you with an extract of a report, drawn up by the late sir George Collier, respecting that cluster of islands on the western coast of Africa, near the equator, of which the most considerable are St. Thomas and Princes; and a copy of a letter from captain Owen upon the state of the Portuguese settlements on the eastern coast of the same quarter of the globe. Both these documents give ample proof of the existence of the slave trade at those settlements, where now the marquis of Palmella seems to anticipate an extinction of that trade as a means of rendering the colonies more serviceable to Portugal. Recalling to the recollection of the marquis of Palmella the sentiments declared on this subject by his most faithful majesty's plenipotentiaries at Vienna, in the year 1815, and expressing the gratification which is felt by his majesty at the repetition of those sentiments by M. de Palmella on the present

“ occasion, you will state the readiness of his
 “ majesty’s government to enter into a nego-
 “ tiation immediately with that of Portugal
 “ for the abolition of the slave trade by the
 “ latter power; and you will endeavour to ob-
 “ tain a project of a treaty from the marquess of
 “ Palmella, which you will transmit without
 “ delay to your government at home for fur-
 “ ther consideration. Earnestly, however, as
 “ we desire to have the general abolition of the
 “ slave trade sealed by the concurrence of the
 “ crown of Portugal, you must not hold out any
 “ expectation that parliament would be induced
 “ to purchase that concurrence by pecuniary
 “ sacrifices. The government of his most faith-
 “ ful majesty being now absolved from the duty
 “ which the interests (or imagined interests) of
 “ Portugal imposed upon them; and admitting
 “ that the cessation of the slave trade would in-
 “ flict no detriment upon Portugal, are by their
 “ own shewing deprived of any pretence for
 “ that basis for the negotiation. But single
 “ among civilised nations as Portugal is in
 “ maintaining a practice no longer necessary or
 “ gainful to her, it may surely be hoped that
 “ from the dictates of humanity alone, and in
 “ consonance to the universal feeling of Europe,
 “ she will seek to purge herself from a stain
 “ as once so gratuitous and so peculiar.”

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

The Right Hon. Sir Edward Thornton,
 G. C. B. &c. &c.

In pursuance of the instructions contained in
 the above despatch, Sir Edward Thornton, on
 the 15th June, 1824, addressed to the Marquis
 of Palmella a letter, in which, after reminding
 the Marquis of the expressions used by him on
 the 5th of March, he proceeds thus—

“ I could not fail to communicate to his ma-
 “ jesty’s government observations thus made
 “ by your excellency, so important to the great
 “ cause of humanity, and so honourable to the
 “ government of his most faithful majesty,
 “ which thus renewed the declaration already
 “ announced at the congress of Vienna, that it
 “ was actuated by the same generous sentiments
 “ against this odious traffic as were now com-
 “ mon to the whole civilised world; and that if
 “ he had hitherto acted upon them but partially,
 “ it was from the same regard to the interests,
 “ or imagined interests, of a part of his majesty’s
 “ subjects as had so long retarded the accom-
 “ plishment of this great work of justice and of
 “ humanity in every other European nation
 “ possessing colonies, and engaged on their ac-
 “ count in the traffic of slaves. His majesty
 “ has seen with the highest interest and grati-
 “ fication the repetition of those sentiments,
 “ and I have received directions to state the
 “ readiness of his majesty’s government to
 “ enter into a negotiation immediately with that
 “ of Portugal for the abolition of the slave trade

“ by the latter power. It would be a great
 “ gratification personally to me, if your excel-
 “ lency were enabled to communicate to me the
 “ project of a treaty on this most interesting
 “ subject; and I should regard it as one of the
 “ most auspicious circumstances of my life to
 “ have my name united with that of your ex-
 “ cellency in the consummation of this great
 “ work.”

It was not however until September, and
 after he had been requested by Sir E. Thornton
 to give him answers upon all points which re-
 mained unanswered, and, particularly his letter
 of the 15th of June, that the Portuguese minis-
 ter addressed the following note to the British
 ambassador:—

Foreign Office, 14th Sept., 1824.

“ Sir, Although the dispositions of his ma-
 “ jesty’s government in respect to the abstract
 “ measure of the abolition of the slave trade
 “ (which I have already made known to your
 “ excellency) have not in any degree varied,
 “ yet I must state, in answer to the letter
 “ which your excellency did me the honour to
 “ address to me under date of the 15th of last
 “ June, that at the present moment, and in the
 “ state of disturbance in which Brazil now is,
 “ the abolition of the traffic would be ill-timed;
 “ in addition to which it would have a bad ap-
 “ pearance if both the contracting parties were
 “ to discuss in such circumstances so important
 “ an affair, and which affects the interests of
 “ Brazil alone. The unhappy schism which
 “ exists between the two parts of the Portu-
 “ guese monarchy, preventing every improve-
 “ ment in Brazil, retards of course the measure
 “ of the abolition, which could only be effected
 “ by the gradual introduction of such measures
 “ and dispositions as would prevent its having
 “ bad consequences for his majesty’s subjects in
 “ those dominions. In the hopes of better
 “ times enabling the king my master to fulfil
 “ the generous intentions which he has already
 “ so often manifested,

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) The MARQUESS OF PALMELLA.

His Excellency Sir Edward Thornton, &c.

BRASIL.

Various representations were made during the
 year 1824 to the government of Rio de Janeiro,
 by Mr. Consul-general Chamberlain, upon the
 subject of the false mode of measuring slave
 vessels practised at Bahia, by which they were
 able to obtain royal passports to ship a greater
 number of negroes than they ought to carry
 according to their real tonnage. In one case
 described by Mr. Consul-general Chamberlain,
 four Portuguese or Brazilian ships (adjudged
 lately by the court of mixed commission at
 Sierra Leone) formed a bulk, according to certi-
 ficates for the payment of the contributions for the
 “ faroes,” of 446 tons, which would have

entitled them to load 1106 slaves. But the certificates and passports for the trade found on board those said ships made the quantity of their tonnage amount to 672, and authorised them to take on board 1677 slaves. This proved an excess of 225½ on 446½ tons, and of 561 on 1106 slaves! The practice was defended by the Brazilian government, upon the ground that there were two modes of measuring vessels, the one adopted for merchant ships generally, the other for slave ships. On Mr. Consul-general Chamberlain having communicated to Mr. Secretary Canning the final answer of M. de Carvalho e Mello on the subject, Mr. Secretary Canning addressed to Mr. Consul-general Chamberlain the following letter:—

“ Foreign Office, March 16, 1825.

“ Sir, I have received your despatch, marked Slave Trade, of the 11th December, 1824, containing M. de Carvalho's answer on the subject of the *over-rating of tonnage of Brazilian vessels employed in the legal slave trade.* When his most faithful majesty was first urged by his majesty's representative at Rio de Janeiro to put an end to the slave trade from Africa, it was answered, that the trade should be abolished, on the part of Portugal and Brazil, so soon as the step could be taken without injury to the latter country; and that, in the meanwhile, the trade should be circumscribed in its limits, and mitigated in the mode of carrying it on. In pursuance of these principles, the treaty of the 19th of February, 1810, the convention of the 21st of January, 1815, and that of the 28th of July, 1817, were severally concluded, and the alvará of the 26th of January, 1818, was, after much correspondence on the part of this government, promulgated as the law of Portugal and Brazil for carrying into effect the stipulations of these compacts. One point in the mode of carrying on the traffic calling particularly for amendment, had been the practice of stowing away human beings in slave ships chained together so close that in all cases extreme misery, and in very many cases madness and death, were the result; but the 6th article of the alvará declared, that in future ‘the number of slaves shall be regulated according to the tonnage of the vessel, in the proportion of five to every two tons, according to the ancient measure.’ The expectations, however, which the British government naturally entertained of the effect of this order have been entirely disappointed; for upon the investigation by his majesty's commissioners at Sierra Leone of the cases of the slave ships,—the *Nova Sorte*, the *Conceição*, the *Lisboa*, and the *Commerciant*,—it was found that the slaves on board were in far greater numbers, in proportion to the regular and actual admeasurement of the vessel, than according to the alvará were allowed. The commissioners, having reported

“ the circumstances to me, you were instructed to desire an inquiry into the matter from the Brazilian government. M. de Carvalho e Mello answered you, that there were two modes of measuring vessels, one for merchant vessels in general, and one for slave vessels; by which proceeding, as you remarked, human beings could be crammed into a smaller space than that known to be occupied by their weight in lead. The minister, however, assured you, that in future a fixed and regular mode of admeasurement should be employed, and which would guard against the inconveniences of which you had complained. M. de Carvalho has finally, and after a long delay, given to you an explanation in detail of the method used to find the tonnage of vessels employed in the licit slave trade; by which method a vessel of about 139 tons real burthen is allowed to carry 750 slaves, and to rate herself at 300 tons. The principle thus avowed by the Brazilian minister, instead of remedying, justifies the evil, by the extraordinary process of allowing a fictitious tonnage to a slave vessel. You will make urgent representation to the Brazilian government upon this subject. You will represent to them, that the law, as it now stands, is utterly at variance with the principles of humanity declared in the solemn compacts already recited. That it by no means fulfils the promise officially made to you by M. de Carvalho e Mello, in August 1824, engaging that the evil complained of should be remedied. And that, as it does not appear to be at all consonant to the desire to alleviate the miseries of the slave trade, which has so often been reported by you as prevailing in the breast of the highest authority in Brazil, his majesty's government trust that this most unjustifiable decision will be reconsidered, and that a decree will be immediately issued which shall do away one at least among the evils justly complained of as existing in the details of the practice of slave importations from Africa.

(Signed) HENRY CHAMBERLAIN, Esq. &c. &c. &c.

By return from Mr. Vice-consul Tollet, it appears, that in the year 1823, 2672 slaves were imported into, and 1,003 slaves exported from, Bahia.

Several Brazilian slave vessels, having been seen on the coast northward of the equator, and in the year 1823, 1833 slaves having been imported into the port of Maranham, chiefly from the Cape de Verds, Bissao, Cacheo, and the neighbourhood, strong representations were made to the Brazilian government on the subject, and a promise obtained that it should be inquired into. In communicating to Mr. Consul-general Chamberlain the following extract of a letter

from captain Woolcombe, of his majesty's ship Victor; Mr. Secretary Canning says he is willing to believe that the deplorable condition of the unfortunate slaves, as described in that letter, is so totally at variance with the instructions and positive orders of the Brazilian government, that when the British Consul-general communicates it to them, due inquiry will be made into the transaction; and that, wherever blame may be found to rest, the persons concerned will be visited with such punishment as shall be calculated to prevent for the future such an aggravation of misery as had been entailed on those unfortunate beings.

(Extract.)

Captain Woolcombe to Commodore Bullen.
H. M. S. Victor, Man of War Bay, Island of St. Thomas, 20th August, 1824.

"In obedience to your order of the 29th July last, I yesterday arrived at this anchorage, and immediately commenced watering, which I shall have completed by noon, and shall proceed again to my cruising ground as soon as the boat returns from the town, which takes this up and lands some Portuguese. I have been so fortunate as to seize a Brazilian brigantine, named Diana, with 143 slaves on board at the time of seizure. Of all vessels I was on board of, this was in the most deplorable condition; the stench from the accumulation of dirt, joined to that of so many human beings packed together in a small space (the men all ironed in pairs), was intolerable; and to add to this scene of misery, the small-pox had broken out among them, nine had died before we took possession, and one almost immediately after our first boat got alongside. In consulting the surgeon, I was sorry to find nothing could be done for them, it being impossible to take them into the ship, as many of the Kroomen had

not had the small-pox, and the chances are, that, even if we had done so, it would not have checked it in the others left on board, whom it had not then made its appearance, as it was nearly sunset when we got hold of her after a chase in the wind's eye from 7 A. M. We kept her by us all night, and in the morning gave her as good a cleaning and white-washing as we could, and then sent her off to Sierra Leone, under charge of Mr. Young, who has been long on the coast, and having taken up prizes before, perfectly understands how to treat the slaves. But I must say I have great fear that they will lose a great many on their way, although great care was taken that no one should go on board who had not had this disease. I hope no accident will happen to any of our own people gone up in her. I have given Mr. Young orders to bring his people down Cape Coast by the first conveyance. Commodore Bullen, Commander-in-Chief of H. M. S. and vessels on the coast of Africa."

In a letter from Mr. Consul-general Chamberlain to Mr. Secretary Canning, dated Rio de Janeiro, 4th January, 1825, and containing a detailed account of the number of negroes brought into the port of Rio de Janeiro during the year 1824, and the subjoined comparative statement of the importations during the years 1823 and 1824, Mr. Chamberlain observes, that on the eastern coast of Africa there appeared to have been a small diminution in the numbers embarked, with a vast increase of mortality during the voyage; whilst on the western the trade had flourished eminently, the numbers embarked having risen from about 12,000 to near 22,000, an excess of 9,690 over the number embarked during the preceding year. He also remarks that the mortality exceeded the average ratio of that year.

A Comparative Statement of the Number of Slaves Imported into Rio de Janeiro during the Years 1823 and 1824.

	1823.			1824.			Decrease.			Increase.			
	Em-barked.	Died.	Landed.	Em-barked.	Died.	Landed.	Em-barked.	Died.	Landed.	Em-barked.	Died.	Landed.	
From western coast of Africa	12,052	530	11,349	21,742	1016	20,376	9,690	486	9,377				
From eastern coast of Africa	7,448	858	6,590	6,941	1483	5,458	507	1,132	625				
From Bahia & Pernambuco	983		983	528		528	455		455				
	20,483	1388	18,922	29,211	2499	26,712	902	1,587	9,690	1111	9,377		
				Deduct decrease.....						962		1,587	
				Total increased in 1824 over 1823 ...						8,728	1111	7,790	

NETHERLANDS.

On the 24th May, 1824, viscount Granville, at the Hague, addressed an official note to the comte de Reede, expressing the gratification felt by the English government at the highly honourable and active conduct of the governor of Surinam, in the execution of the orders of his sovereign, in the case of the French brig la Légère, detained and sent into Surinam, with 353 slaves, by sir T. Cochrane; representing the expediency of augmenting the number of Netherland ships of war on that station, to prevent the incursions of illegal slave traders; and regretting that information had been received by the English government respecting sixty-nine newly-imported African slaves, who, either for want of sufficient zeal on the part of the fiscal of Surinam, or from the negligence or connivance of persons employed under him, had not been discovered; the parties accused of importing them having also escaped, because no decisive measures were taken by the fiscal, on whom that duty rested, to secure them.

On the 25th of May, 1824, viscount Granville addressed another official note to the comte de Reede, stating that it appeared that the regulations of the Netherland government, with respect to their cruisers on the Surinam station, were of a nature to discourage the capture of ships suspected of being engaged in the illicit traffic of slaves; because, in the event of the release of any vessel which might have been detained on suspicion, the commander of the ship of war by whom such detention might have been caused was exposed to an action for damages; whilst, on the other hand, no compensation for that risk was allowed him by any bounty or prize money in the case of the vessel being condemned.

On the 12th July, 1824, the comte de Reede answers lord Granville's official note of the 24th May; accounts for the momentary absence of the Netherland sloop of war, Kemphaar, which had occasioned the clandestine disembarkation of the sixty-nine slaves at Surinam; states that the minister of marine had been instructed to maintain at Surinam a cruiser in aid of one of the ships of war stationed in the West Indies; and with regard to the complaints against the fiscal of Surinam, says that information received made it evident that every means had been put in practice, which legal forms permitted, to obtain possession of the sixty-nine slaves which had been clandestinely imported, and to apprehend the individual by whom they had been introduced. The comte de Reede concludes by declaring, that his majesty, the king of the Netherlands, was desirous to strengthen the stipulations of the treaty between the two kingdoms by all the means which could be conducive to the extirpation of the shameful traffic in question; and that the ulterior adoption of more severe and repressive measures at that moment formed the object of his majesty's deliberations.

On the 30th of October, 1824, the following message was sent by the king of the Netherlands to the states-general:

“Brussels, October 30, 1824.”
 “High and mighty lords,”
 “We have deemed it necessary, for the more effectual suppression of the slave trade, to strengthen the penal enactments contained in the law of the 20th November, 1818.
 “The project of law that we here present to the consideration of your high mightinesses tends to this effect. We shall adopt, besides, measures suitable for the colonies of the state, in order more and more to check this commerce, and, at all events, to facilitate the discovery of the persons who are illegally engaged in it.
 “Whereupon, high mightinesses, we pray God to have you in his holy and worthy keeping.

(Signed) “WILLIAM.”

Project of law.

“We, William, &c.”
 “To all whom these presents may come, greeting.”
 “We make known that,
 “Having deemed it expedient to adopt, for the repression and extinction of the slave trade, measures more effectual than those contained in the law of the 20th November, 1818, for these reasons our council of state, in understanding and concert with the states-general, have decreed, and we decree—
 “Art. 1.—Those who shall have been guilty of the acts set forth in articles 1 and 2 of the law of the 20th November, 1818, shall be punished by a fine of ten thousand florins, and of fifteen years of forced labour; and the vessels which shall have been engaged in the said illicit traffic shall also be confiscated.
 “2.—The acts set forth in articles 3 and 4 of the aforesaid law shall be punished with five years' imprisonment.

“3.—In the exceptions stated in article 5 of the aforesaid law, is not included the transport or importation into the colonies of our kingdom of slaves coming from foreign colonies where their importation direct from Africa is permitted.
 “4.—The ulterior enactments of the law above set forth are confirmed.
 “We command,” &c.

On the 18th December, the above project of a law passed the second chamber of the states-general unanimously.

Mr. Secretary Canning having on the 30th November, 1824, in a despatch to A. S. Douglas, desired that Mr. Douglas would procure and send him, for the information of his majesty's government, a copy of the Belgian law of the 20th November, 1818, referred to in the fore-

going project, Mr. Douglas accordingly procured and sent it. It follows:—

Law of the 20th November, 1818, containing Penal Enactments to Prevent and Repress the Slave Trade.

“ We, William, &c.

“ To all those who shall see the present greeting, be it known:—

“ Having taken into consideration, not only that, by our resolution of the 15th June, 1814, we have put into operation previous measures to repress the slave trade, but also that, by article 8 of the treaty of the 13th August, 1814, as well as that, by the first article of the ulterior treaty of the 4th May last, respectively concluded with Great Britain, we engaged ourselves, in the most solemn manner, effectually to repress and prevent by penal enactments this commerce so disgraceful to humanity;

“ For these reasons our council of state, in understanding and concert with the states-general, have decreed, and we decree:—

“ Art. 1.—Reckoning from the publication of the present law, it shall not be permitted to any of our subjects, nor generally to any individual who shall be within our kingdom, to carry on the slave trade, nor to take part directly or indirectly in this commerce, either by arming or equipping vessels or ships for that purpose, or by assisting in the same object, in the armament of any national or other ships, whether by freighting or preparing them knowingly for that use, or by going to seek or buy, to sell or exchange, to introduce or cause to be introduced, openly or clandestinely, negroes, as slaves, in any colony or establishment of the Netherlands, situated out of Europe, or even in the colonies or foreign establishments, under pain, for the violators of the law and their accomplices, of a fine of 5000 florins, and, besides that, imprisonment for five years.

“ 2.—With the same penalties shall be punished the captains of ships, pilots, and supercargoes, who shall have taken service on board of a ship knowing that it was employed in the slave trade, and who shall have thus exercised or favoured this illegal commerce, whether on their own account or on the account of others.

“ 3.—The sailors and other people of the crew who shall have had knowledge that the ship in which they served was destined to carry on or to favour the slave trade, shall be punished with an imprisonment of six months at least, and of two years at most. Those who afterwards discover it, are from that moment released and discharged from their engagement, and they shall be bound, under the same penalty, to quit the service as soon as they can do so without danger.

“ 4.—The penalty of imprisonment, men-

tioned in article 3, shall likewise be incurred by all insurers, ship-brokers, and others, who shall have insured any vessels or ships, or who shall have favoured their equipment in any manner whatsoever, knowing that they were destined for the slave trade; and, moreover, their patent shall instantly be suppressed without the possibility of a similar one being ever again given to them.

“ 5.—The penal enactments above set forth shall, however, in no way be applicable to a case where slaves actually existing in the colonies, or their children born or to be born, shall happen to be transported in the West Indies, be it from one colony of the Netherlands to another, or from a foreign colony to another, or from a colony of the Netherlands to a foreign colony, or from a foreign colony to one belonging to the Netherlands, or, in short, from any colony in the West Indies to another part. We declare, on the contrary, very expressly, that no one shall, in any way, be molested on this point, seeing that the said transports are not included in the prohibitions of the present law.

“ 6.—In like manner the penalties enacted by the present decree shall in no way be made applicable to those who shall have saved and assisted any vessel loaded with slaves, found in distress, or who shall have received on board slaves embarked in such a vessel, provided that on their arrival at the first port where they may happen to put in, the captain or owner makes a declaration of the circumstance within twenty-four hours.

“ We command and ordain that the present law be inserted in the official journal, and that our ministers, and other authorities whom it concerns, see it strictly put into execution.

“ Given at Brussels, 20th November, in the year 1818, and of our reign the fifth.

(Signed) “ WILLIAM.

“ By order of the king,

“ J. G. MEY VAN STRECKERTH.”

On the 21st March, 1825, the comte de Reede addressed to A. S. Douglas, esquire, an answer to lord Granville's note of the 25th of May, 1824, having in view to induce the Netherlands' government to adopt some regulation calculated to promote a more rigorous execution of the instructions issued for the suppression of the slave trade, on the part of the officers of the Netherlands' marine. The comte de Reede states, that his majesty the king of the Netherlands had received the representation favourably, and had decreed, by a resolution of the 14th March, 1825, that henceforward the share of government in the seizure of vessels of the Netherlands, or of England, taking part in the slave trade, the confiscation of which should have been pronounced by the mixed tribunals, should be adjudged to the officers and crew of the ships

of the Netherlands' marine which should have captured them, deducting, however, the charges of administration of the tribunal at Sierra Leone. His majesty had moreover ordained, that the net produce of slave vessels taken by virtue of the law of 23d December, 1814, should also be given to the officers and crew of the ships of war of the Netherlands, without deduction of the share which, according to the arrangements in the arrêt of the 13th December, 1818, should be levied for the profit of the treasury.

In a despatch, dated "Foreign Office, April 2, 1825," Mr. Secretary Canning desires Mr. Douglas to express to the government of the Netherlands the gratification which the king had felt at this renewed proof of the honourable and humane desire of the king of the Netherlands to carry into full effect the stipulations of the treaty of 1818.

FRANCE.

On the 28th May, 1824, Mr. Secretary Canning transmitted to sir Charles Stuart an extract of a letter from the governor of the Mauritius, shewing that the slave trade was carried on to a great extent, under the French flag, on the eastern coast of Africa, and giving reason to conclude that no effectual discouragement was offered to it on the part of the governor of Bourbon. Sir C. Stewart is instructed to make a representation to the French government on the subject, and to urge them to issue such orders as may be best adapted for doing away the use of the French flag and French capital in the prosecution of that illegal and disgraceful traffic. On the 1st of June, 1824, sir C. Stewart made the required representation to the vicomte de Chateaubriand; and, on the 8th of June, received an answer that the French government would lose no time in causing inquiries to be made respecting the matter.

In a despatch to Mr. Secretary Canning, dated "Paris, June 23, 1824," sir C. Stewart describes an attempt of the American minister to negotiate with M. de Villèle a convention for the purpose of uniting the endeavours of the two governments to effect the complete abolition of the slave trade, which he was desirous to ground upon the principles recognised in the treaties between Great Britain and America on the same subject. The recognition of the mutual right of search, and the promulgation of legislative enactments declaring this crime to be piracy, being the basis of the proposition, sir C. Stewart observes that it was not to be expected that the overtures of the American minister would be very cordially received by M. de Villèle; and therefore that he was fully prepared to hear from the American minister that this communication had not led to a satisfactory result; since M. de Villèle declared that the urgent representations of the British government upon the subject had given a colour to the question which did not leave him at liberty to

follow the course he could desire. Under these circumstances, sir C. Stewart availed himself of an opportunity to observe to M. de Villèle, that no alternative remained but for the French ministers to take the lead in the negotiation, and to press other powers to effect the abolition with the same zeal which had distinguished the governments of Great Britain and America. That, he said, was rendered impossible by faults already committed, which compelled him to confine his efforts to the execution of the laws which had already been enacted, by encouraging the zeal of the officers to intercept the slave traders at sea, and by enforcing the application of the penalties incurred by those who might be convicted before the tribunals of participation in such undertakings. Sir C. Stewart concludes his despatch by observing, that as he believes M. de Villèle repeated the same language more fully to the American minister, this overture would at least serve to shew the new difficulties with which the friends of the abolition had to contend.

On the 6th of August, 1824, Mr. Secretary Canning writes to sir Charles Stuart:—"I forward to your excellency the extract of a letter from Guadaloupe, containing some additional facts respecting the trade in slaves carried on in that island, and one instance, La Louisa, of peculiar atrocity, which seems to merit a rigid examination. With the view of such examination, you will communicate the paper in question to the French government, expressing a hope that the delinquents will be punished with the severity which their conduct shall appear to deserve." The extract of a letter above alluded to is as follows:—

Extract of a letter from Guadaloupe, dated May 1824.

"You have herewith enclosed a communication which attests the continuation of cruelties practised against the unfortunate Africans. I warrant the authenticity of it. There are strong cruisers commissioned against the slave traders; but they laugh at them, and arrive notwithstanding. It might almost be said that the cruisers protect them. The schooner La Louisa, captain Armand, arrived at L'Anse à la Barque, St. Ann's, Guadaloupe, during the first days of April 1824, with a cargo of 200 negroes, the remainder of a complement of 275 which the vessel had on board. The vessel not being large enough to accommodate so large a number of men, the overplus were consigned alive to the waves by the captain! Nature shudders at so atrocious a deed. The principal owners are Messrs. De Rancé and co., and their partners Messrs. Moses Hart and co., Pedemonte; all merchants at Pointe à Pitre. Captain Armand says that he left, on the coast of Galines, — 1. The ship La Sabine, captain Auvernavy, belonging to the port of Bourdeaux, and fitted out at Pointe

“ à Pitre by Messrs. G. Segond and Sons. 2. The brig *Auguste*, captain Allair, fitted out at Pointe à Pitre by Messrs. Vergnus and Lemoine, Dourneau, Duclos, Lamoisse and Darusse, and Burtet and Collineau. 3. The schooner *La Daphne*, captain Maresten, owners Messrs. Dourneau and Duclos, fitted out likewise at Pointe à Pitre. Hence it would seem as if the prohibition had only been made to encourage the crime.”

In obedience to the directions contained in Mr. Secretary Canning's letter, sir C. Stuart addressed a representation to the French government upon the subject, and on the following day received an answer from the baron de Damas, in which he says:—“ You cannot doubt, sir, that the king's government feel a strong indignation at the recital of such atrocious deeds, and which I thank you for having imparted to me. They will become, on the part of the administration, the subject of an inquiry as strict as unlimited, which shall likewise be extended to the three other vessels mentioned in the same communication.”

On the 16th of August, 1824, the baron de Damas addressed a letter to sir Charles Stuart, in which he charges three English vessels, the *St. George*, the *Caledonia*, and the *Ranger*, with having been engaged in the slave trade. This charge being communicated to the English government, an assurance is given that the most rigid inquiry will be instituted without delay, with a view of punishing the British delinquents, if any, with the severity to which they were subjected by the laws of England, for carrying on the slave trade. An inquiry being accordingly instituted, it appears, by a letter from commodore Bullen to J. W. Croker, esq., dated “ H. M. S. Maidstone, Sierra Leone, 10th Nov., 1824,” that the suspicion raised against those vessels was entirely groundless. “ This unfounded charge,” commodore Bullen observes, “ has, in my opinion, been merely exhibited by the commander of the French squadron on this coast to endeavour, by a counter-statement, to palliate the infamous conduct of his countrymen, who openly avow their participation in the slave trade, and of whom I have had the honour to transmit to their lordships the most ample details.”

On the 23d of August, the baron de Damas informed sir C. Stuart that the minister of marine had given directions that a strict inquiry should be instituted at Guadaloupe respecting the atrocious act imputed to the captain of *La Louisa*; and that instructions had been forwarded to the ports of France for the purpose of attaching the masters and owners of the three other vessels. In forwarding this letter to Mr. Secretary Canning, sir C. Stuart observes, that it shews a more decisive inclination to put down the slave trade than any of the communications he had received on the same subject.

On the 3d September, 1824, Mr. Secretary

Canning addressed a letter to the prince de Polignac, announcing and apologising for the unauthorised capture, by his majesty's sloop *Delight*, in Passandava bay, Madagascar, of the French vessel *La Cécile*, employed in the slave trade, and stating that orders had been sent out to the officer commanding on the Cape station to deprive captain Hay of the command of the *Delight*, and to send him to England to account for disobedience of his instructions, which positively enjoined him not to meddle with the French flag.—“ But,” Mr. Canning adds, “ the French government must perceive in the circumstances attending the vessel in question, and in the other facts communicated by captain Nourse, that a slave trade under the French flag is still carried on in the East Indian seas, and particularly in the island of Bourbon, which traffic calls loudly for the interference of the French government at home to produce its entire suppression. While, therefore, the undersigned is commanded by the king, his master, to signify the regret with which his majesty has witnessed the circumstances of the capture of the *Cécile*, he is at the same time to express to the prince de Polignac his majesty's most earnest hope that his most Christian majesty will be induced to send out to his colonies such orders as shall be more effectual than those already issued have proved in the repression of this most infamous traffic, which is thus covered by his most Christian majesty's flag, and carried on in his most Christian majesty's territory.”

Mr. Consul Barnes addressed a note to Mr Consul-general Morier, dated “ Nantes, Aug. 13, 1824;” in which he says, “ French vessels continue to sail for the Mauritius without the necessary certificate, and there are three now on the eve of sailing. The slave trade increases, several have returned this week, having made successful voyages. There are eight vessels now fitting out, one, the *Alcide*, the vessel you made particular inquiry about in January last. Two fine vessels, built expressly for that trade, were launched during the week.” Sir C. Stuart communicated the circumstances to the Baron de Damas, and received for answer that the particulars had been transmitted to the minister of marine, with a request to him to inquire into the facts, and, if they were exact, to take the necessary measures to bring their authors to punishment.

The capture by French men of war of several French slave ships, and their confiscation by the French authorities at Cayenne, Bourbon, and Guyana, as announced in the *Moniteur*, &c. is noticed in sir C. Stuart's despatches, of various dates.

On the 13th of November, 1824, the following letter, and the three subjoined enclosures, were sent by Mr. Secretary Canning to the hon. A. Percy:—

“ Foreign Office, November 13, 1824.

“ Sir,—I furnish you with an extract of a com-

munication from the commodore of his majesty's ships off the coast of Africa, giving the account of a slave-trade now carrying on under the flag of France with scandalous publicity upon that coast. The forbearance of his majesty's officers was highly praiseworthy, in not forcing themselves on board of the *Louis*, when taunted by expressions calculated and evidently intended to irritate them. On board of the *Sabine*, the officers pointed out, voluntarily, in detail, to the British officers, the apartments for the male and for the female slaves, and every other circumstance on board, as it were in defiance and derision of our attempts to put an end to their illegal traffic. It is the earnest wish and hope of the King's government, that the era of the reign of his most Christian majesty Charles the tenth, may be signalised by some decisive measure, (for the suppression of practices which are a scandal to the flag of France,) in co-operation with those so many other Christian powers, whose joint efforts have been directed to the abolition of the slave-trade. I am, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

The honourable Algernon Percy,

&c. &c.

First enclosure.

Commodore Bullen to J. W. Croker, esq.

H. M. S. *Maldstone*, Cape Coast, Gold Coast,
22d July, 1824.

(Extract.)

I left Accraah on the 6th ult. arrived at Fernando Po on the 10th, and remained there to complete my water and obtain firewood until the 14th, when I proceeded to cruise in the Bight of Biafra. On the 16th I sent my launch, barge, and pinnace, under the command of lieutenant Morton, with directions to examine most minutely the *Bonny* with its branches, Old Calabar, Cameroons, and adjacent coasts, continuing in the ship to cruise between Cape Formosa and the latter river, without falling in with any thing except the two French vessels described in the enclosed list, which were boarded by me off the river St. Nicholas, two successive days, after a chase of five or six hours previous to their shewing any colours. They were both evidently fitted up for the reception of slaves, and as a cloak had cleared out for the island of St. Thomas with a general cargo for trade (a mere pretence, to which I find they all resort to save the honour of their nation), with an intention of calling at the *Bonny*, as they stated, to obtain water and refreshments, but doubtless for the purpose of making arrangements for the reception of their cargo of human flesh: in this opinion I am fully confirmed by the circumstances related to me on the return of my boats. The *Messieurs* *Henriette* had come direct from St. Domingo de Cuba, laden most probably with Spanish property, at which place, it appeared by reference to the log of her former voyage, she had disembarked her cargo in March 1823, and so early an hour as six A. M. and in a

very short space of time; without coming to an anchor. What could this have been but a cargo of slaves? The examination was conducted in the mildest manner, and, to prevent the shadow of a complaint, I caused the papers of each to be endorsed to that effect. To point out to their lordships the extent and importance of the French slave-trade in this quarter, I have enclosed a list of those boarded by my boats during their absence. They were fitted up with every thing necessary for the reception of their slaves; and so little did they appear to fear detection, that the officers of the *Le Sabine* voluntarily conducted ours over their vessel, pointing out the different apartments for the males and females, and explaining every circumstance connected with it. Her cargo was to consist of five hundred, which were then held in readiness for embarkation at a short distance from the town, and it was reported, that in two or three days, she was to take them on board and sail for Bourbon: and that their lordships may be in full possession of every circumstance relating to them, I consider it my duty to state, that, on my boats proceeding to visit the *Le Louis*, then lying in the Old Calabar without any colours hoisted, her captain (*Oiseau*), although he must have been fully aware they were English from their colours, and their having visited the vessel near him, refused to allow of their coming alongside, at the same time making every preparation for resistance, arming and arranging his crew on the fore-castle, brandishing his sword, presenting his pistols; and, using the most taunting and provoking expressions, daring and defying them to attempt it; being supported in his bravado by the consciousness that the strictness of the English officers' orders would prevent their having recourse to force in boarding and visiting a vessel under French colours, he having hoisted them on the officer expressing his determination to board in spite of resistance. The forbearance of the officers in the boats under such trying circumstances was highly praiseworthy, as if they had for one moment allowed their feelings to overcome the dictates of reason, fatal must have been the consequences to the French vessel, and every one on board her. This occurrence took place in the presence of a numerous body of the natives, who were collected on the shore anxiously watching the result: on whom the tendency of the impression that, to appearance, the English did not dare to attack even an inferior force, must assuredly lessen that high opinion they at present entertain of the British nation; and that such was the impression, the reproaches of the natives to our men on landing fully testified. Lieutenant Morton, however, desired her captain to send his papers to him, and he afterwards proceeded on board and examined her. This merely points out to their lordships under what painful circumstances a British officer can attempt to perform his duty to his country, when

he is liable to the grossest insults from a set of wretches, engaged in this most inhuman and infamous traffic, who know and feel they are protected and encouraged by their government. From what I have seen and heard, I think I may safely pronounce, that the whole of the slave-trade in the Bight of Biafra (considered its greatest nursery), carried on under the French flag and in French vessels, is incalculable. Unless a mutual right of search is agreed on, or some effectual measures taken to preclude the French vessels from openly, and to appearance legally, participating in the slave-trade, it must most positively increase to an alarming extent, as they have no enemy whatever to fear, and embark their slaves boldly and openly, confident in their security; and it is natural to expect, that, aware of these circumstances, the other nations will no longer run a risk under their own colours, but employ the French vessels as carriers. The captains of the English palm-oil ships state, that, to their knowledge, the slave-trade was never so briskly and extensively carried on as at present; thus the efforts of his majesty's government to destroy and abolish this nefarious traffic are rendered null and void; and all the treaties and conventions entered into with the other powers, at a great expense and sacrifice, fruitless and of no avail. As my instructions positively forbid my interfering with vessels under the French flag, even should I meet them at

sea with a cargo of slaves on-board; and as their lordships must be fully aware, that the mere hoisting of a white ensign cannot satisfy a British officer as to the nation of that vessel, that it becomes his bounden duty to have certain and positive proof that no fraud has been committed, taking care always to conduct the examination in the most mild and gentle manner, to prevent the possibility of a complaint or breach of the good harmony subsisting between friendly nations, their lordships must perceive how very delicately I am situated; and I have therefore presumed to suggest for their attention and consideration, whether some mode may not be adopted to check this daring and growing evil, and whether there appears to them the slightest probability of the French nation being brought to permit of our seizing such vessels so boarded under suspicious circumstances, and found with a cargo of slaves actually on board, and intended for trade, and sending them with the whole of their crews and cargoes antoneted to Gorée for trial; the said capture not to entitle the captor to any reward. What has more particularly influenced me in this proposition, is the fact, that I have neither seen nor heard of any French man of war being on this coast, since my arrival.

(Signed) G. BURRIN.

J. W. Croker, esq.

&c. &c. &c.

Second Enclosure.
 RETURN of French Vessels boarded by H. M. S. Maidstone between 5th June, 1824, and 20th July, 1824.

Date.	Place.	Name of		How rigged.	Number of			Where		Belonging.	Cargo.	Remarks.
		Vessel.	Master.		Owner.	Men.	Guns.	Tons.	From.				Bound.
June 17, 1824	Off the River St. Nicholas	La Théonie	Bouchet	Le Mercier	Schooner.	22	4	154	50	Nantes	Isle of St. Thomas	Intended to call at the Bonny for water and refreshments.
... 18	In the Bight of Biafra	L'Aimable Henriette	Boissel	Chardoneau	Brig	20	4	138	58	Santiago de Cuba	Do.	

(Signed) CHARLES BULLEN, Commodore.

Third Enclosure.
 RETURN of French Vessels boarded by the Boats of H. M. S. Maidstone, during their absence from that Ship, between 15th and 26th June, 1824.

Date.	Place.	Name of		How rigged.	Number of			Where		Cargo.	Remarks.	
		Vessel.	Master.		Owner.	Men.	Guns.	Tons.	Days out.			From.	Bound.
June 16	River Bonny	Orphée	Coquet	Ship	50	10	350	90	Nantes	Seychelles	The whole of the French vessels are evidently fitted for slaves, and will take away in all, it is conjectured, about 3,000. <i>L. Sabine</i> , fitted for 900 females and 300 male slaves.—300, or more are, I understand, ready. <i>L. Atalante</i> , pillaged by a constitutional brig of 14 guns from the Havannah, which cruizes off the Cumaná islands.	
...	...	Diligence	Aviger	Brig	23	2	138	120	...	Isle of France		
...	...	La Pauline	Plante	...	22	4	186	730	St. Thomas	Bordeaux		
...	...	La Sabine	Freton	Ship	32	2	269	300	Havannah	do.		
...	...	L'Hyppolite	Boyrrie	Schooner	13	1	95	120	Martinique	Martinique		
...	...	La Caroline	Hurt	...	11	5	53	90	do.	do.		
...	...	L'Atalante	Pomfont	Brigand	15	2	101	90	do.	Brazils		
18	...	La Théorie	Boarded previously by H. M. S. Maidstone
22	Old Calabar	Le Louis	Oisean	Brig	25	6	206	...	Guadaloupe	Prince's Island		
...	...	L'Aimable Henriette	Boarded previously by H. M. S. Maidstone

(Signed) CHARLES MORTON, Lieut. H. M. S. Maidstone, in charge of the boats.

On the 20th of November, 1824, viscount Granville addressed to the French minister for foreign affairs a note on the subject of the above-mentioned transactions; to which his lordship received an answer from the baron de Damas on the 23d. His excellency expresses therein the deep interest which the government of France takes in the entire abolition of this odious traffic, and of their determination to abide by the regulations for its destruction, proofs of which are to be found in the sentences that have lately been awarded by the different tribunals when the facts have been proved, and in the activity of the prosecutions instituted against this species of speculation. And although it has happened more than once that the information transmitted upon this subject has not been exempt from exaggeration, still his excellency will not listen with less interest to the communications which may be made to him upon this subject, and will receive with readiness any thing which upon so important an object shall tend to insure the ends of justice.

In January 1825, viscount Granville received from the baron de Damas a note in consequence of the one that lord Granville addressed to him, on the 20th November, 1824, on the subject of the slave-trade still carried on under the French flag, on the coast of Africa. His excellency remarks, that the different accounts he had received confirmed the opinion which he formerly expressed, that these reports were seldom unaccompanied by exaggeration; but at the same time says, that from the inquiries which had been made at the French admiralty, it had been ascertained, that of the vessels mentioned, some had been taken and condemned; and that orders had been given to watch the return of the remainder, which were not yet arrived in the French ports.

On the 24th January, 1825, the following letter and the subjoined enclosure were sent by Mr. Secretary Canning to viscount Granville:

My Lord,

In reference to the subject of my despatch to Mr. Percy of the 13th of November, 1824, marked "slave-trade," I transmit to your excellency the extract of a communication from the admiralty, stating, that in the case of the French slave vessel, *Le Louis*, L'Oiseau master, her cargo of human beings were stowed for one whole night between decks, with a height of hardly three feet, and that not less than fifty of them were found next morning to have perished. I request that your excellency will communicate to the government of his most Christian majesty these revolting particulars of the conduct of French subjects engaged in the slave-trade, with the horrible result of which they themselves seem not to have been at all affected; for it appears they did but throw the dead bodies in the sea, and instantaneously proceed on shore, in search of more victims. His most Christian

majesty's government will never allow to remain unpunished a conduct so opposite to the humane principles by which it is guided; and I feel confident, that the communication of these facts by your excellency will lead to a strict inquiry into the circumstances of this atrocious case, and a severe punishment of the offenders.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GEORGE CANNING.

His excellency viscount Granville, &c. &c.

(Enclosure.)

Commodore Bullen to J. W. Croker, esq.

His majesty's ship *Maidstone*, Port Antonio.

Prince's Island, 3d October, 1824.

(Extract.)

Finding the *James* here, commanded by captain Pince, who conducted himself so humanely, and shewed such attention to the crews of my boats, on their arrival in a distressed condition in the *Bonny* in June last, I was happy in being enabled personally to express to him my sincere thanks for his praiseworthy conduct on the occasion. From him I learn that the French slave-trade has lately most considerably increased in the rivers *Bonny* and *Old Calabar*. Several new vessels have arrived, and many laden with full cargoes of human victims have left, under the white flag, and manned by Frenchmen, although the capital embarked is ostensibly Spanish. That their lordships may have full and complete information respecting the degrees of barbarity and want of feeling evinced by these subjects of an enlightened nation, which publicly disavows such horrible and infamous conduct, I beg leave to acquaint them, that *Le Louis*, commanded by Oiseau, who was so insolent to my officers on their visiting him in June last, on completing her cargo of slaves in the *Old Calabar*, without the slightest spark of humanity in him, thrust the whole of these unfortunate beings between decks (a height of nearly three feet) and closed the hatches for the night, when morning made its appearance, fifty of the poor sufferers had paid the debt of nature, owing to the confined, diseased, and putrid atmosphere they were condemned to respire. The wretch coolly ordered the bodies of these miserable victims of his total want of human feeling to be thrown into the river, and immediately proceeded on shore, to complete his execrable cargo, by a fresh purchase of his fellow-creatures. To detail all the enormities committed by these dealers in human flesh, who feel they are protected by the nation they claim, and the flag they hoist, would trespass too much on their lordships' time; suffice it to say, they are heart-rending, and would disgrace the most unenlightened savage, and most refined cruelty.

(Signed) CHARLES BULLEN.

To a communication which viscount Granville made on the 29th of January, 1825, to the baron de Damas of the above transactions, the baron returned the following answer:

Paris, 1st February, 1825.

Sir,

I hasten to transmit to the minister of marine the documents enclosed in the letter which your excellency did me the honour to address to me on the 29th of last month. The dreadful acts attributed to captain Oiseau, commanding the French vessel, *Le Louis*, will be the subject of a prompt and severe investigation: this government joins in the indignation which such atrocious conduct cannot fail to excite, and will not hesitate to make such an example as shall prevent its repetition. I cannot but thank your excellency for this communication.

(Signed) THE BARON DE DAMAS.

On the 8th of March, 1825, Mr. secretary Canning, in a despatch to viscount Granville, details the circumstances attendant on the detection by H. M. S. *Primrose*, off the western coast of St. Domingo, of a slave ship, laden with 460 negroes; and of her subsequent liberation on its being ascertained that she was a French vessel called *Les deux Nantois*, of Nantes.

Mr. Canning proceeds to observe, "I cannot conclude this account, which I beg that your excellency will communicate to the government of his most Christian majesty, without desiring you at the same time to recall their attention to the wishes so often expressed on the part of his majesty, and the hopes held out by the government of France, that measures would be taken effectually to check a trade, which France has abandoned by treaty and abolished by law, but which yet continues to be covered by her flag. Your excellency will remark, that *Les deux Nantois* is one of the vessels to which the attention of the French government was drawn by sir Charles

Stuart, in his note to M. de Chateaubriand, of the 4th of January, 1824, as being a vessel about to sail from Nantes, equipped for slave trade; and that sir Charles Stuart gave a description of the vessels fitting out at that port, and their equipment, and called upon the French ministry to take measures for preventing the voyage. The French minister, in answer to this representation, gave assurances in his note of the 10th January to sir Charles Stuart, that the government of the king of France did not feel an interest less deep than that which was felt by the British government, in the suppression of this odious traffic; and would not neglect any means in their power, permitted by the laws, for effecting the object. The French laws on this subject are, therefore, either not effective

or not enforced." In pursuance of the instructions which he had received, viscount Granville addressed a note to the baron de Damas on the subject, and received an answer, in which the baron acknowledges that *Les deux Nantois* was one of the vessels which had been described to the French government by sir C. Stuart; but observes, that when inquiries were made respecting her, it was found that she had sailed: no opportunity for any steps to be taken could occur until her return to France, or until her arrival at any of the French colonial ports might enable the authorities to ascertain the nature of her expedition. The baron expresses the confidence of the French government, that the orders which it had given on this occasion to the colonial authorities had been or would be punctually obeyed.

CONSTITUTION.

COMMITTEES ON PRIVATE BILLS.

Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons, on the Constitution of Committees on Private Bills.

Your committee, duly impressed with the great importance of the subject, and convinced of the universal and earnest desire of the house to adopt some modification of the constitution of its committees on private bills, equally with a view to the convenience of its own members and to the satisfaction of the public, submit to the house the following observations on the matter referred to their consideration :

The most frequent grounds of complaint against committees have been, that protracted and expensive investigations have been attended solely by members whose constituents were locally interested in the results, or, in some cases, by members who have themselves had an individual interest in the subject of bills ; while it has not unfrequently happened, that the final decision on the clauses and on the reports have, at the very close of committees, been settled by numerous other members, who, from their absence, have been ignorant of the information obtained during the earlier stages of the proceedings. But your committee feel it their duty to observe, at the outset of their report, that no small portion of this admitted evil is attributable to the course commonly adopted by the litigant parties themselves, who, if their object be of a magnitude to inspire either great hopes of profit or apprehensions of loss, and the subscription fund be large, will resort to every expedient and device to protract inquiry, with the determination either to drive their opponents from the field by expense, or to render it impossible, for want of time, to pass the bill into a law. Such a course of proceeding renders a constant attendance on committees almost impossible. While it necessarily harasses and fatigues the members of the house, it is destructive of the ends of public and private justice, and loudly calls for some specific regulations, without which it will be in vain to expect an entire cure of the evils incident to the present system. But as this evil has not arisen from the mode in which such

committees are constituted, the suggestion of a remedy would not properly find a place in the observations of your committee.

It is evident, however, that whatever portion of this mischief may be caused by an almost exclusive attendance on committees by such members as are either directly or indirectly personally interested in the issue of the proceedings, may be obviated by giving such a constitution to committees, as shall have a tendency to exclude such as may be thus deeply interested, and afford the best chances of an impartial, and, at the same time, an adequate attendance.

Under the present system, each bill is committed to the member who is charged with its management, and such other members as he may choose to name in the house, and the members serving for a particular county (usually the county immediately connected with the object of the bill), and the adjoining counties ; and consequently it has been practically found, that the members to whom bills have been committed have been generally those who, in one or other of the modes above specified, have been most interested in the result.

If in the case of a projected canal, or a road passing through two or three counties, the friends of the bill discover, that among the members serving for the division of counties to which the bill is committed a majority are likely to support it, they rest satisfied with the constitution of the committee ; but the same reason produces a very different feeling in the opponents of the measure, who never fail to procure some member to open the committee, by moving in the house, "that all who come shall have voices," a step justifiable, and perhaps indispensable on their part, but which, far from diminishing the evil, not unfrequently augments it tenfold, by inviting all the interested parties in the house to take part in the business of the committee, which, necessarily terminates in the prevalence of the strongest party ; for they who have no interest of their own to serve, will not be prevailed upon to take part in a struggle in which their unbiassed judgment can have no effect. Injurious as such proceedings are to the ends of justice and the character of parliament, your

committee are satisfied they are so naturally incident to the present constitution of committees, that no permanent improvement can be obtained, except through some changes in the formation of the committees themselves.

The first point, therefore, they would recommend to the consideration of the house, is the propriety of abstaining hereafter from complying with the motion, "that all who come have voices." It is important to observe, that the practice of opening committees by that process is of modern adoption; and the inconveniences that have resulted from it have been so generally felt and acknowledged, that it is unnecessary to offer any arguments against its longer continuance.

With respect to the precise form and manner in which it may be advisable to re-model the committees, more doubts may exist. Abstractedly considered, that mode would undoubtedly be most desirable, which should assimilate committees, by a limitation of numbers, and an exclusion of all bias from interest, to the form and character of juries. But the accomplishment of that which is desirable, must necessarily be considered with reference to practicability. And although, if it should ultimately prove necessary, every consideration of the personal convenience of members should be disregarded, your committee are unwilling, in the first instance, to recommend any plan which might be thought to draw too largely on their time, or to impose labours which might be unwillingly submitted to, or duties which might be imperfectly discharged.

Most of the plans which have been brought under the consideration of your committee, have been founded on the principle of ballot, accompanied, as it necessarily must be, by compulsory regulations for enforcing attendance. But the necessary service on the numerous select committees always sitting, charged with the investigation of subjects frequently of the highest national importance, the official engagements of many members of the house, the mercantile and professional avocations of others, the employment afforded to many members representing populous manufacturing counties and places by the local or commercial interests of their constituents, the advanced ages of others, and, above all, the unavoidable occasional absences of members from attendance in parliament, are so many reasons against the adoption of such a principle, if any less objectionable can be discovered. These considerations, added to those of the great number of private committees, which are more likely to increase than to diminish, and the length into which the investigation before them will, under any regulations, be sometimes protracted, all conspire to render select committees obtained by ballot, and kept to a forced attendance by compulsory regulations, a question of doubtful policy and practicability.

It appears, however, worthy of consideration, whether a division of counties formed on a new principle, accompanied by a permission in certain cases to strike a limited number of names from the list, might not be found to obviate much of the evil complained of. With this view it is submitted to the house, that each bill should be hereafter committed to the member intrusted with its management, and to the members serving for the county or place immediately connected with the project, and to as many of the adjoining counties as may contain, as nearly as may be, sixty members; and that to this number should be added other counties containing about sixty more members, taken indiscriminately from other parts of Great Britain and Ireland. If voices are no longer to be allowed to all who attend committees, it seems highly desirable that provision should be made for the attendance of a fair proportion of Irish and Scotch members on committees on English bills, and of English members on Irish and Scotch committees. According to the existing lists of the divisions of counties, made under the direction of the speaker about twenty-five years ago, there are in some instances above two hundred members from adjoining counties at liberty to attend committees, while in others there are not more than between sixty and seventy. By preserving the principle of committing bills to a limited number of members from adjoining counties, the house will retain some security for an adequate attendance of members, possessing local knowledge on the subject, on its committees; while the admission of an equal number of members from other parts of Great Britain and Ireland, will have a tendency to correct any prevalence of bias on the minds of members serving for counties with which any particular project may be connected.

Should it be the pleasure of the house to adopt this suggestion, and to request of the speaker that a new distribution of the counties may be formed on this new principle, especial care should be taken not to include in any one list too large a proportion of members representing any one particular description of interest; and it may be well to remark, that with a view to prevent the supporters or opponents of any intended bill from submitting *ex parte* statements to members before the assembling of parliament in each session, it would be expedient to make, sessionally, some alteration in the distribution of the counties, to which neither party could have access till after parliament had met.

But as it might still happen in some cases of committees so constituted, there might still be found members who had deep personal interests in the questions at issue, it appears right to your committee that an arrangement should be made, by which any party petitioning in favour of, or against the whole or any part of a bill, who should among other matters pray that the committee might be still further limited, should be

entitled to procure such limitation. The parties in such case might be appointed to appear at a given time, and place, before the member intrusted with the management of the bill, and there having previously selected some member, should, through his agency, be at liberty to reduce the list by striking out, not exceeding fifteen members on each side, which would then leave ninety at liberty to serve; a number which your committee does not consider too large, when they reflect on the necessary absence of some members, and the unavoidable avocation of others. They conceive that a number of members sufficient to form a quorum, might be selected from the list so struck, who might be prevailed upon voluntarily to undertake an impartial and judicial investigation of the points to be brought before the committee, the proceedings of which would be entirely under their own direction, and which would not be subject to be controlled, at the conclusion of a laborious inquiry, by an intrusion of members ignorant of all that had passed during the previous proceedings.

Should a trial be given to the plan recommended, it is the opinion of your committee, that the members serving for the county, city, or place, from whence a bill may proceed, or through which a projected canal or road of any description may pass, should in no case be liable to exclusion from the committee on the bill.

Your committee cannot close its report without advertng to a practice which has grown up in committees, and which they deem as contrary to the intentions of the house as it is manifestly incorrect in principle. Measures have occasionally been frustrated by committees striking out of bills the essential clauses, or by adjourning to a distant day, and thereby abstaining from making any report. It would be unwise, even if it were possible, to attempt to prescribe to the judgment of committees with respect either to the rejection or the insertion of clauses; but the house is entitled in all cases to a report of the proceedings of its committees, and it therefore appears necessary that the house should adopt some resolution on this head.

21st June, 1825.

JOURNALS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Substance of a Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to examine the Progress made in the General Index to the Journals of that House, extending from the Union of Ireland to the Demise of his late Majesty, and in continuing a similar Form of Index to the present Time.

THE committee lay before the house a detailed account from Mr. Rickman, under whose direction and superintendence the new index has been conducted, and recommend that as this use-

ful and laborious work is now completed to the satisfaction, the balance which remains should be paid to those who have been engaged in carrying it on. They also concur in Mr. Rickman's recommendation as to methodising, and compressing into one volume the two volumes of Dunn's Index of the Journals from 1774 to 1800. Having had an opportunity of examining a synthetical table of the whole course of business in the house, which had been arranged during the time that Lord Colchester was speaker, they deem it a most useful addition to the improved index, and have accordingly directed that it should be prefixed to the volume. The committee speak in high terms of the accuracy with which the new index has been printed.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ROOMS, AND PAPERS.

Substance of the First Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to inquire into the State and Condition of the Printed Reports, and other Papers, presented to that House, and who were instructed to consider and arrange such Reports, as it may be proper to print in Volumes, in addition to those which have been already so printed, and prepare an Estimate of the Expense of Printing the same; also to consider of providing some proper Place for the safe Custody of the printed Books and Papers, affording convenient Access to the same, for the Use of Members; and who were also instructed to consider the best Means of providing additional Accommodation for Committee Rooms, with the least possible Delay.

THE object to which the committee first directed their attention was the committee rooms, which they declare are wholly inadequate to the existing necessity. On a single day, in the course of the session, four committees met on public, and thirty on private business; nineteen of the latter having been fixed to meet in one room. They recommend the immediate addition of at least ten committee rooms. The confined space of the present library being also productive of similar inconveniences, they also recommend that a new, large, commodious, and accessible library should be provided. The site which the committee point out as the most commodious for the new committee rooms and library is the court bounded by the Thames, the long gallery, the painted chamber, and the house of commons. As it will be necessary to remove the official house of Mr. Ley, the clerk of the house of commons, the committee observe, that a temporary residence must be provided for that gentleman, and advise that a new official residence should be built for him in the space lying between the north entrance of Westminster Hall and the river.

The second report of the same committee contains the minutes of the evidence of Mr. Benjamin Spiller, George Whittam, esq., and John Soane, esq. The evidence of Mr. Spiller, the librarian of the house of commons, establishes the insufficiency of the library for its purpose; that of Mr. Whittam, the clerk of the journals, the insufficiency of the place of reception for the journals; and that of Mr. Soane, the expediency of selecting the spot, comprehending part of Cotton Garden, between the Long Gallery and the river, for the purpose of building new committee rooms, and a library for the house of commons.

The following is the third report of the same committee:—

In obedience to the order of reference, your committee have proceeded to inquire into the state of the printed reports and papers presented to the house. Referring to the report made by the select committee, appointed for a similar purpose in 1803, they directed an arrangement to be made of selected reports, similar to that adopted in the collection of fifteen volumes already printed. This arrangement will be found in the Appendix. The reports comprised in this catalogue have all been presented during the period from the year 1801 to the present time. The importance of the subjects that have engaged the attention of parliament during the interval, renders the reports, both of committees and of commissioners, of the greatest public interest. In these reports various questions are discussed relating to the administration of justice, the privileges of parliament, arts and manufactures, agriculture and trade, education, criminal law, and police; and it is obvious, that the preservation of documents of this description, and their arrangement in such a form as to be available for the purposes of reference, are of the greatest importance. The same motives which induced the house in 1803 to reprint a selection of the reports then existing, appear to your committee sufficient to warrant a continuation of the series. But as a very considerable number of copies of these reports are still preserved in warehouses, your committee do not feel themselves warranted at the present moment in recommending to the house the commencement of such an undertaking.

Three hundred and seventy-three volumes, including all papers, have been printed by the authority of the house since the year 1800, of which the most valuable reports, both of committees and of commissioners, contained in this collection, might all be comprised in thirty folio volumes.

A reprint of these reports your committee consider deserving of the attention of the house at some future period; and they consider, that with regard to the sessional papers hereafter

annually printed and arranged, a certain number of perfect copies should be preserved unbroken. The necessity of some such arrangement will be apparent by a reference to the evidence of Mr. Hansard, who has informed your committee, that only one complete copy of these papers is at the present moment in his possession. Your committee recommend, that at the close of every session complete sets of the printed papers should be deposited in the library of the British Museum, the Bodleian and Cambridge university library, the library of Trinity College, Dublin, and the advocates' library at Edinburgh.

Whenever the house shall conceive it expedient to direct a reprint of the reports, your committee conceive that the proceedings of commissioners, whether appointed under statute or in consequence of an address, should be included in the new edition ordered. Previously to the union with Ireland, few reports of this description were laid before parliament; but, since that period, many subjects of the greatest importance have been subjected to this mode of inquiry; and the same principles of selection should direct the arrangement of the reports of commissioners and the reports of the committees of the house.

A general index to the sessional papers has been prepared by Mr. Hansard, the printer to the house; your committee recommend its completion to the accession of his present majesty, and consider it necessary that it should be printed for the use of the house.

The set of printed papers now deposited in the custody of the clerk of the journals, being more complete than that in the care of the librarian, your committee recommend that it should be transferred to the library, as a place of more convenient access and reference.

Whenever a reprint of the reports is directed, the house will have to consider how far it is expedient, in the new series, to adhere to the size and arrangement adopted by the committee of 1803. The difference of cost between an edition in the larger folio, and one of the same size as the sessional papers, has been stated at fifty per cent; a consideration of considerable importance in a work of magnitude and expense.

The classification to which your committee have referred applies at present, except in a few instances, to reports only. It has occurred to your committee, that a similar classification might with much utility be adopted as to the papers. Those of each session are arranged with as much attention to similarity of subjects as the case admits; and, for the papers of each session, perhaps no better arrangement could be adopted. But it appears to your committee, that where the papers of a period embracing several sessions are to be preserved, a classification, similar to that which is adopted in regard to the reports, that is, a classification by subjects,

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not by years, would be found more convenient. | ciple of classification, for the library of the
They will at present only suggest, that one set | house.
of papers, for the longest period of which the | 1st July, 1825.
number of copies in store will allow, should be, | An appendix to the report contains the
in the first instance, made up, upon this prin- | minutes of evidence to which the report refers.

THE END.



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