

introduction last year at the rate of 16,000, but which he had the satisfaction to state had produced 120,000.—and he had no doubt would in the next year produce 10,000 more.

The next was a tax on Armorial Bearings estimated at 5000l.

The next was a tax on Male Servants, which had not in the last year produced more than 20,000, but which by a more efficient collection might produce 5000l. more—and on this tax he would propose an increase, which as falling on the wealthy, he thought fair, viz.—For one Servant no increase of the present annual guinea—but for two male servants a guinea and a half each—for three or four two guineas each—for five, six, or seven two guineas and a half each—for eight, 3l. each—for nine three guineas—and for ten and all over 3l. 10s. each. This modification would produce 15,000l. besides the 5000l. by a more efficient collection.

The next was a tax on Hats, but from which the lower orders were to be excluded, as it was not proposed to extend to any Hat under the price of 5s. and would stand thus—Hats from 5s. to 7s. 3d. a tax of 7s. to 12s. a tax of 1s.—12 to 16s. 3d. a tax of 1s. 6d.—16s. 3d. and upwards 2s. each—which he would estimate at 10,000l.

The next was an additional tax on French Wine imported, of 9l. per ton, and on Port of 6l. and as he was well assured there was Port now in the country to the quantity of two years consumption, upon which the merchants would charge this tax more than double to the consumers, though they should not pay it themselves, whereby the object of the tax in the year would be defeated, he proposed extending the tax by excise upon the flock of wines on hands, and thus bringing the tax to the use of the public, instead of letting it sink into the private pocket of the unfair trader, who would thus have an enormous advantage over the importer within the year. This tax would be just a rise of 1s. 3d. per dozen, or three halfpence per bottle on Port Wine.

Sir JOHN PARNELL remarked, that the statement of the Right Hon. Gentleman proved what he had himself predicted in the last year, that his taxes much exceeded his own estimates, the window tax for instance, would still be considerably more productive than he had stated it, and convinced he was that from an efficient regulation in the collection of the taxes, all the money required would be obtained without resorting to new taxes at all. He objected to the additional tax on Wine, as calculated on false ground, and as extremely oppressive to the merchant who had imported, without the most distant apprehension of a tax that must considerably lessen consumption, or of a measure—that of Union—which must take the resident gentlemen and consequently the principal consumers of Wine out of the country.

Mr. J. C. BERESFORD presented a petition from the Cotton Manufacturers of Dublin against the Union. Ordered to lie on the table.

Lord CASTLEREAGH, preparatory to his moving the order of the day for going into Committee on the Lord Lieutenant's speech, felt it would be necessary to state a regulation intended to accompany the measure of Union for the better improvement of the trade of Dublin, by taking up the two canals at the public expence, perfecting their navigation to the Shannon, and lowering the tolls of tonnage to such rates as would create that decided preference to the conveyance of inland commodities by the canals, which the present high tolls prevented. His Lordship concluded without any motion on the subject.

The House in a Committee on the Lord Lieutenant's Speech, Mr. Ansell in the Chair.

The proposition before the Committee was that on the commercial arrangement of duties between both countries.

The Right Hon. Mr. BERESFORD went into a competition between the present propositions and

would be removed—that under the present a considerable importation be made into this country, but if it should be lowered, that importation would encroach to the utter ruin of the manufacture. Being asked if he knew that the cotton manufacture was a rising one? he stated that a considerable increase had taken place in the importation of spun cotton, which was a proof of the increase of the manufacture—a considerable duty attaches to the importation of spun cotton, yet notwithstanding a great deal comes into this country, and he considered it essential that a high duty should exist thereon to protect the manufacturer in the benefits of his trade.—The cotton mills he knew to have been encouraged by the Irish Parliament since 1782, and was of opinion the individuals engaged in the manufacture had not have embarked their capital but from the encouragement of Parliament, the protecting duties, and a faith in their continuance, and that if this protection was removed those individuals must be considerably injured.

Examined by Mr. Commissioner Beresford.—He said that in the event of an Union it was his opinion, that the necessary amount of duty should be such as at present, which he considered a prohibitory duty—but he was not prepared to say, that the manufacture could not exist without those prohibitory duties.—He conceived labour in Ireland to be lower than in England in that line, but not so fixed as to bear competition with England in the duties were advanced.

Mr. ORR examined—stated that he was concerned in the manufacture of mullins and callicoes—had seen the proposed regulation of the Union, and conceived they would ruin that manufacture entirely—he founded that opinion on various grounds—in England labour and fuel were cheaper, besides that the manufacturers had the advantage of extensive machinery—they also have the exclusive advantage of their own market, and if they printed a large quantity of cottons on speculation, and that the fancy was approved of, this would sell nine-tenths immediately, and if the Irish manufacturer is not guarded by duties, the English manufacturer would fend the other tenth here, and sell it for any price rather than sell it in his own market at reduced rates—he stated, that it was his reliance on the protecting duties that caused him to embark so largely in the business—it was the inducement which caused him to leave Scotland where he was engaged in the business, and had he the least idea that the duties would have been withdrawn, he never would have embarked the money he did in the business.—That previous to August, 96, he gave employment to about 3000 persons, but not to so many persons at present—he could not form an opinion as to the entire number employed in Ireland—for a month past did not sell 1-5th of the quantity of goods he was used to do, and but for compassion, from the high price of provisions; he would have discharged 1000 of his workmen. He would not think 30,000, which is the amount of what he has laid out in three manufactures, sufficient compensation, and if the propositions passed unmodified he would be obliged to discharge his men, who would have no other mode of getting bread. Being asked if it would be wise to preclude the people at large of profiting by the redundancy of the British market to get cotton goods cheaper than from the home manufacturers, he replied that he conceived the first duty of a wise Legislature would be the encouragement of native industry. Notwithstanding the protecting duties, he stated that the manufacture took considerable and gradual time to take root, and he added that he did not think there was consumption in the country for an increase of the manufacture, and if the duties were to be taken off, the Irish goods would be thrown out of the Irish market, in which event the persons employed must be thrown also out of bread, and be obliged to go to England, or emigrate to foreign parts; he also stated that there were a number of prisoners and children engaged in the

to be advanced (half past one o'clock), and have leave to sit again.

After some conversation, the examination was about to be continued, on the ground of avoiding all necessary delay in the prosecution of a measure so necessary to the welfare of the country, and also on the plea of terminating as soon as possible the anxiety and agitation of the public mind—but Sir H. Cavendish proposed a compromise between both sides of the House, which was, that at an early hour the next day, the House would meet, and without taking up the time of the Committee with debating the principle of Union, the examination of witnesses would be immediately entered upon.

After some short conversation, this arrangement was agreed to, and the Chairman having reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again the House at nearly half past two o'clock, was resumed, and adjourned to next day.

LIMERICK.—MARCH 5.

The arrival of the Mail-Coach from Dublin is altered—it will stop at Rofres the first night, and arrive here next evening—the Coach on its return from hence to Dublin, will remain the first night at Rofres.


On the night of Tuesday the 25th ult. upwards of 200 Men in arms, broke open the house of Patrick Shea, who rents the Tythes of Dromm and Athlaca, took Shea out, tied his shirt round his head, and was whipping him with carting-ropes, until he fainted—they then broke his Furniture to pieces, and consumed it after the Tythe Books and Notes.

Last Monday night, a number of men on horse-back, armed with guns and pistols, went to the house of Pat. Ryan, one of the Hon. John Maffy's Corps of Cavalry, at Kelleoure, near Cahinchillins, in this County, plundered the safe of his arms, forced him out, and gave him several deep cuts on the forehead, and dragged him to a loaded gun, the contents of which lodged in his belly, and after pulling down his breeches, put therein a coil of fire, left him in that deplorable situation.—At the same time the rest of the gang attacked the house of Richard Keys, of Abington, a Yeoman of the same Corps, broke his windows, and were preparing to set fire to the house, when one of the party prevailed on the rest to desist; and the men, however, dragged Keys out of his house, with an intent to shoot him, but knocking one of them down, he fortunately escaped out of their merciless hands.—Ryan's life is despaired of.

At times less disturbed than the present, we recollect Magistrates and others meet for the purpose of devising some plan or other to suppress nocturnal meetings, which at present have arrived to such a pitch, and are attended with such violent outrage, and horrid barbarities, that if something is not speedily done, we may expect very fatal consequences to the loyal and peaceable.

The late Mr. Thos. John Burke, of this City, Jeweller, much to the reputation of his charitable disposition, bequeathed by his Will the following Donations:—To the Charity School of St. Mary's Chapel, 40l.—to St. John's ditto, 30l.—To the Rev. Mr. O'Donnell, to be distributed among the Poor of the Parish he died in, St. Michael's, 10l.

MARRIAGE at Kenmare-Lodge, on Monday, Mr. James Bourke, of Rathkeale, Squire, to Miss O'Kieley, niece to the Rev. Dr. O'Kieley, of Crough.—A few days ago, Mr. Michael Pigot, of Killynney, to the agreeable Miss Naughten, of Carrig, both in this County.

 The MAYOR feels much satisfaction, in being able to Communicate to the Publick, the following Voluntary Resolutions of the principal Buyers of Oats and Oatmeal in this City, by which means the most distant apprehensions of a Scarcity is removed.

We whose Names are hereunto subscribed, being desirous, as far as in us lies, to prevent the possibility of a Scarcity of Food in Limerick, do hereby Engage to relieve in our respective Stores, a quantity of Oats or Oatmeal, not less than the Tenth part of what we have received or may yet receive from the Country during the present Season, for the use of this City in case of necessity;—And we also engage, that we will not fend away any part thereof before the next Harvest, without the previous approbation or consent of the Chief Magistrate of Limerick—To One Tuns Barrels of Oats to be estimated equal to One Tun of Oatmeal.

Limerick, 16 March, 1800.

Jasper White
John Gabbett
Michael Rochford, jun.
Benjamin Bussell
Martin Arthur
Matt Honan
John Torrance
Harvey and Fisher
Fisher and Mark
Dennis Lyons, jun.
James O'Sullivan
John and Alex. Wilson
Michael Gavin, jun.
Seymour and Pike