

that his own purpose than obtain an exemption for the city of Kilkenny from the effects of the proclamation.

Mr. SULLIVAN contended that no offences had been committed within the city of Kilkenny that at all justified the severe infliction of the Lord Lieutenant's proclamation. A great injury had been done to the trade of the town by the application of the coercion act. On the very next day after the proclamation the usual supply of provisions did not come in; only two loads of potatoes were brought to the market; and the poor of the city were thus left without the means of the nourishment.

Mr. O'DWYER remarked that when the bill was discussed his Hon. and Learned Friend [Mr. O'Connell] suggested that return should be regularly made under the Act, which was met by an objection that if a case were made out the information would be given. Here was a case of a peaceable city subjected to be proclaimed, although Government were empowered to exempt parts of counties from the operation of a proclamation.

The SOLICITOR GENERAL confessed that the House could not shew too much vigilance with respect to the exercise of the powers lately intrusted to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. They were undoubtedly unconstitutional powers, which Parliament was only justified in granting by the necessity of the case; and the manner in which they were exercised ought to be most rigidly inquired into; but in the present case there was not the slightest reason for imputing to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland any abuse of the extensive powers with which he was invested.

Mr. HUME said that the Hon. and Learned Gentleman had made out no case, and the Right Hon. Secretary for Ireland had shewn no excuse for placing the city of Kilkenny in the predicament of a disturbed district. The only assigned reason for it was, that meetings had taken place there; if so, why not put the meetings down, as had been done in Dublin?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that the legislature had placed a certain discretionary power in the hands of Government, and the only question was, whether the hon. and Learned Gentleman had made out a case from which Parliament could infer that there had been a violation of the Act. The Hon. and Learned Member in his opinion, had not made out such a case, and therefore he had no right to call for the papers.

Mr. S. RICE observed that to exempt the city whilst the county was under the proclamation would lead to great inconvenience. The Right Hon. Gentleman instanced the case of Limerick under the Insurrection Act. He defended the measure of the Irish Government on this ground, that if it was right to apply the

Act to the county of Kilkenny, it must be applied to the city, which was so involved in its localities. It was never meant that the vigilance to be exercised by Parliament over this act should render it inoperative, and it would be inoperative if a sacred spot was reserved in a county where the mischievous could find an asylum.

Mr. D. W. HARVEY said, if the House was ready to sanction the principle of the argument of the Right Hon. Gentleman, it would embrace the entire kingdom of Ireland. [Hear, hear.] The speech of the Right Hon. Gentleman was an experiment to make the Act so extensive with Ireland itself. The measure was conceded on the responsibility of ministers; that responsibility was now challenged, yet they refused to produce these reasons.

Mr. W. ROACHE said that no city stood so fair entitled to exemption, as Kilkenny from its present state.

Mr. ANGLIONBY expressed his surprise that the motion of the Hon. and Learned Gentleman—a motion so reasonable as almost to be a matter of right—should be so treated. The question was not whether the Government had acted right or not, but whether the Parliament had or had not a right to call for information.

Sir S. WHALLEY recommended the Government, unless there were names to be disclosed, to grant the papers. The Parliament had granted the act under the firm belief that it would be leniently administered.

Lord SANDON said that though no man felt more regret than he did at this measure, he should regret it if it was not carried into effect [Hear.] He should give his support to Ministers in the refusal of the papers.

Mr. O'CONNELL, in reply, observed that he had been told, when he complained of the possible abuse of this act, that he had only to come to a reformed Parliament, and he would find Government ready to give its reasons: of course it would, if it had any. But the only attempt at a reason was, that the powers of the act must be applied to the city of Kilkenny, because the place might be an asylum. But the word "asylum," was not in the act; the act spoke only of an insubordinate and disturbed state; Kilkenny was in such a state, and the proclamation was there. All he required was the reasons of the Government; yet this reformed House of Commons would refuse the reasons which had induced the government to apply the act to the City of Kilkenny.

The house then divided, when there appeared

For the motion 28

Against it 115—87.

The Kilkenny Proclamation. Stimulated by the firm conviction that tyranny once tolerated, knows no bounds, that the slightest

recognized violation of constitutional privileges is calculated to produce the most calamitous results, we strenuously opposed the bill, the suspension of the habeas corpus in Ireland, upon the comprehensive principle that extraordinary power is sure to be abused. It was, nevertheless, in mercy, passed by our very humane and truly liberal legislature. We predicted that increased oppression would be inevitably consequent on increased powers of coercion, and the very first step taken by the Lord Lieutenant, pursuant to this monstrous measure, amply proves that we are correct.

During the progress of this vile Whig abortion through the Commons, how frequently was it asserted by ministers that they should be at all times ready to give sufficient reasons for the proclaiming of any district, and willing on every occasion to produce evidence of its necessity? Yet when Mr. O'Connell, on Wednesday night, called upon them to state the reasons on which the city of Kilkenny had been proclaimed, the house seemed surprised at his impudence, and treated the application with all due contempt; and Ireland's brain Secretary, aping the aristocratic indifference of his callous predecessor, refused, with admirable self-sufficiency, to produce a single document to prove the necessity for such proclamation! It perhaps, were, as well that he refused. He was, however, the man to whom which he knew to be impossible, and instinct dissuaded him from the attempt. There was no necessity for proclaiming the city of Kilkenny. It was not in a state of disturbance. The only apparent reason for the proclamation was that it afforded excellent accommodation to the military officers! and, therefore, 25,000 inhabitants—the population of the city—were to be subjected to all the horrors of martial law.

Ireland, it is true, has occupied a great deal of the time of the houses, but very little of its attention. There is an infernal spirit pervades the hearts of our English aristocracy which totally shuts out all sympathy for Irish suffering. It is among them an epidemic—no disease is more contagious than prejudice. They have been taught to hate the Irish, with all their souls, and so deeply rooted is it, that neither in public or in private are they able to disguise the implacable enmity they bear towards them. Hence that culpable indifference—that disgusting levity, with which all Irish affairs are treated in Parliament. It is a well known fact, that no sooner does a member rise to bring forward a motion respecting Ireland, than a general conversation ensues; for they regard all time thus occupied as time lost! Good God! Could England spare Ireland? Could Ireland exist an independent state? Would England be secure were Ireland to form an alliance with a *latent enemy*? No! Then it is essential that the Union must be preserved? Decidedly. Yet to all unprejudiced men it must be clear as light that we are now pursuing the most effectual means to produce a total severance!—*Saturist.*

N O T I C E

John M'Nally and John Meehan, hereby give Public notice, that the Lessee of the Saw Mill at Craupad, Lot 29, is by his Lease, empowered to cut Timber for the mill, on any part of the Township which may be unlet; and they, as the holders of the M'caution all Persons against cutting Timber in places, in doing which they have the concurrence of the Earl of Westmorland's Agent.

Craupad, 24th Aug. 1832.