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HENRY-STREET POLICE OFFICE.

CHARGE OF EMBEZZLING PUBLIC MONEY—FURTHER INVESTIGATION OF THE CASE.—The investigation of the charge of embezzlement of the public money, entrusted by her Majesty's Government to the Commissioners of Public Works, for the employment of the people during the recent destitution, against John Mason (an officer of the Board), was resumed at half-past twelve o'clock this day, pursuant to adjournment from Friday last.

Mr. Fitzgerald (attorney for the prisoner) applied to Dr. Kelly for permission for him not to attend personally at the investigation, on the ground of ill health—that he was not yet fully recovered from the effects of the accident which had resulted in the loss of his leg.

Dr. Kelly refused the application peremptorily.

Mr. Stewart (solicitor to the Board of Works) conducted the prosecution. With respect to the charge of embezzlement, entered into on the last day, he observed that an objection was taken by the prisoner's counsel, that the bank book was not legal evidence to prove that no portion of the money in question (790L) had been lodged by Mr. Mason.—He (Mr. Stewart) had now the bank clerk to produce who was able to prove that within the period alleged, not one shilling of the money was lodged by the prisoner.

Mr. Hutchons, bank clerk, was then sworn, and examined, and proved that no money was paid by the prisoner within the period stated.

Mr. Stewart then proceeded to offer evidence on the further charge of forgery. The first case he would bring before his worship with that object was that of a check for 150l. drawn by the Commissioners of the Board of Works for that amount. It was dated the 27th of June, 1845, and numbered 2070, and was intended to pay the labourers engaged at the Limerick Canal, and signed Tennent Smith. It was charged against Mr. Mason that he had altered this check to the sum of 450l., by converting the figure 1 in the check into 4. The check was paid, and 150l. of it was applied, as originally intended, for the payment of the labourers, but 300l. of it was lodged in the Bank with an endeavour to make up the deficiency of 729l. previously abstracted by Mr. Mason.

Mr. King examined—This witness identified the handwriting of the prisoner on the check. The figures "450l." were, he believed, but he was not quite certain, in the handwriting of Mr. Mason; the name Tennent Smith and the endorsement were also in his handwriting.

Cross-examined by Mr. O'Hea (counsel for the prisoner)—I cannot say whether the check was filled a blank or not by the commissioners.

Mr. Cooney sworn and examined by Mr. Stewart—I am one of the pay tellers at the Bank of Ireland, (book produced)—this book is a blotter, in which the entries of paid checks were made; I find an entry of a check of the Shannon Commissioners—one for the sum of £150 and another for £300; they were paid to Mr. Mason in dockets; (docket produced)—this is one of the bank bill dockets, and is dated the 27th of June, 1845; it is in the handwriting of the prisoner.

Mr. Stewart then brought forward the following additional case, in further substantiation of the charge of forgery. It was that of a check, dated the 5th May, 1843, and No. 1,578, drawn in favour of Martin King, and issued originally for £91, but altered to £191, and paid to Mr. Mason.

Colonel Jones sworn and examined—(check produced) I see here the words "5th May," and "Martin King" written in this check. I kept a record of that and all other checks, when I signed them. I find I have a record of having signed a check on that day, numbered 1,578. The initials on that check are mine, and those of Sir John Burgoyne.

Mr. Stewart, addressing the bench, stated that he had numerous other cases of a similar nature to bring forward; but he thought he would be unnecessarily consuming the time of the court, if he went any further than he had already gone. He submitted that he had given sufficient distinct proof putting the charge of embezzlement totally out of the question, that a forgery had been committed by the prisoner. There was an alteration of these and other checks made by him, which amounted to a complete forgery according to the statute. He, therefore, called on the bench to commit Mr. Mason to stand his trial on both charges.

Mr. O'Hea observed that as far as the only two cases now offered went he was satisfied that there was no charge of forgery made out. If, however, Mr. Stewart and his Worship were content with the cases produced, that they were fit cases for trial, he was willing to submit and go at once into the question of bail.

Dr. Kelly asked Mr. Stewart when he proposed to give further evidence on the charge of embezzlement?

Mr. Stewart did not mean to bring forward any further evidence on that charge, and submitted that there was quite sufficient already to warrant the committal.

Dr. Kelly said he had enough before him to decide him upon sending the prisoner for trial, and would therefore commit him.

Mr. O'Hea then applied that bail should be taken for the appearance of the prisoner at his trial at the next ensuing commission.

Mr. Stewart thought that if that case rested on the charge of embezzlement only, his Worship, in the exercise of a sacred discretion, should refuse to accept bail. He had proved that before the last day, of an embezzlement by the prisoner to the amount of 8,000L, and he thought that if he stood upon this charge alone, considering the large amount of money abstracted, and the confidential situation occupied by this person, the bench could not admit him to bail. But when this charge was coupled with the further and more serious charge of forgery, they believed there was no doubt of the impropriety of accepting it.

Mr. O'Hea pleaded the ill-health of the prisoner, and his mental sufferings under such a charge, as a sufficient reason that a reasonable security should be taken for the appearance of the prisoner. Medical evidence could be produced if necessary, to shew that he was not in a state to bear confinement.

Mr. Stewart again pressed that bail should not be taken, and Dr. Kelly refused to accept it; but suggested that an application should be made to the Court of Queen's Bench, which had the power to grant it, which he had not.

Mr. O'Hea then applied for an order from the bench, to remove the prisoner from Newgate to the Prison at Kilmainham, on the ground of delicacy of health.

Dr. Kelly refused to do so, as the matter did not come under his jurisdiction, and advised that a memorial should be sent to the Lord Lieutenant who had the power to do so.

A person whose name we did not hear, informed his Worship that a memorial had been forwarded to the Castle with that object, and that a verbal answer was returned to the effect that the power to make the order resided in the magistrate alone.

Dr. Kelly said that he would not make any order of the kind, unless he received a written official notification from the castle to that effect. His worship then committed the prisoner for trial at the next commission, on the separate charges of embezzlement and forgery, and directed that the informations of Colonel Jones and those of Messrs. Conway, Hodgens and Jackson, should be taken.

STATE OF THE COUNTRY.

MOB AT THE TRALEE WORKHOUSE.

While the guardians were holding a special meeting at the workhouse, on the 4th instant, to arrange for the commencement of outdoor relief to the infirm classes, W. Denny, Esq., in the chair, a policeman came in and announced that a large mob with a black flag, were forcing the workmen from their work in the streets, and coming up to the Workhouse.

There were several magistrates at the board, and all agreed that the military should be called out.—Mr. George D. Sokes, J.P., immediately volunteered to go for them, and, for fear of being cut off by the mob, he ran across the fields to the barracks.

The mob soon after made their appearance, led on by a man from Strand-street, who immediately forced open the workhouse gate. The magistrates, and some of the other guardians, went down to remon with them, but in vain; they would not disperse. Some three or four threatened mischief, and were very violent in their language, but did not proceed further. The police soon after came up under their officer; but even then the mob would not disperse, though every persuasion was used. In a short time the military, with Mr. George Stokes, were seen coming across the fields, but the mob still persisted in remaining—asking for work—" they were willing to work, but would not starve. All they wanted was work, but this they would have or——" Mr. Stokes, when the military were drawn up, immediately ordered the flag to be seized; and, having in vain for some time argued with the mob, and cautioned some of the most prominent, whom he knew by name, to go away, he seized two of the principals. This did not suffice, and at a further interval he was obliged to seize one more. The mob soon after dispersed, and the prisoners were marched off to the gaol, under the escort of the police and military, and the guardians returned to their business, which they did not complete until dark.—*Tralee Chronicle.*

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

The following is the receipts of the Railways in operation for the past week—viz:—

	£	s.	d.
Arbroath and Forfar	221	0	0
Chester and Birkenhead	715	0	0
East Lancashire	928	0	0
Eastern Counties and Northern and Eastern	12,164	0	0
Eastern Union	1,238	0	0
Edinburgh and Glasgow	5,748	0	0
Edinburgh and Northern	627	0	0
Glasgow, Paisley, and Ayr	2,913	0	0
Glasgow, Paisley, & Greenock	1,171	0	0
Great Western	10,758	0	0
Kendal and Windermere	120	0	0
London and North-Western	41,917	0	0
London and South-Western	8,007	0	0
London and Brighton	9,507	0	0
London and Blackwall	839	0	0
Londonderry and Enniskillen	120	0	0
Lancaster and Carlisle	1,479	0	0
Lancashire and Yorkshire	9,816	0	0
Midland Counties	22,707	0	0
Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire	2,214	0	0
Newcastle and Carlisle	2,275	0	0
Norfolk	2,030	0	0
North British	2,457	0	0
South Eastern	9,845	0	0
South Devon	861	0	0
Shrewsbury and Chester	692	0	0
Taff Vale	1,618	0	0
York and North Midland, with Leeds and Selby	8,694	0	0
York and Newcastle	11,738	0	0

ASSASSINATION OF MAJOR MAHON.—INQUEST.

It becomes our painful duty to confirm the report of the death of the above lamented gentleman. It appears that Major Mahon was returning home from Roscommon, after attending a meeting of the Guardians of that union;—he travelled in an open Phaeton, accompanied by Mr. Stanley, and his servant, who sat behind, and had proceeded within 4 miles of his residence when he received the fatal shot.—The particulars of which appear more fully in the following depositions at the inquest, which was held before T. P. Peyton, Esq., Coroner:—

Terence Stanley, of Strokestown, deposed that on Tuesday, the 2d of November, he was returning from Roscommon with the deceased, Major Mahon, in his phaeton, and when they had nearly reached the bridge of Doorty, county of Roscommon, a shot was fired from the right side of the road, the greater part of the contents lodged in the side and breast of the late Major Denis Mahon, one of the slugs or balls lodged in the arm of the deponent; the deceased immediately dropped the reins and leaned back—his hat fell off—the deceased never spoke afterwards.—Deponent has no doubt but the death of the deceased was caused by the gun-shot wound and the internal hoemorrhage consequent thereon. Deponent laid hold of the reins as soon as possible after the shot was fired; looked around and saw in the fields a man with a gun in his hand, and pointed towards them; the man attempted to fire but the gun burned priming, it was dark, and cannot accurately describe the size or description of the man, but from the light caused by the flash of the pan, he saw it was a cap the man had on.—Deponent immediately after saw a man in the act of passing them on the road with a gun, who he believed to be the assassin that fired the fatal shot.

William Flanagan, coachman to Major Mahon, deposed that on the morning of the 2d inst., he accompanied Major Mahon from Strokestown House to Roscommon, and was proceeding home; they reached Doorty about 6 o'clock; Major Mahon was, up to the time of the attack, in good health; it was then dark; heard a shot, and saw a man rise from behind a ditch or gripe; deponent stood up and caught Major Mahon as he fell back in his carriage; the deceased never spoke after he received the contents of the gun; he expired immediately.—On proceeding about two yards further another gun was presented at them; it burned priming, and did not go off.—Deponent saw the first man run away; he could not see more than a cape—it was dark and could not see distinctly; they were within 50 or 60 perches of three houses when the shot was fired; when they passed there was light in the houses, the doors were open; saw no person come out of the houses, nor did they take any notice of the shot being fired; thinks the distance from where the shot was fired, to the carriage, was not more than 3 or 4 yards; the horses were going at the rate of 4 or 4½ miles an hour; the Hood and Dashboard of the Phaeton were perforated by slugs.

The following verdict was recorded, "That the death of Denis Mahon was occasioned by gun-shot wounds, feloniously inflicted on his right side by some person or persons unknown at Doorty in said county Roscommon, on the 2d of November 1847."

Major Mahon got possession of the Hartland Estates on the death of the late Lord Hartland; and since that period as well as previous to it, he had proved himself, not only a kind and indulgent Landlord but one who sensitively felt for the distressed situation of his fellow man, and always endeavoured to ameliorate, by public and private contributions, the condition of the people irrespective of class or creed.

Major Mahon finding many of the tenantry in a state of destitution, and his rental about £30,000 in arrear, proposed to them his willingness to take up the ground, and forego the arrear, but this generally they rejected; and as many of them would not till the ground nor give up possession, and the Major not disposed to put them out of possession by law, proposed to send them to America—and actually chartered two vessels, and gave such (about 900) as were disposed to emigrate, not only a free passage, but food for the voyage and suitable clothing.

It appears that many of the people about Strokestown, were aware of the intended assassination.—within one hour after the foul deed was perpetrated the several hills were lighted by bonefires in every direction.

The state into which society is plunged in Roscommon at this moment, is truly awful. Life and property are equally insecure—and the mere demand of Rent, appears to be a sufficient cause to deprive the applicant of life.

ANGRY WORDS.

Angry words are lightly spoken
In a rash and thoughtless hour,
Bitter links of love are broken
By their deep insidious power.
Hearts inspired by warmest feeling,
Ne'er before by anger stirr'd,
Oft are rent past human healing,
By a single angry word.

Poison-drops of care and sorrow,
Bitter poison-drops are they,
Weaving for the coming morrow
Saddest memories of to-day.
Angry words, oh, let them never
From the tongue unbridled slip;
May the heart's best impulse ever
Check them ere they sell the lip!

Love is much too pure and holy,
Friendship is too sacred far,
For a moment's reckless folly
Thus to desolate and mar.
Angry words are slightly spoken
Bitterest thoughts are rashly stirr'd;
Brightest links of life are broken
By a single angry word.

MEETING OF PEERS, MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, AND COMMONERS, CONVENED BY THE IRISH COUNCIL.

An adjournment of the meeting of Irish Peers, Members of Parliament, and landed proprietors, convened by this body, was held on Saturday, in the Rotunda, at 12 o'clock. The attendance although large, was not quite so good as on the previous day. The following noblemen and gentlemen were present:—

Lords Clonguerry and Miltown, Sir Colman M. O'Loghlen, W. S. O'Brien, M.P.; Sir Lucius O'Brien, M.P.; P. S. Butler, M.P.; William Monsell, M.P.; Nicholas M. Power, M.P.; James M. Caulfield, M.P.; John O'Brien, M.P.; T. Meagher, M.P.; Richard M. Fox. M.P.; Colonel William Dunne, J.P., M.P.; Major Blackall, M.P.; Wm. Keogh, M.P.; Valentine Grace, M.P.; John B. Green, M.P.; E. K. Tenison, M.P.; G. H. Moore, M.P.; Henry Grattan, M.P.; R. Conway Hickson, T. Yeaston, M. Doheny, T. D. M'Gehee, C. Knox, J. Martin, J. M. Foley, Pierce Creagh, Hamilton Geale, H. Maxwell, Robert Jones, John Salkeld, L. Brany, J.P., county of Clare; S. Ferguson, M. J. Farrell, C. Bagot, G. Browne, D. J. Wilson, R. Ferguson, H. Fitzgibbon, Charles G. Duffy, Jonathan Adair Phillips, J. C. Strange, Thos. Dixon, J.P.; J. Dolton Massy, F. Comyn, J.P.; R. Keenan, D. D. Ireland, A. M. Greer, John B. Barnes, John Mitchell, William John Frcke, John O'Brien, Henry Morris, John Green, M.P.; Edward Byrne, Samuel King, A. G. Hume, Edward O'Flaherty, C. H. Minchin, Clk.; James Johnston, Edward O'Connor, James M'Donnell, J. Curtis, Charles Taaffe, Bryan O'Loughlen, Robert Owen, G. Tymbas, H. Perrin, Henry Archdall, P. Blake, H. R. O'Loughlen, M. Carter, M.P.; John Sadleir, M.P.; N. Scully, M.P.; T. O'Brien, M.P.; M. Lenihan, Cecil Lawless, M.P.; E. Butler, William Duggan, Barrister-at Law; M. Butler, J. Reynolds, J. Bourke, G. Fox, Jonathan Sisson, Major Talbot, George E. Burke, J. O'Reche, J. H. Carey, G. Mahon, M.D.; R. Doherty, M.D.; P. J. Power, P. O'Callaghan, Joseph Kenny, Hon. Sir Francis Stanhope, John Leahy, George Smyth, O'Keeffe, Thomas Smullen, James Heron, Belfast; J. P. Hudson, Mat. Kenny, Patrick Langan, Thomas Callaghan, J. Cogan, Thomas Beatty, C. H. Hart, Abraham Stritch Fallon, G. Robinson, Daniel Donovan, M.D.; J. T. Barlow, J. Gray, M. H. Tyrrell, The O'Gorman Mahon, M.P.; William Gallagher, Robert O'Flanagan, Robert Meekins, William Fagan, M.P.; Maurice Power, M.P.; E. B. Roche, M.P.; John Classon, J. O'Donoghue, John Leahy, George Smyth, R. A. O'Reilly, Surgeon Carmichael, H. Newman, Robert Burke, William Croker King, C. Smith, John Boyd, M. Carmichael, —O'Reily, Dalkrasna; Robert Griffin, &c.

At the appointed hour the chair was taken by the

Right Hon. Lord CLONCURRY.

Lord CLONCURRY, upon taking his seat, after a few preliminary observations, proceeded to offer his opinions and experience on the subject of tenant-right, which he said was the question which would for the most part occupy the attention of the Council that day,—(Hear.) It was a very complex and difficult question as it now stood, and he would observe, that, in his mind, a great deal of the difficulty arose from acts committed many years ago, at least twenty, by individuals who intended to be, and really were good friends to Ireland. At the period he alluded to, he was himself a member of a society which was established for the improvement of Ireland, and at the same time an act of Parliament for the purpose of preventing the system of subletting was passed, which provided against any person infringing an agreement entered into and signed and sealed by himself; and it was thought that my man who let land to another, who himself held it under a third party was doing an illegal act. However, since that period a great deal of land has been sublet, and they had found that the consequences of this subletting became visible in the bad feelings which were aroused between the landlord and the tenant.—(Hear.) But then the sufferers from this ill-feeling were not the tenants alone. The landlord often complained of the tenant for having let the land which he ought to have kept in his possession, and the tenant on the other hand had a strong and well grounded complaint against the landlord.—(Hear.) He thought that the tenant should have ample compensation for all improvements effected by him which increased the value of the possession. But at the same time let him ask, did it increase the value of the land to let it to a poor person who had not the means to till and improve it? In his opinion the real oppressors of this country were the small farmers and the middlemen—(hear, hear)—who had taken advantage of the people in such a way as to give rise to violence and bloodshed.—(Hear, hear.) As a magistrate he could state from his own experience that the middlemen had in the habit of letting his land for fourfold and in some extreme cases, even sixfold the rent paid by himself, to the wretched creatures who held under him. Now he was quite convinced that if the gentlemen forming that meeting—the Irish Council—the members of which he looked upon as most worthy and painstaking men, and likewise Mr. Sharman Crawford, would think a little more on this matter, they would perceive with him that the remedy should be made to go beyond the farmer, and that there should be an arrangement made to give the labourer on the land a per centage for his labour—(hear, hear)—and that public opinion should be brought to bear in the matter in such a way as would deter these middlemen from charging such oppressive rents to their under tenants. He did not take the part of the landlord because he was one himself; but it was but justice for him to state, that although landlord for fifty years, he had no quarrel with his tenants, with the exception of one or two disagreeable incidents in the course of his life, and his rents were in general well paid.—(Hear, hear.) His lordship concluded with an apology to the meeting for detaining them.

Mr. Ferguson, secretary, then read the following letter from Lord Massarene:—

Oriel, Collon, Nov. 1, 1847.

GENTLEMEN—Though I do not conceive myself called upon to attend the meeting of the Irish Council on the 4th instant, I do feel that in times so momentous as the present, it behoves one who has received an invitation from that body to make known the grounds upon which he considers himself justified in refusing to accept it.

I do not absent myself from your meeting, owing to an overweening sense of the important duties which devolve upon a landlord at the present crisis, nor do I experience that apathy, as to the political aspect of this country, which Sir Robert Peel charged on legislators; but I cannot see how the establishment of an Irish party, which alone is wanting to make Ireland feared and respected, will be the result of your approaching deliberations.

"If ever a nation at any time was imperatively called upon by circumstances for united exertion, it is Ireland at the present moment," are the words of our Viceroy, in his reply to the late address of the Roman Catholic hierarchy—words which I sincerely trust will be properly understood, and ere long acted upon by our countrymen; but now a National Council assembles on the 2d, an Irish Council on the 4th, neither of them emanating from those to whom the Irish nation has intrusted its representation in parliament—what will be thought in England as to our union in council? Will the phalanx of prejudice which is that country unfortunately exists against us, be weakened by this meeting? Will those whose propensions against a long suffering people, whom their own mismanagement so often tended to excite, be hereby taught to comprehend their error? Will the journals teeming with the most insidious kind of falsehood, that have for years contains a colouring of perverted truth, be hereby induced no longer to mislead the British public? And will the government, whose anxiety to do us justice, proportionate its power, be hereby strengthened in its honest course? And, above all, will our present exertions to assist ourselves, our anxious endeavours to require no extraneous aid, be hereby confirmed?

Though my humble opinion is, that the divided meetings of the 2d and 4th inst. will effect none of these things, I am not prepared to deny that, in extraordinary times like these, some united gathering of Irishmen, irrespective of sect or party, would go far towards disabusing the public mind of prejudice, and towards bringing more to light the fact which was this last session admitted by an Englishman, that Ireland was not understood by England; and I am satisfied that such an assembly would force our representatives to imitate the example the Scotch have set before them—viz., to meet and canvass among themselves the provisions of each measure affecting their country, as soon as it is brought before the cognizance of Parliament.

Our failure in the formation of an Irish party last session, and the contempt in which our representatives were consequently held by the English, may warn them, who have since been intrusted with the management of our interests in parliament, (whether they attend the National or the Irish Council, or absent themselves from both,) of the absolute necessity of consistution and union upon questions solely affecting the community which they have been elected to represent; but the contemplated meetings will not, I fear, tend to this desirable object, nor can they, in my humble opinion, lead to the healing of our divisions, or to the setting us in our proper light before the eyes of England.

We have all heard of another admission made last session by Lord Fitzwilliam, that England was in debt to Ireland even to the amount of pecuniary obligation. Yet, though by others we are so constantly maligned as mendicants, can we not afford to prove intelligent creditors at a time when England, were she willing, is unable to satisfy our claims? The conduct of our forefathers might be remembered—their patriotism might actuate us—the example set by those who, above sixty years ago, were thrown upon themselves for defence, might now be followed. Our enemy is more formidable—we have already suffered from his attacks; and yet were every individual amongst us to become a volunteer to support himself and his country, the famine and pestilence, whose scourge our offending God has enabled us to trace, would be for ever banished from our shore.

I am fully aware of much that we have in justice a right to demand, of much that for her own interests England ought to concede; but if, through our petty divisions and party views we be still unable to unite, if as a nation we can put forth no proposition for our own amelioration, our due weight in the legislature will not be attained, and England's gracious representation of our wants and claims become apparent to herself. And now that she has thrown us upon our own resources, whether justly or otherwise, I have been conceive our first duty to consist in individual exertion; and I firmly believe that if, as a nation, our own resources are applied solely for our own benefit, we shall find ourselves before long in a position to forego all the claims against England which we still might justly urge for her former misgovernment and injustice towards us.

The assertion of the late prime minister, when he dropped the reins of government—viz., that "were he to continue in power, he would place Ireland upon an equality in every respect with great Britain," is what his successors are working to effect. The late Mr. O'Connell is known to have stated to me, that practice or repeal is still the cry of millions; and if our government be backed by the Irish in its efforts to break down the prejudices of the English people, their ignorance as to our rights and wrongs, has generated so much angry feeling amongst us, we shall not have long to wait for the accomplishment of our dearest wish, the obtaining of that much-desired justice.—I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your very faithful servant,

MASSARENE AND FERRARD.

To the Hon. Secretaries of the Irish Council.

Mr. Ferguson then observed that had Lord Massarene been with them at their last day's meeting, and witnessed the cordial union which existed amongst all parties, and the general spirit of courteous accommodation which manifested itself, he would not have been afraid of finding disunion in coming amongst them. —(Hear.)

The proposals of the various resolutions drawn up by the Irish Council was then proceeded with, commencing with the one which stood in the list, the 3d resolution having been disposed of at the last meeting.

Mr. John O'Brien, M.P., for the city of Limerick, rose to move the 4th resolution, as follows:—

"That during the ensuing winter every means ought to be adopted to increase employment.

"That with this view we recommend that a selection of the unfinished public works should be completed, under local supervision—that every facility should be afforded for reproductive employment on land, by enabling proprietors who possess available capital in improvement of their estates, and to charge the inheritance with the expense of such improvement—and that encouragement should be given to the construction of railways throughout the country by loans that act. Mr. Wilson read a series of resolutions commentatory of the act, passed in the county of Limerick, as we understood, and continued to say that though he was one of those that had always protested against the act, he felt that he would be perfectly justified in repudiating every shilling expended under it.—(Hear.) He did not see why they should repudiate the entire of that money. When he heard the minister admit that the calamity which had fallen upon the country should be looked upon as an imperial calamity and should be met by imperial resources, he would be perfectly justified in repudiating the repayment of that money.—(Hear, hear.) But he did not say that he would repudiate it, for he was ready to pay his share of the expenditure for every useful and necessary work under the act, or where there was value given for the money laid out. The letting of Mr. Labouchere's letter was an admission that the Labour Rate Act was unsuitable to Ireland. They were taunted with not employing the people on the land when they were at liberty to do so; but the fact was, they could not do so—they could not employ the people under the letter, so many persons—minors, absentees, and others—should agree before it could be done. There was one case, however, where the terms of the letter were adopted. Lord Ossen, the Knight of Glin, and Mr. Sleeman, agreed to carry out the letter. But what was the consequence? On the property of Mr. Sleeman 40L an acre had been already forced from poor years at their command; but they had the instructive lessons of the past, the natural energies of the country, and the improved intellect of the people to guide them in the future. They had a deep-seated conviction that the great of national destitution no individual was exempt from the discharge of his portion of the general obligation which attached collectively to them all. They had an intimate persuasion that no government intervention, however, could supersede the wants or supply the necessities of the multiplied and ubiquitous energy of individual exertion.—(Hear.) Again, in the hour of remarkable calamity, they had, as a further guide, the important advantage of a legislative enactment not before enjoyed. They had the invaluable aid of the Land Improvement Act—an act well calculated to supply their proverbial want of capital. They had also the amended Drainage Act, which, however, unfortunately called upon them with all the indefinite improvements they were calculated to secure. They had railway enterprise in such a position as to justify the respective companies in asking co-operation from the government towards their completion, which would give the public ample security, and diffuse throughout the great breadth which had been sown, the distress next year will be only partial. Returns which he (Mr. Wilson) had read on previous occasions proved that a great portion of the land was untilled in consequence of the people having been thrown on the public works. At present the government were taking returns of stock, but he warned the public that they were about to be taxed was to provide food for the succeeding year. The only way of obtaining food was by money, and to procure that money the property of the country ought to be pledged as security. He was an advocate for an income-tax, because the land of the country was quite unable to support the burden now placed on it. An income-tax would not be an impost on the artisan or industrious classes; but it would be a tax on Sergeant Warren, the Attorney-General, Sir Henry Marsh, and other eminent individuals, who had ample incomes. Mr. Wilson then referred to Mr. Trevelyan's letter, which he denounced as the most insulting document that had ever emanated from a public man. He felt his blood, as an Irishman, boil, when he read that production. He had been tired long ago, that as far as Ireland was concerned, Trevelyan was the government of the country, and seriously this letter, so dictatorial and authoritative in its tone; would go to bear out that supposition. "Depend upon it, (said Mr. Trevelyan,) we will make them pay what can; and those who are not able to pay the entire amount must pay in proportion to their means." 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He did expect that it was not in that room they should have met—he had hoped that their meeting would be so large that they would have had to meet in the round-room of the building. There should be a union of all parties in Ireland on the present occasion, for without union and unanimity, he feared all their efforts would be unsatisfying to put that prosperity that prudent union which she was entitled to hold.—(Cheers.)

Mr. Fox, M.P. for Longford, then briefly addressed the meeting.

Mr. M'Dee moved the following additional resolution—

"That whereas the masters of the various trades formerly practised in Ireland are fast falling into the condition of paupers, or are daily abandoning the kingdom to enrich with their skill some other nation; and whereas we have reason to believe this evil to be entirely superintended by the same parties who caused which the commercial classes of their own country can and ought to extend to their works, above and below, the wide circle of foreign trade, which should be resolved by this meeting that on and after the 1st of July, 1848, we will not purchase, nor allow to be purchased, on our premises, any foreign goods, which shall be the same be then produced equally good and cheap in Ireland; the interesting time being allowed to those that have entered into foreign manufactories to dispose of such stock without any sacrifice to themselves."

Mr. Ireland seconded the proposition. The question relative to land accounted for the absence of a more specific resolution relative to Irish manufactures. He contended against the notion that Ireland was to be come a pelting pitiful province, and that its inhabitants were to be consigned to the occupation of tilling the soil. If the Irish people had not been dependent upon the potato it would have been impossible that the failure of a single harvest could have led to so much misery. If they referred to the history of the country they would find that there was a flourishing manufactory in Ireland which had not been crushed by direct or indirect legislation. He could produce 150 stair of checking and controlling the Irish manufacturing industry. He conceived that they overlooked the fact that they possessed other resources besides those of agriculture. They should have a great deal more supporting native manufactures by the cloud abstracted propositions of political economists, and they would be considered as nothing if they were not prepared to give the Irish artisans a fair preference. They should be prepared to maintain them either as artisans or mechanics.—(Hear.)

Mr. Fitzgibbon said he felt that the wording of the resolution was too feeble, and he thought it correspondent too much with the state of apathy upon the question which prevailed in the public mind. His personal experience enabled him to say that he could supply many articles of Irish manufacture as cheap and good as the manufacturers of other countries, but he was sorry to say that since the question was brought before the public mind he did not feel sufficient to excite where he was called upon by a customer to give him Irish cloth; and one instance occurred when a gentleman desired him not to give him any Irish. That was a feeling of which Irishmen should be ashamed.—(Hear.)

Sir Colman O'Loughlen put it to the meeting if there was prepared to give such a pledge as that required by the amendment? He objected to the system of pledging. He thought the resolution was strong as the meeting were inclined to go; if it were not so, it could be made stronger. He was not prepared to pledge himself to the use of Irish manufactures. He would tell the meeting what the government had been told relative to the Labour Rate Act, and the evils which it was likely to bring on the country.—From all parts of the country, both in the way of deputation and remonstrance, by resolutions, the government were warned against the consequences of that act. Mr. Wilson read a series of resolutions commentatory of the act, passed in the county of Limerick, as we understood, and continued to say that though he was one of those that had always protested against the act, he felt that he would be perfectly justified in repudiating every shilling expended under it.—(Hear.) He did not see why they should repudiate the entire of that money. When he heard the minister admit that the calamity which had fallen upon the country should be looked upon as an imperial calamity and should be met by imperial resources, he would be perfectly justified in repudiating the repayment of that money.—(Hear, hear.) But he did not say that he would repudiate it, for he was ready to pay his share of the expenditure for every useful and necessary work under the act, or where there was value given for the money laid out. The letting of Mr. Labouchere's letter was an admission that the Labour Rate Act was unsuitable to Ireland. They were taunted with not employing the people on the land when they were at liberty to do so; but the fact was, they could not do so—they could not employ the people under the letter, so many persons—minors, absentees, and others—should agree before it could be done. There was one case, however, where the terms of the letter were adopted. Lord Ossen, the Knight of Glin, and Mr. Sleeman, agreed to carry out the letter. But what was the consequence? On the property of Mr. Sleeman 40L an acre had been already forced from poor years at their command; but they had the instructive lessons of the past, the natural energies of the country, and the improved intellect of the people to guide them in the future. They had a deep-seated conviction that the great of national destitution no individual was exempt from the discharge of his portion of the general obligation which attached collectively to them all. They had an intimate persuasion that no government intervention, however, could supersede the wants or supply the necessities of the multiplied and ubiquitous energy of individual exertion.—(Hear.) Again, in the hour of remarkable calamity, they had, as a further guide, the important advantage of a legislative enactment not before enjoyed. They had the invaluable aid of the Land Improvement Act—an act well calculated to supply their proverbial want of capital. They had also the amended Drainage Act, which, however, unfortunately called upon them with all the indefinite improvements they were calculated to secure. They had railway enterprise in such a position as to justify the respective companies in asking co-operation from the government towards their completion, which would give the public ample security, and diffuse throughout the great breadth which had been sown, the distress next year will be only partial. Returns which he (Mr. Wilson) had read on previous occasions proved that a great portion of the land was untilled in consequence of the people having been thrown on the public works. At present the government were taking returns of stock, but he warned the public that they were about to be taxed was to provide food for the succeeding year. 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