

# The Examiner.

"THIS IS TRUE LIBERTY, WHEN FREEBORN MEN—HAVING TO ADVISE THE PUBLIC, MAY SPEAK FREE."—EURIPIDES.

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## POLITICS AND NEWS.

### From Papers by the last English Mail.

(From the European Times.)

#### ENGLAND.—THE SUGAR DUTIES.

The question of the Sugar Duties is one of such vital importance to all mercantile men, that no excuse is necessary for again reverting to the pending Government measure. We have already stated, the amendment first proposed by Sir John Pakington was only rejected by a majority of fifteen, and, perhaps, the division list which has been since published exhibits more remarkable features than almost any within our recollection. By the side of Lord John Russell will be seen the names of Richard Cobden, Sir Robert Peel, and Sir James Graham; whilst, on the other hand, the minority contained the names of J. Pattison, Masterman, H. Goulburn, E. Cardwell, Sir Thomas Birch, and Lord Lincoln, names rarely seen together upon such questions, and which show, amongst other things, the utter dislocation of the Peel party in the House of Commons. Sir Robert Peel said of Mr. Goulburn's vote, that he trusted there would be no interruption of the affectionate regard which, during so many years, had subsisted between them. Indeed, we believe we state only what is notorious in the political circles in London, that it being found impossible to induce either the Protectionist party to 'fraternise' with Sir Robert Peel, or for the right hon. baronet to make any *amende honorable* to his old friends, so as to harmonise upon any settled principle; and Mr. Goulburn's convictions, upon the necessity of doing something effectual for the West Indians, being immovable, he voted against the Government; and the junior members of the party, as Mr. Cardwell and Lord Lincoln, were compelled to vote against their chief, together with Mr. Gladstone. Whether this will lead to the permanent break-up of the Peel party remains to be seen. For a long time past the position of that party has been highly obstructive, and we really think its separate existence was not very conducive to the interests of the country.

The contest has still been carried on respecting the measure of the Government. On the 30th ult. Mr. Bright made an attempt to pass a declaratory resolution, to the effect that it was inexpedient to alter the Sugar Act of 1846; but the Chancellor of the Exchequer having met the question, by bringing out opportunely a sort of budget, which produced a very satisfactory effect upon the House, only 35 could be found to join with Mr. Bright in his extreme free trade view, and 302 members having voted against him, the motion was rejected by a majority of 266. Encouraged by the vote of the preceding week, Sir John Pakington renewed the attack on Monday evening last, by moving a resolution, imposing a differential duty of 10. per cwt. in favour of colonial sugar, which he proposed to effect not by raising the duty on foreign sugar but lowering it on colonial sugar, making the duty on the latter 10s. per cwt. Mr. Thomas Baring showed very distinctly that the Government measure, although at first it left an apparent protection of about 7s. per cwt., nevertheless when foreign sugar was compared with British colonial sugar, there was a difference of 4s. 4d. per cwt. in favour of the former, which, deducted from the seven shillings, would leave, at the most favourable view of the matter, but 4s. 8d. per cwt. the real protection. Accordingly, until the Government proposed some scheme which was likely to meet with more general concurrence, he should support the recommendation of the committee as now formally embodied in Sir John Pakington's resolution. Upon division, however, this scheme did not meet with such approbation as the previous vague negative to the measure of the Government, the numbers being for the amendment 169, against it 231, so it was rejected by a majority of 62. On the division being declared, it then became evident that no resolution of any kind could be passed by the committee of the whole House, so as to be reported before the 5th instant. The intentions of Ministers to levy the new scale of duties on and after that day were accordingly frustrated. As by the act of 1846, the duty of foreign was reduced on the 5th instant, no alternative presented itself but to allow all the sugar which by auspicious winds, reaches our ports before the new resolutions are reported to come in under the reduced scale of duties, whilst the less fortunate cargoes which do not arrive till the measure of the Government comes into force, will have 1s. 6d. per c. additional duty imposed upon them.

This uncertain mode of legislation is altogether unprecedented within a long experience. It makes

commerce a mere weather speculation, and is most unsatisfactory to all those merchants who are interested in cargoes of foreign sugars to arrive; and let the Chancellor of the Exchequer make what arrangements he may eventually, we fear that it may lead to great inconvenience, and, perhaps, serious complaints from the representatives of foreign powers.

With regard to the main question of the Sugar Duties, there is not a man in the House of Commons who deceives himself into the belief that the Government measure, if it should be adopted, will be a final settlement of the whole question. For many years to come, the uncertainty which will hang over West India affairs must effect the prosperity of those colonies as well as the Mauritius, and we deem a comprehensive settlement of the question as remote as ever.

#### IRELAND.

[From the European Times.]

On the 4th, Patrick Gogarty was indicted for training and drilling, on the 16th April last, a number of persons to military movements, and eight others were indicted for being trained and drilled by the said Patrick Gogarty.

Mr. Baldwin, Q. C., having stated the case to the jury, and witnesses having been examined for the prosecution and defence, Chief Justice Dougherty charged the jury, and concluded his address by saying, 'I trust that the detective force, or some other force, may put an end to a system which has now grown to such a height as to cause the greatest terror to her Majesty's subjects. It is not from a vulgar fear for my personal safety that I express this wish, but from a nobler and better fear, lest a collision in this country should take place, by which the innocent and unoffending, as has been the case in other countries, should be brought into jeopardy.' After half an hour's deliberation the jury returned a verdict of guilty against all the prisoners, with a recommendation to mercy on account of their youth.

Patrick Gogarty was then put forward to receive sentence, when the Lord Chief Justice addressing him, said, 'For the sake of example, for the salvation of others, it is necessary that I should pass upon you the heaviest sentence which the law allows, and the sentence of the court therefore is, that you be transported for 7 years.'

English was then sentenced to two years' imprisonment, and the remainder (about twelve in number) to twelve months' incarceration each.

The Commission Court sat at eleven o'clock on the 3d, the Chief Justices of the Queen's Bench and Common Pleas presiding. After the disposal of a few unimportant cases, the foreman of the city grand jury came into court, and stated that the jury had found a true bill against Thomas Devin Reilly, on a charge of illegal training and drilling. The traverser's solicitor then applied to the court for a copy of the indictment, and the application was at once acceded to. At a later period of the day the traverser was called to the bar and indicted by the clerk of the Crown, Mr. Alley, for having, on the 1st of May last, at Bellevue, in the city of Dublin, attended a meeting of a nature dangerous to the peace and security of her Majesty's subjects and Government; also for having then and there practised military exercises, movements, and evolutions; and, lastly, for having then and there trained and drilled certain persons, unknown, then and there assembled, in military exercises, &c., without lawful authority for so doing. The clerk of the Crown then called on the traverser to plead to the above indictment, when his solicitor requested of the court that Mr. Reilly should not be called on to plead until the following day, on the ground that he had but just then obtained a copy of the indictment. The court granted the application. On the following day, July 4, Mr. Reilly, pleaded not guilty.

Advices from Dundalk state, that Mr. Richard Baxter, proprietor and editor of the Dundalk Patriot, is to be prosecuted for seditious writings in his journal. He has received a preliminary notice from Government to that effect, and most probably he will be confined on informations immediately, the assizes being so close at hand.

[From the Dublin "Nation."]

#### CONFIDENCE IN LORD CLARENDON.

A monster loyal address from the county Down, signed by 33,000 persons, including, no doubt, a great many Wellingtons, Downshires, and Snookses, has been presented to Lord Clarendon, and that right hon. and most polite nobleman has returned his marked thanks for the honor of their patronage. The anti-Irish press sings 'jubilate' at this wonderful affair. The *Banner of Ulster* and the local papers generally were in great glee preparing a requiem for Repeal. But the *Derry*

*Standard* (another Conservative paper), looking more coolly at the affair, sees nothing in it to rejoice over. It says:—

'So far as a general declaration of allegiance goes, the document before us may be termed a 'loyal' one; but when this loyalty comes to be embodied in the form of a practical measure, then the addressers are made to declare their 'firm resolve'—first, to place their services at her Majesty's disposal; and then, in the exercise of this loyal devotion, to 'resist,' by every means in their power, 'all unlawful attempts to dissolve the Legislative Union.' This is precisely the amount of the county Down pledge: it binds the parties to resist unlawful attempts to Repeal the Union, and it binds them to nothing else. \* \* \* The Old Ireland Repealers to a man utterly repudiate the use of all 'unlawful' means for the accomplishment of their objects; and hence there is not an Old Repealer, nor a priest in all the county Down, who could not, in words at least, have subscribed this notable declaration.

'Again: the 'Young Ireland' Repealers maintain that, in the last extremity contemplated by their theory, even their own remedy of 'physical force' becomes perfectly lawful—aye, and constitutional too; for these fellows assert that the constitution guarantees to them, in the circumstances assumed, an ultimate right of self-redress, after all other means hopelessly failed. It is, therefore, demonstrable that, without any extraordinary stretch of conscience, even 'Young Ireland' could have fixed its seal to the county Down Declaration. A fact still more astonishing remains to be noticed, and this fact is, that John Mitchel himself, in the very height of his Irish 'felony,' could with perfect honesty, have subscribed the aforesaid Declaration.

'His Excellency remarks, in reply, that he attaches to the address 'all the weight due to the sentiments it contains,' and so he may; for, in good sooth, it would puzzle the Delphic Oracle or the Witch of Endor herself to tell what are the exact sentiments contained in a document which, as we have shown, Repealers and anti-Repealers, and even John Mitchel himself, could sign with equal consistency, the only doubt being whether John Mitchel would, under any qualification, have made a profession of 'allegiance' to her Majesty. In every other respect he might, with entire consistency, have been both a county Down Declarationist and a Pike-man!

'My Lord Clarendon must have been not only heartily ashamed of the affair, but considerably mortified into the bargain. We can hardly imagine a more uneasy situation than that of a hungry mortal, in county Down phraseology, finding his own 'mouth' incontinently 'filled with an empty spoon.'

#### PROTESTANT REPEAL ASSOCIATION.

The following remarks, which contain many sound arguments in favour of repealing the union between England and Ireland, are taken from a speech delivered by a gentleman named O'Reilly, at a late meeting of the Protestant Repeal Association in Dublin, of which he is a member.

'He said the address to Lord Clarendon declared that since the Union Ireland had increased and had been increasing in prosperity, and his reply to that was, 'She certainly has.' The apology he would make for the aristocracy was pure ignorance. They were the worst educated class of the community; but the same apology could not be made for Lord Clarendon, for he was too educated a man not to know that since the Union, Ireland had been sinking lower and lower, until she was reduced to such a state, her people was going to destruction. (Hear, hear.) From the invasion of Henry II. to the reign of Henry VII., this country had an independent parliament, but during the reign of the latter, a gagging act was passed, called Poyning's law, depriving the Irish parliament of all power except that of passing money grants to the King of England. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, O'Neill, after a bloody struggle, was overcome by stratagem, and his province added to the British crown, and then British government, having muzzled the parliament and subjugated the island resolved to rob our people. Accordingly, in the reign of James I. attempts were made to destroy the woollen trade of Ireland, which was then in a most flourishing and prosperous condition, and ultimately in the reign of William III., a law was passed which had the effect of annihilating that business. The Irish people, who had previously been happy and prosperous, became impoverished and discontented, in which state they continued till the year '82, when the Protestants of Ireland demanded from England a free legislature and free trade. That demand was acceded to, not on account