

returned by a Peer. It was stated, that the seats for Helstone were repeatedly bought and sold; after which, by a majority of three, it was determined, that no prosecution should be instituted against the individual materially concerned in the illegality. He concurred in the plan for throwing the borough into the Hundred on general principles.—Adjourned.

TUESDAY, JUNE 23.

Mr. PALMER'S Claim Bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. FREEMANTLE moved certain resolutions, relative to the Irish Barrack Expenditure—Also an Address to the Prince Regent, praying that he would be pleased to give directions, that the system of barracks in Ireland should be assimilated, as nearly as possible, to that of England.

LIBERATION OF MR. CROGAN.

Lord A. HAMILTON rose to make the motion, of which he gave notice last night, for the liberation of Mr. Thomas Crogan. He had not the slightest knowledge of the poison on whose behalf he was going to move, nor of his connections; but should make his motion spontaneously, and solely from a sense of duty, as one of those who had sentenced him to a most severe punishment. He begged the House to recollect, that they had already decided in two cases, both of which appeared to him to be stronger than Crogan's, in a directly opposite way to their judgment in his case.—In the case of the Duke of Cumberland, he (Lord A. Hamilton) had stated, that if the House thought proper, he could prove the Duke of Cumberland had interfered in the Weymouth Election. The other case was that which had been determined last night; and he wished not to say more than that the House would, in his opinion, be guilty of partiality, if they persisted in the further imprisonment of Crogan, who had now been confined nine weeks. In the case of the Duke of Cumberland, the ground on which the House acted was, that the Committee had not reported on it. In the case of last night the Committee had reported, and the House had since the report, and previous to the decision of last night, approved of the resolution of the Committee. The first ground on which he made his present application was, that the House would be guilty of partiality, if they continued this confinement. The next point was, that the House went beyond the resolution of the Committee on the Tregony Election, which only said "that Thomas Crogan, carrier of Truro, did endeavour to procure the return of two persons," and the House had added, "that he had done it wilfully and corruptly." The House would recollect also, that Crogan never had any trial; had never been called to the bar of the House, and asked whether he was guilty or not guilty, but the House had decided at once on the report of the Committee, and ordered him to be committed to Newgate. He must observe, that when the House proceeded to pass such a severe sentence, they ought to have first heard what he had to say; and to have satisfied themselves, whether he had committed any crime at all. If he could shew that Crogan had been unjustly detained, or that he ought not to have been committed, he thought he would then have laid a sufficient ground for a motion for his liberation, after having been nine weeks confined; sometimes among common felons, and once in the next bed to a man sentenced for execution. Last night the House had decided, that as no act was done, no punishment should follow. In Crogan's case it was only proved, he had endeavoured to return two persons: in that of last night, the act had been in fact performed; and if such proceedings were adhered to, the public must form such an opinion of the impartiality and justice of that House, as he should be very sorry they should ever have cause to form. On these grounds the House, he hoped, would be induced to grant his motion, which was, "That Thomas Crogan he called to the bar of the House, to-morrow, in order to be discharged."

Mr. HOLMES rose to second the motion. He said this person, Mr. Crogan, had been most severely dealt by, and he had no doubt but he would hereafter be able to prove it in the most clear and satisfactory manner.

Mr. BANKES said, he thought that Crogan's best mode was to petition the House, and he was inclined to think that the punishment inflicted on him was severe. It was undoubtedly very strange, that a person confined in consequence of incurring the displeasure of the House, should be put in bed with common felons (hear). If it did actually appear that such had been the case, he should not scruple to say, that it called for immediate and strict inquiry.

Mr. BRAND was at a loss to ascertain how Mr. Crogan could present a petition, since he maintained his innocence; and the practice of the House required that he should confess his guilt. If he did present a petition, it was obvious, in order to preserve consistency, that the practice of Parliament, demanding an acknowledgment of his guilt, ought to be suspended.

Mr. BATHURST admitted that the punishment had been great, and the treatment which Crogan had received in prison highly reprehensible. The way lay clearly before him: he had merely to petition the House in the usual manner, stating the reason why he could not acknowledge his guilt. The best mode seemed to proceed to the other orders of the day, and the Noble Lord would then be at liberty to have the petition framed according to the facts, and the peculiar nature of the case. He concluded by moving that the other orders of the day he read.

Mr. STUART WORTLEY thought that Crogan had been treated with great hardship, and if the facts which had been alleged, were founded in truth, they certainly called for immediate enquiry. He could not subscribe

to the doctrine, that confession of guilt was requisite in all cases of pet lions.

Mr. COCHRANE JOHNSTONE read a letter from Crogan, stating several circumstances of severe punishment, privation, and oppression, which had been inflicted upon him during his imprisonment. Among other complaints, he averred that he had been forced to live among the common felons, and had been compelled to sleep with one under actual sentence of death. He solemnly protested his innocence, and concluded his letter by declaring, that although he had been ruined in his circumstances by the prosecution and confinement, he was determined, in despite of his afflictions and distress, to continue an honest man.

Sir JAMES SHAW defended the character of Mr. Newman, the Jailer of Newgate.

Mr. GREENFELL expressed his earnest hope, that a Select Committee would be appointed to enquire into the state of the prison.

The House then divided.

Ayes, 77—Noes, 59,—Majority, 18.

When the Gallery was re-opened.

Mr. BATHURST was moving for a Select Committee, to inquire into the circumstances of Mr. Crogan's imprisonment in Newgate; which was agreed to, and the Committee appointed.

EAST INDIA CHARTER.

Some petitions were presented in favour of the propagation of Christianity in India.

Lord CASTLEREACH said, he wished to avoid, if possible, any extensive discussion on the Resolution which had been postponed till that night. An idea had erroneously gone out, that an unrestrained and unregulated admission of missionaries was to be permitted to India, similar to the error respecting commercial intercourse. He had taken great pains, on opening the subject, to set all apprehensions of this nature at rest. The object was to admit Europeans, so far as not to disturb the peace or offend the religion of the natives; for which purpose they were placed under the licence of the Directors, and the control of the local Authorities in India. He had felt that a proposition might be framed so moderately, as to exclude all necessity of discussing extreme points, and with that view, he had drawn up his resolution.

Sir H. MONTGOMERY said, he was a friend to the Protestant Establishment, though he did not believe that the souls of others not of his religion were not to be saved. He had been long in India, had traversed it from the Indus to the Ganges, and had been on the coast, and in almost every place of worship, on a line of 3000 miles, with the exception of the Temple of Jaggernaut. The burning of women was thought praise-worthy; but was no more a part of religion, than suicide was in this country. He had never seen indecencies in the Temples. As to the dancing girls being unchaste, that had no effect upon him whatever—(laugh).—No religion was more calculated for peace than the Hindoo; and next to our own, he knew of none more likely to be acceptable to the Deity.

Mr. WILBERFORCE thought that it was highly natural for Gentlemen who were perfectly persuaded of the excellence of the Church of England, to wish that its establishments should be the means of converting the natives of India. It was, however, allowed to be improper to attempt this by the authority of Government, but that it would be safer that it should be attempted by those who should voluntarily go to India for that purpose. It was his firm opinion, that there was nothing in the circumstances of India to discourage the hope, that by proper and prudent means being adopted, a considerable effect might be produced.—To prove the possibility of making great changes without a murmur, he must refer to the conduct of his Noble Friend (the Marquis of Wellesley) when in India. At the time his Noble Friend was Governor, the custom prevailed, which had prevailed from times of great antiquity, of sacrificing annually numbers of persons to the river Ganges. The Marquis Wellesley was not, however, to be stopped, by the common place observation of the great danger of endeavouring to destroy an immemorial custom. He caused a strict enquiry to be made, whether any of their religious books ordered those sacrifices; and when he found they did not, he immediately published a proclamation, making it a capital crime to commit those murders. The custom immediately ceased, and no more victims were offered to the Ganges. He was convinced, that if the Noble Lord had been but six months longer in India, the custom of burning widows would have ceased also. In another part of India, Colonel Walker was able to persuade the natives to desist from offering human sacrifices. He then read many documents to prove, that the custom of women burning themselves, or rather of their being compelled to burn themselves, had grown to such a pitch, that 10 000 had been burnt in one year in the Bengal provinces alone. He thought, independent of the cause of Christianity, the cause of humanity was more interested in this question than even on the Slave Trade. He then shewed from various documents that the crime of perjury among the Hindoos prevails to such an extent, as almost to destroy the value of any testimony.

Mr. FORBES defended the Hindoo character, and thought much harm would arise from a legislative enactment on this subject.

Mr. FAWCETT spoke to the same effect.

Mr. P. MOORE defended the European Society in the East, and as to conversion, said he never knew a convert in India who was not a rogue.

Mr. R. THORNTON was in favour of the Resolution, and said it was a libel on truth to suppose its propagation would be attended with evil.

Mr. LUSHINGTON was for the Resolution, but said he should take an early opportunity of vindicating the Hindoo character, which has been grossly misre-

presented, especially in the illiberal and unchristian statement of Dr. Buchanan.

Mr. H. THORNTON was in favour of the Resolution. The House then divided.

For the Resolution 89—Against it 36—Majority 53—Adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23.

Lord A. HAMILTON moved the order of the day for calling Thomas Crogan to the bar to be discharged: he congratulated the House on the rescinding of the precedent, that no person committed by them should be discharged, except on petition.

Thomas Crogan was then put to the bar by the Sergeant at Arms. The Speaker gave him a severe admonition; but told him that the House, in consideration of his long imprisonment, were content to discharge him on the payment of the fees.

Mr. Crogan.—"Mr. Speaker, I am unable—"  
The SPEAKER.—"Let him be removed from the bar." He was accordingly taken away.

After a short debate, the Resolution on the Swedish Subsidy was passed.

The House then in a Committee of Supply, voted various sums for the Ordnance estimates, and extraordinary.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER then moved, that a sum not exceeding 100,000*l.* should be given in aid of Queen Anne's Bounty.

Mr. BARING objected, on the ground that the Church collectively had sufficient property if it were properly distributed, and that in no country was such a portion of the produce given to the Church. By this measure the church was to be possessed not only of one tenth of the produce, but also to become stockholders.

Mr. WESTERN wished the establishment to be supported, but had no objection to a more equal distribution of the property.

Mr. W. SMITH objected to the grant, without having first enquired into the funds of the Church.

Mr. P. CAREW thought, information ought to be given.

After some further remarks from Mr. BARING, Mr. P. CAREW, and Mr. BABINGTON, The House divided.

For the Resolution, 94—Against it, 20—Majority 74.

Other miscellaneous services were then voted. Mr. BANKS brought up a bill for regulating Elections in the Borough of Helstone, which was read a first and second time.—Adjourned.

THURSDAY, JUNE 24.

The SPEAKER attended at a quarter before four o'clock, but there being only thirty-nine Members, including himself, at four, the House, of course adjourned to to-morrow.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25.

The Auction Bill was re committed, and to be considered on Tuesday next.

MR. CREEVEY'S CASE.

Mr. CREEVEY, after reciting the details of his late trial in the Court of King's Bench, for publishing his Speech, read, by way of resolution of the House, a narrative of the proceedings at the Assizes at Lancaster of the King against himself; his motion for a new trial, which was refused, and his being called up to the Court of King's Bench to receive judgment, which was passed on him by Mr. Justice Grose, that he should pay a fine of 100*l.* or be imprisoned till such fine was paid, which he moved should be adopted by the House.

Mr. C. WYNN was against the motion. Lord CASTLEREACH thought the House had better leave the question undetermined, and proceed to the other Orders of the Day.

This was at length agreed to, and Lord CASTLEREACH moved the second reading of the East India Bill.

Mr. TIERNEY wished that the discussion might be postponed, on account of the fatigue which the Speaker had lately sustained.

The SPEAKER did not wish any consideration for his health should put the House to any inconvenience; but he must say he was totally unable to go to any length in the debate.

Lord CASTLEREACH had no objection to its being read a second time this evening, and that it should be debated on Monday, on the question of the Speaker leaving the Chair.

The Bill was then read a second time. The other Orders were then gone through, and the House adjourned.

On Monday, two insane women attended at the door of the Queen's palace. One of them wished to see the King, saying, she was a relation of his, and ought to be Queen.

It is generally understood, that the Duke of Cumberland has been more than once denied permission to proceed to the Russian head-quarters.

Albion Fire and Life Insurance Company, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars, empowered by Act of Parliament; for Insurance from Fire, and on Lives; and for the grant and purchase of Annuities.—Insurances falling due at Midsummer will expire unless renewed within fifteen days from that period. The system of Fire Insurance pursued by this Company affords every advantage which such a security can yield. On Insurances out of London, the premiums have been considerably lowered. A large allowance is made on Life Insurance; and in that, and in every, department of the business, the Company's arrangements are attended with all possible convenience and dispatch. WARNER PRINCE, Secretary.—\* \* \* The Company's Office for the West end of London, is at No. 97, on the West side of New Bond-street, near Oxford street.