

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

WEDNESDAY, April 19.—Mr. Cresset Pelham moved his promised resolution for occasionally holding Parliament in the large towns of the kingdom other than London, but as no member seconded the motion, it fell to the ground.

*Indemnity of the West India Slavery.*

Mr. Baring presented a Petition from the owners and mortgagees of West India estates resident in London, for indemnity in case of injury to their property by the proceeding of the House, regarding the manumission.—Some conversation ensued on the conflicting statements of the abolitionists of slavery and the plantors.—The petition was ordered to be printed.

*Alien Act.*

Mr. Peel announced, amidst cheers, that Government did not mean to apply for a renewal of the Alien Act, which would expire in November next. All that was meant to be proposed was, that the name of Aliens should be registered. He moved for leave to bring in a bill to that effect.—Mr. Hobhouse observed that the abandonment of the act would be hailed with delight by all Europe, for it was always deemed a measure that connected England with the Holy Alliance.—Sir R. Wilson and Mr. Denman joined in praising the conduct of ministers, and leave was given to bring in the bill.

*Colonial Slavery.*

Mr. W. Smith submitted a motion respecting the slaves in Berbice, when, he said, on a recent trial, the Attorney General had declared how much he was shocked at the language uttered—namely, "that it was no more harm to kill a negro than a dog." After giving various instances of the shameful treatment of the slaves, Mr. Smith said, the object of this motion was to provide, that when protectors of colonial slaves were appointed they should be paid by the Government at home, and be prohibited from possessing or employing slaves in any capacity.—Mr. Horton and Mr. Ellis opposed the motion—Mr. Baring thought the question should be left in the hands of Government; and he condemned the conduct of the Anti-Slavery Society, whom he accused of publishing false statements, and exciting danger and delusion by their proceedings. He had not indeed read their pamphlets, but such was their nature.—Mr.

Brougham repelled these misrepresentations of the society in question. He had read those pamphlets, and considered them temperate and judicious; and he thought it would have been as well if his Hon. Friend had abstained from stigmatising as false, statements of which he knew nothing, to describe as foul and dangerous dealers in facts, and as excitors of passion, those persons whose speeches and whose writings he had never read.—Mr. Canning after stating that the wish to alter the colonial system was universal, said—"I will state however unpalatable it may be to both parties, the fixed determinations of Government. To one side, those who apprehended mischief to their interests, and who are stimulating themselves into resistance to the sense of Parliament and of the country. I say without hesitation, that sooner or later the object of Parliament and the country will be effected, and that there is, in the last resort (let there be no mistake on that subject) a power in Parliament to carry it into effect; and it shall be carried into effect. But I say on the other hand, to those who would lead us on to uncalculated experiments, that the Orders in Council contain a fit system for arriving at our object. I mean to say distinctly to the West Indies, that these contain the system of Government: and I mean at the same time, to say, that at some time or other this Parliament will find the means of carrying that system into effect."—The motion was then negatived without a division.

*Bonded Corn to be Released.*

MONDAY, May 1.—Mr. Canning rose to submit to the House a motion relative to the present distress. He lamented the extreme sufferings in the manufacturing districts, and urged the necessity of doing something for speedy relief. He was still of opinion that the present was not the proper time for entering upon a discussion of the corn laws at large; but the emergency demanded a measure of relief affecting those laws, temporarily only; and he submitted the intention of Government to release the corn now in bond, 250,000 to 300,000 quarters, which was chiefly in the distressed districts (and which, therefore, by the co-existence there of want and plenty exasperated the evil.) And as we could not at this time be sure of the state of the next harvest, he went further to propose, that

in the bill to be submitted to the house on this subject, a clause should be inserted to enable His Majesty in Council to open the ports for the admission of foreign corn, either partially, or generally at the discretion of Government, during the recess of Parliament, in case such a measure should appear to be necessary or expedient. It was not intended by this measure to benefit the possessors of the corn, any corn imported under such measure would be subject to a duty of 12s a quarter. Mr. Canning, in explanation added, that this measure did not involve the general question of the corn laws, on which he would not then express an opinion. It was only a temporary measure to meet a partial distress. He moved for leave to bring in a bill to that effect.

Mr. Tierney, Mr. Phillips, and others, expressed their approbation of the proposed measure. Mr. Ellice also approved of the measure, but thought that some other was also necessary to ensure immediate relief in the present distress. It was not enough that corn should be cheap, but means should be given to the needy to purchase it at that price.—Mr. Canning said it was not the intention of ministers to bring forward any other measure than that proposed.—Mr. T. Wilson agreed that, whatever might be done by individual bounty, it would fail to meet any great extent of distress, and he suggested that certain sums should be given to the parishes in aid of the poor rates, which would be best distributed by persons on the spot, who possessed the necessary information as to the real state of the distressed.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer hoped what had just been said would not diminish the humane exertions of the citizens of London, at the meeting next day for the relief of the large suffering population.—Mr. Secretary Peel also made a feeling appeal in behalf of the unfortunate individuals in question, and after some further conversation the motion was agreed to.

*London, May 2.*

On Thursday evening, about half-past eight o'clock, the Duke of Wellington and suit arrived at his house in Piccadilly from Dover; his Grace landed in the morning, on his return from Russia. On Friday about twelve o'clock, the Duke of Wellington went to the Foreign Office, and had an interview with

Mr. Secretary Canning for about two hours. His Grace appears in much better health than when he left England.

*May 6.*

Mr. Hume on Thursday last brought forward his motion upon the state of the Nation. His speeches occupy 7½ printed columns of the English Chronicle. He proposed 47 resolutions, involving all the real national questions. Sinking fund, Public debt, loans, sinecures, Arms &c. and concluded by moving that an Address should be presented to His Majesty begging a reduction of taxation. The Chancellor of the Exchequer answered him at great length. On being put to vote for Mr. Hume's motion there were 51 against 152—majority 101.

Tranquility among the manufacturing Districts is still maintained.

A deputation from the Committee for the Management of the Fund for the Relief of the Distressed Manufacturers, left town on Wednesday, with a portion of the money already subscribed for the distressed districts in various parts of Lancashire.

We mentioned yesterday that a favourable change had been experienced in the Manchester Market on Tuesday. We made inquiries a day or two ago at one of the leading Manufactures in this metropolis respecting the state of trade, and he assured us that at this time all the Weavers in Spitalfields, who could be considered fair workmen, were in full employment. An extensive dealer in Silks assured us yesterday, that the stocks of Silk were exhausted, and that the demands of the retail dealers were now brisk. We are inclined to believe that there will now be a demand for all sorts of manufactured goods, and that consequently, the workmen will every where be soon in full employment.—*Morning Paper.*

Extract from a private letter, dated

*New-York 27th May 1826.*

"It is the general impression here, that as soon as the result of the proceedings of Congress are known in England, respecting the British Colonies, the Colonial ports will be shut against American vessels. This is also understood to be the opinion of Mr. Buchannan the British Consul.

*Lausanne, April 28.*—The *Lausanne Gazette* gives the following news from Corfu, of 6th

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