

tices of the favors which so many members had received from the Government as inducements to support the Castle by their votes, and of their conduct in Parliament. The House of Commons consisted of 300 members, of whom 155 were reckoned as for the Government, 95 against, and 31 doubtful, with 13 absentees, and six seats vacant. The House of Lords consisted of all those peers who came to Ireland—86 in number—but the record states that there were many who seldom or ever attended Parliament. Of the number mentioned 58 were supporters of the Government, nine against, five doubtful, and 14 absentees. It will, therefore, be seen that the Government of Lord Harcourt, who had succeeded the Marquess Townshend as Viceroy in 1772, had a substantial majority in both branches of the Legislature, but, as is shown, it was by general and systematic corruption that this majority was secured and maintained. The House of Commons represented only the Protestant population, for in 1727,

Catholics Had Been Deprived of the Franchise,

as in 1691 they had been excluded from seats in either House. Four-fifths of the people, Dr. Hunt points out, were thus deprived of any representation, nor were the Commons really representative of the Protestant minority, for, of the 300 members, only 66 sat for counties, and 200 were returned for 100 small boroughs, some with a mere handful of inhabitants, such as the Borough of Tusk, County Roscommon. Twenty-four owners of boroughs, both peers and commoners, returned 110 members to the House of Commons between them, and in addition there were members returned for boroughs held by the Castle. The following are some interesting sample extracts from the record.

Some Curious Transactions.

Agar, James, County of Kilkenny, Commissioner of the Customs, a trustee of the Lincen Board, his brother a Bishop, has two boroughs, sold three seats. Ought not to sell, now that he is provided for. Mr. George Dunbar, who is in for his fourth seat, has a pension of £300, obtained by Lord Townshend. He is a nephew of Mr. Ellis, has had many small favors from Lord Harcourt, particularly two boatmen, three tidewaiters, three supernumerary gaugers, four hearth-money collectors, two distributors of stamps, a supervisor of hearth-money.

Allan, Thomas, Borough of Killybegs. Purchased his seat, was a Commissioner of the Customs, before reuniting the boards, he was removed and pensioned at £600, formerly taster of wines, for which he received from Mr. Beresford £300. He had several favors from Lord Townshend. My Lord Lieutenant has given to his recommendation two tidewaiters' and one coast officer's employment.

Balfour, B. Townly, Borough of Carlingford. Lord Townshend gave his friend a deanery worth £200. During his Lordship's administration, independent, and with the Government when he wanted a point, and when he had nothing to ask, with Lord Tyrone. To Lord Harcourt's Administration he had been uniformly steady. His Excellency gave to his nomination the surveyorship of Queensborough, worth £150, to Mr. Moore, and distributor of stamps for County Louth.

Barry, Barry, County Cavan, brother to Lord Farnham, Prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas for life, and Lord Farnham had leave to sell his office of Birmingham Tower, £7000 in his pocket. This gentleman, on being refused have his son's life included in the Prothonotary's patent, constantly opposed.

Beresford, John, County Waterford, brother to Lord Tyrone, Privy Council Commissioner to the Revenue, £1000; taster of wines, to bring his son £1000 more; a living of £700 to his brother, and many employments in the revenue to his friends during Lord Townshend's Administration. He is a man of business; has been very steady in his support.

Blakeney, John, Borough of Athenry.—Lord Townshend obtained leave for him to sell his company, which he had not purchased, and gave him a pension of £200. He now wants an addition of £200 more.

Brahaon, William, County Wicklow, Mr. Ponsonby's connection, brother to Lord Meath. His father lost his pension. Always against.

Croker, John, Borough of Feildard.—Lord Townshend gave his son an ensigncy. He is much connected with Sir Henry Cavendish; very unsteady in his support; never to be depended on.

Howard, Ralph, County Wicklow—Privy Councillor.—Recommended by Lord Townshend for a peerage. Steady to Government; has a large property. He, and his brother support very handsomely.

Knox, John, Borough of Dungannon.—Obligated to support from his employment as Collector of Dublin Excise, worth £700; without it not to be trusted. He

wants to sell or to have a place of less responsibility and trouble; will not be brought in by his brother at the general election. Lord Harcourt has given to his recommendation one tidewaiter, one supernumerary gauger, one coast officer.

Mathews, Joseph, Borough of Innisteoge; returned by William Fownes; Collector of Kilkenny, worth £200 a year; must support from situation; a shuffling gentleman; affects ill-health upon critical questions.

Steele, Sir Richard, Borough of Mullingar.—A Baronet and trustee of the Lincen Board, by Lord Townshend. The very reverse of Mr. Scott; ungrateful and unfaithful; wants a pension of £150 for his son.

House of Lords.

Wandesford—Wanted to be of the Privy Council, and out of humor with Lord Townshend, because he refused to recommend it, he has since opposed.

Louth—Turned out of the Privy Council by Lord Townshend; wanted to be constable of Birmingham Tower, and upon refusal went into strong opposition, in which he has continued ever since.

Mornington.—Wanted a living for his tutor, and opposed Lord Townshend because he did not give it, Lord Harcourt has gratified him, and he supported last session. He has a borough, for which he returns Mr. T. Fortescue and General Pomeroy. His Excellency gave to his first servant the inner porter stamp office, £40.

Courtown.—Wants preferment in the Church for his brother; seldom attends; has no earthly influence in Parliament, and indelicately enough, through some connections he has in England, got himself named of the council here without making any application to Lord Harcourt.

Bective—His lordship and his friends have hitherto opposed, but as he is now asking favors of the Crown, it is imagined that he means in the next session to support.

Bishop of Clogher—Lord Townshend, at his request, offered him the Archbishopric of Dublin, but upon a previous assurance that he would not accept it; for some years he has had very bad health, and attended seldom.

Bishop of Limerick—Translated by Lord Townshend from Elphin; brother-in-law to Mr. Clements; attends constantly in expectation of a better See.

Bishop of Cloyne—Made by Lord Townshend; a constant attender and a good speaker; his Excellency has given him for his services last session an expectation of the See of Cashel.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

May 11.

On Monday evening the Catholic seamen of the Squadron were entertained at a social gathering in Godber's Rooms by the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

The Rev. Father O'Meara, of Feilding, left for the Old Country via Canada yesterday. His place is being filled by Dean Binsfield.

The syllabus of the Catholic Club for 1907 is quite a formidable one. The Literary Society programme is timed to extend to November 11, and is full of interesting debates, papers, and evenings. The general syllabus is also a comprehensive one. The club is to be complimented on the good fare to be provided.

On Tuesday evening the first of a series of social evenings to be held under the auspices of the United Irish League took place in Godber's rooms. An interesting lecture, 'Ireland a Nation of Rebels,' was given by Mr. S. J. Moran, LL.B. Vocal and instrumental items were rendered by Miss Twohill, Messrs. McLaughlin, Hendry, Finlay, Hobman, Twohill, Kierman, McPherson, and Master Foote. An enjoyable evening was spent, and the League is to be congratulated on its activity. The next lecture will be one by Councillor Maclaren.

Wanganui

(From our own correspondent.)

May 10.

The May devotions are being attended by a large number every evening. The Ladies of the Sacred Heart League approached the Holy Table last Sunday, it being the first Sunday of the month. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament took place from the last Mass until Vespers. In the evening the usual procession took place.

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