

"loyalty" were obtained, he could not expect the rich rewards of his "fidelity to order."

Baring undertook one piece of public service which would have cost him dear, had he not encountered a man of resolution and feeling.

There was a Mr. Fullerton at the time of which we write, who added, to a pure enthusiasm, a singular caution, and who fanned the flame of political ardor into a perfect blaze: but who seemed to have an instinct of discovering men of the Baring stamp and evading them. Baring was, of course, furious at meetings, and rich in projects, many of which were of a character to compromise hundreds, and he was lavish of the money he had not got, just as he was of the patriotism to which he pretended. Mr. Fullerton made many speeches and headed many marches and processions, and somehow drilled men without coming into collision with the Act of Parliament. He brought the movements of the extreme party to the very line, where at any moment the sword might be drawn, but he did not commit any indiscretion in the process. He was just the most dangerous man that could be imagined; because the ideas of force were always kept before the minds of his followers, and the idea of resistance while the law could never proclaim either his deeds or language to be illegal. One day, however, this gentleman might be said to put arms into the hands of the population. Great excitement followed the publication of a certain missive, or proclamation from the chief of the movement. The people gathered in hundreds around the placard. They read it with avidity. It was plain and decisive, though not intemperate, and the populace cheered!

The police were soon on the ground, in the locality we speak of, and they deemed their duty a plain one. Opening his way through the circle which surrounded the placard, the officer tore the paper down and walked away.

Now, it happened that the local leader, Mr. Fullerton was not present at the moment, but he soon came to hear of what to his thinking was an outrage. The hour was a supreme one. If the authorities thus cowed the masses, all Mr. Fullerton's work would be undone,

and the labor of weeks and months lost to him. That should not be, Mr. Fullerton thought, and, accordingly the patriotic gentleman procured a new proclamation, or he had got a second copy. He hesitated not one moment. He hung it from the window of his drawing-room in a position where everyone could read it; and then he deliberately walked down stairs, and stood beside the sheet of supposed treason.

As we have said, the turning point had come, and the question was whether fear or conscious power governed the authorities.

However, this may be, the town was soon gathered above and below, and opposite the placard, and the town was so concerned in the same, that, at each side of the street the people sat down to make a day of it.

At length the "guardians of the peace" came, and signified to Mr. Fullerton what they conceived to be their duty.

Mr. Fullerton bowed very politely, as he well could, and was silent.

The officer advanced towards the placard, in the attitude of going to seize. There was a dreadful stillness. Then hundreds of men rose to their feet. A number of men appeared at the end of the street, with scythes, pitch-forks, and a few with old pikes.

All was silent; when Fullerton advanced to the side of the Inspector.

"Sir," he said, "I have hung that placard in its place. I believe it legal though patriotic. I am here to defend that manifesto of Ireland's old blood and best men; and I know the consequences perfectly. I have weighed them deliberately. I declare to you solemnly that the man who touches that placard dies."

"Why, Mr. Fullerton! What do you mean? You!"

"I mean, sir, that that placard shall hang from my drawing-room window. I mean that I will defend that placard. I mean, that even though myself and five hundred more die—after I have killed the man who stretches forth his hand to seize that placard—that man shall die!"

The populace overheard the defiance; and there arose a cheer!—well such a cheer as showed that 1848, in some places was in earnest.