

father's wishes, and to render his life unhappy. The consequence was, he preferred the illegitimate children. It was a natural preference of the dutiful over the contentious and disobedient children. William Gowan exerted himself in the management of his father's affairs, he did every thing which he thought pleasing to him, and the consequence was, his father's blessing was upon him. Gentlemen, from this sprung up the feeling in the heart, which has attached itself to our common nature from the creation to the present time—"And Esau hated Jacob because of the blessing wherewith his father blessed him!" I will not, as I said before, defend the conduct of Wm. Gowan, it was in many respects bad; but, Gentlemen, he was a dutiful son, and that one virtue, in my opinion, is sufficient to cover a world of faults. Let us see what are the facts of the case. Look at Thomas Gowan, persecuting his brother against the wishes of his father and the entreaties of his friends. With respect to the silver cup mentioned to have been stolen, a witness was brought upon the table, and what was the result? Why there has not been a scintilla of evidence to shew that it was ever taken by Ogle Gowan or his brother. Tom Gowan however instituted a prosecution against Ogle Gowan, whom he charged with the offence, and upon what grounds? upon mere suspicion. His father applied to him but in vain. He procured Mr. Medlicott, Mr. Beauman, the Earl of Courtown, Mr. Webb, and others, to induce him to drop the prosecution carried on against his brother, and upon such light grounds, but in vain. What was the answer that he made to the remonstrance of the Rev. Mr. Webb? "I will go on, I will prosecute him, that I may shew to my father the rascality of his favourite child." He did proceed. His aged father hurried to throw the shield of his protection over his son. He goes to the Grand Jury, and by his exertions the bills were ignored, so that were it not for his activity on the occasion, his son would have been dragged to trial in the face of the county for a capital felony, and have been subject to an exposure to which no man, however innocent would wish himself liable. Mr. Gowan left the Assizes highly incensed at this conduct of his son Tom, and he declared he would make him an example to all undutiful children. He went from Wexford to Enniscorthy, to the house of his nephew, Henry Gowan, and from thence returned to Mount Nebo, with Henry Gowan, where Henry remained a few days. (Here Mr. Doherty alluded to some other family broils which he said took place at Mount Nebo, between, as he was pleased repeatedly to designate him, "that wicked