

assistance of armed troops, for the purpose of conducting Sir Charles Wetherell, in his judicial capacity, into this city. It is the opinion of this Council that if the magistracy of this city *feel themselves incompetent to preserve the public peace without being supported by the military, that they should resign their offices*, and suffer the civic authorities to be elected by a majority of the votes of their fellow-citizens. *The Council think that a man clothed in the robes of magistracy ought never to be a politician, as such a magistrate cannot be expected to possess the public confidence, without which he will always be found incompetent to preserve the public peace. They would, therefore, recommend to the Corporation the immediate resignation of Sir C. Wetherell, as recorder, such being the means best calculated to prevent riot and perhaps bloodshed.* At the same time the Council most earnestly recommend members of the Union, and reformers in general, at all times of popular excitement, to use their most strenuous endeavours for the preservation of the public peace, as it is only by such a course they will be able to obtain the rights they seek."

Oct. 25, 1831.

Political Unions have since been declared unlawful by a Royal Proclamation, and are alluded to in the King's late Speech at the opening of Parliament, as combinations which in their "form and character are incompatible with all regular government, and are equally opposed to the spirit and to the provisions of the law." I shall therefore make free to remark upon this manifesto, as calculated to cause the riots it pretended to dissuade from. Can any honest sensible man read it, and not see through the thin disguise? The magistrates are represented as unfit for their offices. They ought to resign that others may be elected by the votes of their fellow-citizens. Surely members of the Political Union did not mean to supplant them, for they are Politicians! and a "man clothed in the robes of magistracy ought never to be a politician!" Sir Charles Wetherell, a member of Parliament, who expresses his opinions in one way as the Lord Chancellor on the woolsack does in another way, is disqualified, say they, from being a magistrate and judge. The maxim of the authors of the placard would certainly go to exclude many whom they would not wish to exclude, and themselves also. However, these politicians do not hesitate to take upon themselves the duties of magistrates, for they

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