

"to the authority of this Parliament, had they not all the  
 "authority necessary for the supremacy of the Crown—the  
 "authority that was inherent in them? If the Act of 1782  
 "was repealed—as he thought shamelessly and corruptly  
 "by the Parliament of 1800—it must be obvious that if at  
 "any future time they found the concession of a native  
 "autonomy to Ireland to be a danger to the empire, they  
 "could repeal it at any moment. He called upon them to  
 "believe him when he said that if they looked around, if  
 "they considered the numbers of the Irish race, if they con-  
 "sidered their growth and power in other lands; their grow-  
 "ing influence in England, in the colonies and dependen-  
 "cies; if they took into account the persistent and unquench-  
 "able determination of that race to procure the freedom of  
 "their country; if they also remembered the growing com-  
 "plications of the British interests in various parts of the  
 "world, and the ease with which such complications may be  
 "affected and disturbed, the growth of military spirit in  
 "Europe, they would, he thought, agree with him that the  
 "danger to the integrity of British Empire would, as far as  
 "Ireland was concerned, lie in a dogged perseverance in the  
 "fatal—the now anachronistic—fallacy of keeping at their  
 "doors a discontented country and a convulsed society, and  
 "that so far as Ireland was concerned the permanent, and  
 "sole permanent safety, both for the integrity of the Empire,  
 "and supremacy of the Crown, lies in boldly, courageously  
 "giving and frankly approaching the question, and once  
 "for all a safe and rational measure of freedom to the Irish  
 "people" (prolonged Irish cheers).