

men with Mr. Giveen, to take down another arch erected at the Cock public house, about a mile distant from Crossgar. Mr. Giveen reported, on his return, that from the threats and violence of the persons assembled he did not think it prudent to attempt the removal of said arch. By this time the Orangemen had assembled in large numbers, in procession, with fifes and drums, and colors; some individuals in the procession carried short poles with halberds or pikes on the ends of them; in some cases drawn swords were carried by persons at the head of the lodges. A few pistol shots were fired apparently loaded with powder, and a determined disposition was exhibited to resist the civil power. Informant met some of the first lodges, and stopped them, and read to them his Grace's proclamation, and commanded them to disperse, but without effect. Informant then attempted to stop other lodges for the same purpose, but no attention would be paid. They forcibly marched on, apparently defying the civil power. Informant then despatched an express to Downpatrick for further assistance. In the mean time, informant procured the attendance of Mr. Hugh Taylor, junior (denominated district master of Saintfield,) and a few other masters of lodges in a house, and read to them his Grace's proclamation, and commanded them to disperse, and stated every consideration in his power to induce them to do so. They treated the communication with respect, but said they had warrants for marching, bearing the authority of Government, and that they considered themselves justified in marching until these warrants were withdrawn. They produced to informant some of these warrants, bearing, as well as informant recollects, the signatures of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cumberland, Lord Enniskillen, and some other individuals. Informant endeavored to impress upon them that they were acting under a wrong impression, but without effect, in saying that the Duke of Cumberland's name being attached to the document, was an authority equal to that of the Government of the country, or greater. I argued the point with them; they stated to me that *the Duke of Cumberland is a greater Duke than the Duke of Northumberland*. I attempted to remove this delusion, but without effect. They said they had a warrant from Government, though it appeared when I came to investigate it, that they had no warrant from Government, but those warrants. Informant, after again charging them to disperse their followers, retired. Thereafter, Captain Damas arrived, with thirteen of the constabulary force from Downpatrick. After the arrival of Captain Damas, informant proposed to attempt reading the Riot Act, and take proper means for the forcible dispersion of the body; but on consulting with the officers of the police, they said they were ready to obey orders, but apprehended, from the smallness of the force, and the spirit of resistance manifested, a loss of lives must be the consequence. Informant then sent another express to Downpatrick, for a detachment of mili-

tary' [4313.] These arrived with three magistrates, and the Orangemen were finally dispersed. Nothing short of the temper and vigilance shown by Mr. Crawford, and those who acted with him, could have prevented a violent outbreak; in which, probably many lives would have been lost, and the peace of the country broken up for years.

But it may be said that these processions are composed only of the lower orders of Orangemen, who receive no countenance in such proceedings from their superiors, whom we have seen warning their humble brethren of their illegality. Here facts contradict words. For on the 13th July, 1832, captain Duff reported to Sir William Gosset, from Dungannon, a procession of not less than from 8000 to 9000 Orangemen, decorated with scarfs, emblems, &c. &c., having sixty stand of colors, and forty bands playing party tunes, and 230 of them armed with muskets, independent of concealed arms. Further, that 'it was headed by several gentlemen of respectability and property, and amongst others, by Hon. A. G. Stewart, deputy-lieutenant, as also magistrate for this county, and captain of the Killyman corps of yeomanry, his horse decorated with Orange and purple, but none on his person; and Mr. Grier, a magistrate for this county, as also for Armagh, his emblem of his office of grand master of the county suspended from an orange ribbon round his neck. Thirdly, Mr. Lowry, jun., captain of the Cameroy corps of yeomanry, decorated with orange and purple scarf. Fourth, Mr. Lloyde, second captain of the Killyman corps of yeomanry. Also, that the Earl of Castle-Stuart headed the procession in his own neighborhood. His second son, the Hon. Charles Stuart, was decorated, and marched in the procession from Mr. Lowry's to Mr. Grier's. Several clergymen of the Established Church also attended' [8070]. One more instance and we have done. It is furnished by an affidavit taken on the 27th April, 1832, county Tyrone, to wit. 'The depositions of David Duff, chief constable of police, stationed at Dungannon, county of Tyrone, who, being duly sworn, deposeseth and saith, That, about the hour of twelve o'clock on Friday the 27th April, 1832, he saw a body of Orangemen, from four to five thousand in number, march into the town of Dungannon aforesaid, in regular procession, having with them 24 stand of colors, their band playing the following tunes, viz.—"The Protestant Boys," "The Boyne Water," and "Croppies, lie down." He saw two pistols carried and discharged by two individuals [unknown] of said procession. Deponent observed, marching in front of the procession, Col. Verner and Mr. Grier, magistrates of the county of Tyrone, both decorated with orange and purple; also observed captain Lloyde, of the Killyman corps of yeomanry, decorated and marching in like manner: heard and believes that a riot ensued on said day, between the Orangemen and some Catholics; heard that three shots were fired by the Orange party, and that a Roman Catholic,

named Peter Tully, had his left arm broken, from a pistol shot fired by some of said Orangemen.' Captain Duff then deposes to certain particulars respecting the wound of this man, and thus continues:—'Deponent also heard and believes that a private meeting of the masters of the several lodges, together with Colonel Verner, Mr. Grier, and Captain Lloyde, was held in the court house of Dungannon on the said day, and believes said persons were so assembled for the space of one hour and upwards; that he, deponent, was told and verily believes that said private meeting was held for the purpose of making the necessary private arrangements connected with the Orange Society, previous to the 12th July, as also for preparing petitions against the new education system, and parliamentary reform.'—(8062.) We may add that captain Duff took this affidavit in consequence of having heard that Colonel Verner contradicted his statements; that he transmitted it to Lord Caledon, the Lord lieutenant of the county, and to Sir William Gossett, accompanied by the affidavits of a serjeant and two privates of the constabulary force (for which see Irish Report, 7570;) who swore not only to having observed Colonel Verner, in the manner reported, but saw him take off his hat to cheer the procession he was leading through Dungannon, colors flying, bands playing. We have searched in vain to discover what steps were taken to remove, or even reprove, the two magistrates and the officers of yeomanry who thus transgressed the laws they were sworn to uphold.

It is remarkable that Colonel Verner and Mr. Grier had signed an address, dated 5th July, 1830, in their capacities of magistrates, to the inhabitants of the county of Armagh, calling upon them to abstain from all party processions; 'trusting, that after the melancholy results that have repeatedly arisen on such occasions, no persons of respectability will be found so regardless of consequences, as to incur the heavy responsibility which must attach to those who act in opposition to this recommendation,' &c. (8737).—This 'heavy responsibility,' and praiseworthy obedience to the laws, and to the government of the Duke of Northumberland, seems to have sat very lightly on these Orange magistrates' shoulders in 1832.

If plain facts are of more value than protestations, we have already sufficiently shown that Orangemen of *all ranks and stations* have knowingly disobeyed and opposed the law of the land, as well as the outward or exoteric ordinances of their own society respecting processions.

But before we quit this branch of our subject, we must be allowed to quote an instance of the encouragement afforded to the Orange system, and its tumultuous assemblages, not by mere magistrates or lieutenants, but by the high and responsible officers of Government. On the sudden change of administration, in November, 1834, a meeting of the county of Tyrone was convened 'to address the throne in support of his Majesty's prerogative.'

On this ground Lord Caledon granted the meeting and promised to attend. But, before it assembled, the following Orange placard was industriously circulated (Irish Report, 4565): 'Protestants of Tyrone—Will you destroy our King? No; you will die first. The King, as becomes a son of George III., has spurned from his council the men who would have overturned the most valued institutions of your country, and would have led your monarch to a violation of his coronation oath. Your sovereign has done his duty; will you abandon yours? If you will not; if you will support your King as honestly as he has supported you; if you will maintain the liberties which your fathers purchased with their blood; you will be found at the Protestant meeting to be held at Dungannon on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at twelve o'clock; and your cry will be—The King and the constitution, the altar and the throne.'—(4572.) Accordingly, Orange as well as Tory processions met here to fraternize and rejoice over the return of the good old times.—Lord Caledon, Lord Belmore, Lord Abercorn, Lord Claude Hamilton, Lord Corry, and Lord Alexander, severally addressed the assembly. But we must do Lord Caledon the justice to say, that he expressed his displeasure at the Orange exhibitions. Still he, as Lord-lieutenant, continued at the meeting, although these processions were parading before his face. Sir Frederick Stoven declared (4576) 'that it was the most disgraceful thing he ever saw.' He himself was shot at; and a week afterwards, the wife of Captain Duff discovered a notice that had been left in her prayer book at church, previous to the meeting, warning her that her husband's and Sir F. Stoven's life would be attempted [4577:] In the presence of this meeting, at a common public house [4582,] Lord Claude Hamilton thought fit to be made an Orangeman. He subsequently applied to be put upon the Commission of the Peace, as the following letter will explain:

Dublin, Feb. 9, 1835.

'SIR,—As Lord Claude Hamilton has requested me to recommend him for the commission of the peace, it becomes necessary for me to mention, for the information of his excellency the Lord-lieutenant, *the difficulty* I feel in complying with his Lordship's wishes.

'Since I had the honor of being named lieutenant of the county Tyrone, it has been my study to suppress party feeling; and I had the satisfaction to know that my exertions had been so far successful as to prevent the display of it upon all periodical occasions, except in the town of Dungannon.

'On the requisition of the custos rotularum Lord Abercorn, Lord Castle-Stuart, and nineteen magistrates, in addition to several clergymen and country gentlemen, I convened a meeting of the county on the 19th December, for the purpose of addressing the King on his Majesty's assertion of the royal prerogative; and it was upon this occasion, I may say, *in the face of the country, Lord Claude Hamilton was initiated into the Orange Society, was decorated with Orange em-*