

derry, by the Reformation Society, on Tuesday, the 11th of March, 1828, to consider the propriety of establishing a branch of the Society in that place, Captains Gordon and Vernon attended as a deputation at the court-house on the day named, for the purpose of carrying this object into effect. A very large number of persons assembled on the occasion, and among others, some of the clergy of the Established Church, favorable to the institution, and some of the Roman Catholic clergy of the city and neighborhood determined to oppose the formation of the Society, from a persuasion that the effect of its establishment would be evil. The consequence of all this was a very tumultuous assembly, insomuch that it was deemed advisable to adjourn the meeting until the next day, and then to limit the numbers admitted by issuing tickets, and charging a small sum on each. On the next day the high Sheriff, T. Kennedy, Esq., was called to the chair, in which, for several days, he continued most courteously, and to the satisfaction of all, to preside. Notwithstanding all the precautions, however, adopted on this day, a still greater crowd of persons seemed to have collected within the great hall of the court-house, in which a platform had been erected for the accommodation of the deputation and their friends, and as the same opposition was still given to the formation of the Society, and on the same grounds, a similar scene of tumult to that on the preceding day was the consequence.

It was in the course of this very unpleasant conflict of opinion, that a charge having been thrown out by one of the deputation, and repeated by one of the Protestant clergy present, as that the Roman Catholic clergy, in their opposition to the Society only wished to avoid discussion, a distinct declaration was made on their part, that their objection was to the formation of such Societies as that contemplated; but that if the question of the establishment of the Society were once dispensed of, and the Protestant clergy were still anxious for discussion, the Roman Catholic clergy were ready to enter on it immediately. This was met on the part of the Protestant clergy by a frank and ready avowal that, as their only interest in the Society arose from the hope it offered of promoting such a discussion, they would willingly accede to any arrangement of the kind. A motion to the above effect having been made by Dean Blakely, and put by the Chairman to the meeting, and the general feeling seeming to be in favor of the proposal, it was finally arranged that the meeting of the Reformation