

being fit for no higher vocations of statesmanship than to nurse into vitality incipient rebellion in Ireland, and to sit in incubation over bastard republican dependencies in North America! The movement, in which we are now engaged, will scatter no seed that will ever, at any time, spring up in armed hands. It is a holy movement; one that, in its broadest phasis, contemplates 'filling the mouths of all the families in the land with food, and their hearts with gladness'. Although, then, it likewise implies what Earl Grey calls the 'alienation' of 2,500,000 acres of soil, to those, however, who are alike the faithful vassals of the Queen and its lawful owners, I will venture to say that the negation of the same, whether at the hands of our present or any future rulers, will *alienate* from them, not only the confidence and respect of two and a half millions of the subjects in Scotland, but of every just-minded liegeman of the British Crown. And further, I will add my belief that the common, the universal distrust which this treatment of the Baronets will create at this juncture, as regards ministerial fidelity, capacity and honesty, will immeasurably tend to accelerate and evoke that other extremity predicted by the *Times*. Yet it is possible to redeem the error—yet it is possible to save the State! But the good and the faithful of all ranks and denominations must be up and doing. This noble Order may indeed fail me—the unquestionable justice of this cause may fail me—the expansive humanity of it may fail me—the sterling policy of it may fail me. But the *VIS A TERGO* produced by the unexampled necessities of 15,000,000 souls in the United Kingdom almost ready to perish, *that* will not fail me. Already we have had our 'Three Warnings'—railway mania, potato-crop rot, and free-trade delusion. Let us go on to chaffer about, to dally with, and piecemeal betray all vital questions of social concernment until the horrid '*Sauve qui peut*' of another Famine Visitation rings throughout the British Islands, and *TUEN* that hurricane of vengeance will come that shall shatter to their foundations all the time-glorious institutions of England—which will leave upon another not one stone of that focus of monarchical plantation discouragement the COLONIAL OFFICE—and which will also break the roof-trees of every gradation of titled rank that stands nearest in proximity to that once brilliant font of honour and justice—the British Throne."

A series of resolutions were then submitted, and, on the motion of the Hon. Sir William Johnston, seconded by the Hon. Sir James D. H. Hay, unanimously adopted, to the effect that the proceedings should be printed and communicated to Her Majesty, to the members of the Order not present, and to the official authorities in Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia; that steps to present the Petition of Right shall be taken between this and the opening of Parliament; and that such Nova Scotia Peers and Baronets as have not yet complied with the resolutions of the meeting passed at Edinburgh, in September, last year, Lord Carnwarth presiding, shall be requested to do so.

After a vote of thanks to the noble Baronet presiding, for his conduct in the Chair; and to the Hon. Secretary, for his long and valuable services to the Order, the Committee adjourned.

*Clarendon Hotel, Bond Street, London,*

16th October, 1848.