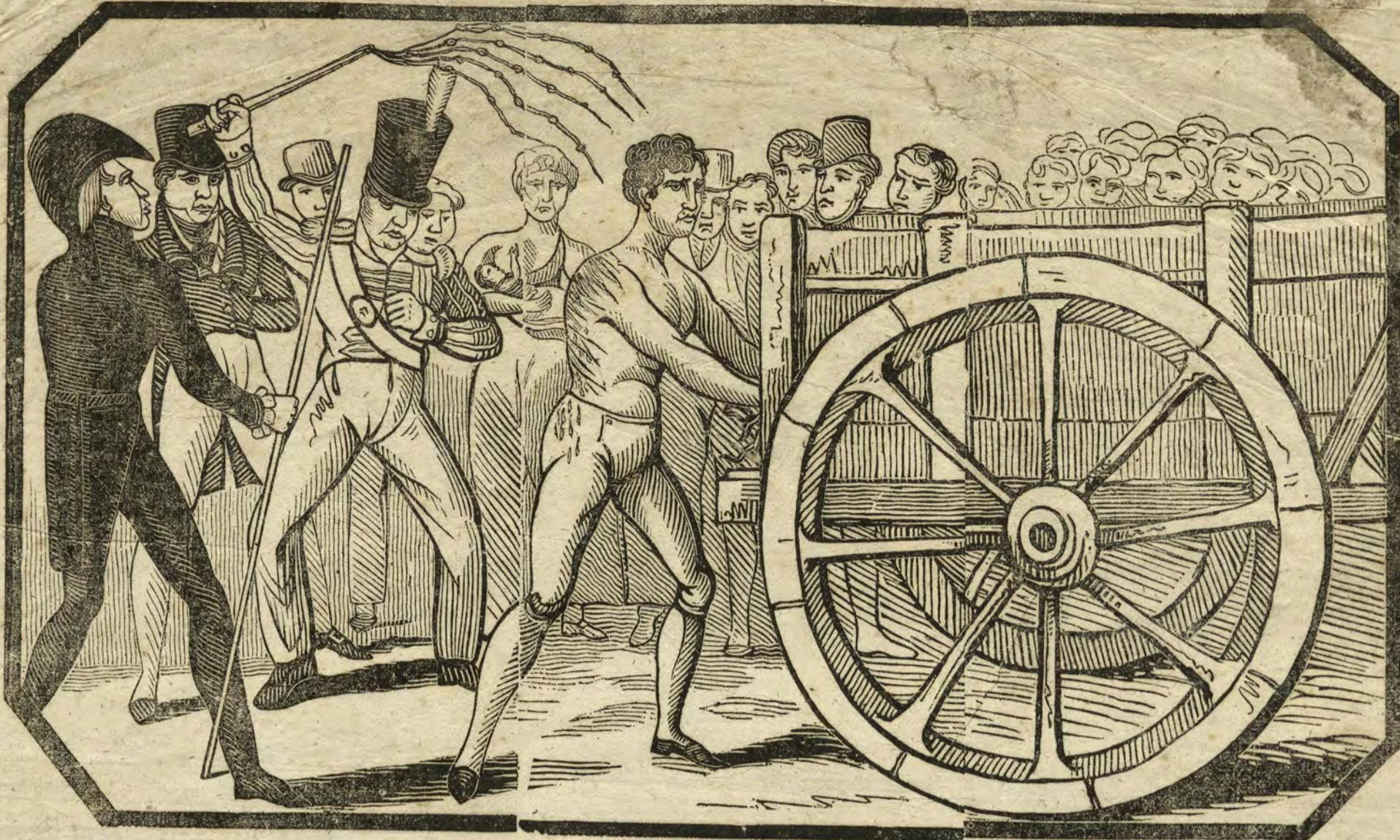


The Account of
The TRIAL of
Jas. Byrne,
At Dublin, Oct.
28, 1811,

Dublin, Oct. 28,
1811.

JAS. BYRNE stood indicted on two separate charges:---For accusing the Bishop of Fernes of an attempt to commit an unnatural crime; & having joined in a conspiracy to vilify the Bishop.



CHARGED
On the Oath of
THE
Bishop
OF
CLOGHER,
With accusing
Him of an
Abominable
CRIME.

With an Account of the
Dreadful
FLOGGINGS
HE UNDERWENT.
PRICE TWOPENCE.

The *Solicitor General* addressed the Jury and observed that, in England such practices (as that of which the prisoner stood charged) were but too frequently adopted, in order to extort money from those who the wretches supposed would rather pay any sum which might be demanded of them than have their names even mentioned in a public court with such a crime. We may congratulate ourselves that our Island has been hitherto free from such humiliating criminality. The learned Gentlemen then proceeded to state the manner in which the prisoner had made the charge, after which the Hon. the Lord Bishop of Fernes was examined, and being asked if the contents of that paper, which contained the charges against his Lordship, were true or false?---His Lordship rose, and in the most impressive and dignified manner, placed his hand upon his breast, and said---"False."

He was convicted, and Mr Justice Fox proceeded to pass sentence to the following effect:---James Byrne, you have been found guilty of a libel against the Bishop of Fernes, imputing to his Lordship an attempt to commit an unnatural crime. I want words to express in adequate terms, the feelings of my mind. You have caused an exposure in this court of a crime which can scarcely be thought of without horror and amazement; you have sought to asperse a clergyman of the established religion, raised by his Sovereign to the highest station in our church; A man devoted to the uniform exercise of every duty which becomes a man and a Christian elevated by religion and morality, and by those principles which, if he departed from them, would have made his guilt greater than that of ordinary men. You have acted with a degree of horrid and unprincipled villany, alike astonishing and unprecedented. The sacred person who was the object of your malignity has unnecessarily produced himself in this court to give the sanction of his name and his virtues an investigation of a charge which aimed against him the most deadly injury.

The Judge then proceeded to pass sentence to the following effect:---*That you, James Byrne, be imprisoned in the gaol of Kilmainham, for Two Years from this date; That you are to be Whipped three times at such periods as I shall appoint; and that at the expiration of the Two Years you enter into security for your future conduct, yourself in 500l. and two sureties in 200l. each.*

(From the Papers of Monday, Nov. 4, 1811.

"Byrne, the person who preferred the unwarrantable charge against the Bishop of Fernes, received a severe flogging on Saturday.

BYRNE.---There was a report that the man prosecuted by the Bishop of Clogher was dead. He had suffered the agonies of a thousand deaths; but he is still living. His crime was the whispering of a report that the miscreant who is at length detected had attempted to perpetrate a certain atrocity in this country. About 11 years ago he lived as coachman in the service of the Hon. Jocelyn, of Dundalk, and after quitting his service, was met in Dublin by his hon. and right rev. brother, who was then Bishop of Fernes, when the horrid circumstance which he disclosed came to his knowledge; but to prevent his proceeding in the necessary prosecution he was thrown into prison, and although he offered respectable bail, it was rejected. He had 2 letters in his possession, written to him by a confidential servant of the Bishop, named Leonard, and at the Bishop's desire, requesting him to conceal the fact from his brother: these letters were taken from him by stratagem, and he, being thus deprived of the only documents by which he could support his charge against the Bishop, was brought to Trial, and found guilty. The sentence was 2 years imprisonment, and 2 or 3 floggings. The incarceration was fully completed and ended, and under one flogging he bled and tortured until the last spark of life and feeling had nearly become extinct. When he recovered, and was on the eve of getting a second flogging, a steward of the monster came to him and offered a remission of the impending punishment, on the condition of Byrne's signing a written acknowledgment of his

having been guilty of slander and falsehood. Who, that was not prepared to die of the agonies of the rack, could refuse a signature under such circumstances? The poor creature, it may be supposed, was not slow in putting his trembling hand to the paper--and he was mercifully spared a punishment of which it was a thousand to one he would not have survived the infliction. Byrne is a native of Maynooth, and of very decent parentage. He has been for some time past in an hospital; and his unhappy wife and small family, thus deprived of his support, are now languishing in misery in South Cumberland-Street.---*Dublin Morning Post.*

PERCY JOCELYN, Lord Bishop of Clogher, was detected in the back parlour of the White Lion public-house, St. James's, with a private Soldier in the Foot Guards, in a situation too horrible to describe. The wretched offenders were most severely beaten, & taken to the watch-house. Next day (Saturday, 20th ult.) they were brought to Marlborough-street Office, amidst the hisses of hundreds. The Bishop was admitted to bail; the soldier, not having bail, was committed. We understand that Government will prosecute the parties at the next Middlesex Sessions, when, in default of their appearing, sentence of outlawry will be pronounced. We are sorry to record this degradation of rank and dignity, and the disgrace and scandal brought upon the Church of God.

It is said that the Reverend Bishop, with part of his family, embarked on board the Steam Packet for France, with all the effects they could collect, on Saturday, the 20th inst.

We know not whether to rejoice or grieve that he has fled from Justice. We know not whether the trial of such a criminal for such a crime might not have cost more in the way of corruption than even his death by Law could have paid in the way of satisfaction to good morals. We have also been informed that the soldier's name is *John Motherly*, and that 19 Sovereigns were found in his pocket when he was searched at the Watch-house.

Our Saviour came not with a gaudy show,
nor was His kingdom of this world below;
Patience in want and poverty of mind,
Those marks of church and church-men He design'd }
And living taught, and dying left behind.
The crown He wore was of the pointed thorn,
In purple He was crucified not born;
They who contend for place and high degree,
Are not His sons, but those of Zebedee.

LONDON:---Printed and Sold by *J. CATNACH*, 2, Monmouth-Court, 7 Dials; where may be had,
The Queen's Life. Thirty-Eighth Edition.
Life in London. Forty-Second Edition.
The Last Day. Eighth Edition.
Country Shops and Hawkers supplied on Moderate Terms.