1836 – 1839 Newspapers

Norfolk Chronicle 16 July 1836

Votes for East Norfolk. To be SOLD by AUCTION. By J. B. SHARPE, (IN TWO LOTS,) At the White Horse, Hapton, Norfolk, On Monday, the 18th day of July, 1836, At Four o'clock in the Afternoon. (By order of the Executors of the late Mr. JOHN FUNNELL), The following desirable small Freehold Property, situate at Hapton, in Nortolk, the Possession of which may be hud at Old Michaelmas next, Lot 1. A COTTAGE, with Carpenter's Shop and convenient Outhouses adjoining, in the occupation of Robert George. Apportioned Land-tax 3s. 0d. Lot 2 - A good Dwelling-house, with cow-house, stable, and other outhouses, orchard and garden, late in the occupation of the said John Funnell, and a piece of excellent Meadow Land, in the occapation of the Rev. Thos. Jack, containing altogether, with the site of the Buildings, two acres or thereabonts. Apportioned Land-tax 94. 0d. For further particulars apply to Messrs. Calver and Hotson, Solicitors, Long Stratton, Norfolk.

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It was natural enough, that those who for purposes of selfish and unscrupulous ambition as a party, still call themselves the friends of national and local improvement !- the friends of civil and religions liberty !!-- the friends of freedom and purity of election ! ! !-- and though last not least in their love of a silly hoax, " the Friends of the Queen" !!!!---it was natural that hopeful adven-turers like these should undertake to throw dust in people's eyes by descanting on the degeneracy of the age and the venality of Electors. But if tears, such as modern Reformers shed over public and private corruption, can any longer pass at a higher rate of appreciation for sincerity than the lachrymal drops which were fabled to flow from the eyes of crocodiles-we have only to say, that our fellow countrymen are dupes to a grosser deception than we ever could have thought capable of being imposed upon them.

If, since Whig-Radical hypocrites completely dropped their mask in this city at the first contest under the Municipal Corporations regulation Act -and have been glorying in the shame of abandoning their own professed principles, and of laughing to scorn, as well the minatory as the admonitory precepts of their darling anti-bribery association-if after all the mingled evils of political swindling, electioneering trickery and the most factious spirit of grasping and intolerant exclusiveness, brought upon Norwich by men who aspired to no honour, forsooth, but that of imparting "the greatest good to the greatest number"-if, a after all these damning proofs of what Blue and White liberalism and honesty are made of, there be one individual amongst us of sane mind who can be deceived on the subject, we have only to say is that his is the blindness of those that wont see; the is deafness of such as are pre-determined not to hear. s And yet, though surprised at nothing perpetrated |

or attempted by the revolutionary movement now fighting here and elsewhere under the false colours of attachment to a Constitution, whose equilibrium of nicely balanced powers they are constantly striving to disarrange and whose foundations they are daily undermining, we must freely confess that even our suspicions, videly awakened as they have been by the warning of past occurrences, fell short of reaching the enormous measure of that discrepancy between words and deeds—between protessions and performances, which a "rabid faction," (properly so called, if ever the term were with accuracy applied to any political combination,) but still evincing "method in its madness," has shewn itself "nothing loth" to exhibit.

Are we not aware then that to the Whigs of Norwich attaches the stigma of originally introducing jobbery into our Corporation and corruption into our elections-and of practising both to a more lavish extent and in a more uncompromising manner than could be truly laid to the charge of their competitors for civic ascendency? Have we forgotten their former appeals to the honour of opposing candidates, mingled with threats to enforce the laws against the " purchasers of their fellowcreatures whatever might be their station or party?" Do we not recollect the length of that almost uninterrupted interval, during which mainly by virtue of Mr. Richard Hanbury Garney's purse they acquired and retained a monopoly of our Parliamentary representation? To these subjects of reminiscence, may we not add the vindictive rancoar of their proceedings so soon as their quietly enjoyed usurpation was brought to a close by the Conservative triomph of 1832 -a rancour which, ungratified in its pretences of regard for morality before the usual tribunal of the Honse of Commons, was fed but not satisfied with the prosecutions of individuals by a veteran dealer in patriotism, purity and what not?

Yes, all these things revive their impression on the tablets of our memory, in close association with the flaming announcement of their champions in 1834, that they stood forward solely to vindicate the cause of electoral purity, and also with the more successful efforts of their dear Attorney-General to disfranchise the poor freemen, as "mean, beggarly, and exceptionable individuals," and to destroy all the old corporations (except the immaculate one of the city of London) because said Sir. John Campbell " I believe when that shall be done bribery and corruption will be at an end !" How is it possible for such sentiments & such facts to be effaced from our remembrance, when we reflect on the conduct of our self-styled Reformers, in the mouth of December 1835, as it stands "for aye disgraced in the calendar," execrated for its general complexion of consummate knavery, & illustrated by those barefaced acts of bribery, on a preconcerted system, of which William Brunning came litther from Shaddingfield in Suffolk, to be one of "the safe and efficient" agents ; but who, with rather more zeal than discretion, earning the wages of a hireling at the hands of the paritans, fell a victim to his fears of legal punishment, & " baulked the Courts" by dying in a mad-house.

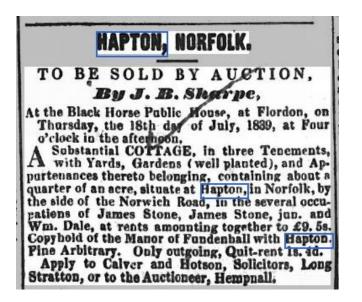
These were the crowning meri's of your once boasting bawlers for Reform—of your still professing foes to abuses, proved or unproved; to tyranny all over the world except within their own peculiar sphere of action, and to local corruption not available to the immediate service of their own faction. These were their claims to that admiration and respect, which consistency and fair dealing must ever win. But all these merits and claims yield the palm of superiority to those which remain to be recorded. For that which has taken place here this week, simultaneously with the arrival of the Ministerial Candidates—may be said to have outbrunning ised Brunning, and to have out-radicatised Radicalism.

What are the notorious facts—what have been the deeds done this week before "the broad-eyed watchful day"—aye, beneath the noon-tide radiance of a summer sun, by the underlings of a party whose leaders have foamed at the mouth in their oratorical deprecation of electioneering practices much less "foul and glaring," much less "horrid and infernal" than what they are now practising?— Why; no sooner had those tardily discovered but, according to the opinion of their supporters, best and surest means of propping a Queenly throne, made their sung entry within our city's walls-scarcely could the ink have been dry on the paper charged with the full force of Mr. Benjamin Smith's and Mr. Mountford Nurse's respective addresses, in which they talk of "thraldom to be shaken off" and of " safe reforms to be followed out"-than the hitherto undisturbed peace of the city was broken with impunity-the liberty of the subject violated by the grossest ruffianismthe honest exercise of the franchise tampered with by every species of corrupt influence; and the Blue and White courass for votes and the Blue and White cooping of voters commenced with a singular coincidence as to time and with the most dignified propriety as to effect .- The very streets, which the Whig Candidates were perambulating on their business of soliciting the suffrages of a numerous and mixed constituency, resounded with the rattling of carriages, filled with voters forcibly taken away by the partisans of reform, some in a too beastly state of intoxication to be sensible of what was going on-others evidently conveyed away against their will, but unable to free themselves from the rude grasp of those who held them down.

This most impudent and atrocious revival of a practice, which though guilty of it themselves to an equal and even greater extent than their political opponents, the Whigs made the most prominent head of their ex-parte case against the old corporate body, was kept an through the whole of the day; and the city was at night in many parts a scene of confusion and tumult, unabated and unchecked by any of the new police, who in the few instances of where their assistance was asked for by respectable Conservatives to prevent the forcible abduction of voters, declined rendering it on the ground that " they had orders from the Magistrates not to inter- a fere."-In short, we remember nothing in point of a reckless audacity or disgusting profligacy equal to the proceedings of Tuesday last, since the ward elections of 1819, when (as the unanswered, because unanswerable letter of the late Mr. Atkinson stated at the time in the columns of this paper) " many thousands of pounds were subscribed and expended by the Whig party to induce poor freemen, who had promised to vote in the same interest they had | c always supported, to break their promises by administering bribes to them; and when a large f number of those needy electors were cooped up at Northrepps and at Hapton, and there maintained

Northrepps and at Hapton, and there maintained in idleness and drunkenness."—No, never, since that memorable epoch, when Whig ascendency was re-established for a while in the Common Council of Norwich, by such corrupt means, have we witnessed anything so disgraceful to the offending parties.

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Printed Particulars may be had at the Inns in Norwich, Wymondham, Long Stratton; of Mr. Thomas Edwards, Hapton Hall; of Messrs. Froude and Edwards, Solicitors, No. 51, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London; Messrs. Tooke and Son, Solicitors, No. 39, Bedford Row; of Messrs. Fry, Loxley, and Fry, Solicitors, No. 80, Cheapside; of Mr. Robert Forster, Surveyor, Tottenham; at the Place of Sale; and of Messrs. Winstanley, Paternoster Row. (2522)