Theme 3 – Ireland
Subtheme 3 – Maynooth Grant
Transcripts for other primary sources

Where the commentary refers to only sections of letters, these passages are shown in red.

Contents
- Ne C 8274 - Letter from James Leith, Britannia Office, Bride Lane, London, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne, Clumber Park, Nottinghamshire; 24 May 1845
- Ne C 6458 - Anonymous note [signed 'an English clergyman'] sent to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; n.d. [1845]
- Ne C 8236 - Letter from 'A Churchman', Broughton, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne, Clumber Park, Nottinghamshire; 16 Apr. 1845
- Ne C 8240 - Letter from W.H. Kelk, Rectory, Drayton Beauchamp, Buckinghamshire, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 19 Apr. 1845
- Ne C 8241 - Letter from Thomas Cooper, London, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 19 Apr. 1845
- Ne C 8245 - Letter from T F Dibdin, 28 York Street, Portman Square to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 22 April 1845
- Ne C 8260/1-2 - Letter from D. Lindsay, Edinburgh, Scotland, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 7 May 1845
- Ne C 7497/1-3 - Letter from James Read, Kingston Place, Barnsley, Yorkshire, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne, Clumber Park, Nottinghamshire; 26 May 1845
- Ne C 6457 - Letter from John West, 64 Hatton Garden, London, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 29 May 1845
- Ne C 7499 - Letter from John Burton, Hyson Green, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 1 Jun. 1845
- Ne C 8283 - Letter from W.E. Mousley, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 7 Jun. 1845
- Ne C 8285 - Letter from Jonathan Sisson, Upper Charlemont Street, Dublin, Ireland, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 30 Aug. 1845
- Ne C 5649 - Letter from Lord William Pelham-Clinton, Vienna, Austria, to Henry, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 22 Apr. 1845
- Ne C 8244 - Letter from Godfrey Tallents, Newark, Nottinghamshire, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne, Clumber Park, Nottinghamshire; 22 Apr. 1845
My Lord Duke

I received your Grace’s Letter of the 22d inst at 1/2 past 6 last Evening and immediately proceeded to the Britannia Office, where I fortunately found the Editor and a literary proprietor, both of whom received me in the most courteous manner, but regretted the lateness of the application, having your Grace's address already in type from the 'Morning Post' and also a long leader giving extracts from and comments of a favorable nature thereon. The Editor however promised he would himself superintend the necessary alterations from your Grace's Copy and thus I left it in his hands but I am sorry to find it is still not without errors which extend even to the extracts in their Leader - 12 Copies as desired were forwarded to your Grace this Day at 12 o Clock. I

p.2

I was requested respectfully to represent to your Grace that in future contributions of matter to this paper (which they would be most happy at all times to attend to) they would wish your Grace to have copy supplied not later than the Thursday Morning for Saturday's publication - as matter sent on the eve of publication was more liable to error in printing from the necessity at times of leaving corrections to their Reader at Press. -

Your Grace will perceive in their leader they recommend the address to be printed in the form of a pamphlet and this I am given to understand is the general opinion of most who have read it with attention and approved its object -

I have the honor to be
My Lord Duke
Your Graces most obedient
humble Servant

James Leith
My Lord Duke

I was this morning honored with your Grace's Letter of the 28th inst, and was delighted to learn your Grace's intention of publishing the Two addresses in the shape of a small Tract, and equally pleased that it was your Grace's wish to do so without assistance, which however erudite is frequently so arbitrary, as to unhinge, disharmonize, and render less effective, parts untouched and as your Grace will have full opportunity of seeing the whole perfect before going to press, there will really be little or nothing required beyond supplying a 'Title page' and may be a short introductory portion of matter in further explanation of your Grace's motives for their more general diffusion throughout the Country.

In my way to Messrs Payne & Foss's I called at Messrs Rivingtons', but without mentioning my name to ask their terms for a like pamphlet to that containing Dr. Croly's Speech (14th April) at the Great Protestant Meeting, one of which I understood the Doctor sent to your Grace - neither of the Partners' were in the way but I learnt from one in the shop that such publications were not at all in 'their way' and besides they were known to be on the other side of the question - he recommended Rivington's as the best publisher for any think [sic] of the kind but thought the price for the first 500 should not exceed £4 or £5 - and any further number not above half that sum per 500, but suggested that without extensively advertising there would be very little chance of sale indeed, and that was most expensive and the greatest drawback to new publications.

Having ascertained this much I thought it best not to see Messrs Rivington until I should again hear from your Grace - In cases of this kind kind it is more respectable, (by some view[e]d as indispensable) to have a publisher, altho it necessarily encreases the cost of the Tract by extensively advertising, which they all like as tending to promote their general business. Mr Foss considered 1s/ as not too high a price for cost but I fear it would in these times be so considered that of Dr Croly's is only 4d and I think your Grace's Letters with a rather larger Type would be about the same size, which by the bye Mr Foss did not like as he preferred it a size larger -

I quite agree with your Grace that no time should be lost yet it will not be so well to hurry to save a day or two in the publication as the strictest correctness must now be insured - I collected from what passed with Messrs Rivington's shopman that Dr Croly's was not printed by them but only published, it has hence occurred to me how far it might suit your Grace to have the addresses printed at the lowest rate we can bargain for to have them done properly which I think might be done as follows say

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>£5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>c50/</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

this I estimate from what Mr Foss said and if this could be
be accomplished were your Grace even to give them away you would be in pocket, the cost of advertizing being certain, the sale in preparation otherwise and this I know from the publications of some literary friends of my own who would have experienced great loss had it not been from the great number of copies taken by immediate friends of the family & this was done thro’ Nickisson who is considered a liberal publisher.

May I take the liberty of suggesting to your Grace how far it might add to the value of the Tract by your Grace adding a concise abstract as an appendix to the addresses, Some trite rule to be attended to by Electors in the event of a General Election let it come sooner or later, this would I think be in strict harmony with the addresses themselves & important to the public on the arrival of such event and if so considered by your Grace might be in course of preparation by the time the other goes to press.

I have the honor to be

My Lord Duke
Your Graces most obedient
faithful Servant
James Leith

Subject: Reactions to the ‘Address’

Ne C 6458 - Anonymous note [signed ‘an English clergyman’] sent to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; n.d. [1845]

The noble sentiments of the Duke of Newcastle are re-echoed throughout England - as the enclosed little extracts - which are but the type of thousands - will prove -

The honest stout hearted Saxon Constituency of England - will in the next general election - sweep the House of Commons clear of the present irreligious crew.

An English Clergyman -

p.2

N:B: In the "Record" Newspaper for Thursday the 17th April there is a quotation of an opinion of Lord Abinger wherein he states that to endow Maynooth is treachery to the state =

Ne C 8236 - Letter from 'A Churchman', Broughton, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne, Clumber Park, Nottinghamshire; 16 Apr. 1845

My Lord,

It is of no avail your writing Letters from Clumber, if you are really in earnest you should haste to London and take your seat in the Ho[use] of Lords, that is one way to serve the cause you feel so lively an interest in, the second thing you ought to do is to send Mr Gladstone to the right-about as your pet Member for Newark, as every one would rejoice to see that step taken (excepting the Romanists) and the next step is to induce your own Son, to resign his connexion as a Member of one of the most unprincipled Administrations this Country ever had, and

All materials are copyright to the University of Nottingham. Transcripts are provided by Richard Gaunt and edited for the purposes of this project by Kathryn Summerwill.
one that has disgusted every one excepting the opposition, what has become of
the independence of the House of Lords? have you forgot the grant for National
Education a few years ago, and the admission of 2 or 3 Roman Catholic
Gentlemen to office, how sensitive Noble Lords & Bishops were then, but they had
something to gain then viz the overthrow of the Whigs (honest Men I call them
for they do not disguise their sentiments) that is now achiev[e]d - and all the
good things are in their reach, the opinion out of doors is that Peel and his
Tadpoles & Tapers will be parties to the passing of any measure which they think
will keep them in power, "perish the Country but live Party", is their motto.

Yours a Churchman

Broughton Apl 16 1845

Ne C 8240 - Letter from W.H. Kelk, Rectory, Drayton Beauchamp,
Buckinghamshire, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under
Lyne; 19 Apr. 1845

My Lord Duke

I have this morning seen in the Church & State Gazette a letter of your Grace's
on the subject of the grant to Maynooth, and I write to ask whether you would
feel any objection to its being reprinted in a form for general distribution.

I do feel most strongly the urgent necessity which exists that the country should be

p.2

roused to consider seriously our present position & future prospects. We have just
formed a Protestant Society for this County (Bucks) but under very discouraging
circumstances. As one of its Committee I should wish to propose our printing your
Letter.

I have the honor to be
My Lord Duke
Your Grace's
faithful & obedient servant
W. Hastings Kelk

Ne C 8241 - Letter from Thomas Cooper, London, to Henry Pelham-
Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 19 Apr. 1845

My Lord Duke

I duly rec[eive]d your Graces Letter with one enclosed for Mr Westley having his
address I sent it by Post. I have dusted the staircase as farr as I was enabled to
do with safety, the little dust that

p.3
remains is on the upper ledge, only seen from the landing on the second floor, the way in which the painters dust that part is at all times dangerous, your Grace will please to give a few day notice that all things may be put in their proper place. I am My Lord Duke

your Graces ob[edien]t
Humble Servant
Thomas Cooper

three Petitions came by Post this morning addressed to your Grace - against any further grant to Maynooth College –

one from Earl Heaton county of York one from Slyne with Hest in the Town parish of Rolten [Bolton] le Sands county of Lancaster, and one from Ottery St Marys Devon.

My Lord Duke,
The unanticipated and sinister result of last Saturday’s debate - in strengthening the hands of the Papists, and proportionally weakening those of the Protestants, - has banished all idea of success in the meditated meeting: which, I fear, must now be adjourned

sine die.

If however Your Grace's House makes a strong demonstration upon the subject, it may be worth a second consideration: but Lord Kenyon, whom I saw at the Vestry last Saturday, holds out little hope. It seems to me to be a measure of besotted stupidity: and most marvellously mischievous.

I have the honor to be
Your Grace’s very obedt
& h[um]ble Servant
T. F: Dibdin

My Lord Duke
I have had the honor on my return home after an absence of some days of receiving your Grace’s letter of the 30th ult[im]o. I have written to my Brother, who is at present in London, to ascertain whether the man of whom I spoke to your Grace is still in his service and ready to

Ne C 8245 - Letter from T F Dibdin, 28 York Street, Portman Square to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 22 April 1845

My Lord Duke,
The unanticipated and sinister result of last Saturday’s debate - in strengthening the hands of the Papists, and proportionally weakening those of the Protestants, - has banished all idea of success in the meditated meeting: which, I fear, must now be adjourned

sine die.

If however Your Grace's House makes a strong demonstration upon the subject, it may be worth a second consideration: but Lord Kenyon, whom I saw at the Vestry last Saturday, holds out little hope. It seems to me to be a measure of besotted stupidity: and most marvellously mischievous.

I have the honor to be
Your Grace’s very obedt
& h[um]ble Servant
T. F: Dibdin

Ne C 8260/1-2 - Letter from D. Lindsay, Edinburgh, Scotland, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 7 May 1845

My Lord Duke
I have had the honor on my return home after an absence of some days of receiving your Grace’s letter of the 30th ult[im]o. I have written to my Brother, who is at present in London, to ascertain whether the man of whom I spoke to your Grace is still in his service and ready to

p.2
go to Clumber. The man’s own object in doing so would, of course, be to have some opportunity of getting farther insight into his business as a Gardener; and I have no doubt that if he goes he will be ready to accept of the wages that are usually given to the Assistants in your Grace's Gardens. He has had some experience; and I know my Brother thinks that he would be found to be useful as an Assistant in the Gardens as well as in the management of the Grass Machine.

It gives me great pleasure to see that your Grace has now the satisfaction of knowing that the sincerity & disinterestedness of your political opinions and conduct are so generally known and appreciated [sic], and that the public sentiment on that subject is now so openly expressed. I can assure your Grace however that although present circumstances have brought the public opinion more prominently into view these qualities have always been fully estimated (in Scotland at all events) by all those whose opinion is of value. I never at any period heard your Grace's political character referred to, even by those who differ from you most widely in opinion without an expression of conviction that your course was regulated solely by a consistent regard to principle and conviction - a sure guide to rectitude of conduct - although it is one that, at the present juncture especially, seems to be but little followed.

Your Grace has had I presume but little time of late to think of private business – but I venture again to mention that I have not yet got the Newarke Estate Account and the Farm Account for the past year. I have the honor to be

My Lord Duke
your Grace's obedient &
faithful humble servant
D. Lindsay

Ne C 7497/1-3 - Letter from James Read, Kingston Place, Barnsley, Yorkshire, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne, Clumber Park, Nottinghamshire; 26 May 1845

My Lord Duke

Seeing in the Doncaster Gazette of the 23rd an address from your Grace, to the Country, on its present political affairs, & the Remidy propos[ed], & in which your Grace says you are :actuated by no ill will against any individual: I most humbly submit the following lines to your Grace's most careful perusal, being fully persuaded, that I have been most shamefully misrepresented to your Grace, or I should before this have received some return for the money laid out on your
Graces property, & my unfortunate Losses, I am persuaded thus to act, by my friends, who with me rejoices to see that your Grace is so ably & boldly standing forward to rescue our belov[e]d Country from the consequences, which will arise from Measures brought forward by the present Ministry, & I can assure your Grace, that even in this hotbed of chartism, Your Graces address dated from the 19th to 23rd is receiv[e]d with raptures & thankfulness, by almost all grades of politicians, who are heartily tir[e]d of the tergiversation, & utter recklessness of our present Ministers.

As a lover of my Country & its belov[e]d Queen I succumb to no man, & my life is at its service any hour, in defence of my belov[e]d Queen & our Glorious constitution in Church & state, as a proof I refer Your Grace to the Rev[ere]nd E. H. Dawkins, who will show your Grace some letters, which I got possession of from some chartist leaders, in the summer of 1842, when I felt it to be my Duty to present those letters to one of her Majestys Justice of the peace, & I receiv[e]d the thanks of two more Magistrates, who were visiting Mr Dawkins, at the time I gave him the letters...

Ne C 6457 - Letter from John West, 64 Hatton Garden, London, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 29 May 1845

My Lord Duke

I had the honor of receiv[in]g your Grace's letter in due course and feel quite ashamed at not having before this expressed my entire coincidence in your Grace's second admirable address to an outraged nation -

I have however been the more reluctant to do so on accoun[t] of the circumstances in which I am now placed fearing your Grace should think I addressed you on this subject (which must be dear to the heart of every true Christian) from interested Motives - having been reduced from affluence and great comfort in which I was brought up to comparative need - But it is I trust still my privilege to say that there is not any thing in the world that I could accomplish that I w[oul]d not cheerfully and with all my heart undertake if it would assist in any measure to save my Country from this "Damnable heresy". Is it possible my Lord that our beloved Sovereign will ratify this detestable measure by her signature - It will indeed be more than Protestant England can bear - Does our dear Queen read the Bible - does she believe the Bible - does she believe the Blessed and alone to be adored Saviour is the entire salvation of mankind - then it will be utterly impossible she should permit this Mad Bill - which I have no words at command sufficiently strong enough to express my disgust and abhorrence of - to become the Law of this land -
"I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the Grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would prevent the gospel of Christ.

But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have received, we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

As we said before, so say I now again. If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed". 1 Gals 6 7 8 9 Cs.

I have removed from Islington into the City hoping if possible to establish one or two Agencies but it is a new element to me having been extensively engaged in Agricultural pursuits in which under the most trying circumstances I sunk a handsome Property. -

With much gratitude my Lord for the noble part you take in the glorious cause of Protestant[is]m - the cause of our Blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ -

I have the high honor to remain My Lord Duke

Your Grace's

Most Ob[edi]nt & very humble ser[van]t

John West

Ne C 7499 - Letter from John Burton, Hyson Green, Nottingham, Nottinghamshire, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 1 Jun. 1845

My Lord Duke

I take the liberty of writing to your Grace to request the favor that you will present the accompanying Petition, against the Maynooth Grant, in the House tomorrow previous to the second reading. The number

of names is small but the time has been short only about three hours. I have been from House to house & found about one in favour of and twenty against the grant nearly every house signed the Petition.

This is a small neighbourhood but I could easily have obtained

five hundred names in a short time. The reason for sending it with so few is the desire to have it presented previous to the second reading.

I beg to say further, I write instead of my father who is the Independent Minister of this place & whose name stands at the head of the Petition he is now from home

I have written in great haste as I have only just time to post both
To his Grace –
the Duke of Newcastle

**Ne C 8283 - Letter from W.E. Mousley, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 7 Jun. 1845**

My Lord Duke

I thank your Grace for your obliging Communication with an assurance it will always afford me much satisfaction to render you any civility or attention in my power; I would not willingly do any human being in existence an injustice if I heard it; and I should be always disposed to treat with all due respect a nobleman of your Grace's rank and high Character, with whom I have been so importantly connected.

The present is an age of expediency - that expediency will destroy the constitution, in church, and state as by Law established, and leave us at the mercy of some neighbouring Kingdom; the high character of our Aristocracy is much degenerating, and we shall soon feel the same ill effects from it which past ages have experienced: with sincere respect my Lord Duke, - I have the honor to be,

Your faithful servant

W E Mousley

5 Stone Buildings Lin[coln’s] Inn

June 7 – 1845

His Grace
The Duke of Newcastle.

**Ne C 8285 - Letter from Jonathan Sisson, Upper Charlemont Street, Dublin, Ireland, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 30 Aug. 1845**

My Lord Duke

It is now some years since the last time I had the honor of waiting on Your Grace, with an address from the Ancient & Loyal Corporation of Weavers Dublin on the wise, prominent and consistent part taken by Your Grace in conjunction with Lord Kenyon against the Act of 1829 brought forward by His Grace, the Duke of Wellington & Sir Ro[ber]t Peel, called the Emancipation act for Roman Catholics; but which has since proved itself to be, in truth, what I then stated, & in which Your Grace concurred – namely, the Ascendancy Act for the Roman Catholics, over the Protestants of G[rea]t Britain & Ireland – I remember that I then also waited with addresses, on Lord Kenyon, the then Marquis of Chandos, & the...
venerable Earl of Eldon, besides other Members of the House of Lords & Commons; on the eventful subject, and to support our petition against the Act. – and I can never cease

p.2

cess to remember the prediction of that Great man in reference to the bill; when he said that if it passed – “The Sun of Great Britain was set for ever”! – And may it not be said in our case among others when the Protestants of Ireland, who saved that Country for the British Crown, are now become almost a term of reproach, and deprived of honors, & trusts by the Minister of the day, to make way for some of the Agitators of our unhappy land, who are endeavouring to cut us off from British Connexion, to overturn our Venerable Church, and the Book of Truth, on which that Church is founded? while a Church founded on avowed and dangerous Error, is promoted & supported by the same Ministers!

Knowing as I do my Lord Duke the deep Interest taken always by Your Grace, in the support of sound loyalty, and true religion, which I have always considered inseparable, I thought that it might not be displeasing to Your Grace to hear of a circumstance, which I do not think has found its way much into the English Press –

It has been decided lately by the Chief Justice

p.3

of Queens Bench of Ireland, that altho’ the new Municipal Corporation had been called into existence, to the exclusion of the old loyal party, yet, that the Minor Guilds of Dublin, of which there are 25, had not been effected by the act, and still retain their existence and powers, except as to sending in representatives to the City assembly, which is doubtful -

Our Corporation acted immediately on this Authority, and Master, Wardens &c were duly elected, and thus revived after an abeyance of several years, when we were obliged to assemble under other names – The Corporation were pleased to appoint me as its head, and I immediately conferred with our City Representatives, and other distinguished friends to the case, and appointed our Ancient Annual Dinner – of which the Newspaper I have the honor of now sending You, will give particulars –

The Corporation can now meet as a Legitimate body “none making them afraid” - - We have met however to thank our friends for this, who destroyed the old Loyal Corporation – I believe the

p.4

circumstances to have been purely accidental, and the effects rather overlooked –

The present new Corporation are almost all of them repealers & agitators, for which our Government are rewarding them by place & patronage –

I trust Your Grace will excuse this liberty, taken for the reasons before stated, and I do think that Lord Kenyon will also be gratified at such an event taking place at so auspicious a period –

I have the honor

All materials are copyright to the University of Nottingham. Transcripts are provided by Richard Gaunt and edited for the purposes of this project by Kathryn Summerwill.
to be
My Lord Duke
Your most Obedient servant
Jonathan Sisson

To
His Grace
The Duke of Newcastle
&c- &c- &c

Subject: Sentiment at Newark


Confidential

My dear Lord Duke

My obligations to your Grace on public and on personal accounts have made me anxious that you should receive from myself and not through public rumour the intelligence of my retirement from Office.

It has not yet taken formal effect, but it is finally decided on. A statement of this prospect has appeared,

p.2

no one knows how, in the Times of this morning, before any disclosure of the kind was intended by the parties principally concerned: but though in one sense premature it is correct as to its substance with regard to me.

I resign upon the ground that the opinions which I have published on the subject of the connection between the Church and State render it improper for me to participate as a member of the Administration in some of the measures which, ac-

p.3

-cording to public anticipation, they are about to take with reference to Education in Ireland.

But although it has seemed to me an imperative duty under my circumstances to secure the position in which I may form a presumably independent judgement upon matters of so much moment, I am bound to add that, adverting to the character of the times and of the religious and political sentiments which prevail, I can cast no blame upon

p.4

Sir Robert Peel and his colleagues either as individuals or as a government on account of their intentions so far as they are known to me; and my feelings of regard and attachment to them remain unaltered.
Although my hope may have been frustrated that I should be myself the bearer of the news, I thought it due to your Grace that you should be apprized of the facts in my own handwriting.

I remain my dear Lord Duke
Yours sincerely & obliged
W E Gladstone

His Grace
The Duke of Newcastle
K.G. &c &c &c


My dear Lord Duke

I have not to pardon but to thank you for the free expression of your opinions on the measures of the Government, to which while in office I was a party, & of which many were immediately connected with my department. I gladly receive such frank statements from any person, and it would be indeed most blameworthy if I did not appreciate them highly

when they proceed from one who has treated me with the warm and unwarying kindness that I have received at your Grace's hands.

Nor do the differences of opinion which your Grace has stated surprise me. I am too anxious from experience of the immense difficulties of public affairs, and of the infirmity of my own judgement, to wonder at the opposite conclusions of others upon the subjects I have had to consider. I am bound however to add

that what I have seen in office has not led me to disapprove the commercial policy of which I have been in part the instrument, but rather to believe that it has been the means of obviating more violent changes, and also that the trade and agriculture of England are, I do not say independent from legislative protection, but yet less dependent upon it than is commonly supposed, and more firmly based upon the industry and skill of those by whom they are carried on.

I sincerely enter into your Grace's concern on account of the present distrac-tions of the Church. God grant they may be effectually and speedily abated. In the meantime I find much comfort in the reflection that amidst all these evils upon the whole the sense of duty is becoming more quick, & the standard of life is rising, among her ministers & members.

To those matters of domestic interest which your Grace has mentioned I will not farther allude than to state that they cause me the deepest pain.
I remain my dear Lord Duke
Yours very sincerely & obliged
W E Gladstone

His Grace
The Duke of Newcastle
K.G. &c &c &c


My dear Father,

I was not able to make inquiries about the painted Window before yesterday. The Figure in the drawing represents one of the Apostles or any one else you may choose to imagine, the dark lines round the figure are the lead in an irregular shape in which the panes of glass are fixed & the whole space of glass round the figure is of a sort of stone colour & the base upon which the figure stands is of the same colour. The figures themselves have bright colours in them blue, red, green, purple &c, which would look very smart when put up. The man will do the whole window for £26.10.0 £11 each for the two sides & £4,10.0 for the top; so it will not be a ruinous concern on the whole. You mention in your letter, about my going to Mr Lindsays House to see his Heiress: I think one would have to consider it well before one did that for it would look so very like an intentional attack upon the fortress, and one would look so miserably foolish if one was to fail in ones object, as poor Rodney Mundy did when he was obliged to beat a retreat from Italy. Perhaps the young Lady may have some one already in her eye, Mr Lindsay said that she had refused a great many.

I dont quite understand the grounds of Gladstone’s retirement, whether his Puseitical principles don't approve of a paragraph they say is to be in the Speech regarding the present dissensions of the Church, or whether he does not like the to be proposed increased grant to Maynooth; however I don't expect that either way the Established Church will gain much, I see in the Papers of today there is a numerously signed Address to the Primate of Ireland by the Irish Protestants about the National System of Education. They will have a nice Session of it, I suspect, if they even get thru it! Ever
My dear Father
Your truly dutiful & affectionate son
Charles P. Clinton
Ne C 5649 - Letter from Lord William Pelham-Clinton, Vienna, Austria, to Henry, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 22 Apr. 1845

My dear Father

I commence scribbling over this long sheet of paper without really exactly knowing any one subject in this very quiet and unchanging land wherewith to enliven it, but perhaps after all Austria quiet is better than English turmoil and party strife, such as, in all probability, is now in the ascendant in England; Judging, at least, from the system of petitions and the tone of the debates in Parliament, many things have been rather enigmatical to me lately, but mostly so Gladstone's

p.2

having left the Ministry in order to speak and vote with it on the question which had originally been the cause of his quitting it. I certainly did not think that Sir R Inglis brought forward nearly the strongest arguments which might have been urged against the measure, & Peel certainly hit upon the best which could be produced in its favour; it is a very difficult subject to argue on either side, it is however clear that Romanism must continue in Ireland, and whilst it does so, ministers of that religion must exist, is it not therefore better that they should be well than ill educated? the present system of education appears decidedly injurious, it remains to be seen whether the improvement in the means of the college and the higher

p.3

expectations held out will improve the condition of the Priesthood, by inducing persons of better family & more cultivated minds to enter it, certain it is that the idea conveyed to one's mind, by the term Irish Roman Catholick Priest, is essentially different from what one sees to be the case among a vast number of the same profession abroad, at all events as far as regards their country & society in general, of course as to their private morality, Their laws are, I think, destructive to it; and therefore it will probably not be amended very much even by superior education...


My Lord

One of the most numerous Meetings that has taken place in this Borough for many years was held at the Town Hall on Monday evening last.

In the absence of the Mayor I was requested by him to take the Chair,

The following resolutions were unanimously carried

1 That this meeting deemed it to be the bounden duty of every protestant to resist all attempts to spread popery within this Kingdom

2 That this Meeting deeply regrets the avowed intention of Government to propose to parliament not only a large additional Grant to but a permanent endowment of the College of Maynooth and considers that such a measure
if carried out will be highly injurious to the interests of our Protestant Religion

2 That the College of Maynooth has failed in producing the effect of promoting loyalty and affection to the Crown among the Irish Roman Catholic Priests and inasmuch as this object has failed and as it appears that the impression is erroneous that the National faith is pledged to its support this Meeting desires to express its decided opinion that its further support by the State is highly displeasing to Almighty God

3 That the following petition to both Houses of parliament be adopted and the petition to the Commons be forwarded to Mr Gladstone for presentation and that to the Lords to the Duke of Newcastle and that Lord John Manners and the Members for the Southern division be requested to support the prayer of the petition

To the Honorable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament Assembled

The Petition of the Undersigned Inhabitants of the Borough of Newark

Humbly Sheweth

That Your Petitioners regard with the greatest apprehension the measures which have been announced in reference to the Roman Catholic College of Maynooth

That the support of the said College in past Years by an Annual Parliamentary grant has been viewed with the greatest repugnance by a very large proportion of the protestant Inhabitants of this County and that your petitioners believe that its Continuance is mainly to be attributed to an impression on the minds of many persons that the national faith was pledged to maintain it but that Your petitioners can find no ground for this impression and are of opinion that it is entirely erroneous

That it has been admitted by dispassionate and well informed persons of various political opinions that the expectations which were entertained when that College was established of its producing a race of priests more loyal and attached to the British Crown than their predecessors have been grievously disappointed

That Your petitioners would respectfully represent to Your Honorable House the inconsistency of giving national Support to an Institution for training men to teach Doctrines, which the nation by the mouth of its Sovereign at his or her accession to the Throne of these realms declares to be Superstitious and Idolatrous.

That Your petitioners Consider many of the doctrines of the Church of Rome as taught at Maynooth to be indeed Superstitious and Idolatrous grounded on no Warranty of Scripture but repugnant to the Word of God and inconsistent with civil and religious liberty

All materials are copyright to the University of Nottingham. Transcripts are provided by Richard Gaunt and edited for the purposes of this project by Kathryn Summerwill.
Your petitioners therefore humbly conceive that the College of Maynooth is undeserving of national support and earnestly intreat Your Honorable House not to sanction the proposed endowment

And Your petitioners will ever pray

I was also requested to forward to Your Lordship Copies of the resolutions and to request Your Lordships support of the prayer of the petition in the House of Commons

I have the Honor to be
My Lord
Your Lordships most obedient and very faithful servant
T F A Burnaby,
Chairman of the Meeting

Ne C 8244 - Letter from Godfrey Tallents, Newark, Nottinghamshire, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne, Clumber Park, Nottinghamshire; 22 Apr. 1845

My Lord Duke

Since Mr Burnaby came here, I have asked him whether any feeling was expressed amongst the magistracy in reference to a County meeting, but he says that no proposition of that nature was made; and indeed from the circumstance of no County meetings being held, I am led to think that the general opinion is that petitions from individual parishes are a more expressive mode of enforcing their opinions - There is now an intention of holding a general meeting in London on, I believe, the 30th Inst and deputations are likely to attend from all parts of England, and amongst

the rest, Newark will send a deputation –

Without in anyway desiring to hurry your Grace about the Bath plans, I may mention that they have not arrived – I do this, to prevent the possibility of their loss, as your Grace said in your last note that they would be sent on Saturday.

I have the honor to be
Your Graces obed[jent] serv[ant]
Godfrey Tallents

Ne C 6463 - Letter from Godfrey Tallents, Newark, Nottinghamshire, to Henry Pelham-Clinton, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne, Clumber Park, Nottinghamshire; 23 Dec. 1845

My Lord Duke

Your Grace may rely that in any communication I have to make, my principle is to state freely what I believe to be the exact state of facts, or feeling, without reference to any belief I may, or may not have that they will accord with your own views, because I am too well aware that any disguise of, or unwillingness to
deal with, facts as they exist, agreeable or disagreeable inevitably leads to
disappointment. I need not say perhaps, that in common with the great body of
the country, the minds of the people here are in a state of great uncertainty - In
this place the only question which will weigh with any considerable portion of the
constituency is the corn law - Although the Maynooth question excited great
interest at the time the great body of the voters would not reject a man for
having supported the measure, whilst, at the same time, there are a number of
the methodists who would act in reference to what has past on that point. In my
opinion the Town wish to look on a future election, as being made to turn on
agricultural protection, and would as a body greatly regret having the Maynooth
[question]

brought forward again, as being likely to create dissensions amongst a party who
desire to be united - It has been said that the dissenters intend to bring forward a
person with reference to the Maynooth question, but I do not believe it, and it
would most decidedly be objected to by the conservative party to a considerable
extent - Sir Culley Smith, I heard named, but as I before said, I think it was mere
report. Lord John Manners dined here last Friday, in reference to the corn
question he gave no distinct indication of his course, indeed he stated that until
Sir Rob[ert] Peel should explain what his proposals were, it was manifestly
impossible to say whether they were worthy of support; when the measure was
propounded he proposed to have communication with his constituents to
ascertain their wishes - Notwithstanding the greatly shaken confidence in Sir
Rob[ert] Peel, parties here are undoubtedly greatly relieved by the resignation of
Lord John Russell, and the prospect of the government remaining in the hands of
Sir Rob[ert] Peel. The farmers here are satisfied with the present corn law, nor
have they felt the injury which was expected, from the Canada corn bill, or the
Tariff. Sir Rob[ert] Bromley was here just now and said he had just been in
company with the Duke of Rutland, Lord Howe, and others, and whilst, as he
expressed it, they were all ready to damn Peel, at the same time they felt, that
on a consideration

of the state of parties, that a protection administration independent of Sir
Rob[ert] Peel, would be so doubtful of permanent success, that they were anxious
at all events to hear what Peels’ proposal was, before they took any decisive
course - I have not heard anything of or from Mr Gladstone, but feel no doubt
that he would never think of standing again, unless with your Graces approval -
The prospect of a dissolution however now appears more remote - In the event of
a change of members I am not aware of any particular person being thought of
by the people here - what is Lord William Clinton doing?, I should say, if it met
your Graces wishes, that he would be exceedingly well received, but upon this
point your Grace will perhaps state your views. Mr Sutton dined in company with
Lord John Manners the other day, I have no further opportunity of judging of his
politics than that he supported our present members in the last Election, and my
impression is that he would decidedly support the agricultural interest. I have
written freely, as requested, as the exponent of what I see and hear around me,
& shall be very glad to do so at all times -

I have the honor to be
Your Graces obed[ient] Serv[an]t
Godfrey Tallents
His Grace
The Duke of Newcastle KG
Clumber
Worksop

Subject: The Conservative Party


My dear Father

I am afraid I am again relaxing into the silent system which I must not again allow to be the case, though my letters may not be worth receiving.

What a Majority the Ministers again had last night on that Maynooth

p.2

question & the odd thing is that they never expected it themselves. Every body seems to agree that they have damaged themselves very much by it, for there have been remonstrances on all sides from their Constituents & if an Election were now to take place the result would be anything but agreeable to them. If Peel wishes to retain Office he must keep the present Parliament on as long as possible in order to give people time to forget what has

p.3

happened...


My dear Father

I expected that I might have seen you yesterday but I found that you did not arrive. I see there was a Division on the Bangor & St Asaph question

p.2

yesterday. Of course the Ministers had it their own way. It seems that it is quite useless to attempt to oppose any of their Measures just now either in the House of Lords or Commons. I suppose you will be up for the Maynooth Bill, but that will not be in the House of Lords for some time yet & when it is I hear

p.3

they expect a majority of about eighty in favour of it. The reason why Lord Castlereagh was appointed Lord Lieut[enant] of Devon was very evident. He voted for Maynooth & Hillsborough stayed away which I suppose was unpardonable in the eyes of the great Sir Robert. – ...

My Lord Duke

I have not lost sight of your Grace's wishes respecting a successor to Mr Webster at Bothamsall: but have only heard of one Clergymen, whom I thought likely to suit the situation. His name is Haurle, and, he is at present residing in a Curacy in Lincolnshire, which he must leave early in July. He is married, but without Family, and has a small independent Property. His age is about 60: this your Grace will perhaps think an objection. If not, I will make further enquiries respecting his Preaching and reading and inform you of the result.

I am afraid that Sir Robert Peel, by introducing the new arrangement respecting Maynooth, will break up the Conservative Party.

I have the honor to be,

My Lord Duke,

Your Grace's very faithful servant

J. Lincoln

His Grace
The Duke of Newcastle K.G.

Ne C 5688 - Letter from Lord Robert Pelham-Clinton, Clumber, Nottinghamshire, to Henry, 4th Duke of Newcastle under Lyne; 5 Jun. 1845

My dear Father

I have not written before, because we fully expected that you would be here on Wednesday, and when you did not get through Maynooth on Tuesday, we made sure that a few minutes on Wednesday would finish the noble Lords: but it seems that they have imbibed some spirits of the olden time, & have determined to vie with the House of Commons in late debates, and long speeches. - I have not yet read the Bishop of Exeter's speech; but shall do so presently. - Old Ironface made a wonderful vomit of a previously cooked collection of facts for so old a hack: I see he acknowledged his infirmity to you: your voice was evidently strange to the iron tempanum [?] - ...