

ous, at all times, to be particular as to the correctness of any information he might give to the House.

CORN LAWS—BURDENS ON LAND.] Mr. Cobden said, that the right hon. Baronet in his speech introducing his measure on the Corn-laws, had spoken of certain exclusive burdens borne by land, which he considered formed a ground for proposing to levy a tax upon food for the benefit of a particular class. He wished to ask the right hon. Baronet whether he was prepared to lay before the House a specification of those particular burdens, for he thought it would be more satisfactory to the country to have the facts before they entered upon the present discussion? He would put the question to the right hon. Baronet, whether he was prepared to submit to the House, before going into Committee, a specification of those particular burdens which he thought pressed upon the landed interest.

Sir R. Peel said, the question of the hon. Gentleman involved a matter that was the subject of much controversy. The greatest political economists differed much as to what were and what were not burdens on the landed interest. Adam Smith thought tithes a burden on land, and Mr. M'Culloch was of the same opinion, but other writers on those subjects entertained different opinions. The noble Lord opposite had in his speech the other night come to the conclusion that there were particular burdens on the land which justified him in proposing a fixed duty. The subject was one for discussion to grow out of reasoning and examination of the facts; and he was sure the hon. Gentleman would see that it would be impossible for him to lay upon the table, in any official form, the information which he required.

Mr. Cobden said, the right hon. Baronet could explain his own opinion on the subject.

Sir R. Peel submitted to the hon. Member that it was usual to deliver opinions in speeches, and that it was quite unusual for any hon. Member to lay on the Table any official statement of his opinions.

Mr. Ewart asked whether the right hon. Baronet had any objection to state what were the real burdens borne by land, that the public might know whether they had any real claim to protection and compensation.

Sir R. Peel said, his answer was, that he proposed to remit the duties on foreign corn from 22s. to 10s., and he hoped the hon. Gentleman would unite with him in passing the measure into a law as speedily as possible.

Subject at an end.

THE CHURCH IN WALES.] Mr. W. Stanley begged to know if it was the intention of the Government to introduce any measure this Session respecting the sinecure rectories and chapter establishments in North Wales; also if it was their intention to carry into effect the recommendation of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for uniting the two sees of Bangor and St. Asaph, or the suppression of either of them?

Sir R. Peel felt himself obliged to postpone giving a definite answer to the question to a later period of the Session. His impression was, that legislation upon the subject was required, but he could not undertake to say, in the multiplicity of business already occupying the attention of the Government, at what particular part of the Session they would be ready to make any proposition to the House upon it.

Subject at an end.

REGISTRATION OF COPYRIGHT.] Mr. Godson moved the second reading of the Copyright Registration Bill. The hon. Member stated, that he did not mean to hurry the Bill through the House, and if the House would then consent to read the Bill a second time, he would propose not to commit it till after Easter, and that the discussion on its principle should be taken on going into committee.

Mr. Jervis on the understanding that the House was not thereby pledged to the principle of the measure, would consent to the second reading.

Bill read a second time.

To be committed after Easter.

CORN LAWS—THE TOTAL REPEAL—ADJOURNED DEBATE.] The House resolved itself into a committee on the Corn-law Acts. The debate was resumed by

Mr. Hardy, who said, that when addressing his constituents, previous to the late general election, he had expressed his desire to see a modification of the present scale of duties upon the importation of