

IV.—*Proceedings of the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland.*

SEVENTEENTH SESSION.—EIGHTH MEETING.

[Wednesday, 8th June, 1864.]

The Society met at 35, Molesworth-street, Jonathan Pim, Esq. V.P. in the chair.

Mr. Henry T. Dix read a paper "On Trial by Jury, in relation to the subject of unanimity."

Mr. Richard P. Carton read a paper "On the Abolition of Imprisonment for Debt."

In accordance with Rule IV. cap. 4, the election of the Council for the ensuing session 1864 65 was held, and the following were declared elected :—

David Ross, LL.B.
Robert McDonnell, M.D.
Professor John E. Cairnes, A.M.
D. Caulfeild Heron, LL.D., Q.C.
Henry Dix Hutton, LL.B.
James McDonnell, Esq.

George F. Shaw, LL.D., F.T.C.D.
Charles E. Bagot, Esq.
R. Denny Urlin, Esq.
Professor Arthur Houston,
E. D. Mapother, M.D.
John Lentaigne, D.L.

V.—TOPICS SUGGESTED FOR INVESTIGATION AND DISCUSSION.

DEPARTMENT I.—Jurisprudence and the Amendment of the Law, including the Subjects of the Punishment and Reformation of Criminals.

I.—JURISPRUDENCE AND THE AMENDMENT OF THE LAW.

Comparative advantages of a code and of a digest of English law.—

How far a scientific digest is practicable—Suggestions as to the proper division of such a digest.—Propriety of appointing either a "Minister of Justice," or a Board or Council, charged with the revision of laws, the consolidation of statute law, &c.—Mode of dealing with such cases as now come (by way of appeal from the criminal courts) before the Lord Lieutenant and the Home Secretary.—Divergence of the statute laws of England and Ireland, and its effects.—Mode of providing for careful and consistent legislation for Ireland.

The Superior Courts, and their procedure.—Appeals to the House of Lords.—Practice in private bills, and before parliamentary committees.—Consideration of circuit arrangements.—The constabulary force, and its adaptability to the discovery of crime.—Should the accused be allowed to tender himself as a witness?—Landed Estates' Court, plan for the issue of land debentures.—Registration of title.—The Australian system.—Lord Westbury's system.—Bankruptcy and Insolvency Court.—English law of divorce, &c.—Power of protecting the wife's separate earnings.