

25 <sup>towards the Debtors</sup>  
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tyrannical, and further that the prisoners of the criminal class  
all but starved there. In the first place then I will be allowed to state  
that public opinion which is seldom much astray represents the  
Governor Mr Ryan as ruling with a rod of iron. In the next place  
I will give you the statements of individuals as made to me upon  
the subject. Mr Edward Longan's case is already before the world  
and his remarkable saying that a month in the Waterford gaol was  
enough to expiate the National debt" conveys in a word his sense of  
the treatment he experienced. Mr. Mr. Sheehan of Duncarvan stated to  
me that a man by name Patrick Mahony was knocked down stairs  
by Mr Ryan and incarcerated for forty eight hours in the Blackhole  
for <sup>in Dush</sup> sinuering a question put to him by Mr Ryan, he further states  
that Mr Nowlan of Stradbally a coach maker was present at the  
occurrence and that Nowlan himself was kept for two nights  
with ~~his hands~~ <sup>his hands</sup> ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> ~~his~~ <sup>his</sup> ~~feet~~ <sup>feet</sup> ~~in~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~Blackhole~~ <sup>Blackhole</sup>  
the first night he was brought in. Mr. Maurice Conway  
states that he was but half an hour in gaol when he  
with the Lion's den for asking to have a drink brought  
Mr. William Power of Ballyduff states that John Fitz  
of Newtown was confined for seventy two hours in the  
Gaol for pointing his finger at a woman who came in from  
street. It is admitted that Benjamin Burton Johnson (Hear this Ge.  
gentry of the County Waterford) an old gentleman eighty years of  
age whose grey hairs it should be supposed would insure him from  
such a profanation was entombed in this Charnel house.  
Are we living in the states of Barbary or can this be the nineteenth century  
or is it rather the age of Louis the eleventh or the Elizabethan era that  
the power of thus imprisoning his fellow men is conceded to any individual  
under any circumstances. Does the first Magistrate of your Ancient City  
~~claim~~ <sup>claim</sup> the Mayor of Waterford claim such a right. Does the  
Viceroy of ~~claim~~ <sup>claim</sup> Ireland claim such a right. No Sir they do not  
neither does the British constitution permit such a right to  
Monarch of these realms. No Sir the Queen of the Isles  
wide and plenitude of sovereign majesty dare not