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Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

There is a complete dearth of political news, in the absence of which we may state that the French Government are engaged in ferreting out the hordes of miscreants, murderers, and thieves with which Paris is notoriously overrun. On Saturday last a considerable military force, placed under the direction of three commissaries of police, surrounded two public establishments on the Boulevard du Temple—the Café du Puy-de-Dôme and the Caveau—the haunts of malefactors and receivers of stolen goods. Upwards of 200 individuals were arrested and marched to the Prefecture of Police, in bands of twenty and thirty at a time.

PORTUGAL.

Lisbon, February 4.—Doctor Kalley, the person who has of late made such a stir in the island of Madeira, as a Bible Society Missionary, arrived here last week from Funchal. The object of his visit, I understand, is to make personal application to Lord Howard on the subject of his claim for compensation for the imprisonment he suffered. That claim, there is every reason to believe, has fallen to the ground, as the law-officers of the Portuguese Crown, and the Supreme Tribunal of Justice, have decided that the imprisonment was perfectly legal, several overt acts against the established religion of the country, such as turning its principal doctrines publicly into derision, having been fully proved against him. Setting all religious considerations apart, it is a fact much to be deplored—and I have it on the authority of persons who have lately come from Madeira—that Dr. K.'s interference there has gone far to destroy all the friendly feelings which the people of that island cherished towards England. Baron Suarce, a French officer, who had served in Don Pedro's army, during the Miguelite contest, was last week arrested by order of the Government, and very unceremoniously shipped off for England on board the Royal Tar. M. Jose de Silva Carvalho, a peer of the realm, and formerly Minister of Finance, died last night, after a short illness caused by indigestion.

WEST INDIES.

Southampton, Monday.—The Dee, Royal mail steam-ship, Capt. Hemsley, arrived this day, at one o'clock, from the West Indies, with the usual mails, with the exception of those from the interior of Mexico. These, from some cause or other, had not arrived when the Dee left Vera Cruz on the 2nd of January. There is no news of importance from the West Indies. The reason of the delay in the arrival of the Dee is, that on the 22nd ult. she encountered a heavy gale from the W.N.W., which continued for three days. A cross sea struck her and carried away her paddle-floats.

UNITED STATES.

Liverpool, Saturday Evening.—The packet ship Yorkshire, under the command of Captain Bailey, has arrived here this evening from New York, whence she sailed on the 16th ultimo, and by her arrival we have been put in possession of papers from that city two days later than those received on Saturday last by the Stephen Whitney, but the news they contain is meagre and unimportant, in a political point of view, but not so with commercial matters.

The Question of the Annexation of Texas continued the subject engaging the almost exclusive attention of Congress, with about just as much prospect of the matter being settled as on the day it was first mooted. The question appears to have resolved itself into the simple proposition whether Texas shall be admitted as one of the United States for the purpose of perpetuating slavery, or whether she shall be admitted, and after admission her ter.itories be equally divided between slave-holders and freemen. Previous to the 13th, many attempts had been made to bring the debate to a conclusion, but without effect, and on that day Mr. Brown, of Tennessee, offered a joint resolution, declaring the terms on which Texas may be annexed as a state, and it was read twice and committed. The house then went into committee of the whole on the joint resolution reported from the committee of foreign affairs for the annexation of Texas.

We learn with regret the death of W. F. Harnden, of the firm of Harnden and Co., who died at Boston. He was the founder of the popular system of expressing, and was much esteemed.

Commercial matters in the States were drawing rapidly to a crisis. The *New York Herald* gives the following as the condition of the commercial world:—

"The recent movements in the commercial world, both in Europe and America—the fall in the price of cotton, the vacillations in the position of the banks, and the currents and counter-currents in operation, present every indication to the philosopher and the statesman, that a storm is approaching in the commercial world, partial, perhaps it may be, but springing from the same causes, and producing similar results as the great revulsions of 1837, 1839, and 1841. There is no use in mincing the matter; when danger is ahead, and the only way to get through the difficulty is to meet it fully in the face. Let us come to particulars. Our money market reports, for some time past, have given evidence, by their daily record of events in Wall-street, that there were at work, in the commercial world, some great and primary elements of disturbance. These symptoms have now developed themselves in such a degree that we are able to trace them to their origin, and to show the causes of anticipated danger. From the great revulsion of 1837, up to the year 1842, efforts were made to revive the trade of this country, but commercial affairs were so mixed up with political matters, and the conduct of public bodies in the repudiating states was much as to prevent any real or positive convalescence from taking place. In 1842, during a certain condition of the English market, a large number of the speculators and merchants of London, Liverpool, and Havre entered very largely into the export of specie from those countries into the United States. By this large export they were enabled to come into the American markets, and, in a great measure, to monopolise them, to increase the current prices of the day, and thus realise immense profits. During this movement they availed themselves of the rise of prices produced by the very specie which they exported to this country to get rid of the stocks which they possessed in the old world. This extraordinary rise in the cotton market, produced by the application of immense masses of specie exported to this country, created life and activity throughout the whole southern, western, and northern country—gave an impulse to the banking institutions, and seemed at length to convince persons in commercial life that "good times" had again returned. Under this impulse the merchants of this country, of all classes, entered into the same movements; and believing that the country was bare of goods, they commenced a vast import of foreign merchandise, even in the face of an increased tariff, which laid the foundation of many of the subseqent effects that are now beginning to be felt by many of our commercial men. The extraordinary increase of our foreign imports during the whole of 1843, together with the increased product of cotton, occasioned by the high prices of '42—the immense amount of specie still remaining in the country, and thereby enabling the banks to extend their circulation—all concurring together, produced a slight over-action in trade and commercial affairs generally, which has been the foundation of the present re-action."

STATE OF THE REPUBLIC—THE AMERICAN REFORMERS—ALARMING PROGRESS OF THE ANTI-RENT WAR.

State of the Republic.—We have been requested to publish the following letter (extracted from the *New York National Reformer*), addressed by a citizen of New York to a friend in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England:—

You have no notion of the spirit of rivalry—I will not say envy—that exists among our politicians. Almost every one of them enters the field with a view to establish his own individual greatness, rather than the prosperity of the Republic. The reason is obvious. Place and perquisite are within the reach of all; hence their incessant struggle for them. In England the honest Reformer is subjected to the ordeal of no such temptation.

There is, as you have doubtless seen by the late numbers of the *Northern Star*, much wrong and "out o' joint," in this country. The two political parties are amusing the people with issues of the most frivolous nature. The main question now thrust under the public nose is, whether we shall by our indirect taxation with a view to revenue, or to "protection." Both parties agree that indirect taxation shall be our system of grinding, as it is the system of grinding throughout old despotisms. The only question of difference I have stated above. Five millions of dollars a year would support a Government such as would become us: but, what between extravagance in our departments—immense practical bounties to our cotton and iron manufacturers, sugar planters, &c.—and a bite out of us by the smuggler whenever he can get in his mouth round our land and water frontier of fifteen thousand miles—I say that with all these appliances the people of this Republic pay away every annual swing of the earth in her orbit one hundred millions of dollars, instead of five millions! For the balance—the ninety-five millions—they get swindling, smuggling, corruption, pipe-laying—rowdyism from the lowest to the highest in degree—flogging seamen, and hanging them at the yard-arm without judge or jury. Not to say a word about lynching by wholesale and retail, rioting, and rebellion.

I tell you, sir, we are going down, down, to social and political perdition; and, like other descending bodies, our progression is geometrical. A young female cannot in New York earn, with her needle, what would pay for her boarding in any genteel lodgings. Suicides from this cause have taken place, and seductions innumerable. The people are crowded together—not fully employed at the best of times—whilst in winter a full half of them are hopelessly destitute of employment. The pauper establishment of New York city is now doubtless as large as was the whole pauper establishment of the United States thirty years ago! The boss manufacturers (the machinery owners) are making annual dividends of 30 to 40 per cent., besides contingent funds of clean profits, whilst the operatives are sending their wail of lamentation from one end of the continent to the other. Prisoners are murdered in cold blood in the back wood-lands. Liveries are making their appearance in open day in our cities. Society is becoming an exclusive, stinking, repulsive thing—coiling itself up in grades—and pressing as a leaden weight upon the heart of those who, approaching each other for the first time, are at a loss to know whether they belong to the same level, and may freely converse together. I repeat it to you, sir, that we are "going" down into perdition, and we will shortly be irretrievably "gone," if some mighty salvation does not interpose and stay our avalanche career.

* * * *

We have started a movement in New York city which, if successful, would stay our downward career, and establish the Republic on a foundation that could never be shaken. But the progress of that movement is slow, while the career towards ruin is rapid and overwhelming. However, we may succeed; and, if we do, it will be the greatest success that ever was achieved since the world began. It will close the account of slavery and the past. It will open the account of freedom and the future.

What the American Reformers Want.—Keep it before the Public.—We extract the following from the New York *Working Man's Advocate*:—1. The public lands ought to be made free, and all further traffic in them prohibited, as proposed by the National Reform Association. This would provide for all who might be thrown out of employment by the other measures necessary to be carried. 2. The expenses of government ought to be reduced to ten millions a year, by abolishing or greatly reducing the navy (keeping up, however, the fortifications); by entirely abolishing the army; by reducing about three fourths the 9,000 dollars outfits, and 9,000 dollars salaries to foreign ministers; by abolishing the West-Point Nursery; by reducing the salaries of members of Congress, and all other officers to what the same talents would acquire in ordinary business, and by a general economical regulation of all the departments that would tend, in connection with the first-named measure, to put an end to office-seeking. 3. A mode of keeping the public money in the hands of public officers should be devised, and all use of it for other than government purposes should be prohibited. If the public money is loaned it is insecure, and, what is worse, it gives the borrower a privilege at the expense of the public. 4. As the reduction of the army and navy should be gradual, as temporary measures, the cruel and anti-republican practice of flogging should be abolished: the pay of privates and officers should be more equalised; the pay of officers as well as privates should be stopped when off duty; and officers should in all cases be promoted from the ranks, or elected by the men. The tariff should be abolished, or a gradual abolition of it should be commenced, but not unless the land provision is made for the workmen engaged in trades fostered by it, and who might be thrown out of employment in consequence. If the land was free, a tariff between one nation and another would be just as absurd as a tariff between one family and another; but free land must precede free trade. If the tariff should be reduced below the expenses of Government, the deficiency should be made up (as the whole amount should be when the tariff is entirely abolished) by a direct tax; every man paying in proportion to what he is worth, clear of the world. If forty millions are raised by the tariff tax, and if domestic products are raised in price for eighty millions more by the "protection" afforded, that is eighty millions, or about twenty dollars for every family in the union, and as the tariff taxes the poor man's goods higher than the rich, the probability is that the poor man now pays about twenty-five dollars a-year by the tariff tax; whereas if the tax was direct on property, the poor man would contribute his mite, and the millionaire possibly his hundred thousand dollars. Government is for the protection of property, and why should not property pay the tax? Mr. Rhett, of South Carolina, is the only member of Congress who has made a common sense speech on the subject; though, doubtless, others besides him have advocated directt axation. Direct taxes, too, might be collected by the same officers as now collect the State taxes, and thus a most expensive and troublesome class of tax-eaters, the Custom House Officers, might be entirely dispensed with. 7. Last, though not least among the measures that I think ought to be carried by the coming Congress, is the adoption of such means as may be in the power of Congress to abolish slavery. I am fully aware that it is just as inconsistent for the northern land monopolist to ask the southern slaveholder to give up his slaves, as it is for the slaveholder to ask the monopolist to give up his land; for land monopoly is the root of all slavery; but the spirit of the age requires that something should be done towards the suppression both of land-selling and body-selling. If abolitionists have been imprudent; if they have shut their eyes to the white slavery around them; if they have actually upheld white slavery by monopolizing and trafficking in the soil, that is no reason why their sins should be visited upon the blacks. Congress has power to arrest the land traffic, which was the parent of slavery; and if it has any power to prevent the traffic in human flesh, between States or otherwise, it ought no longer to lay dormant.

THE ANTI-RENTERS.

Some weeks ago we gave a brief account of the doings of the Anti-Renters in the state of New York. We have now to "report progress;" and our readers will see that this question of the People *versus* the Land Robbers, is assuming a serious aspect. On the 5th of December a large Anti-Rent Meeting was held in the county of Otsego (N. Y.). The meeting was addressed by Major B. D. North, J. W. Reynolds, Esq., and B. M. Kemp, Esq. This last gentleman delivered a truly eloquent speech in vindication of man's natural right to the soil; and the meeting, having chosen a committee of nine, adjourned to meet again on the 21st of December, at the village of Lodi. The correspondent of the *Working Man's Advocate* prefaces his report of the meeting with the following remarks:—"There now appears to be a general upheaval of the toil-worn producers of Otsego and the adjoining counties; and they are now casting about for arguments and measures to *down with the rent*. There are many lease-lands in these counties, and of the worst kind, too; three life leases, which in many instances are expiring. George Clark, a young man, lately of age, and a descendant of Lieutenant-Governor Clark in this state in 1742, claims to be the owner of a great portion of these lands; and as he claims his title from a grant from George II., King of England, &c., he is not unfrequently called King George II. The people here say, 'That, as the patriots of 1776, having gained their independence, inadvertently left land monopoly, as a thorn in the flesh, to bear down and oppress their children, the same spirit and love of liberty which impelled our forefathers to action, now calls upon their descendants to expel this blighting relic of feudal despotism from our common country.'"

The *Albany Argus* of the 17th of December gives the following from a correspondent, announcing that resistance to "the rent" had commenced in Columbia county:—"On the 1st of October the first rent became due, and about that time several emissaries came from Rensselaer to preach rebellion among the people of this county. This alarmed no one, as it was supposed that the condition of things here was too satisfactory on all hands to be disturbed. About thirty days passed on, and no rents being paid, distress warrants were issued by the guardian, and put in the hands of the sheriff. The sheriff made the distress without any opposition, and subsequently the appraisal, but he was then informed that the rents would not be paid, and that the sale would be prevented. The sheriff probably did not believe these threats, as he made no provision to repel any opposition, but went with a single attendant to make the sale. He was met by a body of Indians before he reached the place, escorted to the place of sale, and there, under a threat of personal violence, gave up all his papers, and they were burned in his presence. The sheriff reports that there were on the ground over 200 men in Indian dress, and 1,500 citizen spectators, called there by the novelty of the occasion. When the papers were burned the whole assemblage gave three cheers, and the sheriff left the ground without any adjournment of sale, and there ends the distress."

Another correspondent of the same paper writes as follows:—"Delhi, Dec. 10, 1844.—Dear Sir,—The anti-rent excitement has been on the increase since the election. Under various pretexts it has been started in more than half the towns in this county, and in many of the adjoining towns in Scoharie, Greene, and Ulster. The organization is most effective for mischief of all kinds. It is highly important that our new executive should be correctly informed as to the real nature and extent of the evil. If he should shrink from the duty of acting energetically in this matter, it will be impossible to foretell the end of the armed and organized rebellion that is now committing outrages and setting the laws at defiance in many parts of the State."

Arrest of "Indians."—On the 18th of December, two of the "Indians," "Big Thunder" and "Little Thunder," were arrested and lodged in gaol.

The *Tory Budget* of December 20th, has the following:—"A party of thirty of the 'Anti-Renters,' dressed in Indian disguise, yesterday assaulted Mr. Elijah Smith, of the town of Grafton, in this county, not far from See-place, took him from his waggon, and wantonly shot him. We have learned no particulars beyond these, except that Smith and the 'Indians' have had difficulties for some time past."

The *New York News* confirms the above:—"In reference to the murder of Mr. Elijah Smith, of Grafton, by the 'Indians' of Rensselaer county, the *Albany Argus* learns, that Richard Knowlson, of Sandlake, had purchased some wood-land in Grafton of Mr. P. Van Rensselaer; that timber had been cut thereon by trespassers and some carried off; that Knowlson employed Smith to remove the timber so cut and then lying on the grounds, to his mills; and that Smith, in attempting to do this, came into collision with the trespassers, and was deliberately shot. The persons guilty of the outrage were the Indians kept under pay by the Anti-rent Association of Rensselaer county."

A letter dated Hudson, Dec. 25th, written by an enemy to the Anti-Renters, says:—"Last evening a messenger arrived from Albany, informing us that in the noon cars of to-day the Burgess Corps, with 300 stand of arms, in addition to their own, would come to our aid; and if we can fetch the 1st of January, I shall then have full faith in our new Governor elect, as he will probably at once declare these several counties in a state of insurrection, and quarter troops in every infected district."

The New York *National Reformer*, of January 4th, has the following:—"A Mr. Reynolds, and his son, have been arrested in Columbia country. The press give brilliant accounts of the feats performed at the capture of these men. Feats which, if true, show that the authorities are destroying every vestige of law—shooting at men who are running away for their lives—pinning their hands to the wainscot with a bayonet in order to secure them. In one case a cousin of Mr. Reynolds, against whom no charge even was made, in running away was fired upon by the troops, and would have been murdered only he chanced to stumble over a log, and fell just as the bullets passed over him. In several other cases the sound of horses' feet was the signal for discharging vollies at the riders. We ask the Executive, are these things true? Are they sanctioned by authority? Are the drilled companies to exercise the functions of judge, jury, and executioner? Are they to take no trouble in arresting men, but shoot them down like wild beasts? Women, too, are arrested—flung into prison—treated with indignity that would disgrace a Turkoman. For what? For nothing under the sun, save that they were found in the neighbourhood where some Indians had deposited their disguises."

The following comments of the editor of the New York *Working Man's Advocate*, appear in that paper of January 4th. "Has there been a revolution, or have we been dreaming, and are we yet under the government of Great Britain? Verily, I could hardly believe my senses, when I read in the papers that troops had gone from Albany and from this city, companies of foreigners, too, to take part in a civil war in defence of feudalism; but so it is. An Irish company, the 'Emmett Guards,' has been sent from Albany, and a German company from this city, to arrest and convey to gaol American citizens, whose crime is opposition to the European system of Land Monopoly, which has driven millions of foreigners from their native homes. Any foreigner born who will not throw up his commission rather than engage in such unholy warfare, deserves to be pointed at and execrated by every one of his countrymen, and by every honest man. The case, however, is not so bad as it has been represented to be by the papers. I learn that of the two companies, Krack's and Heath's, ordered to Hudson, but one could muster enough men to go. Of Heath's company only twenty appeared, and therefore they did not go when called for, though some of them will probably be off before this paper goes to press, as another attempt was to be made to muster the men."

The writer adds:—"If men cannot combine and consult together to get rid of an intolerable relic of monarchy, clearly at variance with the Declaration of Independence and the spirit of our Government, without being hunted and shot at, it is evident that the right of suffrage heretofore has been exercised to little purpose, and that the time has now come to set all other questions aside at the polls till the question of Land Monopoly is finally settled."

The following are extracts from a letter from the "disturbed districts" which appears in the same paper. "Claverack, Col. co., Dec. 24, 1844. Mr. Editor—Your paper of Saturday last has just been put into my hand by a friend from New York. You deserve the support of every Anti-Renter for the stand you have taken in defence of their cause, more especially as nearly all the papers of the cities have enlisted against us, with a ferocity hard to be accounted for. However, we shall return the fire. Whole packages of papers that have taken a stand against us and totally misrepresented our motives and actions, have been returned with the word "*stop.*" We are determined, as the war has commenced, no longer to support our enemies. And we have determined on one thing more: and that is, to carry the war into the enemy's camp, and cut off their supplies. We will not trade, even for sixpence worth of calico, with any city that sends troops to collect rents, and there is no need for troops for any other purpose. * * * * We will defend the homes of our fathers, where (if anywhere) we and our children have a rite to 'life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness,' 'peaceably if we can—forcibly if we must.' Our motto is 'Millions for defence, not a cent for tribute.' We have paid tribute long enough for the use of the earth on which we were born, to which, as you well say, no man has a just title to more than enough for his use. The idea of one man sticking a flag up in a country, and by virtue of that act assuming the power to parcel out the land of that country to his favourites and their heirs to all eternity, is an absurdity behind the age. And as to pretended purchases of the Indians, the Indians here say that 'their fathers never claimed anything more than the use of the land for their day and generation, and the use of it, they say, was the equal right of all.' Every man among them had an equal right to land for his use, and no one ever thought of assuming the power to sell or rent it. * * Rest assured, that the sending of troops from your cities is a folly that will recoil on the cities themselves, in the shape of increased taxes. Are your taxes not high enough already? It is dangerous too. If your young Hotspurs should shed one drop of Anti-Rent blood, our allies, the Indians, threaten to have scalps to pay for it. *Down with the Rent.*"

"Some people may think," says the *New York Working Man's Advocate*, "it will be a nice frolic to go to the Heidelberg war." The following letter, published in the *Herald*, may tend to undeceive them:—"Middletown, Orange County, Jan. 1, 1845.—In the first place, we doubt, in this region, whether Governor Bouck has the authority to call out a single regiment to act against these men; and nothing will be done, on an extensive scale, until Governor Wright assumes the chair, when a special act will be passed for the raising troops, if necessary—providing of arms, provisions, &c., &c. Secondly, there are not organised troops enough in the State to conquer the Anti-Renters, and for this reason. These men know every nook and corner and crevice—every by-place—every cover and place of ambush within their boundaries, and to meet them in open fight, upon a fair field, will be impossible. If we have war it will be after the manner of the Seminoles. Whoever is acquainted with the localities which they inhabit, must see at once the truth and force of these arguments. Again, they are much stronger, have greater resources, and are under better discipline than has been ever thought of by those residing at a great distance. For the last three years they have been steadily at work preparing for the storm with which they are now threatened; and it is said by those who know, that they have a fund of more than 80,000 dollars on hand, which they will know how to use when the moment comes for action. This money has been raised by a voluntary contribution of one and a half cents on every acre of land on the domain. In the counties of Greene, Columbia, Delaware, Schoharie, parts of Ulster and Sullivan, they can, at the shortest notice, call out an army of more than fifteen thousand of able bodied and determined men, who, fighting after the mode at which I have hinted, would make disastrous work amongst the strongest force which can be sent against them. What then is to be done, supposing that the worst should come to the worst? All that can be done effectually, is to proceed, in open day, to their cleared lands, take away their wives and children to a place of security, drive away their cattle, destroy the implements of husbandry and take other like steps, and depend upon it they will shortly sue for peace, and come to terms. It is useless, in my poor opinion, to expect that these men will ever be put down by the force of shot and cannon-balls. If it is attempted many a poor fellow will find daylight shining through his earthly tabernacle before he dreams of it."

To this letter the Editor of the *Advocate* adds:—"Drive away their cattle, and destroy their implements of husbandry, eh? Wouldn't that be carrying out the principles of liberty? But what would the Anti-Renters be doing meanwhile? The writer, probably, didn't think of that."

The *Advocate* of the 11th of January, gives extracts from several papers announcing the capture of several of the Anti-Renters. The same paper contains a report of a most

IMPORTANT MEETING IN NEW YORK.—SYMPATHY WITH THE ANTI-RENTERS.

A great meeting was held in Croton Hall, New York, on the 3rd of January, to take into consideration the best means to abolish Feudalism in the State. Long before the time announced for the commencement of business, the room was well filled, and noisy symptoms were given of the anxiety of the audience to proceed with the matter announced; to such an extent was this the case, that some ten or fifteen minutes previous to the hour named, half-past seven o'clock, on motion of Mr. Manning; Mr. Alvan E. Bovay was unanimously called to the chair; Messrs. J. W. Beebe, Ira B. Davies, Aaron Kline, and Jesse Ferguson, were named as Vice-Presidents; and Mr. John Windt, Secretary of the National Reform Association, was appointed Secretary of the meeting.

Mr. Windt then read the Pledge of the National Reform Association, as usual at meetings of that body, and then the placard calling the meeting, which the Chairman put to the meeting for their approval, and which was carried with a few dissentients.

A series of resolutions were first proposed by a person named Hill in opposition to the Anti-Renters. The feeling of the meeting was, however, so decidedly opposed to this, that it was with difficulty the mover could obtain a hearing.

Mr. Thos. A. Deyer next addressed the meeting. He said they had met there as rational men, not to put down the motion of the gentleman that had preceded him, or of any one else, by clamour, but to discuss the matter to the very dregs. We have met to discuss the question as rational men and republicans. (Cheers.) We have no interest in the matter, but as rational beings; and we wish to take no part in the resistance of the law; but as true republicans, we wish to see that every freeholder is not an abject slave to the landowners. The speaker then proceeded to take a review of the history of Greece, and argued that it was by a system of feudal tenure, such as Van Rensselaer had adopted in his leases, that ruin was brought upon that country, and the people of it became enslaved. The same feudal system was introduced into England by the Norman conquerors, which remained until the present time, and we had only to look to the starved population of Europe for the result. It is our object to caution the people of this country against this system, so as to avoid the rocks upon which they are likely to strike, and be destroyed. It is not necessary for us to offer physical resistance—public opinion is alert to this feeling, and will see that justice is done. As an instance of the landowners of Europe, I will only mention the Duke of Buccleuch; he receives £400,000 per annum, and he has 40,000 tenants to support him in his splendour, who are not able to obtain a third meal of the coarsest food a day. Is not this repugnant both to the laws of God and common sense? Can any man here need proof that England is covered with the curse of land monopoly? Not an inch of the soil but is cursed with such men as the Duke of Buccleuch. Such your Van Rensselaers wish to become; but it was for the people to see to it. The speaker then went into the history of Rome, from the time of Romulus, and showed that the people, in the first instance, acted wisely in choosing to be governed by themselves, but that afterwards the patricians stepped in and possessed all the lands, and oppressed the cultivators of the soil, who principally aided in obtaining it; and that in resisting such, Tiberius Gracchus and his brother were destroyed. The speaker then said that the Revolution of France, and its most direful consequences, was produced by the horrible oppressions of those who had monopolized the soil. We want no revolution. (Hear, hear.) It is to prevent such, if possible, that we are met here together to discuss this question. We want no such evils. Such power as this always begets tyranny, and if it is allowed will oppress the people—to prevent which, it must be nipped in the bud. It was contrary to all true Christian principle, and it was time it was prevented by the people in this country. The speaker then went on to show how the aristocracy of England, even the female portion of it, despised the mass of the people—while the former were wallowing in luxury the latter were perishing from want—and then proceeded to observe that a younger brother of the patroon, Van Rensselaer, had come out in defence of the claims of the family, with a document containing nineteen positions, seventeen of which were false, and the other two a disgrace to man. He said that if the settlers on the disputed territory could only get a modicum of justice, they would offer no resistance, but this having been refused them they had no alternative left. He proceeded to read a number of extracts to support this position, and went into a long detail of the evils belonging to the tenure of the Van Rensselaer leases, showing they were founded on those of the old English barons, with even some worse features; and showed that the original tenants, in consequence of their ignorance, were vilely imposed upon. He said that the farmers, or holders of the land, were ready and willing to give a fair remuneration for what they held, but that they refused to perform villein service, or to comply with feudal customs, being contrary to the republican constitution of this country. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) By the same law that authorised Van Rensselaer to receive these services, he was authorised to appoint magistrates throughout that part of the State, and what would be said if he insisted on the appointment of the mayor of Albany, or the sheriff of Rensselaer county. Yet the power that gave him one gave him the other. (Hear, hear.) The speaker then contended that with the revolution these rights ceased, and that originally neither the Dutch nor the English Governments had the power to grant such privileges. He then contended that the legislature ought to interfere in the matter, and to arbitrate between the parties. He then cited some opinions on land monopoly and aristocracy from the writings of Thomas Jefferson and Thomas Carlyle, in support of what he had previously adduced, and then said it was through such proceedings as the Indians had now adopted, that the glorious freedom of this country was accomplished. It was the Indians that came down to Boston harbour and destroyed the tea in the British vessels, while the preachers of law and order were discussing the matter, afraid to take one step for the accomplishing of the object they so long talked about. (Great cheering.) He then recommended that Mr. Van Rensselaer should be equitably paid for his lands, so that he might be enabled to buy an estate in Dorsetshire, England, where he might enjoy his partridge shooting and his feudal system to the full extent, which would be a release to him from the trouble and care by which he was at present assailed. No evil could possibly arise from this procedure, but it would do much good to all, and give your children something to look forward to. Mr. D. was loudly applauded in many parts of his discourse, and sat down amid a round of applause.

Mr. Evans next arose to propose some resolutions by way of amendment to the resolutions already offered; and would avail himself of the occasion to offer a few remarks on what had been said of land monopoly. It might be new to many there, that an extensive movement was now going on all over the country to abolish that grievance, in part, by making the public lands free to actual settlers, and for the last three or four weeks not a mail arrived but brought intelligence of efforts in the cause, and a motion was already made in Congress to apportion the public lands among new settlers in tracts of about 160 acres each. No less than seven papers in Ohio advocated that measure, and there were papers in five state capitals supporting it, from one of which he begged to read an extract. [The article read by the speaker was from a Boston paper, in which inequality of rank and property, and monopolies of every kind, were deprecated, and an appeal to mankind made to redress them.] These were no party views, for the papers alluded to were of opposite politics to each other. As to the resolutions, the last speaker had laid before them the evils of the feudal tenure in regard to the Van Rensselaer property; but there were in various other parts of the State large tracts of land under three-life leases, and various other feudal tenures, under which the same evils would accrue, and it was best to meet the whole difficulty at once, (Cheers.) If the Van Rensselaer dispute were settled to-day, there were forty other counties which would in time be subject to similar difficulties, so that the remedy must be general. I have drawn up a series of resolutions by which I propose to meet the whole subject. (Here the chairman made a communication to the speaker in a low voice, which was not heard by any save themselves.) The chairman thought it would not be in order to propose those resolutions as an amendment to the previous set. He would therefore wait till those were disposed of.

Mr. Hill then read his resolutions, which strongly deprecated the conduct of the Anti-Rent men; denounced their principles, and pledged to co-operate with all who were willing to put a speedy end to all such resistance to right, law, and authority. During their reading, an interminable shouting, hissing, and confusion, prevented their contents from being heard at the shortest distance from the platform.

Mr. Devyr.—Gentlemen, I beg to offer for your consideration the following amendment:

Resolved—That this meeting is of opinion that injustice is done to our fellow-citizens, the farmers residing upon the estates and manor of Rensselaerwick. We, therefore, believe that the authorities ought to be very slow in enforcing that injustice, although called law; but that speedy means be taken to bring the whole matter before the Legislature, now about to assemble, for its equitable arbitration.

Mr. Devyr's amendment was carried.

Mr. Evans then came forward, amid considerable applause, and offered his resolutions, which were received, during the reading, with strong marks of approbation, and some of a contrary character. The resolutions were seconded, and carried, as follows:

Whereas, the various Feudal Tenures, such as three-life and perpetual leases, under which large tracts of land are held in this State, have caused, and are likely to cause, discontent and disorder, much to the detriment and discredit of our free institutions; and whereas, these Feudal Tenures are now the cause of civil war in this State, which occasions the landless men of our cities to be taxed and called upon in person to support said tenures, while themselves are suffering from land monopoly by their crowded, dependent, and unnatural congregation in cities; therefore

That in the opinion of this meeting, the principles upon which our forefathers founded an independent government, demand that an end should be put to all Feudal Tenures in this State.

That if man has a right to life, as declared by the Declaration of Independence, he has a right to the use of land on which to sustain life.

That no foreign power had ever a right to grant away to favourites and their heirs for ever, large tracts of land on this continent, because they had no right to it themselves.

That, in our opinion, the best method of putting an end to Feudalism and Land Monopoly in this State, would be for the Legislature to pass a general law, limiting the quantity of land to be heired, purchased, or held, by any one man or woman, after the passage of said law, to a sufficiency for a reasonable sized farm, excepting the persons in possession of larger tracts on the passage of said law, and limiting said persons to the possessions then held by them.

Mr. E. said that if a law was enacted in the spirit of these resolutions, every man now holding land might continue to hold it, but at his death his heirs would be restricted to enough for their use—(A voice—That's right!); the surplus would be sold for their benefit; all further monopoly would be prevented; Van Rensselaer would not get many more quarter sales; land would become cheaper every day; and the monopolists would probably be willing to compromise on reasonable terms with their tenants. He had drawn up a short memorial in accordance with the last resolution, to be signed by the officers of the meeting if adopted, which he would now offer, and which he read, as follows:—

TO THE LEGISLATURE OF NEW YORK.

The memorial of the undersigned, citizens of New York, respectfully represent—That, in their opinion, the exigencies of the times, the spirit of the age, and the consistency of our Republican theory demand that an end be put to land monopoly in this State at the earliest practical period, and we suggest, for that purpose, the passage of a general law, limiting the quantity of land to be heired, purchased or held, by any one man or woman, after the passage of said law, to a sufficiency for a reasonable sized farm; excepting the persons in possession of larger tracts on the passage of said law, and limiting said persons to the possessions then held by them. The memorial was adopted.

Mr. Evans then proceeded to offer a few additional remarks to the meeting, in which he announced a convention, which is to come off at Berne, of the farmers, to which he would propose to send delegates from their body, to be appointed by that meeting. On the motion being put for the appointment of six delegates, the chairman declared it carried. Messrs. T. A. Devyr, G. H. Evans, Mr. Manning, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Foster, and the chairman, were then appointed as the delegates. The meeting then adjourned.

Later News from the States.—Liverpool, Thursday Morning.—The steam-ship Cambria, Captain Judkins, arrived here this morning, and brings us news from New York to the 1st inst., and from the various other quarters to the usual late periods. The American House of Representatives, and also the Senate, are busily occupied in discussing the Oregon territory question, and we find that in both houses a bill has been brought in for the actual establishment of a territorial government over that country. The bills in the Senate and in the House of Representatives are of a similar character. The bill in the latter occasioned much debate, in which, among others, Mr. John Quincy Adams has taken part.

Annexation of Texas.—The proceedings in Congress acquaint us with the important fact of a joint resolution by the United States House of Representatives, annexing Texas to the United States. The debate on this subject had continued with little intermission for three weeks. The debate was brought to a close on Saturday, January 25, pursuant to the understood determination of the democratic members composing a caucus on the 11th. The result of the trials of strength of the different propositions was the passage, by a majority of twenty-two votes, of the joint resolution introduced some days previous by the Hon. M. Brown, a Whig member from the state of Tennessee, with an amendment, accepted by him, limiting the extent of slavery in Texas to the territory south of the Missouri compromise line. The resolution, under the title of "Joint Resolution for annexing Texas to the United States," as amended, finally passed the House of Represensatives by a vote of 120 to 98. We defer publishing the resolutions at present, as it is extremely doubtful that the Senate will sanction them. Should they be adopted by that body we will then publish them.

A bill has passed both houses directing the election of President and Vice-President of the United States hearafter to be made in all the states in the Union on one and the same day.

MEXICO.

The news from Mexico, supplied by the arrival of the Cambria, is most important; but there seems to be some little doubt as to its correctness in some points. Santa Anna is said to have been defeated and captured by Bravo and Paredes, and some accounts state positively that he has been shot. On a careful examination of the various accounts, we have little doubt but that the news of his defeat will turn out correct. This intelligence first reached New York by way of Tampico and New Orleans; but similar news was afterwards received *via* Corpus Christi, Galveston, and New Orleans. It is stated that letters from Mexico, dated the 9th ult., arrived at Tampico by express on the night of the 13th, giving the important intelligence that a desperate battle had been fought on the plains of Appan, between Santa Anna, on the one side, and Bravo and Paredes on the other, which ended in the total rout of the former, who was captured while trying to make his escape. Five hundred men are reported to be killed, and Gen. Paredes had been despatched by Bravo in pursuit of the routed troops of Santa Anna. Bravo himself was on the march back to Mexico, with his august prisoner.

The Rev. Dr. Wolff.—Captain Grover has received intelligence of Dr. Wolff to the 10th January, at which date he was at Erzeroom, endeavouring to recruit his strength for the journey over the mountains to Trebizonde. At Tehran the Doctor was received in the kindest manner by Colonel Sheil, her Majesty's envoy, who sent a government golam to meet him. He left Tehran in a tuckrawan (a sort of a litter), and by easy stages reached Tabris. Here the judicious treatment of Dr. Casolani enabled him, after some days' repose, to proceed by a similar conveyance towards Erzeroom. On reaching the Turkish frontier, owing to the immense accumulation of snow, he was obliged to proceed on horseback, and after great bodily suffering he reached Erzeroom on the 4th January, completely exhausted. As soon as her Majesty's Commissioner, the kind-hearted Colonel Williams, R.A., heard of the Doctor's approach, he rode as far as the last pass to meet him, and escorted him into the town. Dr. Wolff is too ill to write to any one, and cannot move from the sofa; it is, however, hoped that the kind attentions of Colonel Williams, which have been really beyond all praise, will enable him to proceed in about a fortnight to Trebizonde.

Trades' Movements.

NATIONAL TRADES CONFERENCE AT EASTER NEXT.

The adjourned meeting of the preliminary Conference was resumed at the Bell Inn, Old Bailey, on Wednesday evening, February 12th. There was a very numerous attendance of delegates. Several additional representatives handed in their credentials. Mr. J. Berry, the representative of the Lancashire Miners, was unanimously called to the chair. The Secretary read letters from the Joiners of Hull and other provincial Trades, announcing their determination to send delegates to the proposed Conference. He also stated that he had seen Mr. Duncombe that day, and had asked him, if the Trades wished it, would he attend their Conference, and would he do them the honour of presiding over their humble deliberations? To which Mr. Duncombe replied, that as far as visiting the Conference was concerned, he should be happy to attend as a listener; but he knew very little regarding the practical workings of the several Trades. He added that as far as his humble abilities would permit, they might command his services; and if the Trades thought it would serve their cause (although he was of opinion that many mechanics, from their practical experience, were much better qualified for the office), and the Conference at its assembling made the request, *he would preside over their deliberations.* The announcement was received with marked applause. The meeting then proceeded to the election of a subcommittee of seven persons, to make the necessary arrangements for holding the Conference. The following individuals were unanimously chosen:—Messrs. Dunning and Robertson (Bookbinders), Messrs. Bush and Wartnaby (Carpenters), Mr. Wilson (Boot and Shoemaker), Mr. Allen (Tin-plate Worker), and Mr. Cox (Silk Hatter).

The Election of Secretary.—Mr. T. Barratt (Cork-cutter, and secretary to the Central Association of London Trades), was proposed, but declined on the ground of ill-health and a pressure of public business; Messrs. Bush and Dunning were then placed in nomination, but from the great feeling of respect in whic Mr. Barratt is held by the Trades, he was again placed in nomination and unanimously elected in spite of himself. "Well," said Mr. Barrett, "as you have forced the honour on me I will not back out, but will do my best to carry out your intentions." (Loud cheers). Mr. Wakeham, Shoemaker, moved—"That the best thanks of this Preliminary Conference of Trades are due and are hereby given to the Proprietor, Editor, and Reporter of the *Northern Star* newspaper, for the able services rendered to the cause of Labour, not on this occasion only, but on every occasion." He observed that when he found the parties engaged in the *Star* taking such a warm interest in Trades affairs he thought it the duty of himself and his brother tradesmen to notice the matter, and let them see that their labours are appreciated. Mr. J. Berry, Miner, who had previously left the chair, and was succeeded in that office by Mr. Robertson, Bookbinder, hoped that they would allow him the privilege of cordially seconding that motion. Mr. Stewart, Shoemaker, said that as regarded the Proprietor and Editor, for the service they had rendered the cause, the best return that could be made them was, to circulate their very useful journal as widely as possible. (Loud cheers.) As regarded the Reporter, and he could bear witness to the great service he had rendered their trade (hear, hear), he was of opinion that their thanks to him should assume a more substantial shape. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Barratt said he most cordially concurred with the motion, and as for the reporter, Mr. Stallwood, he had opportunities of knowing that he had rendered the Trades a service, not only as reporter, but as an individual. (Cheers.) The motion was put and carried unanimously. Mr. Stallwood, in the name of the proprietor, editor, and reporter, said, that he was happy that their humble efforts in the cause of labour were appreciated. They would continue in the same course, zealously and fearlessly advocating right, and exposing and denouncing wrong, without other fee or reward than the good opinion of their fellow-men. (Loud cheers). A resolution to the effect—"That the Conference be held on Easter Monday next, in London, at ten o'clock in the forenoon; and that the delegates on their arrival, be requested to proceed direct to the well-known Trades' house, the Bell Inn, Old Bailey, from whence they will be conducted to the place of meeting," was unanimously adopted. A vote of thanks was passed by acclamation to the Lancashire Miners, for their promptitude in taking up the matter, and sending up Mr. Berry, to aid and assist in arranging the necessary preliminaries. It was also resolved—"That those Trades who intend sending delegates to the forthcoming Conference be requested to communicate with the Secretary, Mr. T. Barratt, 20, Greenfield-street, Commercial-road, East, at their earliest convenience." A vote of thanks was given to the Chairman, and the meeting dispersed.

Bury.—The iron trades of this town still continue on strike against the introduction of the "quittance" papers. They have now been out several weeks, and are as determined as ever never to submit to the degradation to which the masters wish to reduce them. Nor is this the only war that is raging between the employers and employed. There have been several strikes for advances in wages amongst the Powerloom Weavers of this town since Christmas, and we are happy to say that in a number of instances the just demands of the Weavers have been acceded to by the manufacturers. There are some, however, who, notwithstanding they have the same market for their goods, will not give the same wages as their neighbours; in consequence of which, about 400 hands are walking the streets without employment.

Framework-Knitters' Delegate Meeting.—At a general three counties meeting of delegates, held at the sign of the King George on Horseback, Nottingham, February 8th, 1845, for the purpose of taking into consideration the Frame-Rent Trial—the Governmental inquiry—and the furtherance of the organization, the following, among other resolutions, were passed. Proposed by William West, and seconded by Thomas Emmerson—That a committee be appointed to amalgamate the Nottingham and Leicester suggestions, and that the following compose a committee for that purpose—Humphries and Winter, for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire; Thomas Winters and John Wilford, for Leicester and Leicestershire; Samuel Corden, for Derby and Derbyshire. Proposed by B. Humphries, and seconded by Samuel Corden—That when the suggestions have been properly arranged and approved, they shall be printed for distribution. Proposed by John Keywood, and seconded by Samuel Booker—That the number printed be two thousand copies. Proposed by Joseph Moor, and seconded by William West—That the delegates present inform their constituents that local lecturers have been appointed, and that any locality wishing for their services must give one week's notice to the general secretary. The following persons were then re-appointed lecturers:—William West, Joseph Laxton, and William Felkin. Proposed by Michael Leveris, Framesmith, and seconded by B. Humphries—That the Framesmiths, Setters up, Sinker and Needle Makers, do join the Framework-Knitters in putting a stop to the spurious productions at present manufactured, and that they be solicited to join in union with the Knitters. Proposed by Samuel Booker, and seconded by Samuel Winter—That in the opinion of this meeting, the stoppage of Frame-Rent under any circumstances is oppressive and unjust, but more especially so, when one employer has the effrontery to charge from sixpence to ninepence per week more than another; and we, the delegates assembled, pledge ourselves to assist the Framework-Knitters of Mansfield and Mansfield Woodhouse in their struggle to put down so infamous a system. The accounts were then brought before the meeting and passed, and the delegates separated at half-past eight o'clock.

Yorkshire.—The next general delegate meeting of Miners will be held at the King's Arms Inn, Gildersome-street, near Leeds, on Monday, February 24th, to commence at eleven o'clock in the forenoon.

Lancashire Miners.—The next general delegate meeting of Lancashire Miners will be held at the house of Mr. Matthew Worthington, Gibraltar Tavern, Scholes Wigan, on Monday, February 24th; chair to be taken at eleven o'clock. W. P. Roberts, Esq., will address the Miners of Wigan and neighbourhood on the same day. The levy for the fortnight is 1s. 9d. per member.

Derbyshire Miners.—On Monday last, the 10th inst., a delegate meeting of the Coal Miners was held at the White Bull Inn, Newthorpe, Derbyshire; a working Miner, named John Morley, was appointed chairman, and William Duro secretary. A discussion took place respecting the fines levied on the men at Babington colliery, when it was unanimously agreed that the men should return to work until the fines were repaid.

The Weather.—London, Friday.—The weather yesterday was of a most singular character. The thermometer at eight o'clock on the previous evening was as low as 19 degrees, being 13 degrees of frost, with the wind S.E. At that time the new moon appeared, surrounded by a halo, and there was much haze, although the stars shone brightly. As the night advanced, a strong wind, keen and piercing, sprung up from the S., which continued throughout the night. The lowest point of the thermometer during the night was 27 degrees, and at eight o'clock yesterday morning the mercury stood at 29 degrees, with the wind still S. The morning broke cloudy, with evident appearances of an approaching fall. Throughout the morning the south wind, which was remarkably cold, blew in violent gusts, and about eleven o'clock a fall of fine snow commenced, which gradually increased in quantity and size of the flakes until about half-past two o'clock. At twelve o'clock at noon the thermometer stood at 32 degrees (freezing point), and shortly before three o'clock a fall of sleet and rain began, which froze immediately on reaching the ground and rendered the streets of the metropolis and the suburbs slippery and highly dangerous. At eight o'clock last evening the thermometer still stood at 32 degrees, with a strong S.S.W. wind blowing, and rain and sleet still descending. This morning the sun is shining brightly, even warmly, causing a complete thaw, the snow and ice fast disappearing.

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WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE CHRISTMAS SESSIONS FOR THE TRIAL OF FELONS, &C.

NOTICE is Hereby Given, that the CHRISTMAS GENERAL QUARTER SESSIONS of the PEACE for the West Riding of the County of York, will be holden by adjournment, at SHEFFIELD, on THURSDAY, the 27th day of FEBRUARY instant, at half-past Ten o'clock in the forenoon, and by further adjournment from thence will be holden at WAKEFIELD, on MONDAY, the 3rd day of MARCH next, at Ten o'clock in the forenoon, FOR THE TRIAL OF FELONS AND PERSONS INDICTED FOR MISDEMEANORS, when all Jurors, Suitors, Persons who stand upon Recognizance, and others having business at the said Sessions, are required to attend the Court.

Prosecutors and Witnesses in cases of Felony and Misdemeanor from the Wapontakes of Strafforth and Tickhill, Osgoldcross and Staincross must attend the Sessions at SHEFFIELD; and those from the Wapontakes of Staincliffe and Ewcross, Claro, Ainsty, Agbrigg and Morley, Skyrack and Barkstonash, being the remainder of the West Riding, must attend the Sessions at WAKEFIELD.

C. H. ELSLEY,
Clerk of the Peace.

Clerk of the Peace's Office,
Wakefield, 10th Feb., 1845.

THE NORTHERN STAR, AND NATIONAL TRADES' JOURNAL,

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Books and Publications for review must be addressed (post paid) to the Editor, 340, Strand, London. Advertisements and orders for papers to be addressed to Feargus O'Connor, 340, Strand, where all communications will be punctually attended to.

The following extract from the Newspaper Stamp Returns for October, November, and December, 1843 (since which no returns have been made), show that the *Northern Star* is far at the head of many old-established London Weekly Journals:—

NORTHERN STAR 117,000

News of the World ..	86,000	United Service Gazette	19,500
Record	83,500	Patriot	60,000
Examiner	71,000	Spectator	48,000
Britannia	66,000	Era	41,000
Mark-lane Express..	54,000	John Bull	39,000
Tablet	45,000	Watchman	35,000
Observer	41,000	Age and Argus	22,500
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Nonconformist	30,000	Journal of Commerce	13,500
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"He also shews that something more than this is requisite to ensure happiness, for he says in page 121, "I feel convinced that man can place no reliance whatever upon his fellow man, or a community of men, when circumstances operate upon his or their minds, the influence and effect of which would be stronger than any abstract notions of justice. For instance, if a community of labouring men purchase a quantity of land, and hire labour for its cultivation, however just their intentions and pure their motives, they will nevertheless feel themselves justified in raising the price of the land, according to the improved value conferred upon it by the labour of the hired workman. This power of steadily trenching upon the rights of others is one of the greatest disadvantages against which the labourer has to contend; and those hired by a community, at the end of twenty years would be in no better condition than they were at starting, while the community of proprietors would have increased the value of their property twenty-fold; that is, they would have robbed those labourers, by whose industry the value was increased, of nineteen shillings in the pound."

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Messrs. Perry and Co., Surgeons, may be consulted as usual, at 19, Berners-street, Oxford-street, London, punctually, from Eleven in the morning until Eight in the evening, and on Sundays from Eleven till One. Only one personal visit is required from a country patient to enable Messrs. Perry and Co. to give such advice as will be the means of effecting a permanent and effectual cure, after all other means have proved ineffectual.

N.B.—Country Druggists, Booksellers, Patent Medicine Venders, &c., can be supplied with any quantity of Perry's Purifying Specific Pills, and Cordial Balm of Syriacum, with the usual allowance to the Trade, by most of the principal Wholesale Patent Medicine Houses in London.

Sold by Mr. HEATON, 7, Briggate, Leeds, of whom may be had the "Silent Friend."

CHOICE OF A SITUATION

Domestic Bazaar, 326, Oxford Street, corner of Regent Circus.

WANTED, for Large and Small Families, a number of FEMALE SERVANTS of every description, with straightforward characters. This demand is created through the arrangements being highly approved by the Nobility, Gentry, and the Public generally. Ladies are in attendance to engage Domestics from Ten to Five o'clock daily. There are Rooms for waiting in to be hired; not any charge made until engaged if preferred. To those who will take places of All Work no charge whatever. Servants from the country are much inquired for. There are always a few vacancies for Footmen and Grooms.

N. B. Upon applying do not stand about the doors or windows unnecessarily.

PARR'S LIFE PILLS.

THE extraordinary success of this medicine is the wonder of the age; it has been tried by hundreds of thousands as an aperient, and has in every instance done good; it has never in the slightest degree impaired the most delicate constitution. Tens of thousands have testified that perseverance in the use of PARR'S LIFE PILLS will completely cure any disease, and are living witnesses of the benefit received from this invaluable medicine. Sheets of testimonials and the "Life and Times of Old Parr" may be had (gratis) of every respectable Medicine-vendor throughout the kingdom.

Read the following account from Mr. Hollier, Dudley:—

To the Proprietors of Parr's Life Pills.

Dudley, Sept. 14.

Gentlemen,—I forward you the copy of a letter sent to me (as under), and which you can make what use of you think proper.

I am, your obedient servant,
E. HOLLIER, Dudley.

Tipton, Staffordshire.

I, Joshua Ball, hereby testify that I had been dreadfully afflicted with Rheumatic Gout for seventeen years, so that I have, at times, kept my bed for months together, and could not get anything to do me good till I took *Parr's Life Pills*, which I am very happy to state have nearly restored me to perfect health. As witness my hand, this 11th day of September, JOSHUA BALL.

To the Public.—No sooner is a medicine well established in public favour, than a host of imitators arise, who, for the sake of gain, not only wrong the proprietors of the genuine medicine, but inflict a serious injury on the unwary purchaser of their base counterfeit trash. These observations apply with increased effect to the medicine which is now so well known as "*Parr's Life Pills*." This famous remedy has been established by undoubted proofs of its efficacy, and by a mass of evidence and testimonials which no other medicine ever yet called forth. These facts have had the effect of producing a very large sale—more than 15,000 boxes per week. When this large sale came to the knowledge of some unprincipled persons, who for the sake of gain to themselves, and reckless of the injury it may do to others, are attempting to foist on the incautious various imitations, and in order that purchasers may be able to detect these frauds, care must be taken to look at the *Government stamp* pasted round each box, and be sure it has the words "*Parr's Life Pills*" in *white letters on a red ground* engraved therein, and forms part of the stamp; also that "T. Roberts and Co., Crane-court, Fleet-street," is painted with the directions wrapped round each box.

Sold in boxes at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and family packets at 11s. by Edwards, 67, St. Paul's; Barclay and Sons, Farringdon-street; Sutton and Co., Bow Church-yard, London; Mottershead and Co., Manchester; J. and R. Raimes and Co., Edinburgh; and by all respectable druggists and patent medicine retailers throughout the kingdom.—Directions are given with each box.

AN EFFECTUAL REMEDY FOR BILIOUS, LIVER, AND STOMACH COMPLAINTS.

"Out of the ground hath the Lord caused Medicines to grow; and he that is wise will not despise them; for with such doth he heal men, and taketh away their pains."—Eccles. xxxviii. 4 and 7.

AS a Preserver of Health, and a gentle yet efficacious remedy for Indigestion, and all disorders originating from a morbid action of the stomach and liver, STIRLING'S PILLS have met with more general approbation than any medicine yet discovered, requiring no restraint of diet or confinement during their use. They are mild in their operation and comfortable in their effect; and may be taken at any age or time without danger from cold or wet. They speedily remove the causes that produce disease, and restore health and vigour to the whole system. For females they are invaluable, as they remove obstructions, promote a regular circulation, and improve the complexion, giving the skin a beautiful, clear, and blooming appearance, which, by their use, may be retained to the latest period of life. Also for children they are the best medicine that can be used, as they expel worms, carry off crudities, &c., from the stomach and intestines, by which they prevent illness, and lay the foundation of good health for future years. Free livers, who are subject to head-ache, giddiness, drowsiness, irregularity of the bowels, nervous irritability, &c., should never be without them, for, by their prompt administration on the first symptoms of illness, fits, apoplexy, gout, and many other dangerous complaints, may be prevented or cured. They are particularly recommended to officers of the army and navy, and persons going abroad, as a preventive of those diseases so frequently arising from heat and change of climate.

Prepared and sold by J. W. STIRLING, Pharmaceutical Chemist, in boxes at 13½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. each, and can be had of all respectable medicine venders in the kingdom. The genuine has the name on the stamp.

*** Ask for Stirling's Stomach Pills.

PERFECT FREEDOM FROM COUGHS IN TEN Minutes is insured by DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS.

The most wonderful cures of Asthma, Consumptions, Coughs, Colds, and all disorders of the Breath and Lungs, are everywhere performed by this extraordinary remedy.

READ THE FOLLOWING:

From Mr. P. Roberts, Chemist, Ranelagh-street, Liverpool.

January 2nd, 1845.

"Gentlemen,—I send you two cases of Cures which I have received since my last, and I think it would be doing good to advertise the Wafers in Liverpool, as they give very great satisfaction to all who take them.

"Yours, &c. P. ROBERTS."

RAPID CURE OF COUGH AND DIFFICULTY OF BREATHING.

"To Mr. P. Roberts, Ranelagh-street.

"Hale, near Liverpool, Dec. 10th, 1844.

"Sir,—I write to inform you of the great benefit I have received from taking Locock's Wafers, which you recommended to me. I was so much oppressed at my chest, that when I lay down, a coughing fit came on with such violence that I have often thought I should not live to see the morning; but now I can sleep a whole night without coughing, after taking only two boxes of the Wafers.

(Signed) "J. HAYES."

Another Cure of Cough and Hoarseness.

"To Mr. P. Roberts, Ranelagh-street.

"Parliament-street, Liverpool, Jan. 1st, 1845.

"Sir,—It is with much pleasure I bear testimony to the extraordinary power of Locock's Wafers. I had been troubled with a cough and hoarseness for nearly two years, without relief, when, by your recommendation, I was induced to try Locock's Wafers, the effects of which were soon visible, for one large box (2s. 9d.) has quite cured me. I have since recommended them to several of my friends, and they have also experienced the greatest relief from them.

"I remain yours, ever grateful,
"JOHN WILLIAMS."

Rapid Cure of a Twenty-nine Years' Asthmatic Cough.

The following is communicated to the Proprietors by Mr. Lynch, Market-street, Manchester:—

"Middleton, near Manchester, July 28th, 1844.

"Sir,—I am now forty-four years of age, and I have been afflicted with an asthmatic cough since I was a boy of fifteen years of age; during that time I have resorted to every means in my power to remove it, but in vain until last Sunday, when I sent for a small box of 'Dr. Locock's Wafers.' I have taken two boxes since, and from the effects they have had upon me, I feel no doubt of a speedy recovery.

(Signed) "GEO. STRINGER."

From Mr. J. D. MARSHALL, M.D., Chemist in Ireland, to Her Majesty the QUEEN.

"8, High-street, Belfast.

"Gents,—I have the gratification of stating, that from all I have been enabled to observe of 'Dr. Locock's Pulmonic Wafers,' they have been of eminent service in the alleviation of severe asthmatic coughs, pains in the chest, &c.

"I have no doubt that when they have become more generally known in the north of Ireland, they will be as highly esteemed as they are in other parts of the kingdom. "J. D. MARSHALL."

"Sept. 21st, 1844."

Another Cure of a Cough and Improvement of the Voice.

The Declaration of Mr. HAMLIN, Clerk of Unicorn Chapel, Tooley-street, London:—

My attention was first directed to Dr. Locock's Wafers by their having cured my wife of a bad cough and cold, for which she had been a considerable time under medical treatment without effect, and perceiving that they were recommended for the voice, and as I often suffered from hoarseness and a tightness of the chest, I took a few, and found the most perfect and immediate benefit from them; and ever since, if I take a cold, or have any hoarseness or huskiness of the voice, on taking two or three wafers it is immediately removed. I also find that they actually improve the voice, increasing its power and flexibility.

7, Albion-place, Walworth, May 15, 1844.

The particulars of many hundred cures may be had from every agent throughout the kingdom and on the continent.

Dr. Locock's Wafers give instant relief, and a rapid cure of asthmas, consumptions, coughs, colds, and all disorders of the breath and lungs.

To Singers and Public Speakers they are invaluable, as in a few hours they remove all hoarseness, and increase the power and flexibility of the voice. They have a most pleasant taste. Price 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. per box; or sent free by post for 1s. 3d., 3s., or 11s. 6d., by Da Silva and Co., 1, Bride-lane, Fleet-street, London. Sold by all medicine vendors.

TROPICAL EMIGRATION SOCIETY.

A Special Meeting of the Society will be held on Sunday afternoon, 23rd instant, at the Parthenium, No. 72, St. Martin's-lane, to consider a proposition of Messrs. Etzler and Stollmeyer to annul Laws 34, 35, 36, and to substitute others that will give to the Second Section the same advantages as the First, and the Society the entire management of its affairs; to which all the members are particularly requested to attend.

By order of the Board,

266, Strand. THOS. POWELL, Secretary.

BUCKINGHAM ELECTION.—On Monday, at eleven o'clock, Sir Thomas Francis Fremantle was re-elected for this borough without opposition.

REPRESENTATION OF LEWES.—Mr. Fitzroy is again a candidate for the representation of this borough. The "Liberal" candidate is Mr. George Baring Kemp (son of the late Mr. T. R. Kemp, formerly M.P. for this borough).

REPRESENTATION OF STAMFORD.—The election for the representation of this borough took place on Monday, when Sir G. Clerk was returned without opposition.

MINISTERIAL APPOINTMENTS.—We can now state with certainty, that the Hon. W. B. Baring succeeds Sir Edward Knatchbull in the office of Paymaster General to the Forces; and that Lord Jocelyn succeeds Mr. Baring at the Board of Control. These changes cause vacancies in the representation of Marlborough and King's Lynn. We believe we may state with equal certainty, that Sir Edward Knatchbull will shortly be raised to the peerage.—*Standard*, Wednesday.

THE SNOW STORM AND FROST.—London, Wednesday.—The snow storm which commenced on Sunday evening did not terminate until between three and four o'clock on Tuesday morning. In the neighbourhood of the metropolis the snow in many places lies to the depth of nine inches, and in exposed situations it has been drifted by the E.S.E. wind to the depth of several feet. Travelling by stage coaches and other land conveyances is, in consequence, much impeded. At noon the thermometer, at the Dockmaster's office, St. Katharine's, stood in the shade at 30 degrees; barometer, 29.32. The ice on the river is accumulating, and large quantities of it floated upwards and downwards with the flood and ebb tides yesterday morning and afternoon. The navigation is partially obstructed in consequence, but the tiers of shipping moored in various parts of the river are not as yet exposed to any danger. The docks and canals are kept free by artificial means. At a distance from town the fall of snow has been more copious. The Guildford coach was unable to reach town on Monday, being detained by an accumulated snow drift about three miles on the London-road. The road to Dorking was almost inpassable, and Mr. Broad, the proprietor of the only remaining four-horse coach on that road, was compelled to stop for some time at Leatherhead, yesterday morning, until a passage was cleared, under the apprehension that he would not be able to continue his journey. On Monday the accumulation of snow was so great on the South-Western Railway that the luggage train from Southampton did not arrive in town until yesterday. Yesterday morning the mail-train, by the same conveyance, did not reach the Vauxhall terminus until half-past eleven, having the Southampton, Portsmouth, and Yeovil mails. The delay took place from the Andover-road to the Woking station, and for some distance the speed of the train did not *exceed four miles an hour*. There was no delay of importance in the arrival of any of the other railroad trains, although a great many of the branch mails did not arrive, and in consequence of the delay in the western trains there was a second general delivery in the afternoon of yesterday. During last night the frost was severe; the barometer slowly rising.

LONDON, THURSDAY.—The frost during the last 48 hours has been intense. The thermometer at the Royal Humane Society's receiving-house, Hyde Park, indicated 27 degrees at seven o'clock on Tuesday morning, at noon 29 degrees, and at seven o'clock in the evening 20 degrees. From an early hour on Tuesday afternoon the thermometer began rapidly to fall, and by four o'clock yesterday morning it had fallen as low as 10 degrees, being 22 degrees of frost, at which point it still continued at eight o'clock. The cold, during the night, was described by the police and other persons who were compelled to be out, as most piercing, and that they had great difficulty in keeping themselves in motion. As the morning advanced the rays of the sun, and the wind shifting to S.W. caused the mercury to rise as rapidly as it had declined, and at noon it had attained 32 degrees, but in the afternoon it again fell, and at eight o'clock last evening was down to 19 degrees (13 degrees of frost) with the wind at south-east. Out of town throughout the day, the shops of butchers, fishmongers, and poulterers were kept closed. Most of the omnibuses, in consequence of the heavy state of the roads, had additional horses, and relays of horses were also stationed at various points to assist in drawing them up the hills. On the Serpentine the skaters were extremely numerous yesterday. The ice presents a smooth surface, and is upwards of 2½ inches in thickness. The number of skaters during the day was 4,000. No accidents occurred. At Kensington Gardens on the Round Pond the number of skaters did not exceed 800. The ice was about three inches thick. On the Long Water the assemblage was much larger, the number of skaters during the day exceeding 2000. Both banks were thronged, and about four o'clock an accident, which had nigh terminated fatally, occurred to two ladies and a gentleman who were walking on the ice, near the second island: it suddenly broke beneath them, and they were immersed. Iceman Groves immediately went to their assistance with a breaker ladder, and with the aid of one of the skaters got them out. At St. James's Park the clear weather attracted during the day a vast concourse of well-dressed ladies and gentlemen, on the banks as well as on the ice of the ornamental water. The severe frost of the preceding night had rendered the ice firm and safe, excepting where it had broken on Sunday; but the snow had given it so rough a surface as in some degree to mar the enjoyment of skating. There were, however, during the day, no less a number than 12,000 skaters and sliders. The only accident which occurred was about half-past four o'clock, when Mr. James Austen, of Broad-street, Bloomsbury, was immersed in six feet water, but in less than two minutes was rescued by iceman Westwood. In the Regent's Park there were as many as 7,000 skaters and sliders on the ice, which however, though with some slight exceptions, was strong and safe, yet the roughness of the surface was not congenial to the skater. No accident occurred. The Thames had large masses of floating ice upon its surface, causing considerable obstruction to the navigation. At low water in the afternoon the river between London-bridge and Limehouse was completely covered over. On the return of the flood tide the ice was again carried high up the river. The tiers of shipping in various parts of the Thames were placed in some jeopardy by the drift ice coming in collision with them, but none of them parted from their moorings. Should the frost continue with equal severity for a few days longer the navigation of the Thames will be stopped. The docks and canals are kept open by men employed for the purpose of breaking the ice.

THE WEATHER IN LANCASHIRE.—As we anticipated in our last, the temperature on Friday was even lower than on the preceding day, the mercury being down to twenty-two degrees. The frost has continued with but little intermission. On Saturday the temperature was as low as twenty-four degrees, and on Sunday the mercury fell to the same point. Shortly after noon on Sunday snow began to fall here, and continued during the afternoon and evening, with the wind strong from the southward. The railway trains were not considerably beyond their time, with the exception of the Birmingham trains. The mail train on Sunday evening, due at a quarter past six o'clock, did not reach here till a few minutes after seven. The Bunrley (coach) mail on Sunday was also about half an hour late, owing to the snow. On Monday morning the snow was six or seven inches deep; and during the day some more snow fell, and the frost continued, with a south-east wind. Yesterday morning the frost was not so severe, and in the afternoon there were some indications of a thaw; but in the evening the frost became more confirmed.—*Manchester Guardian.*

THE SNOW STORM AT LIVERPOOL.—We had a heavy fall of snow in Liverpool and this part of the country on Sunday, which covered the ground to the depth of from six to eight inches on an average. A strong wind prevailed from the southward, and in several places to which the snow had been drifted by the force of the gale it was knee-deep. It commenced falling about half-past seven in the morning, and continued to come down, almost without intermission, until a late hour in the evening.

POST-OFFICE PERSEVERANCE.—ADVENTURES OF A NEWSPAPER.—An apprentice lad, on board an English vessel in Calcutta, had lately a packet presented to him through the post-office, the postage of which amounted to twenty rupees (or about £2 sterling). It merely contained a newspaper, which some friend of his in London had inclosed in half a sheet of paper and addressed to him when his vessel was in London, expecting that it would find him in St. Katharine's Dock. His vessel, however, sailed before the letter could be delivered, and it followed him—first to Hobart Town, next to Sydney; thence to Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta; thence to the Mauritius; and finally, back again to Calcutta, where it caught him, after having travelled 30,000 miles, and occupied in its tour one year and eight months.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Guy's Hospital, St. Thomas's Hospital, and the London Hospital once more outdone.—Pearce Driscott, aged nine, son of police-constable Driscott, H 24, residing at No. 11, Brunswick-street, Commercial Road East, London, had been for several months a patient at the above institutions, but without obtaining the least relief. He was not expected to live an hour, when first the above medicines were used by him; his legs were contracted, with four abscesses on his person; he was, however, out of danger in one day, and he put his foot to the ground in three days, by means of Holloway's medicines.

Poetry.

THE ROGUES ARE MET.

"As to the tactics likely to be pursued in Parliament by the *representatives of wealth, from certain speeches,* letters, and publications that have recently appeared, and which leave little doubt on my mind, no time should be lost by the working classes to prepare for a bold and vigorous stand."—*Letter of T. S. Duncombe, Esq., to Mr. Drury, of Sheffield.*

Ye toiling millions of the land,
Who honestly your living get,
Now firmly stand, a faithful band:
The rogues are met, the rogues are met!
The rogues are met, the rogues are met!
A selfish, cruel, soulless set;
Then bravely stand, a faithful band—
The rogues are met, the rogues are met!

"Peace, order, law!" your motto be,
And foolish strife let all forget;
And watch and work with energy—
The rogues are met, the rogues are met!
The rogues are met, the rogues are met!
A selfish, cruel, soulless set,
Then bravely stand, a faithful band;
The rogues are met, the rogues are met!

For danger dire is hovering near,
With toils and snares you'll be beset,
O! honest men have cause to fear
When rogues are met, when rogues are met.
The rogues are met, the rogues are met!
A selfish, cruel, soulless set;
Then bravely stand, a faithful band,
The rogues are met, the rogues are met!

To bind the poor man's helpless hands—
To mesh him in a legal net—
To forge for Labour stronger bands—
The rogues are met, the rogues are met!
The rogues are met, the rogues are met!
A selfish, cruel, soulless set;
Then bravely stand, a faithful band—
The rogues are met, the rogues are met!

But faithful, firm, and true remain,
And sure as yon bright sun shall set,
RIGHT yet shall reign o'er might again,
Tho' rogues are met, tho' rogues are met.
Tho' rogues are met, tho' rogues are met,
A selfish, cruel, soulless set,
RIGHT yet shall reign o'er might again,
Tho' rogues are met, tho' rogues are met.

A SERF.

VISION OF THE FUTURE.

By J. C. PRINCE.

I see no splendid tyrant on a throne,
Extorting homage with a bauble rod;
No senate, heedless of a people's moan,
Cursing the produce of the fertile sod;
No sensual priest, with pamper'd pride o'erblown,
Shielding oppression *in the name of God!*
No pensioned concubine—no pauper peer,
To scorn the widow's or the orphan's tear.

I see no bondsman at his brother's feet,
The weak one fearing what the strong one saith;
No biassed wealth upon the judgment seat,
Urging its victims to disgrace or death;
No venal pleaders, privileged to cheat,
With truth and falsehood in the selfsame breath;
No dungeon glooms—no prisons for the poor—
No partial laws to render power secure.

Reviews.

TAIT'S MAGAZINE—FEBRUARY.

The present month's number calls for no particular remark. "Celts and Saxons," a tale, by Mrs. Johnstone, we have not read, having as yet not seen the commencement, the last three Nos. of the Magazine not having reached us; but the title is an attractive one, and the writer is every way competent to produce a tale of stirring interest. The article "On Poor Laws," by George Ramsay, M.A., we may notice hereafter; the subject of the Scotch Poor Law System is one that requires to be brought before the English people, and we hope to bring it before them shortly. The notices of new works are, as usual with this Magazine, not the least interesting feature of the number. The reviews of Walpole's "Memoirs of George III.," and Serjeant Talfourd's "Vacation Rambles," will be found a rare treat, and will give the reader a faithful impression of the works themselves. "Letters from Naples," by Madame WOLFENSBERGER, are most interesting, and detail Neapolitan life and manners most thoroughly, and we believe truly, though we are sorry we cannot add agreeably. Here is a description of

THE BEGGARS OF NAPLES.

The whole road actually swarmed with beggars. If you carried a sack of coin, it would not suffice for the thousands of miserable wretches who besiege you with their clamour, and make a spectacle of their infirmities. Wherever you go you are sure to be thus surrounded—in the streets of the city, in the country, and, above all, in the churches. The crippled, the blind, the maimed, and diseased are permitted to throng the temples of the Divinity, and to pursue the devotee, or the stranger, to the very foot of the altar with their *importunate petitions for charity;* whilst the priests, in garments of lace, fine linen, and precious embroidery, pass them by, as if blind to their misery and deaf to their petitions. The children have absolutely nothing else to do than to beg, and every where follow the stranger by dozens, with the same mournful whine. But though the poverty is frightful and real, we soon found that it was impossible to give alms to one or two without drawing on ourselves the almost distracting pursuit of a crowd of clamorous miserable wretches, who seem obstinately determined to take no denial. Nor is it to the lowest ranks that begging is confined. It has been said, no man in Naples is too proud to beg: few are too noble to steal. To cheat is the universal profession.

Here is a revolting description of the population of the ancient city of Puteoli (near Naples), now called

POZZUOLO.

The market-place of the town, from the earliest dawn of day, is crowded with fruit-sellers and idlers. Nobody seems to do anything but talk and gesticulate. Priests, fishermen, peasants, children, and women, are there lounging and talking, morning, noon, and night. Every body except the priests looks poor; and yet nobody seems to do anything, except those behind the fruit stalls who are roasting chesnuts, or the girls turning their spindles. The greatest part of the population here, as in Naples, evidently pass their days in the street, and their houses are such filthy dens, it is no wonder they are glad to escape from them into the open air. The women wash, and cook, and clean their children in the public eye; and the men lounge about with their red or brown nightcaps on their heads, and their jackets hung on their shoulders, without even taking the trouble to insert their arms in the sleeves. In rainy weather they are defended by a sack, open on one side, the angle of which forms a kind of hood, by which this rude habiliment hangs suspended from their head. Diseased eyes is a common malady of these wretched beings, whom suffering renders prematurely old. To those who take any interest in the welfare of their fellow-creatures, it is a most painful spectacle to behold them thus degraded, and destitute of everything which tends either to diminish the physical sufferings, or ameliorate the moral condition of man. In health, and youth, and fine weather, they are gay and light of heart; but when these, or the means of gaining a scanty livelihood fail, there is no provision for the poor, no charitable clergy, or higher class near, to succour or to console. They die as they have lived, unpitied and unassisted; and they are thrown into a hole, as we had already witnessed, uncoffined, by dozens together, to rot, and be forgotten.

And these are the descendants of the once proud masters of the world! But the main cause of this degradation is sufficiently evident—"*Everybody, except the priests, looks poor!*" These locusts fatten as the people starve; these vampires flourish as nations wither; and their prosperity is the sure sign of a nation's misery and slavery. This is evidently the view taken by Madame WOLFENSBERGER, in the following exposure of

THE PRIESTS.

And this is a Christian land, a professedly religious land, where Catholic ministers absolutely swarm; yet, though they draw a rich subsistence thence, and are daily appropriating more and more of the property of the kingdom, not only by their open exactions, but by the rich legacies of devotees, who are wrought on to make the Jesuits their heirs, to the ruin of their relatives, what return do they make to the people, save to encourage them in their idleness, and their delusions, and the ignorance, which is their destruction? What can we think of a body of men, who, with such a vast power in their hands as the clergy possess in the kingdom of Naples, and professing themselves the servants of Heaven, yet make no use of their authority for the benefit of their fellow-creatures; but rather strive, by every means in their power, to prevent the progress of knowledge, which, from time to time, breaks in from more enlightened countries, through the barriers of superstition they consider it their sole business to defend?

The materials evidently exist in sufficient abundance in Naples to give to another MASSANIELLO the ascendancy the moment he shall declare himself; for the misery of the people must render them ripe for any change—as no change could possibly make their condition worse than it is. But, alas! if the misery of the masses would ensure the triumph of a MASSANIELLO, their brutal ignorance would not the less ensure his subsequent fall. The curse of priestcraft is on them! A nation, the slave of priests, can never win, or winning, can never preserve its freedom. In Naples there is no freedom of thought, no thought itself. The human mind is corrupted and stagnant, and progress is unknown. Madame WOLFENSBERGER says, "Nothing progresses, *save the priests, more especially the Jesuits,* who every day add to their numbers and their power." Alas, poor Italy!

THE EDINBURGH TALES, conducted by Mrs. JOHNSTONE. Tait, Edinburgh; Chapman and Hall, London.

The first number of these "Tales" was welcomed by us as an addition to the popular literature of the day, well worthy of the support of the public. We have now before us the first monthly part, and we are glad to find that the "blossom of promise" is very likely to ripen into the full "fruit of performance." This part contains two complete tales, and the commencement of a third. The first of these, "Young Mr. Robert's three Christmas dinners," while conveying an excellent moral which all women, but especially young wives, may study with advantage, is not less amusing than it is instructive. The description of the second Christmas dinner, in which the "*shabby genteel*" is exhibited to perfection, is ludicrous in the extreme. We regret we cannot afford room for the kitchen scene, with the accompaniment of Biddy Duigenan's eloquence. The second piece, "Mary Anne's Hair," is a beautiful tale of woman's love. The only fault we have to find with this tale is, that the conclusion is so obscure that we deem it exceedingly likely that one half who read it will mistake the most important point of the conclusion. This is a pity, as the denouement, if told in somewhat plainer words, would have added to, instead of depreciated the interest of the story. From this tale we give the following graphic picture of

OLD BAILEY JUSTICE.

Who that has once seen the general aspect, and watched the proceedings of that yawning mouth of Avernus can ever forget it? Why have we not moral as well as historical painters? Hogarth has left us some striking lessons, and Cruikshank has done something:—the Old Bailey alone, every day of the Sessions, might have furnished numbers without number. It was about ten o'clock when I entered the court. Before eleven I had seen at least six cases tried, and as many juvenile thieves found guilty, and left ready, at a future day, to be sentenced in the lump. I mean, in one day, or rather one hour, to be condemned by the score to the hulks, transportation, whipping, or imprisonment. There was complete division of labour here. I endeavoured to ascertain what cases stood next to come on. No one could tell. Probably no one there distinctly knew. It seemed all matter of accident or caprice; and all was crowd, hurry, buzz, bustle, and confusion. I was at a loss whether to remain where I was, or at once repair to Newgate, when my resolution was fixed by the mumbled call for a prisoner, whose name, at least to my fancy, resembled "Lyndsay Boyle;" and the young man himself was brought forward, escorted in the usual manner,—changed, indeed, from what I had seen him some months before. I could not look upon the poor youth without deep interest and compassion. His case appeared to excite considerable curiosity. The court became crowded and choked up by all kinds of people. I was pushed back, and, from the noise, confusion, and hubbub on every side, it was impossible, from the place where I stood at last jammed in, to hear one word distinctly of the trial proceeding before me in dumb show. I looked on the unfortunate culprit, and the pantomime of justice performing before me, with a swell of indignant feeling which I shall not describe. The attorney, with whom I knew poor Mary Anne had left her hard-earned money, was visible in the crowd, but distant from the bewildered prisoner, gesticulating violently, as if calling, or pretending to call, to the officers of the court to get forward his witnesses—searching, or pretending to search, for the counsel who held the brief, and who could not be found. The bench *naturally* grumbled. I was afterwards told that very unusual patience and indulgence had been shown to the prisoner. It was indeed fourteen minutes by my watch from the time he was placed at the bar till the thrilling shriek of a female voice followed the awful *guilty;* and in the gallery, to which I now first looked, I saw a green gauze veil falling with the sinking head. The shriek of woman's agony was in those days not so rare in that court as to produce any very marked sensation.

Remove the woman! was but a customary official mandate. I pressed forward to take my goddaughter from the officers who hastened to conduct, or carry her out.

He is sold—the poor fellow is sold! were the indignant whispers and exclamations of the respectable persons around me, in whom free notions of the rights of property, and the habit of thieving, had by no means obliterated all sense of natural justice, whatever the virtuous may think. Their sympathy with Boyle was lively and intense. Many of the poor wretches had probably passed through the same ordeal, or were liable to it. As I pushed through the crowd, I came upon the attorney, who had been apparently in hot pursuit of the counsel, now first found.

Bless my soul! cried the attorney, but this is really unlucky.—Has that man a soul by which to bless himself?

Ha! the case closed, replied the counsel, wheeling round, and, flirting his bundled briefs, involving the fortunes of probably some other half dozen wretches, he scampered off to another court.

And is my evidence to be wholly useless?—not to be heard, sir? said a decent-looking young tradesman, who now found the attorney that had been in search of him. I have waited here every day this week, and this is Thursday, to give evidence, which I am morally certain would have cleared Mr. Lyndsay Boyle.

We must now see what can be done through the Pardon Power, said the attorney. If he has friends, there is no fear of him yet.

But if he have none? said the witness.

The attorney shrugged his shoulders. I have a dozen cases here to-day—good bye, sir—write to his friends, if you wish him well, to move the Pardon Power—even that takes cash:—make way for the lady—fainted, poor thing!

We have much pleasure in recommending this work to our readers; it is one of the very best of the *current publications;* and we hope will have a circulation equal to its merits.

WADE'S LONDON REVIEW—FEBRUARY.

This magazine is the *New Edinburgh* re-christened, and we think very judiciously so. At the outset we objected to the title, suggesting that *London* would be a much more appropriate name than *Edinburgh Review.* Others of our contemporaries raised the like objection; and the Editor, in compliance with the general wish of his friends, has thrown off the imitative guise, and boldly taken his stand on his own merits, which we think quite sufficient to ensure him success with his literary venture.

The first, second, and third numbers of this *Review* have already been noticed in the *Star,* but the fourth number we have not received. This is unfortunate, for we miss the second article of the series on "Religious Changes," by far the most able and interesting articles which have appeared in this publication. The third article under this head, embracing the history of the origin and settlement of the "Church of England," is contained in the present number. How far the "Reformers," as they have been called, were really friends to religious liberty, may be gathered from Cranmer's revision of the canon law, in which denial of the truth of Christianity was made *punishable with death!* Fortunately this atrocious code never became the law of the land, it never having obtained the sanction of royal authority. Queen Elizabeth appears to have been but an indifferent Protestant on her first assuming regal power; the changes, however, that she deemed requisite she enforced vigorously. Of the ten thousand ecclesiastics who had been sworn Catholics in the preceding reign only about *one hundred* gave up their benefices, rather than conform to the new order of things; so that the famed "Vicar of Bray" was by no means the first of his order who, *regarding Christianity* as a "nose of wax," have shaped and twisted it to suit their own ends. We have in this article an amusing sketch of that sublime ass, the "High and Mighty Prince James," as the state-bible-mongers style him. From this valuable article we give the following extract:—

REIGN OF JAMES FIRST.—RESULTS OF BIBLEISM.

That the age was rude is notorious; one of royal favouritism and courtly licentiousness—of hypocrisy, treachery, and espionage; of secret poisonings, bloody executions, and savage murders. It was an age of *one book*—a very good one undoubtedly, but not commensurate to the diversified exigencies of society. The manual of life, all that men reasoned, argued, and quarrelled concerning, was the Bible and its conflicting interpretations; it formed the sole cyclopædia of science, ethics, natural philosophy, ecclesiastical and political government. It was from this armoury all weapons of controversy were derived; all authorities deduced; all perplexing and mystifying texts quoted. In such a limited field, with such stinted intellectual resources, it was impossible men could advance in knowledge, unanimity, or toleration. They were a prey to the conceits, fancies, and fluctuating impulses of narrow and half-literate guides, and the questions which occupied them were seldom more important or cogently supported than those of the Muscovite doctors. In a controversy of these northern sages, when the question was—"Whether the practice of smoking tobacco was a sin?" the respondent maintained that it was lawful to get drunk with brandy, but not to smoke; because the Holy Scripture saith, "that which proceedeth out of the mouth defileth a man, while that which entereth into it doth not defile him." It is understood that there is hardly any puerility, idolatry, Jesuitism, or extravagance, from Atheism to Diabolism, that a little perverse ingenuity may not bless with some equivocal translation of textual authority. Even the perdition creed of St. Athanasius is not wholly unaccredited, and the late Archbishop Magee used to refer to the 16th chapter of St. Mark, as the divine authority for its eternal maledictions.

A precious picture of the workings of the "blessed book." "It was an age of *one book,*" says the writer, and the fruits of the teachings of that book were, "*licentiousness, hypocrisy, treachery, espionage, secret poisonings, bloody executions, and savage murders.*" "By their fruits ye shall know them!" Our next extract exhibits the

"DAMNABLE DOCTRINES" OF CALVINISM.

Worse than sorcery or witchcraft, in the first Stuart's reign, the whole island, from the Land's End to John-o'-Groat's, was overshadowed with the deadly nightshade of Calvinism. Thuggism would be a more suitable name; *for it is only in the sanguinary delusions of the assassins* of the east, who pervert horrid crimes into consecrated virtues, that a fit parallel can be found to the extremes of the Geneva school, which in place of divine beneficence plants a macerated demon; blind, truculent, and indiscriminative. Frightful as is the creed of the Calvins, Knoxes, and Melvilles in its rigour, it must be remembered as a feature of the period, that ninety assembled divines (five of them deputies of King James), having the fear of God before their eyes and the holy Scriptures in their hands, after some months' deliberation at Dort, among other equally pious and plausible matter, declared, "that God, by an absolute decree, hath elected to salvation a very *small number of men,* without any regard to their faith or obedience whatever, and excluded from saving grace *all the rest of mankind,* and appointed them by the same decree to eternal damnation, without any regard to their infidelity or impenitency." Even up to the present time, in the formularies of Scotland, it is affirmed that "they who having never heard the gospel know not Jesus Christ, and believe not in him, cannot be saved, be they ever so diligent to frame their lives according to the light of nature, or the laws of that religion which they possess."

This article concludes with the following remarks on

RELIGION.

The general and final conclusion from our comparative view, it is likely, will be, that religion has ever been the first handmaid of civilization, but that it does not advance with advancing intelligence; that it is quickly corrupted by power, becomes intolerant, cruel, arbitrary, and immoral; that it is unequal to the supreme government of a refined people, and its first mission fulfilled to barbarous or half-civilized men, its next appropriate place is subordination to the civil authority, and its crude and stunted dogmas to the interpretation of an ever expanding literature, science, and philosophy.

If religion is "corrupted by power," is "intolerant, cruel, arbitrary, and immoral;" if its "crude and stunted dogmas" require to be ruled by "literature, science, and philosophy," why should the evil be permitted to exist at all? Or, rather—for so long as knaves can find dupes upon whom to practise their arts, religion will *continue to exist*—why should not every effort be made by the enlightened to free the minds of the many from the grovelling superstitions which have hitherto kept them "priest-led slaves," and made them the victims of every fraud and wrong? Until this be accomplished, the freedom of the human race is unattainable.

There are some very able reviews of new works in this month's number, including Gregg's "Commerce of the Prairies;" Mr. Johnston's "Travels in Abyssinia;" and "Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation." From the review of Johnston's "Travels" we give the following picture of

ABYSSINIAN CHRISTIANS.

The manners and the superstitions of the Shoan population, as described both by Major Harris and Mr. Johnston, after nearly eighteen centuries of firmly established Christianity, might suggest a lesson to a large class of people in this country, who fancy they are doing all that is needful towards promoting the cause of religion and humanity by the mere fact of causing savages to profess their favourite creed. No people fulfil more rigorously than the Shoans all the external forms of religion. The power of the priesthood is immense: it alone is strong enough to control the will of the despot who rules them; yet, according to Major Harris, a more bloodthirsty and cruel, filthy, false, and rapacious people than these Christians of Shoa can hardly exist. As their king said of them to his English visitors, "they are bad."

The Autobiography of the Editor is continued, and is most instructive and interesting. On the whole, we like the appearance of this number much. If continued in the like spirit, and with the same ability, *Wade's London Review* must and will succeed.

THE FAMILY HERALD. Part XXI.—BIGGS, 421, Strand.

Of all the cheap miscellanies combining information and amusement for the "million," we know none worthier of approval than the *Family Herald.* Rightly it is named *Family;* its contents rendering it a most fitting companion for the family circle. We have facts and philosophy for gentlemen; hints and entertainment for ladies; questions and diversion for youth; and recreation and harmless pastime for all. In the words of the motto on the cover of this publication, it will be found, "interesting to all—offensive to none." In common with several other publications, the *Herald* contains a translation of EUGENE SUE's famous work, "*The Wandering Jew.*" But beyond this, the *Herald* contains an immense mass of reading which but very few of the cheap publications can compete with. Indeed the *Herald* will advantageously bear comparison with not a few of the dear-priced periodicals. One most interesting feature of the *Herald* is the editorial articles of its principal conductor. Ranking in our opinion with THOMAS CARLYLE as one of the most original thinkers of the present time, we have reason to believe that in the pages of this publication he is read by some thousands, with an interest not easily described. Our belief of this is grounded on the individual instances that have come under our notice; and when we state that the *Family Herald* circulates something like *fifty thousand* copies weekly, the actual readers probably amounting to at least four times that number, the reader will see that we have good ground for our belief. The present Part contains excellent articles from the pen of the Editor on the following subjects:—"Symbolical Clothing; or the Surplice and Gown analogically considered." "North and South; or Mental and Moral Magnetism." "Temper; good and bad tempers, and their respective uses." "Credulity and Incredulity, Superstition, and Science;" and "The Movements, Political and Domestic." We give the following extracts, all we can find room for, from the article on "Credulity and Incredulity."

CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF PAGANISM.

When Christianity came into heathen lands, it had an immense work of destruction before it, and that is yet far from being accomplished. Yet the process of the invasion of heathen practices has been conducted with wonderful method and propriety. Instead of suppressing them entirely, it partly adopted them. It converted the image of Jupiter into the statue of St. Peter—it imitated the rituals, vestments, fasts, and festivals of Paganism, and destroyed their profanity by consecrating them anew, and baptising them anew. It thus succeeded in changing the old names—and by building splendid cathedrals, and ordaining splendid ceremonies, and founding new orders—the *old religions went out,* whilst the old national superstitions practically remained. This was all that Romanism could do; and when it had accomplished this its mission, something more was required. Even to this day the peasants of Spain will turn round the image of the Virgin that stands on their mantel-piece, when they proceed to do anything which they fear will offend her delicacy. This is a remnant of Paganism which contains some little moral beauty to atone for its absurdity; but still it is a remnant which Romanism does not oppose, and cannot extinguish.

A SIXPENNY WIND.

Sir Walter Scott, in his notes to the *Pirate,* describes an old woman of Stromness, whom he visited, whose name was Bessie Millie, and who lived by selling winds to the sailors. "He was a venturous master of a vessel," says Sir Walter, "who left the roadstead of Stromness without paying his offering to propitiate Bessie Millie." Her charges were very moderate, only sixpence for a favourable wind, and the sailors paid it with a look between jest and earnest. For this sixpence, she boiled her kettle, and prayed for the vessel that paid it, and she said the wind was sure to come sooner or later. She was nearly a hundred years old when Sir Walter saw her, and there is no reason to doubt that the old kimmer believed in her own influence.

A WORD FOR SHAKSPEARE AND THE FAIRIES.

A dark and gloomy superstition is one that is not likely to gain or keep ground in an age like this; and it is only such a superstition that can prove detrimental to our temper, our morals, or our understanding. We care not how much the people believe in fairies and men of peace—the dunshee of the Scottish Highlanders. The faith will do them little harm, so that it does not enslave them, but supplies them with interesting topics of song and of thought. The rigid censure of scientific matter-of-fact incredulity we do not much admire; and we felt very little respect for the understanding of a scientific regenerator, who, in a public lecture, at which we formed one of the audience, declared that such poets as Shakspeare and Milton, who spoke of fairies and ghosts, and other bug-a-bears, as matters-of-fact, tended more to debase than to cultivate the human mind; and concluded by a singular expression of hope, that the day would soon come when we would have a Shakspeare of *our own,* who would affirm nothing but what was in strict conformity with the demonstrations of science! A mathematical dramatist! a geological Shakspeare! a physiological Milton! Why, the very beauty of poetry is its *non*-sense, and the charm of an innocent fairy superstition is its absurdity. Make it too rational and it proves injurious. Its mystery and unintelligibility are not the least of its recommendations. The beautiful may be within our reach, but the grand and sublime are beyond it.

Immense as is the present sale of the *Family Herald,* we hope still to see it increase and multiply, and to that end advise all who have not hitherto made its acquaintance to make it forthwith, and judge of its merits for themselves.

THE CHRONICLES OF THE BASTILE. T. C. Newby, 72, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square.

We continue our extracts from this excellent work. Pressed for room, we must defer further comment. We shall return to the subject next week.

THE CHAMBER OF TORTURE.—THE BOOT.

For the last time, said he, I ask thee, Baron de St. Auney, to confess thy crime and thy accomplice. Here is the paper: wilt thou sign it?

The baron waved his hand negatively—for his anguish was too intense to permit him to speak—and tremblingly awaited the result.

D'Argenson no sooner understood the sign, than he leaped from his chair, and striking the table with his clenched hand, exclaimed, with a frightful oath, that made even the hardened assistants shudder:

By heaven thou *shalt* sign it!

A few glances were now interchanged between the parties: St. Marc took D'Argenson's place, whilst *he* advanced with Corbe and Riquelet to the spot where the baron was standing; beckoning the soldiers, the latter placed their muskets against the wall, and seized their unfortunate victim.

The calmness of the baron at this juncture was frightful to behold; it was evident that he maintained it only at the expense of an immense effort; large drops of cold perspiration streamed down his cheek, from every pore; his teeth were firmly set together, and his lips compressed, but though his countenance was pallid, it indicated no irresolution: when they laid hands upon him, he turned his eyes to heaven, his lips moved, and a tear fell from his eyes: here all outward emotion ceased.

Bind him yonder, said D'Argenson, pointing to the wooden post at the other end of the chamber; Ru, to thy office.

This functionary immediately cast off his jerkin, and baring his arms, bound the baron's to the wooden pillar, so that he could not move, whilst the lieutenant of police signed to Corbe and Riquelet to fetch the boot, which was very ponderous. They then proceeded to strip their unfortunate victim's legs and feet, and to place one of them in the machine, Ru holding it the while; when everything was prepared, D'Argenson again asked the baron to sign the paper, but he again refused, and in the most peremptory manner.

Screw! exclaimed D'Argenson: Ru looked up at him irresolute. *Ventre bleu!* dost hear me? reiterated he.

Thus admonished, the *porte-clefs* began very slowly turning a small pivot with a hand-winch, that, by a simple piece of mechanism, caused by the iron plates and springs of which the boot was constructed, to collapse gradually together until, from the knee downwards, the wretched victim's leg was completely encased therein; still he did not flinch:

Harder! harder! vociferated the lieutenant of police; *sang dieu!*

The *porte-clefs* appeared to struggle very hard to get the winch to turn, becoming exceedingly purple in the face with the exertion, but the more he tried, the less the winch moved; at last he stopped, wiped his face on the back of his hand, and asked to be accommodated with a glass of wine.

Go on! cried D'Argenson; thou shalt have wine when we have done.

But although Ru resumed his operations upon the winch, it obstinately refused to stir! upon which, the lieutenant broke out into a volley of execrations intermingled with threats of putting Ru himself to the torture if he did not do his duty.

The screws are rusty, said that individual, and the springs too!

Let me try, exclaimed Corbe, pushing the other away; I'll make it turn.

Seizing the winch with both hands, he turned it round twice or thrice with the greatest ease, much to the apparent astonishment of the *porte-clefs;* the effect of this manipulation soon manifested itself; the baron shuddered, and the hue of his complexion turned almost to the lividity of death; still he spoke not.

Wilt thou sign? cried D'Argenson in his ear.

Never! replied De St. Auney, in a husky voice.

Screw! shouted the former; and again Corbe applied himself to his hideous task.

There goes the knee-pan! observed Ru, as a slight report like that of a walnut being cracked, fell on his ear.

Wilt thou sign the paper? demanded the lieutenant of police, trembling, and wiping the water from his forehead: the baron shook his head:

Screw! screw! *tonnere dieu!* shouted his persecutor, and again Corbe resumed his work.

There succeeded a very brief pause, when a second small report was heard:

That's the ancle-bone, muttered the *porte-clefs.*

Wilt thou sign now? demanded D'Argenson again, in a hurried, anxious tone; thy daughter shall go free! I swear it, by St. Marc! This was his patron saint.

Give me the pen, said the baron, in an almost inaudible voice.

D'Argenson snatched the pen from the hand of St. Marc—who had been taking minutes of the proceedings—and ordering Ru to loose the baron's arms from the leathern thongs that confined them, presented him the pen, converting the crown of his beaver into a temporary writing-desk, and spreading out the paper upon it: it purported to be a confession made by the Baron de St. Auney, acknowledging himself guilty of the forgery of the bond ostensibly signed by the Sieur St. Angin.

The sufferer, with an effort to suppress any expression of the agony he endured, took the pen, and rapidly tracing the words *False! false!* at the foot of the document, appended his name thereto; this done, his arms dropped, and he would have fallen down, had not one of the soldiers caught him; he had fainted.

Mort dieu! shouted the thunderstruck and enraged lieutenant, looking at the paper; cheated? Screw! screw!

He can't bear any more now, observed Riquelet, who on these occasions officiated in the double capacity of confessor and surgeon.

Unscrew him then, and take him to his cell, replied D'Argenson; curses on him! Tearing the document into fragments, he beckoned St. Marc to follow him, and quitted the horrid scene, venting his rage in execrations.

A BOWL OF "PUNCH," FRESH BREWED.

We advise everybody to buy and read this week's *Punch;* both its literary contents and illustrations are excellent. "The Valentines for 1845" comprise—GRAHAM, as "The Vegetable Pill Vendor;" Sir PETER LAURIE, as "The Penitent Knight" *put down;* LOUIS-PHILIPPE, as "Shakspeare's Nurse;" BROUGHAM, as "The Political Pirouettist;" GIBBS, as "The Civic Jeremy Diddler;" and ALBERT, as "The Prince of Sportsmen." The idea of the principal illustrations is from DICKENS' *Chimes,* "Bowley interrogating Trotty Veck." The characters are *Sir J. Bowley*......Sir R. PEEL; *Lady Bowley*......Duke of WELLINGTON; *Trotty Veck*......Lord JOHN RUSSELL; *Mr. Fish*......Sir JAMES GRAHAM. Anything better conceived and executed never appeared in our contemporary than these characters. The real of political life, and the ideal of DICKENS' book, are admirably combined. Of the literary contents, the article headed "The Health of the Labourer," by Q. [DOUGLAS JERROLD] is by far the best. We shall endeavour to find room for it next week. In the meantime, we repeat, buy this week's *Punch;* buy *Punch every week,* and help to diffuse the truths of which he is the inimitable exponent.

THE LABOURER'S LOVE-SONG.

A plague upon thy head, thou dove!
I envy thee thy fate;
Like unto thee I have a love,
But not, like thee, a mate.
A plague upon my own fond heart
That was not made of stone,
Without a throb, without a smart,
To go through life alone.

What right have I aloft to gaze
Upon the sunny skies,
Whence, evermore, my fancy strays
Unto a pair of eyes?
And wherefore should the rosy morn
Remind me of a cheek?
O! I could laugh myself to scorn,
For that I am so weak.

Do I mistake myself, in truth,
For some great lord or 'squire?
What can a hind, a lout, forsooth,
More than a brute, desire?
What, hath he passions, thoughts, and powers,
More than a hog can feel?
Pshaw!—let me crush them,—like the flowers,
Beneath mine iron heel.

I, that can scarce my daily bread
With bitter labour earn,
Have I a tear for love to shed,
A heart with love to burn?
What more than bacon needs a clown?—
Would I'd enough of that!—
Give him his beer; and let him drown
His passion in the vat.

When yonder Church would lure thee on
With visions of a bride,
Turn thee, thou fool! and think upon
The building by its side.
There stands the WORKHOUSE—look with awe
Upon that place of dread,
Where paupers go, who break the law
Which says—THOU SHALT NOT WED.

TOASTS AND SENTIMENTS FOR LANDLORDS AT AGRICULTURAL MEETINGS.

The Agricultural Labourer!—at seven shillings a week.
The Hobnailed Shoe!—and may the wearer never kick at starvation.
The Smock Frock and its Tatters!—to which we owe our rents.
Success to the farmer!—and the benefit of it to the Landlord.
The Landed Interest!—a thousand per cent. on the land's produce.
Order, Economy, and the Workhouse!
The Preservation of Game, and the Gaol!

THE RICHMOND CORONET.—At the Agricultural Protection gathering, the Duke of Richmond said the brightest jewel in his coronet was his care of the labourer. "The brightest jewel in a crown," is an old phrase; now, it comes down to the coronet. In like manner descending, some commoner landlord may declare that his treatment of the labourer is the *deepest bit of black* in his beaver.

SINFUL SABBATH ORANGES.—Daniel Crawley, a little boy, was charged at the Southwark Office before Mr. Trail with selling oranges on Sunday. Mr. Trail discharged the offender with an admonition, telling him that "by selling fruit on Sunday he was breaking the Sabbath, and for which he was liable to be committed for a month to gaol." This is nothing but right. We have only to reflect upon the number of West-end fishmongers and confectioners at this moment in gaol for selling their goods on a Sunday, to feel that Daniel Crawley, the orange-boy, has had a very fortunate escape.

A NOTICE OF MOTION.—The following notice, written on a little piece of paper, after the fashion of the memoranda left on the doors of barristers' chambers, has been suspended to the knocker of Mr. Leader's residence in Lowndes-square:—

> **Gone to Cannes.**
>
> *Won't be back till next Election.*

THE WALBROOK PET.—It seems that the city of Lyons can boast of a Sir Peter Laurie, who is determined to put down "hissing, hooting, and all marks of disapprobation whatsoever in the theatre!" having issued a mayoral edict to that effect. By-the-by, a certain Lord Mayor would find a similar proclamation very useful in the city, providing he has the courage to attempt another 9th of November.

AND VERY DEAR TOO!—The title of Duc d'Isly was offered to Marshal Bugeaud, but declined by him, at first, as it involved an expense of 18,000 francs. The Duke of Marlborough says, "He wishes he had known this, as the Marshal might have had his title for one-half the amount."

Science and Art.

THE BARBERINI VASE.—The celebrated Barberini vase, broken in so singular a manner in the British Museum last week, was, for more than two centuries, the principal ornament of the Barberini Palace. This vase was purchased of Sir Wm. Hamilton, considerably more than thirty years ago, for 1000 guineas, by the Duchess of Portland, since which period it has been generally known by the name of the Portland Vase. It was found about the middle of the sixteenth century, two miles and a half from Rome, in the road leading from Frascati. At the time of its discovery the vase was enclosed in a marble sarcophagus, within a sepulchral chamber, under the mount called Monte de Grano. The material of which the vase is formed is glass: the figures, which are executed in relief, are of a beautiful opaque white, and the ground is in perfect harmony with the figures, and of a dark transparent blue. The subject of these figures is extremely obscure, and has not hitherto received a satisfactory elucidation; but the design and the sculpture are both truly admirable. Without noticing any of the theories or conjectures that have been made about them, the following is an account of the several figures:—In one compartment three exquisite figures are placed on a ruined column, the capital of which is fallen, and lies at their feet, among other disjointed stones; they sit under a tree on loose piles of stones. The middle figure is a female in a reclining and dying attitude, with an inverted torch in her left hand, the elbow of which supports her as she sinks, while the right hand is raised and thrown over her drooping head. The figure on her right hand is a man, and that on the left a woman, both supporting themselves on their arms, and apparently thinking intensely. Their backs are to the dying figure, and their faces are turned to her, but without an attempt to assist her. On another compartment of the vase is a figure coming through a portal, and going down with great timidity into a darker region, where he is received by a beautiful female, who stretches forth her hand to help him: between her knees is a large and playful serpent. She sits with her feet towards an aged figure, having one foot sunk into the earth, and the other raised on a column, with his chin resting on his hand. Above the female figure is a cupid preceding the first figure, and beckoning him to advance. This first figure holds a cloak or garment, which he seems anxious to bring with him, but which adheres to the side of the portal through which he has passed. In this compartment there are two trees, one of which bends over the female figure, and the other over the aged one. On the bottom of the vase there is another figure on a larger scale than the one we have already mentioned, but not so well finished nor so elevated. This figure points with its finger to its mouth. The dress appears to be curious and cumbersome, and above there is the foliage of a tree. On the head of the figure there is a Phrygian cap; it is not easy to say whether this figure is male or female. On the handles of the vase are represented two aged heads, with the ears of a quadruped, and from the middle of the forehead rises a kind of tree without leaves; these figures are in all probability ornaments, and have no connection with the rest of the figures, or the story represented on the vase. This superb specimen of Greek art was deposited in the British Museum, in 1810, by his Grace the Duke of Portland.

THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.—The first trial of the electric telegraph from London to Southampton and Gosport was made on Friday, Jan. 31st. The telegraph was constructed by Messrs. Cooke and Wheatstone, the patentees, for the joint use of the Admiralty and the South Western Railway Company, between Nine Elms and Gosport, a distance of eighty-eight miles. Mr. Cooke left London by the three o'clock train, and stopped at Bishopstoke, seventy-two miles. He then proceeded by the next train, and an hour was occupied in carrying the wires into the office at Gosport, on the branch line; so that it was only at a little before ten o'clock that, all things being ready, he dispatched the first signal to London. Four or five minutes of anxiety elapsed before any reply was obtained, when his assistant in London excused his inattention on the ground of having fallen asleep before the fire! The signals passed with the utmost precision, and a long conversation passed between his London correspondent over the intervening distance of eighty-eight miles. The perfection of the system of insulation was thus proved. The experiment had not been before tried until seventy-two miles were completed, when the apparatus was applied at Bishopstoke about a fortnight back. Directions to his London assistant to start for Gosport by the first morning's train closed the correspondence for the night. Professor Wheatstone joined, by appointment, at Nine Elms, about twelve next morning, and some thousand signals took their flight between London and Gosport. In Mr. Wheatstone's experiments no perceptible time was occupied in transmission. Among many others the following inquiries and answers, preceded by the ringing of the alarum, occupying about four minutes, were made at the request of one of the company's officers:—"Have you any mackerel for to-night's goods train?" "No, they cannot catch them now." "Why not?" "Because the nights are moonlight, and the fish see the net." Other communications respecting the shipping took place. Subsequently the professor's new magneto-electric telegraph was brought into a long circuit of wire, and worked to perfection through 288 miles. The apparatus dispenses with the batteries altogether, a steel magnet being the source of power. The Admiralty are to have a pair of these machines, and a pair of Wheatstone's pointing telegraphs, for their distinct use. For railway purposes Mr. Cooke prefers his two-needle telegraph," and in this opinion Professor Wheatstone agrees, as its rapid colloquial question-and-answer character is perfectly adapted for railway exigencies. There is a good deal of painting to be done on the line, which will require fine weather and some days to complete. As soon as that is done the apparatus will again be worked, and two wires placed at the command of the Lords of the Admiralty; the other two, with the branch telegraph to Southampton, will remain in the company's hands for their own railway purposes and the use of the public. Mr. Cooke is prepared to accept a challenge to lay down a telegraph from London to Falmouth, Liverpool, or Edinburgh, without any intermediate stages. The last practical difficulty is overcome by the present system of insulation. The entire cost of the telegraph between London and Portsmouth is £24,000, to be paid in equal proportions by the Admiralty and the company; and negotiations are being entered into with Government for laying down sections of it on the Chester and Holyhead line, now in course of construction.

GEOLOGICAL CURIOSITY.—Not the least curious and interesting of the phenomena which rank themselves under the head of "geology" is the finding of live animals imbedded in stones at such depths beneath the surface of the earth as to render it extremely improbable that they had ever lived upon it, and make it probable that they must have existed since the beds in which they were found were formed, which in most cases may be reckoned by thousands of years. Frequent mention is made in geological works of the finding of animals under such circumstances; but, until within the last few days, we never had an opportunity of seeing one. To the uninformed mind, the idea of an animal having been imbedded in solid matter for thousands of years appears so incredible that they will, in preference, believe any absurdity; but the finding of the present is attended by circumstances which make it less difficult to believe it true than to believe to the contrary. A few days ago, as a miner named William Ellis, and others, were working in the Penydarran mine works, at a depth from the surface of forty-five yards, one of them struck the point of his mandril into a piece of shale, and, to the surprise of all, a frog leaped out of the cleft thus made. When first observed, it appeared very weak, and, though a large-sized frog, could crawl only with great difficulty. On closer examination, several peculiarities were observed; its eyes were full-sized, though it could not see, and does not now see, as upon touching the eyes it evinces no feeling. There is a line indicating where the mouth would have been, had it not been confined, but the mouth has never been opened. Several deformities were also observable; and the spine, which has been forced to develope itself in an angular form, is a sufficient proof of its having grown in a very confined space, even if the hollow in the piece of shale, by corresponding to the shape of the back, did not place the matter beyond a reasonable doubt. It is a very handsome frog, and continues to increase in size and weight, though no food can be given to it; and its vitality is preserved only by breathing through the skin covering the lower jaw, which is very thin. Ellis has been unfolding a theory of its formation, whose chief merit consists less in its being accordant with probability, than in being as original as Will himself. That the age of this frog must be the same as the bed in which it was found is clear; and that it entered that bed while in the process of formation and solidification is equally so. How long that bed has been formed, and what size the frog might have been at its entrance, we cannot take upon us to state; but it is very probable that the bed is very old, and it is very certain that the frog has grown in the stone while it was soft and yielding, as its peculiarities are such as under no other circumstances could have been presented. If, by life, we mean muscular motion, and not organic development, we cannot suppose that this animal ever lived until air was admitted to it on the lifting of the stone. This assertion of its having existed in a state which can neither be called life, nor death, will be denied by those who have not known that life is a state produced by alternate waste and supply. Where there could have been no oxygen, there could have been no combustion—no waste, and consequently no supply. It is possible, by the alternate action of great heat and intense cold, to produce a very torpid state of the human frame. To these views it has been more philosophically objected, that during the formation of the shale, the frog must have become shale also. When a piece of iron, dropped into dough, becomes bread, this will be rendered probable, and not before.—*Cardiff and Merthyr Guardian.*

Tit Bits.

CURIOUS EPITAPH.—Lord Wharton is buried between his two wives; his effigy represents him lying between them, his head resting upon his crest, which is Lucifer, the Morning Star.

Here I *Thomas Wharton* do lye,
With Lucifer under my head;
And *Nelly* my wife hard by,
And *Nancy* as cold as lead:—
O, how shall I speak without dread,
Who can my sad fortune abide;
With one devil under my head,
And another laid close on each side.

AN ILLUSTRATED SUPPER.—Last week, at Winchester, a Mr. Sharp gave a lecture on the "philosophy of the *kitchen,*" to *illustrate* which a supper was cooked on the lecture table by means of gas—roast beef, mutton, fowls, ham, griskins, fried sausages, spare-ribs, puddings, &c.—all admirably cooked by the cooking apparatus. At this rate, the man who invented gas little thought it would fill the stomach as well as delight the eye. Let the Poor-law Commissioners permit Mr. Sharp to turn on his gas, with culinary illustrations, in the union houses. An illustrated lecture of this sort would delight the poor pauper much more than any other work in the "workhouse library."—*Satirist.*

AT THE REPEAL ASSOCIATION, the other day, O'Connell said that, "under any circumstances, he was for the *golden* link of the Crown." It was quite superfluous of Dan to tell the boys that, as by this time they must be pretty well aware that the only link he cares a straw about is a *golden.* It would be a difficult thing to find a man more attached to the *sovereign,* in a sordid sense, that the great agitator.—*Ibid.*

THE *Post* reproachfully accuses the *Times* of betraying the Church "with a kiss." Even admitting this to be so, we are far from thinking that Mother Church has not been betrayed by the kiss of many others besides the *Times.* Jove descended into the lap of Danæ in a shower of gold, and if the "Thunderer" has really prevailed over the virtue of the Church, it is probable that the same means have been employed. The "old lady" has been always very sensible to the influence of the precious metals.—*Ibid.*

THE DUC DE NEMOURS is giving a lot of balls, which deserve to be mentioned among the doings of Paris. Everybody gets invitations to them. The poor Prince, in fact, is hardly put about to get people enough, sufficiently respectable, to fill his saloons. But even those he has are no great shakes. An old English ex-sugar boiler, or ex-something from the City, was invited to the last ball. The old man stared with open mouth at the splendour of the furniture—the beautiful decorations of the ceiling and cornices, &c., when some one lugging him suddenly by the arm, cried "Come along! come along! I'll present you to the Prince!" A minute after, behold the ex-sugar boiler bobbing in lowly humility before the future Regent of France. Nemours muttered something—the man can't for the life of him talk like a Christian—and bowed to the ex-sugar boiler. Down went the boiler's head again—down again—low—lower—whilst a certain other part of his form rose in a corresponding altitude—("Corresponding altitude,—is that English? I really don't know, but it *sounds* well, so let it stand). The last bobbing of the head, however, was fatal. Crack! crack! The "Regent that shall be" turned his head, and on seeing what had happened, burst into a hearty fit of laughter. Everybody who saw what had happened laughed too—everybody—the ladies as well as the gentlemen—everybody but the sugar-boiler. *He* didn't laugh—no, poor man! He had—spare my blushes, fair reader—he had—*split his breeches!*—*Ibid.*

THE FORCE OF CONSCIENCE, we know, is wonderfully great, and numberless are the instances of its power in causing retribution; but we should say the following public advertisement far surpasses any known case of "conscience" on record:—"Sir Robert Peel acknowledges the receipt of £16 12s., *on* account of 'unclaimed *income-tax* for eighteen months.'" Let this case be matched, we say, in the *realm!* If any one had told us that there existed an individual in the nation who, to relieve the sin upon his soul of not having for eighteen months paid an *unclaimed* income-tax, acted as above, we should have set it down as *mauvaise plaisanterie.* But yet the Premier publicly avouches the fact! A great man, verily, is this Peel—to touch the conscience of any man by any act, but especially by the Income-tax!—*Ibid.*

THE PRINCE OF WALES is, we see, put down in the list of subscribers "for repairing the Chester Cathedral." When his Royal Highness emerges from his nurse's care, no doubt he will be much surprised, on looking over his accounts, to see how *generous* he was in his infancy. The last Prince of Wales was more given to lavish his spare cash on courtezans than cathedrals, a fact which supplies matter for a very spicy chapter in his history.—*Ibid.*

A BRACE OF BIRDS.—Two ladies, named Pigeon and Lark, were charged with stealing three fowls from a man named Aviary. The prisoners were detected in the act, and given into the custody of a constable named Parrot, who brought them to the office, from which they were consigned to the cage.

IN BUT STILL OUT.—Mr. J. E., of Manchester, whose family were all going out to dine on Christmas-day, was left alone at home, and, sending across to his sister's for his dinner, to save the trouble of cooking, accompanied it with the following characteristic note:—"Mrs. E. has gone *out,* and I am left *in,* and, however paradoxical it may appear, Mrs. E., though *out,* is *in* for a dinner, and though I'm *in* I'm *out.*"

HABEAS CORPUS.—"May it please your honour," said a lawyer the other day, addressing one of the city judges, "I brought the prisoner from the gaol on a *habeas corpus.* "There's a good one!" said a fellow in an under tone, who stood in the rear of the court, "I'm blowed if I hain't seen him come here in a *cab.*"

A DOMESTIC DRAMA.—A few days ago, says the *Journal de l' Aube,* some gens d'armes went to a village in that department, to arrest a man who had, for a slight offence, been condemned to a week's imprisonment, but had not surrendered. They entered his bedroom, where they saw his wife, who had just risen from bed. She declared that her husband was absent. The gensd'armes, however, perceiving that some person was in bed, turned down the clothes and found a man in the simple apparel of nature. "I am not the husband," said the man. "That story will not do," said the gensd armes. They made him dress and go with them; but on their arrival at the guard-house, they found that the man had told the truth; for there they found the husband, who had just given himself up, and learned for the first time that he had a *remplacant.*

AN ATROCIOUS WRETCH.—A farmer, who occasionally accommodated a neighbour with a flitch of bacon at a killing season, being applied to as usual, replied, "Hanna yet made up my moind whether I shall *kill mysel' this year,* or *take a side of my feyther.*"

LAW AND EQUITY.—"Pray, my lord," said a gentleman to a late respected and rather whimsical judge, "what is the distinction between Law and Equity Courts?" "Very little in the end," replied his lordship: "they only differ so far as time is concerned. At common law you are done for at once; in equity you are not so easily disposed of. The former is a bullet, which is instantaneously and most charitably effective; the latter is an angler's hook, which plays with its victim before it kills it. The one is prussic acid and the other laudanum."

HOW TO GET A BIT.—"Shall I cut this loin of mutton *saddle-way?*" said a host to his guest. "No," replied the latter, "by all means cut it *bridle-way,* for then I may chance to *get a bit in my mouth.*"

NEW DINING-ROOMS FOR THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Bellamy's having been pulled down, a new set of dining apartments are being fitted up for the members of the House of Commons, and a committee of the legislative body has been chosen to superintend the arrangements of the new *cuisine,* without respect to party or political character; for instance:—Lord John Manners, Mr. Smythe, and Mr. D'Israeli, who do not go with the roast-beef-of-"Old-England" party, have agreed to superintend the boiled veal or "Young England" department. Mr. Daniel O'Connell and the repeal section promise to keep the members in a perpetual "Irish stew." Lord John Russell and several distinguished Whigs have kindly undertaken to look after the cookery of the "plaices," although they do not expect to partake of them for a considerable time. Mr. Ferrand promises to see that the House shall be well supplied with "red hot" broils of every description. Mr. Hume engages to attend to the cheese-parings and the perquisites to the waiters. Sir Robert Peel, as *maitre d' hotel,* takes upon himself to superintend the "measures" and present the "bills." Serjeant Murphy will attend to "the bar." Mr. Roebuck will feel himself quite at home in providing "sauce" of all kinds for the House. Mr. Cobden, who goes in on the cheap principle, guarantees that all the members shall have bread *a discretion.* Mr. Borthwick, whenever he makes a speech, warrants that it shall be—pickles.—*Great Gun.*

MARRIED.—On the 21st inst., at St. Pancras New Church, George Bull, Esq., Doctor of Medicine, to Henrietta, daughter of Ebenezer Pope, Esq.:—

The "Bulls" of Rome subservient are
To Popes, of grace and learning full;
But here's a *Pope,* much stranger far,
Who vows obedience to a *Bull.*—*Ibid.*

TRULY AFFECTIONATE.—The *Court Circular* says that at Strathfieldsaye, on Tuesday, "the dinner party embraced three officers of the Hampshire Yeomanry."—*Ibid.*

STAR-GAZING.—The papers announced, on the same day, Mr. Blunt's "Beauties of the Heavens," and Mr. Heath's "Beauties of the Opera."

The names don't accord with the volumes beneath,—
Each should borrow the other's, and stick it in front:
One can study astronomy well from a *heath;*
But one can't see the Opera stars without *blunt.*

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

SHIPWRECK OF TWO AMERICAN LINERS, AND LOSS OF LIFE.—By the packet-ship Stephen Whitney, which arrived at Liverpool from New York, in the early part of the week, we are in receipt of intelligence of the total loss of two fine ships, American liners, the Pennsylvania, 700 tons burthen, belonging to Liverpool; and the Dorchester, 400 tons register, also of the same port, which occurred during the month of December, while on their passage to and rom England and the United States. We are sorry to add that the wreck of the latter vessel was accompanied with loss of life. While lying-to on the 14th she was struck by a most terrific sea; it carried away the three masts and rigging, clearing her deck of every boat, and sweeping three men overboard, consisting of the second mate and two seamen, who, melancholy to say, perished. For days the gale continued, the ship being dashed about, actually unmanagable, her rudder gone, and her hold half full of water. The remaining persons on board, forty-five in all, were saved by the ship Rochester.

THE BRITISH BRIG DOVE was lost in the month of January last, while on a voyage from that place to Dominica. She was capsized in a gale of wind, the sea sweeping one seaman off the deck, and drowning two others below; their names are Godfrey Brown, James Gardner, and Samuel Hogan; the rest of the crew were nine days afterwards taken off the wreck by a passing vessel. Four other losses are reported on the books in the course of the week. The schooner Lady Scott, wrecked on the Castle Sands; the sloop Jane, of Lynn, sunk off Saltfleet; the Ann, of Ipswich, wrecked near Whitby; and the Napier, of Newcastle, lost on the coast of Spain, the master and one man drowned, and the rest of the crew were saved.

HORRIBLE DESTITUTION.—One of the most appalling cases of human misery came under the notice of the police on Wednesday morning last. On that day it was reported at the station of the V division, on Clapham-common, that a girl had been found in a dying state in a loft over an old and ruinous cow-house, in the Wandsworth-road. Several constables, under the direction of a sergeant, were sent with a stretcher to convey this wretched human being to the Wandsworth Union. On a heap of filthy litter in the corner of a loft over a cow-house, now in disuse, and situate at the corner of the Albion-road, Wandsworth-road, they found a being with scarce any signs of life, and presenting all the appearances of an exhumed corpse. Her apparel was but a bundle of rags, and wholly insufficient to conceal her person, much less protect her from the intense cold. Some weak brandy and water was poured with difficulty through her lips, and the police then proceeded to place her with extreme care upon the stretcher; they covered her with horse-cloths and sacks, and then conveyed her to the union, hardly daring to hope that she would survive the journey. Mr. and Mrs. Tring, the master and matron of the Wandsworth Union, received the unfortunate creature, and had her instantly conveyed to a warm apartment. Within five minutes of her arrival she was undressed and placed between hot blankets. Her clothes, which swarmed with vermin, were immediately burned. An assistant to Dr. Connor, the surgeon to the union, was in the house at the time, and after examining the young woman, directed arrowroot and diluted wine to be administered often, but with extreme care and in small quantities, as it was evident that her life hung as it were upon a thread. When this miserable object became partly sensible she was minutely examined, and a more horrible and soul-sickening spectacle, perhaps, never before met the human sight. She is, it appears, not more than 16 years of age, but she looked 30. Her countenance was as pallid, and the skin as contracted, as that of a corpse. Her back was one mass of sores, her frame was frightfully attenuated, and her feet swollen and frost-bitten, seemed to be fast approaching mortification; but the most appalling sight was the myriads of vermin that crawled over her person, and even exuded from her mouth. The walls of the room were covered with them, and the colour of the blankets and sheets on the bed could not be distinguished. Her head was covered with a mass of living corruption, at least an inch in thickness, and its appearance was horrid in the extreme. The nurses, to whom the task of cleansing this miserable creature was intrusted, were, for the safety of their own persons, enveloped in sheets whilst they performed the necessary offices. Within a very short space of time nine blankets were placed upon her, and were removed loaded with vermin, and immediately burned; and to preserve the health of the house, she was obliged to be moved into another room, that that into which she had been first brought might be white-washed and otherwise cleansed of its impurities. During the night the poor creature was watched most assiduously by two nurses. Her constant cry, when sensible, was for food, which was given her as often as was compatible with safety. On Thursday morning a hair-dresser was directed to shave her head, and this he accomplished with difficulty, the stench being so horrible that he was repeatedly compelled to relinquish his task. In the course of Wednesday night this wretched being was enabled to converse with Jane Toplis, one of the nurses, and she informed her that her name was Mary Loveday, that she was *16 years of age, and the daughter of a gardener in the* Union-road, Larkhall-lane, Clapham. She said her father, who had recently married again, turned her out of the house on the 1st of December last, and told her to go and support herself by prostitution, as he would no longer support her. The first night she slept in a sand-pit; she then went upon the streets and wandered about from place to place. At last she came back to the neighbourhood in which she had lived; she found out the loft already spoken of, and as her clothes had become shabby she lay there all day and crept out at night, when she picked up what pittance she could. A number of carpenters and bricklayers who were working at some new buildings in the Albion-road, and who knew her father, were aware that she had taken up her abode in the loft, as were a chaff-cutter and a milkman occupying contiguous premises, but none of these persons attempted to remove her. On the contrary, they behaved kindly to her, and occasionally gave her food and halfpence. On Thursday last she became too ill to leave her miserable bed, and from that day until Wednesday morning last no food or water passed her lips. On that morning she had some dim knowledge of one of the carpenters, accompanied by a gentleman, coming up to her, and speaking to her, but she was beyond the power of utterance and soon afterwards became insensible. The father, the mother-in-law, and the brother of the unfortunate creature visited her on Thursday. The mother-in-law did not seem the least affected, but upbraided the girl for not having gone to service. The father and brother are greatly grieved. The interview between the brother and sister was peculiarly affecting: he is a soldier, has been absent from his country seven years, and who had only just returned home. The father and mother-in-law both assured the master of the union that their daughter might have come home if she had chosen so to do. This of course they will say in self-defence; but their conduct has evidently been most atrocious, and should the unhappy girl die, murder, cruel, foul, unnatural murder will be too clearly chargeable to their account. Such hellish brutality brings disgrace on the entire community, and odium upon the very name of Englishmen and Englishwomen. Lynch law is surely too good for such savages. Dr. Connor visited the wretched girl on Thursday afternoon; he ordered that the most nutritious food should be given to her, and that she should be kept quiet, but he has no hope of her ultimate recovery, the system being so utterly exhausted, and it is more than probable that her feet will ultimately mortify.

THE THREE MISERS.—On Thursday afternoon Mr. Baker held an inquest at the Royal Oak, Whitechapel-road, on the body of William Chapman, aged 65, who lived with his sister (since deceased), a cowkeeder in Rosemary-lane, and who, with another brother, was discovered living in a wretched state of destitution, a notice of which appeared in this journal on the 30th ult. The deceased was found in a small back apartment, sitting up, with only a coarse rug to cover him, and was moaning piteously. He had not been to bed for five years, neither had his brother, who lived in the same house, and to whom he had the strongest hatred. The place being filthy in the extreme, and the deceased evidently dying, he was removed to the Whitechapel workhouse. He gradually sunk, and died on Tuesday night, having previously made out his will, being possessed of about £2,000, bequeathing the bulk of it to the nurse who attended him in the workhouse, and bestowing the nominal sum of 1s. to his eldest brother, who is still living in the same penurious style, although very wealthy, at his deceased sister's dairy. The jury returned a verdict of "Natural death, induced by privation and neglect." It was stated that the property belonging to these extraordinary characters is situate at Lutterworth, in Leicestershire.

INQUEST ON THE CHILD WILFULLY BURNED TO DEATH BY ITS MOTHER AT LAMMONBY.—PENRITH, MONDAY, FEB. 10.—The Coroner for the county of Cumberland, Mr. Carrick, having adjourned the inquest from Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday last, for the purpose of adducing further evidence to elucidate this unnatural and horrible case, continued the inquisition this day at the house of Mr. Warwick, innkeeper, at Lammonby, on view of the body of the child, Ann Crosby, aged seven years. The principal facts have already appeared in this paper. A medical gentleman gave it as his opinion that the child must have been held down on the fire by force, with its face downwards, and described the various injuries it had sustained. A great many witnesses were examined, who spoke to the cruel and unnatural treatment sustained by the two children in the father's absence, and said that the children would have been undoubtedly starved to death had it not been for the sympathy of some of the neighbours. The jury retired to consider their verdict, and after about an hour's absence returned into court with a verdict of Wilful Murder against Jane Crosby. She was committed to Carlisle gaol, and will no doubt take her trial at the ensuing spring assizes, which take place about the latter end of this month.

AGRICULTURAL PROTECTION.—A number of noblemen, gentlemen, and farmers, representing the agriculturists of the country, waited upon Sir Robert Peel by appointment, on Saturday, and laid before him the present depressed state of the agricultural interest, urging its claim upon the Government for a share in any remission of taxation. Several tenant-farmers addressed Sir Robert Peel, stating, from their own practical knowledge, the existing distress in their own particular districts. The Prime Minister received them with great courtesy and attention. The Duke of Richmond read a letter from the Duke of Buckingham, expressing regret at his unavoidable absence. The following were present:—The Duke of Richmond, Marquis of Salisbury, Earl of Essex, Earl of March, M.P., Sussex, West; Lord Beaumont, Mr. G. Bankes, M.P., Dorsetshire; Mr. T. W. Bramston, M.P., Essex, South; Mr. Darby, M.P., Sussex, East; Mr. E. B. Denison, M.P., Yorkshire West Riding; Mr. Du Pre, M.P., Buckinghamshire; Mr. W. Miles, M.P., Somerset, East; Mr. Newdigate, M.P., Warwickshire, North; Mr. Stafford O'Brien, M.P., Northamptonshire, North; Mr. Pusey, M.P., Berkshire; Col. Rushbrook, M.P., Suffolk, West; Sir John Trollope, Bart., M.P., Lincolnshire, South; Sir John Tyrell, Bart., M.P., Essex, North; Mr. Wodehouse, M.P., Norfolk, East; Mr. J. J. Allnatt, Berkshire; Mr. H. G. Andrews, Somerset; Mr. R. Baker, Essex; Mr. W. Bennett, Beds; Mr. Brickwell, Bucks; Mr. Blandford, Somerset; Mr. Brown, North Wilts; Mr. Cramp, Kent; Mr. I. Clarke, Lincolnshire; Mr. I. Ellman, Sussex; Mr. Hilditch, Salop; Mr. Fisher Hobbs, Essex; Mr. Hudson, Norfolk; Mr. S. Jonas, Cambridgeshire; Mr. S. Mills, South Wilts; Mr. Moseley, East Suffolk; Mr. Oakley, Herts; Mr. Pain, Bedfordshire; Mr. Rodwell, West Suffolk; Mr. G. Shackel, Berkshire; Mr. R. Smith, Rutland; Mr. Stevenson, Lincolnshire; Mr. Turner, Devon; Mr. Warsop, Huntingdon; Mr. Weall, Surrey; Mr. Edward Wyatt, West Sussex.

THE NORTHERN STAR.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1845.

THE GRAHAM "SETTLEMENTS."

IN our report of the Parliamentary proceedings it will be seen that on Tuesday night Sir James Graham, the Secretary of State for the "Home" Department, moved for leave to bring in a Bill to "alter and amend" the whole existing law of *settlement*. In doing so, he detailed at considerable length the "alterations" and "amendments" he proposed to make: "alterations" of a sweeping nature, and "*amendments*" of tremendous import and effect. Of course on such an occasion all he could do was to impart a general notion of his proposed measure as to its leading principles, leaving details for after-consideration; but he enunciated enough to enable "the House" and the country to understand the nature of the GREAT REVOLUTION in parochial matters that he is seeking to effect; and it will be for the former to instruct the latter whether that *revolution* be at all desirable or necessary, or likely to be submitted to. With great seeming candour has Sir JAMES thrown his measure on "the consideration of the country," and expressed an anxious desire that its merits may be fully and carefully examined. In concluding his remarks on the introduction of his Bill he observed:—

> I wish it to be understood that *I have no intention of pressing* this measure to a second reading *till there is time to collect the opinions of persons best informed upon these subjects*, and I commit the plan to THAT SPECIES OF EXAMINATION with entire confidence as to the merits of the measure. I commit it to the favourable consideration of all men of humanity who have hitherto laboured sedulously to promote the well-being of the poor; and especially I commit it to the protection of those whose sense of justice would lead them equally and fairly to distribute a burden intended to sustain sinking humanity, and which ought to be levied on the rich for the defence of the poor; finally, I commit the measure to the consideration of hon. members now present, in the full confidence that it will be found not altogether unworthy of the adoption of the house.

It will, therefore, *remain with the country to say* whether this measure shall pass with the seeming concurrence of the people—or whether it shall be submitted to the test of extensive and searching examination, to the end that the really good and desirable "amendments" it proposes to make may be secured, and the *unnecessary* and DANGEROUS "ALTERATIONS" *in the old and excellent Parochial System of England*, with which it is proposed to accompany such "amendments," may be prevented. It is all the more necessary that the people should "speak out" on these matters from the "candid" and "open" course pursued by their "HOME" Secretary: for, should they not do so, he will be fairly entitled to interpret their silence and quiescence into *acquiescence*; while, should the measure in all its entirety be persisted in by the "strong Government" and the shoe-licking majority of "the House," in opposition to a the determined and unequivocal public opinion against the dangerous and REVOLUTIONARY *innovations* attempted, the people will be clear of all blame when the injurious consequences overtake the nation, and the *responsibility* will rest on the right parties. It therefore behoves the people to EXAMINE WELL the newly-proposed scheme, and to "speak right out" on the subject.

That some alterations are needed in the existing law of settlement, no one who has used his eyes, his ears, and his judgment on what is daily passing around him, but must have been long since convinced of. The present law of settlement, though perfectly applicable to the existing state of society for which it was formed, is totally inadequate *now*; and by its operation most gross injustice and perfect cruelty is oftentimes inflicted. When the law was passed, the circumstances affecting those likely to be subjected to its operation were essentially different to those which obtain in our "improved" age and time. *Then* the "takes" of land were much more numerous than now, *i. e.*, they were "held" in much smaller portions, and on such conditions as to let them descend from sire to son, all as if the land had been the family's "own"; and the consequence was, that there *then* existed the far-famed stout, sturdy, well-conditioned race of English yeomen, the pride and the glory of the land, instead of the ignorant, conceited, purse-proud, overbearing, stinking *Bull-frogs* of the present day, who dare not let *a labourer* come between the wind and their "respectability." (?) *Then* the labourer had a "home" in the house of the farmer, feeding and faring as the rest of the family, instead of being driven to shelter in hovels by the way-side or the corners of lanes and (what were once) *commons*, starving with his family on seven shillings a week when fortunate enough to get casual employment, and poaching and stealing to keep him out of the dreaded UNION-HOUSE when employment fails. *Then*, manufactures were confined to certain districts of the country, where there existed GUILDS and COMPANIES; the workers in such trades being *incorporated* for mutual protection. *Then*, it was ordained *by law* that the sheriffs of counties, with the aid of the justices of the peace, the mayors, bailiffs, and other head-officers of cities and towns corporate, and such discreet and grave persons of the county as they should think meet, should "confer together respecting the PLENTY or the *scarcity* of the time, and other circumstances, and should *rate* and *appoint* the wages to be paid for all kinds and descriptions of labour and service, to the end that idleness might be banished, *husbandry* ADVANCED, and the hired labourer have yielded unto him, both in the time of PLENTY and in the time of *scarcity*, a convenient *proportion* of wages." *Then*, there existed a power to *punish* the sordid and the avaricious of the employers of labour, who should attempt to pay *less* than the *rated* and APPOINTED amount of wages. *Then* there existed a law which made it imperative on the Overseers of parishes to *find* employment for those who could not otherwise obtain it: not employment on a "mount of misery," *alias* a stone-heap; not employment in the filthy and injurious occupation of oakum-picking; not employment in grinding stinking rags into "shoddy-wool" by means of a hand-mill in a union-bastile; not employment in the *nice*, and *sweet*, and *healthy* occupation of BONE CRUSHING,—so appropriate an employment, as Lord EBRINGTON thinks, for those whom he has the insolence to call "*paupers*": not employment at any of these things; but employment at their own occupations, AT HOME, and with means raised by rate from the owners and occupiers of property. *Then* the Overseers of the Poor were obliged to furnish the unemployed with *raw material*, land, wool or flax—(cotton was then unknown)—on which to expend their labour: and that, too, without having to *break up* their HOME; without having their "traps" sold by their "guardians;" without having to enter the Union-house—to be torn from wife and child, and child from parents—to be fed on a "*dietary*" much below that of prisons, in a place, where, as in the Cirencester case, four ounces of bacon is the only animal food allowed for a whole week! without having to be clothed in a degrading workhouse dress, and BRANDED with the mark of *poverty!* raw material furnished to them, too, without their having to be insulted with the odious and *un-English* name of "*pauper*," and without being liable to have their after wages "*attached*" to *repay* the "relief" thus afforded them. *Then* the workman had a HOME: his HOME was *guaranteed* to him: his "right to live" on the spot that gave him birth was acknowledged and SECURED. *Then* HE was "the first partaker of the fruits;" and want and privation, or at all events *destitution*, was to him unknown. *Then* he had no inducement to leave the place of his nativity; he had no occasion to wander; he was SETTLED AT HOME; and the law which provided that if he should indulge a vagabondizing disposition—if he should wander from his HOME, and become chargeable to those who had not enjoyed the benefit of his labour; the law which in such case provided that the idle and the wandering should be "*passed*" to their own parish, was wise, and just, and applicable to the then circumstances. Now, however, the case is different. The circumstances are changed. What was just then is monstrously unjust now. The Bull-frog system of "taking" land *at will* in large heaps has superseded the small farms held on an equitable and *secure* tenure; the labourer has been driven out of the farm-house; the system of "*clearing* the estates" of the "ragged rascals" has been all but systematically followed: the labourer has been forced to "migrate" into the manufacturing districts; agents and offices for his *sale* and "*consignment*" have been appointed and opened: even manufactures themselves are not stationary; the Guilds and Companies are all broken up, or exist but in name; the PROTECTION which the labourer had in a FIXED and CERTAIN rate of wages, and in the duty of the Overseer to find him raw material to work at when unemployed, has been repealed; employment is no where *certain*; the worker has been forced to become an animal of prey, not only on other species, *but even on his own!* he is compelled to "migrate" to those spots where, for the time being, employment at *under wage* is to be found: and it has not unfrequently happened, that after he has spent his marrow, his strength, and all but life itself in the manufacturing districts, heaping up princely fortunes for the numerous tribe of NABOBS there abounding, the old law of settlement has been brought to bear when he was thoroughly "*destitute*," and he has been removed from the place *where the* PROPERTY *was that* HE HAD CREATED, to another spot, where he had to be kept in a lingering state of misery till death, out of "PROPERTY" to which *he* had added no value, because the grinding system to which he had been subjected had in the outset of life driven him from HOME! Yes! an alteration in the law of settlement to adapt it to the present times and present circumstances, is much needed: though it may be much doubted, and will, we hope and trust, be stoutly contended, that to effect such needful *alteration*, it is neither desirable nor needful to *break up* the ancient and existing divisions of the country, and REVOLUTIONISE the ideas, and feelings, and habits of the people! The one can be effected without the other; and it reflects no small amount of discredit on the PEEL Ministry that they should have meanly taken advantage of a generally-acknowledged want, and made it the occasion, under the plausible pretence of satisfying that want, to accomplish a most sinister and base design. Alteration of the law of settlement is needed; *that* every-day experience demonstrates: and if there could possibly be any doubt on the subject, the monstrous threat of the League manufacturers of Lancashire, to "remove" the thousands upon thousands of worn-out workers in their district,—who have, from the causes above narrated, been forced to "migrate" thither, and who have expended their labour for the benefit of the said manufacturers; could any doubt possibly exist as to the necessity for an alteration of the law of settlement, the THREAT made by the Leaguers to "pass" thousands upon thousands of poor labourers,—whom *they* had sucked till they were marrowless,—back to their parishes to be maintained by the landowners, the farmers, and the farm labourers,—a threat uttered for the monstrous purpose of overawing the legislature, and of *forcing* from it a measure at once unjust, impolitic, and thoroughly *selfish*,—and which threat the existing law would enable them to execute, did not a cowardly *fear* to brave public odium and disgrace restrain the conceivers of the horrible project: we say, that could there be a scintilla of doubt as to the necessity of an alteration in *this* state of the law, it would be instantly set at rest by the bare enunciation of the facts, that such a monstrously unjust proposal *has been entertained*; that thousands are hourly in danger of being made its victims; that the law *will allow* of their being torn from their present "HOMES"—from friends, relatives, families, acquaintances, and associations, and of being sent in a "pass-cart" to spots where all is strange—where feelings, and notions, and habits are entirely "foreign" to the man so long away; and that it is not unlikely that the demon-spirit of GAIN AND POWER which first prompted the horrible conception, may arm the utterers of the THREAT with "courage" to carry it into execution! Yes; a just and wise alteration in *this* state of the law is much needed, and will be hailed with joy: but it does not follow that *therefore* we are to submit to have England *re-parceled* out—have all our old HOME-INSTITUTIONS, and boundaries, and distinctions upset and destroyed! The one portion of the Home Secretary's scheme, if accompanied with just details, the people, to whom he has appealed, may aid him in: the other portion,—the sinister attempt to permanently ESTABLISH the Somerset-house tyranny, through the *innovating* hand of the SPOILER,—will, we are sure, be resisted to the uttermost, even should the result be the "upsetting" of Sir JAMES and his "*imperium in imperio!*"

Before we examine in detail the several "alterations" and "amendments" that the HOME Minister proposes,—and which we purpose to do at length on another occasion,—we must direct attention to the matter-of-fact as to the condition of the people with which that said HOME Minister prefaced his statement; and duty also calls on us to expose a MONSTROUS LIE which that same Minister was allowed, and *uncontradicted* too, to utter in the face of Parliament and the people of England. In introducing his subject, according to the reporter for the *Times*, Sir JAMES GRAHAM said:—

> *It is a melancholy fact*, BUT STILL A FACT, *that no less than* ONE-TENTH *of the whole* POPULATION OF ENGLAND AND WALES RECEIVE RELIEF FROM THE POOR-RATE IN THE COURSE OF THE YEAR. A multitude of no less than 1,500,000 persons in this country receive relief from the poor-rate. (Hear.) *The magnitude of the sum also* THUS PAID *is very great*. I COULD BRING THAT FRESH TO YOUR RECOLLECTION IN VARIOUS WAYS. *I might state it* THUS: it would be no exaggeration, that since the termination of the war in 1815, notwithstanding all that has been said of the neglect of the interests of the poor—notwithstanding all that has been said of the inhumanity of the law (hear, hear), of the culpable negligence with which the wants of the poor are regarded by the rich, independently of all private charity and of the benefactions of our charitable institutions—*since the termination of the war no less a sum has been levied from the rate-payers of this country than* £200,000,000 (hear, hear), a sum nearly amounting to one-fourth of the capital of the national debt.

Here, then, we have, from the HOME Minister's own mouth, the extent of destitution and poverty in this WEALTHY country! "*one-tenth*" of the whole population receive relief from the poor-rates in the course of the year! Hail! the "spirit of IMPROVEMENT!" Hail! O, hail! our blessed system of Government! ONE in every *ten* of our population a "pauper," as the poor are now insolently termed! What a credit to those who have ruled us! What a fact for the HOME Minister of Britain,—the centre of civilisation and mistress of the sea,—to enunciate! But *the fact* is so. It can now no longer be gainsaid. We have "*authority*" for the statement. When the people complain they are rebuked, and chided, and sneered at, and their complaints impudently denied. The assertion has been as common as an every-day word in the Political Economist's mouth, that the workers were *better off* now than at any period of British history; that their wages were higher—the amount of necessaries that those wages would purchase was much greater—and that they could get fine broad cloth for the men, and silk and cotton gowns and stockings for the women, much finer and better than the Court and Aristocracy could obtain for love or money in ELIZABETH's reign. All this we have had incessantly dinned into us, and much more to the same purport: and now the climax is capped by our HOME Minister, telling in the face of the world, that EVERY TENTH man woman and child in the country is a "*pauper!*" "WAU'ST IMPROVEMENT, MA'AM," as Will COBBETT would have exclaimed. We shall see hereafter whether it were so or not in the days when full PROTECTION was enjoyed by every class: before the days of DEBT—of grinding taxation—of the ever-accursed and curse-scattering paper money—of Peel's Bills—of Huskinson's and Peel's Free-trade Tariffs—of heavy burdens and *low prices*. The comparison between the two periods we shall shortly institute.

The fact, the "GREAT *fact*,"—a fact *greater* than *the Anti-Corn League*; the "melancholy fact," as Sir JAMES GRAHAM calls it, as to the extent of "pauperism," we do not dispute: but we do dispute the MONSTROUS LIE which the Minister built on that fact. Whenever an assault on the poor is meditated, the scheme by which it is intended to accomplish the base purpose is sure to be ushered in with a LIE as to the extent of relief afforded to the poor. Before the Poor Law Amendment Act was introduced, the infamous *thumper* that the poor *cost* £8,000,000 a year was industriously and systematically circulated; and *now*, when the last remaining tie of the poor to Fatherland is to be severed; when the system of self-Government which has withstood the shock of ages, is to be uprooted; when the time-honoured divisions and landmarks are to be removed and the country re-mapped out on the "Wau'st improvement, ma'am" principle, as though a conqueror had invaded us, and determined to obliterate from the hearts of the people all recollection even of former station and greatness: *now* when this destruction has to be accomplished, to make way for the full development of Malthusian Philosophy; now, to prepare the public mind *for this* change, a Minister of State does not hesitate to get up in his place in Parliament, and utter the ATROCIOUS LIE, that during the last thirty years *the poor have had* PAID TO THEM no less a sum than £200,000,000!! It is not without purpose that these statements are made. The £8,000,000 a-year story in 1384 did its work! The owners of property were *alarmed!* THEIR estates were about to be "swallowed up." It was time to put a stop to the horrible devastation which threatened to leave them penniless; and *so* the Poor Law Bill was passed! Assault first, was then committed. Assault *second*, is now attempted; and, therefore, we have a similar *preparatory* process. The fears and alarms of property-men are again to be evoked, and set in play. The *extent* of "pauperism" is therefore paraded; and the ASTOUNDING LIE that £200,000,000 in thirty years has been PAID *to the poor* is uttered by "authority!"

We by no means deny that the sum of £200,000,000 has been "levied from the ratepayers" during the last thirty years. Nay, we freely admit that that sum has even been levied on the pretence that it was for "the relief of the poor." It is not with *that* statement we quarrel: but with the statement of the Minister, that that sum *has been* PAID *to the poor*. It is not true. Out of the sums raised ostensibly for "the relief of the poor" are paid a host of charges which diminish the amount paid to the poor in proportion to the amount "raised," very considerably. There are all the salaried officials of the New Poor Law—the workhouse masters, matrons, clerks, and schoolmasters; there are all the hired overseers, and the paid collectors of rates; there are the salaried chaplains of workhouses, and the clerks to the Boards of Guardians; there are all the lawyers, with their long lists of charges for litigations respecting settlements, and one sort of dispute and another: there are all the *County-rates*, and the building of prisons, and houses of correction, and tread-wheels, and lockups, and court houses, and the erection and maintenance of County bridges; there are all the expenses of prosecuting misdemeanants, and of keeping them while in prison; there are all the salaries of jailors, and turnkeys, and prison-parsons, and hangmen; there are all the expenses of *Constabulary*, parish and rural—chiefs, inspectors, serjeants, privates and all; there are all the County Lunatic Asylums, erecting, maintaining, and sustaining, with all *their* tribes of paid officials: there are all these charges, and many more, defrayed out of the rate levied for the relief of the poor: and it is monstrous—it is stupendously impudent to represent the money "THUS PAID" *as money paid to the poor!* Deduct from the £200,000,000 what has been "swallowed up" by these things; and then we shall get at the real amount paid to the poor. No doubt that amount will be very considerable—will be greatly too high to be consistent *with this* "wau'stly improved" age: but still it will be much below what the *alarmists* now represent it to be. If Sir JAMES GRAHAM had had to sail on the other tack; if he had had to demonstrate the *saving* in rates effected by the new law, we should have heard nothing of the £200,000,000 paid to the poor during the last thirty years.

Having thus exposed the MONSTER LIE, which has been enunciated by "authority" to pave the way for discreditable and unworthy ministerial intentions, we shall, for the present, leave the subject in the hands of the reader. We shall shortly return to it; and examine the several propositions that Sir JAMES GRAHAM makes, for altering in the law of settlement. We shall endeavour to ascertain their sufficiency or insufficiency for the end proposed: and point attention to the monstrous proposal by which such alterations are accompanied; the proposal to break up the existing land-marks of England. We shall show that such proposal or project does not necessarily, nor ought not, to form any portion of an attempt to amend the law of settlement. We shall show that every one of the *advantages* which the HOME Secretary DARES to speak of, as likely to accrue from such a step can be secured with the parish and township divisions just as they are; and we shall also show that the maintenance of our present parochial system is the only mode we have of preserving THE VESTRY the remains of the system of *self-government*, once the pride and boast of Englishmen. We shall show that this attempt of GRAHAM's is intended, and will have the effect, if successful, of annihilating every vestige of parish-right and parish-liberty—placing the whole of the rate-payers of the country in the hands of an *irresponsible* Secretary of State, three *unconstitutional* Poor Law Commissioners, and at the mercy of the no less unconstitutional and hateful bevies of prowling rural police. Meantime we bid the people awake, and look about them! The enemy is at their HOMES!

NATIONAL PLUNDER.

WAR TO THE KNIFE AGAINST THE POOR.

WE complained of the total omission of all questions connected with the interests of the working classes in the speech with which her MAJESTY opened the present session of Parliament: and with an expectation of the advantage that Ministers would take of "surplus" and temporary "prosperity," we intimated that to their early speeches, rather than to the Royal prologue, we must look for the people's share of both "surplus" and "prosperity." We had a notion, and as it appears not an unreasonable one, that an attempt would be made to quell all the angry feelings of classes suspicious of the present Prime Minister, by uniting them in one common assault against the working people.

The great knowledge acquired by the working classes upon all questions of political economy, deters the Minister from entering upon measures the results of which are visible at a glance. The power of Capital, the perversion of justice, and the tread-wheel cannot be obscured in the clauses of a Masters' and Servants' Bill, however enveloped in legal technicalities. There, the naked eye can see the covered arm raised and ready to strike the moment the law shall have sanctioned the blow. No man can tell, when the foundation is excavated, or the first courses of the building laid, whether it is intended as a silent tomb for the class-made thief, or for a palace wherein royalty is to revel: but as it rises, the intent is developed. So precisely is it with that finesse to which our present rulers are obliged to resort. The foundation is laid in "humanity, philanthrophy, and kindness for the poor:" but the progress of the building developes the intention of the architect. Sir JAMES GRAHAM has propounded a new law of settlement to the House of Commons, of which, mystify it as he may, the real meaning of the measure is "*war to the knife*" against the last remaining and very dearest and most cherished privilege of the poor man, the privilege of at least having "something to love." FATHERLAND, to the soldier or the national plunderer, may carry with it a more extensive meaning than *parochial residence*; but to the poor man, whose existing condition and future hope is bounded by the landmarks of that parish of which he was born an inheritor, FATHERLAND conveys a more limited, but not less enthusiastic idea. "Home, sweet home;" "the land of my birth;" "the home of my fathers;" "the land where my forefathers dwelt;" the companions of my youth;" "the associates of manhood;" and "the cronies of old age;" one and all carry feelings of *nationality*, however circumscribed by the narrow boundaries of parish. The humble spire of the unostentatious parish church; the face of the old overseer, the parish beadle, and the parish officers, were once sights that the humbler classes loved to look upon, because in them they recognised the simplicity of religion, the protection of law, and the right to live. Indeed so stoutly have those cherished bulwarks resisted all the attacks of the damnable New Poor Law Acts, that our present HOME Secretary sees the necessity of levelling them altogether, before he can hope to carry that measure into full effect.

We have now to learn whether the RICHMONDS, the BUCKINGHAMS, the BANKES'S, and YOUNG ENGLAND, so loud in their demand for "the rights of labour," will allow the *last* "STAKE" to be drawn from "the poor man's hedge." The very object of the Poor Law Amendment Act was to save the estates of the landlords from the pressure of "pauperism," by the clearance of the rightful proprietors; and its effect has been to keep society in a state of perpetual social revolution, *ready at any moment to take advantage* of a favourable opportunity to take vengeance upon their oppressors. The manufacturers were as ready to receive as the landlords were to disinherit the "surplus" agricultural stock; and were it not *for the certainty that the keen eye of the capitalist* will see through the ultimate effect of obtaining settlement by a *time* residence, and be thereby led to the anticipation of having one day to support their own victim, we have little doubt that GRAHAM's codicil to GREY's "legacy to labourers" would be received as a boon. Independently of the denationalizing effect that the substitution of Union departments for parochial boundaries must have upon the national character, we see in the measure the complete frustration of the allotment plan, the small farm system, and even the most partial return to agricultural pursuits. We see the breaking up of the old family compact. We see the *impossibility of realising that better understanding* between peer and peasant recommended by Baron ALDERSON, and enforced by Mr. D'ISRAELI, as a means of harmonising class with class, and of destroying the present *suspicions reciprocally entertained by each*. What a mockery then, that the poor can only hope for such protection and defence as that which arises from the jealousies of those upon whom they may be henceforth quartered for existence!

The anomalous increase of manufactures in its day led to the easy surrender of the poor man's rights; and no doubt the present prospect of "improvement" has led to an attack upon his remaining privileges. At the present moment, there are in Lancashire alone more than one hundred new cotton mills in process of erection, all of immense magnitude; and, doubtless, a portion of GRAHAM'S SETTLEMENT BILL is intended to facilitate the required importation of agricultural slaves to work them.

The great object of manufacturers in the present day is in every possible case to substitute machinery for manual labour; and if overgrowing fortunes already made are not to be sacrificed, they can only be preserved by equalizing the *facilities* of production to those possessed by the new mills worked by improved machinery. What then, we ask, is to become either of the present operatives or the "surplus," by which their ranks are to be increased? The policy of the Minister has ever been to divert attention from things substantial to those which are but shadowed forth in his measures, but are, nevertheless, sure to be one day realised. Hence he reconciled the landed interest to his tariff in 1841, by the assurance that there was no competing supply of live-stock *in the markets* of the world to damage their interests. They could not see the calves unborn that would *one day* become oxen, and he laughed at those foolish apprehensions which are now in course of realization. On precisely a similar point will the debate upon Sir JAMES GRAHAM's plundering bill turn.

The ministerial farmers that whistle at Downing-street, will obey ministerial orders; while the acquiescence of the manufacturing interest will be insured upon the principle, "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof." The battle of the manufacturers will be waged against any proposed short acquirement of settlement; while the landlords, of course, as friends to the "honest labourer," will contend for title upon shorter conditions. And then a compromise will be made—after a few elegies have been delivered by YOUNG ENGLAND and others, who would serve the poor, if that service could be made contingent upon more satisfied servility. Then the "plausible Minister" will step in, as the arbiter between contending factions; and the rights of the labourer will be equitably distributed, as a boon to contending belligerents. The parochial landmarks will be broken down, and the odious word "UNION" will be substituted, to harmonize in-door wretchedness with stalking discontent. All the ties of affection which bound man to his birth-place will be destroyed—the worst passions of an offended and zealous race will be let loose; and in every "rich oppressor" the "poor oppressed" will see a deadly enemy.

An insult supposed to be offered to a bagman missionary, thirty thousand miles from England, threatened the world with war, and a "strong Ministry" with dissolution: and our rulers at home made their Royal mistress congratulate herself and the country on the "increasing loyalty" of her people; and the reward is an expected tame submission to the annihilation of their every right! If GRAHAM's uprooting of parish landmarks is not a Masters' and Servants' Bill; if it is not an anti-trade combination bill, it is a bill more sweeping in hostility to the labouring classes than any ever proposed, even by the putative father of the measure. Will the people now not arouse? Will they tamely stand by and witness *this measure of outlawry?* The Minister, as we predicted, has calculated on temporary "prosperity" and consequent *apathy*; otherwise would he not have dared to offer such an insult to Englishmen. Time was when he would have lost his head even for the proposal. Time may come when Englishmen will be themselves again.

Now, then, is the time, without distinction of politics or creed, for every friend of the poor man to unite. Let the people not be taken by surprise. Let us have a bold, a manly, and a timely resistance, or let us hear no more of "labour's friends," of the "stake in the hedge," or of "the labourers' value to society."

O! for an OASTLER in this hour of tribulation. We verily believe that if circumstances had not compelled that great and truthful advocate of the rights of labour to seek in other spheres that competency to which his exertions in behalf of the poor more than entitled him, GRAHAM's monstrous proposal would never have been made. It is made, however; and if the people don't exert themselves they will find that it will soon become LAW.

THE "ROYAL LOYAL *NATION*-AL REPEALERS."

WE have often had to advert to, and chastise, the disgusting, fawning sycophancy and slavering "lip-loyalty" that has disgraced most of the proceedings of the "Royal Loyal *Nation*-al Repealers" of Dublin. It gives us delight to be able to record the fact, that on this point, the *Nation* at least—the organ of the "Royal Loyals"—is coming to its senses. The following will be read with pleasure by the manly-minded Chartists, not only for the truths contained in it respecting the position of the poor creature decked out in gew-gaws and feathers of whom it speaks, but for the evidence it supplies that proper sentiments are making way, and are at length being enunciated by those who only lately licked the feet and fawned and flattered the "painted idol," now so remorselessly unveiled. Our extract is from the *Nation* of Saturday last:—

> The Parliament of the empire has met—its array how gorgeous!—its language how proud! It lacked no pomp—it seemed to lack no power. Its chroniclers are giddy at its waving plumes. There was a Queen—sceptre dinted with the revolutions of a thousand years. Around her were the Ambassadors of every civilised nation. Around her was a Council containing the most famous general and the wiliest politician of her subjects. Before her were the Lords and Commons of the "United Kingdoms"—owners of enormous wealth and venerable titles—empowered to make laws for East and West Indies, Australia, Canada, Ireland, Scotland, and England—imposing fifty millions of taxes, maintainers of a boasted constitution, of a splendid army, and of an unbeaten navy.
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> What wonder if, while they rustled in broidered state, their throats were swelling with pride, and they dared heaven and earth to say them nay?
>
> Is this a fabric surely founded—*safe from foes?* or is it a pile of clouds, splendid with a setting sun?
>
> The people of Ireland shall put it to the trial.
>
> We pass from the outside of this Parliament to the inside. *This renowned Queen is powerless.* SHE MAKES AND FORBIDS NO LAW—NO APPOINTMENT. *She dare not enter the council-room of her Cabinet.* She appeared, in all her trappings, to read a document to which she gave not a sentence. SHE WAS BROUGHT DOWN AS A NECESSARY FORM OF THE CONSTITUTION, ALONG WITH THE SPEAKER'S MACE AND THE STATE-TRUMPETER, *to do the will of the Ministry.*
>
> Of that diplomatic circle some were there as observing enemies, some as indifferent neutrals: all allied till one strikes—none fond, none trustful of England.
>
> That Ministry is a committee of compromise. Its leaders have always been beaten in politics. They were beaten by the Irish on Emancipation—they were beaten by the English on Reform. Whig folly and Whig traitors gave them office, and another chance in 1841; they went to law with Ireland, and were beaten again. They try to keep office by renouncing their principles—rash, but not firm—divided, yet not liberal—without one man of genius—without one man who has not deserted—they, nevertheless, are THE RULERS of QUEEN *and country*.
>
> The Parliament—the Parliament of such immense power and responsibility—we have judged it already.
>
> That FORMAL QUEEN read to that *conceited Parliament* the resolutions of the Ministry, and the Parliament unanimously approved of them.

Let us trust that the foregoing is from THE HEART of the men of the *Nation*; and that we shall no more be nauseated with the rank hypocrisy of "*nine times nine for our* BEAUTIFUL *young Queen*."

THE CONFERENCE.

DUNCOMBE AND THE TRADES.

IT has been the luck, whether good or evil, of the Working Classes to have many friends who were prolific in theory, but niggard in practice; many who have counselled them, as to what ought to be done, but few who have lent a helping hand in execution. Not so with him to whom Labour's sons now look *with a surpassing interest!* If DUNCOMBE recommends the Working Classes to a course of action calculated to serve their cause, he is not the man to flinch on the day of trial. On the contrary, we ever find him the boldest of the bold, going even beyond the most sanguine anticipations entertained by his friends, and at all times evincing an amount of research upon subjects on which, without disparagement, ignorance would be pardonable, but to which he brings to bear commendable diligence in aid of a comprehensive understanding. Under these circumstances we have peculiar pleasure in directing attention to the report of the preliminary meeting of the London Trades, by which it will be seen that Mr. DUNCOMBE has, in the most honourable manner, consented to PRESIDE over the forthcoming Trades' Conference.

Every man of common sense will at once see, notwithstanding Mr. DUNCOMBE's claim of exemption from that office upon the score of ignorance of Trades business, that he is not only a fit and proper person to be appointed, but that, in fact, he is *the* most fit and proper person: and for this simple reason. As Mr. DUNCOMBE is to be the Parliamentary organ of the body of Trades, there is no school in which he could so well learn that lesson which is indispensable to the discharge of the duties subsequently devolving on him. It is evident, from the masterly manner in which Mr. DUNCOMBE instructed himself, in a very short time, on the Miners' question, the Masters and Servants Bill, and the Ten Hours Bill, that he possesses the faculty of concentration in a high degree. Mr. DUNCOMBE might read till he became grey with old age, on the several subjects written in connection with the Trades, and yet appear as a child in debate; whereas, the first and practical oral knowledge acquired from the lips of the Trades Delegates will put him in possession of the corn, without imposing the tax of winnowing upon him.

Moreover, Mr. DUNCOMBE has proved his fitness for the office of President, by the knowledge he has displayed on points of order in an assembly governed by most intricate rules; a circumstance which we learn from the very adroit manner in which he has instructed the Speaker of the House of Commons in his duty upon more occasions than one. The Trades are now fairly afloat with a pilot that has the judgment to guide, and the courage to stand on the last plank of the vessel, should danger threaten. We trust that the "crew" are as fully prepared and determined to do *their* work as Mr. DUNCOMBE is to do his. If they be, salvation to the producing class is near at hand.

THE INCOME TAX AND THE "SURPLUS."

ON Friday night Sir ROBERT PEEL will make what he calls his "financial statement:" that is, he will condescend to tell us how long *he* proposes to keep on the *Income Tax*, and how he intends to dispose of his "surplus." In our *Saturday's Edition* we shall give a report of his "statement."

To Readers & Correspondents.

W. R., OLDHAM.—We are sorry that we cannot adopt his suggestion for the main portion of our impression. It is, however, impossible. By the time the market in question is over, two hundred miles from us, a great portion of the second edition is printed, and ready for post. In our third edition, or in the one that arrives in the country on Sunday morning, we shall in future give the Wakefield market news.

PETER BROWN, GLASGOW, may just do as he likes. His own obtusiveness led him to expect something he could not have; and he may now make a fool of himself to mend his bargain if he pleases.

THE SOUTH LANCASHIRE SECRETARY would feel obliged to the sub-secretaries of the following places if they would send him their several addresses—viz., Warrington, Stalybridge, Ashton-under-Lyne, Hyde, Dukinfield, Bolton, Ratcliffe-bridge, and Milnrow. Address, post-paid, to Mr. Richard Radford, No. 8, Vilat-street, Wilcome-street, Hulme, Manchester.

ALL COMMUNICATONS for the Chartists of Manchester must, for the future, be addressed to Mr. William Smith, care of Mr. James Leach, No. 40, Oak-street.

MR. M'LAM, LEITH, will please make his post-office orders payable at 180, Strand.

J. LEGGE, ABERDEEN.—We cannot post the *Star* for Scotland so as to arrive at Aberdeen on Saturday, until our own machinery is all completed and at work again. We can send a later edition as he suggests, that will arrive on Monday morning, if that will do.

S. Jacobs, Bristol, demurs to our position and determination in relation to a request of his to publish a plan of Trades Organisation. His reasoning is far from convincing us that our ground is untenable. Nay, he has confirmed us in the opinion of the wisdom and propriety of our former refusal. He holds that a National Conference of Trades delegates is not the body best adapted to form a plan to meet general wants, but suggests that there should be Conferences of delegates in each town, who should each draw up a plan of their own; circulate them; and then out of the heterogeneous *mess* adopt SOME ONE without the expense of a National Conference at all. Of course such a suggestion is *practicable*; and would be sure to end in UNANIMITY! For ourselves, we think a Conference, in which *all* may be represented, can best attend to the interests of *all*, and devise a scheme of organisation the most likely to include the wants of all. Not that discussion on the points to be embraced in a general and comprehensive scheme should be decried. On the contrary, we would have every trade to bend immediate attention to the matter, that proper instructions may be given to the delegate or delegates they may appoint. And to this end we shall be glad to publish any suggestions that may be offered, and to aid with hints and advice of our own. But we cannot, and will not, publish ready "cut and dried" plans emanating from any one person, or any one trade, or any one district. Were we to do so, we should soon have a pretty mess of confusion. Leeds may have its plan as well as Bristol; Manchester as well as both places: and if *one* is given, all ought to be given. Thus attention and consideration would be distracted by unimportant details, instead of being concentrated on the leading PRINCIPLES which a general plan of Trades' organisation ought to embrace. It is right that all these places should have their plans, if they think proper; and as right that they should lay them, with all deference, before the assembled delegates, to aid in their deliberations and labours. This our Bristol friends can do. The Conference will be held. Steps for that purpose are being taken all over the country. Of course the Bristol Trades will be represented in it. Their delegates can be entrusted with the plan Mr. Jacobs has prepared. They can bring it before the Conference. It will there stand on its own merits, and on equal ground with all other plans. It will not possess an undue *prestige* from former publication or public attention. It can be considered by the delegates, and its good points embodied in their own plan, along with the good points from any other plan or plans that may be submitted to them. This course we are persuaded will best accomplish the end in view—GENERAL UNION and *energetic action*. Believing so, we must act on that belief, leaving others to do as to them seemeth right. We shall, therefore, decline the insertion of all proposed plans on schemes of General Trades' Organisation, previous to the holding of the General Conference; being determined, that as far as we are concerned, the work done by the delegates shall *be their own work*. At the same time we are free, as before intimated, to publish suggestions, and offer opinions and advice. The prudence of this course will, we are sure, be admitted by the Trades in general, and we trust will be properly appreciated.

J. R.—We fear the law is with the husband. Let the wife, however, insist on the trustees paying *her*, as it is to her the small annuity is left.

Thomas Letch, Bolton.—Make the party an invoice of the goods they retain possession of, and sue them for the amount.

W. S. L., Dudley.—Most likely the party seized on had suffered judgment to go by default. If so, the seizure was legal. The goods being taken in execution, could be sold next day, and by private contract too, after they were valued by an appraiser.

A Constant Subscriber, Birmingham.—If the widow have proof that the lodge *promised* to pay her the £9, let her institute proceedings against the party or parties who promised. The promise will render them liable.

A Constant Reader, Spitalfields.—We should say not. He is not bound to maintain the wife, she having lived in adultery; and it would be indeed hard if he could be compelled to maintain the offspring of her adulterous connection.

Shocking State of the Spitalfields Weavers.—We have received the following appalling statement of the condition of this class of producers from Mr. J. Sherrard, secretary to the Society of Broad Silk Weavers, Spitalfields:—There having appeared in various newspapers a report of a very melancholy and distressing circumstance which has happened to a Weaver of the name of Ney, he having six out of eight of his children die with scarletina, the Weavers, at their weekly meeting on Saturday, February 1st, directed me to thoroughly investigate the case, and after so doing, to transmit the facts to the press for publication. The facts of the case are as follows:—Mr. Ney, who is a very industrious and sober man, had one of his children taken ill with the scarletina the beginning of last month; and about two days after two more were taken with the same disorder. On the 7th, two of them died. The others having caught the infection, on the 12th two two more died; and on the 17th two more; six out of eight, and leaving the other two dangerously ill. Ney, who is a man of a very independent and persevering spirit, finding he could not get sufficient relief from the parish, applied, through the help of a Mr. Harvey, who resides in Bethnal-green, to the magistrate of Worship-street. The result of this application was, that one of the officers was sent to inquire into his case, and upon the testimony of the officer, the worthy magistrate ordered a sovereign to be given to Ney out of the poor-box. The publicity thus given to the case caused several other benevolent individuals to send him assistance, for which he is very grateful, and being a very careful man, the money thus bestowed will not be bestowed in vain. But what the Weavers wish the public particularly to notice is, that this man, though he has always been so very industrious and persevering, and was upon the whole better off than hundreds of Weavers, yet he was entirely without the means of meeting this dreadful calamity, and must, to use his own words, "have sunk completely overwhelmed," had it not been for the timely assistance rendered him by those excellent individuals, whose hearts were moved to compassion by his sufferings. Having made the strictest inquiries into his case, I find that his earnings, together with his wife and daughter, a girl of about fourteen years of age, and who was one of those who died, taking the year through, did not amount to more than one pound per week. This I have heard some people say is "good wages." But let us deduct the expenses to which a Weaver is liable, and we shall find that they had scarcely sufficient, with so large a family, to keep body and soul together. When we deduct 4s. 6d. for rent, 1s. 6d. for light to work by, and 1s. for firing, there will be only 13s. per week remaining, and that, to keep a man, his wife, and eight children upon—which will amount to a fraction more than 1s. 3½d. *per head per week, to find them in clothes and food*—the poor man might well say that his children were too weak to resist the attacks of the disorder. And as he is a man that never spends a farthing in waste, nor ever goes out for a day's pleasure, we may safely calculate that every penny was turned to the best account, and yet he could not procure a sufficiency of food to maintain his family. What then must be the condition of those who are out of work, and when in work, earn far less than he did? I know it to be a fact that there are hundreds so situated among the Weavers. I am acquainted with several instances at the present time, equally as distressing as this poor man Ney's, except that they have not had quite so many deaths in their families. There is one in particular, which I will beg leave to quote, as it will serve to illustrate the manner in which the poor are treated under the abominable New Poor Law system. The particulars of the case are these:—A poor man, a Weaver, of the name of Glibrey, residing at No. 15, Green-street, Globe-fields, and who has seven children, and has been out of work ever since one month before Christmas, had a child die about a month ago; by some means or other he endeavoured to procure a coffin; he then applied to the parish to give him the ground to bury it in, when he was told by Mr. Bestow, one of the relieving officers of Bethnal-green, *to take the child out of the coffin it was in, and then they would bury it. The poor man refused, and in consequence the ground was refused him.* I shudder while I write, to think that in a Christian country like ours the holiest feelings of human nature should be thus outraged, thus insulted by the very men who fatten on the poor man's toil.

W. Bell and A. Hurst.—We really cannot see that the "ties of honour, the sentiments of candour, or the principles of justice," have any demand on us to do that which we hold to be improper. They must excuse us. Our reading of the "*freedom of the press*" is, that we have a right to comment on a printed publication without being subjected to a "*call*" to print the work or document we comment on. We may be wrong; but such is our notion: and entertaining it, we must act on it.

W. Gerrard, Ipswich.—Whoever has handed the hand-bill in question to a friend, could be prosecuted, if the parties alleging it to be a libel thought proper, and if the said friend would give evidence that he had received it from the party complained of. Publishing does not mean selling. To publish is to circulate; to extend a knowledge of the facts or opinions published; and whoever publishes, in any of the thousand ways in which publication can be effected, can be made answerable for his conduct. In the case in question, any one of the parties can be proceeded against separately, or conjointly with others. It is not at all unusual to get the printer of a libellous placard, or other publication, to give evidence against the writer and against those who employ him; and whenever this is the case, proceedings are not instituted against himself—or if instituted, are abandoned. The law of libel now is, in case of indictment, that the defendant can *plead* THE TRUTH of his statements; and such plea is admitted as an answer to the complaint of the plaintiff, if it be *proved*, and if it also be shown that the publication of such truth was calculated to be of benefit to the public.

G. E. Watson, Northampton.—We see no good end to be obtained by acceding to his request. There has been discussion enough on that matter—as much, we are sure, as the readers of the *Star* will like to see.

D. C. G., Nottingham.—If he makes a *bona fide* sale of his effects, they cannot be followed with an execution; but he would be liable to be imprisoned for the disposal of them.

A Subscriber, Ashton.—If his friend lives a certain distance from the Post-office, the charge of one penny for delivering a letter is legal.

James Helliwell, Heponstall.—By the Parish Constables Act, the magistrates issue a precept to the overseers of the poor, requiring them within fourteen days to convene a meeting of the *inhabitants* in vestry, to make out a list of so many names (the precept in each case specifying the number) of persons qualified and liable to serve as constables. The overseers' duty is to comply with such precept, and call such meeting. In calling it they are bound to follow the words of the Act itself, and convene it of the *inhabitants* of the parish or place for which they act. The words of the Act constituting the vestry distinctly say, that the vestry for the purpose of that Act consists of *the inhabitants* of the place; and any other convening of the meeting, other than of "the *inhabitants in vestry*" is illegal, and all proceedings done at it will be void and of non-effect. Whenever the overseers do not call the meeting aright, we advise the parties assembled to dissolve the meeting, and call on the overseers to convene it afresh, on the ground that what the vestry does ought to be done legally, and in due form. The business of the "*inhabitants* in vestry," when duly convened, is to obey the precept of the justices; to return a list of persons qualified to serve as constables. The qualification is a four-pound rating to the relief of the poor; but the vestry can also include in the list parties who are not rated at all, if it choose to specially recommend them for the office. The vestry can also say whether it will have *paid* constables or not, and what number, and what their salaries shall be, to be paid out of the poor-rates. The list when so prepared is to be returned by the overseers to the justices, who cause it to be printed and published, and appoint a special petty session to hear and determine on all objections urged against the list, or any portion of it. Then in the month of March they select *out of that list* the parties to be sworn in as constables for the year, and give them notice to attend a special petty session, to take upon them their duties. The appointing, therefore, of constables is in the hands of the people if they will only look to it; for they can put in the list all those they deem fitting, and keep out all those they deem unfit. They should, therefore, look well to it.

Corn-Law Repeal.—The report of the discussion at Liverpool is so badly written as to render its publication impossible.

J. S. Fildes.—We had fully intended to have this week made use of the documents sent, but are compelled to defer them for another week. A glance at this day's *Star* will satisfy Mr. Fildes how much we have been overcrowded with matters that could not be postponed.

MONIES RECEIVED BY MR. O'CONNOR.

	£	s.	d.
EXECUTIVE.			
From Manchester, per John Whiteley	0	1	0
SUBSCRIPTIONS.			
From Elderslie, per James Wood	0	4	0
From Coalsnaughton, per John Dawson	0	2	6
From Arnold	0	1	3
From Basford	0	1	2
From Carrington	0	2	2
VICTIM FUND.			
From Manchester, per John Whiteley	0	0	6
From Carrington	0	2	2
DUNCOMBE TESTIMONIAL.			
From Edisbury, Walsall	0	2	6
From Carrington	0	1	8

RECEIPTS PER GENERAL SECRETARY.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Brighton	3	0	Hebden-bridge	7	0
Pilton	5	0	Dewsbury	1	8
Plymouth	6	0	Littletown	1	6
Northampton (New Locale)	9	0	Birstall	0	7
			Lockwood	1	5
Merthyr Tydvil	5	0	Bradford	6	3
Halifax	7	6			

DONATIONS.

	s.	d.
Mr. Thirkettle, London	1	
Plymouth, account-book	4	6
SUBSCRIPTION FOR MRS. ELLIS		0
Almondbury, proceeds of a ball	10	0
Bradford	7	2

Erratum.—The two shillings acknowledged last week from Wootten-under-Edge, should have been five shillings.

THOMAS MARTIN WHEELER.

The Executive Committee to the Chartist Body.

Friends,—The majority of the members of the Association having decided in favour of the election of the Executive Committee by the whole body, in preference to election by the annual Convention, and also in favour of calling a Convention to sit in London, the duty of preparing to carry that decision into effect devolves upon us: we, therefore, call upon each locality in the kingdom to take immediate steps to carry the 3rd rule of the Association into operation.

Election of Convention.—A Convention of Delegates shall assemble on the third Monday of April, in each year; such delegates to be chosen at public meetings, of which legal notice shall be given, and at which all persons resident in the locality have a right to speak and vote.

Each locality shall have the power of electing one delegate; towns with a population above 5,000 two delegates; Manchester and Glasgow, four delegates each; and one delegate from each of the Metropolitan boroughs. The Executive Committee will sit as delegates *ex officio*, but should any locality desire their services as representatives, they will be expected to remunerate them for the loss of salary thus occasioned. All elections must take place between Saturday the 29th of March, and Wednesday the 16th of April; and notice of the election, signed by the chairman of the meeting, must be transmitted to the secretary of the Executive. Each delegate will be expected to bring the sum of 10s. towards defraying the expenses of holding the Convention. The Convention will commence its sittings on Monday, April 21st.

Election of Executive.—The next important duty which devolves upon you is the nomination and election of an Executive Committee, which must be proceeded with in the following manner. According to rule 4, each locality has the power of nominating candidates. Every candidate must be at the time of nomination, and must have been for six months previous, by a *bona fide* member of the National Charter Association. All nominations must take place between the 17th of February and the 11th of March, and must be sent to the general secretary, 243½, Temple-bar; who will cause the same to be published in the *Northern Star*, and will also transmit to each sub-secretary a list containing the names of the candidates. An election by ballot must then take place in each locality; each member (not being more than three months in arrears with his payments) being eligible to vote for five persons to act as an Executive Committee. The returns, properly attested, must be sent to the general secretary previous to the 16th of April. The secretary will then arrange the votes, and lay the returns before the annual Convention; and before the country, through the medium of the *Northern Star*. The sub-secretaries and other officers of the Association are particularly desired to see these regulations carried into effect.

Philip M'Grath.
Christopher Doyle.
Thomas Clark.
Feargus O'Connor.
Thos. M. Wheeler, *Secretary*.

P.S. A printed circular will speedily be in the hands of the sub-secretaries, containing the votes of the members on the late propositions of the Executive. We need here only to observe, that there is a majority of six to one in favour of the members electing the Executive, and upwards of two to one in favour of a Convention being called, and its sittings held in London. Next week we shall address a few words to the Chartist body on the position which we, as an Executive Committee, occupy at the present time.

Accidents, Offences, & Inquests.

Singular Accident.—On Sunday night, between eleven and twelve o'clock, a man named Ford, living at Clapham, came to the station house on the common, and stated that there was a man lying dead, or dying, on the common, near the Windmill public house. The police instantly started off with a stretcher, and at the spot indicated by Ford, they found a man lying by the side of some posts. He was motionless and apparently dead. The snow had drifted round him, and he had become as stiff as a corpse from the action of the frost. The poor fellow upon being raised showed some signs of life, but was quite senseless. He was promptly conveyed to the police station, and Mr. M'Donough, the parish surgeon, was sent for. This gentleman paid the most assiduous attention to the man, as did the police, and after administering some stimulants, he was restored to consciousness. The man complained of pains in his right thigh and ribs, and upon the surgeon examining him, he observed that the neck of the thigh bone was broken, and several of the ribs were injured. The man, whose name is George Cassie, and who resides at Tooting-grove, stated that he had been to see some relatives at Clapham, and was running down the common towards home, when he came in violent collision with some posts. The shock was so great that he dropped instantly, and recollected nothing afterwards until he found himself in the station. In the course of Monday morning the poor fellow was conveyed home.

Fire at Walham-green.—Just before eleven o'clock on Tuesday night a fire broke out in the basket-warehouse of Mr. Walden, at Walham-green. The premises were soon enveloped in flame, the glare of which was seen many miles off, and, contrasted with the snow on the ground, produced a magnificent effect. A body of police of the V division promptly arrived, but could render but little assistance, as no fire-engine was at hand. The fire continued to rage with fury, so that before the arrival of any engine the roof had fallen in; and when the one stationed at Fulham did arrive, it was ineffectual for a considerable time, owing to a want of water. Two other engines soon after arrived, but were not brought into play. The result was the destruction of the building and the stock, value about £2000. We believe the whole was insured.

Fatal Colliery Accident.—As the wokers of one of the pits at the Rosehall colliery, near Coatbridge, were descending the shaft to their employment, on the 31st ult., the rope broke when those descending were supposed to be half way down the shaft, and they unfortunately fell to the bottom and were killed.—*Glasgow Herald.*

Parricide near Sheffield.—A most frightful instance of the fatal effects of passion and family dissension occurred on Tuesday, in the village of Grenoside, near this town. It appears that Thomas Marples and his son, of the same name, lived and worked together, and were garden tool-makers. They lived, it is stated, without any female in the family, in a miserably dirty house, where the cooking and other domestic operations were attended to by the old man. About ten days ago, the old man made a shovel for a woman named Naylor. The price of it was 4d.; and on Tuesday last he went to receive the money. The woman then paid him only 2d., alleging that his son owed her 2d. The father grumbled at having to pay his son's debt, and he went to the shop where his son was working, and reproached him with it. What passed there is not stated; and, so far as we can learn, no other parties were present. The son, however, took from the fire a piece of red-hot iron, of which he was forming a rake, and thrust it at the old man's abdomen, which it entered to a considerable depth. The wounded man went to the house, which was adjoining, and went to bed. Medical aid was obtained; and information of the fact being conveyed to the police, Wilson Overend, Esq., went to Ecclesfield that evening, to take the man's deposition. His injury, at that time, however, did not appear so certainly to be fatal as to induce Mr. Overend to take the deposition. The next morning he was removed to the Infirmary, where he grew rapidly worse; and when Mr. Overend attended on Wednesday, and his deposition as a dying man was taken, he stated that he and his son had been on bad terms, and that when his son had thrust the iron into him, he again put it into the fire. The same night he died. The bowels protruded to some extent from the wound; and on a *post mortem* examination, Thursday, it was found that, in at least one place, the bowels were burned through by the hot iron. The son is in the custody of the police, and, we understand, expresses great contrition for the crime into which his passion hurried him.—*Sheffield Independent.*

Murder in the County Cork.—A correspondent at Dunmanway gives the following account of a murder near that town:—"On the night of the 29th ultimo, about nine o'clock, a man named William Dacey was returning, in company with his brother and others, to their homes, near Ballygurteen, when they were waylaid by a party of men who stationed themselves behind a wall, and assailed Dacey's party with stones as they passed, one of which struck poor Dacey on the temple, from the effects of which he died in two days after, leaving a widow and three orphans to deplore his untimely fate."

Destruction of a Ship by Fire, off East Greenwich.—Shortly after three o'clock on Monday, a fire was discovered on board the ship Henry, of 500 tons, the property of Mr. Fletcher, of Limehouse. She was taking in a cargo of coals, at the West India Dock Buoy, from a collier alongside. With respect to the origin nothing precisely is known; but one of the shipwrights stated to the reporter, that a can containing turpentine, standing on the after-deck, had leaked, and running through the crevices of the deck had fallen upon some shavings, the spirit from which, from its volatile character, had caught the light of a lamp, and instantaneously the whole vessel was in a blaze. In this dilemma, Pierce, a chain-lighterman, rendered assistance by casting the ship off the West India Dock Buoy, and in a short time after the Unity and Pilot, steam-tugs, arrived and rendered assistance by towing the Henry higher up the river. During this movement the vessel was scuttled in four or five places, and she was towed clear of the shipping to above the Folly House, in Blackwall Reach, where she might be sunk in deep water, on the west side, next the Isle of Dogs. At this moment the ship was in one entire blaze, masts, rigging, and all. It was deemed necessary to attempt a further scuttling, but the danger of doing so was so great that it was abandoned. After high water she was run on shore at the west side of Blackwall Reach, near the point, off Greenwich. As the warps were burnt, it was found impossible to hold her in deep water after the fall of the tide, and it was therefore necessary to run her on shore to prevent her driving amongst the shipping at Blackwall. By seven o'clock, the main and mizen masts, rigging, fore rigging, and foretopmast were consumed. So great was the fire at one time, that it illumined both sides of the river, Blackwall, Greenwich, and the Isle of Dogs, the flames extending from the hull to the maintopmast head. At nine o'clock the hull of the vessel was still burning. The amount of damage it is impossible accurately to ascertain; but from the fact that within the last few days she has been taken out of dry dock after having had £1,000, expended on her in new coppering and repairing her, there can be no doubt but the loss at the lowest estimate will exceed £10,000.

Suicide by a Boy.—On Monday Mr. Wakley, M.P., held an inquest at the Lion and Lamb, Drummond-crescent, Euston-square, on the body of Thomas Press, a boy aged 13, the son of a cowkeeper, who committed suicide. James Press, the brother of deceased, said he resided with his parents at 43, Drummond-crescent. The deceased went to school, and occasionally assisted in carrying out milk. On Friday last at dinner time, it was discovered that he had been playing truant, and had appropriated some money belonging to his parents to his own use, and spent it amongst some other boys. This coming to his father's knowledge he boxed his ears, declared he should have no dinner, and threatened to beat him. Shortly before two o'clock deceased's mother gave him some dinner, and then told him to wash himself, which he did. About half-past three the same afternoon witness went into the yard, and observed the cow-shed open, and on entering he discovered the deceased hanging by his neck handkerchief from a beam. Witness gave an alarm, and Mr. Lambert, a neighbour, and his mother, came and cut deceased down. He was quite dead, and in order to effect his object must have got on one of the rails placed to divide the cows, and then jumped off. The jury returned a verdict—*That deceased destroyed himself by hanging, but in what state of mind he was in at the time there was no evidence to show.*

Destructive Fire at the Royal Dockyard, Chatham.—About two o'clock on Tuesday morning an alarming fire broke out in her Majesty's dockyard, Chatham, which threatened the most serious consequences to the whole establishment; but owing to the heavy fall of snow, the absence of wind, the presence of assistance immediately on the spot, a plentiful supply of water, and the praiseworthy exertions of officers and men, the damage sustained, although extensive, is comparatively little to what might have been anticipated from the inflammable materials and their contiguity. The fire was first seen in a place called the Joiners' Pound, which was full of seasoned mahogany and other materials for ships' cabins, &c.; and very soon it had extended on one side to the joiners' shop, and afterwards on the other to the treenail-house, over which is the school for the apprentices, forming a range of buildings on the east side. The roof of the joiners' shop was destroyed, and the building itself was entirely gutted; and all the bulkheads, &c., prepared for ships building, with great numbers of joiners' chests of tools and fittings, were consumed. The treenail-house was also gutted, and the roof of the building, with a great portion of the books, instruments, &c., belonging to the school, were completely destroyed. The schoolmaster's house, which is at the east end of the building, is also ruined. The schoolmaster and his family happily escaped without personal injury, and a large quantity of his property was saved, but of the whole range of buildings on fire scarcely anything but the tottering walls remain. As soon as the alarm was given the workmen flocked to the yard in great numbers. The officers and men from the various ships in the Medway were also very promptly on shore, and the troops of the garrison, to the amount of 700, turned out on hearing the alarm bells, and with their engines, and headed by their officers, were also at the scene of conflargation in the shortest possible time. The engines belonging to the towns likewise proceeded to the dockyard as soon as they could be got ready, and all steadily working together in good order and discipline, they succeeded in getting the fire pretty well under between five and six o'clock. The origin of the fire appears at present to be involved, as usual, somewhat in mystery, for, as far as can be understood, it was first seen in a part of the range of buildings near which there is no fire-place; but most likely, when the present excitement subsides, and an investigation takes place, the cause of such calamitous effects will be clearly traced.

Attempt to set Fire to the Queen's Theatre, Manchester.—On Sunday morning, about six o'clock, flames were discovered issuing from underneath the large stage door at the back of the Queen's Theatre. An alarm was immediately given, and by the prompt assistance of the persons present it was speedily extinguished, when it was found that some combustible materials had been thrust under the door, and could only have been recently ignited. The damage done is very trifling. A reward of £50 has been offered by the police for the discovery of the offender or offenders. It is only nine months ago that the Theatre Royal of this town was burnt down, and strong suspicion now exists that that also was the act of an incendiary.

Bideford.—Committal of a Wife and Servant, for setting Fire to her Husband's House.—Mary Lashbrook, and her servant, Mary Hayes, underwent a long examination on Saturday last (it having lasted nearly the whole of the day), before James Gould, Esq., and Major Wren, county magistrates, on suspicion of wilfully setting fire to the premises occupied by the Lashbrooks, the property of Captain Pyke, in the parish of Northam. The girl made a full confession, stating that she was instigated by her mistress to commit the act of incendiarism during the absence of her master at Appledore, and it was clearly discovered that the house and outbuildings had been fired in four different places, considerably detached from each other. Both prisoners were committed for trial; but the mistress was admitted to bail, in two sureties of £50 each, and her husband in £100. The prosecution was instituted by Mr. John Hamlyn, the Bideford agent to the West of England Insurance Office, in which the property was insured.—*North Devon Journal.*

Shocking Occurrence at Camberwell.—Three Persons Poisoned.—The danger of the mode of keeping poisonous substances in contiguity with articles to which they bear a resemblance, has seldom received a more fearful demonstration than by the catastrophe of which we are about to give some particulars. At the corner of an avenue leading from Grove-lane to the Grove, Camberwell (the Canning's Head public-house forming the opposite corner), and towards the summit of the hill, there lived for many years a tradesman named Montague. His shop was a kind of village depôt, where might be obtained almost every article of food, and most of the smaller wares required for domestic purposes. The excellent quality of his goods, and punctuality and probity in his dealings, had acquired for him general respect in his neighbourhood, and this was followed by an increase of business, and, of course, an addition to his gains. Most of the families of the neighbourhood had recourse to his shop; and, to provide sufficient space for his goods and accommodation for his customers, he had recently made considerable additions to his house and premises. His family consisted of himself, aged about 60; his wife, somewhat younger; his mother, about 80; and a shopman, related to him, about 20. On Tuesday morning, the family, with the exception of the old lady, whom the severe cold kept in bed, rose at their usual time. The ordinary before-breakfast avocations were attended to by each. The breakfast was prepared shortly after eight o'clock, by Mrs. Montague, of which Mr. and Mrs. Montague and the shopman partook, without perceiving anything peculiar in the flavour of the beverage, which was tea. Shortly after breakfast, Mr. and Mrs. Montague and the young man were all seized with severe pains in the stomach, accompanied by violent retchings, and other symptoms of an alarming kind. A medical gentleman of the neighbourhood was sent for, who at once perceived that the unfortunate persons were labouring under the effects of some powerful poison; that oxalic acid was probably the deleterious substance, which in some way or other had been taken in a considerable quantity into their stomachs, and doubtless in some of the food of which they had in common partaken at their breakfast. An alarm was spread; and one or two more medical gentlemen arrived at the house. An examination of the contents of the teapot was made, and the source of the mischief was therein discovered. Oxalic acid in a considerable quantity was found among the tea leaves; and this discovered, the way by which it came there was soon accounted for. To soften the water, Mrs. Montague had been in the habit of using a portion of carbonate of soda, and had as she supposed put the usual quantity of that article into the teapot that morning. By what means oxalic acid was substituted by her for carbonate of soda—to which, however, it bears a resemblance sufficiently close to be mistaken by a person ignorant of the peculiarities of form and colour by which they are distinguished from one another—has not been ascertained. One account states that Mrs. Montague had herself taken it from the shop, in mistake for carbonate of soda. Another statement is, that the young man unwittingly supplied his mistress with oxalic acid on her application to him for carbonate of soda. The latter account is not, however, believed. The operation of the poison was so speedy, and the agonies which preceded death so excruciating, that nothing in the shape of lengthened explanation could be obtained from Mrs. Montague. The unfortunate woman died shortly after eleven in the forenoon, and within three hours after partaking of the fatal infusion. No hope of arresting the progress of the poison was from the first entertained in her case. Although the usual antidotes were promptly administered, and every means which science has prescribed were diligently employed by the medical gentlemen in attendance, she rapidly sank, until death put a period to her fearful sufferings. Mr. Montague was most violently affected. It was, however, hoped that his superior strength of constitution, sustained by the medicines, which were perseveringly administered by his medical attendants, would afford time for the antidotes to neutralise the action of the poison. The hope was delusive. The unfortunate husband also died about four o'clock in the afternoon. The shopman, whose portion of the fatal mixture was, probably, less strong than that of which his master and mistress partook, and the youthful vigour of whose constitution resisted the operation of the poison more powerfully than the feebler frames of his master and mistress—was alive at a late hour on Tuesday night. In his case, also, there is scarcely a gleam of hope. So powerfully has the poison acted upon his system, and such are the injuries which, it is feared, the coatings of the stomach and viscera have received, that his death also appears inevitable. The aged woman, thus suddenly bereaved of her children, the stay of her declining years, and the source of her sustenance, is an object of the deepest commiseration. Her mental anguish is extreme. Had not her infirmities prevented her from rising to breakfast, she also would have partaken of the deadly mixture; and, indeed, as it was, she was on the verge of doing so, as Mrs. Montague appears to have been in the act of adding fresh tea to that in the teapot, for the purpose of sending her mother-in-law her breakfast, when she was interrupted by the sensations produced by the poison of which she had taken. The excitement produced in the neighbourhood is extreme. The respect in which Mr. and Mrs. Montague were held, and the shocking circumstances under which they came to their deaths, combine to invest the calamity with peculiar claims on the sympathy of the neighbourhood, and which is manifested in every way by which it can be shown.

Further Particulars.—Upon inquiries made on Thursday it was ascertained that the young man, George May, who partook of the poisoned tea offered him by his unfortunate master, was so far better as to be considered out of danger. He was, on Wednesday morning, pronounced by the medical gentlemen, who have been almost constantly in attendance upon him, to be much improved, but towards evening he again became much worse, and for several hours his life was despaired of. Nothing has as yet transpired to throw any light upon this unfortunate transaction. How the poisonous drug got into the teapot at present remains a mystery. It was reported in the neighbourhood that the water from which the tea was made had been poisoned prior to the water being boiled. This, however, appears not to be the truth, for the poison was only found mixed with the contents of the teapot. There is also an impression abroad that the fatal occurrence was not altogether the result of accident. This opinion seems to have gained ground by the statement of the unfortunate Mrs. Montague's mother, who lived in the same house, to the effect that her daughter was never known to use carbonate of soda for the purpose of softening the water with which she made tea; and, further, that the poisonous drug (oxalid acid) was never sold in the shop, therefore the purpose for which it was brought into the house is supposed to be explained in the result. Much anxiety appears to be evinced relative to the investigation before the coroner, when it is expected that the mystery in which the affair is at present involved will be cleared up.

Wholesale Attempted Assassination in the Queen's County.—A correspondent of the *Dublin Evening Packet* says—On Friday night last, within gun-shot of the town of Mountmelick, an armed party attacked the house of a man named Conroy, caretaker or bailiff over the lands of Clonaheen, and one of the assassins discharged his gun, lodging the contents (slugs) in the body of Conroy, who instantly fell. Another assassin being about to discharge his gun, Conroy's wife threw herself over him, clasping his body in her arms, when the monster discharged his gun at both, lacerating and breaking the woman's arm in several places. Some of the slugs also entered the man's side and belly. Thinking they had done for them, the assassins departed and went to the house of a man named Manly, on the same lands, at whom they discharged a gun, taking such precise aim that the slugs did not touch a boy that was sitting close by Manly—the contents having all lodged about his (Manly's) neck, lacerating him in a dreadful manner. Thinking they had also done his job, they went from thence to another house on the same lands, and having got in, inquired for the owner—a woman answered them by saying he was from home, and that his wife was that moment being confined. She begged of them, as the husband was not there, "for the love of God" to go away and make no noise, as if the poor woman heard them, two lives might be lost. The assassins then went away, desiring her to tell the man of the house when he returned to pay attention to the notice they had served upon him some time ago, and give up the land, or that they would have him as they did Conroy and Manly, whose "job," they said, they were after doing. They attacked several other houses the same night, but without doing further harm than cautioning them all to give up the possession, or they would surely take their lives on their next visit. The tenants on the lands of Clonaheen, it appears, were ejected for non-payment of rent about two years ago. Portions of the land were set to these parties, the bailiff or caretaker, Conroy, and Manly, a Scotchman, in Mr. Beale's employment. Manly is able to be up, but Conroy is in a precarious state. His wife's arm, it is said, must be amputated. This is the second attack made on Conroy, and the second time he has been shot at and wounded. An armed party attacked the dwelling-house of Michael Renehan, of Clomagh, in the King's County, on the night of the 30th ult., and, having placed Renehan on his knees, presented a gun at him, and made him swear he would surrender on the next morning half an acre of land he purchased from his sister in May last.

Attempted Assassination.—County of Tyrone.—"On Friday evening last, at an early hour, as Mr. James Perry, agriculturist on the Dungannon School lands, was returning from Moy Fair to his residence, at Aughamullan, near Coalisland, he was, within 100 yards of his own door, suddenly encountered by two ruffians, who fired each a pistol at his person, and then as suddenly disappeared. Providentially the shots had not the effect intended by his sanguinary assailants. Mr. Perry rode on and reached his home in safety. On examination afterwards it appeared that each pistol had been charged with a couple of bullets: two of these had perforated his hat, and two others slightly grazed his left arm."—*Newry Telegraph.*

Railway Collision. — Newcastle-on-Tyne, Wednesday.—A collision of trains took place last night on the Brandlin Junction Railway, the report of which excited considerable alarm in this town, until it was satisfactorily ascertained that no lives were lost. It appears that the eight o'clock train from Gateshead to Sunderland was approaching Felling station, when the speed of the train was slackened to stop at the station; but before the train reached the station, a smart shock was felt by the passengers, who were thrown from their seats, and a general rush was made to get out of the carriages, the women screaming, and the men in a state of bewilderment. The line, it seems, is undergoing repair at this part, so that there is only one line in operation for a short distance. A long luggage train was coming in the opposite direction from Rockley Whins, and was in the act of leaving the one line and crossing on to the other line, where the repairs are finished. The engine of the luggage train had just got on the other line, when the passenger train ran plump into the waggons next it, which were thrown off the line, piled one above another, and scattered on all sides by the shock. The engine of the passenger train was much broken, there being a large rent through which the fire tumbled on to the ground, and a general cry arose that the engine would burst, which added greatly to the prevailing consternation, every one endeavouring to get as far from it as possible. Had the Sunderland from Gateshead train been half a minute earlier, the two engines would have met, and frightful would have been the consequences.

Law Intelligence.

A Monkey Tale.—Bail Court, Monday.—May and Wife *v.* Burdett.—Mr. Watson, Q.C., and Mr. Couch appeared for the plaintiff; Mr. Cockburn, Q.C., and Mr. Pickering for the defendant. The declaration alleged that the defendant wilfully and knowingly kept a certain mischievous and ferocious monkey; that he allowed him to be at large, and that the monkey did, on the 2d of September, 1844, bite, bruise, lacerate, and injure the female plaintiff, thereby causing her much suffering, &c., which was the gist of the present action. The facts of the case appeared to be these:—On the 2d of September, last year, the plaintiff's wife, who assisted her husband in carrying on the business of a market gardener and cowkeeper at Hounslow, went into her bed-chamber to get a bonnet, which, however, she found was torn and seriously damaged. On her return to the kitchen she mentioned this circumstance to a female friend named Brown, who was present, and they consequently immediately proceeded together to the upper room, where Mrs. Brown, who accompanied the plaintiff's wife, discovered the monkey belonging to the defendant (who was a captain in her Majesty's 17th Light Dragoons, quartered at Hounslow), seated in a corner of the room. The plaintiff, in her agitation (as was stated), "heaved" a half sieve at the monkey, which immediately took to its heels, and endeavoured to escape, and in its attempt so to do sprung upon the woman's neck and bosom, and then fled. Mrs. May, however, followed it to the garden, where something occurred which there was no evidence to explain, except that she almost instantly after returned, and was seized by strong fits of hysterics, which had the effect of producing a recurrence of a disorder to which Mrs. May had previously, for some years, been subject. She was immediately put to bed, where she remained for three weeks in a very precarious state, and was, at the present hour, still suffering from the effect of the alarm she had experienced on that occasion. Her hand, it was stated, still shook so much as to disable her from attending to her business. One part of the plaintiff's case was, that upon the occasion of the second alarm the monkey had committed an assault, the nature of which cannot be described in a public journal; but the evidence did not sustain the allegation. Eight or ten witnesses were called, on the part of the plaintiff, to prove the circumstances of the assault of the monkey, the effect produced upon the female plaintiff, and the character of the animal. May, the son of the plaintiff, stated, that on one occasion the monkey approached within six or seven yards of him (witness), and was preparing to fly at him, until he said to the monkey, that "he had a stick ready for him," upon which the brute immediately decamped. Another witness stated, that on one occasion he passed the monkey, who would have flown at him if he (witness) had not turned the corner and so escaped. This witness being asked, on cross-examination, whether the monkey had said he intended to spring at him, replied he had. Other witnesses stated that on one occasion the monkey tore off the cap of a Mrs. Kemp, as she passed near a stable where he was confined. It appeared in the course of the inquiry that the monkey had been put to death by the mob which assembled on the report of the plaintiff's injury, and one fellow acknowledged to having stabbed it with a pitchfork. Mr. Justice Wightman, after going over the evidence in detail, left it to the jury to say—first, whether the monkey was vicious; secondly, that being so, whether the defendant was aware of it; thirdly, did the monkey inflict the injuries imputed to it; and lastly, what ought to be the amount ot damages, if they found for the plaintiff on the other points. The jury immediately gave a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £50.

Morality of the Rich!—Arches Court, Monday.—King *v.* King.—This was a question as to the admissibility of a further plea in this cause. The parties were married in the month of September, 1841, and they separated in the month of November. The proceedings in the first instance were commenced by Mrs. Hannah King, for a restitution of conjugal rights, against her husband, Mr. John King. This plea was met by an allegation of adultery in bar by the lady. A plea was now offered for admission, on the part of the wife, denying the charge of adultery, and charging Mr. King with the commission of the crime. After hearing Dr. Addams and Dr. Elphinstone in support of the responsive plea, and her Majesty's advocate and Dr. Curteis *contra*, the court directed the plea to be reformed. It appeared that the husband was most anxious to obtain a divorce, in order to marry again, while the wife was anxious to obtain an increase of alimony. Those were facts which must make the court most cautious, the more so as an agent of Mr. King had said to the wife, that if she would admit having committed adultery, a few thousands would not be in the way, which the wife indignantly refused to do. The court referred at length to the articles of the responsive allegation, rejecting some, and directing the remainder to be reformed.—The evidence is at present *ex parte*, and cannot be further alluded to.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

Monday.—Charge of Perjury.—William Alick Kennett, a person of respectable appearance, surrendered in discharge of his bail to take his trial upon an indictment charging him with wilful and corrupt perjury. In the course of the trial the following scene occurred between one of the witnesses for the prosecution and the prisoner's counsel, Mr. Clarkson:—Mr. Clarkson, in his address to the jury, in reply upon the additional evidence, denounced the witness White as a man who had by his conduct to-day shown himself to be utterly unworthy of belief upon his oath. [Here the learned counsel was interrupted by the man White in a very unbecoming manner.] Mr. Clarkson: I repeat what I have said, and I am convinced that, with the exception of this abandoned man, there is not a person who hears me that does not concur in that opinion.—White: That's a lie.—The Recorder: If you repeat your conduct I shall commit you to Newgate. The learned counsel is entitled to address the jury as to your credibility, and you must not interrupt him.—White made some silly observation that his feelings were hurt.—Mr. Clarkson continued to pass his just condemnation on the evidence of White, during which he (White) kept flourishing a stick of no inconsiderable size, no doubt for the purpose of threatening the learned counsel, who, after bearing with repeated vulgar insults from the man White, said that it was really a waste of time to deal with the evidence of such a man.—The Recorder summed up, and the jury returned an immediate verdict of Not Guilty, and added, "We are of opinion that the defendant leaves this court with his character, honour, and integrity unimpeached."—The Recorder: Gentlemen, I will ask you, do you believe the two witnesses (White and Potter) called for the prosecution?—The Foreman of the Jury: No, my lord, we do not.—The Recorder: And that is your unanimous opinion?—The Foreman: It is so, my lord.—The defendant then retired from the court surrounded by a host of friends.

Proofs of England's Civilisation.—New Court, Monday.—William Stannard, aged 19, was indicted for criminally assaulting Elizabeth Appleton, a child under 12 years of age. A second count charged him with a common assault. The prisoner pleaded not guilty. The facts of the case disclosed an amount of profligacy rarely heard of in a court of justice. The brother of the child, the child herself, and the prisoner, all slept and used in common one room in a street in Seven-dials. The child swore that the prisoner had twice committed the offence charged against him. The disclosure of these facts excited much disgust and astonishment amongst all present. After much deliberation, the jury returned a verdict of Not Guilty.

Wilson *v.* Wilson.—Vice Chancellor's Court, Tuesday.—The Vice Chancellor delivered judgment this morning in this case. His Honour said this case came on under these circumstances:—Mrs. Wright Heneker Wilson, the plaintiff, under the will of Sir Henry Wilson and Lady Frances Wilson, was entitled to her separate use to an estate called Drayton Lodge, Hampshire, and also to lands in Yorkshire and Essex for life, with remainder over, of the value of £3,000 a year. Besides this, she was entitled to a certain leasehold tenement called Chelsea Park, Middlesex, under various leases. She had a freehold house in Grosvenor-place, London, money in the funds, and a mortgage. In April, 1839, she married Mr. Wilson, the defendant; and it appeared that on the occasion of the marriage a settlement was made by which the Drayton Lodge estate was settled to the same uses as directed by the will of the donor: but as his Honour understood it Mr. Wilson took an estate during the life of his wife in the Yorkshire and Essex estates, and as to the Chelsea Park estate, it was settled on Mr. Wilson for life, then to Mrs. Wilson, if she survived him, and on her death to the children of the marriage. All the other personal property of Mrs. Wilson was given to Mr. Wilson, with the exception of £3,000 Cnsols. In the beginning of 1843, unhappy differences arose between Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, and the result was that on the 8th of May, 1843, a suit was commenced by Mrs. Wilson against her husband in the Ecclesiastical Court, and on the 9th of May, Mr. Wilson was served with a citation in that suit. Then various proceedings took place between the parties, and the result was that articles of agreement for a separation were agreed to and executed. Upon the original bill being filed in this case by Mrs. Wilson, a motion for a receiver was made, and also for an injunction, upon a supplemental bill filed by her, and those motions were disposed of without any attempt on the part of the Court to approach the decision of the real question between the parties. A cross bill had been filed by Mr. Wilson to have the articles of agreement delivered up to be cancelled, and evidence was taken in both causes, and the case now came before the Court upon its general circumstances. His Honour, after recapitulating the circumstances of the case, and going fully into the legal points of the question, concluded by observing that the conduct of the defendant had been most harsh and cruel towards his wife. His Honour's opinion was that, upon the law and the whole of the facts of the case, Mrs. Wilson was entitled to a specific performance of the articles of agreement, but with this exception, that the articles should be taken as they stood, and further, taking care to insert in the articles a covenant to indemnify the husband against the debts of the wife. His Honour, in conclusion, said that he was of opinion that relief could only be upon the original bill; and as the cross bill only asked to have the articles delivered up to be cancelled, and as it was founded upon a charge that the articles were obtained from him by fraud, which had not been proved, the cross bill should be dismissed with costs, and the plaintiff to have her costs in the original bill up to the hearing. Judgment for the plaintiff.

Crim. Con.—Absalon *v.* Bunbury.—Court of Exchequer, Wednesday.—This was an action to recover compensation in damages for a criminal connection with the plaintiff's wife. The defendant pleaded first, not guilty; secondly, that the female named in the declaration was not the wife of the plaintiff; and lastly, a plea of leave and licence. Mr. Serjeant Jones (with whom was Mr. Peterdsdorff) stated the plaintiff's case. The defendant had availed himself of the opportunities afforded by wealth and station to deprive the plaintiff of the wife of his affections, and the mother of his children. The plaintiff was a person in a humble station of life, and had gone through many vicissitudes. The defendant was the son of Sir Henry Bunbury, of Barton; and at Bury St. Edmund's, near Barton, the plaintiff for some time resided, and carried on the business of a tailor. The plaintiff came to London in 1831, and was married in that year, in the church of St. Mark, Kennington, to his present wife. In the year 1840 the plaintiff was living in the Bull Inn-court, in the Strand, and in endeavouring to rescue a child from the flames suffered a serious injury, which compelled him to go into the hospital. At this time the plaintiff's wife, unfortunately, became acquainted with the defendant, who being a native of Bury, promised to assist the plaintiff in the unfortunate circumstances in which he was placed. The plaintiff's wife, in the company of a female friend, afterwards met the defendant, and upon his asking her where he could address a letter to her unknown to her husband, suggested to him that he might address her under the name of Miss Francis. It would seem that, from a very short period after this meeting, the ruin of the plaintiff's wife was completed. However, these facts were wholly unknown to the plaintiff up to the month of March last, when the plaintiff's wife was delivered of a child, which there was good reason to suppose was the defendant's. The learned counsel then adverted to the correspondence between the defendant and Mrs. Absalon, which, he contended, proved beyond all doubt the nature of the connection between them. In one letter the defendant addressing the plaintiff's wife, as "dearest girl," from Bangor, states that he often wished "to catch a smile from her eye, or a kiss from her lip," and assured her that he "was quite faithful to her." In another epistle the defendant said that he "did not think it right to do anything wrong on Good Friday or Easter Sunday, but would meet the plaintiff's wife on Monday." In addition to these letters, it would appear, beyond doubt, that the defendant and Mrs. Absalon slept together on one occasion at the plaintiff's house, and left behind him a gold eye-glass, which would be identified. The fact of marriage and the adultery being proved, there was still a third remaining, the plea of leave and licence. The burden of proving that plea lay upon defendant; but, as he (the learned counsel) was instructed, there was not the slightest foundation for such a plea. The plaintiff's business necessarily called him much from home, and the defendant had taken an unjust advantage of his absence. As to the amount of damages, that was altogether for the jury. The plaintiff was injured to an extent which no damages could compensate. Witnesses were then called who proved the adultery. A clerk from the house of Drummond and Co. proved that the defendant kept an account at that bank. He was the eldest son of Sir C. H. Bunbury, and about twenty-eight or thirty years of age. The letters from the defendant to the plaintiff's wife were then put in and read. Mr. Cockburn, on the part of the defendant, admitted that the fact of marriage and the adultery had been proved. He undertook, however, to satisfy the jury that the intercourse took place with the knowledge and assent of the plaintiff, which would entitle the defendant to a verdict. The evidence for the plaintiff suggested grave suspicions, but he could prove that the plaintiff actually lent himself to his wife's dishonour, and had lived on the wages of her prostitution. After this he had the boldness to come into a court of justice and ask for damages. It had been studiously concealed that in May last the defendant had been united to an amiable and accomplished lady of his own rank in life. Shortly after, the plaintiff's wife, accompanied by a woman named Taylor, and a child in her arms, presented herself at the house of defendant's father-in-law. The defendant felt himself compelled to give her money to get rid of her. The plaintiff actually acknowledged that he had passed off his wife as Eliza Francis. All the plaintiff asked or wished was, that the defendant should make an allowance to Miss Francis. Afterwards the plaintiff addressed a letter to the defendant, complaining that he had "used the plaintiff's wife as he would a pair of boots—wore them for five years, and then cast them off." Infamy could not go beyond the contents of this letter, which was followed by another from the plaintiff to the defendant, demanding money for Miss Francis. In fact, his conduct evinced his total destitution of all moral and manly feeling. The learned counsel was then about to advert to the evidence on the part of the plaintiff, and the discrepancies and contradictions involved in it; but before he had proceeded very far, a communication was made to him, upon which he (Mr. Cockburn) stated, that he understood his learned friend (Serjeant Jones) had resolved to abandon the plaintiff's case. This was no more than he (Mr. Cockburn) anticipated must take place, when he proved the plaintiff's letters. Under those circumstances he was spared from the painful duty of proving what he certainly was about to do, that the plaintiff was the pander to his own wife's dishonour. A verdict was then taken for the defendant.

Middlesex Sessions, Feb. 13.—A She Brute.—Ann Marks, a woman of repulsive aspect, about 40, was indicted for a brutal assault upon Jemima Marks, her step-daughter, aged 10. The prosecution was instituted by St. Luke's parish, in consequence of the complaints of several neighbours. It appeared from the evidence that since the prisoner married the child's father, she had treated her with the greatest cruelty, not giving her sufficient food to sustain life, and not as much clothing as would defend her from the weather. On the 27th of January, the unfortunate child was sent for a kettle of water, and upon her return the prisoner seized her by the hair of the head, and after beating, kicking, and trampling upon her in a most savage manner, threw the kettle of water over her, and pitched her out into the street, where she was found almost in a dying state by some of the neighbours, who took her to the workhouse. The jury, without a moment's hesitation, found her Guilty, and the court sentenced her to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

MANCHESTER.

Lecture.—A public meeting of the Chartists of this town was held on the evening of Sunday last, to hear a lecture on "Trades' Unions" by Mr. J. Leach. The lecture was well attended, notwithstanding the severe inclemency of the weather. Mr. O'Connor was present. Mr. Leach was introduced to the meeting, and in his usual eloquent manner addressed the audience upon the all important subject of Trades' Unions. At the conclusion of Mr. Leach's lecture, the chairman introduced Mr. O'Connor to the meeting, who was greeted with rapturous applause, which, having subsided, he addressed the meeting upon various topics for upwards of an hour and a half, and resumed his seat amid repeated rounds of applause. Mr. W. Dixon moved the following resolution:—"That we, the Chartists of Manchester, in public meeting assembled, do hereby record our unshaken confidence in Feargus O'Connor, Esq., and Mr. James Leach, and further, that we tender them our heartfelt thanks for their past services in the people's cause, and likewise for the instructive addresses they have delivered on the present occasion." The resolution was seconded by Mr. Renshaw, and on being put from the chair was carried unanimously, accompanied with loud and long continued cheers. The thanks of the audience were then given to the chairman, and the meeting dissolved.

Lambethhead-green.—Mr. Dixon has been lecturing here on Chartism. Several new members were enrolled.

BRADFORD.

Lecture.—On Sunday evening Mr. Joseph Alderson lectured in the large room, on the organization of the Trades, and the principles of the people's Charter. On Friday last the working men's anti-corporation committee met in their room, when it was unanimously resolved, that the committee use every exertion in opposing the incorporation of Bradford, as a municipal borough.

Chartist Intelligence.

M'DOUALL'S CHARGES AGAINST MR. O'CONNOR.

INVESTIGATION BY THE MANCHESTER COUNCIL.

The Chartist readers of the *Northern Star* are aware that the recent investigation before the Manchester Council, in the case of M'Douall and Leach, certain charges were brought to light, which, if true, placed Mr. O'Connor in the position of a "*traitor*" to the people. Such a revelation left that gentleman no alternative but to demand a sifting investigation; and, as the Manchester Council had been selected by Dr. M'Douall as the party to inquire into the complaints he had preferred against Mr. Leach, Mr. O'Connor called upon that body to institute inquiries in *his* case; and either pronounce him guilty or innocent, according to the evidence brought before them.

The Council responded to the call made on them. They fixed on Sunday, Feb. 9th, as the day on which they would investigate; and accordingly they desired all the parties concerned to appear before them at ten o'clock in the forenoon of that day.

The Council met at the time appointed in the Committee Room, under the Carpenters' Hall; but owing to the excitement produced throughout Lancashire, parties had come in from Bolton, Chorley, Bury, Ashton-under-Lyne, Oldham, Stalybridge, Mottram, &c., &c., to witness the proceedings. The Council, therefore, being desirous that the investigation should be *as public* as possible, adjourned to the large anti-room of the hall. The names of the Councilmen were then called over. Each one answered to his name; and Mr. Thomas Rankin was called upon to preside.

Mr. Smith being the person appointed to wait upon Dr. M'Douall after a recent lecture in the Carpenters' Hall, gave in his report, which it is unnecessary to insert, as it has already been made public through the *Star*.

The secretary then read the following correspondence which had taken place betwixt the Council and the parties concerned:—

NO. I.

Hulme, Feb. 1st, 1845.

Dear Sir,—The Council having seen in the *Star* of January 26th, 1845, the charges purporting to have been made by you against Mr. O'Connor, and wishing to put an end to crimination and recrimination in the ranks, have fixed on Sunday, Feb. 9th, 1845, at ten o'clock in the morning, to hear all charges brought before them, and to decide on their merits or demerits with impartiality and without prejudice: holding all parties innocent until proved guilty. They have desired me to correspond with you, and to intimate that THEY WILL PAY YOUR EXPENSES, THAT YOU MAY NOT BE AT ANY LOSS IN TRAVELLING. They therefore request that you will be in attendance at the above stated time. By answering this letter definitely, and with promptitude, you will oblige, for Mr. O'Connor will attend at the before named time. I must also intimate that the Council have determined to go on with the investigation, even if *you* are not there, after giving you this notice.

I am, yours sincerely,
RICH. RADFORD, Sub-Secretary.

Mr. P. M. M'Douall.

NO. II.

To the Secretary of the Manchester Committee.

Sir,—Having promised to write you concerning Mr. O'Connor's case, I hereby inform you that I cannot fix any time for meeting the Committee until after a complete settlement of Leach's affair; and that I do not consider closed until your report is published, and the balance of money due to me paid into the Committee, and through them forwarded duly to me. I hope the Committee will see the propriety of finishing that business, and bringing it to a speedy conclusion at once.

I am, yours truly,
Mr. Richard Radford. P. M. M'DOUALL.

NO. III.

Hulme, Feb. 5, 1845.

Dear Sir,—The Council having read your letter in the *Star*, in which you express your willingness to submit your conduct to the judgment of the Manchester Council, having perfect confidence that they will, with impartiality, award such a verdict at their tribunal as your case and justice from man to man demands, the Council have ordered me to write to Dr. M'Douall, desiring him to be present on Sunday, Feb. 9, 1845, at ten o'clock in the morning. The *have also directed me to write to you, informing you* that they have determined to proceed with the investigation at the before-mentioned time.

I am, sir, yours sincerely,
RICHARD RADFORD, Sub-Secretary.

F. O'Connor, Esq.

NO. IV.

London, Feb. 6, 1845.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date; and in reply, beg to say that I shall be prepared to meet any charge to be brought against me before the Manchester Council at the appointed hour on Sunday next.

I am, your obedient servant,
Mr. Richard Radford. FEARGUS O'CONNOR.

NO. V.

52, Walcot-square, Lambeth.

Dear Sir,—From the announcement you have made of the intention of the Council to proceed without me, I do not see that any answer of mine was at all necessary; but since you desire it, I can only say, without wishing to treat the members of it with disrespect, that I have sent a letter to the "*Star*" in answer to that of O'Connor, in which I intimate my intention of demanding a public investigation by a more national body, or in public meeting in Manchester or Leeds. I conceive that my wishes have as much right to be consulted as those of O'Connor.

I also fully expected that the Council would have suggested and enforced some plan of having the balance of money due by Leach paid to them, and thence to me; so that all future correspondence and communications on that head, might be effectually prevented.

I am, yours sincerely,
Mr. R. Radford. P. M. M'DOUALL.

NO. VI.

The following letter from M'Douall came by the Sunday morning's post, and was delivered to the Council after the business commenced—it bears the London post-mark of February 8th, 1845.

To the Manchester Council.

52, Walcot-square, Lambeth.

Gentlemen,—My letter in reply to Mr. O'Connor was sent to the *Star* for publication. It was addressed to the people, and not to you. Mr. O'Connor has forwarded that letter to you,* and I demand its publication in justice to myself, or its immediate return, so that it may be published.

In that letter *I have explained all I know* in reference to Mr. O'Connor. I have likewise given my reasons why I do not choose to submit my case to you, and referred Mr. O'Connor to a public meeting. Had I had either time or money to spare, I might nevertheless have been present. [The Council offered to pay M'Douall's expenses to and from London, in order that he might have an opportunity of substantiating his charges.] I content myself in the meantime with a distinct and positive denial of the truth of the following assertions of Leach—viz., that I ever said or wrote that Feargus O'Connor "had sold the Chartist cause at Lancaster to Government;" or "that he had received money for many years from Government for destroying the Chartist cause;" or "that I had good and irrefutable authority to substantiate those charges." You have my word written in denial; and you may take it, and use it as you think proper: while I at the same time do not admit your authority as judges, nor do I desire to have anything more to do with you on the subject. I do this without meaning the slightest disrespect to you or any of the Chartist body.

Yours respectfully,
P. M. M'DOUALL.

The Secretary said that as Dr. M'Douall had denied the right of the Council to investigate into the matter, it became his duty to read a portion of a letter from Dr. M'Douall, bearing the Carlisle post-mark of Nov. 19th, 1844: "I shall attend, provided the question concerning money matters is to be considered on its own merits. I shall attend also *if any second or third investigation is to be entered into*, after the settlement of the original. I mean to say simply, that if there is any question affecting Leach and myself, let *that* be entered upon first. *And if any shall be entered into betwixt O'Connor and myself*, LET THAT BE ENTERED INTO ALSO: but let each be considered and decided on their respective merits." By this, said the Secretary, Dr. M'Douall admitted the authority of the Council: but now he denies that they have the right to judge him. The Secretary then read the letter sent by Dr. M'Douall to the *Northern Star* for publication.

TO THE CHARTIST BODY GENERALLY.

Friends,—You must all have observed, for some time past, a strong disposition exhibited in different quarters to represent me, my opinions and my character in the worst possible light. When a similarity appears in the mode and method of attack in different places and by different persons every right thinking and calmly judging mind will arrive at the conclusion that a common design has been worked out, the aim of which is to put me down by a succession of charges each increasing in weight, from the private letters of Mr. Smith up to the imperial charge of Mr. O'Connor. I at least as the party assailed, have a right to think so and thinking so I have surely a right to defend myself and reply. The course pursued by a hostile government towards a persecuted Chartist, or by a prosecuting counsel towards the very basest of criminals is always to lay the full charge and evidence before the Jury so that the accused party may after hearing all be able to prepare himself to answer all that may have been brought against him. I have waited, contrary to my interest, for the second impression of the Star, knowing from past experience that in our ranks democratic though our principles may be, something is generally reserved in the locker to be discharged against the party denounced, even after his defence is concluded, and new charges preferred to which he cannot of course be permitted to reply. I am glad to think that in the Star of February 1st the old ground has only been re-trodden and Mr. Smith a second time introduced on the stage.

I may now therefore safely take up the whole of the matters and try what a relation of facts has to do with mens conviction.

Mr. O'Connor states—"Gentlemen you have heard that I have been extensively charged with high treason by Dr. M'Douall, this fact being spoken to by Mr. J. Leach, as honest, as upright, and as useful a member as ever belonged to the Chartist ranks."

Where did Leach prefer this statement? before a committee by whom he was being tried on the charge of misapplying the public money and at which meeting Mr. O'Connor was present contrary to the wish of the Manchester council. I protested against Mr. O'Connors name, character, or correspondence being introduced until after Leaches case was fairly settled, because I knew that it was Leaches intention to prefer some charge against me concerning O'Connor and because I was fully sensible that Leaches interest lay in setting O'Connor and myself by the ears so that in the confusion of a counter-charge the original question might be lost sight of altogether.

Therefore it was that I contented myself by merely giving a flat contradiction to his assertions and brought the committee back to the real business of the meeting. For the same reason I took no notice of Leaches declaration that O'Connor had told him that I was in the pay of the league in 1842 and that I received money from them. Mr. O'Connor explained and I to show up the attempt of Leach read his written opinion of O'Connor which he wrote when I was in France viz. "The letter of the Dr. has given me great pain He has it is true a right to complain of the way he has been treated and M—— I wish he was the only one that had cause to do so. Such, I am sorry to say is not the case I have been foully and grossly deceived in a quarter I least expected, I read the whole of the letter and O'Connor was there to hear it *read* whilst he only *heard* Leach declare that he had *heard me say* something against O'Connor. Now any man in his senses must know that Leach would find it his best game to alter, amend his story for the ear of O'Connor, as a species of revenge against me.

Everything is based in Leach's word—Is that authority sufficient for impartial men to proceed upon? Leach states that I accused O'Connor of being in the pay of government and that O'Connor accused me of being in the pay of the league. Does Mr. O'Connor after that join issue with Mr. Leach, the honest and upright to ruin me in public estimation? Is it error of judgment or is it design? no matter what it is, to me it is neither fair straitforward nor gentlemanly on the point of O'Connor who says "that for now nearly 6 years I have been Dr. McDoualls friend." Why did not Mr. O'Connor then insist on investigation or after that why address the same meeting with myself? Why could not Mr. O'Connor have demanded from me personally, as I have always demanded from him, an explanation? Why above all things with precipitation launch out his charge in damaged authority thereby causing several localities to be guilty of a gross injustice to me and to the cause. It would be truly laughable to compare the notes of censure in some localities with the numbers present—as laughable as the petition of the three tailors in Tooley street did not the joke assume a most serious aspect when we reflect that the thoughtless condemnation of men by certain bodies involves the character of the whole of the working men as far as understanding, fair play, and principle are concerned—one week I am a Patriot, in eight days I am a traitor, in the estimation of some. Will not the enemy take up that as a proof of fickless, want of reason and justice, and therefore a most powerful argument against the suffrage. I hold Mr. O'Connor responsible for that, because from past experience he well knew what was likely to be the result; at all events a bad beginning in this instance is likely to have a worse ending. Nothing is dearer to man than character, nothing more sacred to a cause than principle. Upon what principle have I been condemned without a hearing by men whose cause I have faithfully advocated for years at every risk and hazard. Is it because I differ with a man or forsake a principle, or is it because in some minds persons and principles are inseparable. O'Connor and I may differ because men are changeable, but if I do differ with O'Connor I am not less a Chartist, nor he a greater one, on that account. I deplore at the same time that I despise irrational censure. I shall now consider the charge preferred—

Leach states that—"Dr. M'Douall told him that O'Connor snapped his fingers and said; "there is no money for you at Manchester." If Mr. O'Connor ever said so to any one it was most assuredly the truth; but Leach represents that I reported Mr. O'Connor as having advised me to publish Leaches delinquency to the world.

Mr. O'Connor on the other hand writes me a note on his return from Sheffield, in which he says "Cleave informs me that Leach says I advised him to spend your money. You may present my compliments, and to that give this answer, never was there a more dastardly lie."

At the very time Leach reports me as making use of the assertion against O'Connor I found it necessary to request from Mr. O'Connor an explanation of certain expressions used by him in Carpenters Hall which Leach reported as having been aimed against me It certainly would be rather a singular course for me to pursue viz that of at the same time abusing a man and demanding an explanation from him for abusing me.

In proof of my declaration I give Mr. O'Connors remarks in answer to my letter "I cannot understand the gist of your note nor am I aware that any portion of it save one requires an answer I mean the communication of your informant as to the terms or some passages of my first speech at Manchester. I can only tell you to convey my respectful compliments to him, whoever he may be and from me say he is a liar" Mr. O'Connor to whom I did not mention the informants name could not know it was Leach, because he remarks in the same letter that he in a lecture given In the benefit of Leach he applauded his gratitude and remarked "those whom he had most served had been amongst his most bitter enemies" but says Mr. O'Connor "I do not think you (myself) have been of that class and therefore my observations had no reference to you"

I make those extracts to show that as far as my character for openness is concerned no man can lay any charge of hypocrisy to my door because I fairly and justly placed before Mr. O'Connor my views therefore if Mr. O'Connor has been aware for 4 years of the artful manner in which he has been denounced such a charge cannot rest at my door, and shall not, unchallenged. I have no secret places, nor private letters and as I shall shortly prove I never left that strait and open course which I have ever pursued towards all in the movement. The next statement of Leach is to the effect that I reported that "O'Connor had sold the Chartist cause at Lancaster to Government and that he had received money for many years from the Government for destroying the Chartist cause"

A pretty charge indeed to make: If true it could never be proved therefore folly if false it could not be disproved therefore mischievous. If I had entertained such opinions O'Connor as he knows well would have been the first to hear of them—In proof—When in France I had reason to believe that some one connected with the denunciation of the executive either was serving the government or wanted to do so, and I frankly said so to Mr. O'Connor. In reply Mr. O'Connor said "That every pang which the mention of my name in the Star had cost me, had cost him a thousand" but he declined he said "taking part in the present contest unless forced into it" now says he "as to your insinuation about Hill and the Government of course you could not make so broad an assertion without authority and I can only say that if your assertion can be proved that my condemnation would not be wanting in exposing such hellish treason"

I have therefore pursued in all cases that course which a manly and gentlemanly feeling would dictate. In the Star denunciation of the executive as well as during the trials, in regard to Mr. O'Connor's speeches, in fact in reference to all and sundry representations, misrepresentations and erroneous opinions I have sent mine strait to O'Connor himself, and generally to him alone.

In two instances alone have I had sufficient reason to be distrustful and disatisfied the first was in reference to Hills denunciation, the second was during the Trials and now a third arises to confirm the impression of the two previous ones—I have always been of opinion that Mr. O'Connor laid himself open to a charge of exciting Hill so long as he had the power, and did not use it, to check him in his career of abuse. I always was of opinion, and the Trials prove it that, a lawyers compromise was made to throw the whole odium of the indictment on my shoulders—Mr. O'Connor denies that he accepted the compromise, although he proves that it was offered. It is enough for me to know that others even my own counsel did act upon it, and said that it was quite usual and professional to throw all on the shoulders of the absent to save the persons of those present. Not being a lawyer I have a different opinion as to its justice, because such heaping on my back of every bodys charges might have been a sentence of perpetual banishment. The case broke down and with it the matter too o compromise and no compromise.

Such I presume is the source from which has sprung the charge of high treason and being in the pay of the government If Mr. O'Connor and Leach can throw any more light on the subject I shall be happy to meet them but as the affair has been made *natural* I shall decline *local* investigation. As it has been made *public* I shall object to *private inquiry*. I shall meet Mr. O'Connor in two places either before a council composed of openly chosen delegates from different parts of the country or in public meeting in Manchester or Leeds, his two strongholds. I shall compel Mr. O'Connor to prove the truth of Leaches assertions and when he does so he will have to answer the charge he is said by Leach to have preferred against me viz that I was in the pay of the league.

I do not care which case comes first or last, O'Connor and the government, or M'Douall and the league, both must be considered and examined or none. We are both I presume ready for trial and both have it appears declined attending all chartist meetings for a time. Let the affair be then settled. It cannot fail to do mischief either way consequently those who started it will find their prudent hopes realised. Before I proceed further I may remark that Mr. Lonsdale who is really all Mr. O'Connor says of him will be able to explain that which Mr. O'Connor makes obscure, and give a meaning where none is to be found now. He will prove the high opinion which I expressed of Mr. O'Connor as a man and as a gentleman as well as the reasons why I entertained a different opinion of him as a Politician. If Mr. Lonsdale declines this Mr. West and others who were present can supply his place.

At the time I spoke to Mr. Lonsdale I knew him to be O'Connor's friend, that was not going round the bush. I also wrote to O'Connor about Mr. Moirs case of pressing my opposition to his views—that surely was open enough and being disatisfied still I neither wrote to spoke to nor saw Mr. O'Connor—that surely does not look like the crawling, sneaking, shoetie licking of some of O'Connors dear friends.

After these events I returned to London where in a short time I received through Mr. Cleave a note from O'Connor requesting to see him. I wish to know the purport the visit Mr. Cleave told me to go and see. I did go when O'Connor said he had heard from Mr. Cleave of my intention to enter into some business and he then voluntarily offered his services. He wished to know how much money would be wanted at the same time saying he had no ready cash. Both Mr. Cleave and myself told him that nothing less than £100 could possibly answer—Mr. O'Connor thought otherwise at least he said he would put his name to a Bill for £50 and give an advertisement 6 months free.

I have had reason to regret that I ever accepted either, because Mr. O'Connor very cooly says I showed you that I had *given him the small sum of £50*.

That is writing for effect with a vengeance and I am not surprised that the effect has been produced amongst men who do not know what a bill is and who never saw one in their lives. The Bill is not yet due consequently Mr. O'Connor has not paid out of his pocket one single farthing of the £50 alluded to.

He may say that he will have to pay it. If he has to do so his denunciation of me is the very way to make me unable to do so; but it would have, at least, been more prudent in Mr. O'Connor to have paid the money first and boasted of it afterwards. No man *thinks* anything of a bill. It is a mere accommodation for the day and a Tory would do for a Whig or a Chartist that which Mr. O'Connor has considered such a great favour for me, without considering that the vote or opinion of either was to be at his disposal.

If such a principle was admitted in society the Jews and money lenders would monopolise the whole of the representation of the kingdom. In regard to the second demand alluded to I remember writing to Mr. O'Connor stating the outlay and informing him that as Mr. Cleave and I had anticipated the £50 would be insufficient. So that no answer was returned nor was one expected.

The next money transaction has reference to Chester Castle. During the height of the agitation I had occasion to sell some property, belonging to me, in Newtonstewart county of Wigton Scotland and when thrown into Prison I found that some delay would ensue in the payment of the balance due. I was in some alarm concerning my home and as the People of Ashton were in my debt for the salary due to me for services in the convention I wrote to my friend and companion Atken stating my position as I could do to him without much circumlocution. I wished to avoid any tax on the People and merely desired accommodation for the time not for myself but for my family. Mr. Atken mentioned the case to O'Connor who instantly offered to get me out of the difficulty by seeing that my family did not want. I immediately wrote to Mr. O'Connor that I would accept of his aid on one condition viz that the loan was to be a private one and was not to affect in the least the independence of my opinions he and I having frequently and materially differed in and out of the convention.

Mr. O'Connor agreed to that and gave his word that all should remain private and unknown as a simple debt How far he has kept his promise his letter can best testify.

The third instance of money matters occurs when I was in France. A committee was appointed to secure me a certain allowance during my absence. I expected a supply with the last boat of the season but none came and during a period of nine weeks I was thrown on my own resources. I wrote to different parties O'Connor amongst the rest. He was the only one that forwarded me any money and that is the only instance, during our six years acquaintance that I ever asked Feargus O'Connor for one farthing of money. Everything else he did of his own accord and whatever thanks I owe him for that I owe it to him as a man, but I owe him no gratitude as a Politician nor shall any money ever secure me or bind down the freedom of my opinion. If I owed Feargus O'Connor any gratitude he has dispelled that by proving that real friendship was not the moving agent in his generosity but vain glorious notoriety. Who regards that charity which is preceded by kettle-drums of sounding self-praise, and followed by a flourish on the trumpet of vanity. There is no generosity, no charity, no praise due, where the end is discovered to be popularity.

Mr. O'Connor expects gratitude therefore he gave his money for a selfish end, for a political advantage, not for personal pleasure. The merit of his actions is then torn away and self adulation assumes the place of generosity. The person served becomes a mere foil to show off the qualifications of the donor and the act is the reflector of huzza-hunting praise-seeking self esteem. Private esteem will always follow charity when buried, public contempt reward charity when boasted—Whatever Mr. O'Connors object may have been his private acts have always ended in political quarrels and he seems to have had considerable ingenuity in fixing upon the objects of his benevolence as every one without exception has found it necessary to remind Mr. O'Connor that however much a man may be personally bound down by circumstances he ought to be politically free and if I am not in error one of the chief ends of the ballot was to protect the debtor from the influence of the jewish money-lender.

Mr. O'Connor boasts of his friendship in advancing me money. He has a peculiar way of showing it because it appears on the face of his charge against me that whilst doing me the greatest service he was at the same time employing his clerk to note down my conversation. He has beside informed me that he has preserved scraps of letters and pieces of conversation, odds and ends of evidence, after the manner of government prosecution who never give the preceeding or succeeding passage of a chartist speech. If Mr. O'Connor brings these friendly reminiscences before any committee I can only say that I have no letters save those which concern money matters and legal affairs. At least my rule is to destroy all others and if any escape, it is more by chance than intention. On the general question at issue no mans lettter or conversation can compromise me as I am fully determined to speak my mind. What is true I shall admit. What is false I shall deny. My Friends I have now I think ran over all the matter at issue and in concluding the subject I may remark that a long and systematic attack has been kept up against me. You remember Hills long continued abuse which recoiled on the originator; you have heard of the private letter writing which I detected and exposed; you have heard of the Executive address which failed in its aim; and now you have O'Connor's charge based on the clear and philosophic grounds of—Feargus O'Connor writes, that Leach said that M'Douall told him—On these grounds O'Connor demands inquiry and a verdict on a case of his own creation—Suppose he acquits himself and condemns me on the evidence of a man particularly interested in doing me a mischief then the People loose one advocate through the machinations of unprincipled men. O'Connor seems afraid of loosing the leadership and Leach takes care to touch him on the tender point of having the movement taken out of his hands. Let me inform both Leach and O'Connor that no man has a right to say, suppose, or aim at having a national movement under individua guidance. The day for kings and subjects, officers and soldiers, Leaders and followers has passed away from the mind at least and intellect and representation occupy their place. The combined energies of a whole People can alone direct our movement and if Mr. O'Connor seeks to stand alone at the helm he must first prove himself the monarch of mind and tell us by what compass he is to guide us, and to what Port he is steering. If we may judge of the future by the past, what from desertion, mutiny, and walking the plank, the ship runs a serious risk of being left to herself and the helmsman. At all events there is no movement and therefore I am astonished at the fears of Mr. O'Connor. He may calm his apprehensions and Mr. Leach lay aside his probe as far as I am concerned because I have resolved to retire altogether or until there are better men and better times. By doing so I remove one cause of jealousy and prevent my name becoming a bone of contention amongst the Chartist ranks. I stated my intention everywhere in Scotland and England therefore Mr. O'Connors letter came a day too late for the van. I have little interest in the verdict which may be given because whichever way the people give it, they only sentence themselves to a loss; but let it be so. I care little about it and if a verdict against me will sooth one who has taken a violent pet I have no objections that my hair be pulled to bring him into a better humour. My Friends, the consolation I have is that I have done my duty and if faction, cabal, private letter writing and denunciation will not permit me to continue in the service It is not my fault as I retire with regret and almost hopeless, at the same time most fervently wishing your speedy perfect and unbounded success, in the attainment of a cause so closely allied with the dearest and best interests of humanity.

I remain though censured and denounced the faithful friend of labour

P. M. McDOUALL.

Mr. O'Connor's letter from the *Star*, detailing the charges, was then read; after which Mr. O'Connor requested the chairman *to give notice* that he (Mr. O'Connor) was there, not only to meet the charges made by Dr. M'Douall, but that any person having anything to urge against him was at liberty to bring charges forward.

One of the Councilmen observed, that M'Douall's letter objected to the authority of the Council, and the writer demanded that the case should be brought before a public meeting.

Mr. Donovan said that Dr. M'Douall might have been present if he would; for the Council had offered to pay the whole of his expenses to attend this investigation. He had also acknowledged the authority of their tribunal, and had himself offered, in his letter from Carlisle, to refer his dispute with Mr. O'Connor to it. They were met for the purpose of entering on the business which had called them together; and they were not to be prevented from doing their duty because Mr. M'Douall thought proper to absent himself. As to the demand for a public meeting, they had nothing whatever to do with it. Their duty was to proceed with the case; and if, after their decision, Mr. O'Connor and Mr. M'Douall thought proper to go before a public meeting, they could do so. The Council had nothing to do with it whatever.

Mr. William Smith said, if there was any person present that had any charge to make against Mr. O'Connor, now was the time.

No one presenting himself,

Mr. O'CONNOR rose and said—Gentlemen of the Council, now is the fitting time for me to state the course that I mean to pursue. You have allowed a latitude to the prosecutor, which under no other circumstance than your desire for a full, free, and searching investigation, would have been tolerated. Making, I presume, allowance for our different positions, you have made a tender of his expenses to the prosecutor, while you have compelled the accused to come and go back, whether guilty or not, at his own expense. Gentlemen, anomalous as such a course is, I do not object to it, because it cuts every ground of complaint from under the prosecutor. Before I enter on the merits of this case, I must give a public answer to many private communications which I have received, expressing regret that I should have thought the charges worthy of investigation; and others, expressing fear that the inquiry may lead to disunion. Gentlemen, if I could be influenced by such representations, the effect must be a tame submission to every slanderer, and a complete surrender of every feeling. As to the constitution of the tribunal to whose jurisdiction the prosecutor now demurs, I shall say a single word. It is not an "innovation," nor is it even a great novelty. The first brief I ever held was for John Lawless, in the case of O'Connell against Lawless, when the latter was charged with having betrayed the interests of the people. The second case which I adduce was that of one Watkins, who was charged with peculation and treachery by a union to which he belonged. O'Brien, Bell, and others were members of the tribunal that tried him; and I was chairman. The next case is that of the late Executive, which was referred to the Chartist delegates of the Sturge Conference in 1842. The next is the case of the memorable Conference that assembled at Manchester in 1842, and which was elected to inquire into all matters in dispute between the Chartist body and the then Executive. Now, gentlemen, such are the "precedents" for such an inquiry as the present; and I shall next apply myself to the necessity of proceeding in cases such as you have now entered into the consideration of. With persons in my situation it is this—either voluntary banishment from your cause, slowly but systematically produced by that impression which unchecked slanders inevitably leads to, or a timely investigation to ascertain their truth or falsehood. Gentlemen, it will be for you to say whether or no the charges are of that magnitude and character to demand any inquiry; and if so, what tribunal other than that emanating from the people, I could appeal to. I have been tried in Ireland and in England; I have been tried by Whigs and Tories; and now I am about to be tried by the Chartists: and in order to place my prosecutor in the very best position that his conduct admits of, you have had read to you his long and rambling letter, sent to the *Star* for insertion, but properly forwarded by the Editor to you; and you must consider it, either as the indictment preferred against me, or in that light in which alone I can view it, as a rigmarole of lying hypocrisy, evasive shuffling, and cowardly slander; not against me, but against James Leach, upon the supposition, no doubt, that the whole of the present case was to rest upon his unsupported testimony. Gentlemen, in Dr. M'Douall's letter, his last letter to the Council, there is a dash of importance, a swagger of the bully, which you will find it difficult to reconcile with his original approval of the tribunal to whom his conduct was to be submitted. In a previous letter it appears that he was ready to proceed; but when he discovers that I am ready to plead, he turns round upon himself and denies your authority, until you have first added the duties of an Executive to your judicial functions. In short, he tells you that he cannot recognize your authority until you have first collected, and sent to him, a balance of money which he *avers is due to him*. Gentlemen, was there ever a more dastardly attempt made to escape that condemnation which he was aware must sooner or later be the penalty of his lying treachery, ingratitude, and deceit? Gentlemen, his long shuffling epistle was evidently written with the intention of damaging the testimony of James Leach; and, however pure and unhurt Leach may have come out of the recent inquiry, and however my opinion of him may be unchanged, yet I frankly admit that I should not, under all the circumstances of the case, have proceeded to public notice upon the mere unsupported testimony of James Leach. But, gentlemen, it so happens that his evidence is now the least important. It certainly may have led in the first instance to a more extensive development of the prosecutor's systematic villany; but now I am prepared to adduce testimony from various parts of England;—testimony unsought for, but all corroborative of that given by James Leach. Gentlemen, I have not come here for the mere purpose of answering the whisperings and the libels of a disappointed gentleman; but I have invited you now, in the thirteenth year of my public service, to make proclamation for any man who has aught to urge against me: and if you can find it in England, you can find it in this room, because I understand that the excitement is as extensive as the publication of the slander, and that nearly every town in Lancashire is here represented by delegates with instructions to bear back your decision. Gentlemen, they must not only hear the decision, but, as you have wisely decided, they must be cognisant of the whole proceedings, and must be satisfied that purity and fair play prevails throughout. Now, gentlemen, suppose that I had not taken notice of the prosecutor's treachery, must not the result have been—first, the destruction of my character; secondly, the destruction of the Executive—as honourable and efficient a public body as ever held office; and lastly, the reward which faction would bestow upon the individual who had thus nerved its arm by destroying the popular opposition which is its most inveterate foe? Gentlemen, can I be valuable to you if I am valueless in my own estimation? And is it not notorious that my influence was being undermined; and if the causes were not checked, would have been destroyed? Let it not be supposed, then, that this is a private inquiry, and one which ought to have been confined to private explanations. Gentlemen, you have already seen, by the flippant denial of every one of the prosecutor's oft-repeated assertions, that the answer that I should have received to any private application would have been an indignant contradiction, while day after day his venom would have been increasing. But what strikes me, and what will doubtless strike you, as the most inconsistent portion of the prosecutor's conduct, is this—he conceives that a matter of private account between himself and James Leach, is of sufficient importance to warrant newspaper publication and public trial, while he doesn't see what you or the public can have to do with the destruction of public character. Gentlemen, when I appeared as a witness in Leach's case, I did not stray from the question, or allow my mind to be biased by the disclosures made by Leach; while I do confess the disgust that I felt at beholding the would-be-gentleman PROSECUTING *the poor industrious man who had actually perilled his existence rather than forsake his friend in exile?* Gentlemen, what could I expect from a jealous vain-glorious man, after his bosom companion, who had worked for him by night and by day, and who had refused to separate his name from a charge brought against M'Douall by Mr. Hill, was made the victim of his wants? *That* was matter of sufficient importance to warrant public exposure, even *after the "debt" had been ten times over paid by me*, and even after the prosecutor himself had told me that on his giving Leach the receipt in full, Leach had offered him all the stock in his shop, and all the property he was possessed of, to pay himself to the last farthing. But, gentlemen, that did not save his former friend: and what had I to expect? I shall now deal *seriatim* with the several passages in the prosecutor's letter. With a cunning peculiar to little minds, the prosecutor would seek to make *himself* the injured party, and says *that he will meet me before a public meeting at Manchester or Leeds to make me prove that he was in the pay of the League*. Now, was ever such petty cunning, such disgusting fabrication? He knows, and the Council that tried the question know, that Leach's answer to my question, as to whether I ever wrote a line or spoke a word derogatory to the character of Dr. M'Douall was, that I had told him that one of my reasons for dismissing Mr. Hill was because he asserted that he had reason to believe, from a statement of a Quaker living near Ashton, that M'Douall was in pay of the League during the sitting of the Conference in 1842 in Manchester; and Leach further added that I always said that I believed M'Douall to be one of the most useful and talented men in our ranks. Now then, what do you think of the man who would thus endeavour to turn my gratuitous support of him into an accusatory charge? Gentlemen, great as is the respect that I entertain for you, I entertain a still higher respect for the right of trial by jury: and I at once admit the right of appeal from your verdict, whatever it may be, to the whole people in public meeting assembled. And in order that both the prosecutor's rights and the ends of public justice may be maintained, I now proclaim my willingness to meet my accuser or accusers on the public platform at Manchester and at Leeds, any time they may enter into proper arrangements for me to do so. Gentlemen, in another passage the prosecutor assures you that upon all occasions of personal difference between him and me he had recourse to personal explanation only; and he instances two cases—the one with reference to something that somebody told him that I had hinted about him, in one of my public lectures at Manchester; and the other bearing upon my letter to Mr. Moir. Now what was the fact—that the two cases were below ridicule—rubbish, rank nonsense: the first of which I answered by telling him that I had something else to do than correspond about a repetition of hints that I never made, and telling him to give my compliments to his informant, and say from me that he was a liar. With reference to the second, Mr. Moir's case, he never wrote me a word about it until he had tried his hand to make it matter of dissension at Huddersfield; and when the honest fellows there rebuked him, aye, and rated him soundly too on the subject, he then wrote to me, intending to anticipate the truth which I was likely to hear. The prosecutor says, that nothing is dearer to man than character. I wish he had thought of that before; and then I shouldn't have been here to-day. But, gentlemen, what follows this piece of untimely sensibility? Why, the most curious admission that ever came from the pen of devil himself, and one upon which he no doubt relied for protection. He asks you "to what *end* the investigation can tend"? "because," says he, "IF ALL MY ALLEGATIONS ARE FALSE, THEY NEVER CAN BE DISPROVED"!! Now, did you ever hear of villany equal to that? A man goes about the country attempting to destroy our cause, and then insolently tells us that he has the protection arising from the *impossibility* of DISPROVING his assertions! Why, gentlemen, HE made his assertions and charges! and it was and is for HIM to prove them, and then it is for me to meet his proofs. But see what a situation he would place his victims in! "I charge you," says he; "and even if my charges are *false* I defy you to DISPROVE them"!!! Gentlemen, he would charge me in this letter with exciting Mr. Hill to denounce him; while the world knows and he himself acknowledges the fact, in a letter which I hold in my hand, that I quarrelled with Mr. Hill upon his account, and upon his account solely. In this letter he thanks me for my defence of him. Gentlemen, he next refers to money matters, and most consistently deals with *credit* as he does with character. It would appear that I forced one pound a week on him while he was in Chester Castle, and that he wrote me a very valiant letter, stating that "his high sense of independence would not allow him to accept it unless it was to be considered as a *private loan*, and was not intended to trammel his opposition to *me*." Gentlemen, to this I can only say that EVERY WORD IS A PURE AND UNMITIGATED FABRICATION. He never wrote me a line on the subject; and it would appear that the gift was lessened in value from the fact of its being cheerfully given without pressing. But it was a "loan;" such a "loan" as mine have always been: for of the thousand such that I have made, I have never received the fraction of a farthing in return: unless, indeed, I am to consider the INDEPENDENT EXERCISE of my debtors' own opinions as payment in full. Indeed, it would appear as though every man who has partaken of my bounty had to prove his "independence" by the amount of abuse that he bestowed in turn. Of course, gentlemen, the money that he wrote for from France, and got too, £15, when he said he had no other friend on earth, was "a loan *forced* on him;" and then the £50, that it would appear I hunted him up and down begging of him to accept, was another "loan;" and one to which he refers in most unfortunate and pitiable terms. In speaking of this "loan," he says it was "ONLY A BILL," and that Mr. O'Connor should have paid it, before he considered it a "*loan*," or before he mentioned it. And then he goes on to say "NOBODY THINKS ANYTHING OF A BILL!" (great laughter)—"*it's a mere thing of accommodation*; and if such an accommodation was to shackle public opinion, the Jews would control all political power." (Renewed laughter.) Gentlemen, I think a great deal of a bill, and a great deal about the bill in question, as Dr. M'Douall very candidly admitted this day fortnight before the Council that tried Leach's case, that mine was the only good name on the bill; and that of course I'd have to pay it. Jews are generally particular to whom they lend money; and I much doubt that a customer who introduced himself as one who thought "nothing of a bill," would receive much grace in their sight. And then, as to not mentioning it until it was paid, I never should have mentioned it at all, had it not been given to cover any damage that Dr. M'Douall might have suffered from the non-payment, or from the postponement of the payment, of the balance claimed from Leach, and had not the receiver of it broken faith with me and Leach. I have given thousands that people have never heard of; and they never would have heard of the £55, the £15, or the £50, all "loans," of course, but for the baseness of the wretch who received them. The prosecutor speaks of my clerk noting down scraps of conversations. Why, gentlemen, the man who is always with me couldn't have done much less when he saw my confidence so shamelessly abused; and what he did say he declares his readiness to swear to. But he did not "note" down scraps of conversation. He saw the infamous attempt of the prosecutor, and he then reminded me of facts to which he was privy, and bore testimony to their truth. With regard to letters, the gentleman says that he keeps no letters. Singular enough that he should have "kept" the only one that he thought would damage Leach. And now, gentlemen, just mark the concluding passage of this thirty-nine sheet letter. He says that he doesn't care what your verdict is; that it can't affect *him*, because he appeals to all the public meetings that he addressed upon his recent tour both in England and Scotland, to prove that he informed them that he had abandoned the Chartist ranks altogether. Now then I ask you, has not this man unwittingly sealed his own condemnation? He makes a tour to announce his abandonment of the Chartist ranks, when Chartism had become too poor to furnish idlers with support: and, determined that the principles shall not survive his desertion, he resolves upon leaving a poison behind which he hoped no antidote would destroy. But, gentlemen, thanks to Providence and to justice, that punishment which sooner or later overtakes delinquency has come upon him before Leach was destroyed — before the Executive was destroyed—before O'Connor was destroyed. If it was my business to defend the Executive in their recent attempt to rescue the cause from this man's malice, could I do so more effectually than he has done in this letter? Had they not a right to be watchful, nay suspicious; and yet although lenient in rebuke, the malcontents would have charged them with precipitancy. Gentlemen, it has been too often the custom to expect a tame submission on my part, whilst the greatest latitude in "denunciation" is allowed to others: but I will bear it no longer. This is not the last piece of persecution to which I am to be subjected; I am to face another battery armed with all the freshness of martyrdom: and you shall know it, and through you the people shall know it; lest I should be expected to remain silent, until in an accumulated form IT too render public inquiry necessary. Gentlemen, I have seen a letter,—not a copy of a letter, but the original letter,—written by Mr. Thomas Cooper of Stafford, signed with his own name, and every word written by his own hand, inviting Mr. Mason and others to join him on his release, in the final overthrow of Feargus O'Connor. This letter, and it is but one of many that have come from the same depôt, breathes the most malignant spirit. It taunts Mr. Mason with backwardness to join in the sacrifice; and expresses an anxious desire to see Dr. M'Douall, in whom the writer has more confidence for the WORK than even Mason and all others beside! Two things this modern regenerator had resolved upon accomplishing on his release: the one might be comparatively easy,—the "final overthrow of O'Connor;" the other is, I fear, somewhat more difficult,—his determination "to get into Parliament and no mistake." (Roars of laughter.)

One of the Council.—Are you acquainted with Cooper's writing, and was the letter in his own hand?

Mr. O'CONNOR.—Yes. Every word was in his own hand-writing. I have received so many letters for money, beginning with "my beloved O'Connor," that I am perfectly acquainted with his hand-writing, though not with his present style. Gentlemen, let me now ask you where is the inducement for man to toil as I have toiled? where the reward for my twelve years' labour in this country? where the prospect of the only remuneration that I ask for, for my future exertions? Is it come to this, that a pettyfogging perambulator is to live upon my resources until he thinks he can make larger profit of public sympathy than private charity? Is all that I have done, and all that my struggling family have suffered for the regeneration of your order, to fade and be forgotten, before the pigmy breath of a new-born redeemer? one whose every track since his return from France has been marked by a littleness of mind corresponding with the magnitude of malevolence? What! is it come to this, that I and fifty-seven others were to jeopardise and peril our very lives rather than hurt a hair of this ungrateful man's head? and, as if enough had not already been done, the man the most guilty, if there was "guilt" at all—after a tour of pleasure, through which he was supported by *my* purse and the contributions of others, and through whose exertions he escaped punishment and might have received applause, now tells us that "he has been compromised at Lancaster"—that "he has been sold to the Government:" but, gentlemen, he fails to tell you that the PRICE of that compromise has been complete impunity!! Is there not something too ridiculous to admit of argument in the notion of *escape* from serious charges being advanced as the terms of compromise? Ah! gentlemen, it is ever thus with the "gentlemen" in your ranks; they suck you till you are dry, and then proclaim their "grievance" if they cannot get their own price for your withered carcases! What is proof of honour and integrity? Is it a willingness to stand before public opinion, boldly to meet every charge, or is it to be found in the dissemination of falsehood, and a shrinking on the day of trial? Is it in having come to you a rich man, and standing before you now as a poor man? Is it in having incurred the rancorous hatred of all, save labour's sons? Is it to be found in over-confidence and generosity? If so, I do merit your confidence; but if, on the other hand, you look to the swaggering bully, to the unmethodised declaimer, who measures his policy by his wants; who has enthusiasm for the enthusiastic, declamation for the ignorant, slander for the eves-dropper, and "sacrifices" for the generous and confiding, then, gentlemen, I am not the man worthy of your confidence. But if character is of value, and if its value is enhanced by coming from an interested party, let me call the prosecutor into court, and he shall speak for me even after he had received his documentary evidence establishing my criminality. Gentlemen, listen to this passage: "I shall have no nonsense this time, with drums and rags, unless the people are determined to kick up a row: and in that case I shall not march WITH ANY ONE OF THE TROOP EXCEPT YOURSELF! I want no Collins and White. I had enough of that folly." That letter commences "my dear friend," as it acknowledges the receipt of money. Now then, gentlemen, if I stood in need of evidence to character, where could I find more conclusive? I abstain from reading any portion of this extensive correspondence which I hold in my hand, though it would astonish you. I abstain, because even yet I value it as private; nor should I have read that one sentence, was it not strictly in point. Gentlemen, I have now done. I have only further to add that I have never written a line to one of the Council—that I do not know five men upon it: that I have catered for no evidence, except what chance threw in my way; that I thus give a practical proof of my respect for public opinion, while my innocence emboldens me to rely on the only decision that you can give, which will be a verdict not only of acquittal,—for it appears I am charged with nothing,—but an opinion as well as to the conduct of the prosecutor. I shall simply rely on such evidence as I shall adduce in support of the charge of reckless and extensive slander, propagated by the prosecutor for malicious and evil purposes; and as you cannot swear the several witnesses, I shall propose as a substitute the following declaration:—"I declare, on my honour, as an honest man, that I will tell the truth, the whole truth, touching this inquiry; and that and I will true answers give to such questions as may be put to me."

Mr. James Leach was called, and stated as follows:—Dr. M'Douall told me that Mr. O'Connor had sold the trial at Lancaster to Government. That he was leading the people astray; and had been in close connection with the Treasury Benches for years. He said that his informant was an officer of some standing, belonging to the English Government, whom he met in Paris. He further added that the Chartist movements were all known by Government, who received their reports from a number of men connected with the body, at the head of whom was Feargus O'Connor; *and that in Manchester every step we took was known by the authorities as soon it was taken; that Mr. Abel Heywood, of Oldham-street, was one agent, and the other was Mr. Jas. Wheeler, who went to the police office, and reported twice a day.* He (Mr. Leach, knew that after what had taken place, they of course would not think his testimony of much weight; but they would remember that he had told Dr. M'Douall to his face, and he did not deny it. Had he done so, there were plenty in the room at that time who could have corroborated what he had said. He did not see them present on this occasion; but if Mr. Charles Taylor was present, he could tell them much. However, if they wanted evidence, they had but to ask for it in Todmorden, Halifax, Leeds, Huddersfield, Bolton, Hebden Bridge, and other places.

By Mr. O'CONNOR.—Were there other persons present when these statements were made?—That part concerning the Government officer in Paris was told to me alone in the Grove Inn, on the road to Kersal Moor; the other part was said in company.

Did M'Douall tell you that it was my wish that he should denounce you?—He did.

Did M'Douall tell you that I sent him two letters to France denouncing you?—He did; and said when he left Manchester that he would send them by the first post. After his first letter in the *Star* I wrote for them, when, in reply, he said I did well first to "blackguard" him and then ask for a favour; that *he had* the letters, but would not send them. He also said that when he came to Manchester he would bring them with him. He, however, did not do so.

Mr. O'Connor.—No, he could not, for he never had them. No such letters were ever sent; and the Council will bear in mind that, when I appeared before them before, I asked M'Douall if I had ever sent him such letters, and he said I never did.

Mr. W. Butterworth called. He remembered the time Dr. M'Douall came to Manchester after coming from France; and from statements which he made to me, I thought Mr. O'Connor was a rascal. I knew Leach's circumstances; I knew that he was a poor, but honest man. When I met the Doctor, I knew that Leach was not able to pay him. I asked him what he intended to do in Leach's case? He said, "nothing; he would not so much as speak about it, for the purpose of disappointing O'Connor." In fact, he said, that Feargus O'Connor had sent him (M'Douall) to Manchester to damn Leach, and that O'Connor expected that Manchester was in a blaze about it by that time. He did not recollect him saying that Mr. O'Connor was in the pay of the Government. He saw the Doctor have two letters; they were on the table of the room in which the Doctor and himself were sitting; and such was the impression which the statement of M'Douall had made on his mind, that he believed it to be true, and that Mr. O'Connor was a very bad man.

In answer to Mr. Donovan: He did not read the letters. Could not say whether they were in the hand-writing of Mr. O'Connor. In fact, he did not read above a line of them. The impression on his mind, produced from what the Doctor said, was, that they came from O'Connor, denouncing Leach.

Mr. Donovan said his reason for asking those questions was, that the Doctor at the last examination denied ever having received such letters from Mr. O'Connor.

Mr. Gray was examined and declared that he had never heard M'Douall state anything disparaging to the character of Mr. O'Connor.

Mr. O'Connor said: This will be the proper time to hand in the evidence of Mr. Hewitt of London. He put in the statement of that gentleman, which was published with Mr. O'Connor's letter of the 26th January, 1845.

The following letters and documents were then handed in, as evidence.

NO. I.

Millwood, near Todmorden, Feb. 7, 1845.

My Dear Leach,—This is the first time that I ever took pen in hand to write anything concerning any man connected with our movement; but as the Council of Manchester are to sit on Sunday next, concerning the Doctor and O'Connor, I think it my duty to acquaint them with one or two facts. If you think they will be of any service, you can lay them before the Council. The first time M'Douall lectured at Todmorden, after he came from exile, about the beginning of last summer, he told me that he had good authority to prove that Mr. O'Connor had offered to sacrifice him for his own liberty and the liberty of his brother conspirators; and that he would make him smart for it yet. The last time the Doctor was at Todmorden he told me and several others that he had learned something by the committee of inquiry in Manchester. That Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Roberts, and the Attorney-General had an interview with each other when they were at Lancaster, and that the Attorney-General wanted them to let him lay his hands on the Doctor, but O'Connor would not. He then said that it so far proved that there had been a compromise offered, but it did not prove a something else that he (the Doctor) knew. So you see there is something more to come out by-and-by.

I am, &c., yours in the cause,
ENOCH HORSFALL.

* NOTE by the Editor.—The writer seems to have a very confused notion of his own position in relation to this said letter. It was addressed to *us*, and was therefore, when delivered to us, "*ours*" to all intents and purposes, to be dealt with as we should deem fitting. This is accordant with reason and common sense; and the law of the land is founded on that plain and just principle. No man, not even the most powerful in the land, can lawfully obtain possession of a letter he has written, when once it has passed from his hands into the post-office. It is an offence punishable with a heavy fine for a post-master to deliver up to a writer any letter that he may have confided to his charge, no matter for what purpose, or how important soever the occasion to him for which he may require it. And this is on the just principle, that the letter is, when once out of the hands of the writer, no longer his property, but the property of the party to whom it is addressed. Precisely so in this case; and therefore the "demand" of Dr. M'Douall to the Manchester Council, that they should "return" what neither belonged to him nor them, was either dictated by profound ignorance of social duties and the amenities of life, or by assurance as impudent as it was glaring. The letter was sent by us [not by Mr. O'Connor, as Dr. M'Douall states] to the Manchester Council, with a note intimating *why* it was sent, and a direction that when it had been read before them at the investigation determined on, it should be returned to us, to whom it belonged. It was not without reason that we so sent it. We saw through the trick which it was attempted to make us a party to; and we properly foiled it, by sending the document to be first used by those who had determined to investigate into the charges which that document pretended to explain away. Now we publish it, every word, excepting the P.S., which relates solely to another and different party, and another and different affair—the Glasgow proceeding. We publish it just as received—making in it neither alteration, addition, nor omission, other than the one just mentioned. Such as it is, we leave it to speak for itself.

(Continued in our seventh page.)

(*Concluded from our sixth page.*)

NO. II.

Dr. M'Douall told me, two days after his return from France, that he had been informed by a Government officer in Paris, that Feargus O'Connor had sold the Chartists at Lancaster to the Government, and that he was in the pay of the Government; and the same story was repeated to me in many places, and by different persons in towns where Dr. M'Douall had been lecturing, as having been circulated by him:—

CHRISTOPHER DOYLE.

NO. III.

Dr. M'Douall made the same statement to me at the same time.

THOMAS CLARK.

NO. IV.

Extract of a letter from Mr. D. Ross, of Leeds, to a friend in London.

Leeds, February 4th, 1845.

My Dear Sir,—Dr. M'Douall has undertaken to play the despot with a vengeance. *Every misfortune that has befallen Chartism since 1842, may justly be attributed to* HIM; and now, by way of compensation, since his return from France, he has done little but go about like a destroying angel, spreading dissentions and fomenting divisions. In fact, he told me, in the autumn of last year, what he would do; and he has faithfully kept his word. What the Glasgow secretary has since charged him with, he *then* told to me, with many other things equally base, which I will prove to his cost when I am so fortunate as to obtain an opportunity of doing so.

I am, respectfully yours,
DAVID ROSS.

It may be well to explain here that the statements which Dr. M'Douall denies as having made were heard by Mr. Doyle and Mr. Clark some time before the Doctor visited Manchester, and consequently before Leach and him had an opportunity of meeting.

After hearing the whole of the evidence the Council retired to their room. During their absence Mr. Lowe was examined, and declared that he had never heard Dr. M'Douall state anything injurious to O'Connor's character.

In about half an hour, the Council returned, when the chairman said they had come to an unanimous decision, which was as follows:—

"That we, the Council of Carpenters' Hall locality of the National Charter Association, having heard the evidence given by Mr. Leach, Mr. Butterworth, and the statements made by Feargus O'Connor, as well as the letters from Enoch Horsfall, of Todmorden, David Ross, of Leeds, Christopher Doyle, Thomas Clarke, and William Hewitt, of London; and having also heard read the letters of Dr. M'Douall, in which he denies the principal statements attributed to him by the other gentlemen; from that evidence we are fully satisfied that Dr. M'Douall did make use of the expressions and utter the statements attributed to him; and, bound as we are by that evidence to believe such expressions and statements to be false and malicious, we are of opinion that Dr. M'Douall has forfeited the confidence of the Chartist body, and is henceforth undeserving of their trust. And we, the Council, deem Mr. O'Connor fully exonerated from all the charges that have been brought against him; and are of opinion that he is entitled to the continued and unreserved confidence of the Chartists of Great Britain and Ireland.

"Signed, on behalf of the Council,
"THOMAS RANKIN, Chairman."

Manchester, Feb. 9th, 1845.

Resolved,—"That a report of these proceedings, including the above resolution, be published in the *Star* of Saturday next."

After the Council had reported, Mr. Pullen desired to say a word. From the representations made to him by Dr. M'Douall, whom he thought the honestest man in the country, he believed Mr. O'Connor to be the worst and most dangerous villain in the world. From those representations he was induced to abandon the Chartist movement altogether, and to become a member of M'Douall's Committee. Now, however, he had changed his opinion of both parties, and looked upon O'Connor as an injured, honest man.

One of the Council.—Then, Mr. Pullen, are you prepared to take out your card, and join again?

Mr. Pullen.—Yes, certainly, I am. (Vociferous cheering).

Mr. Charles Taylor, treasurer to the M'Douall fund, was not in Manchester at the time of the inquiry; but on his arrival, having heard of the evidence of Mr. Lowe, he stated that, after the investigation in Leach's case, and after M'Douall's denial of Leach's assertions as to the "denunciation" of O'Connor, he (Taylor) walked home in company with Lowe, when Lowe remarked that he never was so much disgusted, or thought so meanly of any man, as he did of Dr. M'Douall; for he had heard him over and over again state the very same things with reference to O'Connor in several companies; and that he (Taylor), if present, could have proved that M'Douall had frequently made the same charges with respect to O'Connor's selling the Chartists; and, further, that M'Douall stated that he had ample documentary evidence in his possession to prove the facts. M'Douall further stated that there was a viper in the ranks, gnawing the very vitals of the movement (meaning thereby Mr. O'Connor); and that he (M'Douall) was the only man that could destroy him, and that he would do so.

At the close of the proceedings Mr. O'Connor said: I have had the honour of recognizing one of my old Lancaster companions; and to leave nothing unanswered, I shall now examine as respectable a working man as ever breathed, with respect to my conduct at Lancaster, Mr. Crossley.

Mr. O'Connor.—Mr. Crossley, will you have the kindness to state to the Council the impression you received of my conduct throughout the trial at Lancaster? Was there anything calculated in my cross-examination, my speech, or any part of my conduct to create doubt or suspicion in your mind? or did you think that I attempted to save myself at the expense of other parties?

Mr. Crossley.—No, certainly not, quite the reverse. I thought you seemed to feel for every one as much, if not more, than yourself.

Mr. O'Connor.—I shall now examine Mr. Leach. Mr. Leach, will you have the kindness to answer the same questions?

Mr. Leach.—Why, its all nonsense: the question just lies here. Mr. O'Connor and Mr. Roberts pitched upon the men that should speak in defence, and had counsel for others; and the men that were selected to speak were chosen for fear the ignorance of others of the law might lead them to say something that would criminate Dr. M'Douall, as we knew that if *he* and O'Connor got off we should all get off.

Mr. O'Connor.—Gentlemen, I have now sifted all; there never was a more glorious triumph than the Lancaster triumph, which one reprobate would mar by trying to make a grievance out of nothing. As to the interview alluded to, with the Attorney-General, you will take my word and honour for it that neither Mr. Roberts or myself ever laid eyes on him, except in court; in fact, I am at a loss to comprehend the meaning of such systematic villany as is developed in the revelations made here to-day: and now, thanking you for your patient investigation, I have thought it my duty by this further evidence to strengthen the value of your verdict.

It is right to state that several of Dr. M'Douall's most intimate friends were on the Council, while the majority of the witnesses who were examined had actually been induced to abandon the Chartist cause by M'Douall's representations. Mr. Redfearn, one of the Council, had actually offered to establish him in business in Manchester.

When the decision of the Council was read, it was received with the most rapturous applause; and the several delegates present instantly started to communicate the result in their several localities. Never did Mr. O'Connor receive such a rapturous welcome as when he entered the Carpenters' Hall in the evening. The impression upon every mind is, that this inquiry will tend to give increased confidence in the really honest, and will cause a reorganisation of our ranks.

LONDON.

METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL, February 9th; Mr. Milne in the chair.—It was unanimously resolved "That the Executive committee be requested to reply to the slanders of the *Weekly Dispatch*, contained in this day's number." After some other business the council adjourned.

HAMMERSMITH.—A public meeting was held at the Ship Tavern, Bridge-road, on Tuesday evening, Feb. 11th, for the purpose of hearing Mr. P. M'Grath deliver a lecture on the principles of Free Trade as applicable to the wealth producers. Mr. H. Cullingham was called to the chair, and in a neat speech opened the business of the evening. Mr. M'Grath then rose and clearly shewed the great evils that must arise from the adoption of the Free Trade principle under present circumstances. This able lecture was greatly applauded throughout. At the conclusion of the lecture an animated discussion ensued, in which Messrs. Porter, Stallwood, Smith, H. Ross, and others took part. Mr. M'Grath eloquently replied. A vote of thanks was then unanimously awarded to the lecturer. Mr. M'Grath responded, and the meeting dispersed.

SOMERS TOWN.—On Sunday evening last, Mr. T. Clark delivered an able and instructive lecture on Labour and Capital, at Mr. Duddridge's, Bricklayers' Arms, Tonbridge-street. An unanimous vote of thanks was awarded to the lecturer.

YORKSHIRE.

WEST RIDING DELEGATE MEETING.—This meeting was held, pursuant to notice, in the Working Man's Hall, Halifax, on Sunday, the 9th inst, when the following places were represented:—Bradford, Littletown, Huddersfield, Wakefield, Halifax, Birstall, Hebdenbridge, Dewsbury, and Lockwood. Mr. T. Cole was elected to the chair. The secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which on the motion of Mr. Sutcliffe, seconded by Mr. Shaw, were confirmed. The following sums were then handed in:—Bradford, Executive 6s. 3d., levy 3s. 2d.; Mrs. Ellis, 7s. 2d.; Halifax, Executive 7s. 6d., levy 1s. 6d.; Dewsbury, Executive 1s. 8d., levy 10d.; Hebdenbridge, Executive 7s., levy 3s.; Littletown, Executive 1s. 6d., levy 9d.; Birstall, Executive 7d., levy 3½d.; Huddersfield, levy 2s.; Lockwood, Executive 1s. 5d., levy 1s. 6d. Among others the following resolutions were carried unanimously:—"That we, the delegates representing the various localities in the West Riding of the county of York, do hereby express our entire confidence in the integrity of Feargus O'Connor, Esq., despite the foul calumnies directed against him by base cowards, who envy the popularity his virtues have acquired for him; and we also express our confidence in the other members of the Executive. Further, we tender our warmest thanks to the Manchester Council for the just and impartial manner in which they have sifted the charge of M'Douall against Mr. Leach; and we trust that the General Council will always have the moral courage to root out traitors whenever and wherever found." "That we approve of the resolution of the South Lancashire delegates in favour of bringing out a Chartist hymn-book, which is very much wanted."

OLDHAM.

LECTURE.—On Sunday last Mr. J. H. Taylor delivered a very interesting lecture on the "life, writings, and genius of Robert Burns," in the Chartist-room, Greaves-street. The lecturer commenced by giving a biographical sketch of the poet's life from youth to manhood, reciting a variety of his poems in true Scotch idiom, in which were exemplified a genius unexampled at such an early period of life. The lecturer gave general satisfaction.

MACCLESFIELD.

LECTURE.—On Sunday evening Mr. West delivered a lecture in the Chartist-room, Stanley-street, to a numerous and attentive audience. The subject of the lecture was the Queen's Speech, which Mr. West dissected in his usual lucid and forcible manner. At the conclusion an interesting conversation took place on the subject of education, which was highly instructive. Macclesfield bids fair to be soon "up to the mark."

Agriculture and Horticulture.

MANUAL OF FIELD GARDENING: OR, BELGIAN AGRICULTURE MADE EASY. London: Simpkin and Marshall. Huddersfield: Kemp.

Such is the title of a valuable little work which has just issued from the press. It is a daily record of the *actual* workings on four small garden-farms, lying several miles distant from each other, near Eastbourne, in Sussex. It may be depended on as containing a correct report *of the methods of cultivation* adopted by numerous garden farmers upon the estates of Mrs. Davies Gilbert. The farms selected as models are, *1st.* That of the *Willingdon School*, conducted by G. Cruttenden, who occupies, in addition to the school-house, five acres of land at the usual farmer's rent. He is assisted by from five to twenty little boys, who, paying each one penny per week, receive instruction in reading, writing, and arithmetic, from nine till twelve in the morning, and in the afternoon help him in return with his farm-labours and stall-feeding, from three till six o'clock. This place, adjoining the village of Willingdon, is delightfully situate, on one of the slopes declining from the Chalk Downs. It is in view of the English Channel, which, with the Martello towers along the coast as far as the eye can reach, form a striking scene. The place exhibits neatness and order without the least display. *2nd.* That of the *Eastdean School*, near Beachy Head, conducted by John Harris, who holds five acres of land in addition to the school, where about the same number of boys are trained to mental and agricultural pursuits. *3rd.* That of *Jesse Piper*, which is a private farm, higher up the Down than the school at Eastdean, of four acres. He is partly employed as an overlooker with other work, but cultivates his plot two or three days per week, assisted by a boy, and an occasional man. He was lately examined by the committee of the House of Commons on the Allotment question. *4th.* That of *John Dumbrell*, at Jevington, or near to it, also a private farm of six acres, who is assisted in its cultivation by his father, seventy years of age, in addition to which he keeps a little village shop; he also was examined before the same committee. Jevington is situate about four miles from Beachy Head, and is sequestered deep in a vale amongst the chalk hills. In general the soil of these farms is formed from the disintegration of the chalk rock which is close below the surface, or of alluvial mould swept into the valleys; the colour of it is whiter than is quite agreeable to the eye, and evidently must owe much of its fertility to the labours of man or the mildness of the climate.

This diary has been deduced from returns ingeniously contrived by T. Thynne, Esq., steward to the Earl of Dartmouth, for the guidance of the model farmers, established by him at Slaithwaite and Lingards, near Huddersfield, in Yorkshire; and it is now published by the benevolent John Nowell, of Farnley Tyas, near Huddersfield, as a guide to the workers and promoters of agricultural improvements elsewhere.

In addition to the diary the work is interspersed with "Notes and Observations" applicable to each time and season where they are introduced. These notes contain a fund of information on the best mode of securing, preparing, and applying manures, and on many other matters essential to the success of the small-farm project, in which question Mr. Nowell, though a Whig, takes a deep and even enthusiastic interest: for in *that* question alone he sees the salvation of the country from impending destruction. He has issued his work, he says, "to assist those kind-hearted, generous men in their labours of love for the benefit of human kind; those who, in their endeavours to improve society, wish to procure for every country cottage in Britain 'its rood of land,' and to maintain a fair remuneration for the labour of its inmates; those who, in encouraging better cultivation, wish to restore a sunken yeomanry to comfort and happiness; those who, by promoting the closer union of the two twin sisters, agricultural and manufacturing industry, are wishful to benefit both master and workmen; to assist those, above all, who, in endeavouring to unite physical and mental training in schools of industry, are desirous of ensuring the future happiness and security of their country."

So convinced are we of the invaluable use of the diary here made public, that we shall *weekly* insert from the pages of Mr. Nowell's work, that portion relating to the week following the publication of our journal. We shall thus be affording to the workers on small farms a guide for their operations; for the arrangement of the diary is such as to show the nature of the work that was engaged in during *each day*, by the parties whose operations are recorded, and whose success in their plans has been most eminent: so much to some of them as to obtain the prizes offered by the Earl of Dartmouth for the most successful cultivation. In doing this we know that we shall not be giving cause of complaint to Mr. Nowell; for in publishing his book he has not an eye to individual profit. He has issued it to aid in extending a knowledge of the inestimable blessings that *can* be secured to this nation from a proper application of labour to the soil; and in carrying out the intention expressed above, we know that he will consider us as aiding him in his benevolent labours. With mere book-makers for profit's sake we should not have dared to take such a liberty: with Mr. Nowell,—a man who has devoted his time, his energies, and no inconsiderable amount of money to the bringing of the question of spade husbandry and small farms before the public,—our motives and intentions will be appreciated and thankfully acknowledged.

The two first extracts we give relate to the nature, structure, and component parts of plants, or vegetables. They will greatly assist the reader to understand the discussion on the nature and benefits of the different species of manure now going on:—

ANALOGY BETWEEN PLANTS AND ANIMALS.—["The chief art of agriculture depends upon the collection and future application of all those manures which are essential to vegetation."]—Plants are formed of roots and leaves. The roots absorb from the earth liquid food into the system. It is modified in their leaves by a peculiar process. One part of such food is retained, the other is expelled. Plants differ from animals in containing no internal sack or stomach. In the animal the food is taken into the stomach, is acted upon by certain juices there, and converted into a semi-fluid mass called "chyme." It passes into the intestines, is absorbed from the grosser food by the "lacteals," is refined and goes into the veins as "chyle," and is mixed with the blood. After passing through the lungs, and becoming *decarbonated*, it is then changed into blood, which contains materials for the nourishment of all parts of the system. In different parts of the body are certain glands, as the liver and kidneys, which may be compared to pipes and strainers. They secrete or separate certain substances from the blood, which are carried off as being no longer necessary to nutrition. These, as well as the superfluous portions of food not necessary to the formation of "chyle," are discharged as excrements. In plants, the stomach is the earth, the roots are the "lacteals," the sap is the "blood." The plant-stomach, or the earth, furnishes the food of plants in a gaseous or fluid state; for solids cannot enter them. It is taken up by the roots. The "energy of life" in the plant can separate from heterogeneous mixtures the elements carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, which are its principal food. These are furnished by carbonic acid, water, carbonate of ammonia from rain-water and decaying animal matter, &c. There are other substances required by plants. The sea plants require iodine and common salt as condiments. The reed tribe requires silex and other substances; but every tribe exercises its peculiar choice. That important element, nitrogen, is present only in certain organic substances in plants, but enters largely into the composition of animal matter. The chemist can combine the elements oxygen, nitrogen, hydrogen, or separate them by the aid of his art in a few instances. But the plant, surpassing his skill, is in itself a wonderful chemical machine, can exceed all his efforts, and alone can combine these elements into organic compounds. Manure put into the earth, or *plant-stomach*, in a *raw* state, must be first digested there, as food is digested in the stomach of animals. The digestive process is putrefaction, fermentation, decomposition. Thus organic matter is restored to inorganic, and fitted for assimilation by plants—those beautiful engines or laboratories of vegetation!! Vegetables organise inorganic matters. They are the food of domestic animals, and these the food of man. In the substance, then, or the excretions of man and animals must be the elements requisite for the food of plants, and the collection and proper application of them the primary object of agriculture.

THE ECONOMISING OF MANURE, MAN'S DUTY AND INTEREST.—["There shall be no idleness in my dominions; for if there be one man idle some other man must suffer cold or hunger. My villages shall be cleaned, that the corn may grow."—*Chinese Emperor.*]—We may already advert to what will hereafter be strikingly exemplified, in the practice of small farmers, that their care must be incessant in the collection and preservation of every kind of refuse and excrementitious matter, whether solid or fluid, or however offensive may be its nature, for purposes of future utility. And here we cannot fail to be struck with those hidden causes which lead mankind imperceptibly, as it were, into habits and practices necessary to the existence of our species. In the processes of the animal economy, whereby life is sustained, there are formed, separated, and voided from the animal organism, substances endowed with qualities so offensive to our senses, particularly to the sense of smell, that we are compelled to get rid of them, and which require of man that he shall put them away, or bury them forthwith, out of his sight in our common parent, the earth. The penalty for the utter neglect of this duty would be famine, pestilential disease, and a train of human ills. Nevertheless, in these things, thought to be so utterly vile and offensive in their nature, are contained "pearls of great price," indeed above any price; which, if husbanded and duly commingled with the earth he cultivates, are the means of sustaining life by the production of the food he consumes. Let us not then say that the fungus is alone peculiar to the dunghill, without remembering that our own existence depends upon the same elemental matter derived from that humble source. How necessary then it is, that men and nations should attend to an object of such primary importance to their existence!! How deep the obligation we are under to attend to the economising of all the manures created near our abodes as one of the first of duties!

We next give the Diary of

FIELD-GARDEN OPERATIONS FOR THE WEEK commencing Monday, February the 19th, 1844.

MONDAY—*Willingdon School.* Boys digging wheat stubble. *Eastdean School.* Boys digging two spits deep for carrots, and manuring from the pigstye mixen. *Piper.* Digging. *Dumbrell.* Putting tank liquid to rye grass, digging.

TUESDAY—*Willingdon School.* Boys digging wheat stubble. *Eastdean School.* Boys emptying the liquid manure tank of the piggery, applying it to the ground for mangel wurzel, &c. *Piper.* Sowing peas. *Dumbrell.* Digging.

WEDNESDAY—*Willingdon School.* Boys digging wheat stubble. *Eastdean School.* Wet weather, boys thrashing, picking, sorting, platting straw. *Piper.* Emptying the tank. *Dumbrell.* Digging.

THURSDAY—*Willingdon School.* Very wet, boys in school. *Eastdean School.* Drawing manure to the mixen, for potatoes, digging for carrots, and spreading cowshed tank liquid upon it. *Piper.* Cleaning barley. *Dumbrell.* Collecting mould.

FRIDAY—*Willingdon School.* Very wet, boys in school. *Eastdean School.* Boys thrashing, and cleaning oats, trussing straw, sorting potatoes. *Piper.* Collecting flint stones, to mend roads at a future time. *Dumbrell.* Digging.

SATURDAY—*Willingdon School.* Boys digging wheat stubble. *Eastdean School.* Boys emptying pails, getting turnips, cleaning up the pigs, and school room, and to the mill with oats to grind. *Piper.* Removing potatoes within doors. *Dumbrell.* Digging, collecting mould.

COW-FEEDING.—*Willingdon School.* Cows living on Swede turnips and straw.—*Piper's.* Feeding on carrots, with straw once a day, and hay once.—*Dumbrell's.* One cow stall-fed with turnips, mangel wurzel, and straw. A cow and heifer fed with turnips, carrots, and straw.

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS.

PEAT COMPOST.—The Rev. W. Rham recommended the following compost:—one ton peat ashes, one cwt. soot, one cwt. of lime, one cwt. of common salt, 14lbs saltpetre; to be mixed well together. It has been tried by J. Bamford, of Slaithwaite, and found very beneficial, when applied to artificial grasses of the second year.

POTASH COMPOST.—["The meanest things fulfil most useful purposes."]—The following method of collecting the potash, &c., from kitchen slops, has been found to answer satisfactorily. A pit was formed in a garden, about two yards square, and two feet deep, bottomed with puddled clay and roughly paved. In the summer time, or dry weaher, it is filled with loose, porous mould, yard sweepings, &c. The water from the sink is led beneath its surface, through and over all parts of the mould, by a temporary drain of loose stones. The dry mould imbibes the fluid, and evaporation from its surface withdraws part of it, leaving the remainder moderately concentrated. This may be further promoted by sowing seeds of such plants upon the spot as love *potash*, they will grow there with great luxuriance, and increase the evaporation from beneath. The contents are removed about twice a year, allowed to dry in the sun, and then composted with lime, and sometimes with a further quantity of *potash* from the shops, turned over frequently, and after some months, mixed up with other ingredients recommended by Professor Johnstone, as forming a good and cheap manure for potatoes; or it is used instead of coal-ashes for making domestic guano.

EARTH AND ANIMAL MATTER COMPOST.—["There is not an atom of matter in creation, but has its uses."] Do not lose a scrap of decayed animal substance of any kind; blood, old rags, cropper's flocks, engine-waste, willy-dust. Gather up all such things as may be offensive in their decay; and when divided work them up together with mould into a heap. Let it remain for a year, to be fully decomposed, turning it over several times. The watering of a mass of this kind with soap-suds, or scourings from a cloth-mill, will much increase its value. Very striking and long-continued effects from the application of such a compost upon meadow land, are frequently witnessed in a manufacturing district. The action of such substances in their undecomposed state is very slow, and in some cases almost negative, as many must have witnessed.

RESERVOIR DEPOSITS.—The deposit at the bottom of reservoirs and stagnant pools, when it can be procured, will prove invaluable in making various composts. The owners of mills ought not to permit these things to be lost, but have them composted up with quick lime. They would be well repaid for their trouble.

GUANO, AS COMPARED WITH OTHER MANURES.—INQUIRY INTO THE SOURCE OF CARBON IN VEGETATION.—[In a recent number of the *Star* we inserted a letter signed "H. Davis," in which the writer contended that guano as a manure must act as an exhauster of the soil, inasmuch as it did not supply back to the land the elements of vegetation in sufficient quantity to compensate for the amount abstracted by the growing crops; he also compared the respective values of guano and the ordinary farm-yard manures, contending that the latter were much preferable, as they gave back to the soil much more of carbon and other elements of plants than guano did. The following letter has appeared in answer to the positions of Mr. H. Davis: and we insert it, because calculated to impart just notions of a very important feature of vegetable economy, the elimination or formation of the large quantity of carbon which forms so considerable a portion of all vegetable substances.]—Sir,—having observed in your number of January 26th a letter of Mr. H. Davis, with regard to the use of guano, I take the liberty of offering a few remarks upon it, as I think the sentiments which it expresses are calculated to be injurious to agriculture. The principal error consists in supposing that plants derive the greatest proportion of their substance from the soil. On many farms, in excellent cultivation, and which have been in an improving condition for years, the only artificial manures which have been used have been bones, or other substances equally light and portable, which could only equal in weight a small proportion of the grain sold, and of the elements of vegetation lost during the fermentation of the manure; and yet it has been proved, in thousands of instances, that farms, for the improvement of which such manures have been the only foreign ones purchased, have steadily and rapidly progressed in condition. Indeed, it is to such manures, to bones, to guano, to night soil, to ashes, to nitrate of soda, and similar substances, that we must in a great measure look for the general improvement of agriculture. Supposing any person buys a larger quantity of the litter formed in large towns than could have been produced from the straw of his own farm, he must do it at the expense of other lands. Such a proceeding may improve the condition of a single farm, but cannot increase the general produce of the kingdom. To deal justly by all lands, every farmer should take back in the form of litter and stock excrements no more than could be made from the produce of his farm, and in that case it would be *impossible* to return to the soil a ton of manure, or anything near it, for every ton of crop reaped. The principal object of the farmer's solicitude should be to supply to the soil ammoniacal manures, and the inorganic elements of plants, or those substances which form their ashes. The largest proportion of the elements which constitute the great bulk of plants, carbon, oxygen, and hydrogen, are derived from the atmosphere and from moisture, and not, as Mr. Davis intimates, principally if not entirely from the soil. Oxygen and hydrogen are readily supplied to the growing plant by water, and the carbon must principally be supplied by the decomposition of the carbonic acid of the atmosphere. In proof of this assertion, we have only to calculate the quantity of carbon taken from the soil by crops, and returned to it again by artificial means, even under good systems of management, and we shall see that the quantity of carbon returned bears no proportion to that taken away. On a light land or wold farm of 600 acres, entirely tillage, and managed on the four-course system, if the wheat average three quarters per acre, we shall have from 150 acres 450 quarters; of this quantity 100 quarters may perhaps be retained for seed and household support, but not so much if the system of thin sowing be followed; the remaining 350 quarters will be sold off the farm. To calculate the weight of the wheat at 35st. per quarter, the quantity of carbon which will in this wheat be carried off the farm will amount to about 68,600 lb., for the wheat contains about four-tenths of its weight of carbon or charcoal. If we suppose the spring corn to be entirely oats, and calculate the crop at six quarters per acre, we shall have 900 quarters; of this quantity the half must be retained for seed, horse-corn, and home consumption; the remaining 450 quarters will be carried off the farm, and the quantity of carbon contained in them will amount to about 54,180 lb. The carbon contained in the grain and straw which are consumed upon the farm, supposing the weight of the straw to be twice that of the whole of the grain, would amount to 466,718 lb. Of this quantity, excepting in the case of the grain used as seed, not more probably than one-half, or at most two-thirds, would be returned to the soil; the rest would be lost during its consumption by men and animals, and during the processes of fermentation and decay. The carbon sent away in the grain sold would amount to 122,780 lb. We may safely calculate that which would be lost on the farm at 150,000 lb., which is most probably less than the real loss. Thus, we see, that there would yearly be carried away by the corn crops from such a farm as this 272,780 lb. of carbon. Almost the only foreign manures which are purchased for such farms are bones, or other analogous substances. If the manure be bones, and these be used for raising turnips at the rate of 2 qrs. per acre, their amount will be 300 qrs., and their weight at 25st. per qr. 105,000lbs., of which not more than 26,250lb. will be carbon. But we have seen that the yearly loss of carbon on such a farm will be more than 222,000lb., to which quantity the carbon contained in the bones bears no proportion, nor would it supply a fourth part of that sold from off the farm in the shape of grain. The consideration of these circumstances may convince us that the soil cannot be the source from which plants extract their carbon; if it were, this immense drainage, so disproportionate to the supply, would speedily exhaust the soil even on the best cultivated farms, and a farm of light soil, receiving the quantity of bones I have named, would be considered barren by a very few crops. But it is well known that a farm well tilled and receiving such treatment, instead of deteriorating, would gradually improve, and that the quantity of carbon contained in the soil, instead of rapidly diminishing, would gradually increase. From these considerations we may conclude that plants draw a very small portion of their carbon from the soil, but they obtain it principally by decomposing the carbonic acid of the atmosphere, and a much greater quantity of carbon is left in and upon the soil, in the roots and stubble, than the whole quantity extracted from it by the growing crop. Such being the case, the farmer's principal solicitude should be to obtain manures containing the inorganic elements of plants; *nor must he judge that* because a manure is bulky it must necessarily be valuable. Guano contains in less bulk a greater quantity of the more uncommon inorganic elements of vegetation than almost any other fertilizer, and experience as well as theory has shown it to be one of the most efficient manures for green crops, especially for turnips; and whatever increases the bulk of a green crop, if that crop be consumed upon the land will most certainly tend to increase its fertility. I have as little sympathy as Mr. Davis with the interested puffers of quack manures. But I think it injurious to agriculture, and the welfare of our country, that any manure which increases the produce of the soil should be depreciated in order that we may exalt another, if that other cannot abundantly and efficiently supply its place. J. J. BARUGH.

Oeton, East Riding, Yorkshire, Jan. 25.

THIN SOWING AND MANURING.—Sir,—I observe in your valuable paper of the 26th January, a long dissertation, by Mr. Davis, on the superior value of farmyard manure compared with guano. This, I think, he might have saved himself the trouble of inserting, for every practical farmer in this country (Scotland) is perfectly aware that no artificial manures that ever have been or ever will be discovered, are in any way equal to well-prepared farmyard manures. Guano is, therefore, viewed in this country merely as a very valuable auxiliary. Mr. Davis would appear to presume that nothing but guano was used on a farm, and that the farmyard manure was sent to the winds. The favourite rotation in this country on all turnip and grass soils, which is the great majority, is a five-course shift—viz., oats, turnips, barley, and two years' grass once mowed. Now I maintain, from practical proof, that two cwt. per acre of guano, sown and harrowed in with the oats, will add, at least, two quarters per acre to the crop, and this at a cost *now* of from 12s. to 14s. per acre. Every farmer is supposed, and generally has, sufficient farmyard manure for his turnip crop on a farm, composed of good clay loam—a six-shift rotation is often followed, viz., wheat, dunged in the clover stubble, beans, peas, and potatoes, a portion of each—oats, with a stimulus of two cwt. per acre of guano—turnips, manured at the rate of ten loads per acre, with two cwt. of guano, than which, *so made*, nothing will raise a greater weight of turnips, barley, and grass. In the carses of Gowrie and Stirling, and other rich lands of Scotland, I believe a four-shift rotation is followed—but that has nothing to do with my argument. Artificial manures are also highly valuable as a means of manuring reclaimed or waste lands, to obviate the difficulty that formerly existed, of robbing the rest of your farm by withdrawing a proportion of the manure. As to *thin* sowing, the whole of Mr. Davis's lecture on that head amounts to merely *this*, that from soil and climate he is enabled to use less seed than others not so favourably situated. The *seeding* of his farm must be governed by the discretion and observation of the occupier. *Parts* of fields even require two bushels per acre less seed than other parts. If we were sure that *every grain* of wheat sown would arrive at maturity, of course much less seed would be required; but we must look forward to *contingencies*—grub, wire-worm, rooks, game, &c., to say nothing of a severe winter of snow, which often rots out a third or more of the plants. I have often, in spring, seen fields of wheat too *thinly* planted, but I hardly ever in this country have observed any that could be styled too thickly sown, and we generally sow from three to four bushels per imperial acre. I am, sir, your obedient servant, A SCOTCH FARMER.

PREPARING CORN FOR FATTENING PIGS.—Sir,—To extend a knowledge of the most efficacious and economical method of preparing corn for fattening pigs, permit me to observe that I have followed the practice of boiling peas for fattening pigs for a considerable period, and have every reason to be satisfied with the experiment, inasmuch as I have found pigs fed thereon fatten much faster than when fed in the usual way on meal, and by which a saving of fifteen to twenty per cent. is obtained. I have also found great advantage in boiling oatmeal for feeding sows for the first few weeks after farrowing, but care should be taken not to overfeed, as it is liable to produce an overflow of milk, and endanger both sows and progeny. The way in which I have been accustomed to use the above is as follows, viz.:—To eight gallons of peas add twenty gallons of water, which, when well boiled, produces a thick glutinous liquid, to which might be added or not, as convenient, a small quantity of barleymeal. I have succeeded quite as well with peas alone. The oatmeal requires one-third, or, if heavy good corn, a double quantity of water: this also produces a glutinous liquid when well boiled, and standing till cold, and should be again mixed with warm water and some fresh beans or pollards; and if given judiciously, I know of no food on which young pigs thrive better.—THOS. STAGG. Grafton Manor Farm, Wilts, Jan. 28, 1845.

DUMFRIES.—ONE LAW FOR THE RICH AND ANOTHER FOR THE POOR.—Some few weeks ago, a cowardly scoundrel named George Reynolds, lieutenant in her Majesty's 70th Regiment, committed a gross assault upon the person of a decent, well conducted, young woman, whose father is employed as under gardener, or in some such post, in the family of a retired middle man, with the daughter of whom Reynolds is popularly reported to be on very good terms. The assault was committed in the entrance to her father's house; and the poor girl naturally fled from the drunken wretch to her parents for protection, shutting the door of her dwelling in the face of her pursuer. Even there she was not safe; for the scoundrel, assisted by others of the same kidney, burst in, and when the young woman's father rose from bed to shield his child, tore the shirt from his back and otherwise maltreated him, to an extent that, had the offenders been poor weavers, would have subjected them to a twelvemonths imprisonment at the very least. But what was the actual result? When sobriety returned, the parties were naturally anxious to get out of their scrape; and accordingly intimation was conveyed to the father, in a way not to be misunderstood, that his daily bread was in danger should he appeal to the Sheriff. Of course some show of justice was necessary to quiet the fear of the community, and the lieutenant accordingly surrendered to the great unpaid; a proceeding, the station of the parties considered, which required no great stretch of courage on his part. Before the chief magistrate of the burgh, and accommodated with a place at the table (had he been a poor culprit, his station would, according to use and want, have been the dock), the principal charge, that of breaking into a dwelling house, was, on the prisoner's pleading guilty of the mere assault, departed from, and he was politely informed by the *just* judge that he was amerciated in the sum of 7s. 6d., or some such fine. This is "justice, justice" with a vengeance. So easy an escape from the consequences of his misdeeds was not, it may well be supposed, calculated to check one whose name has already become a by-word in Dumfries, and a synonyme for every thing base, cowardly, and immoral. It would be painful were it needful to recapitulate many of the actions the meanness of those in authority allow him to commit, almost with impunity. We will therefore confine ourselves to another example of remissness and shameful neglect of duty on the part of the Dumfries local authorities, if it ought not to be called by a harsher name, which occurred so late as Wednesday evening last. Two police officers had been engaged in removing a drunken and noisy person, when they were interrupted by this same Reynolds, and another "gallant defender," &c.—*Arcades ambo*—who if they did not actually deforce the officers, *at least interrupted* them in the exercise of their duty. With reluctance, and almost compelled by the crowd which speedily assembled, the policemen took them into custody. Arrived at the station-house, Jones, the captain of the county "rurals," and a tool, whom by the efficient aid of another minion, the Duke of Buccleugh has succeeded in foisting upon an unwilling community, compelled the withdrawal of the charge, and the pair were set at liberty. This was *soon circulated over the town, and coming to the ears* of the indefatigable Mr. Andrew Wardrop, he proceeded to one of the magistrates, when the following pithy dialogue, or something like it, took place:—Mr. W.: So, the rogues have got off, have they?—Magistrate: What rogues?—Mr. W.: Reynolds and Irving, to be sure. *Bailie* Jones did it.—Magistrate: Superindent Jones had no power to do any such thing.—Mr. W.: I tell you he did it; and if these men are not tried this day, I go to the Monument this very night and expose the whole of you to the public!" This threat had the desired effect: the shop-boy was sent off on the instant with a bulletin, and after a serious confab on the part of the bench, the worthies *were* tried (although the charge had been withdrawn), in presence of a very respectable gathering of working men, and the magistrate or decency's sake was compelled to fine them 10s. 6d. each. It is in contemplation to lay a statement of the proceedings of this ruffian before the Duke of Wellington, who may in his capacity of Commander-in-Chief, either remove, or put the public in the way of removing so dangerous a nuisance from a quiet and peaceable town. *If, on the contrary, we are under* martial law, the sooner we know it from authority the better.—*Correspondent.*

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—On the afternoon of Tuesday last, eight boys, all said to be remarkably fine youths, were drowned at Bogfoot Loch, a reservoir in the neighbourhood of their residence, in the village of Sallysburgh. Two families lost two sons each. The lads had gone to play on the ice, not knowing that it had been weakened by the thaw of the preceding Sunday, and all fell in, without a soul being near to rescue them. Their bodies have been recovered.—*Liverpool Times.*

Bankrupts, &c.

BANKRUPTS.

(*From the Gazette of Friday, Feb. 7th.*)

John Beard, Deptford, builder—George Haywood, Luton, Bedfordshire, bricklayer—William Henry Colt, Long Melford, Suffolk, grocer—Samuel Rugg, Southampton, carpenter—James Bradshaw, High-street, Camden Town, coal-merchant—Samuel Tavener, Sovereign-mews, Paddington, bricklayer—John Richardson, Fish-street-hill, City, boot and shoemaker.

DIVIDENDS.

March 4, W. and T. Higgins, Old Bond-street, hosiers—Feb. 28, R. Thelwall, Manchester, silversmith—March 4, T. Collinson, Wakefield, Yorkshire, boat-builder—March 3, B. Wright, Liverpool, dealer in paint—Feb. 27, J. Mallalieu, Highstile, Yorkshire, woollen-manufacturer.

BANKRUPTS.

(*From Tuesday's Gazette, Feb. 11th, 1845.*)

John Challenor, White-street, Southwark, grocer—John Peters, Godstone, Surrey, innkeeper—William Cottrell, Southampton, tea-dealer—James Burrell and Thomas Hall, Thetford, Norfolk, iron-founders—Hippolite Francis Bellenger, Great Pulteney-street, Golden-square, licensed-victualler—William Cheatle Paul, Romford, Essex, sheep-salesman—Spencer William Tyler, Walcot-place, Lambeth, carpenter—Henry Peacock Gray, Caroline-street, Eaton-square, horse-dealer—Richard Steadman & William Adie, Birmingham, button-makers—Anthony and Francis Atkinson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, colour-manufacturers.

DIVIDENDS.

March 4, R. H. Marshall, Plymouth, draper—March 4, W. Brookes, New-street-square, Fetter-lane, lamp-manufacturer—March 4, W. Robertson, Great St. Helen's, City, insurance-broker—March 4, S. T. Watson and W. Byers, Skinner-street, City, woollen-warehousemen; and March 6 for separate estates—March 7, G. A. Cator, Leeds, wool-merchant—March 11, T. W. Green, Leeds, bookseller—March 5, W. Richardson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, glass-manufacturer—March 4, J. S. Carter and R. Cornforth, Liverpool, merchants—March 5, M. Tomkinson, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, linendraper—March 5, J. Hayton, Wigton, Cumberland, shipowner.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

J. Laycock, Colne, Lancashire, tallow-chandler, final dividend of 1s. in the pound, any Tuesday, at the office of Mr. Hobson, Manchester.

G. Grantham, Manchester, grocer, first dividend of 3s. 8d. in the pound, any Tuesday, at the office of Mr. Hobson, Manchester.

J. C. Petrie, Bedlington, Durham, miller, first and second dividend, of 1s. 2d in the pound, to those who proved their debts on the 4th inst., any Saturday, at the office of Mr. Baker, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

J. C. Crespin, Eastcheap, shipping agent, third dividend of 6d. in the pound, any Wednesday, at the office of Mr. Follett, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street.

C. Mann, Romford, Essex, banker, first and final dividend of 20s. in the pound, any Wednesday, at the office of Mr. Follet, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street.

CERTIFICATES TO BE GRANTED, UNLESS CAUSE BE SHOWN TO THE CONTRARY ON THE DAY OF MEETING.

March 4, A. Goodeve, Aldermanbury, City, warehouseman—March 4, J. Hubbard, Ramsgate, Kent, auctioneer—March 4, G. Fielding, Thame, Oxfordshire, ironmonger—March 4, W. A. Mearns, Clapham, Surrey, ale-brewer—March 5, C. Parry, Cleaver-street, Kennington-road, Lambeth, furniture-broker—March 4, J. Coles, New Bond-street, jeweller—March 7, C. Dotesio, Slough, Buckinghamshire, hotel-keeper—March 5, J. R. King, Bath, druggist—March 5, W. Richardson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, glass-manufacturer—March 7, R. Proctor, Kingston-upon-Hull, coach-proprietor—March 5, F. Deffinne, Manchester, check-manufacturer—March 4, W. H. Hayward, Manchester, cotton-spinner—March 4, J. Wates, Old Kent-road, victualler—March 4, R. J. Webb, Bath, wine-merchant—March 4, E. Glover, jun., Leicester, ironmonger—March 4, D. Hannay, Cavendish-square, banker—March 4, J. H. Utting, Newman-street, Oxford-street, upholsterer—March 4, J. C. Ross, Savage-gardens, City, merchant—March 4, W. Stinton, Duke-street, Grosvenor-square, cook—March 4, C. Rayner, Blackburn, Lancashire, grocer—March 4, P. Blackburn, Salford, Lancashire, builder—March 4, J. Raper, Bridge-road, Lambeth, tailor.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

J. Gregory and H. Burlingham, Evesham, Worcestershire, ironmongers—C. A. Jaquin and J. Corss, New Union-street, Moor-lane, City, button-manufacturers—P. and C. Harrison, Luton, Bedfordshire, drapers—C. Roe and J. Facey, Bideford, Devonshire, millers—J. J. Young and A. Bouceneau, Upper North-place, Gray's-inn-road, marble dealers—J. Cleaver, M. Attwood, and J. Barwell, Ripley, Derbyshire, spelter-manufacturers—A. and J. S. Buckley, Manchester, cotton-spinners—W. Gledhill and S. Jagger, Bradford, Yorkshire, quarrymen—J. Farie, P. Tasker, and A. Tod, Liverpool, iron merchants; as far as regards A. Tod—J. Mullins and C. Wigley, High Holborn, leather pipe-makers—E. A. Bowker and G. Metcalf, Manchester, engravers—J. and T. Radcliffe, Stockport, commission agents—T. O. Dobson and C. Lonie, Liverpool, ship-brokers—J. Mather and J. Brindley, Manchester, tobacco dealers—J. M. Khronheim, J. Skirving, W. Shepherd, and F. W. Sutton, Earl-street, Blackfriars, stereotype founders; as far as regards J. Skirving—G. Pacey and T. L. Gillott, Leicester, ironmongers—J. Bullen and R. Spaull, Wormwood-street, City, auctioneers—E. and T. Longton, Manchester, machine-makers—J. Chadwick and A. Andrew, Manchester, warehousemen—J. H. West and G. Ives, Hertford, brewers—W. Burnie and W. Dickson, London, merchants—J. Shuttleworth and J. Eastham, Blackburn, Lancashire, coal-dealers—R. and J. Lockwood, Crowfield, Suffolk, maltsters—J. Whittaker and C. B. Palmer, Swansea, commission agents—T. S. and W. P. Peters, Manchester, corn merchants—C. Fairweather and W. Mathews, jun., Kirton-in-Lindsey, Lincolnshire, wine merchants—T. Hagger and H. Payne, Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire, grocers—L. Williams and W. Watson, Birmingham, powder flask manufacturers.

Market Intelligence.

RICHMOND CORN MARKET, FEB. 8.—We had a very heavy market to-day of all kinds of grain. Wheat sold from 5s to 6s 6d; oats, 2s to 3s; barley, 3s 6d to 4s; beans, 4s 9d to 5s per bushel.

LONDON CORN EXCHANGE, MONDAY, FEB. 10.—The arrivals of English wheat and barley were tolerably good during the past week, and of oats the receipts from our own coast and Scotland were also to a fair extent; but the supply of the latter article from Ireland was rather small. Of beans and peas, about the usual weekly quantity came forward. The arrivals from abroad have, during the past eight days, consisted of a parcel of wheat from Launceston, and a few cargoes of barley and one small lot of oats from the north of Europe. At this morning's market there was a very small show of wheat by land-carriage samples from Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, less barley than of late, and only a moderate fresh supply of oats; the quantity of beans offering was large, and of peas the display of samples was also good. The weather has been very severe for several days past, and this morning there was a heavy fall of snow. The English wheat being generally in good condition, was mostly cleared off, but no improvement on last Monday's currency could be established. Duty-paid foreign wheat was, on the other hand, very difficult of disposal, holders declined however to accept less money, and the little business transacted was at former rates. In bonded wheat nothing whatever was done, and quotations continue perfectly nominal. Flour was taken in retail quantities at previous prices. Less anxiety was manifested to press sales of barley, and though the inquiry was by no means lively the downward movement was checked, quotations remaining precisely the same as on this day se'nnight. Malt moved off tardily, and barely supported its previous value. Oats were held with firmness, and the slight depression of Friday was partly recovered, still the dealers paid Monday's rates with some reluctance. Beans were, owing to the large supply, only partially cleared off at previous prices. Peas were rather more saleable than of late, and quite as dear. The business done in cloverseed was not important; neither white nor red was pressingly offered, and prices of both sorts were well maintained. Canaryseed was again cheaper. Linseed and rapeseed sold at full terms, and spring tares were fully as dear.

CURRENT PRICES OF GRAIN, PER IMPERIAL QUARTER.—*British.*

		s s		s s		s s
Wheat,	Essex, & Kent, new & old red	42 48			White	50 54
———	Norfolk and Lincoln . . . do	48 46			Ditto	48 50
———	Northum. and Scotch white	42 46			Fine	48 52
———	Irish red old	0 0	Red	42 44	White	45 48
Rye	Old	31 32	New	30 32	Brank	35 36
Barley	Grinding . .	26 28	Distil.	29 31	Malt.	32 34
Malt	Brown	54 56	Pale	58 62	Ware	63 65
Beans	Ticks old & new	30 34	Harrow	33 38	Pigeon	38 42
Peas	Grey	32 33	Maple	33 34	White	36 40
Oats	Lincolns & Yorkshire		Feed	21 23	Poland	23 25
——	Scotch		Angus	22 24	Potato	24 26
——	Irish		White	20 22	Black	20 22

Per 280lb. net.	s s	Per 280 lb. net.	s s
Town-made Flour . . .	42 44	Norfolk & Stockton	33 34
Essex and Kent	34 35	Irish	35 36

Foreign.	Free. s s	Bond. s s
Wheat, Dantsic, Konigsburg, &c	52 60	36 40
———Marks, Mecklenburg	48 54	32 35
———Danish, Holstein, and Friesland red	44 47	28 30
———Russian, Hard 44 46 Soft . . .	44 47	26 28
———Italian, Red . . 46 50 White . . .	50 52	30 32
———Spanish, Hard . 46 50 Soft	48 52	30 32
Rye, Baltic, Dried, . . . 30 32 Undried . .	31 32	21 22
Barley, Grinding . 26 28 Malting . .	31 33	22 29
Beans, Ticks . . 30 34 Egyptian .	31 32	26 30
Peas, White . . 36 38 Maple . .	33 34	28 30
Oats, Dutch, Brew and Thick	24 25	19 21
—— Russian feed	21 22	15 16
——Danish, Friesland feed	21 23	15 17
Flour, per barrel	25 27	19 20

CORN AVERAGES.—General average prices of British corn for the week ended Feb. 8, 1845, made up from the Returns of the Inspectors in the different cities and towns in England and Wales, per imperial quarter.

Wheat ..	45s 5d	Oats ..	21s 6d	Beans ..	35s 1d
Barley ..	3s 0d	Rye ..	30s 1d	Pease ..	35s 7d

LONDON SMITHFIELD CATTLE MARKET, MONDAY, FEB. 10.—Since this day se'nnight, another large importation of foreign stock has taken place, it having consisted of 165 beasts and 205 sheep, into London, together with fifty oxen and cows, and ninety sheep at Hull, all from Holland; forming a total import of not less than 510 head. Our readers will perceive that this is the largest arrival that has been reported during any week since the new tariff has been in operation, and completely justifies the observations which we offered under this head on Saturday last. As respects the quality of the beasts, there was nothing calling for particular observation, though there were some really saleable animals amongst them; but in sheep there was a decided improvement. The show of foreign stock here this morning amounted to seventy beasts and 130 sheep. The former sold at from £12 to £18; the latter 30s. to 42s. per head. With beasts from our own districts we were tolerably well, but not to say heavily supplied; yet a slight falling off was noticed in their general condition. Comparatively speaking the beef trade, arising in a great measure from the dead markets being heavily supplied with country meat, was in a very sluggish state, and last week's quotations were with difficulty supported. However, the primest Scots found buyers at from 3s. 10d. to 4s. per 8lb., yet a clearance was not effected. The bullock droves from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, were composed of 1400 Scots and homebreds, while from the northern grazing districts we received 250 short-horns; from the western and midland districts 600 Herefords, runts, Devons, &c.; from other parts of England 500 of various breeds; and from Scotland 200 horned and polled Scots. The numbers of sheep were on the increase. Prime old downs with difficulty maintained their last week's prices: and all other breeds were 2d. per 8lb lower, with a heavy demand. Calves were in limited supply and steady inquiry, at late rates. Pigs were in request, and prices were again supported. There were on sale about 1500 shorn sheep and 120 lambs.

By the quantities of 8lb., sinking the offal.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Inferior coarse beasts	2	6	2	8
Second quality	2	10	8	2
Prime large oxen	3	4	3	8
Prime Scots, &c.	3	10	4	0
Coarse inferior sheep	2	8	2	10
Second quality	3	0	3	6
Prime coarse woolled	3	8	3	10
Prime Southdown	4	0	4	4
Large coarse calves	4	4	5	2
Prime small	5	4	5	8
Suckling calves, each	18	0	30	0
Large hogs	3	6	4	0
Neat small porkers	4	2	4	6
Quarter-old store pigs, each	16	0	20	0

HEAD OF CATTLE ON SALE.

(From the Books of the Clerk of the Market.)

Beasts, 3,104—Sheep, 30,540—Calves, 61—Pigs, 320.

SMITHFIELD HAY MARKET.—Coarse meadow hay, £3 10s to £5 15s; useful ditto, £4 16s to £5 4s; fine upland ditto, £5 5s to £5 8s; clover hay, £4 10s to £6: oat straw, £1 16s to £1 18s; wheat straw, £1 18s to £2 per load. A fair average supply and a steady demand, at the above quotations.

WHITECHAPEL.—Coarse meadow hay, £3 10s to £4 15s; useful ditto, £4 16s to £5 4s; fine upland ditto, £5 6s to £5 8s; clover hay, £4 10s to £6; oat straw, £1 16s to £1 18s; wheat straw, £1 18s to £2 per load. Trade throughout firm, at full prices.

MEAT MARKETS.—SOUTHALL, FEB. 12.—The supply of fat stock on sale this morning was seasonably extensive. Generally speaking the demand ruled inactive, at about last week's quotations. Beef, from 2s 8d to 4s; mutton, 2s 10d to 4s 4d; veal, 4s to 5s; and pork, 3s 6d to 4s 2d per 8lbs. Supply—Beasts, 45; sheep, 1,160; calves, 40; pigs, 54.

ROMFORD, FEB. 12.—With the exception of prime calves and pigs being in good request, at full prices, the demand was heavy, and previous rates were not supported:—Beef, from 2s 8d to 4s; mutton, 2s 10d to 4s 4d; veal, 3s 10d to 5s 4d; and pork, 3s 4d to 4s per 8lbs. Suckling calves, 18s to 29s; quarter-old store pigs, 16s to 20s; and milch cows, with their small calf, £16 to £19 each.

LEWES, FEB. 12.—Beef, from 2s 10d to 3s; mutton, 3s to 4s 4d; veal, 4s 4d to 5s 4d; and pork, 3s 6d to 4s per 8lbs. A fair average supply, and a steady demand.

COAL MARKET.—Prices per ton at the close of the market:—Adair's Main, 17s; Buddle's West Hartley, 16s 6d; Carr's Hartley, 17s; Ellison Main, 15s 6d; Holywell Main, 15s 6d; Morrison's Hartley, 15s 6d; Nelson's West Hartley, 16s 6d; Old Pontop, 17s; Ord's Redheugh, 15s 6d; Old Tanfield, 17s 3d; Ravensworth West Hartley, 16s 6d; Tanfield Moor, 19s 6d; Townley, 16s 6d; West Hartley, 17s; West Wylam, 16s 9d; Wylam, 15s 6d; W.E., Clark and Co., 16s 6d; Clonnell, 16s 6d; Wharncliffe, 18s 3d; Belmont, 19s 6d; Braddyll's Hetton, 20s 6d: Haswell, 21s; Hilton, 20s 6d; Lambton, 20s 6d; Lumley, 18s 6d; North Hetton Lyons, 18s 3d; Pemberton, 18s; Richmond. 19s; Russell's Hetton, 20s 3d; Stewart's 20s 6d; Caradoc, 20s; Heugh Hall, 18s 9d; Kelloe, 19s 3d; Basingthorne, 19s 6d; West Hartlepool, 17s; Adelaide, 20s; Cowndon Tees, 18s; Gordon, 16s 6d; South Durham, 18s 3d; Richardson's Tees, 17s 6d; Tees, 20s; Tenant's, 17s 6d; Gyndraeth, 19s; Hartley, 16s 6d; Lewiss Merthyr, 21s: Snapethorpe, 18s; Holywell; 16s.—Ships arrived, 5.

MANCHESTER CORN MARKET, SATURDAY, FEB. 8.—The same want of activity has continued to characterise the trade since our last report as we have had occasion to note for several weeks past. There has, however, been a fair trading demand for Flour, and a moderate amount of business transacted for immediate consumption; but on middling and inferior kinds it has been necessary to submit to 6d. to 1s. per sack decline, whilst the very choicest qualities of English and Irish have found buyers at the previous currency. Oats and oatmeal have been in limited request, and the former article was easier to buy. At our market this morning every description of wheat met a very limited inquiry, and all but the runs were freely offered at a reduction of 1d. to 2d. per 70lbs. Flour was, likewise, a slow sale. The demand for oats was trivial, at a decline of 1d. per 45lbs.; but in the value of oatmeal no change can be reported, although there was but little business passing. Beans continue dull of sale, at late rates.

LIVERPOOL CORN MARKET, MONDAY, FEB. 10.—We have this week had moderate arrivals of grain, flour, and oatmeal; the trade has at the same time been very inactive, and any change in prices has been in favour of the buyer. The finer qualities of Irish new wheat have brought the rates quoted on this day week, but the secondary descriptions must be noted 1d. per bushel lower. Oats have also receded ½d to 1d per bushel; fine mealing were bought last Friday at 3s 0½d per 45lbs. We do not alter the quotation for flour; but oatmeal is 6d per load cheaper, and each of these articles has met a very dull sale. Fine English malting barley has been sold at 36s per imperial quarter; good grinding qualities of foreign at 4s to 4s 2d per 60 lbs. Peas are 1s per quarter cheaper, and both this article and beans have met a slow demand.

LIVERPOOL CATTLE MARKET, MONDAY, FEB 10.—We have had a fair supply of cattle at market to-day for this time of the year. Prices remain about the same as of late, anything prime fetching good prices. Beef 5½d to 6d., mutton 6¼d to 6¾d per lb.

YORK CORN MARKET, FEB. 8.—We have little alteration to note in the value of any article in the trade. The condition of everything is greatly improved, and millers, in consequence, are more free, and inclined to get into stock. Barley is bad to quit, except the quality is fine. Oats and beans dull, but not lower.

LEEDS CORN MARKET, Tuesday, Feb. 11.—The strong frost which we have had for several days past offers some interruption to the supplies for this day's market; the arrivals in consequence are small, but we have a good show of samples. Wheat is slow sale, at rather worse prices than on this day week, the demand being of a very retail character. Fine barley does not maintain late rates, and common qualities are offering on still lower terms. No material change in the value of oats, beans, or other articles.

LEEDS CLOTH MARKETS.—Business at present is rather less buoyant, and sales are effected in most descriptions of goods at a slight diminution in price.

MALTON CORN MARKET, FEB. 8.—We have a good supply of wheat, but moderate of other grain, offering to this day's market, but no alteration in the prices. Wheat, red, new, 44s to 48s; white ditto, 48s to 52s; red ditto, old, 50s to 52s; white ditto, 52s to 56s per qr. of 40 stones. Barley, 26s to 30s per qr. of 32 st. Oats, 9½d to 10½d per stone.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS—Monday, Feb. 10.

Lord Monteagle, in moving for some papers relating to the income and other taxes, entered into some financial statements and calculations, which he hoped would meet with due consideration from the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Duke of Wellington said he was willing to afford every information on the subject; but he thought the Noble Lord would not expect that any statement should be made by him until the financial measure had been brought forward by the Government in the other House of Parliament.

Tuesday, Feb. 11.

The House sat for a short time, but no business of importance was brought under consideration.

Thursday, Feb. 13.

Lord Stanley having been summoned by writ to the House of Lords, under the title of Lord Stanley, of Knowsley, was introduced to-day by Lords Redesdale and Wharncliffe, and took the oaths and his seat.

Lord Campbell introduced two Bills, the object of which were when persons who were indebted to parties in this country left it and resided in foreign parts, process might be served upon them, judgment obtained against them, and their property secured for the benefit of their creditors.

The Marquis of Normanby, after presenting a petition in favour of the Government Medical Reform Bill, gave notice that in a few days he should present a petition, agreed to at a public meeting held at Exeter Hall, praying the House to take measures for the improvement of drainage in large towns.

The subject of the recent gambling transactions in Railway shares on the Stock Exchange, and the imputed communication of improper information, by some one belonging to the Board of Trade, was brought under the attention of the House by Lord Dalhousie, who defended himself and his colleagues of the Board of Trade, in a manner, from the imputations cast on them. The charge principally affected Mr. D. O'Brien, and Lord Dalhousie's explanation was very similar in import to that given by Sir James Graham on Tuesday evening, in answer to Mr. Wakley. Lord Brougham and Lord Lansdowne joined in the conversation, and when it was ended the House adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Friday, Feb. 7.

The Speaker took the chair at the usual hour.

After the presentation of some petitions, and the giving of notices of minor import, the following conversation ensued on

POST OFFICE ESPIONAGE.

Mr. T. Duncombe, seeing the noble Lord the Member for Liverpool (Lord Sandon) in his place, wished to put to him a question with reference to the appendix to the report of a committee of which the noble Lord was chairman last session. He referred to the secret committee that investigated the practice of opening letters at the Post Office. That committee had annexed an appendix to the report, and that appendix was ordered to be printed with the report. The latter had been printed shortly after it had been drawn up, but to the present hour they had not got the appendix. He had sent several times to the printer's to obtain it, and also the report; but he was told that the report could not be had, because it was waiting for the appendix, and that the appendix could not be had, because it was waiting for the proof, which was in the hands of a member of the committee to be corrected. Now he (Mr. Duncombe) insisted that after the committee laid this report on the table their functions ceased, and they had nothing more to do with the report or the appendix. He was in possession of the appendix by special favour of the Speaker, but he wished to know from the Noble Lord why it was kept back, and in whose hands it was?

Lord Sandon said that the committee had entrusted the task of arranging and classifying the documents which constituted the appendix to the Hon. Member for Kendal, who had taken great pains with the subject. Those documents still remained in the hands of that Hon. Member, and he (Lord Sandon) was sure that whatever obstacles remained in the way of the publication of the report would soon be removed.

Mr. T. S. Duncombe expressed a hope that no further time would be lost in presenting these papers to the house.

Lord Sandon said that as far as he was concerned certainly no time should be lost.

GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL STATEMENT—THE INCOME TAX.

Sir R. Peel rose and said—Sir, it may be convenient for me now to state the course which I intend to pursue on Friday next. I believe it will be competent for me, without moving for a committee of ways and means, to take the course of moving a resolution to continue for a further period the laws which impose a tax on income. But as that is not the usual course of late years, I propose on Wednesday to adopt the following proceeding—viz., to move for a committee of ways and means, and then in the committee of ways and means, on Friday next, I shall propose a resolution to the effect, that the laws which impose a tax on income in Great Britain, and the law which imposes an additional stamp duty in Ireland, should be continued for a further limited period. That is the nature of the resolution I propose to move in committee of ways and means.

Mr. Hume.—Will the Right Hon. Gentleman explain to the house what are the taxes he intends to remit?

Sir R. Peel.—I propose on Friday to enter into a general review of the subject, when I will state what course I intend to take, but I cannot enter into any explanation now; I will give the fullest statement on Friday next with respect to the nature of the proposals her Majesty's government intend to adopt.

POOR LAW UNIONS.

Mr. M. Sutton moved that a select committee be re-appointed to inquire into the administration of the law for the relief of the poor in the unions formed under the Act 22 Geo. III., c. 3, sec. 83, the Gilbert Unions, and to report to the house their opinion whether it was expedient that the said unions should be maintained. The motion was agreed to, and the following Hon. Members were appointed to serve on the committee:—Mr. Barneby, Captain Pechell, Mr. Thomas Duncombe, Sir R. Heron, Mr. Colville, Sir Wm. Heathcote, Mr. Beckett Denison, Mr. Wrightson, Viscount Barrington, Mr. Manners Sutton, Mr. Strutt, Viscount Marsham, Mr. Labouchere, Mr. Wakley, and Mr. Protheroe. After ordering some returns as to the attendance of the Poor Law Commissioners on their duties, and passing a number of resolutions respecting the conduct of private business, the house adjourned at six o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Monday, Feb. 10.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer gave notice that on Wednesday he would move that the House should resolve itself into a committee of supply, in which he would move for a vote of Exchequer Bill, in order to enable his Right Hon. Friend Sir R. Peel to move for a committee of ways and means on Friday.

Mr. J. Young moved for a new writ for Lewes, in the room of the Hon. Henry Fitzroy, who has accepted the office of a Lord of the Admiralty.

The other business was of a routine character.

Tuesday, Feb. 11.

Sir T. Fremantle took the oaths, and his seat for the borough of Buckingham.

Mr. Wallace called attention to the several reports of Select Committees on Railways, to the appointment of the Railway Board in August last for the transaction of railway business, and the effect of its published decision, with a view to the revision and amendment of the Act of last session. He complained, that by the present system the people of Great Britain were subject to a monopoly of the most grinding and injurious character. Admitting the courtesy with which he had been treated by the President and Vice-President of the Board of Trade, and all their subordinate officers, he contended that the appointment of the Railway Board was anything but constitutional, for it was never intended, on their appointment, that the members of the board should interfere with and decide upon all internal arrangements for travelling in the united kingdom. There were at present 248 railways, either new roads or roads to be altered and extended, on which bills were to be brought forward this session, and it was recently thought, but he was glad to say erroneously, that none of these bills could be introduced without a preliminary decision in their favour by the Railway Board. He complained also of the expense of transit on railroads, and read some tables of the fares, rates, and speed on two railroads in Scotland, for the purpose of showing that the labouring classes of England might be carried on their railroads as cheaply and with as much comfort as the same classes were now conveyed in Scotland. It had been shown that in first class carriages passengers could be conveyed twenty-five miles an hour at 3d. a mile—that second class passengers could be conveyed the same speed in their carriages at 2d. a mile—and that third class passengers could be carried the same speed at 1d. a mile. He argued that, if such were the case, and he believed it to be nearly so, the present railway companies had no right to any indulgence from the House; for they had defrauded the public, and were defrauding it still. It was the duty of Parliament to rectify the mistake which it made some years ago, when it gave a monopoly to these companies, and to insist that an open competition with them should be allowed. He thought that great good would be done by adopting the system of tender, which was adopted abroad. The House was bound to make provision that no carriages should be permitted to run on any railroad that was unsafe to the health of the passengers; and yet it was undeniable that no carriages were so pernicious to health as the second and third class carriages on most, if not all, of our modern railroads. He concluded by moving for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the Railway Act of last session.

Mr. Ewart thought that, however well it might answer abroad, the system of constructing railroads by tender would never answer in this country. He thought that the best mode of commencing reform in railway legislation would be by reforming the construction of Parliamentary committees, and by making them independent and impartial bodies. Then a scientific and commercial body might be called in to assist the Parliamentary committee; but he protested against calling in any department of the Government, as a Government body, to interfere. He thought that experience confirmed the proposition of Mr. Wallace, that it was expedient to reduce the rate of fares on nearly every railroad.

Lord Howick had voted for the Railway Act of last session, and thought that, though not a perfect, it was still a very useful Act. He agreed, however, with Mr. Wallace, in thinking that it was important that Parliament should secure for the public greater facilities and greater cheapness in railway travelling. As a great number of railway bills were about to be introduced this session, Parliament ought seriously to consider at once what measures it would adopt to accomplish those objects. He thought that the first thing on which Parliament should determine was to do in all cases that which was always done in France on similar occasions—namely, to decide between competing companies on the line of railroad to be adopted; for instance, there were three lines now proposed between London and York. He thought that on such a point they might trust to the evidence of scientific persons to be appointed by the House. Then, having fixed on the line of railroad, you might call on the rival companies to send in tenders for making it. Those tenders should contain the terms of travelling, the rates of speed, and the fares at which the parties would convey passengers. Thus the House would get rid of the difficulty of deciding on competing lines, and would check a spirit of gambling in railway shares which was absolutely demoralising the country. He thought that this plan would also cause a large reduction in the rate of fares, which at present very much exceeded the cost of carrying passengers. By laying down by Parliamentary authority in the railway bills about to be introduced a strict regulation as to the rate of fares to be levied, they would bring down the fares exacted by all existing railroads, as they were now nearly all in union or junction with each other. They would also by such a course moderate the eagerness of enterprise in such speculations, which did not now, as it did originally, require a stimulant. On the contrary, he was of opinion that there was at present a mania in the public mind on this subject, which required to be modified and checked. It might be said that it would be unjust, when parties had gone to all the trouble and expense of making preliminary inquiries about a line of railroad, to take it out of their hands. It would be so if no remuneration were made to them. But at present those parties had no claim on Parliament. Parliament might be of opinion that a line should be made, and yet that those parties should not make it. He trusted that no railway bill would be passed this session without the committee looking closely at the table of fares, and proceeded to demonstrate the advantage of such an arrangement by his own experience as chairman of a Railway Committee last session. He had heard some persons insist on the necessity of deferring all railway legislation during the present session, in order that they might deliberate in the interim on the legislation which they ought to adopt. To such a proposition he could not agree, as it would carry a large amount of capital out of the country to be embarked in the meantime in foreign speculations.

Colonel Sibthorp approved generally of Lord Howick's suggestions; but why had he not suggested them before, instead of deferring them till the present, the eleventh hour? In the short period of time during which the House sat, it would be quite impossible to investigate fairly into the merits of the 248 railway bills which were coming before it.

Mr. Gisborne said that arrangements had grown up under the bill of last session which it would now be extremely impolitic to interfere with, and therefore he could not support the motion of Mr. Wallace.

Mr. S. Wortley had great doubt as to the policy of publishing in the *Gazette* the decisions of the Railway Committee of the Board of Trade before the reports of the committee were laid before Parliament. The mischief, however, was already done, and it was too late now to attempt a remedy. He suggested the propriety of appointing a committee to ascertain the best mode of getting through the immense press of railway business which was likely to be forced on the consideraton of the House.

Mr. Warburton considered that Lord Howick's suggestion of a modification of the French system would be found impracticable in this country, where towns rose into importance or sunk into insignificance in a lesser number of years than that for which the monopoly would be granted.

After some observations from Mr. Bankes, respecting the way in which the public interests in some parts of the country were sacrificed to the overwhelming influence of competing lines of railway.

Sir R. Peel hoped that the debate would not lead to a discussion on the reports of the Railway Board. He protested against any precipitate condemnation of that board, which had been created under the sanction of the House, and which some gentlemen wanted nevertheless to abolish before it had made its first report to Parliament. That board had been censured for publishing its decisions in the *Gazette*. So far from thinking their conduct in that respect censurable, he thought that after they had come to a decision they were bound to publish it. In the course of two or three days the report of the Board of Trade on the first class of railways would be published. That would enable the House to judge of the principles upon which they acted; and surely it would be advisable for Hon. Gentlemen to postpone their judgment till they had perused that report. He hoped that the House would not abandon the principles on which it had hitherto proceeded with regard to railway bills until they were convinced that those principles were erroneous. They had been told that 240 railway bills were to be presented to the House in the course of the present session; but he had no doubt that discussion would considerably diminish that number. The wisest course would be to appoint a committee to consider the subject, under the assumption that there would be an unusual number of such bills. An Hon. Friend of his had procured the assent of the House to a committee on private bills, which consisted of persons the most conversant in the House with the conduct of private business. He hoped that that committee would not apply itself in the first instance to the consideration of private bills generally, but would proceed to that of railway bills before all others, and would reflect on the manner in which the House should deal with the 150 such bills that were likely to come before it. It might be necessary to constitute a number of committees, of five or seven members each. The report of such committees, if the members would give continuous attendance, would have weight with the House; and, if so, the evil would not be of that magnitude as to induce them to despair of overcoming it. Supposing there were 200 such bills, why should they not sacrifice their time to the consideration of them? If they could not get members to serve spontaneously on such committees, they must adopt the principle adopted in election committees, and compel them to serve in some way or other. He had never heard of Lord Howick's plan before that evening, but he thought that if the House undertook to consider it, it would lead to great confusion. His plan was that Government should undertake a new survey of all the railways now projected, and which had already been surveyed by the Board of Trade. That might be a good plan, but at any rate it would lead to the suspension of every railway for a considerable time. If this were a *res integra*, Government might perhaps undertake to produce a revenue by undertaking to make a railroad, though he did not know what effect such a proceeding might have on the constitution of the country in the multitude of subordinate officers in the pay of Government to which it would give rise. Besides, even if you had a Government board to decide which was the best of the three competing lines between London and York, mentioned by Lord Howick, it would still be open to all the suspicions to which the present Government board was exposed.

Mr. Wakley said that no one had said one word respecting the greatest of all evils—the enormous length of barristers' speeches. The Hon. Gentleman then read an article from a publication called the *Economist*, intimating that shares to a large extent had been purchased by Mr. William O'Brien, whose brother is one of the members of the Railway Committee of the Board of Trade, and observed that investigation was absolutely necessary in order to purge the board from the suspicions to which these share transactions of Mr. William O'Brien inevitably gave rise.

Sir James Graham entered into an explanation exculpatory of the Messrs. O'Brien, and challenged inquiry if a single doubt remained of their integrity. He was informed by those gentlemen, and believed, that no communication had taken place between them relative to railway business; and for his own part he would declare, as his name was mentioned in the article in the *Economist*, that he never held a railway share in his life.

Mr. Brotherton said, in his opinion, there was much more reason to complain of the speeches of Hon. Members of that House than of the speeches of counsel, on the score of length.

After a few observations from Mr. Darby, and from Mr. Wallace in reply, the motion was withdrawn.

BONE CRUSHING IN WORKHOUSES.

Captain Pechell, in moving for a return, ordered last session, of all the union workhouses under the Poor Law Amendment Act, in which the paupers were employed in grinding or crushing bones by means of mills or other machinery, complained of the delay which had taken place in its production. The order had gone in July last to the Poor Law Commissioners. The Poor Law Commissioners were under Sir J. Graham, and he would show that the information for which he asked was furnished to the Poor Law Commissioners before the prorogation of Parliament. He wanted this return in order to compare the administration of the Poor Law in the Gilbert Unions with its administration under the Poor Law Commissioners.

Sir J. Graham had pressed the Poor Law Commissioners to make this return before the close of last session. Different circumstances had prevented them; but the return was now ready, and would be presented within three or four days. It was matter of regret to him—and he had stated it before—that this crushing of bones by machinery was practised in the union houses. It was not ordered by the Poor Law Act, nor by the Secretary of State, nor by the Poor Law Commissioners; but it was the act of the local boards, unchecked by any superior or central authority.

Lord Ebrington contended that, if Sir James Graham's principle were to be adopted, bones must be crushed by independent labourers, if they were crushed at all.

Mr. Wakley thought, that as this practice had now got advocates among Noble Lords, the local interest, which supported such atrocity, must be stronger than he supposed. The Poor Law Commissioners must have more to do than he had hitherto given them credit for. He knew that they had been the protectors of his profession against the parsimony of boards of guardians. One board had dismissed a surgeon for giving what they considered too much food to sick paupers, and the Poor Law Commissioners, though they declared the surgeon to have acted rightly, had not the power to reinstate him. He thought that Sir James Graham ought not to allow forty-eight hours to elapse without giving additional powers to the Poor Law Commissioners, if that which Lord Ebrington had stated were correct. If that Noble Lord had sanctioned the offensive, disagreeable, and unwholesome practice of crushing decomposed bones in any union-house, he was afraid that the practice was more general than he had anticipated.

Mr. Roebuck called the attention of the House to the wide discrepancy between the opinions just expressed by Mr. Wakley and those which he had formerly advocated to obtain popular applause. In his past speeches he would have deprived "the three tyrants of Somerset-house," "the pinch-paupers," of all power whatsoever. Now forty-eight hours were not to elapse without additional powers being granted to them for the sake of humanity. Mr. Wakley had formerly pointed the finger of scorn towards all who supported the New Poor Law. He (Mr. Roebuck) had supported it from the first; and he now fixed the finger of scorn on Mr. Wakley, for the recklessness either of his past or of his present assertions. That Hon. Member was not justified in employing the arts of popular demagogueism to cast obloquy upon men who are as humane and honourable as himself, and a little more cautious and deliberate in coming to conclusions on important subjects.

Sir C. Lemon declared it to be his opinion that the paupers would find the breaking of stones not a whit more agreeable to them than the crushing of these bones by machinery.

Mr. Wakley repelled the insinuations of Mr. Roebuck, and contended that he had no right to impute motives to him, as he had done, in saying that he made statements to obtain popular applause. He was prepared to repeat in the House everything which he had said out of the House against the Poor Law Commissioners. All he had said was, that if this practice, which Mr. Roebuck defended, existed under the Poor Law Commissioners, he would give them power immediately to abolish it.

Mr. Henley was surprised at the short memory of Mr. Wakley, when he eulogised the kindness which the Poor Law Commissioners had shown to the members of his profession. Surely they were the parties who compelled the boards of guardians to go on the contract system at the beginning. Public opinion afterwards compelled them to abandon the system they had themselves set up. If the Poor Law Commissioners had not originated this system of bone-crushing their Assistant-Commissioners had recommended its adoption in every part of the country.

After a protest on the part of Mr. Sharman Crawford against Mr. Wakley's suggestion of giving additional power to the Poor Law Commissioners, the return was ordered.

THE PROPOSED NEW LAW OF SETTLEMENT.

Sir J. Graham said, that when he addressed the House on the law of settlement in the course of last session, he had mentioned some facts to show the vast importance of the subject. It was a fact, that no less than a tenth part of our population now received relief from the poor-rates in the course of the year. The magnitude of the sum dispensed in their relief was very large. Since the termination of the war in 1815, notwithstanding all that had been said of the inhumanity of the law, no less a sum had been levied from the parochial rate-payers than £200,000,000, or, in other words, a sum equal to one-fourth of the National Debt. It depended on the settlement of an individual, when he first applied for relief, where he should receive it—whether in the place of his residence, if he was settled there, or to what place he should be removed in order to be relieved in case he was not settled. The magnitude of the question deserved consideration, and increased the difficulty of making any change in the law. He had laid on the table at the close of the last session a bill in the hope of its undergoing free discussion in the recess, and of his receiving aid from the public, in order to amend it. He would now proceed to lay before the House his present bill, as the best return which he could make to the comments and suggestions which had been offered him. In his bill of last year there were four points prominently treated. First, he had proposed great alterations in the law of settlement by proposing that all other causes of settlement should be repealed, and that birth should be the sole ground of settlement hereafter. Secondly, as to removals, he had proposed severe checks to the summary power now in existence, and it was not necessary for him to repeat more than one of them at present, by which he proposed that five years' industrial residence in any locality should not give an absolute settlement to any individual, but should place him in such a situation that, though without a settlement, he could not be removed. His third branch related to appeals on the law of removal, and his fourth to the removal of Scotch and Irish paupers to their respective countries. To the two last branches no serious objections were made; but the strongest were made to the two first, the substitution of a birth settlement prospectively and retrospectively, and the proposition for the irremovability of parties not having a settlement, but having a five years' industrial residence. It was his wish at present to meet both those objections. He was not prepared to propose that a retroactive effect should be given to the right of settlement by birth; but he was prepared to propose, that from and after the passing of this act, only prospectively, birth should be the ground of settlement, leaving undisturbed all existing settlements. Of late years a great statistical improvement had been introduced. The registrations, not only of the birth, but also of the place of the birth, was now compulsory, and thus facilities were given for proving birth settlements. The interests of the town and the country did not always run in the same direction. The effect of the substitution of a birth settlement, retrospectively and prospectively, was in favour of the town, at the expense of the country districts; for towns were the great marts of industry, and attracted the labour of the rural districts. If birth were the only ground of settlement, it was clear that the expense of providing for destitution must be thrown upon the country. The abolition, therefore, of birth settlement retrospectively would be favourable to the rural districts, and not beneficial to the towns. The converse of this was true with respect to irremovability. The clause which provided that five years' industrial residence should render a man irremovable, would cause an increase of burden on the towns, and would be a consequent benefit to the country. He was therefore disposed to forego two portions of his former bill. He would no longer insist on birth settlement retrospectively, and he would withdraw the irremovability arising from a five years' residence. He then called the attention of the House to the advantages which the poor would derive from the other six limitations in his bill of last year, which he proposed to continue in the present. He then stated that it was his intention to propose that no woman residing with her husband at the time of his death in the parish of his settlement should be removable to her own parish after his death; that no widow, whether living in her husband's parish or elsewhere, should be removable for twelve months after his death; that no legitimate child after its father's death should be removable under sixteen from its father's settlement; that no illegitimate child under sixteen years of age should be removable from its mother's settlement; that no one becoming chargeable by sickness or accident should be placed under order of removal until he or she had received relief for forty days consecutively; and, lastly, that persons requiring relief should be relieved wherever they were resident, irrespective of their settlement. He then detailed the substance of the clauses which he had provided for the removal of Irish and Scotch paupers, and for the reparation of any wrong which might be done by illegal removals, and which were precisely the same as those introduced in his bill of last year. He then came to what he called the most important provision in his measure—it was so important that he would give the fullest time for its consideration before he called upon the House to affirm it on the second reading of the bill. Dr. Adam Smith doubted whether any poor man ever reached the age of forty without experiencing the hardship and injustice of the law of settlement, and thought it monstrous that any man should be confined within the narrow limits of his parish either for his residence or his labour. In England and Wales there are 14,500 parishes—their limits are of course very narrow, and yet within them is the poor man restrained. It will be an advantage to the poor man to reduce the number of restrictions which are now placed on the free circulation of his labour, and the number of those small local circles within which he is confined by the present law. He, therefore, proposed to substitute 620 for these 14,500 small districts—in other words, to substitute unions for parishes. If he could induce the House to substitute union settlements for parochial settlements, he should consider himself as having accomplished a great benefit both for the payers and recipients of the rates. He then read several memorials which he had received from boards of guardians in Norfolk and Lancashire, and from Assistant Poor Law Commissioners, and from a meeting of the clerks of the boards of guardians, in favour of the alteration which he had just suggested. The Right Hon. Gentleman next proceeded to state in detail the manner in which he proposed to change parochial into union settlements, and the manner in which he intended to apportion the rates to be paid by the different parishes in the union. He proposed that the amount of the poor-rate (abstracting the county rate and other similar charges) paid for the seven years antecedent to the 5th of March, 1845, should fix the relative amount of the burden to be defrayed by each parish. The equity of such an arrangement could not, he thought, be impugned. He should weary the House if he stated all the advantages which he anticipated from these changes; he would therefore conclude by moving for leave to bring in a bill to consolidate and amend the laws relating to parochial settlement and the relief of the poor, and would recommend it to the justice and humanity of all who were anxious to promote the interests of the poor.

Colonel Wood expressed his regret at hearing the last suggestion of his Right Hon. Friend; but if union settlements were to be substituted for parochial settlements, he was convinced that it would be most injurious to the interests of the poor; for it would render the inhabitants of a parish inattentive to the employment of their local poor. He sincerely wished that residence, and residence alone, should give a settlement; and if the bill proceeded, he should certainly propose a clause that residence for a year should in future give a settlement.

Mr. Bright said, that though he viewed this bill with some alarm and even some suspicion, he was most anxious to co-operate with any Government which seriously intended to remove the distress and suffering which were endured in too many cases under the present law.

Mr. Henley objected to this bill as being the first step to break up the parochial system of England. Besides, it was absurd to extend the circulation of a poor man's labour to the limits of the union only; what he wanted was, to have a free circulation of it throughout the whole country.

Mr. Brotherton said, that without committing himself to support the bill, he was inclined to look favourably upon it, as an improvement on the present law. He thought that it would give satisfaction, and he should throw no obstacle in the way of its passing.

Lord Ebrington approved of the general outline of the bill, and thought that it would be a great boon to the labouring man.

Mr. Beckett Dennison thought that Sir J. Graham had deprived his bill of last session of its best feature in depriving it of the clause which gave irremovability after a residence of five years. He should have preferred three years, two years, one year even, to five years. Still the bill was a great improvement on the present law, and he should give to it his strenuous support.

Sir J. Graham thanked the House for the cordial approbation which it had given to his bill.

Mr. Wakley said, that in consequence of that remark he must observe that in offering no opposition that night to this bill he must not be considered as approving of it. It was a bill of tremendous operation. It would break up the parochial system of England, and would, he was afraid, render permanent the law of the 4th and 5th of William IV., which gave the Poor Law Commissioners existence. He then vindicated himself from the sarcasms of Mr. Roebuck, and declared that he would not permit any member to impute improper motives to him. He was afraid that the bill would operate most injuriously to the interests of the poor.

Leave was then given to bring in the bill.

The House then adjourned.

Wednesday, Feb. 12.

On the motion for going into a committee of supply, Mr. Roebuck called the attention of the House to the alleged fact, that the thanks of her Majesty had been given to the Sheriff of Montreal for his conduct in the late parliamentary elections of Canada, although at the time there was an election petition against the return for Montreal, impugning the conduct of the sheriff as returning officer.

Mr. Hope said, that Sir C. Metcalfe had highly eulogised the conduct of the sheriff for securing the public peace under very alarming circumstances; and in reply to his dispatch, Lord Stanley authorised him to convey to the Sheriff the thanks of the Executive Government—not the thanks of her Majesty, for his exertions.

In reply to a question from Mr. Bouverie,

Sir R. Peel said, that no negociations were pending between this country and Brazil involving any alterations in the tariff of either country. The only negociations pending related to an ordinary treaty of navigation and commerce.

Mr. Ricardo hoped the Government would abandon its policy of differential duties.

Mr. M. Gibson said the difficulty of effecting reciprocity treaties was to be found at home, and it would be much more satisfactory if the Right Hon. Baronet would endeavour to negociate with the Central Society for the Protection of Agriculture.

In reply to questions from Lord J. Russell,

Sir R. Peel said that it was not his intention to press the House to a decision upon the resolutions which he meant to submit to the committee of ways and means on Friday next, though he thought that any long delay would be productive of great inconvenience. It was his intention to postpone all other public business until the opinions of the House could be gathered upon the financial views to be submitted on Friday.

The House then went into committee of supply, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer moved, that £15,404,500 exchequer bills be granted as a vote of supply to her Majesty for the service of the current year.

After some brief discussion the resolution was agreed to, and the House adjourned at half-past five.

Thursday, Feb. 13.

Mr. Darby presented several petitions from various districts, complaining of the burdens which press on agriculturists, and praying for immediate relief.

Mr. Masterman presented a petition from the City of London, signed by 1,500 persons, and praying for a revision of the Excise duty on soap.

Mr. John Bright gave notice that he would upon this day fortnight move for a repeal of the Game Laws.

After the presentation of several petitions,

NOTICE OF MOTION—STATE OF THE NAVY.

Sir C. Napier rose to move for a select committee to inquire into the manner in which the money vested since 1835, for the construction of ships, had been expended, and if the ships constructed are an improvement of the old "system." The Hon. Member (who dropped his voice so as to be nearly inaudible) in commencing his speech, proceeded to say that his only motive in bringing forward the motion was to ascertain whether or not the reports in circulation as to the defects of these ships were correct. He had been told that it was no business of his to interfere with such a matter; that it should be left to the proper authorities, by which was meant, he supposed, the Admiralty. It had been left to the proper authorities for a great number of years, and they had, notwithstanding, seen the greatest errors and blunders prevailing. This was neither a political nor a party question, but one which concerned the well-being of the navy and the proper application of the finances of the country; and, in the remarks which he was about to make, he should be guided solely by such considerations. It would be necessary to go back for a considerable time. When he (Sir C. Napier) first entered the service, in 1800, the navy contained several three-deckers of 120, 110, 98, and 90 guns. The first class generally consisted of good ships, but the others were so inferior, that they were found totally unfit for service; but, notwithstanding all the representations which were made to the Admiralty, the same system was persevered in. This country had taken some very excellent ships from the French. There were the Terror, the Sans Pareil, and the Canopus. Several ships had been constructed upon the model of the Canopus, and had been found to answer extremely well. The Sans Pareil was a most excellent ship, but she had never been copied up to this very time. He now came to the frigates of those days. There were forty-six gun frigates, forty-two gun frigates, and thirty-two gun frigates, all carrying 18-pounders, thirty-two gun frigates carrying 12-pounders, and twenty-eight gun frigates. Those were very good ships in their day, but they were found not to answer, and they were superseded by the thirty-two gun ships. One of these ships was commanded by an Hon. and Gallant Officer opposite, and another by himself, and he could say that a more useless lot of ships had never been constructed by any Admiralty. They were found to be inefficient, in fact, good for nothing; and they were superseded by another class of frigates, called twenty-eight gun frigates. These, however, like the rest, were not found to answer, and those were given up. Another class of ships were those called sixteen-gun sloops, mounting six-pounders, and those vessels were persevered in until they were found perfectly useless; and there was not a youngster or boy in the navy that did not know it. The next class of ships adopted were the eighteen-gun frigates, which were much longer and much narrower than the eighteen-gun brigs, which every body must have expected would have failed, and which he looked upon as patent coffins for burying a hundred and twenty men at once. The last class in the service which he noticed was that of the gun-brigs, and of those a whole host had been introduced into the service likely to excite a great deal of notice, but calculated to be of little service. There was the Barker, the Bruiser, and a number of others, which if taken together, would form a whole pack. But these were soon exploded, and the ten-gun brigs were shortly afterwards introduced for them. These again in their turn had last year been condemned by the shipwright's committee. The navy was in a most inefficient state, the ships being generally constructed upon inferior principles. The Gallant Commodore, after having gone to a considerable length further into the subject, the main gist of which was to the effect that the present navy was in a very incompetent state, concluded by making his motion.

Sir George Cockburn replied to the Gallant Commodore. He would not go through the whole of the statements, nor attempt to defend certain defects in vessels which had been alluded to. It ought to be borne in recollection that during nearly the whole period of which the Gallant Commodore had been speaking, the art of ship-building had been by no means so perfect as at present. He admitted that many of the vessels of which the Gallant Officer had been speaking were of a very bad description. Those, however, had been supplanted by ships of a superior construction. He then proceeded to justify the transactions of the present Admiralty Board, though he could not pretend to answer for the one that had preceded it in office, contending and proving a series of nautical statements, that considerabile improvements for the better had taken place under the management of the existing authorities.

Captain Rous said the navy and the country were greatly indebted to the Gallant Commodore, and defended at considerable length the same positions. He considered this branch of the service had not been at all attended to by the present Government, in the manner it ought to have been done.

Mr. Charles Wood, Captain Pechell, and Admiral Bowles having briefly spoken to the motion, Mr. Wakley said that he did not see any good that would accrue from the motion of the Gallant Commodore, and advised him to withdraw it. He was opposed to the whole of our present system of naval tactics; for while he thought the navy ought to be maintained in all its integrity, as constituting the principal bulwark of the country, he deprecated to the utmost the squandering of large sums of money upon old hulks that were never fit for any active service, or if they were so fitted out would continually endanger the lives of them who might be appointed to man them.

Sir Charles Napier having briefly replied, the House divided, when there appeared

For the motion............... 32
Against it..................... 93
Majority....................... —61

The House then went into committee on the Railway Clauses Consolidation Bill, and after several clauses were agreed to, the House adjourned.

Rochdale.—A public meeting of the Coal Miners of the Rochdale district will take place on Monday next, February 17th, in the large room of the Amen Corner Inn, when a lecture will be delivered by Mr. William Dixon.

Police Intelligence.

GUILDHALL.

Saturday.—Two of a Trade never Agree.—A very respectably attired young man named Charles Knight was summoned before Mr. Alderman Moon, for annoying Mr. Simmonds, a foreigner, and a medical practitioner, residing in Skinner-street, Snow-hill. The complainant stated that for several years past he had been the victim of a conspiracy entered into between the prisoner and several other young men, who were in the habit of knocking him up, and sending him to different parts of the neighbourhood, under the pretence that his aid was required in cases of urgent necessities, and frequently he found his door placarded with curious extracts and lectures he had delivered on former occasions at various institutions. On Friday night last, between twelve and one o'clock he was aroused from his rest by a violent ringing at the street-door bell, and on his throwing up his bed-room window and inquiring who was there, the defendant called out in a gruff manner, "I want you."—The defendant, in answer to the case, said he had been out to a party on the evening in question, and returning home rather late, he found all the inmates gone. He rang Mr. De la Mont's bell, and receiving no answer, he pulled the complainant's bell, thinking it would be heard then. He was aware that Mr. Simmonds had been annoyed in the manner that gentleman had described, but he assured the Alderman he had no hand in it.—Mr. Alderman Moon said, under these circumstances, he would dismiss the case, but at the same time he must tell the defendant that he had no right to ring the complainant's bell.—The defendant promised not to repeat the offence, and both retired apparently satisfied with the result.

MANSION-HOUSE.

Wednesday.—Happy England!—A man, named James Oliver, who had genuine symptoms of distress about him, was charged with having stolen two shawls.—The prisoner walked up to a policeman in Cheapside, at a quarter past eight in the evening, and said, "Have your eyes upon me." He then went into a shop, and, taking hold of two shawls, returned with them, and was taken into custody.—The prisoner declared that he was in the deepest distress, and that he had resorted to the expedient of visiting the shop in order to obtain relief by being put in prison.—The Lord Mayor asked the prisoner who and what he was?—The prisoner replied that from consideration for others he must decline uttering a word about himself. All he would say was that he never committed a robbery in his life, and he did not consider what he had done the night before was any offence at all.—The Lord Mayor regretted to have such a case brought before him, but said he was bound to commit the prisoner for trial.

SOUTHWARK.

Monday.—Daring Robbery.—William Abbot, a powerful looking young man, was placed at the bar before Mr. Trail, charged with being concerned, with two others not in custody, in stealing from the person of Robert Roberts, a shoemaker, residing in Red Cross-street, Borough, about ten shillings in money, a letter, and a memorandum-book.—Prosecutor, a simple looking young man, stated that about twelve o'clock on Saturday night, he was returning towards home, through Castle-street, Southwark-bridge-road, after having partaken rather too freely of grog. When near Worcester-street, two men and the prisoner seized his arms; the former picked his right-hand pocket of his money, while the latter held his left arm. After they had robbed him they ran away, but he pursued the prisoner, who was stopped by a policeman, and taken into custody.—The officer said that the prisoner was an associate of well-known thieves.—Remanded until Friday.

CLERKENWELL.

Friday.—Charge of Threatening to Murder.——Mr. John James Schledel, a merchant, living in Harrington-street, Hampstead, was charged with threatening to murder Miss Schledel, the daughter of Mr. George Pfeiller Schledel, a gentleman residing at 39, Ossulton-street, Somers Town. Mr. Schledel deposed that the prisoner was his nephew, and on the previous night he went to the door of the house, 11, Parkington-street, Islington, belonging to a gentleman named Evans, where his daughter was staying, and knocked loudly for admission; he was refused, and witness coming up at the time, directed him to go away; the prisoner refused, and his violent knocking at that time of night (twelve o'clock) disturbed the whole street. Finding knocking to be ineffectual, he commenced kicking at the door with all his might, saying he would murder witness's daughter, and witness felt confident that if he had got in he would have murdered her.—Miss Schledel, a pretty-looking girl of 18, wearing a profusion of ringlets, deposed that the prisoner was her cousin, and had threatened to knock her brains out on the previous day, with a poker.—Mr. Combe: Can you assign no reason?—Miss Schledel (blushing): He has been paying his addresses to me, and because I did not receive him as favourably as he desired, he threatened to knock my brains out, and then to kill himself; and I am afraid he will carry his threat into execution.—Mr. Combe after a private consultation with the prisoner's friends, committed him in default of bail, and ordered that the prisoner be closely watched while he remained in the cells attached to the court.

Monday.—A Pauper's Life.—An able-bodied young man, named Crean, was charged with breaking sixteen panes of glass in the Islington workhouse, of which he has been an inmate for years. The offence was clearly proved, and the damage done laid at £1. Serjeant Allen, 21 N, deposed that on Saturday evening, soon after the prisoner was locked up, the constable, on going his rounds, saw the prisoner hanging in the cell. He at once cut him down—a moment later and life would have been extinct. He contrived to hang himself by fastening his neckcloth to the top of the cell. He was closely watched all day on Sunday, and on Sunday night two other prisoners were placed in the cell with him. When he supposed they were slumbering he made another attempt to hang himself with his braces, but failed in it owing to the timely interposition of his comrades. Committed for six weeks.

BOW STREET.

Saturday.—Very Ladylike.—Mary Lee, a well-dressed young woman, was charged with being drunk and incapable. A police-officer found her on Friday night in Pall-mall, annoying gentlemen going to their clubs, and when he requested her to go home, she threw herself on the ground, and said she was at home. No persuasion could convince her to the contrary, and she was taken to the station-house.—Mr. Twyford asked if she was a prostitute.—The policeman replied that she was.—The prisoner, however, declared that she was not; she got her living by honest industry.—Mr. Twyford: Well, you have been accused of very disorderly conduct, and of being a prostitute.—Prisoner: I tell you, sir, I am not a prostitute.—Mr. Twyford: The officer swears that you are, and I am bound to believe him on oath; you are committed for a month.—Prisoner: You are a nice fellow, you are; why don't you send that d—d policeman to —— for a month?

Tuesday.—The Portland Vase Case.—The young man named William Lloyd, who was brought before Mr. Jardine on Friday evening, was again placed at the bar for final examination, charged with wilfully and maliciously destroying with a stone the inimitable vase in the British Museum. The vase, which was valued at £1,000 and upwards, was described as being the property of his Grace the Duke of Portland. In reply to the question, what he had to say to the charge, the prisoner said—Only this, that I had been indulging in intemperance for some days, from the effects of which I had only partially recovered when I entered the Museum, and being consequently in a state of nervous excitement, I was afraid of everything I met with, and under such impression I acted in the manner I have done, and for which I was then taken into custody; but I did not commit the act through any design or evil intention what'ever towards any person.—Mr. Bodkin said he had the honour to appear on behalf of the trustees of the British Museum, upon whom the principal duty devolved in prosecuting in the case on the part of his Grace the Duke of Portland, who had kindly permitted the property in question to be placed in the Museum for the inspection and gratification of the public. It was much to be regretted that such was the defective state of the law upon such offences, that it was difficult to meet the present charge by anything like an adequate punishment; however, it was provided by the 24th section of the Wilful Damage Act, "that if any person shall unlawfully or maliciously commit any damage, injury, or spoil to, or upon, any real or personal property whatever, either of a public or private nature, for which no remedy or punishment was therein before provided, every person being convicted thereof before a justice of the peace shall forfeit and pay such sum of money as should appear to the justice to be reasonable compensation for the damage, injury, or spoil so committed, not exceeding the sum of £5."—Mr. Hawkins proved that the shade, which was worth about £3, the fragments of which were lying on the floor with the fragments of the vase, was the property of the trustees of the Museum.—Mr. Jardine said that was the most perfect and legitimate course for the trustees to pursue, and called upon the prisoner to pay the amount of the glass shade, having wilfully and maliciously destroyed it.—Mr. Jardine: I cannot help, in my humble capacity, observing with the Learned Counsel, that the Act of Parliament providing for such offences is very inefficient, which prevents my entertaining the case respecting the destruction of the vase against you for the present; but for the destruction of the glass shade I shall put the law in full force, and order you to pay the sum of £3 forthwith, and in default be committed to hard labour in the House of Correction for two calendar months.—The prisoner was then removed from the bar.

Wednesday.—Distressing Case.—A fine looking young man named James Vernon, aged 18 years, was placed at the bar, supported by two of his shopmates, who held him by the arms to prevent him from injuring himself, charged with attempting to commit suicide by hanging himself. The defendant's father, who is a printer residing in Coram-street, St. Pancras, on entering the witness-box, was deeply affected. He stated that his son, who had assisted him in his business, kept company for some time with a young female to whom he seemed much attached, and to all appearances the feeling was mutual; but on Sunday night last, for some cause, respecting which he had no means of obtaining any information, she threw herself into the river from the parapet of Waterloo-bridge, when she was carried away by the current, and the body has not since been found, although the usual means were resorted to. The occurrence was shortly after communicated to the defendant, and such was the shock produced upon his mind, that he was almost immediately deprived of reason to such an extent that it was deemed necessary to watch his movements; but, notwithstanding the vigilance of his friends, he continued to evade them, and made several attempts upon his life, the first of which was by a sharp instrument, of which he was deprived, and on the next occasion by strangulation. Yesterday, being engaged with his shopmates, he was suddenly missed from his work, and search being made, he was discovered in the privy, the door of which the men were obliged to break open, suspended, and being cut down it was with difficulty animation was restored. Mr. Jardine asked the defendant what explanation he could give of the sad account given by his father?—The defendant, without uttering a word, stared at each of his companions, who still continued to hold his hands, in a wild idiotic manner, evidently unconscious of being addressed by the magistrate, or anything that transpired from the time he was conducted into the court. Mr. Jardine directed that he might be immediately conveyed to St. Giles's workhouse, and in the course of the day, Mr. Tucker, one of the overseers, waited on the magistrate to say that the case had been entertained, and that the unfortunate youth's comforts should be attended to.

Thursday.—Destruction of the Portland Vase.—Liberation of the Delinquent.—This day a letter was received by Mr. Jardine, enclosing him the sum of £3, being the amount of fine inflicted upon the young man who gave the name of William Lloyd, for wantonly destroying the Portland Vase. The magistrate immediately handed the money to the under gaoler, with directions that he would proceed to Tothill-fields Prison and communicate with the governor, to whom the fine was to be paid, upon the receipt of which the prisoner was liberated, and walked with the officer to the vicinity of the court, when he left him, and returned to the European Coffee-house in Long-acre, where he still remains. It appears from the inquiries made that the delinquent, who gave a wrong name, is a student in the University of Dublin, where he a short time back entered as a pensioner under the tuition of Mr. Atkins, one of the junior fellows, and has also a brother of some standing in the same college. He had no business in London but to spend the vacation and visit the principal places in the metropolis until the approach of his next examination, when he intends to return, previous to which he should write to his friends for means to take him back, as all his money was exhausted. During his short confinement he exhibited a degree of obstinacy, which was immediately repressed by the turnkeys, for on his being ordered at seven o'clock in the morning with the other prisoners to undergo the usual ablutions, he appeared dogged, and was about to refuse obeying, which caused the person in attendance to move him on, when he suddenly turned round and struck the man under the ear, in consequence of which he was immediately placed in solitary confinement, and was accommodated with a pair of handcuffs. In this condition he was found when the money was sent for his liberation, and had not his benefactor been so prompt, his hair would have been cut off in the course of the day to undergo the punishment awarded him by the court. He makes no hesitation in declaring that, had he been obliged to remain in the same state in prison till the time allotted to him had expired, he would have taken the earliest opportunity to put an end to his existence, not only on account of the severity of the punishment he had to undergo, but the remorse he felt for having committed an offence for which no adequate reparation could be made on his part, the cause of which was his intemperate habits for several days, without the participation of any companion. He is of the Roman Catholic persuasion, and while the examination was going on, the only circumstance that gave him uneasiness was having observed a person in the court taking a sketch of him, which he apprehended was intended for publication, and might ultimately lead to his expulsion from college, although he had concealed his right name. The destruction of the vase is another subject which seems to cause great uneasiness, for although he has been convicted of breaking the glass shade, he fears he can again be brought up for the greater offence, and be sentenced to a longer imprisonment, and he has engaged himself all the afternoon in writing to his friends in Dublin to remit him means to enable him to quit London. As to the amount sent to the prison for his liberation, he declares his total ignorance of the person who remitted it to the magistrate, and the persons with whom he lodges seem equally surprised at the occurrence.

LAMBETH.

Wednesday.—Attempt to Commit Suicide.—Sarah Freeman, a woman about 40 years of age, apparently under the influence of nervous excitement, was placed at the bar before Mr. Norton, charged with creating a disturbance in Arlington-street, Waterloo-road, and with attempting to commit suicide by strangling herself in the cell in which she was confined at the Tower-street station. Serjeant Evans, of the L division, said that the defendant was now under bail for having attempted to commit suicide by jumping off Waterloo-bridge. In answer to questions put to her by Mr. Norton, the woman, who trembled violently and wept, stated that her husband, who was a waterman, and to whom she had been married four years, was in the habit of ill-using her. She had been to fetch him from a public-house last night, and had some beer with him. On their return home he knocked her about, and she ran out of the house for protection, and unless she had done so he would have murdered her.—Mr. Norton: But how could you think of such a dreadful thing as to commit suicide?—Defendant: I was not in my right senses. Sometimes I do not know what I am about. My husband does not give me his earnings. Frequently I do not get more than 1s. 6d. a week. I admit endeavouring to jump off Waterloo-bridge. My husband's bad temper drove me to it.—Mr. Norton directed the officers to obtain the attendance of her husband, and remanded the defendant until he could be brought before him.

WORSHIP-STREET.

Tuesday.—The late Murder at Bethnal-green.—James Tapping, who stood committed for the alleged wilful murder of Emma Whiter, was brought up in order that the depositions which had been previously taken might be read over to him; which being done the prisoner was fully committed to Newgate for trial.

QUEEN'S SQUARE.

Saturday.—Assaulting a Publican.—Thos. Hitch, an omnibus time-office keeper at the Queen's Arms, was brought up, charged with assaulting Mr. Allder, publican, Chelsea. It appeared from the evidence adduced that Hitch was in the habit of attending the house of the prosecutor, and on the previous day, about two o'clock, he had two glasses of liquor, for which threepence-halfpenny was charged. The money was missed at the time. The next evening some altercation arising about it, defendant began to abuse the prosecutor in a very offensive manner, and ended by striking him in the throat. Persevering in his violence, a constable was called in, and the defendant was given into custody. Fined forty shillings, or in default of payment, one month in the House of Correction.

Forthcoming Meetings.

City of London.—The public discussion will be resumed at the Hall, 1, Turnagain-lane, on Sunday morning next, February 16th, at half-past ten. In the afternoon, at three precisely, the Metropolitan District Council will assemble; and in the evening, at seven, Mr. C. Doyle will lecture.

Somers Town.—On Sunday evening next, Mr. C. Doyle will deliver a public lecture, to commence at nine precisely, at the Bricklayers' Arms, Tonbridge-street, Cromer-street.

The Members of the Somers Town locality are requested to meet on Sunday evening next, at Mr. Duddridge's, Tonbridge-street, New-road, at seven o'clock precisely.

Camberwell and Walworth.—A meeting will be held at the Montpelier Tavern, Walworth, on Monday evening next, February 17th, at eight precisely.

Hammersmith.—A meeting will be held at the Dun Cow, Brook Green-lane, on Tuesday evening next, February 18th, at eight precisely.

Marylebone Locality.—A members' meeting will be held on Wednesday evening, Feb. 19, at the Coachmakers' Arms, Circus-street, New-road, at half-past seven o'clock.

Chelsea.—Mr. M'Grath will lecture at the Cheshire Cheese, Grosvenor-row, on Sunday evening next, February 16th, at eight o'clock precisely.

Leeds.—Mr. C. Doyle will lecture in the Bazaar, Briggate, on Sunday the 23rd inst.

South Lancashire Meeting.—The next meeting of the South Lancashire Delegates will be held on Sunday, February 23rd, in the Chartist room, Charlestown, Ashton-under-Lyne, at ten o'clock in the morning.

Hebden Bridge.—Two lectures will be delivered in the Association room on Sunday evening next, at two o'clock in the afternoon, and six in the evening, by Wm. Dixon, of Manchester.

Nottingham.—On Sunday evening next, a public meeting will be held in the Democratic Chapel, at six o'clock in the evening.—The Operative Hall Building Committee will meet at the Pheasant, Charlotte-street, next Sunday afternoon, at five o'clock.

Rochdale.—Mr. James Leach, of Manchester, will deliver two lectures next Sunday, at two in the afternoon, and six in the evening, at the Association room, Mill-street.

Birmingham.—Mr. T. Clark will lecture on Sunday next, February 16th, at the Democratic Chapel, Thorp-street, at half-past six in the evening.

Longton Potteries.—Mr. T. Clark will lecture at Longton on Monday, the 17th inst.; and at Hanley, Tuesday, the 18th.

Macclesfield.—On Wednesday next Mr. Clark, of the Executive, will lecture in the Chartist-room, Stanley-street; to commence at eight o'clock.

Sheffield.—A lecture will be delivered in the room, Fig Tree-lane, on Sunday, Feb. 16, to commence at half-past six. There is, in connection with the above room, an excellent library, consisting of upwards of 300 volumes. Persons becoming members of the Association may have the benefit of the library.

Wakefield.—The Chartists of Wakefield are requested to meet in the room, George and Crown-yard, on Sunday evening next, Feb. 16.

Dewsbury.—The next Dewsbury district meeting will be held in the Chartist-room, Dewsbury, on Sunday, the 16th inst., at two o'clock in the afternoon.

Oldham.—On Sunday (to-morrow), Mr. F. A. Taylor will lecture in the Chartist-room, Greaves-street, at six o'clock in the evening.

Leicester.—The members of the Hampden locality will hold their usual weekly meeting for discussion at Mr. Oades's room, on Sunday next, at half-past six o'clock.

BIRTH.

Thomas Slingsby Duncombe Floyd, born at Deptford on the 4th of January, and registered as above on the 21st. ult.

DEATHS.

On Thursday, Feb. 6th, after a short but painful illness, Selina, wife of Mr. Thomas Simnitt, pipe-manufacturer, aged twenty-seven years, deeply regretted by a large circle of friends.

A Veteran.—We have this week to record the death of Mr. Andrew Franklin, of Tavistock-street, Covent-garden, in his ninetieth year. Nearly seventy years since Mr. Franklin commenced his literary labours in connexion with the *Morning Post* newspaper, and subsequently joined the *Morning Advertiser*, where he continued till old age compelled him, a few years since, to abandon his editorial duties, and retire into private life, taking with him the respect and esteem of all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.—*Morning Advertiser*.

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Saturday, February 15, 1845