

William Hewitt Publisher

(Continued from the second column.)

Franklin's Office - 2nd

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## THE NATIONAL LAND AND LABOUR BANK.

they then offered me a large sum to suppress it; at this I felt rather indignant and put the report into the fire, saying, "Do you suppose I keep a newspaper to traffic in your wounded feelings?" The gentlemen looked gratifiedly surprised, and told me the price they had paid AT OTHER SHOPS for suppressing the report. On leaving my room they enquired where they could pay their subscriptions for a year's papers. I asked them what politics they were of? They replied, "Tories." I asked them if they would have thought of subscribing for so extreme a paper but for the circumstance that brought them? They said, "No." "Then," said I, "You shall not subscribe. I am not to be bribed directly nor indirectly." They shook hands, thanked me, and have since been my FRIENDS.

Now, Brother Chartists, you will probably have asked yourselves, what's coming. I'll tell you—Now is the NICK OF TIME FOR AGITATION. Parliament, nay, all the Parliaments of the world, are about to meet. They are all, one and all, hampered by GOD'S DISPENSATION. Their weakness is our opportunity. I MUST TAKE THE FIELD AGAIN.

All the work to be done for my youngest child shall be done by contract, and is already contracted for. I will put your houses in order, I will then put the Bank on its first legs, and prepare for the jubilee of my eldest child attaining his majority, and by the 1st of February I shall start on my holy mission, but will not visit any place that does not promise me the TROUBLESOME PLEASURE of coming back with a fair proportion of Chartist wares.—Petition Sheetwell filled. You see the WHIG CHIEF-JUSTICE OF THE COMMON-PLEAS has not yet RUINED ME WITH EXPENSES, nor cowed my spirit. I hope to be at the opening of our own Parliament, at White Conduit House, on Monday, to receive the commands of MY LEADER and YOUR FRIEND: and no saboteur ever more cheerfully, or scrupulously obeyed the commands of his superior officer, than I shall obey his.

This, my friends, is no small portion of our strength, that all HONOUR, none ENVY, Dumcombe. He has withheld no balance sheet; he has silenced no discussion; he has relied upon no hired staff; he has exacted no tribute; he has trimmed to no trimming policy for self and patronage; he has not been all things to all men; he has not "run with the hare and held with the hound"; he did not use our strength for his own luck and our undoing; he joined us when we were weak, denounced, persecuted, despised, and contemned. His reception on Monday, therefore, will be such as will convince him of our confidence and love, and our enemies of our devotion to our principles—which are his principles. We will be BID FOR ACCORDING TO OUR VALUE; let us not UNDERRATE OURSELVES; let the purchasers understand that we go IN ONE LOT; and that FREEDOM IS OUR PRICE; and THE CHARTER THE COIN in which it must be paid. Every throne is Europe, thank God, is tottering from rottenness, while the President of America is fast rivetting the people's chains with a National Debt, which Pitt looked upon as the bond of peace between the RICH OPPRESSOR and the POOR OPPRESSED. Ireland, from which I had some latent hope, has been paralysed by intermitting fits of treachery and famine, the magic of the old showman standing in the way of any new movement. We must have our PETITION with OUR FOUR MILLION of signatures, and our Chartist Convention to escort it to the DOOR OF THE SENATE HOUSE, as a reward to our chief, who will meet us and cheerfully receive the national tribute of a people's confidence. Chartists! we are the only moving, acting, active party; we will not be beaten or put down by friend or foe, nor yet by a union of all the adverse elements. To your TENTS then, oh Chartists! drawn from the INK BOTTLE. Away with your old women's rubbish about female virtue and strained morality. If indeed you have vice, make it a crime by good example, and give to all an opportunity of developing their virtues, by rewarding them according to their merits. Your rulers live upon whoredom, drunkenness, lewdness, dissipation, gambling, and crime. MAKE THEM VIRTUOUS; REFORM THEIR SINS AND YOUR NEIGHBOURS CRIMES WILL VANISH.

But, for God and the People's sake, let us have no more of your mock sentimentality. I don't promise that this will be the CLINCHING YEAR; nor that I will put MY HEAD ON THE BLOCK IF THE CHARTER DOESN'T COME, but, I say, let the next three months be the SIGNING QUARTER, and the NEXT YEAR WILL BRING FORTH FRUIT ACCORDING TO YOUR SCATTERING IN THIS OUR SEED TIME.

I remain, Brother Chartists, Your faithful and uncompromising Friend and Fellow-Labourer, FEARGUS O'CONNOR.

ONWARD AND WE CONQUER, BACKWARD AND WE FALL, THE PEOPLE'S CHARTER AND NO SURRENDER!

IRELAND.

NARRATIVE OF MALCOLM M'GREGOR, no. x.

Under ordinary circumstances an Irish funeral is, I am informed, anything rather than a mournful or even a solemn ceremony; while that of "waking the deceased," as it is termed, partakes of the character of a festival. These remarks apply only to cases where death comes in the ordinary course of nature, and where the departed has "been prepared" by receiving "extreme unction," according to the rites of the Catholic Church prescribed in such cases; and those rites once administered, it is considered rather unlucky if the afflicted should recover. When life departs, the corpse is washed all over, and, if a man, is shaved, the limbs are then stretched, the nose pinched, the eyes closed, and the body laid out, dressed in white and hung round with white sheets. This ceremony performed, the family and friends of the deceased relieve their hearts' sorrows by a good cry, and what is termed a "hullagone;" after which tea is provided for the old women, and pipes, tobacco, and whisky for the men; and in the evening, and during every evening, and all night, till the funeral takes place, the house is filled with men and women; the old enjoying themselves with pipe and a glass and tea, and the young joining in the merriest games and amusements. The deceased is looked upon with envy rather than compassion or sorrow in such cases; as the spirit once fled, it is, if prepared for departure, resumed to be in another and a better world. The funeral also lacks that appearance of sorrow manifested by mourners less confiding in Heaven's mercy; not so, however, when the deceased has been sent to his last account, "unhoused, unappointed, unanointed," as was the case with poor Phelimkeen. Under such circumstances, the soul of the departed stands in jeopardy, and the surviving friends feel proportionate grief, that worst of all pangs, the grief of public censure and disapproval.

Recklessness, want of economy, indifference of the doubtful future during the prosperous present, have ever been the most unanswerable charges brought by the wealthy, the wily, and the fortunate against the labouring classes. We are not prepared to defend this wholesale charge in the abstract, while we contend that the want of thriftiness evinced by the many is a consequence of our institutions, both commercial and political, being framed and altered from time to time for the convenience, security, and protection of the hasty made capital of the wealthy, rather than for the accumulated savings of the daily labourer or slowly thriving shopkeeper. For instance, our giant trade and commerce preclude the possibility of the poor man becoming a competitor with the rich speculator, while our monetary system rejects him as an ally from the impossibility of qualifying himself as a partner or participant from his daily or weekly savings. The Savings Bank becomes his only alternative, the only depository for his daily or weekly parings, and from the fact of this department being his only source, the government charges a large profit in diminished interest for the convenience afforded by the institution. For instance, the speculator with thousands, or even with hundreds, in the commercial or money market can command the highest rate of profit or interest, while the poor man is reduced to the alternative of being his own depositor without interest, or accepting the highest rate that his gradual savings can command. Hence the man with a thousand pounds may secure four per cent. upon mortgage, the man with a hundred pounds something over three per cent. in Consols, while the poor accumulator during the process of saving, and who has not a sufficient amount to take advantage of any of these securities, receives no more than £2. 18s. per cent. secured upon his own industry and the dissipation of his thoughtless fellow-labourer. He is reconciled to this lower rate of interest—

Firstly.—By the fact that it is the only market open to him.—Secondly.—That it presents security.—Thirdly.—That it guarantees the power of withdrawal in seasons of necessity, but even this power is restricted by conditions sometimes harsh and inconvenient.

Thus we establish the value of co-operation without industry at one pound two per cent., that being the difference between the rate of interest received by the poor saver and him who can command a sufficient amount to insure the highest rate of interest.

We have been reminded to surfeit that the glory of England consists in the equal opportunity afforded to all in the market of speculation. We admit the fact, while we assert that the sun of England's glory would speedily set if all men were mere agents for the transfer of property, and none were producers of property. And it is in order that the latter class, which will ever be the large majority, may be armed with the power of co-operation as a means of placing them upon an equality in point of protection with the former class that we advocate the principle of co-operation, and propose to establish the only medium by which it can be efficiently carried out—

**The National Land and Labour Bank.**

We may be told that Joint Stock Banks, Railway Companies, Mining Companies, Steam Navigation Companies, and all other undertakings introduced to the world with a fascinating prospectus establishing a fictitious amount of shares, and a mere nominal amount of call, present the desired opportunity to the small capitalist. The result, however, of attempting to engraft this fascinating reality upon an uneducated fiction, has been the ruin of thousands; and the effect has been as follows:—Many a poor man, jumping at the promise of high interest, and unscared by the phantom of future calls, has paid the required deposit, which an inconvenient call compels him to sacrifice altogether, or preserve as a forlorn hope, at the expense of future contributions, until the society's affairs are wound up, and he finds himself liable to all losses; a few wily concoctors and solicitors taking his crippled child to nurse; and thus fattening upon his credulity. Hence, we show the simple value of Co-operation without industry, while we assert, without fear of contradiction, that the carrying on the necessary operations of trade depending upon individual industry, is not restricted to three, four, five, ten, or even fifteen per cent. Indeed, the value of capital can be best appreciated by the enormous amount of wealth that its possessors have been enabled to accumulate out of hired labour.

Let us illustrate this position. A tenant holds a hundred acres of land at one pound an acre, and dear in its present state. It will require £500, or £5 an acre to drain it, and then it becomes worth £2 an acre—thus returning the tenant twenty per cent. upon the expenditure of £500, so that, had he given fifteen per cent. for the capital, he would still be a gainer of five per cent. by the transaction; while, through that amount of expenditure in labour the district shopkeepers would be benefitted, through them the domestic manufacturer and merchant, and, through all, the government. But this source of speculation is stopped by the landlord's indifference to benefit his tenant, and the tenant's indifference to benefit the landlord; whereas if it belonged to the occupier the work would be done. But how much more pointedly the fact will present itself to the reader, when the capital is applied to enable and encourage the small husbandman to prosecute his own industry. The summary of these observations is that

**A Nation's Greatness**

is better secured by individual prosperity than by commercial traffic, which must restrict industry. The duty of a government is to increase the national resources of the country to the highest state of cultivation they will admit of; and this way to insure this national good is, by the application of free labour, and the equitable (NOT EQUAL) distribution of its produce; while the error of the present system is, that those who possess capital have the power of resisting the cultivation of our national resources to that particular standard which insures them the largest monopoly of the produce. We hold it to be an inadmissible fact that the application of free labour, which means the labour of the small proprietor to the land, the cultivation of our mines, minerals, and fisheries, can alone develop the national resources, and at the same time establish a satisfactory standard of wages in the artificial labour market, while the higher rate superinduced by well regulated industry in the natural market, could be borne by the manufacturer, the merchant, and trader, by the incalculable impetus given to domestic trade and commerce, through the increased consumption of the free labour class.

The industrious man who has contributed a long life's accumulation of property for others must start at the announcement of our present prime minister—"That the criminal law is a problem yet to be solved."—"That the sanitary condition of the people is miserably deficient," and "That our whole system of education requires deep consideration and improvement!" Now we hold that governments, and governments only, are answerable for the law's inequality and imperfections, for sanitary deficiency and educational regulation; and we further hold that free and well-regulated labour would render our criminal law, now a problem, if not obsolete, at least a thing of rare application to an improved and moral society.

That the free labourer can best educate his own children, ventilate his own house, and preserve his own and family's health. In the free labour market we estimate a man's labour cheaply, very cheaply, at £50 per annum, and thus, if we have a million of paupers whose strained labour is now worth £10, a year each, the nation loses £40,000,000 per annum, added to an expense of seven millions per annum wrung from the labour of the industrious, for no other purpose than to keep up an idle reserve at other people's expense, for the capitalist to fall back upon as a means of reducing and keeping down wages in the artificial market. Here then is a national sacrifice to class gain and individual monopoly.

In order, then, to illustrate our plan for creating a free and independent labour class, whose industry shall be applied to the cultivation of our national resources, we propose to establish

**The National Land and Labour Bank**

upon the following principle:—viz. That it shall consist of three departments:—A Deposit Department; a Redemption Department; and a Sinking Fund Department; and we shall now treat of those several departments each under its proper head.

**Deposit.**

The Deposit Department to be open to all who wish to vest their monies upon the security of the landed property of the

**National Co-operative Land Company.**

and bearing interest at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum.

The capital deposited to be regulated by the following scale:—that is to say,—that for every £60 payable as rent-charge by the occupants, over and above the amount necessary to pay the interest of £4 per cent. on the Redemption Fund, the directors will be empowered to receive £1000, thus leaving a sinking fund in this department, over and above the company's liabilities, of two and a half per cent.

Suppose, for instance, an estate producing £600 a year over and above the Company's liabilities of £4 per cent. (upon the amount in the redemption department) to be occupied by the members of the company, who will each have received a conveyance in fee of his allotment, subject to a rent-charge proportioned to the purchase money and outlay; upon this estate, conveyed by the trustees as security to the bank, the directors would be empowered to raise £10,000, and would be liable to £350 a year interest at 3 per cent. upon the borrowed capital of £10,000.

Each depositor of any amount not exceeding £10 would be entitled to draw that amount on demand.

A depositor wishing to draw any amount from £10 to £20, must give one week's notice.

From £20 to £50, a fortnight's notice; and from £50, to any amount, one month's notice.

The amount of deposit at any one time not to be less than two shillings and sixpence.

**Redemption Department.**

The Redemption Department to be open to the members of the Land Company, and who, whether occupants or shareholders, will be entitled to deposit their funds in that department upon the following conditions:—

That each shareholder may deposit any amount not less than threepence at one time, and for which he shall receive interest at the rate of four per cent. per annum. This fund will be applicable to the purchase of Land or funding down of the occupants' rent-charge, at the rate of four per cent., or twenty-five years' purchase—that is, that a depositor having £25 in the redemption department when he is eligible for occupation, will be entitled to a reduction of £1 per annum from his rent-charge—that is, the member who, if not a depositor, would be liable to a rent of £8 a year, will, when he has paid up £25, be entitled to receive his allotment at £7 rent. We state £25, but the depositor of any sum under that amount down to £5, would be entitled to apply his deposit to the reduction of his rent at four per cent. The additional half per cent. being guaranteed in consequence of shareholders who deposit their monies in the Redemption Department not being allowed to withdraw more than one-half the amount deposited, and being obliged to give a month's notice before they can draw any portion of their deposit from that department, which however would be equivalent to ready money as a transfer of the deposit less the month's interest (the lender receiving the interest) could be effected.

**Sinking Fund Department.**

The funds of this department would consist of two and a-half per cent. in landed property over and above the liability of three-and-a-half per cent. payable as interest to the depositors. The profits from this department to be added to the redemption department, and equally applied to the purchase or reduction of the rent of shareholders who had been depositors in the redemption department; and to be applied in aid of the location of the poorer occupants, to be repaid by them in easy and convenient instalments.

We shall now proceed to consider the LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENCIES consequent upon the deposit department, and the Company's means of meeting them. We will presume that £5,000, or one half of the whole sum in the deposit department, was liable to be withdrawn on demand. The Company should, consequently, be prepared with that amount, to meet any contingency, and which it proposes to do in the following manner: that is to say, by the application of the Company's floating capital for carrying on building and other operations, and which would be always vested in a Bank, paying two and a-half per cent. as at present, and would be constituted of funds paid upon account of shares, and not belonging to any of the three departments.

The remainder of the funds in the several departments would be applicable to the purchase of land, erection of houses, and location of occupants.

**Expenses.**

The expenses of the Banking Department are amply provided for by the payment of one shilling per year, per share, payable by the shareholders in the Land Company, and the surplus in the several departments to be applied to the benefit of the shareholders upon the winding up of the section to which they belong.

**Mode of Securing the Means of Meeting Liabilities.**

The Land Company proposes to locate its members upon two acres of land which shall have cost £18. 15s. per acre, or £37. 10s.: to erect a house which shall cost £30, and to expend in improvements, and give to the occupant, the sum of £15, making a total of £82. 10s., and for which preliminary expenditure the Company charges £5 a year; and five per cent. upon all monies above that sum expended in the purchase of the Land and the erection of a house that is, if the land costs £30 an acre instead of £18 15s., and the house £60 instead of £30, the occupants will pay £5 per cent. upon £22. 10s. the additional price of the Land, and £5 per cent. upon the £30, the additional price of the house, making a total increased expenditure of £52. 10s., thus making the rent of occupant in the latter case £7 12s. 6d. per annum; the same scale being applicable to any priced land and any priced house in a descending as well as an ascending ratio—that is, if land shall be purchased at a less amount than £18 15s. an acre, £5 per cent. in rent shall be deducted from the reduced price of the land.

Suppose, then, the occupant, whose land shall have cost £30 an acre, and whose house shall have cost £60, and who shall have received £15 capital, that occupant will have cost the Company £135, less £2 10s. the original amount paid for the share—thus making the Company's expenditure £132 10s. without taking credit for any portion of the £15 capital expended in operations of husbandry or other improvements which increase the value of the holding. For this £132 10s. the Society receives £7 12s. 6d. in the shape of rent-charge, or within a fraction of 5½ per cent. upon the outlay, without any margin for the increasing value secured upon the expenditure of a man and his family's labour to that amount of ground. In the case of a man holding four acres of ground, and whose house would cost £80, the Society's profit would be reduced to about 5½ per cent. upon the outlay.

This scale shows the equity of the standard upon which the rent of allotments has been established, and, perhaps, may be met with the assertion, that it is a high per centage upon the outlay, and which assertion we meet thus—

Firstly.—Without co-operation the occupants could not procure a single allotment.

Secondly.—An individual carrying out the scheme would charge rent according to the retail value, amounting to about £15 per cent., regulated only by the convenience and desire of the poor occupant to have a field whereon to expend his own labour.

Thirdly.—The individual would not convey the convenient allotment in fee, and consequently the occupant would be liable to a periodical increase of rent as a tax upon his industry.

Fourthly.—All profits consequent upon saving of rent over interest is divided equally amongst the several shareholders.

Fifthly.—A small proprietary class is the only possible means by which the fair standard of the price of labour can be established in the artificial market.

The only means by which poor rates and workhouses can be made unnecessary;

The only means by which the national resources can be fully developed and profitably cultivated;

The only means by which famine—save that which is the will of God—can be averted;

The only means that can render man indifferent to foreign production;

The only means that can give an impetus to home trade and home industry;

The only means that can secure a national militia, who will fly to the cry of "My cottage and my country are in danger!";

The only means by which education can be encouraged, health secured, and violation of the laws of society, be considered crime

The only means by which the arts and sciences of Britain can be made to vie with those of any other nation upon earth.

The only means by which the good in each man may be developed, and his evil propensities kept in subjection by the wholesome chastisement of public censure and disapproval.

gnawing of perpetual doubt and suspense. Hence the funeral of Phelimkeen, like the wake-house, was as melancholy a sight as can well be imagined. I arrived at the house of mourning in company with Mr. O'Farrell, just as the melancholy ceremony of nailing down the coffin was about to be performed; the bereaved and broken-hearted father was with difficulty torn from his child; his grief had been till now partially suppressed and partially allayed by the hope of revenge, which appeared the only palliative for his sorrow; but when the ghastly sight was hid from his longing eye, it was as if the world of hope was shut out by the darkness of despair. He tore his long white locks, threw himself prostrate on the coffin, and recounted his son's virtues and perfections, as if pleading to the Throne of Grace for his behalf, and it was only by the mild persuasion of his priest that he could be induced to abandon his gripe of the coffin, when, turning round to the weeping relatives, he exclaimed, "Before you came him from me, will you promise me satisfaction for his blood?"

An aged man whispered something in his ear which the O'Donnell appeared to quaff as words of joy, he smiled wildly, and, in reply, exclaimed—

"Take him so, and may the Merciful Father forgive him his sins."

The coffin was borne on the shoulder of the nearest relatives of deceased to the high road, where it was met by a concourse of persons, of both sexes on foot and on horseback, reaching more than a mile in length. The melancholy procession proceeded to the burial-ground in sullen and sulky silence, as if the vast assemblage was simultaneously struck dumb—not a word was uttered, but deep and sullen grief sat brooding upon every countenance, and, though the sun shone forth with unusual splendour for the season of the year, its brilliancy was obscured by the impenetrable cloud of grief—I subsequently learned from Mrs. Mahony that this was an evil omen, as the Irish have an old adage—

"Happy is the corpse that the rain rains on,"

"Happy is the bride that the sun shines on."

As soon as the venerable pastor had performed the funeral service, and when he and many others, myself amongst the number, had bedewed the green sod that covered the virtuous peasant's grave, we returned to the O'Donnell's house, where we found the father sitting by the bedside of the delirious Kathleen. He appeared to lose all thought of his own grief in pity for her. As we entered the room she said, "Well, if Phelim is happy, why don't you laugh and smile?" and the old man smiled a ghastly smile, that seemed to mock the large tears through which it forced its way—then she smiled and said, "May Kathleen kiss Phelim's red lips again, and sure you won't let the troopers take him away." She then fixed her large blue eyes upon us, for the first time, and gave a heart-rending shriek, when a female who stood at the bedside beckoned us away, and assured her that we were not the troopers and were not come to take Phelim away. We left the house of mourning and wended our way to the home of the Priest, he appeared more composed, and had scarcely entered the house when he was hurried off to numerous "sick calls." When I was alone with my friend Mrs. Mahony, I asked her what the O'Donnell meant by the term, "justice for his son's blood?" when he had no hope from a Jury of his country?

"Why, come here," says she, shutting the door and placing her finger upon her lips, to enjoin me to secrecy—"There'll be a jury of the O'Donnells to night, at my brother's house, as he's an O'Donnell and the next of kin to the poor boy that's gone, but for your life don't breathe a word of it to mortal man. My brother is outside now, and them that sent for the Priest is the kinsmen and relations of the O'Donnells, that's going to 'make their sows,' that'll make the jury to see who shall shoot the murderer."

"Well but," I observed, "will Mr. O'Farrell permit them?"

"Ogh," she replied, "God love your heart, they'll never dare tell him, but it's a customary thing to make confession this way of the year."

After a moment's thought, I asked anxiously if the dame could procure me admission to her brother's house upon the occasion?

She hesitated for a moment, and then replied

"Well now, stay a bit, and I'll speak to my brother and as you're a friend of the good man of the house may be he'd let you go, but then you must be hid."

"I agree to any terms," I answered. She left the room, and in a few minutes returned and informed me, that I must go now with her brother and be hid in a little chamber inside where the jury would sit, and she'd tell the priest that I went to see O'Donnell, and maybe he'd let me sit up with him all night. This plan suited admirably, and I started without delay with my guide. Being a friend of the priest's, and highly recommended by the flattering commendation of Mrs. Mahony, my guide showed no reserve whatever. I asked him, "What the ceremony I was going to witness resembled?"

He said "that all the blood relations of the deceased would get word before nightfall to meet at his house, as he was first cousin to O'Donnell, that was all them that wasn't married or had'n't families, and that they'd name a judge and jury that should hear the whole case, whether deceased came by his death lawfully or not, and whether he owed the money he was asked for, or if he foreswore himself by denying it as a means of cheating his accuser; and whether those that took his life took it in defence of their own, or killed him without just cause."

"Well," I observed, "supposing that he may be more reasonable than the outraged father, wouldn't it be more prudent to try the law first?"

"No," he replied, "the law would go by the oath of them that a Protestant judge and a Protestant jury would believe again all the Papists and priests in the county, the Lord save us! and sure you might as well think of carrying the mountain on your back as to think of getting a jury such as he'd have (for sure, his attorney, Grub, is under-sheriff) to find him guilty; and then, if he was acquitted—as he would be—we'darent meddle with him after."

"Well," I observed, "and will he be shot or de-stroyed?"

"To be sure he will," responded my guide. "My God! didn't you hear even what the Protestant coroner said? and sure we're not to be shot like dogs, though we were robbed like savages; but you'll see, when you hear all, that he won't have a hair of his head hurt if you that was no ways related to deceased, won't think he deserves it."

"Well," said I, "who will do the deed?"

"You'll hear," he responded; "but if they knew I let you in, they'd drive me out of the nation; so you must lie where I'll show you till all is over, and then I'll bring you back safe and sound here again."

(To be continued.)

THE MEMBERS of the Halifax branch of the Chartist Land Company, are requested to attend a meeting to be held at the Workman's Large Room, Ball Close-lane, on Sunday next, at two o'clock, to choose a committee and two auditors, and a scrutineer, and to transact other business connected with the Company. All members that are in arrears, are requested to pay up Conference levies, local expenses, or otherwise, and the Secretary particularly requests that each person will bring or send him the name of his trade and residence if he has removed since he entered. The Chair to be taken at half-past two o'clock.

LOUIS WATLEY.—A meeting of members of the Chartist Co-operative Land Company will be held on Sunday next, Jan. 17th, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, to elect a secretary and other officers.













## TO THE WORKING CLASSES.

My FRIENDS.—The only object I had in producing "The Labourer" was to serve your cause. I fully agree with every word of reproach heaped upon its appearance by the reviewer, while I am pleased at receiving the highest encomiums on its contents. Indeed, I will boastfully assert, that the first number of "The Labourer" contains more matter, serviceable to the cause it professes to serve, than all the magazines put together that have yet made their appearance. I know that 6d. a month is a large tax upon the badly-paid operative; and I also know, that when he pays such a sum for literature, it should be in a form of which he might be vain. I was the first to denounce the slovenly appearance of the first number, and, however the REVIEWER may praise the printer's share of the work, I tell you that the unsightly appearance was his, and only his fault, as to him was left the sole management. However, it is fortunate that the fault can be remedied, which I propose to do thus. I am aware that a book is like a newspaper, and that the poor man who purchases a book in numbers, will take a pride in having them preserved and bound in volumes. To afford all such an opportunity, then, this is my intention: I will give to all those who purchased the first UGLY number, a handsome first number instead. All future numbers shall defy reproach. "The Labourer" is worthy of a good appearance, and shall have it. I suppose that about six numbers will be bound up together, and therefore all who have purchased the first will receive a uniform copy of that number, with number six, GRATIS, and as I also intend that portraits of Labour's friends should adorn each number, I shall give a splendid portrait of T. S. Duncombe, Esq., with the first; that will be given with the sixth number; and with each subsequent six numbers I will give a portrait, to be bound with the volume. Thus I rectify the first blunder.

Your faithful friend,  
FEARGUS O'CONNOR.

## THE FLORES EXPEDITION.

The Thames police-court was on Tuesday the theatre of one of the most exciting scenes which has been witnessed in it since the memorable case of Captain Johnston.

Colonel Richard Wright, Consul-general for the state of the Equador, and alleged to be the head of an expedition which was said to be lately fitted out for this country for South America, was charged, at the instance of Inspector Evans of the Thames police, with a violation of the 2nd section of the Foreign Enlistment Act, 30th of George III., cap. 69.

Mr. Ballantine, the barrister, and Mr. Shaw, of Furnival's Inn, attended for the defence, while Mr. Polburn, from the office of the solicitor to the Customs, conducted the prosecution.

The first witness called was Mr. Harvey Garnett Phipps Tuckett. He described himself as having been some time since a captain in the 11th Hussars. He had retired from that service, and about the month of October last, hearing of an intended expedition to the Equador, he called upon Colonel Wright, to whom he handed a letter, which that gentleman having read, he asked witness whether he was desirous of joining in the enterprise? To which he, Tuckett, replied that it would all depend upon the rank which was offered him: to which the defendant replied that he should receive the appointment of Lieutenant Colonel. Witness asked what was to be the pay; to which Colonel Wright replied £20 a month. Witness observed that was very small, but the Colonel told him that at Quito all the articles of consumption were exceedingly cheap, and that a few shillings would be sufficient to provide for a large family. Witness asked what part of South America it was intended to proceed to; to which the defendant replied—to the Equador. To which he, Tuckett, replied that he was not going to the Equador; he was going to the Equador, to which Colonel Wright replied there would be an advance of two months. Witness observed that that was too little to defray preliminary expenses. Colonel Wright replied that that was the sum appropriated for the purpose by the commissioners.

Mr. Yardley: What did you understand by the commissioners?—Witness: I understood him to refer to some Spanish commission which had charge of the affair.

Mr. Yardley: Under what government did you understand him to act?—Witness: I understood him to understand the Spanish, and not under the English government. Colonel Wright told me that I should like General Flores very much; that he (the general) had been in a hundred actions, in all of which he had proved victorious. I asked the nature of the command I should have, when the Colonel told me that 1,200 men had been raised in Ireland, and that they should be under my commands, as I was the only person holding the rank of lieutenant Colonel going out on the expedition.

Mr. Ballantine: I presume I may take it, Captain Tuckett, that you are the informer in this case?—Exactly so.

Mr. Ballantine: And became so because you could not get £65?—No, I claimed it on my own behalf, and that of the other officers.

Mr. Ballantine: You say you were a captain in the 11th Hussars?—Witness: Yes, about eleven years since.

Mr. Ballantine: Pray was that the last profession you followed?—Witness: No; I was a merchant in the City.

Mr. Ballantine: What merchant?—An East India merchant.

Mr. Ballantine: In what commodities did you deal?—In everything that you could name, (loud laughter).

Mr. Ballantine: Then you are what is called a general dealer?—No; I was an East India agent, and furnished the messes with wine, plate, and other commodities.

Mr. Ballantine: Oh, that is what you call an East India merchant. I believe you failed in that capacity.

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