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AND NATIONAL TRADES' JOURNAL.

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TO THE WORKING CLASSES.

My very Dear Friends,

I had not intended to say more to you this week than merely to tell you that I had not time to say a word; however, I feel so thoroughly happy just now (seven o'clock Thursday night) that I cannot restrain my thoughts.

I never, in truth, was so happy in all my life, and I'll tell you why. After a very fagging week, I went to Herringsgate to-day (Thursday) a beautiful day, and saw the occupants who came before their time, all working and happy, as you will learn from the following narrative. I went to where Griffiths from Worcester was working on his own allotment, and he will be able to judge whether I state the literal fact or not. He was cultivating his allotment, and had put a completely new face upon it; I asked him how he liked it, and he said that he never felt so happy before in his life, and that no money would tempt him to sell it. A person who was with me, asked him if he would take £60, and his reply was, "No, nor £400. A timber train would not get me out of this now; and I have written to my wife, to tell her that I never was so happy. I have slept upon straw every night, and I would not give it for a feather bed anywhere else; and there's my son there working, and he said yesterday, 'Father, I like to work for myself a great deal better than for anybody else.'" Now, I write these apparently trivial circumstances for the satisfaction of Griffiths' family, now located in a strange place. He is from Worcester—an elderly man, with a wife and seven children, and he never will work for any one but himself again. I then went to Oddy's house, the wool-comber from Bradford; he was out at work, but his wife was at home. I asked her if she would like to go back to Bradford, and if she would wish to sell her allotment? Her answer was, that she would not sell it for anything that any one would offer; that she would never leave it; that she was always longing for a home, and that now she had one at last. I asked if Oddy liked it? and her reply was,—"Yes; but he has written to some friends in Yorkshire to send him some jackasses, as he's sure he could eat the hind-leg of an ass, he has such an appetite; and, if anything breaks us, it will be the appetite." In short, all seemed happy and more than contented; and the children looked very different from factory slaves. The men were at work on every man's allotment, the dung was coming in, and I will promise the "Chambers's" and the "Whistler" such a May-day as never was seen in England before. I have been occupied every hour this week, and, but to preserve the charm, I should not have written at all. Redmarley will be as perfectly cropped and cultivated this spring as Herringsgate; and, to my mind nothing can surpass our prospects. On the 3rd of May there will be another ballot for the first, second, and third sections. And now, pray attend to the following instructions:—

We have come to the resolution not to receive money otherwise than in Bank *notes* or Post-office orders, payable at the General Post-office, London. We will not receive as cash Bank *orders* until the money market becomes more settled, for, after the failure of the North of England Joint-Stock Bank, we do not wish to run any risk.

Now, Secretaries *must* attend to this, as, last week, notwithstanding the simple instructions, nearly £200 was made payable at Bloomsbury, Charing Cross, Strand, Oxford-street, and other branch offices. Now, my determination is to send back all Post-office orders not made payable at the General Post-office, London, and not to acknowledge any monies sent otherwise than in *Bank notes* and Post-Office orders. Some weeks' Bank orders from three to twenty-one days' date came in upon different banks, which it is impossible to collect. All monies intended for THE BANK may be transmitted by *Bank order payable at sight*, as, until applied to the purchase of land, the instant the money comes, I lay it out in the purchase of Exchequer Bills, so that we may not lose a day's interest. We have taken a splendid house for the Bank, and shall soon be the largest, the safest, and most prosperous concern in the kingdom. As long as I am manager, I will have 5 per cent. in Land, or 3 per cent. in Exchequer Bills, for every £100 invested.

Now, I will here *very briefly* mention what I mean by what I shall term the

LAND-PURCHASE DEPARTMENT OF THE BANK.

It is this:—Suppose 20 persons to have paid in a sufficient amount of money to purchase 20 allotments, that those 20 persons shall be located without ballot; that is, that their own money shall purchase an estate in the wholesale market, which shall be divided amongst these 20 occupants, *and houses* and out-offices built for them, at precisely the same rate that it was purchased; that is, that they *shall have it at wholesale price in the retail market*, whilst the members will derive all the benefit from their capital until the full amount to entitle them to location is paid up. Now, nothing can be more simple or more just than this; and these allottees will *not belong to any* sections, but will be a distinct class in themselves: they can each send their own monies, and will not require any secretary to transact their business. *All these matters*, and every subject connected with the Land, the Bank, and the whole concern, I will explain *fully*, simply, and familiarly to you, and at great length, in the April Number of "THE LABOURER;" and I wish every man to keep it as a book of reference.

Your faithful Friend,

FEARGUS O'CONNOR.

P.S.—I trust members will see that the secretaries fulfil the following request, viz.: to send, as *speedily as possible*, to the Financial Secretary (Mr. Wheeler), an account of all monies paid into banks, and the name of the bank, and to whose order payable, since the 5th of December last, as I have called for many amounts which have been noticed as payable to my order, but which have been refused. This must be done *at once*, as there is a large sum of money lying dead in that way; and the amounts must be minutely *specified*, as, if the sum be £12 6s. 4d., and I ask for £12 6s. 3d., the answer will be, that there is no such order and I cannot henceforth be pestered with these details.

F. O'C.

Chartist Intelligence.

BIRMINGHAM. — Messrs. Doyle, Wheeler, M'Grath, O'Connor, and Clark, have been nominated to fill the office of Executive Committee for the ensuing year.

NORWICH.—Votes of thanks have been passed to the members of the Executive Committee for their services; and to Mr. Clark, specially, for his defence of Chartism in the discussion with Mr. Gurney.

COXHEATH.—A meeting was held at Coxheath, near Maidstone, for the purpose of adopting the National Petition in favour of the People's Charter. The chair was occupied by Mr. Green, of Maidstone, who opened the meeting by some remarks, and then called upon Mr. John Stonehouse, of Maidstone, who delivered an excellent address on the Suffrage and the other points of the Charter. At the conclusion, several names were attached to the National Petition.

MACCLESFIELD.—The West Testimonial committee held their weekly meeting last Sunday evening, in the Chartist room, Stanley-street, and after the financial part of the business was disposed of, the following resolution was unanimously agreed to:—

That the best thanks of this *meeting* be given to Richard Oastler, Esq., and the metropolitan friends, for the spirited manner in which they have taken up the West Testimonial question, and that we solicit a continuance of their support, to carry out the work we have begun to a successful issue.

The meeting was then adjourned to next Sunday evening at seven o'clock.

NATIONAL REGISTRATION AND ELECTION COMMITTEE TO THE PUBLIC.

Friends, we feel it incumbent upon us at the present time to address you upon some of the important duties which devolve upon you as denizens of a civilized state. An eminent political writer once said of his days, *"These are times to try men's souls;"* and now, when we gaze upon the gloom of our social and political horizon—when we see rampant faction crusading against a nation's liberties, commerce languishing, agriculture declining, workhouses full, prisons full, while thousands of our miserable fellow creatures are falling into premature graves, the victims of famine, and its no less horrible and destructive concomitant, fever!—we say when we view these appalling spectacles, and contemplate these monstrous results of stupid, ignorant, and despotic legislation—when, in short, we see the blessings of Heaven and the bounties of earth contravened by man's injustice, we cannot help exclaiming in the language above—*These are times to try men's souls.*

Friends, the position of your country becomes daily more critical, and her circumstances more embarrassed; she loudly and imperatively demands the best services you can render. She is bowed down by the weight of factious oppression. She expects every natural and adopted son to do his duty.

We are thus induced to address you in consequence of the position taken by that little statesman, Lord John Russell, the other evening, in reference to Mr. Duncombe's motion for the repeal of the ratepaying clauses in the Reform Act. He has again taken his stand upon the finality of that abortive measure, *declaring it to be an embodiment of* ancient and modern wisdom, combined with the excellence of our glorious constitution!

We have Lord John and a part of his recreant gang standing before the nation in all the blackness and deformity of their political character; we have them before us as the dogged opponents of every organic improvement of the legislature. We ask, are such narrow-minded, anti-progressive men fit to preside over the destinies of thirty millions of human beings? We cannot fancy a greater insult offered the public opinion than Russell's paltry finality doctrines. How dare any man presume to make the conceptions of his mind the ultimatum of improvement—but especially how dare the erratic Russell presume to do so, who is ever before us confessing the errors of his statesmanship?

We feel it to be the duty of the unrepresented millions to speak unhesitatingly, and tell the noble little lord that his doctrines may pass as orthodox in times long past, but that they are viewed by the intelligence of these days as stupid, irrational, and unjust. We hold, that any man who wishes well to his country should struggle, with fervency of feeling and energy of action, to hurl from power the despicable faction that arrays against the progress of freedom and melioration of our laws and institutions.

Mr. Duncombe, the recognised champion of parliamentary reform, has, by his motion, unmasked Lord John, as well as those subservient and prostitute politicians whose rule of action is to follow their leader as long as he fills their pockets with official gold. Such scurvy creatures merit the execration of every detester of hypocrisy and fraud. Two-and-twenty Whig officials voted for the inviolability of the bill, the whole bill, and nothing but the bill, eight of whom were apostates, they having supported Mr. Duncombe's motion on former occasions!

Mr. Duncombe has give notice of the following motion for discussion after Easter:—

MR. THOMAS DUNCOMBE,—That whereas an Act passed in the reign of his late Majesty King William the Fourth, intituled, "An Act to amend the Representation of the People in England and Wales," has failed to fulfil the just expectations of the people, and is not and cannot be final; it is expedient to amend the same, by the repeal of the rate-paying clauses, and by the insertion of provisions calculated to prevent any undue influences in counties and boroughs subversive of the full, free, and fair representation of the people in Parliament.

We deem it our duty to support, by every means in our power, Mr. Duncombe in his laudable endeavours. We must have a vigorous agitation on this subject; we must teach Lord John Russell that the common sense of the people cannot be mocked with impunity. Our general shows his alacrity to lead the assault against the citadel of Corruption, let us promptly support him in his glorious labours on our behalf. Mr. Duncombe's motion will be valuable for several reasons—Parliament is verging towards dissolution, the above motion will prove the touchstone of its liberality,—it will operate as a trap to catch more of those political vermin that feed and fatten on corruption.

The course which we recommend you to pursue is, immediately to get up meetings in favour of Mr. Duncombe's motion. Let public buildings, in all cases where practicable, be obtained, and let the mayor or some other public functionary be got to preside. Let petitions be adopted, setting forth strongly the peculiar and general grievances of the locality; let them be signed by the chairman and sent for presentation to Parliament by the representatives of the places, with a letter from the chairman on behalf of the meeting requesting not only their support of the prayer of the petition, but likewise of Mr. Duncombe's motion.

Friends, we have briefly pointed out what we conceive to be your duty at this important juncture, and in the hope of your cheerful and able performance, we remain, on the part of the Committee,—

JOHN KNIGHT, Chairman.
JAMES GRASSBY, Secretary.

METROPOLITAN DELEGATE COMMITTEE, 83, Dean-street, March 10th—Mr Tapp in the chair. Proposed by Mr Arnott, seconded by Mr Caughlan:—"That the following metropolitan localities be requested to send delegates to a meeting of the above committee on Wednesday next, March 17th, when business of an urgent and important character will be brought before the meeting, namely,—Marylebone, Whittington and Cat, Westminster, Lambeth, Bermondsey, Limehouse, Brassfounder's Arms, Crown and Anchor, Camberwell and Hammersmith." Carried.

LEAMINGTON. — A subscription has been commenced for Dr M'Douall, which will be kept open till Michaelmas.

CAMBERWELL. — Messrs O'Connor, M'Grath, Clark, Doyle, Wheeler, E Jones, Skelton and West, have been put in nomination to fill the office of Executive Committee for the ensuing year. A public meeting will be held on Monday evening, March 15th, at Harrison's Assembly Rooms, East-street, Walworth, to elect five of the above-named Chartists.

BRIGHTON. — The present members of the Executive Committee have been nominated for re-election. At the meeting on Wednesday evening, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr Clark for his able letter to the Prime Minister on the conduct of the latter in opposing Mr Duncombe's motion for the repeal of the rate-paying clauses.

NATIONAL VICTIM, AGED PATRIOT, WIDOW AND ORPHANS' RELIEF FUND.—The committee met at the Assembly Rooms, 83, Dean-street, Soho, on Tuesday evening, March the 9th, Mr. James Grassby in the chair.

Mr. GRASSBY reported the result of his visit to the venerable veteran Reformer, Thomas Preston, and described him as a man struggling to obtain an existence, but from his great age was unable without assistance to do so. He thought him a worthy object for the exercise of the committee's beneficence.

Mr. ARNOTT read a letter from the poor aged sterling Democrat, John Richards, stating that from sheer necessity he was at last obliged to succumb and take refuge in the Union Bastile of Stoke-upon-Trent. It was resolved that Mr. Richards' letter should be sent to the editor of the *Northern Star* for insertion, and that an appeal should accompany it, calling on the country to support the committee with pecuniary aid.

Mr. LARGE reported that in Marylebone each member of the Charter Association contributed one penny per month to the funds of this committee.

Mr. J. ARNOTT said the Chartists of Somers Town gave one-fourth of the funds collected to the support of the same benevolent object.

Mr. ANTILL handed in 7s. 3d. from the City locality, and contributed 6d.

The committee then adjourned until Tuesday evening next, March the 16th, at seven o'clock precisely.

BILSTON.—The present members of the Executive have been nominated for re-election. A meeting will be held on Sunday evening next, to consider the propriety of presenting a testimonial to the secretary, for his gratuitous and valuable services.

ASHTON.—The present members of the Executive committee have been nominated for re-election.

MACCLESFIELD.—Mr. West delivered a very instructive lecture to the members and friends of the Mutual Improvement Class, in connection with the National Charter Association, on Monday night last, in their room, Stanley-street, on the "Real Cause of the present Famine in Ireland, and the Real Remedies to prevent its recurrence in future:" Mr. B. Chandley in the chair. The attention of his hearers were riveted by the eloquence, and the sound truths uttered by the lecturer, and at the close of the meeting, a vote of thanks was awarded to him. Mr. West will lecture in the same place on Monday evening next. Subject—"The Capital of Labour."

SHEFFIELD.—On Sunday last, March 7th, a meeting of the members of the National Charter Association was held in the Democratic Temperance Room, 33, Queen-street; Mr. Councillor Briggs in the chair. After the financial business of the Association was disposed of, the following persons were duly nominated to serve as a general council for the ensuing quarter:—Messrs. William Dyson, Samuel Jackson, John Seward, William Holmes, William Seaton, John Marshall, George Ennison, Arran Birkinshaw, John Forest Homer, John Kemp, Isaac Knapp, Abraham Glue, Charles Bagshaw, Henry Richardson, Thomas Hague, John Foster, Councillor Briggs (sub-treasurer), and George Cavill (sub-secretary). Messrs. O'Connor, Christopher Doyle, Philip M'Grath, Thomas Clark, Thomas Martin Wheeler, and John West of Macclesfield, were nominated to fill the office of Executive Committee for the ensuing year.

OLDHAM.—On Tuesday last, Mr. Dickinson delivered a very instructive lecture on the "Land and the Charter." At the conclusion, a vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the lecturer for his talented and instructive lecture.

MERTHYR TYDVIL.—A subscription has been opened here for Dr. M'Douall, and will continue open till Michaelmas.

CENTRAL REGISTRATION AND GENERAL ELECTION COMMITTEE.—This committee met at the Assembly Rooms, 83, Dean-street, Soho, on Tuesday evening, March 9. Mr. James Knight was unanimously called to the chair. Mr. Milne, on the part of the deputation, reported the result of their mission to Mr. Duncombe. The honourable member agreed with the deputation, that the agitation for the repeal of the rate-paying clauses so well begun should be kept up; he had given notice to renew his motion immediately after Easter. The following is the substance of Mr. D.'s notice:—

That the Reform Act having failed to fulfil the just expectation of the people, and is not and cannot be final—it is expedient to amend the same by repealing the rate-paying clauses, and by the insertion of provisions, calculated to prevent any undue influences in counties and boroughs subversive of a full, fair and free representation of the people in parliament.

After the report was received, a discussion arose relative to the convening of another metropolitan meeting on the subject. It was ultimately resolved that the committee should consult with the members and friends in the localities, and report on Tuesday evening next. It was also resolved that Messrs. M'Grath and Ernest Jones be a sub-committee, for the purpose of drawing up an address to the country on the subject, in the columns of the *Star*. That each local committee, and all bodies or individuals agreeing with this committee on the subject, be requested to republish such address and cause it to be distributed as widely as possible. That every borough, city, and county be hereby requested to appeal to their representatives by petition and letter, calling on them to support Mr. Duncombe's motion. Mr. Grassby stated that he had yet a large quantity of addresses and forms of claim on hand, for which he would be happy to receive applications. Mr. Boonham, the secretary of the Nottingham committee, read a letter he had received from Nottingham since he had been in town, expressing the determination of the committee of that town to co-operate with the central committee in carrying out their objects. Messrs. Stallwood and Boonham reported that, in accordance with a resolution passed at the last meeting, they had seen a gentleman who had agreed, upon certain conditions, to stand candidate for a seat in parliament upon the broadest representative principles. The report was unanimously received. The committee adjourned until Tuesday evening, March 16.

HULL.—At a meeting of the Chartists of Hull on Sunday, the 7th instant, a council having been appointed, it was resolved that the present Executive be put in nomination. As the Chartists of Hull are anxious to form a district of the National Charter Association, they would like to hear from the following places upon the subject:—Selby, York, Scarborough, Malton, Gainsbro', Howden, Beverley, and all other places forming the old district. All communications to be addressed, George Stephens, 64, Staniforth-place, Hessle-road, Hull.

BRISTOL.—The present members of the Executive have been nominated for re-election.

MANCHESTER.—At the People's Institute, on Sunday the 7th instant, Mr. Wm. Grocott was desired by the chairman to read Mr. O'Connor's letter, which he did in his usual excellent style: whilst reading he was repeatedly interrupted by applause. Afterwards the article on the Warrington magistrates was read, and during the reading the people showed their appreciation of the value of Mr. Roberts, the people's attorney. Mr. Donovan, the lecturer, was then introduced, and commenced his discourse on the policy of the present government towards Ireland, and what it ought to be, by saying he would first direct their attention to the amount of taxes to be drawn from the pockets of the English people merely to serve Irish landlords—landlords who ought to be held responsible for the physical wants of the Irish people, and be made by law to provide for the industrious destitute. If the possessors of land failed in making provision for the poor, government was morally bound to confiscate proportionately as much land as would be necessary, and not allow the poor Irish peasantry in thousands to starve as they were doing. He wished to know how long this cruel and unnatural system was to continue. The landlords would be the principal parties benefited by the government loan of eight millions. Here was another argument against class legislation—rulers giving loans to landlords at the people's expense, in order to cultivate waste lands, and when made prolific the lords of the soil would eject the cultivators. It ought to be borne in mind that for eight millions borrowed we are to pay the lenders in return nearly nine millions, together with an annual interest of three and a half per cent., all added to the debt. The queen had her army, her navy, and her church, and a host of other good things, yet no one ever heard her talk about her debt; no, it was the people's debt. He had no hesitation in saying that the present ministerial policy in reference to Ireland would be ruinous to England. It was well known that Irish landlords were the greatest villains in existence, and futurity would show that after the poor Irish had rendered the waste lands fertile and productive, the proud loan borrowers, the great oppressors of the poor tenants, will drive them in shoals from the land of their birth. When that comes to pass the unfortunate forlorn Irish will again flock here in thousands, and necessarily fill the labour market, and come in competition with the English industrious labourers. It is (said Mr. D.) impossible for an Irishman coolly to speak on the wrongs of his country. He could relate from experience sad tales of woe, of suffering, and premature deaths in his long-oppressed native country. Ireland had for ages been subject to endless wrongs; however, he would for the present cease to declaim and expose, and come to practical measures of relief—measures which would be adopted if they had a Chartist prime minister. Here, then, he would submit to them a plan which would, in his humble opinion, if put into operation, turn greatly to the advantage of both England and Ireland. First, he would issue fourteen millions in the shape of paper; then pass an act to take in 500,000 acres of waste lands, and build 200,000 houses on the land; two acres to each house. He would employ one man to two acres; three men, on an average, to erect each house. He would suppose the building occupied about twelve weeks; it would take £40 per house, and £20 for materials. He thought altogether this useful undertaking would give employment to one million of the poor starving people. He would estimate their services at twelve shillings per week; the rent charge should be 5*l.* annually—3*l.* for interest of capital, and 2*l.* annually towards liquidating the national debt. He would now ask what ought to be done in order to realise this desirable state of things? Universal representation is the means. Let us, therefore, unite for this grand national object. Let us consider our common country besieged by famine, for such will soon be the general lot of Englishmen, unless the system is materially improved. Let us, then, be in earnest, and endeavour by universal exertion to regain those rights which God and Nature ordained for all mankind. Mr. Donovan concluded amidst general applause.

CHARTISM IN EDINBURGH.

A PUBLIC SOIREE of the Democracy of Edinburgh was held in the Infirmary-street Hall, on Thursday, the 4th instant. The attendance was large and respectable. The wives and daughters of the members of the National Land Company and the National Charter Association graced the entertainment in considerable numbers.

Mr. John Aitkens occupied the chair, and fulfilled the duties of the position in a praiseworthy manner.

After tea, several select songs were sung by Miss Butler, a young and talented lady, and Messrs. William Meechan and Richard Burkitt.

The following sentiments were ably spoken to by members of the National Charter Association:—"The people, the source of all greatness; may their progression be accelerated and their hopes verified, in the adoption by the legislature of the People's Charter!"

Mr. A. CLARK, sub-secretary, spoke to this sentiment in a speech replete with sound reasoning. He illustrated the toast by showing the degraded position of the people at the present time—instancing the miserable destitution of Ireland, and the Highlands and Isles of Scotland; and asserted that if the coronet of a duke, or the diadem of a royal puppet, was inconsistent and opposed to the "progression" of the "age we live in"—that the possessors of these gewgaws should be denuded of their fooleries, and "clear the way" for the advance of the millions. (Loud cheers.) He contended that union and cordial co-operation were needful to the success of—were the only mode of gaining—the People's Charter.

Mr. J. MORTON then addressed the audience, and gave the following sentiment:—"Thomas Slingsby Duncombe, Esq., M.P., and the democratic members of the House of Commons." He said he need not enter into an exposition of the good to the people which this patriotic gentleman had achieved. (Hear.) This was evinced in his presentation of the National Petition, and his tact in managing the debate on the "Espionage" question. As to the other democratic and popular members, Mr. Wakley and Mr. Williams claimed a share of their gratitude. (Cheers.)

The next sentiment, "The Land and Co-operation," was spoken to by Mr. J. CUMMING, land agent for the Edinburgh branch of the Land Company. Mr. Cumming eloquently enforced the "land" scheme as a panacea for the many social evils with which society is afflicted. He said that they had heard a "great man in Israel" (alluding to Mr. William Chambers) deprecate the small farm system in the strongest terms; but they had only to read and study the publications of that gentleman of a very late date, to be convinced of the efficacy by that system. He (Mr. Cumming) went on to say that a Mr. Bone, a gentleman of the Malthusian school, had lately lectured in Edinburgh, and had given his opinion in favour of small farms. He said that Mr. Chambers need not think that his recent verdict would weigh heavily on "well-disposed operatives." Of the four sections which the directory had opened, three had been filled up, and the fourth was in rapid progress of being so. The smoke-embroiled working people of the kingdom revered Mr. Feargus O'Connor for his noble and undaunted conduct in thus paving the way for a complete overthrow of the existing evil system; his name was become a household word; he was worthy to fill the place of a benevolent Howard—a disinterested Washington! It was a glorious boon to the English and Scotch people when Daniel O'Connell gave them Feargus O'Connor. (Loud and reiterated cheers.) Mr. Cumming concluded an eloquent address amidst great applause.

The next sentiment spoken to by Mr. J. CRYBBACE was "Mr. Feargus O'Connor, and the Directors of the National Land Company." Mr. Crybbace highly eulogised Mr. O'Connor. He well remembered that when Mr. O'Connor made his first Scottish tour, he was much vilified by the press. He, (Mr. O'C.) however, had been "weighed in the balance, and not found wanting," by those whom his glorious efforts tended to emancipate. (Cheers.) Mr. Crybbace then alluded to the other Directors. Of Mr. Doyle they could well judge—a true and undaunted friend to his fellow men. His late visit to Scotland had been of invaluable service to the common cause. (Cheers.)

Mr. A. GRANT gave "Trades Unions—their beneficial effects." He said he was not an admirer of trades unions, as a principle in themselves. He considered the state of matters calling for the interference of trades' unions, as consequent upon the vicious monopolies with which the working classes had to contend. He said that certain parties had asseverated that the price of labour, and the number of working hours, should be regulated by the law of supply and demand. This was rather a *Bright* conclusion. He could not see when a man was excluded from the pale of legislation, that he was able to maintain his position against the wealth of the capitalists, unless he combined in union with his fellows. Mr. Grant, as illustrative of the good produced by the operation and establishment of trades unions, referred to his own trade—the letter press printers. Mr. Grant concluded a long and able address, by calling on all working men to join and unite.

The proceedings of the *soiree* terminated about 11 o'clock, when several of the company tripped it on the "light fantastic toe," and kept up the dancing till a late hour. The proceeds will be devoted to the fund now raising in Edinburgh for liquidating the debt due to Mr. Feargus O'Connor, for the money expended by him in defence of the Political Victims in '39 and '42.

GLASGOW.—To Mr. *Thomas Martin Wheeler: Dear Sir,*—On the other side you have a bank order for the sum of £10 12s 8d, which will pay for two four-acre shares in the Chartist Co-operative Land Company—one share for John Miller, warehouseman, 223, Gallowgate; and another from James Moir, tea dealer, 174, Gallowgate. I believe that neither of the parties are at all likely to enter upon the occupation of their allotments, though they had balloted successfully immediately. However, both are prompted to give this public countenance to the company, hoping and believing that the people may yet, through its medium, see the importance of struggling anew, and successfully to relieve themselves from the overwhelming load of political bondage under which they groan. Trusting that the success of the Land Company may be all that even Mr. O'Connor himself could desire, I remain, my dear Sir, respectfully yours, JAMES MOIR.—174, Gallowgate, March 9, 1847.

VETERANS', ORPHANS', AND VICTIMS' COMMITTEE.

The committee met on Tuesday evening last, at the Land office, Dean-street, Soho, Mr Grassby in the chair. A letter having been read from Daddy Richards, it was agreed that the same be forwarded to the "Northern Star" for insertion, and that an appeal to the Chartist public be appended thereto. It is as follows:—

Hanley, March 8th, 1847.

Dear Friend,—You will oblige me by thanking the committee of the Veterans' funds for the assistance they have afforded me, and also inform them, that circumstances over which I have no control have forced me to enter the Poor-law Bastile of Stoke-upon-Trent.

Think not that I enter willingly, or that I do not feel the degradation of a pauper; but so it is, and necessity *has no law!*

Well, Arnott, I again repeat I am forced to submit to the Devil's law, and the regulations of the three Devil Kings; at least for a time—how long, I know not: but to-morrow's sun will see me a prisoner in a more degrading place than Stafford Gaol. My heart is full—I can write no more.

Yours fraternally,
JOHN RICHARDS.

To Mr John Arnott, Somers-Town.

Brother Chartists! and brethren of the Land Company! awake! arise from your inhuman apathy, read the above appalling facts, and say if poor old John Richards shall perish in an infernal Bastile—the abominable system against which he has fought upwards of half a century? Come on then, at once! and rescue his poor hoary head from such a shameful end. Think of the sufferings and feebleness of those valiant old veterans in the cause of freedom—Smart, Preston, and old Daddy;—be determined to subscribe one penny a month to keep them alive their full time; this would also assist the disconsolate wives and orphans of those (many of whom, alas! we still cherish a lively recollection) who were murdered and banished by the detestable Whigs—the same despicable crew who refused (or allow our champion Duncombe, to bring in a bill) to repeal the Ratepaying Clauses of their Reform Bill, because it would be too close an approximation to Universal Suffrage. Then attend to the wants of your own order, talk no more of "want of means," what's a farthing *per week*? Look at the thousands you pay for the land, (which, we rejoice to see,) your farthings from this time would enable your committee to render that support to the Veterans, Orphans and Widows, so much required; nor let us meet night after night doing *nothing more than condoling with each other on the* sufferings of our friends, and without the means to relieve them.

PHILIP M'GRATH, JAMES GRASSBY,
SAMUEL LARGE, JOHN SIMPSON,
GEORGE ANTILL, JOHN SHAW, Sub-Treasurer,
JOHN ARNOTT, Sub-Secretary.

WOOLWICH.—Mr M'Grath will deliver a lecture on the Small Farm system, on Monday evening next, at the George the Fourth Inn, King-street.

Chartist Land Company.

BALLOT FOR THE LOCATION OF SHAREHOLDERS ON ONE HUNDRED ACRES OF THE MATHON ESTATE, MALVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

On Monday evening, March the 8th, the Assembly Room, 83, Dean-street, Soho, was filled at an early hour with an anxious audience to witness the balloting for the fortunate shareholders. At seven o'clock Mr. James Grassby was unanimously called to the chair.

A committee of nine persons was appointed to superintend the ballot. Everything being in order the wheels were set in motion amid the most profound silence, only interrupted by hearty cheers of congratulation, when some well-known brother gained a prize. The first ballot was for "Two Acre" allottees, of whom there were eight to be chosen. The prizes fell to the following persons:—

1	Brierly Sleddow	Rochdale	1737
2	E. Stallwood	Hammersmith	2126
3	T. Gilbert	Coventry	1036
4	E. Tibbles	Cirencester	2024
5	H. Heskett & J. Crompton (double)	Leigh	2242, 2243
7	J. Clark	Norwich	2492
8	J. Bennett	Stockton	760

Three Acres.
FIVE PRIZES.

1	J. Hornby	Stockport	1448—123
2	J. Holmes	Nottingham	1992—160
3	R. Tipler	Northampton	2052—170
4	W. Bottrill	Northampton	393—36
5	J. Horne	Brighton	1844—148

Four Acres.
SEVENTEEN PRIZES.

1	A. Rice	Cheltenham	608—609
2	Eli Sykes	Huddersfield	1944—1945
3	R. Seed	Clithero	467—468
4	J. Bennett	Wotton-under-Edge	366—367
5	A. Willis	Rochester	472—2377
6	Eli Coolon	Navarre St. Germains	97—98
7	J. Plaice	Lambeth	1046—1047
8	J. S. Beattie	Glasgow	1857—2556
9	W. W. Coombes	Newton Abbott	2068—2069
10	J. McWilliam	Manchester	2081—2082
11	T. Loutel	Alva	544—545
12	A. Dunford	City of London	1726—1727
13	J. Stanton	Wheeler's List / Coggeshall, Essex	77—78
14	C. E. Hill	Rochester	991—996
15	J. Baker	Birmingham	152—153
16	G. Barton	Wheeler's List	1604—1605
17	W. Atkins	Peterborough	1698—1699

THOMAS MARTIN WHEELER, PHILIP M'GRATH, Secretaries.

After the ballot had given the above result, a second ballot took place for deciding the choice of location on the Lowbands' Estate, the result of which will be given in the ensuing *Star*. Mr. J. ARNOTT then moved a vote of thanks, expressive of the satisfaction of the meeting, and of the manner in which the ballot had been conducted, and to the committee and directors for conducting the same.

Mr. T. R. SHERMAN seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks was given to the Chairman, and the meeting dissolved.

VALUE OF THE SHARES.—Mr. Edmund Stallwood was offered £25, and a full paid-up Four Acre share, *for his prize of two acres, before he left the room on* the night of the ballot.

WALWORTH.—A well-attended public meeting was held at Harrison's Temperance Assembly Rooms, 9, East-lane, Walworth, on Wednesday evening: March 3rd.

Mr. J. SEWELL, on taking the chair, said, if they looked at the labour market they found an immense surplus of unemployed labour which led to a very keen competition for work, reduced wages, and threw men on their own resources, which were by far too slender. They had applied to government and other parties to aid them, but without effect: well, the founders of the Land Company had come forward, and he was happy to say their plan had been crowned with success. Englishmen were proverbial for their industry, and he was satisfied that, under the operation of the Land Company, with a moderate degree of labour, they would be enabled to obtain a very good living combined with a fair share of comfort. Some gentlemen had come forward with their thousands, for no other purpose than to realize large profits; this was not the case with the founders and advocates of the Land Company. That company had not yet been established two years, yet it had obtained its proud position, having 13,000 shareholders and realized a capital of £24,000, with which they had purchased and now held three estates, all of which had been realized with the pence of the people, and on which a considerable number of shareholders were about to be located. He believed that the Land Company was a perfectly safe investment, and that every farthing subscribed would be put to the purpose for which its subscribers intended it. (Hear.) He had now much pleasure in introducing Mr. Clark, one of the directors.

Mr. CLARK, on rising, was greeted with much applause. He said he had listened with great pleasure to the speech of their chairman, and, with him, agreed that it was themselves that must work out their own salvation. Their plan was one of Co-operation, "all for each and each for all"—(hear, hear)—the working classes had shown what united exertions could effect as exhibited in the splendid buildings of which London streets were composed; also in the magnificent mansions and palaces by which they were surrounded, but there were for others, for, decidedly, they had not reaped their share of advantage from those efforts; however, they now had begun to exhibit to the world the magnificent spectacle of a people being determined to effect a great, a peaceful, and lasting good for themselves and posterity. (Loud cheers.) They had seen many changes, many a game of political shuttlecock had been played, but in all the revolutions that had taken place none of them had conferred any real or solid advantage on the working classes. (Hear.) In starting "The National Land Company" its promoters had taken care to base their rules on the principle of republicanism and pure democracy, every shareholder having a voice in the election of those who conduct its affairs. By a union of means they could do that which it was impossible for any single individual to accomplish. [Mr. Clark here entered into a lucid exposition of the operation, practical working, and progress of the Land Company—its land, buildings, National Land and Labour Bank, &c., amidst great applause.] Now, said Mr. Clark, in less than two years, all this has been accomplished. Upwards of 13,000 shareholders have been obtained, and a capital of £25,000 been subscribed. Well, if this could be done in two years, and that the two first years of their existence, it was no exaggeration to say that in two more years the number of shareholders would exceed 100,000, and its funds be more than quadrupled. (Much applause.) Some people had expressed much surprise, and been incredulous as to their ability to carry out the plan, but they did not appear to take into their consideration that it was effected by mutual co-operation. Thus, at O'Connorville, a cottage and two acres of land cost £100, but no single individual could purchase a similar quantity of land, and build a similar house for a less sum than £200. And why not? simply because he must go to the retail market for every thing he required, whilst their Company could go to the wholesale market, buy the land, and then divide it into small allotments. Thus their shareholders had the land at the wholesale prices; and so with the materials for building. If they invested £100 in any other raw material, it would waste away and become valueless; but not so with the land; the more it was used, with proper treatment, the more valuable it became. They had just established a "National Land and Labour Bank," and he thought he was justified in stating that the security they offered was much better than any that the Bank of England could give, seeing that they offered land and houses, while the Bank of England had only promises to pay, which could never be realised, as was amply demonstrated during the administration of William Pitt. The Labour Bank was a Savings Bank and Redemption Fund—(cheers)—giving them the opportunity of depositing the smallest pittance they could screw out of their earnings, and a means of redeeming their allotments and becoming freeholders. A small plot of land of a few square yards in extent, on which stood a miserable dwelling, near O'Connorville, now let for a larger sum than the Company were about to charge for two acres and a commodious and handsome cottage. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Clark here, amid much applause, read some extracts from Mr. O'Connor's work on Small Farms, and continued—this was no mere party or class war—it was a war of enlightenment against barbarism. (Cheers.) He called on the working men to withdraw their money from the Savings Bank, and to deposit it in their own "National Land and Labour Bank."

Mr. DOYLE, who was heartily welcomed, said a surplus of hands being in the labour market must, as a matter of course, give the employers the opportunity of reducing wages, and it was a lamentable fact that at the present moment there was a surplus of five millions who had to look to a Poor Law bastile for a miserable existence. Now, he was one of those who contended that there were not too many working people in the world, and that the land would amply sustain in comfort the whole, provided it was properly cultivated and its produce equitably distributed. Mr. Doyle proceeded to demonstrate the advantages resulting from the allotment system in Rotherham and other places, and if it was so successful, whilst under such partial development, what ought they to expect when fully developed under the auspices of the National Land Company? (Hear, hear.) The Company was now trying a great experiment, whether the people could not enjoy a greater share of happiness and comfort, from two, three, and four acres of land, than was now to be obtained for £2 per week, and he contended that their present successful proceedings foretold a triumphant issue. (Great applause.) After demonstrating the great effect the Land Company must have in promoting freedom, virtue, morality and happiness amongst the whole of human kind, Mr. Doyle resumed his seat, amidst the loudest applause.

Mr. BROWN said he had seen in the *Northern Star* of last week an advertisement with which he was well pleased, namely, that of a Benefit Society in connection with, or rather as an auxiliary to the Land Company. He had desired for a long time to see such a thing established. Would either Mr. Clark or Mr. Doyle let the meeting understand it?

Mr. CLARK—I can only say that both myself and friend Doyle are happy to belong to it; and as Mr. Stallwood, the founder, is present, I think he had better explain it himself.

Mr. STALLWOOD rose and gave a brief exposition of the "National Co-operative Benefit Society," and sat down much applauded, when

Mr. JEFFRY, in a brief but forcible speech, moved the following:—

Resolved, that this meeting has heard with much pleasure the principles of the National Land Company, expounded by Messrs. Clark and Doyle, two of the Board of Directors of that Company, and resolve to ... themselves individually and collectively to support the same.

Mr. J. KNIGHT seconded the motion.

Mr. JOHN SIMPSON said since the meeting of Wednesday last, that district had added greatly to the shareholders of the Company. Several persons were anxious to join the Benefit Society.

The resolution was carried unanimously. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

CITY OF WESTMINSTER LIBRARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY.

The large room held by this society in the Temperance Hall, Broadway, was densely crowded on Saturday evening, March the 6th, to hear the debate on "The Land and the Charter."

Mr. Lewis was called to the chair, and introduced Mr. Walford to the meeting, who shewed the advantage of spade husbandry over the plough, and demonstrated that if a man commenced on two or three acres of land, if he was only diligent in the application of his labour, he must procure a comfortable maintenance for himself and family, leaving a surplus at the year's end. He ably supported his position by quotations from the works of Drs. Playfair, Zellowley, and others, and adduced the example of Belgium and other continental nations, as a proof that the small farm system was a promoter of domesticity, virtue, prosperity, and happiness: he hoped, therefore, to see every working man, through the means of the "National Land Company," speedily obtain "a stake in the hedge." (Much applause.)

Mr. Bowler thought Mr. Walford had thrown a very strong light on the subject, and thought the National Land Company well calculated to keep up wages by preventing undue competition in the labour market, removing, as it obviously must, the surplus to the land. (Cheers.)

Mr. Gent, from Lancashire, in following on the same side, said the land and building societies were conferring great advantages on the people of the North.

Mr. Gallagher said he had travelled through France, and had witnessed families procuring a good living from an acre and a-half, and others from two acres of land; his experience told him that a man with a family of seven or eight children might obtain an excellent living, and have to spare, off four acres of land. (Applause.)

Mr. Trumble made some very clever observations in support of allotments of land to the working classes.

Mr. Bater said he had the pleasure of knowing some forty or fifty persons who were realising fortunes simply by possessing and properly cultivating some four or five acres of land each. (Cheers.)

It was agreed that the debate should stand adjourned, and that Mr. Edmund Stallwood should re-open it on Saturday evening next (this evening), March the 13th, at eight o'clock.

A vote of thanks was then unanimously awarded to Mr. Stallwood and the *Northern Star*.

Seven persons handed in their names for shares in the "National Land Company," and resolved to open a district, the meetings to be held in the Temperance Hall.

BIRMINGHAM.—Mr. D. Potts has been re-elected scrutineer. It has been resolved, that a levy of sixpence per member be paid, to meet the local expenses.

NOTTINGHAM.—A general meeting was held on Monday last, at the Seven Stars in Barker Gate, Mr. Christie in the chair, when the auditors for the past year made their report, at the conclusion of which an unanimous vote of thanks was given to Mr. J. Sweet for the honourable manner in which he had discharged the onerous duties that had devolved upon him. A handsome gift was then presented to Mr. Sweet, as a mark of grateful acknowledgment for his past services. The following persons were appointed as a committee, auditors, &c., for the current year, viz.:—Messrs. Treece, Shaw, Oldknow, Hall, Smith, Christie, Bostock, Broadhead and Steele. On the motion of Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Oldknow, it was unanimously resolved, "That the sum of sixpence per member per year, be paid for local management by each section." Mr. Sweet then drew the attention of the meeting to a letter from Poor Old Daddy Richards, who was in distressed circumstances, and also to circulars which he had received from "Dr. M'Douall's Committee," and the "West Testimonial Committee;" but in consequence of the impoverished state of the people, it was ordered that these subscriptions be delayed for a short period. On the motion of Mr. Dodsley, seconded by Mr. Treece, Mr. Sweet was put in nomination to represent the members of this branch at the next conference. Votes of thanks having been given to the committee, auditors, &c., also to the chairman, the meeting, which was numerously attended broke up.

READING.—On the question of locating certain individuals without being subjected to the ballot, it has been resolved by a majority of four:—"That we consider it will be detrimental to the rights of the majority of the shareholders, and tend to introduce class interests, if the system of locating without ballot be introduced."

BRISTOL.—Resolution passed:—Moved by Mr. Adams, seconded by S. Robbeck, "That, in the opinion of this meeting, the allowing members to be located without ballot on the condition of their paying up their redemption, is anti-democratic in its tendency, and likely to give great dissatisfaction to the poor shareholders, as it will give an undue advantage to the wealthy shareholders."

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS.

ACCRINGTON.—A meeting for the enrolment of shareholders is held at Mr. Beesley's, Abbey-street, every Sunday evening at 6 o'clock.

BRADFORD.—Shareholders will meet in the large room, (formerly the Shooting Gallery,) Butterworth-buildings, at 2 o'clock on Monday, and at 7 o'clock; a full attendance of the shareholders is requested.

HYDE.—The shareholders will meet at Mr. John Leigh's, John-street, on Sunday (to-morrow) at 2 o'clock p.m.

KIDDERMINSTER.—The shareholders of this branch are requested to meet at the Nag's-head, Bewdley-street, on Tuesday the 16th inst. Those who have not paid their levies are requested to do so forthwith.

LITTLE TOWN.—Mr. Smyth, of Bradford, will lecture at the house of Mr. R. Redfearn, on Sunday (to-morrow). Subject, "The Land and the Charter." Chair will be taken at half-past 2 o'clock.

MANCHESTER.—A general meeting of the shareholders will be held on Sunday (to-morrow,) in the hall of the People's Institute, Heyrod-street. Chair to be taken at 10 o'clock in the forenoon. Shareholders are particularly requested to attend.

MOSSLEY.—A meeting for the purpose of forming a branch society here, will be held at the Fleece-inn, on Monday next, March 15th, at 8 o'clock. All parties wishing to become shareholders are respectfully requested to attend.

OLDHAM.—The shareholders will meet in the School-room of the Working-man's Hall, every Sunday at 2 o'clock, to receive subscriptions and enrol new members. Those who are in arrears are requested to pay forthwith.

TOWER HAMLETS—The officers of the Whittington and Cat branch attend every Sunday evening, from *half-past 6 till 9 o'clock, for the enrolment of members* and to receive subscriptions.

NORTHAMPTON.—Mr. Munday will commence receiving names and monies for the Land and Labour Bank on Monday next.

ROCHDALE—On Sunday evening (to-morrow) a friend will deliver an address to the shareholders, at the room, Mile-street: chair will be taken at 6 o'clock.

WALWORTH.—Shareholders are enrolled and contributions received by the Secretary every Monday evening, at the Temperance Hall, 9, East-lane;

FOR STOPPING DECAYED TEETH,

Patronized by Her Majesty, the Queen,
Her Majesty, the Queen Dowager,
His Royal Highness Prince Albert,
Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent,
His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury,
And nearly all the Nobility, the Bishops and the Clergy

THOMAS & HOWARD'S SUCCEDANEUM.

For filling Decayed Teeth, however large the cavity. It is superior to anything ever before used, as it placed in the tooth in a soft state, without any pressure or pain and in a short time becomes as hard as the enamel, and will remain firm in the tooth many years, rendering extraction unn essary. It arrests all further progress of decay, and renders them again useful in mastication. All persons can use this SUCCEDANEUM THEMSELVES WITH EASE, as full directions are enclose

Prepared only by THOMAS & HOWARD, Surgeon Dentists, 64, Berners Street, Oxford Street, London who will send the Succedaneum free by Post to any part in the Kingdom. Price 2s. 6d. Observe: the Succedaneum is Sold in SEALED Packets, with full directions for use enclosed, by the following Agents:—Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London; and by his appointment by Heaton, Hay, Allen, Land, Haigh, Smith, Bell, Townsend Baines and Newsome, Smeeton, Reinhardt, Yarbottom and Horner, Leeds; Brooke, Dewsbury; Dennis and Son Burdekin, Moxon, Little, Hardman, Linney, and Hargrave, York; Brooke and Co., Walker and Co., Stafford Faulkner, Doncaster; Judson, Harrison, Linney, Ripon Foggitt, Coates, Thompson, Thirsk; Wiley, Easingwold England, Fell, Spivey, Huddersfield; Ward, Richmond Sweeting, Knaresborough; Pease, Oliver, Darlington Dixon, Metcalfe, Langdale, Northallertond, Rhodes Snaith; Goldthorpe, Tadcaster; Rogerson, Coope Newby, Kay, Bradford; Brice, Priestly, Pontefract Cordwell, Gill, Lawton, Dawson, Smith, Wakefield Berry, Denton; Suter, Leyland, Hartley, Barker, Dunn Halifax: Booth, Rochdale; Lambert, Boroughbridge Dalby, Wetherby; Waite, Harrogate; Wall, Barnsley and all Chemists and Medicine Vendors. Sold Wholesal by BARCLAY and SONS, Mr. EDWARDS, SUTTON and Co., and NEWBERY and SON, London.—J. and R. RAIMES and Co., Edinburgh. Dr BUTLER'S Medical Hall, Sackville Street, Dublin.

LOSS OF TEETH.

Messrs. HOWARD & THOMAS continue to supply the Loss of Teeth, without springs or wires, upon their new system of Self Adhesion, which has procured them such universal approbation, and is recommended by numerous Physicians and Surgeons, as being the most ingenious system of supplying artificial teeth hitherto invented They adapt themselves over the most tender gums or remaining stumps, without causing the least pain, rendering the painful operation of extraction quite unnecessary. They are so fixed as to fasten any loose teeth, where the gums have shrunk from the use of calomel or other causes. They also beg to invite those not liking to undergo any painful operation, as practised by most members of the profession, to inspect their painless yet effective system; and in order that their improvements may be within reach of the most economical, they will continue the same moderate charges.

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Their new method of fixing Artificial Teeth, has obtained the approbation and recommendation of the following eminent Physicians and Surgeons:—

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Dr Locock, Physician Accoucheur to her Majesty,
Sir B. C. Brodie, Bart., Sergeant Surgeon to her Majesty,
The late Sir A. Cooper, Bart., Sergeant Surgeon to her Majesty,
Sir David Davies, Physician to her Majesty the Queen-Dowager,
Dr. Merriman, Physician to her R. H. the Duchess of Kent,
Dr. Chambers,
And numerous other Members of the Medical Profession.

ON THE CONCEALED CAUSE OF CONSTITUTIONAL OR ACQUIRED DEBILITIES OF THE GENERATIVE SYSTEM.

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Price 2s. 6d., and sent free to any part of the United Kingdom on the receipt of a Post Office Order for 3s. 6d.

A MEDICAL WORK on the INFIRMITIES of the GENERATIVE SYSTEM, in both sexes; being an enquiry into the concealed cause that destroys physical energy, and the ability of manhood, ere vigour has established her empire:—with Observations on the baneful effects of SOLITARY INDULGENCE and INFECTION; local and constitutional WEAKNESS, NERVOUS IRRITATION, CONSUMPTION, and on the partial or total EXTINCTION of the REPRODUCTIVE POWERS; with means of restoration: the destructive effects of Gonorrhœa, Gleet, Stricture, and Secondary Symptoms are explained in a familiar manner; the Work is Embellished with Ten fine coloured Engravings, representing the deleterious influence of Mercury on the skin, by eruptions on the head, face, and body; with approved mode of cure for both sexes; followed by observations on the obligations of MARRIAGE, and healthy perpetuity; with directions for the removal of certain Disqualifications: the whole pointed out to suffering humanity as a "SILENT FRIEND" to be consulted without exposure, and with assured confidence of success.

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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

"We regard the work before us, the "Silent Friend," as a work embracing most clear and practical views of a paes of complaints hitherto little understood, and wered over by the majority of the medical profession, for what reason we are at a loss to know. We must, however, confess that a perusal of this work has left such a favorable impression on our minds, that we not only recommend, but cordially wish every one who is the victim of past folly, or suffering from indiscretion, to profit by advice contained in its pages."—*Age and Argus*

Part I. of this work is particularly addressed to those who are prevented from forming a Matrimonial Alliance, and will be found an available introduction to the means of perfect and secret restoration to manhood.

Part II. treats perspicuously upon those forms of diseases, either in their primary or secondary state, arising from infection, shewing how numbers, through neglect to obtain competent medical aid, entail upon themselves years of misery and suffering.

THE CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM

Is intended to relieve those persons, who, by an immoderate indulgence of their passions, have ruined their constitutions, or in their way to the consummation of that deplorable state, are affected with any of those previous symptoms that betray its approach, as the various affections of the nervous system, obstinate gleets, excesses, irregularity, obstructions of certain evacuations, weakness, total impotency, barrenness, &c.

This medicine is particularly recommended to be taken before persons enter into the matrimonial state, lest, in the event of procreation occurring, the innocent offspring should bear enstamped upon it the physical characters derivable from parental debility.

Price 11s., or the quantity of four at 11s. in one bottle or 33s., by which 11s. is saved; the £5 cases may be had as usual, which is a saving of £1 12s.

THE CONCENTRATED DETERSIVE ESSENCE,

An anti-syphilitic remedy for searching out and purifying the diseased humours of the blood; conveying its active principles throughout the body, even penetrating the minutest vessels, removing all corruptions, contaminations, and impurities from the vital stream; eradicating the morbid virus, and radically expelling it through the skin

Price 11s., or four bottles in one for 33s., by which 11s. is saved, also in £5 cases, which saves £1 12s.

Venereal contamination, if not at first eradicated, will then remain secretly lurking in the system for years, and although for a while undiscovered, at length break out upon the unhappy individual in its most dreadful forms or else, unseen, internally endanger the very vital organs in existence. To those suffering from the consequences which this disease may have left behind in the form of secondary symptoms, eruptions of the skin, blotches on the head and face, ulcerations and enlargement of the throat sitons, and threatened destruction of the nose, palate, &c., nodes on the shin bones, or any of those painful affections arising from the dangerous effects of the indiscriminate use of mercury, or the evils of an imperfect cure, the Concentrated Detersive Essence will be found to be attended with the most astonishing effects, in checking the ravages of the disorder, removing all scorbutic complaints, and effectually re-establishing the health and constitution. To persons entering upon the responsibilities of matrimony, and who ever had the misfortune during their more youthful days to be affected with any form of these diseases, a previous course of this medicine is highly essential, and of the greatest importance, as moer serious affections are visited upon an innocent wife and offspring, from a want of these simple remedies than perhaps half the world is aware of; for, it must be remembered, where the fountain is polluted, the stream that flow from it cannot be pure.

PERRY'S PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS

Price 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. per box,

With explicit directions, rendered perfectly intelligible to every capacity, are well known throughout Europe to be the most certain and effectual remedy ever discovered for gonorrhœa, both in its mild and aggravated forms, by immediately allaying inflammation and arresting further progress.

Gleets, strictures, irritation of the bladder, pains of the loins and kidneys, gravel, and other disorders of the urinary passages, in either sex, are permanently cured in a short space of time, without confinement or the least exposure.

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The cures performed in less time and on such economical terms as were never before practised, no restraint of diet or hinderance from business at all necessary, or fear of discovery or exposure.

J. M., and Co., may be consulted by letter, patients stating the full particulars of their case, when an equally perfect cure will be effected as by a personal visit.

Advice and a Prescription will be forwarded in reply by return of Post to any part of the Country, and correspondence continued until a perfect cure is accomplished on receipt of Half-a-Sovereign.

J. MORRIS and Co's, "Batameal Purifying Pills" may also be had as above, price 2s. 9d. per box, with directions or free, on receipt of Postage Stamps to the amount of Three Shillings.—These far-famed renovating Pills have for many years, been celebrated for their wonderful powers and purifying qualities in all complaints, arising from Indiscretion, &c., the effect produced after a few doses is truly astonishing, not only in purifying the blood, but also establishing a complete renovation of the constitution, and being prepared solely from vegetable substances will keep in every climate. To captains of ships and others taking long voyages they are invaluable.

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A mild, safe, and most effectual cure of Indigestion Bilious, Liver, and Stomach Complaints, Sick Head-ache Costiveness, &c., &c. Their *composition is truly excellent*; they are compounded entirely of vegetable products, freed from all irritating and deleterious matters, which render their operation mild and agreeable; they do not require the least confinement or alteration of diet; and may be taken by the invalid with perfect safety; as an occasional dose in all nervous and debilitated cases, recoveries from protracted diseases, &c., they will be found highly valuable, imparting vigour and tone to the system when emaciated by disease.

Their value as a general tonic and restorative of the impaired stomach and biliary system, is daily manifested to the proprietors by their increasing rapid sale, and the numerous testimonials forwarded by those who have proved their efficacy.

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November 27th, 1846.

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I remain, gentlemen, yours, obediently,
GEORGE BATTERS.

Communicated by Mr. GAMIS, Yeovil.

Yeovil, July 13th, 1846.

Sirs,—Having, during the last two years, witnessed the remarkable efficacy of Parr's Life Pills, I feel much pleasure in stating the following cases for the encouragement of others. I am, truly yours,

Medicine Warehouse, Yeovil. J. GAMIS.

E. A.—An elderly gentleman, came for a second box of Parr's Pills, and with pleasing astonishment said, "These are the best pills I have ever had, and I intend always to keep them by me; they are the best remedy for the Piles I have ever tried."

P. G.—Another person, aged 76, affirmed, that, after trying almost every medicine for Indigestion and Bilious Complaint, Parr's Life Pills stand unequalled, and emphatically said it was the best aperient medicine extant.

W. E.—A young man, who had for a long time been rendered incapable from following his usual employment, being painfully afflicted with a most obstinate complaint in his stomach, is now able to follow his usual employment, by persevering in the use of Parr's Pills.

E. H.—Who declares he has spent pounds in endeavouring to cure a complaint which he terms the Blind Piles, has, by taking three 2s. 9d. boxes, received a perfect cure.

B. M.—Who has been sadly afflicted with Rheumatism for two years, has found these pills a perfect antidote, by having recourse to them especially in the spring and fall of the year.

These are but few amongst the many testimonials that I have received of the good effects of Parr's Life Pills for all disorders in the Head and Stomach, and particularly for all Rheumatic Complaints.

P.S.—You will forward me, as usual, one gross of Parr's, and also a case of Spencer's Pulmonic Elixir. This medicine the more it is tried, the more it is approved of, for *Affections of the Lungs, Coughs, Tightness of Breathing*, &c., &c.

BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

None are genuine unless the words "*Parr's Life Pills*, are in White Letters on a Red Ground, on the Government Stamp, pasted round each box; also the *fac simili*" of the signature of the Proprietors, "T. Roberts and Co., Crane-court, Fleet street, London," on the Directions.

Sold in boxes at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and family packets at 11s. each, by all respectable medicine vendors throughout the world.

FRAMPTON'S PILL OF HEALTH.

Price 1s 1½d per box.

THIS excellent Family PILL is a Medicine of long-tried efficacy for correcting all disorders of the Stomach and Bowels, the common symptoms of which are Costiveness, Flatulency, Spasms, Loss of Appetite, Sick Headache, Giddiness, Sense of Fulness after meals, Dizziness of the Eyes, Drowsiness and Pains in the Stomach and Bowels: Indigestion, producing a Torpid state of the Liver, and a *consequent Inactivity of the Bowels, causing* a disorganisation of every function of the frame, will, in this most excellent preparation, by a little perseverance, be effectually removed. Two or three doses will convince the afflicted of its salutary effect. The stomach will speedily regain its strength; a healthy action of the liver, bowels, and kidneys will rapidly take place; and instead of listlessness, heat, pain, and jaundiced appearance, strength, activity, and renewed health, will be the quick result of taking this medicine, according to the directions accompanying each box.

These Pills are particularly efficacious for Stomach, Coughs, Colds, Agues, Shortness of Breath, and all Obstructions of the Urinary Passages; and, if taken after too free an indulgence at table, they quickly restore the system to its natural state of repose.

Persons of a FULL HABIT, who are subject to Headache, Giddiness, Drowsiness, and Singing in the Ears, arising from too great a flow of Blood to the Head, should never be without them, as many dangerous symptoms will be entirely carried off by their immediate use.

For FEMALES, these Pills are most truly excellent, removing all obstructions, the distressing Head-ache, so very prevalent with the sex; Depression of spirits, Dulness of Sight, Nervous Affections, Blotches, Pimples, and Sallowness of the Skin, and give a healthy and juvenile bloom to the complexion.

To MOTHERS they are confidently recommended as the best medicine that can be taken during pregnancy; and for children of all ages they are unequalled.

As a pleasant, safe, and easy Aperient, they unite the recommendation of a mild operation with the most successful effect, and require no restraint of diet, or confinement during their use. By regulating the dose, according to the age and strength of the patient, they become suitable for every case, in either sex, that can be required; and for ELDERLY PEOPLE they will be found to be the most comfortable medicine hitherto prepared.

Sold by T. Prout, 229, Strand, London. Price 1s 1½d and 2s 9d per box; and sold by

Sold by Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London: and by his appointment by

Heaton, Hay, Allen, Land, Haigh, Smith, Bell, Townsand, Baines and Newsome. Smeeton, Reinhardt, Tarbottom, and Horner, Leeds; Brooke, Dewsbury; Dennis and Son, Burdekin, Moxon, Little, Hardman, Linney, and Hargrove, York; Brooke and Co., Walker and Co., Stafford, Faulkner, Doncaster; Judson, Harrison, Linney, *Ripon*; *Foggitt, Coates, Thompson, Thirsk*; Wiley, Easingwold; England, Fell, Spivey, Huddersfield; Ward, *Richmond*; *Sweeting, Knaresborough*; Pease, Oliver Darlington, Dixon, Metcalfe, Langdale, Northallerton' Rhodes, Snaith; Goldthorpe, Tadcaster; Rogerson' Cooper, Newby, Kay, Bradford; Brice, Priestley, Ponfefrect; Cordwell Gill, Lawton, Dawson, Smith, Wakefield; Berry, Renton; Sutter, Leyland, Hartley, Parker, Dunn, Halifax; Booth, Rochdale; Lambert, Boroughbridge; Dalby, Wetherby; Waite, Harrogate; Wall, Barnsley;
and by the Venders of Medicines generally throughout the kingdom.

Ask for FRAMPTON'S PILL ON HEALTH, and observe the name and address of "Thomas Prout, 229, Strand London," on the government stamp.

AMERICAN IRON.—The first bar of American railroad iron was made in 1844, and an American paper now states that there are at present 16 or 18 mills, at which it is made at the rate of about 120,000 tons per annum. "This amount is sufficient to lay four miles of railroad per day, or 1,200 miles per year."

FRAMPTON'S PILLS OF HEALTH—for Bilious or Sick Headache, Indigestion, and for the whole train of symptoms arising from a weak stomach, or vitiated bilious secretion, are pre-eminently successful. For costiveness, either habitual or temporary, they are admirable, and for elderly persons will prove the most agreeable medicine that can be taken. They are used with the greatest advantage by either sex, and will therefore prove an excellent family pill; for, in any case where an aperient medicine is required, they need only be tried to be universally adopted. Sold by all medicine venders. Price 1s 1½d per box. See the name of "Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London," on the government stamp.

Metropolitan Intelligence.

INQUESTS.

FRIGHTFUL DESTITUTION.—On Saturday last, an inquest was held by Mr. Carter, at the Pitt's Head, Grange-road, Bermondsey, on the body of James Leary, aged three months. A most frightful spectacle was presented to the jury, on their going to view the body. The room was bare. In one corner was a bed huddled up; no table, no food, no furniture. Mary Ann Macarthy stated that the deceased child had been placed in her care for the last five weeks. The mother was going to service, and she (witness) suckled it. Coroner—Had you any other children? Witness—Yes. I had one at the breast, and three others, and my husband "bad a bed." The Coroner—What had you to support you? Mrs. M'Carthy—I had nothing from my husband but 3s. since Christmas; *and then had the 4s. a week for this child.* The Coroner—Had you sufficient food? Mrs. M'Carthy—I had a bit of coffee and cold water and some dry bread, and that did for me and the childer. I had no more, or I would have cooked it for them. The Coroner—Your lodging is a bad one. Witness—I have only a sheet and a counterpane. The Coroner—No bed? Witness—There is the tick of it, but there is nothing inside. The Coroner—No blanket? Witness—Oh, no! all had been pawned. Evidence having been given that the deceased had died from convulsions, the jury returned a verdict of "Natural death." The poor nurse was called up; and in answer to questions, she said that all her hopes of existence for herself and family were now gone, for, with the 4s. a week she had for the child, "she made ends meet." Her husband was now in the hospital, and "the Lord must help her!" The Coroner with his usual liberality when cases of distress come before him, commenced by his own private gift a subscription, followed up with good feeling by the jury; and an amount was raised which will keep the poor nurse for some weeks, until her husband gets better.

SUICIDE.—On Monday night, Mr. W. Payne held an inquest, at the Old Swan Tavern, London Bridge, on the body of Andrew Reckhouse, aged 47, the confidential clerk of Messrs. Nicholls and Bennett, the proprietors of the Old Shades, who destroyed himself under the following extraordinary circumstances:—Mr. Thomas Nicholls and other witnesses stated that deceased had been for many years confidential clerk in the above establishment. He had attended to business during Saturday, but complaining of being unwell, Mr. Croft, surgeon, of Laurence Pountney-lane, saw him, about nine o'clock in the evening, and sent him some medicine. On calling, about twelve o'clock on Sunday to pay him another visit, his bedroom door was found locked in the inside, and which it was necessary to have forced, when he was discovered, partly dressed, lying on his face, with his right arm under his chest, and a large deep wound was observed in his throat, which extended from ear to ear. He had for some years been subject to occasional fits of despondency, complaining of severe pains in his head; and he also suffered from indigestion. The jury returned a verdict of "Temporary insanity."

FATAL ACCIDENT IN THE REGENT'S CANAL DOCK.—On Monday afternoon an inquest was taken before Mr. W. Baker, at the White Hart, Ratcliffe, on view of the body of Daniel Ross, aged 43 years. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased was a registered coal whipper, and on Saturday last he was at work on board the collier brig, John Bottomey, lying in the Regent's Canal Dock, Ratcliffe. He was standing on the plank, waiting to receive a basket containing coals, as it was "whipped" up from the hold, when the basket caught the plank, and he leant forward to seize it, for the purpose of drawing it to the weigher at the machine, but missing it, slipped and fell into the hold. He struck his head against the coals, and when raised by several other coalwhippers, life was found to be quite extinct. Verdict, "Accidental death."

THE LATE FATAL ACCIDENT ON BOARD THE STARLIGHT STEAM-BOAT.—On Monday Mr. Bedford held an inquest at the Salisbury Arms, Durham-street, Strand, on the body of Mr. James Hunt, aged 52, a master framework knitter of Nottingham, who lost his life by falling into the engine-house of the Starlight iron steam-boat. Joseph Crowne, the engineman, said that the flaps of the skylight were generally opened in the morning, and, unless the day was wet, they were kept up till night. There was no bar or any other protection over the opening when the window was up. There were bars placed in one or two of the company's boats, and he had no doubt that the same precautions would be adopted with respect to every other vessel belonging to the company. The jury, after consulting, returned a verdict, "*That the deceased died from injuries received in falling into the engine room of the Starlight iron steam-boat, which they (the jury) deemed to have been insufficiently protected.* And the jury recommend that the skylights of all steam-boats shall be in future well protected, so as to prevent a recurrence of a similar calamity."

ALLEGED DEATH FROM CONFINEMENT IN A POLICE STATION-HOUSE.—On Tuesday, Mr. W. Payne held an adjourned inquest in St. Bartholemew's Hospital on the body of Samuel Land, aged 77. The deceased had formerly been in good circumstances, but of late had become greatly reduced, and on the 6th of last February, in order to raise a few pence, he offered for sale at the shop of a Mr. Prettyman a volume of "Sykes' Temperature Tables." The smallness of the sum asked for the book induced a belief that the deceased had become possessed of it dishonestly, and he was accordingly given into custody of the police. He was taken to one of the City police station-houses, and locked in one of the cells from the Saturday evening till the following Monday morning, when, being taken before the magistrate, he was discharged, and the book given back to him. Whilst in the station, it was alleged that the deceased had been placed in a cold cell, and had not *received proper attention*, which had ultimately caused his death. Mr. Alderman Thomas Wood, the chairman of the Police Committee, Mr. Superintendent Hodgson, and several parties connected with the City police, attended to explain to the jury the state of the cells in the station-houses. A great number of witnesses were examined. On behalf of the police it was stated, that instead of the cell in which the deceased had been placed being cold and damp, as it had been alleged, it was on the contrary warm and perfectly dry. Inspector Woodruffe said that while deceased was confined he did not complain of being cold, and he had bread and butter, with coffee, on three occasions during the day. Mr. Alderman Thomas Wood contradicted the assertions made that that or indeed any other station-house was damp. The jury, after hearing the whole of the evidence, returned a verdict of "Death from apoplexy, which they thought was hastened by the charge made against him, and the confinement he was subjected to."

INQUESTS IN BRIXTON HOUSE OF CORRECTION.—On Tuesday two inquests were held before Wm. Carter, Esq., in the House of Correction, Brixton, on the bodies of George Newman, aged 40, and John Brown, aged 28, late prisoners in the gaol. It appeared that the deceased man Newman had been an inmate of one of the metropolitan unions, where he refused to work, for which he was taken before a magistrate, who committed him for ten days' imprisonment. On his admission he was seen by Mr. Wontner Harris, the prison surgeon, who found him to be suffering from disease of the lungs and low fever. He was placed in the infirmary, where he had every nourishment, which included arrow-root, wine, meat, &c., but he gradually sunk, and died on Saturday. His sentence had expired two days before he died. In the case of John Brown, the testimony of the various witnesses proved that he was sentenced to four months' imprisonment, for felony. On the 24th of February he was attacked with slight fever in his room; on the following day he was taken into the infirmary, where he rallied, but subsequently grew worse, and died on Monday last, from congestion of the brain. The jury returned in each case a verdict of "Natural death." At the close of the proceedings the medical officer, in answer to a question from a juror, stated that the prison is in a very crowded state. It was only intended to accommodate 160, and they had at the present time no fewer than 550 prisoners there.

FATAL SCAFFOLD ACCIDENT.—Mr. Wakley, M.P., held an inquest on Tuesday at the Middlesex Hospital, on the body of Henry Waring, a house-painter, aged 35. The deceased was painting a house in Dover-street, Piccadilly, when the scaffold on which he was standing gave way, and he fell, fracturing his thigh. An inflammation, which attacked his lungs, followed, and terminated fatally. The deceased had drank ardent spirits until the last six months, but during the latter period was a teetotaller. Verdict, "Accidental death."

SUICIDE AT WATERLOO BRIDGE.—By Mr. Payne, at the Vestry-hall, Horsleydown, on the body of Mary Anne Simpson, aged 34. Laura Jones said she had known the deceased several years. The deceased had for thirteen years passed as the wife of a gentleman, and on his death, about a year and a half back, she fretted very much. His family gave the deceased £40. Eliza Russell, the deceased's sister, gave corroborative evidence, and, in addition, said the deceased, owing to her altered circumstances, was much depressed in mind, and had threatened to drown herself. When deceased left home, witness went to the station at Bow-street, and there ascertained that a female, whom the description she gave as to her clothing, she had no doubt was her sister, was seen on the morning she left Mrs. Jones's to jump off Waterloo-bridge. Efforts to save her were ineffectual. From other evidence it appeared that the body was found in the river off Cotton's-wharf, on the *morning of the 2nd instant. In the absence of proof* of the deceased being the person who jumped off the bridge, the jury, on the suggestion of the coroner, returned an open verdict of "Found drowned."

MOTHER AND CHILD BURNED TO DEATH.—By Mr. Payne, at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, on the body of Hannah Owers, aged 29. The deceased, who was subject to fits, was the wife of a sawyer, living in Collingwood-street, Shoreditch. While nursing her infant she was seized with a fit, and fell into the fire; they were discovered by a neighbour, with their clothes in flames, and the fire being extinguished, were brought to the hospital, where the child shortly after died of the injuries received, and the deceased lingered till Sunday, when death also terminated her sufferings. Verdict, "Accidental death."

DEATH OF CHRISTOPHER GRAHAM, ESQ., BY POISON.—On Tuesday last, by Mr. William Carter, at the Prince Regent Inn, Dulwich, respecting the death of Christopher Graham, Esq., aged 82, who died at his mansion, Dulwich, on Monday morning last. The deceased gentleman was for many years chief partner in the eminent firm of Graham, Simpson, North, and Co., of New Bridge-street, Blackfriars. The first witness called was Henry Kimance, the deceased's late footman, who deposed that his master had been very ill latterly with lumbago, for which complaint he had been under the care of Mr. English, the surgeon. *On Monday morning last*, whilst sitting at breakfast with the cook and two housemaids, another female servant came into the room and said, "Master is very bad, and well he might be, for the stuff they have sent him to take almost choked him, as he was twenty minutes in taking it." Witness then told her that she must have given him the wrong medicine. Witness ran up to the bedroom, and found that she had given the deceased the embrocation instead of the draught. The bottle had been three parts filled; when he went into the room, it was quite empty. Mrs. Graham, who was in bed with the deceased, was instantly made acquainted with the fact, and ordered Mr. English to be sent for. He attended with the stomach-pump, but the deceased became insensible, and died in four hours afterwards. The lotion had been used on the Sunday, and left by witness on the dressing table, near the medicine. It was labelled, with every direction on the label for use. The female who administered the same was in the habit of being called into the bedchamber at all hours in the night, and on the present unfortunate occasion she had in haste taken up the wrong bottle. Witness felt satisfied it was an accidental occurrence. She had been ten years in the service of the family, and bore an unblemished character. Mr. English, surgeon of Forest-hill, was next examined, and, having made a *post mortem* examination of the body, he was fully satisfied that the deceased had died from the poison taken into the stomach.—Verdict—"Accidental death."

FATAL ACCIDENT AT AN ENGINEER'S.—On Wednesday afternoon, by Mr. Baker, at the Masons' Arms, Poplar, on the body of John Smith, a labourer, aged forty years. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased was in the employ of Messrs. Seward and Co., engineers, Millwall, Poplar. On Tuesday last he was engaged with several other labourers in raising a brass screw propeller, weighing upwards of six tons, from one part of the factory to another. They had succeeded in raising it four feet from the ground by means of the crane, when the chain suddenly broke, and the ponderous mass fell with great violence, striking the deceased on the back. He instantly fell, and when raised, life was found to be quite extinct. Death must have been instantaneous. Verdict—"Accidental Death."

CHARGE OF NEGLECT AGAINST A MIDWIFE.—SPECIAL VERDICT.—On Wednesday an adjourned inquest was resumed before W. Carter, Esq., the coroner for Surrey, at the Red Cow, Tavern, Princes-street, Lambeth, respecting the death of Charlotte Woodall, aged thirty-one years, who, it was alleged, had died from neglect, at her residence, No. 2, Princes-street. When sent for she found the deceased asleep, and, though in great danger from hemorrhage, she left the house, and though again sent for, did not return, as she was attending another case. The jury returned the following special verdict:—"That the deceased died in childbirth, and we, the jury, are of opinion that the female, Mrs. Jones, was mistaken as to the nature of the presentation, but we cannot consider her conduct amounts to gross ignorance or criminal neglect, and we regret that Mr. Mitchell was not sent for by the family, as directed."

FIRES.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT CLERKENWELL.—On Sunday morning last, at a few minutes past three o'clock, a fire, which was not extinguished until a deal of property was consumed, broke out at No. 22, Amwell-street, Clerkenwell, in the occupation of Mr. L. Tallis, publisher. It commenced in the lower part of the house, and was discovered by the police-constable on the beat. An instant alarm was given, and after a deal of trouble the inmates were aroused, and they happily effected their escape in safety.

FIRE IN ST. KATHERINE'S DOCK.—On Monday afternoon, between one and two o'clock, the ship China, Captain D. Ferguson, lying in St. Katherine's Dock, was discovered to be on fire. The vessel was lying alongside of the C warehouses, and for some *time considerable alarm prevailed, lest the flames* should extend to the surrounding property. The alarm having been given, in the space of a few minutes a number of the dock company's servants boarded the vessel, when they found the cook-house in flames, and part of the deck burning furiously. A general turn out of the London Brigade engines took place, but by the time they reached the scene the dock company's men had succeeded in getting the fire extinguished. The vessel was insured. It appears that the outbreak was occasioned by some plumbers having left their fire unprotected whilst they went to dinner.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN DRURY LANE.—On Tuesday evening, about seven o'clock, a serious fire broke out in the premises numbered 26, Brownlow-street, Drury-lane, occupied conjointly by Mr. Lovell, a coach-carver, a Mr. Bickerton, and a female named Warren. It appears that whilst one of the occupiers was passing along the second floor her attention was directed by hearing a loud crackling noise from the back room first floor. The moment she opened the door she found flames bursting forth from the apartment. She immediately gave an alarm, and the parties in the first and second stories succeeded in rushing down the stairs, and effected a safe retreat. Mrs. Warren, however, who tenanted the top floor, was not so fortunate, for the flames had gained such a strong hold of the staircase that she was unable to descend. Finding that all escape by the usual means was cut off, the poor creature retraced her steps and made her appearance, at the front window supplicating the crowd to assist her. She had not been in that situation many minutes when the flames entered her room, and she got upon the window-sill and was about to precipitate herself to the ground The parties cried out to her not to throw herself out, and they would fetch a ladder. Some few minutes elapsed before one could be procured, during which time the female was seen hanging from the ledge of the window. On placing the ladder in front of the building, it was found to be only long enough to reach the second floor. A drayman courageously mounted, through volumes of smoke, and caught Mrs. Warren in his arms, and then carried her down in safety. In a very brief period an engine from Messrs. Combe's brewery arrived, and was followed by others. The supply of water was at first deficient, and it was half-past eight before the flames could be conquered. By that period that portion of the house where the fire began was *burnt out, and the* second and third floors, together with the roof, were destroyed, and what remained of the house was extensively damaged.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

NEGLECT OF THE GAS COMPANY.—EXTRAORDINARY EXPLOSION AND DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY.—On Saturday night last, an explosion of an extraordinary character, attended with a serious destruction of property, occurred in Randall's-buildings, Salamanca-row, Lambeth, by which seven or eight persons narrowly escaped death. Between ten and eleven o'clock a loud explosion was heard, and the whole of the windows, shop front, doors, and stock-in-trade, belonging to Mr. Farebrother, general dealer, of No. 1, Randall's-buildings, were hurled into the street; the ceilings and rafters were blown down, the stairs loosened, and the house, from the bottom to the top, most extensively injured, so that it was expected to fall. It was well known that at that time Mr. Farebrother, his wife, and three children, were in the premises, and it was feared that a serious loss of life had taken place. Some of the neighbours ventured into the ruins, where they found Mr. Farebrother lying on his back in the parlour, covered with rubbish, and almost speechless. A little further off they found his wife with an infant in her arms, lying amidst a heap of broken chairs and tables. They were all got out, when it was ascertained that the three were severely bruised. Two children sleeping in the upper floor were forced out of bed, and were also injured, but not serious. On entering the first floor, a chest of drawers was found torn into a thousand pieces, chairs and tables, bedsteads, and other articles of furniture, were broken to fragments, and were lying about the rooms. The party wall between No. 1 and No. 10 in the buildings was rent in twain, so that it became apparent the damage done was not confined to one house. As soon as the last-mentioned building was entered, Mr. Johnson, the occupier, was found lying in the passage, he having been hurled from the top landing by the shock down stairs. Sundry articles of furniture were demolished, and the house injured. As soon as Mr. Farebrother recovered, he stated, that for some days he had experienced a strong smell of gas, and had given notice of such to the gas company, but no person had been sent to look after the pipes that are laid down in the road. From a careful inspection since made, it has been ascertained that one of the mains had become leaky, and the gas having escaped had entered the premises of Mr. Farebrother, and hence the disaster.

ROBBERY BY A LODGER.—On the 7th instant, a young man, who had only a few days previously arrived from Ostend, absconded from his lodgings at the King's Arms public-house, Old Compton-street, Soho, taking with him a box containg £80 Bank of England notes, 800 francs in gold and silver, including one 80 franc Sardinian piece, and several 40 franc French pieces, which were tied up in a leathern bag, the property of Antoine Mittleholzer, another lodger.

THE GENERAL FAST.—At the Privy Council held on Wednesday at Osborne House, Wednesday, the 24th instant, was appointed for a general fast.

INHALATION OF GASES IN SURGERY.

The following letter has been addressed by Dr. Wells—the first discoverer of the scientific application of intoxication as the means of rendering the body insensible to pain—to *Galignani*:—

As you have recently published an extract from the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal*, which recognizes me as the discoverer of the happy effects produced by the inhalation of exhilarating gas or vapour for the performance of surgical operations, I will now offer some suggestion in reference to this subject. Reasoning from analogy, I was led to believe that surgical operations might be performed without pain by the fact that an individual when much excited from ordinary causes may receive severe wounds without manifesting the least pain:—as, for instance, the man who is engaged in combat may have a limb severed from his body, after which he testifies that it was attended with no pain at the time; and so the man who is intoxicated with spirituous liquor may be treated severely without his manifesting pain, and his frame seems in this state to be more tenacious of life than under ordinary circumstances. By these facts I was led to inquire if the same result would not follow by the inhalation of some exhilarating gas, the effects of which would pass off immediately, leaving the system none the worse for its use. I accordingly procured some nitrous oxide gas, resolving to make the first experiment on myself by having a tooth extracted; which was done without any painful sensations. I then performed the same operation for twelve or fifteen others, with the like results. This was in November, 1844. Being a resident of Hartford Con. (U.S.), I proceeded to Boston the following month (December), in order to present my discovery to the medical faculty—first making it known to Drs. Warren, Hayward, Jackson, and Morton; the two last of whom subsequently published the same, without mention of our conference. Since this discovery was first made, I have administered nitrous oxide gas and the vapour of ether to about fifty patients:—my operations having been limited to this small number in consequence of a protracted illness which immediately ensued on my return home from Boston, in January, 1845. Much depends on the state of mind of the patient during the inhalation of gas or vapour. If the individual takes it with a determination to submit to a surgical operation, he has no disposition to exert the muscular system; whereas, under other circumstances, it seems impossible to restrain him from over exertion—he becomes perfectly uncontrollable. It is well to instruct all patients of this fact before the inhalation takes place. The temperament and physical condition of the patient should be well marked before administering the vapour of ether. Persons whose lungs are much affected should not be permitted to inhale this vapour—as serious injuries have resulted from it in such cases. Nitrous oxide gas or protoxide of nitrogen is much less liable to do injury, and is more agreeable to inhale, producing at the same time equal insensibility to all painful sensations. It may be taken without the least inconvenience by those who become choked almost to strangulation with ether. In fact, I have never seen or heard of a single instance where this gas has proved in the least detrimental. This discovery does not consist in the use of any one specified gas or vapour: for anything which causes a certain degree of nervous excitement is all that is requisite to produce insensibility to pain. Consequently, the only question to be settled is, which exhilarating agent is least likely to injure the system? The less atmospheric air admitted into the lungs with any gas or vapour the better—the more satisfactory will be the result of the operation. Those who have been accustomed to use much intoxicating beverage cannot be easily affected in this manner. With cases of dislocated joints, the exhilarating gas operates like a charm. All the muscles become relaxed; and but a very little effort will serve to replace the limb in its socket: and while the aspiration is being performed the muscles do not contract as when in the natural state, but are as easily managed as those of a corpse.

A GOOD BEGINNING.

In the *Lady's Newspaper* (recently started) of the 6th inst., we find the following, which we quote, as evidencing, through the increasing circulation of that paper, that even the aristocratic and "fashionable" among Englishwomen are beginning to listen to and bear with the voice of truth.

BREAD LAW.

In the *Ross-shire Advertiser* we find a statement to the effect, that a Mr. Colin Munro, of Dingwall, intending to ship about two hundred bolls of oatmeal for the west coast, at Fowlis, despatched some carts with about fifty bolls. The carts no sooner appeared, however, than the people collected, the shipment was stopped, and the carts sent back to Dingwall. There were then about one thousand bolls on board, which had been purchased at Portsoy. * * * The people had kindled a large fire on the beach, in order to watch all night, in case further shipments should be attempted. The people were in the right. Some cool and calculating political economist with well-filled breeches pockets, shakes his head and quotes Adam Smith and Macculloch, and expatiates learnedly on the laws of commerce. Some lord of acres, who is also a colonel of militia, knits his brows, and argues the propriety of assuming an incipient riot, and of intervention by law of arms. Some legal authority, with about half the wisdom requisite to form a county magistrate, can see only the naked fact of opposition to the laws of the realm, and the imperious as well as the imperial necessity for exercising the utmost rigour of the same, as a punishment contingent thereto. Now, this is all very well in its way; but, after all, it is mere arm-chair law before a good fire, and over a half-emptied decanter of madeira. Gentlemen, there is such a thing as BREAD LAW, which stands not upon trifles such as *you* would resuscitate from the dead bones of conventional rule. Its philosophy extends only from the hand to the mouth; and one of its allegations is this, that *your own* philosophy extends no further! Therefore, do as you would be done by; *consult the happiness of* the greatest number; and remember that if, with *hollow cheeks and emaciated bodies, the famine*-withered multitude asserts the LAW OF BREAD to be *paramount, and quietly inculcates the robbery that* would take it out of their grasp, and the blood-money that would enrich its trafficker,—remember, we say, that it is very, very questionable, whether such inequality and such distress should exist at all; and, still less so, whether you yourselves would act otherwise, or with half the forbearance, under similar circumstances!

DESPERATE COMBAT ON BOARD AN EMIGRANT SHIP DURING A TYPHOON.—THIRTY-FIVE LIVES LOST.

On Wednesday last, the barque Sophia Fraser, Captain M'Kellar, belonging to Singapore, arrived here, having experienced a typhoon in the passage from Amoy to Singapore. The typhoon commenced on the 26th of November, when about in lat. 15 deg. 13 N., and long. 112 deg. 26 E. During the hurricane a fray occurred amongst the Chinese passengers, which terminated in more than thirty of their number being killed, and many wounded. The fray originated, we believe, between two Chinese belonging to different villages. The cause in dispute was espoused by others, which led to blows, and a sad loss of life. This occurred in the midst of the gale, when the attention of the captain and his officers was directed to securing the safety of the vessel. The wholesale manslaughter which occurred *among* the Chinese passengers is not perhaps cognizable by our laws, as the flagitious acts of barbarity were committed on the high seas, by subjects of the Emperor of China, on their fellow-countrymen. It is, however, very lamentable to notice the inhuman proceedings of the Chinese coolies, all of whom who escaped death were more or less injured, and some of their number are now in the hospital. The shocking catastrophe has been inquired into by the police authorities here. From the evidence taken before the sitting magistrate, it would appear that 310 Chinese coolies were shipped at Amoy for Penang. On mustering the Chinese, on the arrival of the vessels at Singapore, it was found that no more than 275 remained, the mortality therefore was 35; four only of whom died from natural causes! The sufferings of the coolie passengers, crowded together and without food, were fearful; in their *agonies they appear to have become desperate, and* to have fallen upon each other. The circumstances attending the heartrending affair require a most searching investigation, with the view of preventing a recurrence of such shocking scenes as were perpetrated during the four days, when all communication from the deck with the people below was cut off. Captain M'Kellar appears to have done all that was in his power; his attention being directed to the safety of the vessel, during a severe typhoon, with a fearful sea running at the time, which washed over the vessel repeatedly, threatening instant destruction. It certainly appears highly culpable on the part of the Chinese supercargo in failing to supply the coolies with dry rice: there being neither means nor opportunities for cooking, some of the poor wretches are affirmed to have expired from positive inanition, which a supply of dry grain would have prevented.—*Singapore Paper*, Nov. 11.

BURNING OF A THEATRE—GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.

We read in a letter from Carlsruhe of the 28th ultimo:—

The grand ducal theatre has just been destroyed by fire; it is at this moment a heap of ashes. Soon after five o'clock, and when a considerable number of persons had already entered the theatre, the third tier of boxes being nearly filled, the fire broke out suddenly in one of the court boxes. It is said that one of the gas-pipes burst, and this was probably the case, for, in a few minutes, the whole of the interior of the theatre was in flames. Assistance was soon procured from all sides; but as it was impossible to save the theatre, all the efforts were directed towards the preservation of the adjoining houses. At ten o'clock all danger was over as regarded them. But what is most terrible in this affair is the loss of life. Several persons in the boxes lost their lives, for, as soon as the fire had declared itself, escape was difficult. Some, who were in the third tier, jumped into the second, and then in the pit; others threw themselves out of the windows into the yard. The number of persons dead and missing amounts, according to the police returns, to seventy.

A letter from Carlsruhe, in the *Manheim Journal* says:—

Among the victims the following are named—viz., a brother of M. Homburg, the man of letters; a son of M. Wabel, the prompter; a whole family who had just arrived from Ludwigsburg, and an English family who got lost in the corridors, besides many women and children. Most of the bodies are completely reduced to ashes; and of many others nothing was left unconsumed but the limbs, which have been carried to the cemetery. Some threw themselves out of the windows of the fourth story; one, in attempting to do so, was withheld by a young female, to whom he was affianced, and thus remained suspended till the building gave way, when they both sunk into the flames.

REMOVAL OF PORTION OF THE LOWER JAW DURING THE APPLICATION OF ETHER.

An operation of a formidable nature was performed on Wednesday, at the Devonport workhouse, by Mr. Laity, the necessity for which resulted from the decay of a considerable portion of the lower jaw bone, in a person named Riley, an inmate of the house for nearly two years, in consequence of this loathsome though fortunately rare disease. Several consultations of the principal surgeons in the neighbourhood having been previously held, a large number were assembled at the time appointed, and the question of the use of ether being discussed, its employment was decided on, and, as the result will show, with most perfect success.

The operation itself being necessarily tedious from the great importance of the parts to be cut through, it was thought by some that the transient insensibility resulting from the ether would scarcely bear any relation to the time required in the operation, but in this respect there was nothing to regret. The incision through the face was commenced after inhalation had been continued for about four or five minutes, and although the patient was at once apparently under the influence of certain, perhaps unpleasant impressions, it was soon evident that they had no reference whatever to the operation in hand, for while the parts were being dissected out he assumed a blustering though scarcely complaining tone, which his subsequent reflections fully explained: "I'm as good a man as you, and I'll try it if you like for a gallon of beer; you are not going to humbug me;" and other expressions of the *elite* of his class, caused some smiling and no little amusement, among those who reflected what such an operation would have been "in the olden time."

The bone was removed, the poor fellow still rambling in his notions, but protesting that he had been fighting; however, "he gave the fellow as good as he brought," and was evidently satisfied that he had come off best man in the affair. He was then shown the bone, when his astonishment was complete. He declared that, but for the word of all those gentlemen, he could not believe it.

On further recovering, and being questioned seriously as to his sensations, he stated that he felt no pain whatever from the cutting of his face; that he was not aware of the removal of the bone, which he could scarcely believe ever belonged to him, and that his idea was that he had been engaged in a squabble, in which he had come off victorious. We consider this one of the most satisfactory cases hitherto recorded, and we sincerely hope it will terminate favourably.

SHIPWRECK OF THE TIBER.

News has been received of the total loss of the Oriental and Peninsular Company's steam-ship, Tiber. She left Lisbon on the 20th ult., at eight o'clock, with about twelve cabin passengers, a few second-class, and several Gallegos returning to Vigo. She was the bearer, it is said, of important despatches. Captain Bingham, who commanded the Tiber, in endeavouring to make into this difficult port in a dreadful fog which had overhung the coast for several days, unfortunately ran his ship on shore at a point of land near Villa de Conde, about twelve miles from Oporto. The event took place soon after noon on the 21st, and before an hour elapsed the ship broke up and became a total wreck. The Gallegos, in endeavouring to lower the ship's boats, stove them all, and every soul on board would have perished, if the people from the shore had not gone off in boats and saved nearly all the passengers and crew. One old Spanish general, name unknown, was washed off the deck and lost.

POOR RATES AND PAUPERS.—A parliamentary document, just printed, gives a statement relative to the proportion of pauperism, &c., in the several portions of the United Kingdom. In England (with a population of nearly 16,000,000) the annual value of property rated to the poor rates was £62 540,030; the expenditure for the relief and maintenance of the poor in 1844-45, £5,039,703; the total number of paupers relieved, 1,470,970; the proportion per cent. to the population 9.2, and the rate per head of expenditure on the total number of paupers relieved, £3 8s. 6½d. In Scotland, with a population of 2,620,184, the annual value of property rated to the poor rates was £9,320,784; the expenditure for the relief and maintenance of the poor, £292,686; the number of paupers relieved, 96,326; the proportion per cent. to the population 3.7, and the rate per head of expenditure on the number of paupers relieved, £3 0s. 9½d. In Ireland, that rate per head was £2 7s. 6½d.; the proportion per cent. to the population 1.5; expenditure for the relief and maintenance of the poor, £298,813; and the annual value of property rated to the poor rates, £13,201,234.

Market Intelligence.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARCH 5.

There was again a good demand for English wheat, at an advance of fully 2s per quarter, and a good extent of business transacted in foreign, at a like improvement. Flour is 1s per barrel dearer. Indian corn and whole meal in active request for Ireland, at improving rates.

PROVINCIAL MARKETS.

RICHMOND (YORKSHIRE) CORN MARKET, Saturday.—We had a fair supply of grain in our market to-day.—Wheat sold from 9s to 11s; oats, 3s 5d to 4s 6d; barley, 5s 6d to 6s 6d; beans, 6s to 7s per bushel.

WAKEFIELD CORN MARKET, Friday.—There is a good arrival of wheat, for which we have a steady consumptive demand, at an improvement of 1s to 2s per quarter.

MANCHESTER CORN MARKET, Saturday.—The improved accounts from London and Wakefield caused holders of wheat and flour to demand an advance of 2d per 70 lbs. on the former, and 1s per sack on the latter article; at this amendment, however, the transactions were only to a moderate extent.—Oats and oatmeal, meeting very limited inquiry, with difficulty maintained their previous value.

HULL CORN MARKET, Tuesday.—At this day's market we had a fair show of wheat from the farmers; it met a tolerably free sale at the prices of last week, and, in some instances, 1s more money was made for picked samples. Foreign, of which we have only one or two new arrivals, was more looked after, but, being generally held on higher terms, little business was done.

BIRMINGHAM CORN EXCHANGE, Wednesday.—During the present week few transactions are reported in wheat, which is held for late prices. Malting barley a slow sale, at 1s to 2s per quarter less money. Beans and oats dull, and rather lower.

WARRINGTON CORN MARKET, Wednesday.—There was a moderate attendance of farmers at the market. Wheat fetched 2d per bushel more money, and the farmers were not free sellers. We quote prices at 10s 9d to 11s and 11s 6d per 70lbs.

NEWCASTLE CORN MARKET, Tuesday.—Of barley the receipts continue small, and the demand being only moderate, 1s to 2s per quarter decline may be noted. Malt is in dull sale, and 2s per quarter lower. The supply of oats was large.

STATE OF TRADE.

LEEDS.—We are glad to notice a considerable improvement in our cloth markets since our last report; more goods were taken out of the cloth halls last Saturday than on any market-day for some months past, and at the market on Tuesday a full average quantity of goods were sold.

MANCHESTER.—We have had rather less doing in our cloth market since Tuesday, and advances, if anything, have been in favour of the buyer, particularly in shirtings and domestics. The home trade is dull.

BRADFORD.—The demand for combing wool still continues very slack, and spinners buy only for immediate wants. Prices are stationary. Clothing wools are in good request. The yarn trade still continues very much depressed, and we can report no alteration for the better.

HUDDERSFIELD.—The improvement has been general amongst almost every branch of the clothing manufacturers. The goods in chief request have been light fancies suited to the approaching season. The trade in the warehouses, during the week, has been more active; and, on the whole, the trade of the district is far from being in an unhealthy state.

HALIFAX.—We have had another dull piece market, though no alteration in prices. In the yarn trade there are indications of a more favourable character; the demand is rather extending, and though no positive advance is quoted, some kinds are firmer than they were. The business doing in the wool market is only limited.

ROCHDALE.—There has been a moderate attendance at the market, but it has not been so good as is usually the case at this season of the year. Middling qualities and some sorts of coloured goods were much inquired after, and generally they sold at last week's prices.

NOTTINGHAM.—The cotton hosiery branches are a shade better. The drawer and pantaloon branch in some shape is considerably better, but others are short of employment. The silk glove branch is in a lamentable state, foreign lace gloves being more in fashion. The plain hose trade keeps a shade improved.

LEICESTER.—Wools are firm at former prices, but yarns are dull of sale. Worsted goods are flat. In cotton goods a moderate business was doing, but not a large one. On the whole, there is but little improvement in the demand from last week.

GLASGOW.—Cotton Yarn: Our yarn market is still in a very depressed state, but spinners are very firm in their prices. Cotton Goods: The market is rather more active this week than formerly, and we see little prospect of a decided improvement for some time.

Poetry.

A SONG.

(Air—*With Helmet on his Brow.*)

In honour of that indomitable friend and advocate of the Rights of Labour, T. S. Duncombe, M.P.

Let the base sycophant
Of wars and heroes sing;
'Laud the despot' cringe and bow
To Emperor or King:
I scorn such fulsome themes,
I sing of the patriot brave,
Duncombe, the friend of Liberty,
And Labour's worn-down slave.
Chorus.—Let all as one unite,
And join in Freedom's cause,
Shouting for "Duncombe and our Rights;
Free, just, and equal laws!"

When the Whigs and Tories join'd
The labourer to enslave,
Duncombe crush'd their monster Bill,
And consigned it to its grave.
The Post-office espionage
Pursued in Graham's plan,
Duncombe nobly did upset,
And exposed that hateful man.
Chorus.—Let all as one, &c.

The poor in Bastiles doomed
Their wretched lives to spend,—
The toiling slave—the factory child—
Duncombe has been their friend;
He has their wrongs denounced,
He will their rights demand,
And Labour would emancipate
From the grasping tyrant band.
Chorus.—Let all as one, &c.

He will defend the oppressed,
The Irish or the Pole;
The deeds of despots are deplor'd
By his patriotic soul.
Duncombe they cannot bribe—
He's honest, firm and bold,
And, as the leader of our cause,
His worth cannot be told.
Chorus.—Let all as one, &c.

Let the Tories tell of Peel,
The Whigs a Russell boast,
Duncombe is our champion,
And this shall be our toast:—
"To Duncombe and the Trades,
Duncombe and Liberty;
To Duncombe and the Charter,
And may we soon be free!"
Chorus.—Let all as one unite,
And join in Freedom's cause,
Shouting for "Duncombe and our Rights;
Free, just, and equal laws!"

Somers Town. John Arnott.

Reviews.

TAIT'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE,—March. Edinburgh: Sutherland & Knox. London: Simpkin & Marshall.

This is an excellent number of this old-established magazine. Seldom have we seen a number less open to objection and so worthy of praise, as regards its contents generally. From the "Political Register" of the month we extract the following sensible notice of

THE TEN HOURS BILL.

It appears that 1½ in 13 of all the Manchester mills are standing; that one-third of the number are working short time; that 1 in 15 of the operatives are idle; and one-third of the remainder are on short time. The operation of the ten hours' bill would equalise this state of matters, and would take no more from the aggregate working hours, or the collective wages, than the recent speculations in cotton and the stagnation in business have taken already.

Politically, or, rather, socially considered, the most valuable article in this number is that on "The Cause and Cure of Crime." The writer of the article, after briefly showing up the Draco-like atrocities of our past criminal law, and the slow progress of its amendment, proceeds pithily but pointedly to exhibit the enormous folly and evil of the present system of transportation. He next exhibits the awful evils of

JUVENILE VAGRANCY.

The Moabites who made their children burnt offerings to idols had an infatuated hope of accomplishing a great object by the sacrifice. The Hindoo mother committed her child to the sacred river, trusting that its waters would float her infant to Elysium. How many British mothers, more *enlightened*, without any similarly vague expectations, submit their children to the most fiery ordeal!—and no effort is made by the public authorities to restrain the iniquity; for this crime may be more frequently chargeable to the State than to the parent. *Juvenile street-begging is the precursor of juvenile crime.* Our common pauperism is the grand nursery of our too common guilt. It is not possible that an infant can be trained to all the artifices of alms-seeking, and exercise them from its earliest years without contracting the contamination of crime, if left without any intellectual or moral instruction; and this is the case in almost every instance of juvenile pauperism. Death interferes, in the great majority of cases, to save the public from an intolerable burden. The vast majority of children, who are exposed from any causes to the miseries of street-begging, die early. Those alone who are of the stoutest mould can withstand the vicissitudes to which they are subjected. But it is surely a miserable comfort to find our mode of treatment fatal to so many individuals, who might have lived to usefulness in a yet half-peopled world. It can be no great recommendation of our present system that it shields the public from an overwhelming mass of crime, only by throwing those who seem to be regarded as the refuse of time into eternity, without the experience of a single real kindness, or an hour of proper instruction. Those who are desirous of reducing the crime of the country must begin with the very lowest depths of society, and improve them. They may demand an alteration in our Poor-laws, and they may seek for legislative improvement; but we have the utmost reliance in the disposition of the State to do good by halves and quarters; and so it will be ultimately found that the work, to be done well, must be done by the people themselves.

The work is being done, at least has been commenced. The "ragged schools" (odious and abominable name, a disgrace to those who invented it,) of London and other towns, are steps taken in a right direction. But these schools are very imperfect: they should be schools of industry as well as learning, and, moreover, asylums where the destitute may find sustenance as well as education, for we fully agree with the writer in *Tait*, that "the elements of reading and writing will not supply the immediate want of a quartern loaf; and it is little less than mockery to bid the destitute be taught, unless they are also invited to be fed." This Dr. Alison sees, and therefore demands bread as the first necessary for destitute and vagrant children to save them from becoming criminals; on the other hand, Dr. Chalmers advocates the Bible as all-sufficient. The writer in *Tait* advocates a combination of both. For our part we think the less children are pestered with what even grown-up people are puzzled to comprehend, the better. The elements of morality are to be found in connexion with all religions and independent of all religions. Food, education and instruction in the arts of industry, are the grand requisites for popular schools, leaving the scholars to study Bible or Koran when they have their minds brought to something near the standard of rationality. But of course such a common-sense system is not practical. Even in England the miserable children of the multitude are left to perish bodily and mentally, because savage sectarians cannot agree to even fairly compete with each other, but must needs insist upon each having a monopoly of "souls." While this is the case in England, it is in vain to expect that *Scotland* will exhibit greater liberality. If, however, we cannot see things yet placed upon a common-sense footing, it affords us pleasure to know that even in Scotland far better than ragged schools already exist; we allude to the "schools of industry," which, commenced at Aberdeen, bid fair to extend over the country. It appears that *for the first of these schools the British public* are mainly indebted to Sheriff Watson, of Aberdeen. The following extract describes the system of the

ABERDEEN SCHOOLS OF INDUSTRY.

The children have three substantial meals a-day; three hours of lessons, and five hours of work suited to their ages. All the boys (and girls) return to their homes every evening. On Sundays, they receive their food as on other days, and attend public worship, and they have also religious instruction in school.

A part of the time on week days is occupied very properly in recreation. The schools were commenced in the year 1841, and have already almost totally annihilated juvenile vagrancy in the town and county of Aberdeen. The expense of educating seven children in the industrial schools is the same amount as that paid for the punishment of one transported criminal. "Economy and humanity are thus happily combined in pleading for the general establishment of these institutions." As good in intention and calculated to mitigate existing evils, we applaud the establishment of these schools of industry; but we cannot blind our eyes to the fact that juvenile vagrancy, ignorance and crime, are but symptoms of a great overwhelming disease, which mere schools cannot eradicate. The monster evil is the present social order of things. As long as there are hordes of aristocrats, profitmongers, soldiers, and the almost endless mass of idlers and schemers under various names, who at present prey upon the industry of the country—as long as these reap all the enjoyments of society and consign the people to unrequited toil, degradation and competition with each other for the bare means of existence—so long will the rank evils which curse this nation continue to flourish in all their appalling hideousness. The children reared in schools of industry may, for the time, be saved from ruin, but when launched on the world they will be exposed to that horrible competition which produces poverty, slavery, misery, and vice; and not even Dr. Chalmers's "Bibles" will save them from that lot which is the doom of so many thousands in that city, whose boast is, that she flourishes "by the preaching of the Word."

Gilfillan contributes a rather interesting paper on "George Crabbe." We looked for the writer's usual abuse of Byron, and, of course, soon found what we sought; this time, however, he is rather moderate, not going beyond the likening of Byron to "a demoniac exceeding fierce, and dwelling among the tombs!" Those who can appreciate the idiosyncracy of "the English Opium Eater" will enjoy his papers in this number on "Joan of Arc," and "Orthographic Mutineers." From the last-named of these articles we extract the following joke:—

"NO" AND "YES."

I am, myself, next door neighbour to Westmoreland, being a Lancashire man; and, one day, I was talking with a Westmoreland farmer, whom, of course, I ought to have understood very well; but I had no chance with him: for I could not make out who that *No* was, concerning *whom* or concerning *which*, he persisted in talking. It seemed to me, from the context, that *No* must be a man, and by no means a chair; but so very negative a name, you perceive, furnished no positive hints for solving the problem. I said as much to the farmer, who stared in stupefication. "What," cried he, "did a far-larn'd man, like you, fresh from Oxford, never hear of *No*, an old gentleman that should have been drowned, but was *not* when all his folk were drowned?" "Never, so help me Jupiter," was my reply: "never heard of him to this hour, any more than of *Yes*, an old gentleman that should have been hanged, but was *not*, when all his folks were hanged. *Populous No*—I had read of in the Prophets; but that was *not* an old gentleman." It turned out that the farmer and all his compatriots in bonny Martindale had been taught at the parish school to rob the Patriarch Noah of one clear moiety appertaining in fee simple to that ancient name.

A well-written, candid, and altogether interesting review of Howitt's "Haunts and Homes of the Poets;" a most attractive review of "The Romance of War; or, the Highlanders in Spain;" and stories by Hannah Lawrence, and the celebrated Zschokke, of Germany, complete the principal contents of this admirable number of *Tait's Magazine.*

THE FAMILY HERALD. Part XLVI. London: G. Biggs, 421, Strand.

"Good wine needs no bush," and the "Family Herald" needs no praise. Not having room for extracts, we can only say that this Part is as instructive, entertaining, and interesting, as any of its predecessors.

THE MUSICAL HERALD. Part X. London: G. Biggs, 421, Strand.

A choice selection of music and "musical literature" graces this Part. The following extract discloses a history mournfully similar to that of the ill-fated Rt. Emmett and the daughter of Curran:—

THE LAST MELODY OF PESTEL.

The Emperor Alexander was dead. His eldest brother, the grand Duke Constantine, was his natural successor to the throne of Russia; but, by a deed till then kept secret, Constantine, in Alexander's lifetime, had renounced the crown in favour of his younger brother Nicholas. The accession of the latter, therefore, excited general surprise; an unsettled feeling manifested itself among the people and the army. The time appeared favourable for the breaking out of a conspiracy which had been forming for several years. An insurrection took place at St. Petersburg on Christmas day, 1825; but the movement of the conspirators was too hasty: and their attempt, not well seconded by the troops, failed through the energy of the Czar.

A hundred and thirty-six leaders of the insurrection were seized, tried, and condemned; and almost all of them were sentenced to perpetual labour, or to exile in Siberia. The five principal chiefs were condemned to be broken on the wheel, but did not undergo that horrible punishment, the gibbet being substituted by an ukase of the Emperor.

Among these five chiefs the first and most remarkable was Paul Pestel, colonel of the infantry regiment of Wiatka.

The long and arduous task to which he had devoted himself had not wholly engrossed the mind of this brave and persevering conspirator. Alive to the charms of the arts, he cultivated them with success; and, in particular, was an excellent musician.

The young and beautiful Catherine W—— had conceived a devoted attachment to Pestel. Gifted with an exquisite voice, she loved to sing his melodies. The passion with which she inspired him was equally fervent as her own: and if ever the deep conspirator could forget his gloomy reveries, it was when seated by Catherine's side, and dreaming of love and happiness.

On the eve of the day when the insurrection was to break out, Pestel, more reoccupied than usual, scarcely answered Catherine, and at times seemed not to hear her.

"What ails you to-day?" she said, taking his hand, "you do not look at me—you do not speak to me. I never saw you so cold, so absent, when you were with me."

Pestel looked at her sadly—"What would you do, Catherine, were you never to see me again?"

"I should die!" cried Catherine, with enthusiasm; and then added, in a voice of terror,

"But, good God! why this question? Paul, can you think of forsaking me?"

Pestel was silent.

"But it cannot be," said Catherine: "you have sworn to love me till death."

"Yes!—while this heart beats it is yours, Catherine But," he added, embracing her with melancholy tenderness, "promise me, if I die, that you will live for the sake of your old father, and that, even when dead, I shall never cease to occupy your thoughts."

"I promise to live as long as my grief will allow—But, of us two, Paul, it is not I who shall have this cruel trial to undergo."

"There are presentiments which do not deceive," said Pestel, declining his head on his breast; "an inward voice warns me that *I must abandon my two happiest visions, the bliss of living in the enjoyment of your love, Catherine, and the glory of assuring the welfare of my countrymen.*"

"What do you mean?" cried the young girl, whose fear and agitation increased every instant; "what mean these mysterious words, these gloomy predictions? Paul, you are concealing a secret."

"Yes, Catherine."

"A secret from me, who never had one from you!"

"You have had all mine—but this one does not belong to me."

"And if I may judge from your looks, your words, your thoughts of death and parting, it must be something very terrible!"

"Terrible indeed!"

After a moment's silence, Pestel continued—

"Hear me, Catherine; when I shall give you this evening my farewell kiss, it may perhaps be the last you will receive from me. But whatever may be my lot, whenever you are told, 'Paul is dead,' come, and you shall find a remembrance of me! for, I swear to you, my last thought shall be of you."

Pestel's presentiment did not deceive him! he saw Catherine no more.

The day after the execution of his sentence, a young girl drowned in tears, obtained from the keeper of the prison the favour of being admitted into Pestel's cell. After a long search, she discovered some lines of music pencilled on the wall. Above them, there were only the two words, "For Her!" Underneath was Paul's name.

Two years afterwards, there died in a lunatic asylum a poor maniac, whose madness consisted in singing, every day, and at the same hour, the same little melody. The madwoman was Catherine—the hour was that at which she was admitted to her lover's dungeon—and the air was the last melody of Pestel.

Pestel's melody has been preserved and is given in the present Part of the "Musical Herald." It is simple in the theme, and of a tender and melancholy expression. Pestel, whose name, together with the names of his heroic comrades,

"Will be
A watchword till the future shall be free,"

was one of the first victims of the tyrant Nicholas; thousands have since added their testimony against that murderous miscreant. How long! how long!

THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL. Part XIV. London: J. Bennett, 69, Fleet-street.

The articles on "Democracy in Europe," by Joseph Mazzini; "Household Education," by Harriet Martineau; "The Chamberlain and Cheap Theatres," and "People about One," by A. B. Reach; "Poetry, and the Duties of the Poet," by Charles Mackay; "An Earthquake in the Abruzzi," by L. Mariotti; and "How to feed the People," are well worthy perusal. As our space is very limited, we must confine ourselves to giving merely the following extract, as another illustration of

THE CAPABILITIES OF THE SOIL.

Saxmundham Spade Husbandry Association.—This society was first noticed in the *People's Journal*, vol. ii., p. 41, Annals. It may be recollected that there it was stated that it was an association which cultivated a farm, which its members had purchased by £5 shares, by spade husbandry, and an account of its successful first year's progress was also given. We have since received a letter from one of its active promoters on the spot, which reports further progress. From it we gather that, notwithstanding the last year was dry, and not at all favourable for light land, of which they have several acres, which, under the ordinary system of farming, produced but little over the seed, yet that, under the improved agriculture of this association, these very acres produced on an average seven-and-a-half combs each, while other farms nearly adjoining did not realise more than three combs per acre. This fact has caused much inquiry among the farmers in the neighbourhood; and, on the whole, our correspondent thinks that, without exaggeration, the society made at least between £4 or £5 per acre more than their neighbours, who occupied precisely the same quality of soil. On their better land, however, they grew ten combs per acre, and had likewise great quantities of clover and other crops, with the exception of peas, which were a general failure last year throughout the kingdom. Great enthusiasm prevails among the members of the society, who are so thoroughly convinced of its advantages, that they would not give it up for double the amount which they have paid. Without having made a regular valuation, they estimate their last year's profit at least at £100. These facts speak volumes for spade husbandry, and in favour of agriculture by association.—G. B.

Without asserting that the poetry contained in this part is "first-rate," we may safely assert, that it is much superior to the poetry of similar publications. The conclusion of the translated extract from the Polish poem—the "Dziady," and Charles Mackay's "Phantoms of St. Sepulchre," are pieces deserving special praise. The engravings in Nos. 58 and 59 are well executed.

THE TRUTH SEEKER. March. London: Chapman, 121, Newgate-street.

"A Working Man," writing to the American slaveholders, in this magazine, among other arguments for negro emancipation, says, "it has been proved that free labour is better than slave labour—is *cheaper!* and with this fact staring you in the face, there is no shade of fear, mercenary as you are, that it will lessen your gains." This looks very like an argument for making the slaves worse off than at present, giving them a nominal liberty, but making them the still cheaper tools of the capitalists, and, therefore, *slaves;* released from the whip, but subject to the scourge of starvation; miserable victims, trembling before tyrants who bid them—"Work for this pittance, or die!" This number contains the usual quantity of "fine writing," which the select few who follow the "Truth Seeker" may understand, but which we must confess is beyond our comprehension.

THE MIDLAND FLORIST. Conducted by J. F. Wood, F. H. S. March. London: Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.

The good word we gave to the first and second numbers of this publication is equally deserved by the number before us. Its appearance is much improved by the adoption of an appropriate coloured cover.

THE HERALD OF REDEMPTION. Isle of Man: W. Robinson, 66, Athol-street, Douglas.

This (monthly) publication is the organ of the Leeds Redemption Society. In January last the society numbered 600 members. Although the organ of the society, "the Herald," says but little of its movements, the March number has no "report of progress." The February number did not reach us.

MACKENZIE'S MONTHLY RAILWAY TIME TABLES; ADVERTISER AND STRANGERS' LONDON GUIDE. March. London: E. Mackenzie, 111, Fleet-street.

In the present number of this sheet we perceive a great improvement in the arrangement of the Tables: they are no longer indiscriminately mixed, each *part being headed* "*West,*" "*South-east,*" "*North,*" or independent lines, in distinctive black letters, taking London as the starting-point. Thus a traveller wanting to reach any branch or distant railway, will find by which terminus he must leave the metropolis. As far as possible, also, the branch lines are given, in their true position, and the main lines continued to their utmost extent. We trust this will reduce the complication so much complained of, and be thought one step towards unravelling the iron network of roads, now spread over the surface of the kingdom. The "*Time Tables*" ranks now as one of the best vehicles for publicity; and, from the admixture of anecdotes and receipts, is preserved for reference, and tendered to friends, as an interesting pastime.

Public Amusements.

ASTLEY'S AMPHITHEATRE.

On Monday a variety of new attractions were added to the performances at this house, the first being "Sir Walter Scott's historical, equestrian, and powerful dramatic spectacle," entitled, "Kenilworth; or, The Golden Days of England's Elizabeth." The plot ends, not as the great novelist makes it, in the death of Amy Robsart, by her falling through the treacherous flooring of the building, for, in this drama she is saved, and Richard Varney is, instead of her, destroyed by the means he had contrived for her murder. With this exception, the original tale is tolerably well followed; and the mode in which it was acted, with the grand processions and the splendid reception of the sovereign at the Castle of the Earl of Leicester, the morris dances, &c., gave a striking stage version of "the chivalrous scenes of July, 1575, and Elizabeth's progress to Kenilworth." Varied and astonishing feats of horsemanship in the circle followed, much to the delight and surprise, oftentimes, of the spectators; and then came the second novelty of the evening's entertainments. This consisted of the first appearance of the equestrian artiste, Mr. Pablo Fanque, and of his wonderfully tutored steed, a fine black and exquisitely formed animal. In this creature, it is most truly remarked, "the capacities of the horse are displayed in an entirely new character." His paces, of the most elegant and (if the term may be so used) delicate kind, were reduced and extended at the will of the rider, and the nature of the music that accompanied his several performances. The Minuet de la Cour, Gavotte, Cachuca, Waltz, and other dances, were really astonishingly executed by this remarkably trained steed, almost inducing the beholder to agree in the assertion of the animal's movements "indicating an ingenuity and even sentiment" in his steps and paces. At all events, it is a peculiarly curious and pleasing display of what the horse may be taught and may become; and all who are interested in such performances should witness this, and they will be sure to be highly gratified as well as astonished. The "Royal Fox Hunt; or, Life's Course of Man and Steed," concluded the evening's entertainments. The house was crowded.

SADLER'S WELLS.

We confess we have had our fears that the drama would all but "vanish into thin air." The want of public patronage as regarded the management of that meritorious actor, Mr. Macready, was most discouraging to the lovers of the "legitimate." But better days have dawned; witness the performance at this house. Sadler's Wells has become famous for the revivals of Shakespeare's plays and the other deathless productions of our elder dramatists, and Mr. Phelps has selected a company in every way capable of imparting to the auditor a proper conception of *the imagination of the author.* We are then glad to congratulate the management of this theatre as to the success of their efforts: it is but justice that so laudable an undertaking, viz.,—the regeneration of the legitimate drama, should meet the liberal patronage of the day, which has hitherto been too tardily withheld from the proper quarter.

Not only as the management given shelter to Shakespeare and our other great dramatists, but they have nourished and brought before the public talent of the present day; and the very successful production of the author of the "King of the Commons," will evidence as to the truth that there *are* writers, who merely wait the nod of public approval, and who possess capabilities of a very high order.

Mr. White, the author of the new play, "Feudal Times," has completely succeeded;—and, upon a general review of his work, we think few will hesitate in subscribing to our very humble opinion, that it contains beauties of more than average merit, imparting considerable interest to an historical incident in the reign of the third James of Scotland. The greatest praise we can award is, that there is nothing commonplace; and this we deem highly complimentary to dramatic authorship now-a-days.

The collision which is set forth in the tragedy is that between the man of high blood and rude personal courage; and the man of low birth, but with the advantage of superior cultivation. The details and filling up of the whole is most complete; carrying the interest of the auditor throughout five acts, which, however, is played in nearly three hours.

We recommend our readers to see this play. The antagonism of the characters, we think, will vastly suit their tastes, and afford them much gratification.

Mr. Phelps, as the noble-minded Cochrane, well sustained the courteous bearing of the educated plebeian, and where violent expressions of passion were required acted with great power. Mr. G. Bennett made a complete study of the stern unbending Angus, and the sullen air of his by-play was excellent. Miss L. Addison's conception of Margaret Randolph, haughty from birth, and proud from the consciousness of her own nobility of mind, is highly to be commended, though she should be rather more sparing of her emphasis. All, indeed, acquitted themselves very creditably, amidst much applause.

The scenery and dresses are in excellent taste, and, to keep up the impression of the whole piece, the intervals between the acts are filled up by Scotch national airs. The house has been crowded every evening during the representation of "Feudal Times," and we have no doubt will continue to be so for some weeks to come.

Bankrupts.

(From the *Gazette* of Tuesday, March 9.)

William Henry Hodding, Gloucester-place, Portman-square, surgeon—Samuel Cubitt, Colchester, clothier—James Law, Faversham, Kent, coal merchant—John Furby and Robert Stockton, Sackville-street, Piccadilly, tailors—William Bull, Little Love-lane, Wood-street, stock manufacturer—Joseph Prust, Stratton, Cornwall, tanner—James Morgan, Wedmore, Somersetshire, draper—Anthony and Richard Halliley, Wigton, Cumberland, calico printers—Robert Elliott Huntley, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, wine merchant—Peter Burns, jun., Liverpool, bookseller—Thomas Stockdale and John Stockdale Liverpool, soap boilers.

THESE ARE THE CHAMBERS'S OF 1845!

[*We have already shown to our readers the Chambers's of 1847;* we now refer to the previous opinions of these changeable economists. Whence this wonderful change?]

IMPROVEMENT OF WASTE LANDS—SPADE HUSBANDRY.

(*From the Information for the People, No. 72.*)

According to the best authorities on the subject, it appears that the British islands contain upwards of thirty millions of acres of waste lands. Much of this large division of our territory is situated at an altitude which places it beyond the possibility of improvement; but at least one half is believed to be improveable, and capable of being rendered suitable, if not for tillage and grain crops, at least for the feeding of cattle. The question as to the propriety of improving the really improveable waste lands of the country, is, in any individual case, to be satisfactorily answered by ascertaining at what expense, in relation to the probable profit, the process may be performed. A barren rocky desert may be rendered productive by covering it with soil and manures brought from a distance of miles, aided by years of skilful tillage; but will the cost of these operations be fairly returned by the profits of the produce? Gold itself may be purchased too highly, and so may agricultural improvements. We do not throw out this idea for the purpose of discouraging, but of cautioning proprietors and farmers of lands. In all projected improvements, they will require to ascertain, in the first place, what will be the probable return within a moderate length of time for their outlay—always keeping in view the prospective prices of rural produce during the period. Such, at least, is the principle of calculation which ought naturally to guide all proprietors of extensive tracts of waste ground, the outlay on which is to be strictly pecuniary. With reference to those who propose to improve wastes chiefly by an expenditure of time and personal labour, the calculation will take a similar turn; and the question will be, whether that time and labour could not have been employed more profitably in another line of pursuit. Leaving this, however, for further discussion in the sequel, we proceed to point out, *first*, to those whose situation in life and inclinations lead them that way, the means to be adopted, according to the best principles of science and lights of experience, for reclaiming large or small portions of waste lands, and the results which may be expected to reward their enterprise; and, *second*, the best plans which may be followed for improving patches of ground by spade husbandry, and establishing thereupon small cottage farms, suitable for the support of a comparatively humble class of families. In the treatment of these certainly not unimportant subjects, we shall of course refer chiefly to the condition of waste lands in the United Kingdom; but the improvement of wastes in the colonies or in foreign countries will also be understood to be included, and in each case we will endeavour to adhere closely to practical details.

IMPROVEMENT OF MOSS LANDS.

The greater portion of what are usually called waste lands, are stretches of peat-bog or moss, covered by a thin benty grass and tufts of heath. This remarkable species of land is found to a very great extent in Ireland and Scotland, often in the midst of beautiful and productive tracts of country, but generally in high-lying districts, which are somewhat defective in point of climate.

Peat-mosses are supposed to be occasioned by the destruction of ancient forests, either by the hatchet or from natural decay. The trees found at the outskirts of these mosses appear to have been cut down, while those in the interior appear to have decayed by the gradual process of time. It is believed that the trees thus left upon the ground would soon become covered with moss, lichens, &c.; and the free drainage of the land being obstructed, aquatic plants, such as reeds, rushes, horsetail, and marsh trefoil, springing up and decaying, would leave a strata of soft vegetable matter, which every succeeding year would increase. These plants grow in greater or less abundance, according to the quantity of moisture on the ground; and this may account for mosses being deeper in some parts than in others. The hollows would naturally retain moisture in larger quantities than the level ground, and here the aquatic plants would be most prolific, and the hollow gradually become filled up. The peat, which has been in this manner formed, is therefore a compound vegetable substance, which, although it has undergone a change, has not been entirely decomposed; probably the cellular tissue or transparent vegetable matter has decayed, while the woody fibre still remains. Water is indispensable in the formation of moss; and according as the ground is very wet, or only so to a certain extent, different plants will be produced. On ground completely saturated with water, various species of moss grow, to the almost total exclusion of other plants; but if the land should in any way become drier, reeds, rushes, &c., and other plants, spring up in place of the moss. The quality of the moss may be judged of from the plants which grow upon it; all the moss-tribe, the horsetail, and other plants, spring up in the place of the moss. The quality of the moss may be judged of from the plants which grow upon it; all the moss-tribe, the horsetail, and the marsh trefoil, are fibrous, and difficult to decompose, while reeds, rushes, and sedge, are comparatively easy of decomposition. Peat-moss possesses an astringent quality, which has the power of preserving bodies immersed in it, and even keeps itself from entirely decaying. This power is supposed to arise from the carbonic and gallic acids which issue from decayed wood; and vegetable gums and resins will also have the same effect. The tannin principle exists, as is well known, in the oak; and the pine contains much both of resinous and astringent matter. Many mosses are formed upon decayed trees, and the wood most commonly found is either pine, birch, hazel, or oak; and in these cases the presence of the tannin principle is easily accounted for. It is also highly probable that the plants themselves, by the action of natural agents, may have acquired an antiseptic or antiputrefying quality. It is certain that acids of considerable strength exist in some mosses; and it is mentioned by Lord Meadowbank, that in preparing peat-moss for manure, he used lime to destroy a vitriolic salt of iron, which he says abounds in peat-mosses. In some cases, lakes and pools of water have been filled up by the accumulation of moss; and it has been observed that fermentation occurs where this has taken place. Gaseous matter is evolved, and the neighbourhood of such a moss is generally unhealthy; but true peat soils are always salubrious.

The reasonable question has sometimes occurred to inquiring minds — whence the substance of peat-mosses? for stagnant water alone could not have produced many feet deep of solid matter. This question is answered by chemistry. The vegetation which springs up in the form of aquatic plants absorbs carbonic acid gas from the atmosphere, and a carbonaceous deposit is made in the form of vegetable fibre, or dead vegetables in the form of mould. Mr. Johnston, in his Lectures on Agricultural Chemistry, makes the following observations on this subject:—

"When lands are impoverished, you lay them down to grass, and the longer they lie undisturbed, the richer in vegetable matter does the soil become. When broken up, you find a black fertile mould where little trace of organic matter had previously existed. The same observation applies to lands long under wood. The vegetable matter increases, the soil improves, and when cleared and ploughed, it yields abundant crops of corn. Do grasses and trees derive their carbon from the soil? Then how, by their growth, do they increase the quantity of carbonaceous matter which the soil contains? It is obvious that, taken as a whole, they must draw from the air not only as much as is contained in their own substance, but an excess also, which they impart to the soil.

But on this point the rapid growth of peat may be considered absolutely conclusive. A tree falls across a little running stream, dams up the water, and produces a marshy spot. Rushes and reeds spring up, mosses take root and grow. Year after year new shoots are sent forth, and the old plants die. Vegetable matter accumulates: a bog, and finally a thick bed of peat, is formed. Nor does this peat form and accumulate at the expense of one species or genus of plants only. Latitude and local situation are the circumstances which chiefly affect this accumulation of vegetable matter on the soil. In our own country the lowest layers of peat are formed of aquatic plants, the next of mosses, and the highest of heath. 'In Terra del Fuego (says Darwin), nearly every patch of level ground is covered by two species of plants, which, by their joint decay, compose a thick bed of elastic peat. In the Falkland Islands, almost every kind of plant, even the coarse grass which covers the whole surface of the islands, becomes converted into this substance."

Whence have all these plants derived their carbon? The quantity originally contained in the soil is, after a lapse of years, increased ten thousand fold. Has the dead matter the power of reproducing itself? You will answer at once, that all these plants must have grown at the expense of the air—must have lived on the carbon it was capable of affording them, and as they died, must have left this carbon in a state unfit to nourish the succeeding races." In *other words, the substance of peat-mosses is a deposit* from the atmosphere, which is evidently a universal source of subsistence to vegetable life.

(*To be continued.*)

Capabilities of the Soil.—A member of the Walworth district of the Land Company desires us to publish the following. In 1830, Mr. Jordan growed from one root or grain of wheat fifteen good ears, and had therefrom 505 good corns; and replanted the same in 1831, in a garden, on nine yards and three feet of ground, the produce of which was 1,884 ears of corn, which yielded 17,585 good corns, and measured five pints and a half imperial measure, which will give sixteen pints and a half to a rod of ground; realizing forty-one bushels two gallons to an acre. Robert Underwood witnessed the experiment, and bears witness to the truth of the above.

Public Meetings.

Meeting at Leeds in support of the Government Plan of Education.—On Monday evening a public meeting of those persons who approve generally of the plans for the extension and improvement of education lately laid before Parliament by the committee of her Majesty's council, was held in the Court-house at Leeds, "for the purpose of expressing their sentiments in regard to the measure, and taking such other steps in furtherance of it as may appear expedient." The meeting was called by the Mayor, at the requisition of the committee appointed at a recent preliminary meeting held at the Philosophical-hall, to support the government in opposition to Mr. Baines, and the independent dissenters. Long before the hour appointed for business (seven o'clock), the large Sessions Room was inconveniently crammed; and it was stated during the proceedings that there were four times as many waiting without as were within. The Mayor took the chair. The first resolution, moved by J. G. Marshall, Esq., seconded by Alderman Tottie, was as follows:—

That the notorious and deplorable deficiency of means for the good and efficient education of large numbers among the poorer classes in this country, causes the existence of a great amount of ignorance and crime, is an evil of alarming magnitude, and calls for prompt and energetic remedial measures on the part of all classes of the community.

This resolution was carried by a great majority, only thirty or forty hands being held up against it.

John Gott, Esq., moved, and Alderman Stansfield seconded the motion,—

That this meeting desires to recognise the duty of the State to facilitate and encourage the education of the whole body of the people.

The resolution was carried.

The Rev. C. Wickstead moved, and S. Hey, Esq., seconded the motion,—

That in endeavouring to promote the general education of the people, the policy of the government should be to stimulate, not to supersede, the voluntary efforts of the people; and to make its aid equally accessible to all, by avoiding constraint upon the religious convictions of the receivers.

Mr. Councillor Brook expressed his opinion that education should, as in America, be free from the trammels of both church and dissent; that the instruction should be wholly secular, and that it should be left to the parents of the children alone to give them such religious education as they might deem proper. He was opposed to all centralisation, and was ready to go for a separation of Church and State. The resolution was carried.

The Rev. J. Fawcett moved,—

That the position and prospects of the masters, as well as the quality and character of the instruction given in many of the elementary schools in this country, are equally unsatisfactory; and that it is of the highest importance to improve the one and to elevate the condition of the other.

The Rev. Dr. Hook, in seconding the resolution, said, I stand here as an advocate for the education of the people on the most extensive scale. I stand not here as a supporter of the government, or as an advocate of the present measure; but, having myself suggested an education on an extensive plan, I care not whether my plan is condemned or not; I say, "Bring forward another; bring forward a better, and I will support it." (Cheers.) And here I find that her Majesty's Ministers have brought forward a measure, which does not propose to go so far as I would go; but because they won't go with me twenty miles, I see no reason why I should not go with them five miles. There is an attempt to confuse the matter—(hear)—to make it appear as if it was a contest between church and dissent. Now, we might oppose the educational scheme of the government as churchmen, or we might oppose it if we were dissenters; but the first objection now brought against not only this, but any measure, is the interference on the part of the State. (Hear.) But if you are convinced that the education of the people ought to be improved, why then take your Stand boldly upon that, and demand that an improvement be made, demand that aid and assistance shall be given. I am perfectly well aware that a few years ago the Church was unwilling to allow that the state should interfere. The Church then took the same course that the opponents of this measure are taking now. Ten or twelve years ago I took that course myself. I was desirous to see the experiment tried as to voluntaryism. I gave the Dissenters credit for all their exertions in this cause; but we have tried ourselves to the utmost, and the observations I have made satisfy me that though we have not failed, we have not, by our united exertions, been able to meet the evil. I call upon you at the present time to prevent the cause of education from being retarded in its progress, to prevent sectarian influences from throwing any impediment in its way. I call upon you to assist the government to do what will add to the comfort, and respect, and intelligence of the working classes. I call upon you to assist them in doing what will enable you to educate your children, so that they may be able to exercise any constitutional privilege with which they may afterwards be invested—(loud cheers;)—in a word, gentlemen, I call upon you to allow the government to empty the gaols by building schools. (Loud applause.) The Mayor then put the resolution, and it was declared to have been unanimously adopted. The following resolutions (together with a petition) which were spoken to by a number of influential gentlemen, were also adopted:—

That, without pledging itself to all the details, this meeting believes the scheme for extending the operations of the Committee of Council on Education, recently laid before Parliament, to be founded on sound principles, and to combine efficient means for developing and improving the existing means of education, with the observance of perfect fairness to all sections of the community.

That the necessity of an annual vote to provide the requisite funds, and the constant attention of Parliament thereby secured, from a constitutional check, which appears sufficient to control the possible abuses of patronage, and an undue expenditure of public money; and that the vigilance of the House of Commons may be relied on for the investigation or redress of any grievances that may be alleged.

That as the benefits of government aid are proposed to be confined to those masters and mistresses who have been trained in Normal schools already under inspection, this meeting would beg leave respectively to suggest that these benefits might, for the present, be extended to teachers who have not had that advantage, but who shall be reported to be duly qualified by competent examination.

Meeting to Oppose the Government Plan of Education.—A meeting was held on Monday evening at the Eastern Institution, Commercial-road, with a view of opposing the government plan of education. The Rev. Andrew Reid, D.D., presided, and several dissenting ministers addressed the meeting. The Government plan, it was argued, is utterly adverse to the most important of all liberties—religious liberty. It was contended that religious instruction ought not to be the business of the state, and that, therefore, education ought not to be so, since, if worthy of the name, it must include religious instruction—they cannot be separated. The necessity of such a plan was also denied, on the plea of there being as many as 1,876,000 children now educated at Sunday-schools, and that therefore it could scarcely be needful to lay out a million and a half of money annually for a similar purpose. These objections to the plan of national education were also set forth in a series of resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

Printers' Pension Society.—The annual general meeting, and the twenty-fifth election of this society for the relief of aged and infirm printers and their widows, was held on Monday, at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, for the purpose of receiving a report of the committee for the past year as to the society's affairs, appointing the officers for the year ensuing, electing four pensioners on the general funds, and the candidate, fifth on the poll, to be entitled to the Whittingham Pension. Richard Taylor, Esq. F.R.S., treasurer, in the chair. Mr. J. S. Hodgson said, one great source of annual benefit to their funds, the anniversary meeting, which was presided over by Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart, had been very productive, the sum of £280 having been received on that occasion. Other auxiliary aids in the course of the year were alluded to, viz., the day *fête* at Vauxhall-gardens, and an entertainment at Bromley, in Kent, the former yielding a profit of £16, and the latter of upwards of £50. The committee further reported that a legacy of £100 had been bequeathed by the late J. Harris, Esq., bookseller, St. Paul's Churchyard, to the funds of the society, such donation being free of duty. The report having been received, the appointment of officers then took place. Richard Taylor, Esq. was re-elected treasurer. The other officers were then appointed. It was announced that another theatrical amateur performance would shortly take place, and a hope expressed that it would be as liberally supported as on the last occasion. The result of the poll was then declared, and the successful candidates were—Richard T. Childs, 3,894; Francis Wagoman 2,005; Catherine Newman, 2,588; Edward Turner, 2,375; and Thomas S. Banbury, 2,340 (Whittingham Pension.)

Going! Going!—The hon. and learned member for Cork, whose precarious state of health has excited so much interest, left the British Hotel, Jermyn-street, on Saturday last, for the country. The medical advisers of the learned gentleman have recommended a total cessation from business, and a change of air, as absolutely necessary. It is understood that the hon. member will sojourn for a few weeks at Hastings, and will thereafter proceed to France, and from thence by easy stages to Italy. We regret to learn, from unquestionable authority, that Mr. O'Connell has not only become enfeebled in body, but that his mind has become dejected in an extreme degree, and that the conviction of the near approach of death, with which the learned gentleman is said to be painfully impressed, leaves little hope of his recovery.—*Globe.*

General Intelligence.

Famine.—The Rev. J. Coghlan, parish priest of Kilmore in Mayo, seeing 5,880 people, of which his parish is composed, dying hourly before his eyes, in the agonies of hunger, or of disease generated by starvation, and having no other earthly means of saving his parish, from utter extermination, from amidst the death scenes by which he is surrounded, as a last resource, invokes in the name of Heaven, any charitable gift which benevolence may be enabled to spare, to save, ere too late, the remainder of his flock from famine, pestilence, and death. Any contribution to arrest this overwhelming misery will be immediately forwarded, if paid to the Western Branch of the London Joint-Stock Bank, 69, Pall-mall.

Bad Money.—Counterfeit crowns and half-crowns, well executed, have lately got into circulation. They bear a head of Queen Victoria, are dated in 1844, and are brighter in appearance than the genuine half-crown.

Literary Prize.—The Russian government has succeeded in obtaining, at Pekin, for the price of 39,000f. (£1,560) a copy of the two vast Buddhist collections, forming 1,392 volumes, known as the Gaudjour and Dandjour.

Skins.—A vessel arrived in London from the Cape of Good Hope has brought an exceedingly various cargo of skins, including some of goats, buffaloes, zebras, tigers, the rhinoceros, and other animals.

A Bore.—A new play by Alexandre Dumas, called *La Reine Margot*, which was performed a few days since in Paris, is so long as to occupy eight hours and a half in representation.

Scoundrels.—As regards speculators on the starvation of the poor Irish, it may be useful to make it known that frauds in Indian meal for shipment are becoming rather common in America; the fraud consists in *grinding the corn and cob together, in the* first instance—then kiln drying the produce, again *grinding it*, so as to make it resemble pure meal as much as possible.

Yankee Bombast.—Silsbee, the American comedian, in one of his farces, says that the United States are bounded on the north by the aurora borealis, on the east by the rising sun, on the west by the horizon, and on the south by as far as they choose to go.

Workhouse Schools.—There are upwards of 700 workhouse schools in England and Wales.

Coal.—A single block of solid coal has been raised in France, of the extraordinary weight of 5,000lb.

The Great Western.—It is stated that the government is negotiating with the owners for the purchase of the steam-ship Great Western.

The Briefless.—Out of the 3,000 barristers named in the law list, it is said that not more than 200 are sufficiently employed to earn a respectable maintenance.

Worse than Flogging.—A punishment used in the French navy consists in hoisting a man, to whose feet weights have been fastened, to the mainyard of his ship, whence he is allowed to fall into the sea. He is then drawn out by the rope attached to him, and either dismissed or subjected to a repetition of the punishment, according to the nature of his offence. This punishment is termed the *coup de cale mouillé.*

Very True.—Dinner long deferred maketh the heart sick.

An Industrious Woman.—Talk, indeed, of pantomimes and gaudy shows, your processions, and installations, and coronations! Give me, for a beautiful sight, a neat and smart woman, heating her oven and setting in her bread. And if the bustle does make the sign of labour glisten on her brow, where is the man that would not kiss that off rather than the plaster from a duchess?—*Cobbett.*

Rough Method of Ventilation.—Dr. Gregory of Edinburgh, in visiting the poor, used often to begin his prescription by breaking a pane or two of the window with his walking stick, which he made good again at the end of the illness.—*Evidence of Dr. R. Willis, before the Health of Towns Commission.*

Whales.—Last week the islanders of Eday, Orkney, captured, out of a large flock of whales, 149, in Fierceness Bay, after very little trouble. They have since sold them in town for £216. The "bottle noses" are very fat at this season, and the above lot is thought to be a good *spec* for the purchasers.

Opening of New Oxford-street.—On Saturday evening the thoroughfare of New Oxford-street was opened to the public.

Death of Mr. William Astell, M.P. for Bedfordshire.—This venerable member of the Lower House died on the afternoon of Sunday, at Everton-house, aged 73, after a brief illness.

The Late Murder at Dagenham.—The government have issued instructions for the prosecution of Sergeant Parsons and the other constables belonging to the K division, for alleged perjury committed by them in their evidence before the coroner when he held the inquest on the body of their comrade Clarke, who, it will be remembered, was found in a corn field murdered in last June.

Jenny Lind.—Jenny Lind has finally arranged to come to London and sing at Her Majesty's Theatre, Mr. Lumley giving her an indemnity against all actions for breach of contract with Mr. Bunn. The battle in the courts will therefore be fought, if at all, between the two managers.

Amateur Performances at the St. James's Theatre.—Two performances by distinguished amateurs are to be given at the St. James's Theatre. It is stated that Mrs. Butler will sustain the principal characters, but no other member of the profession will be included in the casts.

Death of Mr. Hall, the Publisher.—This gentleman breathed his last on Sunday, after struggling for some time with the most severe suffering. His name, together with that of his partner, Mr. Chapman, has been for many years associated with the most successful literary works in the department of fiction of the present day—those of Mr. Charles Dickens. The success of the "Pickwick Papers," which were published by Messrs. Chapman and Hall, gave them a celebrity in their profession, which has since increased.

The New Model Prison.—This prison will be finished, for the detention of persons remanded from police offices and awaiting trial, on the 25th inst. It contains 1,000 separate cells to keep persons entirely apart whilst under detention.

Liberation of Convicts.—It is said that Her Majesty's pardon is about to be extended to a great number of convicts at the hulks at Woolwich, whose sentence to hard labour has nearly expired, and whose exemplary conduct has recommended them to the Royal clemency.—*Globe.*

New Church, St. George's, Hanover-square.—A new church is about to be erected on the south, or Piccadilly, side of the parish of St. George, Hanover-square.

The Cuckoo.—On Monday morning the voice of the cuckoo was repeatedly heard in the plantation of Markeaton, near Derby.

Portuguese Soldiers.—The *Times* correspondent describes the Lisbon volunteers as no better than stage soldiers, and dressed-up supernumerary candle snuffers.

New Convent.—A piece of land in Far Park-lane, Loughborough, has recently been purchased as a site for a convent.

The Jew a Dealer in Swine.—On Saturday last, at Shaftesbury market, a Jew of the name of Marcus Lewis exposed four pigs for sale, and after great laughter among the dealers, he ultimately sold them for two pounds—the first instance we ever heard of an Israelite dealing in pork, it being also his sabbath day.

A Long Word.—The "Allgemeine Zeitung" informs its readers that a society has been established in Hull for discouraging tight lacing. The German editor pleased to inflict on this harmless association the following formidable title:—"*Jungfrauenzimmerdurchschwindsuchttoedtungs-gegenverein.*" Otherwise the "Anti-killing-young-women-by-a-lingering-death-society."

Force of the Sea.—A retaining wall of solid masonry on the Chester and Holyhead Railway, at Penman Mawr, has proved wholly insufficient to withstand the shock of the sea, and the general opinion seems to be, that no seawall can be depended upon, which has not a good slope and an elastic body.

The Electric Telegraph.—The Lord Chancellor has refused to grant an injunction against Nott's electric telegraph. It has been suggested that Mr. Hyde Clarke's electro telegraph composing machine can be worked in connection with Nott's system, so as to make it a printing telegraph. A company is being formed to work Professor Morse's American printing telegraph in this country.

Editorial Troubles in Canada.—The editor of the "Toronto Herald" excuses himself for the non-publication of a recent number of his paper, on the ground that the paper on which it was to have been printed, after it had been wet down in the usual manner, had been frozen into a solid mass, and could not be used until it was thawed.

Absurd Law.—The Paris Court of Cassation has decided that a person who was once a Roman Catholic clergyman, but has for many years been a Protestant, cannot marry.

Shut your Mouth.—The "New York Tribune," alluding to the fatal consequences which often occur from inhaling steam when a boiler bursts on board a steam-boat, recommends all steam-boat travellers to remember the following advice:—"Keep your mouth shut when the boiler bursts."

Scotch Wisdom.—The Scottish farmers are substituting beans and turnips on the land hitherto employed for potatoes.

"What's in a Name?"—Surely there's something in a name, when the inventor of a new castor describes it as the Idrotobolic Hat!

Explosion of Portable Gas.—The Baron D'Aucet, a French gentleman, lost his life at Rio, on the 18th December, owing to the bursting of a vessel containing portable gas, with which his servant was feeding a lamp. The unfortunate gentleman was in bed when the explosion took place, and was burnt and scalded from head to foot.

The Great Italian Reformer.—The Pope has removed some of the insulting regulations to which the Jews of Rome have been subject time out of mind.

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THE NORTHERN STAR

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1847.

THE FAMINE AND THE FAST.

It is a lamentable instance of the perversion of Whig policy, when we find the evils caused by man's misrule assigned to the government of God. We have heard of the evils of Pandora's box—a good excuse for those men, in whose hearts the evil was engendered; it is nothing to the evils ascribed to a rotten potato; this is the great excuse offered by monopolists; they say, "we could not have prevented the potato-rot." Certainly not; but you could have prevented the fact of potatoes being the staple food of millions. The famine is *there*, where the potatoes are *not*, but where monopoly is. The famine is *there*, whence you are exporting the food; the famine is *there*, where you are indulging luxuries. The potato-rot is a Godsend to you, since you make it father all your sins; but lamentable as is this sophistry of yours, still more pitiable is it to behold the farther means to which it makes you about to resort: the ordination of a day of general Fast and Humiliation. Who are to fast? Those who are partaking of *M. Soyer's* soup? This French cook must have studied homœopathy, since he attempts to cure hunger by infinitesimal doses of beef. Who are to be humiliated? The factory slaves, or the paupers in the Bastiles? Surely they have had enough of fasting and humiliation already! How this ordinance is to extend to the rich we see not. Doubtlessly they have observed Lent most rigorously; and it must be all a newspaper falsehood about the parties of Lady Palmerston, and the banquets of the Duchess of Bedford, and the numberless great feastings of the Aristocracy. We can, however, even imagine the nature of their fasts: the fish dressed in every delicate variety, the omelets and the condiments to boot; —and all this to propitiate God?—no! to gull the people,—the honest, hard-working people, whom they praise for their patience. Praise, indeed! We *blame* them for their patience! It is a vice under the circumstances,—it is cowardice, when men are starving by thousands and thousands: not that we exhort them to violence, far from it; but we do wish to see them rise as one man, for the safety of their lives, and peaceably demonstrate their power and their will; we do wish to see them agitate, as with one voice, and, retorting the foul insult of telling Starvation to fast, and Slavery to humiliate itself, assert, that to make His creatures happy is the best way to propitiate God—ay! and the people too!

We exhort our countrymen no longer to let Famine play the game of Monopoly. In Ireland, in Scotland, ay! and even in England, it is weakening the cause of liberty;—the people are becoming powerless and languid from hunger; they are growing incapable of thought and action; while a plumed and well-fed military, a truculent and stout police, look down on them with sovereign contempt. Famine is doing that which Tyranny wishes; it is DEPOPULATING THE COUNTRY OF ITS ENEMIES; and the government is artfully coming to its aid, by encouraging emigration. "Yes! let all the bold spirits and strong arms go, the more the better; they are dangerous to monopoly. Go! perish in Texas; rot in Australia; no matter where—but go! we want none but abject slaves, and emaciated human machines, to work our will."

It may be here necessary to observe, that while, on the one hand, Government is avowedly encouraging emigration in every possible way, it has issued a caution against emigration to Texas. Her Majesty's Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners have issued the following notice:—

Emigrants are warned that her Majesty's Vice-Consul at Galveston, in a despatch dated January 6th last, states that from the experience of a six years' residence in Texas, he does not hesitate to pronounce that certain statements which have recently appeared respecting the salubrity of the climate, the fertility of the soil, and the richness of the mineral productions of Texas, are greatly exaggerated, and that there is a melancholy evidence of the fact in the misery suffered by many of the emigrants attached to the German Emigration Associations. He further expresses a conviction, that if British subjects should be induced to emigrate to Texas, they will probably encounter sickness and destitution.

This statement is correct—it might be general. But the object is obvious. Don't go to Texas, to strengthen the hands of American republicanism. Go anywhere else; for, though American freedom is but a sham—the SHAM IS THERE,—and, even *as* a sham, is dangerous to our *rotten institutions*. Meanwhile the people cannot be quiescent, they cannot tamely look on their own ruin. They see through the drift of their enemies, to make England a vast hive of machinery, and depopulate it, like the sister-island, *of every bold heart and manly hand*. Shall they succeed? By the CHARTER! we say No! We say No! by the LAND. We say, No! in the name of human nature, while 1,300,000 horses are fattened in England, each of which consumes the produce of as much land as would *feed* eight men; and while, according to the statement of a cotemporary and undeniable authority, there have "*never, since the establishment of horse-racing in England, been so many horses in training as there are at the present time.*"

Shame, money-mongers who act thus—and shame, working men! if you *permit it*. There is such a thing as political suicide. You are partakers in the crime of your tyrants if you sanction its performance. Remember the recent words of the poet:—

Still the reign of guilt to further,
Lord and slave the crime divide:
For the master's sin is *murder*,
And the workman's—*suicide*.

The very season of the year seems pointing the path of progress, and affording theme for reflection. Let Labour think how little of all the seed confided to the soil and germing in the ground, will find its way to Labour's mouth,—how little the hope of harvest can cheer the hour of toil—how sadly the famine-bringing winter will again lour down on autumn's disappointment, if, during the breathing-time allowed them now, the people do not bestir themselves. This is the time to organise and to act; another winter will leave them more powerless than at present, and Monopoly more powerful, through Labour's exhaustion. We have seen through *the machination of Labour's foes*, we have exposed the fallacies of those who live on Labour's degradation; we have held up the "*turncoatism*" of one of our despicable opponents, who, seeing that its anti-land philosophy is dislodged, may as well put up a placard with "CHAMBERS TO LET," and perhaps "*take in*" some poor "emigration society" under its dangerous protection. *But the people are* forewarned;—it is in their power to assert their rights — since monopoly never yet resisted the union of millions; it will be their *fault if they* do not obtain them.

THE WARRINGTON JUSTICES' "RETIREMENT INTO PRIVATE LIFE."

The Breach of Contract Case.—It will have been observed in the parliamentary reports of Tuesday night, that the secretary of state has considered it his duty to quash the conviction, and order the immediate discharge of the men who were committed from this town, a short time ago, for an alleged breach of contract; Mr. J. B. Edelsten, file manufacturer, being the complainant. The men arrived here on Wednesday evening, and were met and escorted into the town by some hundreds of working men, with every demonstration of joy. We regret to add, that it is very currently rumoured that the magistrates who decided the case—Thomas Lyon, Esq. and William Stubs, Esq.—*have determined*, in consequence of this occurrence, *to retire from the bench*. We trust, however, the rumour may be unfounded. Mr. Lyon has been in commission since 1819, a period of twenty-eight years.

The above is an extract from the *Manchester Guardian*. It seems, then, that there was some *foundation* for the "*retirement-into-private-life*" rumour; still we cannot give it implicit credit.—What a man this Mr. Roberts is!—how his power *grows*! In Northumberland he destroyed the appetite of many a justice—some to our knowledge brought up their breakfasts and lost all desire for dinner. In Durham there were similarly distressing results, and on the release of the Thorney men, two of the most courageous of these administrators of the law promised to *commit suicide*; but they forgot to do it. Still these results were but of a temporary nature—a dose of salts cured all; but to make a magistrate—nay, not one, but two—RETIRE, actually "go out," never, never, never, never no more to sit again—never to tell Jones, the constable, to turn them boys out, if they make a noise—no! we won't believe it: 'tis too much. Who would not be a People's ATTORNEY-GENERAL with such glorious prospects in view, not only to be the General Gaol Deliverer, but *Purifier of the Bench?*

But we *don't* believe the *Manchester Guardian*. That naughty "Thomas" and "William" should hide their heads for a time, we can well imagine—should slink away till the storm is blown over—but actually *retire!* no; we cannot swallow it, and yet the morsel is so delicious, that we cannot wholly part with the hope that it is true.

We have heard, indeed, another version of this *retirement*; that these two worthies have decided on retiring—but only so far as Lancashire is concerned. We have seen a letter: "Your old friends, *Lyon* and *Stubs*, have not retired from the bench, but have withdrawn their services from Warrington, and opened a court in a public-house (what a tumble!) in Cheshire, about half a mile from Warrington, at the Saracens Head." Foolish men! So they hope, by getting into Cheshire, to be out of the *Attorney General's* reach. Vain hope—he'll be after them—he'll find them out, let them take our word for it. We suppose they will take Jones the constable with them. They'd be nothing, less than nothing, without Jones.

We have received several accounts of the hearty rejoicing on the discharge of the men,—the procession, flags, marching, cheers, &c.; and how "somebody" came in when they were singing that Mr Roberts was a hearty good fellow—

"For he's a hearty good fellow, and so says every one."

And how they dressed-up two old women (one much fatter than the other), and called one "Thomas" and the other "Billy," and how they made Billy and Thomas both jolly drunk, as a "compensation for the indignity."

Then Jones, determined to have a "retiring" fling, summoned the landlord for "suffering the people to be drunk on the premises," and how he (Jones, not the *landlord*) *got floored*. Oh! how we laughed. Poor Jones!

But we cannot chronicle these rejoicings *now*; our joy is too full to write about such small matters. Run away from Lancashire after "having been in the commission 28 years!" Oh! Jones—Jones, never let them come back again!

PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW.

The new scheme of Convict Discipline, explained by Earl Grey last week, formed the topic of an interesting debate on an important subject, and was again referred to on Monday. The Government plan may be briefly described. Transportation, as a punishment, is to be totally abolished, in respect of men. Sentences will be passed as usual, but the convicts will be subjected to separate confinement, in the prisons of the United Kingdom, for periods aver [illegible] year, and not exceeding eighteen months. They will then be employed for a period, contingent upon their own good conduct, but expected to be, on the average, when half the sentence has expired, on a penal class of public works, either at home or in some of the colonies: finally, they will be pardoned conditionally, the condition being their exile from this country for the remaining period of the original sentence. With the exception of this banishment, *the convict will be perfectly* free, both as to the quarter to which he may emigrate, and in the disposal of his time and labours *This part of the scheme is not to be considered as a part of the punishment, but rather, in fact, to secure to the reformed culprit a field of exertion in* which he may begin with a new character. Government will not pay the passage money, but the cost will be defrayed out of the accumulated earnings of the convict on the public works, which will be duly set down to his credit; and his family will be allowed to emigrate with him. It is calculated that the labour of the convicts will reimburse the State for the expense of their maintenance and superintendence. In the first instance, they will have to be lodged in the hulks; but a new system of labour, and new domestic arrangements, are to be *devised* for the class. Large numbers will be employed in the quarries in the Isle of Portland—a place which, at the same time, affords suitable employment, and is convenient for their custody. Large moveable wooden buildings, *capable of being transferred* to different places, are in preparation for the convicts; and their labour will be made available in the construction of fortifications and harbours of refuge.

It will be seen that this scheme involves a very wide departure from the present system of convict discipline, and that the Government, in bringing it forward, have been actuated by the twofold desire of escaping from the evils which past experience has shown to be inherent in the plan of penal colonies, into which, as into a common sewer, all the criminality of the country is discharged; and, on the other hand, the not less laudable desire, that the convicts themselves should be put through a course of reformatory and industrial discipline, which will, at the expiration of a certain period of probation, enable them to commence life in a new sphere of action, supplied with inducements and powers to live an honest life for the remainder of their existence. It is impossible to do otherwise than respect these motives. They indicate forcibly how silently, but how steadily, great social and moral changes are progressing among us. Seven years ago the very men who now propose this plan resisted similar but smaller alterations, when urged by Sir W. Molesworth, backed by the evidence of a select committee on the subject. This disposition to look beyond the mere fact of an infraction of the law to the causes that have induced it, and to treat the criminal as a human being who may be influenced by motives addressed to his reason and feelings—as one who, though seduced or impelled into erroneous or criminal courses, is still capable of being reclaimed and converted into a useful member of society—is one of the characteristics of the age, and shows that no good word or work is ever uttered, written, or done, without fruit in due season. The Owens, Benthams, Romillys, and Mackintoshes, have not lived and laboured in vain. We are gradually growing up to an apprehension that, after all, MAN is the primary object of legislation; and that only in so far as our political and social arrangements provide for his physical, intellectual, and moral well-being, do we fulfil the most indispensable and elementary conditions of society. There are, however, several objections which may be urged to the new plan, which in practice will, we fear, not realise the objects of its projectors. These difficulties, however, in reality, arise out of the chaotic and anomalous organisation of society itself. They are not in the least degree attributable to any particular party, nor do they detract from the merit of the plan, which will, of course, be subject to such modifications as experience and the actual requirements of the public may suggest.

The motion of Mr. Ewart, for the Abolition of Punishment by Death, is another proof of that moral refinement and advance in civilization, of which the Government scheme affords an example. The comparatively large number who voted for the motion, compared with former occasions, and the subdued tone of its opponents, contrasted with the argumentative and zealous speeches of its advocates, are also indicative of an immense increase of public opinion on this subject: it is merely a question of time and continuous agitation. In due season, hanging for any of the crimes now retained on the statute book, as peculiarly worthy of capital punishment, will be as obsolete as it now is for housebreaking, sheep-stealing, or forgery. All of these were, not many years ago, capital offences, and the Sir Robert Inglises, Lord Eldons, and other pious old women of that devout and bloody school, predicted quite as many evils from its abolition in these cases as they *do now*. But *Humanity* was *too strong*, both for bigotry and official apathy. One by one these sanguinary and deliberate offerings on the altar of Revenge were swept away. The world is a great deal the better for having done so. The farms have not been ruined by a general void; house keepers can still sleep in their beds o'nights; and the moneyocracy of Threadneedle-street and Lombard-street, so far as we see, are as safe and sound as ever.

The Suppression of Cracow has at length been brought before the Commons. In doing so, Mr. Hume described the violation of the treaty by Russia, and recommended that this country should make reprisal by discontinuing to pay the £120,000 a-year interest on the Russian Dutch Loan, which rests upon the authority of the same treaty that guarantees the independence of Cracow. That we would be *legally* justified in doing so, is vouched for by the *deliberate opinion* of the most eminent jurists in the country; that we ought to do so on *political grounds*, we *hold* to be so apparent as not to need a word of explanation. By continuing to perform any act whatever stipulated by the treaty which the three Northern despotic Powers have violated, we shall in fact become *particeps criminis* in the violation, and further stultify ourselves, by rendering our "protest" a farrago of mere words—a nullity. The Ministry, however, do not take this view of the subject. Lord John Russell would not do anything so ungenteel as to talk to Russia about money, and advised the House to rest contented with Lord Palmerston's "protest." Such is a Whig Premier's idea of the manner in which a powerful and earnest nation should support its words! We are to content ourselves with simply crying "shame" at the destruction of those relics of Poland which we solemnly entered into a league to protect! We cannot think that the representatives of that Great Britain which prides itself on the position it has held in the very van of nations, will degrade themselves and their country, by agreeing to a course which would fasten upon them and it the stigma either of heartlessness or cowardice. At the time we write, the Commons have not pronounced an opinion.

The Ministerial Measures for Ireland progress but slowly. People are beginning to think about them, and the more they think the less they like the ill-digested, incoherent bundle of nostrums which have nothing clear about them, except two points—first, that England is to pay a great deal of money; and, second, that the only party who will be benefited in the long-run are the Irish landlords. There is nothing about that class of persons so peculiarly fascinating as to seduce us into such profuse and extravagant liberality towards them. In the midst of those distresses which *excite the sympathy and* the horror of the people of England, and which, in addition to the enormous sums ostensibly poured from the National Exchequer for its mitigation, call forth princely contributions not only from England, but from foreign countries—these same landlords do not seem as a body disposed to make the slightest sacrifice for the benefit of their hunger and pestilence-stricken follow-countrymen. Out of the revenues they derive from the soil of Ireland they either refuse to contribute altogether, or give such beggarly donations as are at once a mockery of the misery they are meant to relieve and a disgrace to the heartless and selfish wretches who offer them. In the meantime they maintain their usual retinue of servants, horses and dogs. One landlord was referred to on Monday night who feeds seventy dogs on meal and milk, while men are daily dying at his park gates from positive starvation; and the excuse offered for him by a brother landlord in the House was, that as *the greater part of his* estates were *eighteen miles* from Mallow, *therefore* he had no right to contribute to the relief of the perishing people. On that ground we apprehend Parliament should stop all the million, two million, and three million bills which are now struggling through their different stages.

The English industrial classes, who will have to pay all these millions are farther away than eighteen miles, and have no property *anywhere* in Ireland. If *distance* is to snap all connection, destroy all sympathy, and abrogate all the duties of citizenship, then they at least stand more clearly absolved than these landlords. Meanwhile the Whig ministry is clearly playing into their hands. The measures which go to put money into their purses are pressed forward *first*. Those which establish some slight claim upon them—which give the people the shadow of a chance of making them disgorge something, however small, from the stream of British bounty—lag behind at a most respectable distance, and are at the same time subjected to so many mutilations in their tortoise-like progress, that long before they reach the last stage—if any of them ever do—there will not remain a rag of even their originally faint "good intentions." The Irish Poor Law, which was the only one imposing any obligation on the landlords in return for the enormous sums they are to receive from the English Exchequer, has undergone so many modifications at the hands of its originators, that it is now only the shadow of the meagre original. It still conveys authority to give out-door relief, but under restrictions drawn still tighter than the original ones,—it will allow it only in times of famine or general destitution, such as the present,—a provision both supererogatory and nugatory, because in such times relief will be certain to be given as it is at present. For the ordinary pauperism the permanent claims of the poor and destitute—it makes no provision whatever; it is out-door relief reduced to the extreme minimum; and to make sure that no mistake shall be committed on the side of generosity, Lord John has adopted a suggestion of Lord Stanley's, and increased the number of ex-officio guardians—in other words, multiplied the landlords to such an extent on the Board of Guardians that, practically, the whole management will be in their hands. The middle classes, who may have some sympathy for the class immediately below them, will be completely neutralize by the "ex-officios," who will take good care that their *acres are* very lightly burdened for the support of the poor. In one word, the whole thing is a humbug! Yet, delusive as the measure is, Lord John, in deference to the "Irish Banditti," makes it follow the bill for the improvement of the landlords' estates, and refuses to give any pledge, that if the bill for the poor is not carried, he will stop the *bill for the rich!* Mr. Roebuck powerfully and sarcastically exposed both the Premier and his Irish allies on Monday night. From the cheers with which his well merited castigations were received, we cannot believe that the Legislature will tamely acquiesce in the monstrous robbery and jobbery which is meant to be perpetrated by some half dozen powerful Whig noblemen Irish proprietors, for the benefit of themselves and co-landlords.

Another year will, we fear, bring still heavier distress upon unfortunate Ireland, and both that and this country will long have to curse the time when an imbecile and selfish set of men swayed the destinies of Great Britain and Ireland, at a period when wisdom, experience, and courage, were demanded from our statesmen.

To Readers & Correspondents.

LEGAL.

Benjamin Corbitt, Leek.—The court at its discretion fixes the periods of payment, and the amount of each *instalment*.

X. Y. Z.—She cannot marry without a divorce, and the expense would be very large. Divorces are luxuries for the aristocracy.

T. T. Openshaw.—1st. Apply at the Colonial Office.—2nd. If he was transported for felony, the Crown, probably, has become entitled to the legacy.—3rd. They can retain it, until a legal claimant *comes forward*.—4th. Assuming that the Crown is *not* entitled to the legacy, and the claim to it is not *barred by the Statute*, in that case, *if* such a time has elapsed, and such circumstances have occurred as to afford a fair presumption of his death, any of his next of kin might take out administration to him, and would be entitled to the legacy.

O. G. J.—I presume you had no stipulation with your landlord to pay for improvements in case he turned *you out; and, if not, you can not recover* any compensation. I suppose you are a tenant from year to year and your landlord can only turn you out at the same period of the year as your tenancy commenced, and that upon giving you six months' previous notice, unless there should be a *custom* for a shorter notice.

W.H., Dundee.—If the mother of your child is your *wife*, *you have a right in law to take both her and the child* with you; but if the child was *not* born in wedlock, as I am inclined to infer from your letter is the fact, in that case you can *not* take the child with you. The above is according to *English* law.

J. Deeks, Essex.—After the 15th of this month debts under £20 cannot be sued for in *any other* Court than in the new Small Debts Courts.

O. P. S. T.—Before a member can be "out of benefit," it would appear, by the rules of your society, he must be summoned. And as it would appear there was no *summons in your case, the party continued entitled to* all the "benefits" of the society.

G. H. B., Holme.—The notice appears to be quite correct, and you had better quit.

Wm. Greenwood.—1st, Being a *yearly* tenant (for such would seem to be the case), the landlord had a right, after the expiration of any year, to alter the terms on which the tenant held, and therefore to throw the burthen of poor and road rates upon the tenant; though, of course, it was optional with the tenant whether he would remain on such terms or not. Having remained, he must pay them. 2nd, If the landlord entered into a *written* agreement to make the repairs, he can be compelled to perform the agreement; but if it was not a *written* one, he can *not* be compelled; and should the tenant make the repairs he could not compel the landlord to pay for them.

J. S.—Your question is one for an actuary at a life-insurance office.

W. C. B., Torquay.—The pump existing at the time you made the conveyance to B, must be considered as an appurtenance or easement to B's house, and you would have no right to cut off the supply of water; and I am of opinion you must keep the pipe in repair, inasmuch as you did not stipulate with B that he should contribute to the expense.

J. G., Coventry.—I presume that the estate was fee-simple. In that case the heir-at-law of B's son, *ex-part paterna* (on the side of the father), is the person entitled. But, should there be no such heir, then the two daughters of C's son may *possibly* be the parties entitled; but it is impossible to give a satisfactory opinion without seeing an authenticated pedigree.

Ralph Hodgkinson.—The hat-manufacturer having become a bankrupt, his assignees became entitled to the apprentice's services for the remainder of his apprenticeship, and could assign him to a new master. Wages which were due at the time of bankruptcy may be proved under the fiat. The bankrupt is not liable for any that have since become due. I suppose the bankrupt has obtained his certificate.

R.D., S.L., C.F., Chorley.—1st, The judge may imprison for non-observance of his judgment.—2nd, In *some* cases the action may be removed into a superior court; but you do not state the particular case.—3rd, Yes.

Mr. Robinson.—You had better get a lawyer to draw *out your case, as it is not drawn* with sufficient legal precision for me to understand it.

Erratum.—John Wall, Stanhope.—In last week's *Star* for "*repeated*" read "*reputed*."

NOTICE.—It is requested that all *legal* cases may be addressed to Mr. Ernest Jones, for if addressed to any other person a delay in answering may unavoidably take place.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Dalston.—Our Dalston friends are too thoughtless. The power of occupants disposing of their allotments is the right arm of the Land Plan, and the greatest help to the really industrious. Our friends must always bear in mind, that one man selling is no reason why another should sell. They must understand the liberty to sell, and the liberty to keep.

G. O. is a very silly and impertinent fellow, if he supposes that anything would induce Mr. O'Connor to facilitate his getting possession of an allotment to the prejudice of another.

J. R.—Yes; *he will be allowed to* apply his money deposited in the redemption department to the reduction of his rent.

J. R.—Three-and-a-half per cent. interest on deposits—four on redemption. Mr. O'Connor cannot undertake to advise as to which he should select.

Curious Query.—A correspondent at Leith wishes us to tell him who is the town-clerk of Bolton? and if he is a person in whom confidence can be placed to recover a debt. As we don't know the town-clerk of Bolton, and, therefore, cannot speak to his character, perhaps that gentleman will himself enlighten our Leith correspondent.

J. Anderson.—Any Durham or Sunderland bookseller can procure the *Labourer*.

The O'Connorville Plates.—Several of our agents have made alterations in their orders for plates too late to be attended to at present, their previous orders having been despatched from the office.

J. L. M.—You can have them.

Mr. C. Wilkinson, Bradford.—Your papers got conveyed to Halifax.

Mr. W. Burridge, Truro.—The plates are sent. The works he orders are not supplied by us. Apply to Mr. J. Watson, Queen's Head-passage, Paternoster-row.

Mr. Biggs.—John Shaw, of 24, Gloucester-street, Commercial Road East, London, would be glad to hear from his friend, Mr. Biggs, late of Deptford, and subsequently of the Tower Hamlets. Will Mr. B. forward the small piece of paper he has in his possession, as it is of the utmost importance to Mr. Shaw?

Nottingham.—Mr. Clark.—The agent of the National Trades' Association begs to inform numerous friends that the "Workmen's Own Shop" has been removed from Glasshouse-street, to No. 7, Gregory's Buildings, Nottingham.

To the Prize Shareholders of Two Acres.—If a shareholder having an allocation at O'Connorville should be desirous of exchanging for an allocation on the Mathon Estate, Malvern, Worcestershire, such shareholder is requested to communicate with A. B. A. B., Long's Court, Leicester-square.

B. P. Torquay.—We have handed your letter to the directors.

Albert Wild, Mottram.—Much obliged for your pleasing letter. Your wishes shall be complied with at the next meeting of the Fraternal Democrats.

Walker.—We had previously received an account of the soiree.

J. Hetherington.—Arrived too late for this week.

Huncoat.—Dear Sir,—I wish you to be so kind as to notice in the next Saturday's *Star*, that there will be three sermons preached in Huncoat's chapel next Sunday, the 14th inst., by the Rev. Mr. Fox, late minister of the Independent congregation, Oldham. A collection will be made after each service towards defraying the expenses I have been unjustly put to for defending the rights of the people against a tyrannical priesthood.—Yours respectfully, A. M'Phare.

We have to apologise for apparent neglect towards many valued correspondents. Several letters of importance must stand over. Our columns, this week, are again completely crowded, and so much important matter remains on hand, that we can merely add the earliest attention shall be paid to the communications of provincial and other friends.

Dr Dromgole, Warrington.—We will make use of your communication in our next; it was impossible to do so this week.

RECEIPTS OF THE CHARTIST CO-OPERATIVE LAND COMPANY.

PER MR. O'CONNOR.

SECTION No. 1.

SHARES.

Wakefield	£1 2 0	Holmfirth	£0 15 6
Halifax	6 11 6	Macclesfield	5 0 0
Crieff	0 4 0	Glasgow, per Sherrington	0 12 0
Croydon	0 1 6		
Shoreditch	0 1 0	Whittington and Cat	1 1 6
Lambley	4 17 8		
Bacup	3 12 0	Lambeth	1 4 8
Bilston	6 0 0	Bristol	5 0 0
Bermondsey	0 1 0	Bradford	3 4 0
T. T. Moore, jun.	0 1 0	Smethwick	0 3 0
Norwich	2 0 0	Wakefield	6 11 0
Nottingham	0 17 0	Stockport	2 0 0
Shrewsbury, Powell	0 12 0	Newton Bushell	0 2 0
		Hull	0 10 6
Cheltenham	0 11 0	Oxford	0 2 0
Rochdale	0 11 0	S. Mills, Mere, Wilts	1 0 0
Manchester	14 3 9	Ashton	4 3 3
Colne, per Hey	1 3 6	Reading	0 2 0
Mottram	2 15 0	Huddersfield	1 11 0
			£72 7 4

SECTION No. 2.

SHARES.

Bilston	19 18 0	Nottingham	3 4 0
Pershore	5 0 0	Market Lavington, per Love	0 11 0
Clackmannan	0 3 7	Edinburgh	2 0 0
Cirencester	4 0 0	Shrewsbury, per Powell	0 7 0
Wakefield	1 8 0	Cheltenham	0 4 3
Calais, per Lockwood	5 0 6	Bridgewater, Tweeds	1 17 0
Glossop, per Lewis	9 14 0	Norwich, Bagshaw	2 0 0
Hull	2 10 3	Rochdale	2 5 1½
Somers Town, J.R. Dartnell	5 4 4	Manchester	4 19 6
Clitheroe	0 10 0	Macclesfield	4 0 0
Cheltenham	3 7 6	Old Shildon	3 18 9
Halifax	2 9 6	Glasgow, per Sherrington	1 17 6
Keighley	14 5 4	Birmingham, Pare	0 14 0
Devizes	15 9 8	Whittington and Cat	0 12 0
Andrew Bunnay	0 1 0	Maidstone	1 0 4
Crieff	0 18 0	Leeds	2 0 0
Samuel Vizard	2 10 0	Paisley	0 6 0
John Fletcher	0 2 6	Bristol	1 0 0
Wm. Fletcher	0 2 6	Bradford	5 0 0
Croydon	1 12 6	Daventry	0 11 0
Teignmouth	1 6 6	Smethwick	0 11 8
Thrapstone	0 1 0	Wakefield	0 6 0
Geo. Bishop	0 1 0	Hull	1 10 6
Geo. Martin	0 1 6	Northwich, per Dean	0 5 0
Thos. Nowell	0 1 0	Markinch	0 15 6
James Mathers	0 2 0	Monkton Deverill	1 0 0
Shoreditch	0 8 6	Newport, Monmouth	0 2 0
Longton	0 3 0	Ashton	0 8 3
Geo. Allinson	0 2 6	Gosport	1 10 0
Square Buckley	0 16 1	Stevenson, Cullen	0 1 0
Bridgenorth, per J. Shipman	0 12 8	Reading	0 1 0
Bilston	10 0 0	Finsbury	3 19 0
Ayth	4 0 0		
Somers Town	2 11 6		
Stockton	1 8 6		
Birmingham, per Gordon	1 1 3		
			£145 16 0½

SECTION No. 3.

SHARES.

Wakefield	9 10 0	Thos. Sparrow	0 2 6
Hull	13 4 0	Stoney Stratford	0 12 6
Wm. Peddlingham, Lowbands	2 12 0	Cheltenham	10 14 8
Michael Sykes	2 12 4	Norwich, Bagshaw	3 10 0
Halifax	0 5 0	Rochdale	10 13 5
Keighley	0 19 8	Manchester	16 6 8
Devizes	0 1 4	Eccles, per Mr. Gregory	1 0 0
Barnley, Clogg	5 0 0	Stourbridge	2 9 2
Crieff	0 18 0	Newcastle-upon-Tyne	5 0 0
Thomas Hemmings	5 4 4	Macclesfield	1 0 0
John Rol	0 5 0	Old Shindon	1 0 0
John Andrew	0 5 0	Oldham	2 0 0
William Wilson	0 2 4	Glasgow, per Sherrington	1 18 0
Edwin Polly	0 2 6	Whittington and Cat	3 9 4
Henry Smith	0 2 6	Maidstone	10 13 8
Samuel W. Coller	0 2 6	Paisley	1 14 0
Joseph Benj. Coller	0 2 6	Bradford	1 16 0
Bermondsey	0 10 0	Daventry	9 0 0
William Seal	0 2 4	Smethwick	6 19 10
Croydon	0 10 8	Marple	0 4 8
Wm. Moody	2 12 0	Wakefield	8 4 4
Ellis Baker	0 10 0	Stockport	2 0 0
Mansfield	2 0 0	Ledbury	0 4 9
John White	0 1 4	Hull	4 7 6
Robert Jones	0 1 4	Northwich, Dean	0 2 6
Shoreditch	1 6 0	Glasgow, Moir	5 4 4
J. H.	0 3 0	Do. Miller	5 4 4
Henry Parker	0 4 6	Markinch	5 4 6
CharlesRennie	0 2 0	Newport, Monmouth	0 16 6
Cardiff	1 1 0	Ashton	0 4 6
Longton	0 7 0	Gosport	0 6 8
Hindley, Bowden	0 2 4	Northampton	12 17 1
Bacup	15 0 0	Booth Town	10 8 8
Bilston	2 0 0	Reading	0 8 6
Locher	6 16 6	Buckhaven	1 10 0
Benj. Briggs	0 5 0	Huddersfield	5 4 4
Bermondsey	2 12 4	Finsbury	3 2 10
Birmingham, Gordon	0 12 3		
Nottingham	1 2 6		
Market Lavington	0 10 0		
			£229 7 10

EXPENSE FUND.

CharlesDooley	0 1 0	Lambley	0 2 0
Gillingham	0 3 0	Bacup	1 8 0
Cirencester	0 3 6	Bilston	2 0 0
Calais, per Lockwood	0 2 0	Samuel Brooks, Boltor	0 2 0
Alexandria	0 3 0	Locheo	0 7 6
Glossop, per Lewis	0 6 0	Camberwell	0 5 0
Arbroath	0 3 0	Bridgenorth, Tweedy	0 8 0
Hull	0 7 0	Norwich, per Bagshaw	0 3 0
Pedlingham, Lowbands	0 1 0	Rochdale	0 10 5½
Westminster, per Brown	0 1 6	Mottram	0 5 0
Ipswich	0 4 0	Holmfirth	0 1 0
W. Frazer	0 1 0	Glasgow, per Sherrington	0 3 7½
Mr. Fearn	0 1 0	Whittington and Cat	0 0 11
Somers Town	0 2 0	Lambeth	0 2 6
Newcastle-upon-Tyne	0 16 4	Maidstone	0 6 0
Parkinson, Frawdon	0 2 0	Daventry	0 9 0
Halifax	3 2 0	Newton Bushell	0 2 0
Devizes	1 4 0	Hull	0 2 0
Newton Abbott	0 5 0	Manchester	5 0 0
Mr. Todd	0 2 0	Oxford	0 12 10
Thomas Hemming	0 2 0	John Miller	0 2 0
Lambeth, Ruffey	0 1 0	James Moir	0 2 0
Wm. Moody	0 1 6	Markinch	0 1 0
Ovenden	0 1 0	Booth Town	0 1 0
Samuel Bean, Braintree	0 2 0	Reading	0 2 9
		Huddersfield	0 5 0
			£19 19 9

TOTAL LAND FUND.

Mr. O'Connor, Section No. 1	72 7 4
Mr. O'Connor, Section No. 2	145 16 0½
Mr. O'Connor, Section No. 3	229 7 10
Expense Fund	19 19 9
	£467 10 11½

FOR THE BANK.

Sums previously acknowledged	561 18 6
For the Week ending the 11th March	192 10 2
	£754 8 8

Erratum.—In No. 13 of the Rules of the National Land Company, the charge for local expenses per share is stated to be threepence. It should be three half-pence. The error occurs only in a small number, which were struck off before it was discovered.

Thomas Martin Wheeler, Financial Secretary.

RECEIPTS OF NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION.

Smethwick 0 1 0

REPAYMENTS TO MR. O'CONNOR ON ACCOUNT OF DEBT DUE BY DEFENCE FUND.

Per Mr. Christopher Doyle.

Crown and Anchor	0 10 0	Market Lavington	0 2 9
			£0 12 9

FOR WILLIAMS AND JONES.

Nottingham 1 4 0

Christopher Doyle, Secretary.

Next Meeting of Conference.—Mr. O'Connor's suggestion, that the meeting of the Conference be held at Lowbands, in the month of July, has been approved of by the shareholders at Bristol and Nottingham.

"CHAMBERS'S JOURNAL."

Vox Populi vox Dei.

Mr. O'Connor's astounding exposure of W. C.'s *frauds and fallacies in relation to* the Small Farm System, has excited great sensation amongst the working classes, and created an expression of opinion that would stagger the proprietors of the "Journal" could they witness the pile of letters we have received on the subject, all unanimous in condemning the three halfpenny "enlighteners."

From the mass of communications received, we select the following:—

Birmingham.—At our usual weekly meeting on Sunday evening last, Mr. Dunn in the chair, the following resolutions were unanimously passed.

Moved by Mr. Fussell, *seconded by Mr. Porter*, and carried unanimously:—

That, having heard the article read signed W. C., emanating from William Chambers, and headed "A Word on the Land," we are of opinion that the object of the writer is to misrepresent and discourage the working-men in their endeavours to improve their condition; and when we compare the said article with the previous one of 1845, from the same individual—the one a complete contradiction to the other—we consider the writer unworthy of the countenance of the people, and we call upon the working classes to withdraw their support from the Messrs. Chambers' publications.

Moved by Mr. Porter, seconded by Mr. Potts, and carried unanimously:—

That the best thanks of this meeting be given to Feargus O'Connor, Esq., *for his talented exposure of the knavery of W. Chambers.*

Glasgow.—*At the* weekly meeting of the Glasgow branch of the National Land Company, held at No. 27, St. Andrew's-square, on Monday night, March 8th, Mr. William Dougherty in the chair, Mr. John Verner was appointed scrutineer for the next four weeks.

Mr. John Govan then came forward and read from the *Star* the reply to the article in *Chambers' Journal*, amidst the cheers of the meeting. After reading it *he spoke at some length*, showing that the proprietors of that Journal had sprung from the ranks of the working men, and that although they professed to be public instructors, they were the deadly enemies of the working classes. He concluded by moving the following resolution:—

That we have no confidence in the Messrs. Chambers of Edinburgh, as public instructors, and look with disgust upon their present attempt to mar the efforts of the working-men to raise themselves above their present servile condition; and further, we return Mr. O'Connor our sincere thanks for his able refutation of their detestable rubbish.

Mr. John Bryan, in a speech of considerable length, seconded the motion, and called upon all the working-men to do as he had done. From the moment he read their "Employer and Employed" *he never had purchased one of their journals.*—(Cheers.)

The motion was carried, and seven new members were enrolled in section No. 3.

Similar resolutions have been unanimously adopted at Bristol, Barnsley, Bilston, Lamberhead-green, Llanelly, Merthyr-Tydvil, Nottingham, Norwich, Rochdale, Sheffield, Smethwick, Thropstowe, Greenwich, Liverpool, Northampton, Wigan, and Leamington.

In several of the letters from the above places the hope is strongly expressed that Mr. O'Connor will bring out a cheap publication to drive Chambers's trash out of the market. The Sheffield friends suggest that Chambers's article and Mr. O'Connor's reply be reprinted from the *Star* for general circulation.

We should add that the *Weekly Express* of Edinburgh, in its impression of Saturday last, contained a very excellent letter from a working man in reply to the article of W.C., written of course before Mr. O'Connor's reply had been seen in Edinburgh. The working-men are wide awake now, W.C. will no more find them napping.

Shoreditch.—E. Jones, Esq. will lecture at the Railway-engine Coffee-house. 122, Brick-lane, on Wednesday evening, March 17th; subject, "Home Colonization:" chair will be taken at 8 o'clock. On Wednesday evening, 24th instant, Mr. G. Wheeler will lecture at the above house, on "Spade Husbandry."

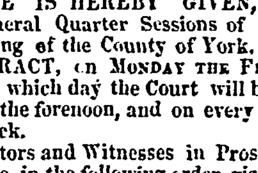
Somers-Town—Mr John Gathard will deliver a lecture on "Practical Agriculture," on Sunday evening next, at Mr Duddridge's, Bricklayers'-arms, Tonbridge-street, New-road, at 8 o'clock. A special general meeting will be held on Monday next, at 8 o'clock.

Discussion.—At the discussion at the Princess Royal, Circus-street, on Thursday evening last, the conclusion arrived at was, that the "National Land Company's Plan" was preferable to the plan propounded by Mr Hill; the former giving the land and something to start, whilst the latter only gave a room, without any prospect of the means of existence.

Chartist National Land Company.—The Maidstone branch of the above company continues to increase; very many agricultural labourers have become shareholders.—*Kentish Independent.*

Roman Pun.—Talking of St. Peter reminds us of our Governor's answer to the remonstrances of M. Guizot and the Portuguese ambassador, on the late escape of Don Miguel: "*Our* keys are not those of a jailer!"

Horrible Murder in Cork.—A gentleman living in Cork has received a letter from a friend in Rosscarbery, containing an account of a dreadful murder committed in that locality. A poor woman left her house in care of two children to go on some business. During her absence a man entered and took a cake and a little meal, the only food in the hut, to allay his hunger. One *of the children threatened to tell her mother, when he* took a knife or razor, with which he severed her head from her body. The other child raised the alarm, when she was despatched in the same manner. On her return the mother found her two children dead. The perpetrator of the crime is said to have been arrested. The writer of this account also relates, that, in the same neighbourhood, a woman stole some vegetables, from want, for which she was committed to gaol. On her discharge her children were found dead, having nothing to support life during her imprisonment.



WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

SPRING SESSIONS, 1847.

Notice is hereby given, that the Spring General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, for the West Riding of the County of York, will be holden at PONTEFRACT, on Monday the Fifth Day of April next; on which day the Court will be opened at eleven o'clock of the forenoon, and on every succeeding day at nine o'Clock.

Prosecutors and Witnesses in Prosecutions must be in attendance, in the following order, viz.:—

Those in Felony, from the divisions of Strafforth and Tickhill, Lower Agbrigg, Barkstonash, Staincross, and Osgoldcross, at the opening of the Court on Monday morning.

Those from the divisions of Upper Agbrigg, Morley, and Skyrack, at One o'Clock at Noon on Monday.

Those from the divisions of Staincliffe and Ewcross, Claro, and the Ainsty, (being the remainder of the West Riding,) and those in all cases of misdemeanor, on Tuesday morning.

The Grand Jury will be required to attend at the opening of the Court on Monday, when they will be immediately sworn and charged, and afterwards motions by counsel will be heard.

The Traverse Jury will be required to attend on the opening of the Court on Tuesday Morning, when their names will be called over; the Court will then proceed *with the Trials of Felonies and Misdemeanors, commencing* with the trial of respited Traverses.

The attendance of Jurymen will not be excused on the ground of illness, unless it be verified by affidavit, or proved by evidence in open Court.

Solicitors are required to take notice that appeals must be entered with the Clerk of the Peace before the sitting of the Court, on Monday, the first day of the sessions: and the list of appeals will be called over by the Clerk of the Peace at half-past Eleven o'clock of the same day; and all appeals in which counsel are not then instructed will be struck out, and the hearing of such appeals as are not then struck out will commence on the Wednesday morning following, at the sitting of the Court. That the Order of removal, copies of the notice of Appeal, and examination of the Pauper, are required to be filed with the Clerk of the Peace on the entry of the Appeal:—And that no Appeals against removal Orders can be heard unless the Chairman is also *furnished by the Appellants with a copy of the Order of* removal, or of the Notice of chargeability, of the examination of the Pauper, and of the Notice and grounds of Appeal.

Coroners and High Constables must be in attendance *at the sitting of the Court on Monday Morning.*

The names of persons bound over to answer in Felony or Misdemeanor, with a description of the Offence, must be sent to the Clerk of the Peace's Office, three days at least before the first day of the Sessions, together with all Depositions, Convictions, and Recognizances.

And Notice is also Hereby Given, that the Public Business of the Riding will be transacted in open Court, at Twelve o'Clock at Noon, on Monday, the first day of the Sessions, when Motions for Gratuities, and the Finance Committee's Report, will be received and considered; and at the same time and place a Superintendent Constable will be appointed for the Lock-up at Bradford; and the magistrates will take into consideration the notice respecting the town of Selby being made an additional Polling Place for the West Riding.

And in pursuance of certain requisitions to me directed, severally signed by five Justices of the Peace for the said Riding, Notice is hereby further given, that at the same time and place the Justices of the Peace then and there assembled will take into consideration the propriety of providing Lock-ups and Superintending Constables' Houses, at Selby, Otley, and Goole, in the said Riding, under the provisions of the 5th and 6th Victoria, cap. 109, intituled "An Act for the appointment and payment of Parish Constables;" and of making such grant of money *out of the County* stock or rate of the said Riding, for those purposes as the Justices then present shall deem expedient.

C. H. ELSEY,
Clerk of the Peace's Office, Clerk of the Peace.
Wakefield, 9th March, 1847.

NATIONAL TRADES ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF INDUSTRY.

"Union for the Million."

The emancipation of industry is at the present crisis an inexhaustible subject; every trade and locality has its own peculiar grievances to complain of, all of which require exposure, and the advocacy of befitting redress. Our efforts in this respect are necessarily limited to the space allotted to us in the inestimable privilege we enjoy in the columns of this paper, and to the time we have to devote to write comments on whatever appears most important, or which is of the least postponable nature, or in advocacy, or agitation, or general remarks on whatever appears to us best calculated to do most good. There are numberless grievances which various classes of work-people have to complain of, in addition to the great and general grievance of the want of a fair day's wage for a fair day's work. Compared with this monster, all other evils are of secondary importance, and will generally be found to be of a consequent character. Hitherto, however, we have not discovered any grievance which the capabilities of our association will not be more than sufficient to contend with. In proportion as the great evil of inefficiently remunerated labour diminishes, other minor or *dependant* evils will also diminish—for example, if the wages of the journeymen tailors of London were regulated on equitable principles, and were a fair remuneration for their labour, is it at all probable that such numbers of them would continue their employment in the stews of the Sweaters? We leave the question for men of common understanding and unbiassed judgment to answer.

It is obvious to common sense that the want of befitting accommodation for workmen, in regard to the sanitary condition of workshops, is from their labour being undervalued. There are few trades, perhaps, which suffer more in this respect than the tailors of London. One great cause of the undervalue of their labour, and the difficulty attending its effectual removal, arises from an over-stocked labour market. The fact of the tailors' grievances has been elicited and exposed by the operations of the United Tailors' Protection Society, but which institution has no means of remedying the evil. That important duty, whenever it is performed, will unquestionably devolve upon our association. Being a monster evil, it requires a monster power to grapple with it, and that power we flatter ourselves we possess. We can do in the case what no other institution can do but ourselves, viz., we can help the sufferers to help themselves, providing that they put it in our power to help them, by uniting with our association. If the tailors of London, whose cause has excited so much sympathy throughout the nation, are truly desirous of bettering their condition, by being placed in comfortable and well-ventilated workshops, and by being assisted to obtain a fair day's wage for a fair day's work, the means is within their reach, if they please to avail themselves of it. We emphatically call upon the better paid portion of the trade, who are in union at the west end of London, to rally round the National Association; they may depend upon it the best means to maintain their own position, is to aid in protecting their oppressed and degraded brethren. The objects of our association are avowed to the world, viz., to protect industry, and to employ surplus labour. Doubtless there is a great amount of surplus labour in the market of their trade at present, and that their industry is unprotected, the infamous sweating system bears ample testimony. That system has been exposed throughout the length and breadth of the land, public indignation has been aroused at the practice, and public sympathy has been excited in behalf of the sufferers. Their condition was associated with the "Song of the Shirt," and it was manifest that, had it been practicable for the public, who became interested, to effect a discontinuance of the sweating system by any ordinary effort in which they could engage, they had the disposition to do so. That excitement has in a great degree subsided; some cases may have been partially removed, but the great amount of injury still remains. Great numbers of workmen, women and children, are dragging out a most miserable existence: inhaling pestilence with every breath, their wretchedness is deplorable; *and every day that they remain without using an* effort to extricate themselves out of their thraldom, tends, not only to deprive them of health and all domestic comfort, and to shorten their existence, but also tends to perpetuate the system with all its injurious consequences. Now, if ten thousand of the tailors of London were to unite with our association, every day would tend to shorten their present miserable condition. Our efforts would soon be exerted in their behalf, to induce employers to conduct their business, in regard to giving out their work, in accordance with sanitary regulations that would be devised, and which would instantly improve the condition of the work-people. We have no doubt whatever but Messrs. Moses and Hyams would consider that we were very impertinent, and would tell our agents to mind their own business; but they would soon come to learn that we were then engaged in our legitimate business of protecting industry and seeking to employ surplus labour; and that, in order to effect our object, we were disposed to institute rival clothing establishments, which could undersell theirs, and still we could give better wages, and employ the workmen in comfortable and well-ventilated rooms, and that public sympathy would be enlisted to respond to our efforts to improve the condition of the work-people, who, should they in numbers become members of our association, would shortly be eligible to obtain the amount of support which its rules provide, they would be enabled to withhold their labour until their reasonable requests were complied with. With these considerations in mind, employers would see that by doing a measure of justice to the work-people, they would prevent the danger of rival establishments being instituted, which establishments, from the fact of public sympathy being in favour of the workmen, and opposed to the horrid sweating system, they would unquestionably obtain a great share of public support. The surplus labour market would by this means become reduced to the present employers, and a rise in wages would very probably soon be the result. Should the masters, however, accede to the reasonable regulations which would be devised in order to prevent rival clothing establishments being commenced, the condition of the work-people would *be equally improved; but should they not succeed in* the first instance, a short time would be found sufficient to effect a complete change. The remedy, therefore is, as before stated, with the workmen themselves. *Previous to the present opportunity,* they had no means within their power by which they could assist themselves; they were utterly hopeless, and public sympathy was ineffectual in relieving them. Now that the means is within their power, it behoves them to put their own shoulders to the wheel, calling upon Hercules in a befitting manner, who will not fail to help them effectually.

These remarks equally apply to the condition of all other classes of workmen of every trade, and in all parts of the country. The grievances of workmen of the same trade generally resemble each other in a greater or lesser degree in all parts. The tailors of Glasgow have resolved to unite with the association by the 1st of May. Possibly they may not have the sweating grievance to complain of to anything like the horrifying extent that it is practised in London; but we doubt not that their situation is capable of great improvement, which is sure to be effected in due time, and we hope they will be followed by others of their business. Much good is now doing in Scotland by the instrumentality of our missionaries and agents. We entertain no fears of our zealous agents soon tiring in the good work in which they have engaged. Their labours are those of justice to the oppressed, and love to their fellow-men; and none need engage in this good work who are desirous of holding it as a sinecure situation. The only inducement we have to offer to those who are disposed to assist us is, the consciousness of doing good to their fellow creatures. We grant no sinecure pensions, nor do we give any gold or silver medals emblazoned with fulsome inscriptions, but we insure the most active and useful of our agents and missionaries, that they shall enjoy the full reward of all the consciousness of being instruments of doing good that they shall respectively merit, and the monument of a good name amongst their fellow men, and these we consider are the best rewards and inducements we can offer.

The Central Committee of the above flourishing institution held its usual weekly meeting on Monday last, T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed, the financial account read and received, and upwards of 100 letters read from different parts of the country.

The case of the silk pickers of Manchester was discussed, when it appeared that several of the employers are endeavouring to reduce their wages, and the silk pickers are endeavouring to establish an uniform list of prices, that the employers may compete honourably; and also the case of the reduction offered to their hands by the firm of Stocks and Tait, of Stockport bleach works. It was resolved that Messrs. Peel and Parker be authorised to see the men and the employer in both cases, to endeavour by mediation to settle the differences, and report thereon to the committee.

Mr. Williamson reported he had waited upon the block printers of Crayford, the result of which was eminently satisfactory; those who were members were confirmed in their opinion of the association, and those who were not, desired the necessary information to enable them to become so.

A deputation from the London Co-operative Society of tin-plate workers waited upon the Central Committee, and informed them that one of their employers had offered an extensive reduction to his hands, giving a full detail of the case. It was then resolved that Mr. Bush do accompany the deputation to the employer, when, after a lengthened interview, he decided he would not give more than the reduced price he had offered. The committee immediately resolved to recommend the board of direction of the sister association to employ the men.

Mr. Robson reported he had visited the boot and shoe makers of Oxford, he found the whole of the members present at the club house. It appeared by the statements made, that the principal or respectable portion of the employers paying best wages have signified their intention of reducing prices, unless the trade compel some of the other employers in the town to give the same wages; when, after a lengthened and animated discussion, it was resolved that the latter-end of a term was not the proper time to seek to advance the lower shops; they therefore adjourned the question to a more favourable opportunity. In the meantime, *the men are to send to the committee* a detailed account of the number of shops paying best wages, the number they wish to pay best and second-rate wages, with the number of men employed in each shop; *to enable the committee to judge correctly upon the* subject.

It was resolved that the seven frame-work knitters of Oadby be recommended for employment to the board of directors of the sister association.

Mr. Goldin, district secretary of Manchester, reported he had attended a select meeting of operatives to arrange a staff of officers to form a nucleus for future operations in carrying out the plan of the District Association of Trades. He attended a large meeting of silk small-ware weavers, and addressed them for upwards of an hour upon the subject of both associations; the result was a resolution to join forthwith.

On Wednesday evening, a delegate from the silk small-ware weavers took his seat and paid their subscription to the District Committee.

Also a delegate from the fustian cutters of Manchester took his seat at the district meeting, they having joined the association to the number of 450 about three weeks since.

MANCHESTER.—On Tuesday he attended a delegate meeting of strippers and grinders of Manchester, representing 34 mills and 4,000 individuals. Mr. P., as the association's agent, was received most kindly; he answered greatly to the satisfaction of the assembled delegates every question put to him, and succeeded in removing every doubt which previously existed. An unanimous vote of confidence was passed in favour of the National Trades Association. A committee was appointed to devise the most effective means to raise funds to pay off the arrears due by the body to the association. A vote of thanks was cheeringly given to the People's champion, T. S. Duncombe, Esq., also a similar mark of respect to the agent, and this very important meeting separated.

Mr. Peel begs to assure the central committee that this was really one of the most *important* meetings he has had the honour of attending, inasmuch as the proceedings of the whole of that branch of the cotton trade throughout Lancashire will be governed and influenced by the vote of this evening, and it will also impart a considerable impetus to the movement among the spinners and weavers.

On Wednesday he attended the district committee meeting.

On Thursday he attended a meeting of the silk pickers of Manchester, to obtain information for the central committee, upon several grievances which many shops of this body are now suffering under. The best feeling was manifested. Votes of confidence in the Central Committee, and of thanks to Mr. Peel, for the interest he had taken in their behalf, were passed unanimously; with another emphatic and grateful acknowledgment of the unpurchased and unpurchaseable services of Mr. Duncombe in favour of the rights and interests of the working classes of the United Kingdom.

On Friday he waited, with deputies from the Hand-loom weavers of Wimslow, Gatley, and Gees Cross, upon Mr. Holt, to induce that gentleman to reduce the length of his cuts from 59½ yards to 52, the average length of other employers. The deputation was received with great civility by Mr. Holt, who, at length, promised to leave off weaving that particular fabric, as he complained he could not get a market for them at a remunerating price. As Mr. Holt has several warps by him, which would be thrown on his hands, the deputation agreed to continue weaving them until the 1st of April, after which Mr. Holt was informed no more would be taken out.

On Saturday Mr. Peel went over to Openshaw and Droylesden to make arrangements for a meeting in that vicinity. A meeting will in consequence be held on Friday evening, the 12th inst., at the New Inn, Openshaw, to hear the principles of the National Association explained.

Several of the cotton masters have announced their intention to make a reduction in the wages; the hands appear fully determined not to accept it, but prefer working short time, from a well governed belief that with the present reduced stock on hand, and the large American importations soon expected, a re-action is inevitable, and if they consent to a reduction now, they may have great difficulty in getting an advance in the summer. Therefore the universal watchword is, "*Short time and no reduction.*"

Mr. Peel, by order of the central committee, will leave Manchester on the 17th of March, on a tour of agitation through the cotton districts of Lancashire. A programme of his route will appear weekly in the *Star*. On Wednesday, the 17th, he will attend a public meeting in Preston; on Thursday, 18th, at Farrington; on Friday, 19th, he will be at the Masons' Arms, Blackburn; on Monday, 22nd, he attends the block printers of Sabden. He proposes making Clitheroe the centre of his operations for that neighbourhood, and requests that any bodies desirous of joining the "Monster Association" will communicate with him at the earliest moment, to be left at the post-office, Clitheroe. The attention of the cotton trades of the under-mentioned places is particularly requested to this notice:—

Padiane, Whalley, New Church, Millton, Langridge, Barrawford, Gisborne, Colne, &c. Communications forwarded on or before Monday, the 22nd, will be in time for the programme for the next week's *Star*.

PAISLEY.—On Monday, a public meeting of the weavers of this town was held in the Leigh Kirk, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, to devise means to resist the reduction attempted by a few employers on shawls. The Chairman opened the business in an able manner, urging calm consideration and a fair hearing for all.

The following resolutions were proposed and supported by excellent addresses, and carried unanimously:—

1st. That the present attempt of several employers to reduce the wages of their workmen by resisting the list of prices, and offering to pay by the shawl without reference to the amount of work therein, instead of by the thousand shots, is most unjust, oppressive, and uncalled-for, and at this time of wide-spread distress among the working class, is most cruel, and calculated to increase the wretchedness of the people.

2nd. That we recommend weavers to refuse work offered under the list, and pledge ourselves to stand by each other in resisting the encroachment.

3rd. *That the only means of our securing ourselves* against the encroaching spirit of the employers, is by joining the National Association of Trades for the Protection of Industry and Employment of Labour.

All three were carried unanimously. Mr. Jacobs was *then introduced by the chairman,* who entertained the meeting for some time on the mean attempts of their employers and the future prospects of the weavers under the auspices of the National Association, amidst the repeated cheers of the meeting, which closed about four o'clock, full of *confidence in their efforts.*

EDINBURGH.—Wednesday.—Attended the district committee to report progress and arrange for meetings, and gave thorough satisfaction.

Thursday Evening.—A public meeting of the cabinet and chair makers' branch of the National Association, was hled in Cranstone's Hall, Bailie Fife Close. The chairman opened the business with a very able congratulatory address. The secretary read the minutes and reported progress. Twenty members had joined since the last meeting. They were now one hundred and thirty. The tyler now announced that a deputation from the branch of the National Typographical Association requested to be admitted, to lay the case of the men, *now ejected from their employ, before the meeting.* Admission granted. The deputation went through the particulars of the case, and urged the men had not struck as stated by the masters, but the masters ejected them, one informing them as a reason "they belonged to the Union." The dispute commenced through the injustice of the masters in giving manuscript to the men by the piece to set up, and some MSS. were very difficult to make out, and took the men much time to set up, and then, after it had been sent to the author to be corrected, giving the altering to a day workman, thus taking the best part of the job out of the hands of the men who began it and had done the most difficult part of it; and because the Association supported the men in resisting this injustice, the masters cried out, "You are interfering with the arrangements of our offices." "Have not we a right to do what we like with our own offices?"

The following resolution was carried unanimously:—

That we, the cabinet and chair makers' branch of the National Association of Trades, do agree to render all the assistance we possibly can to the printers thrown out of employ, and that whilst we congratulate them on the power of their own National Union, we *would draw their attention to the fact, that the National* Association of all Trades will give to each trade more power, and therefore urge on them the necessity of their *association joining the National Association for the Protection of Industry and Employment of Labour.* The deputation thanked them heartily *for* the sympathy they had extended toward their brethren, and hoped the day would soon arrive when the desirable junction should take place, and they become all members of one "*monster association*" of the "order of industry." The deputation retired.

The rules for the guidance of the society were then read and confirmed, and ordered to be printed: agreed that the printers out of employ be given the work. We would draw particular attention to one of the rules to the following effect:—

"That any cabinet-maker, &c., bringing a clear card of the National Association, shall be admitted free, or otherwise assisted if in need." This is a good step towards the formation of a thorough National Cabinet and Chairmakers' Association, rendering reciprocal assistance and information, at much less contribution and expense than any Cabinetmakers' Society ever before formed in Britain; it can be extended without any extra expense, into every town in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales,—an extension long attempted by well wishers in the trade, "but in vain." We have invoked the spirit of Union to our aid, and she hath come *to our assistance.*"

Mr. Jacobs was called on, and delivered a brief address on the many grievances they had endured, and the prospect now before them of shaking off the galling burthens imposed on them by upstart masters. It was a duty they owed to the fair employer, to make the "blacks" pay a fair price.

Friday.—A public meeting of the trades of this city was held in Adam-square Hall, to hear a lecture from the association's missionary. Mr. Hobbs in the chair.

Mr. Jacobs, the lecturer, entertained a most attentive auditory for about two hours, with an overpowering amount of facts, figures, arguments, and illustrations, which drew forth their frequent applause. At the conclusion, the following resolutions were carried unanimously, by acclamation:—

1st. "That the operations of trade societies and isolated unions have proved the inefficiency of their power to grapple with the power arrayed against them; that a national organisation of trades is necessary to realise sufficient power, wealth, and influence, to obtain for the workers a fair day's wage for a fair day's work; that having heard the very able exposition of the plans and prospects of the National Association for the Protection of Industry, we deem it the sure means to achieve our great object, and therefore determine to be members thereof, and use our best endeavours to get all the trades of Edinburgh to join forthwith."

2nd. "That the thanks of this meeting are eminently due, and hereby given, to T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., president of the association, for the great assistance he has rendered the people in that office, and also for his manifold labours in their cause, both in and out of the House of Parliament."

3rd. "That the thanks of this meeting are due and hereby given to the proprietor of the *Northern Star*, for his generous offer and application of two columns of his patriotic paper to the affairs of this association."

Thanks were then given to the missionary and chairman, who replied, and the meeting separated.

Police Intelligence.

WORSHIP-STREET.—Alleged Combination of Workmen.—On Monday, James Dursal and Charles Judge, journeymen hearth-rug makers, in the employ of Messrs. Collins and Co., manufacturers, in Bethnal-green, were charged before Mr. Broughton, the sitting *magistrate*, with having assaulted *with intent to intimidate*, William Barrett, a journeyman in the employ of Mr. Argent, a hearth-rug manufacturer in the same part of the district. Mr. Wakelin, the solicitor, supported the complaint, and the hearing of the case occupied a very long time, during which the court was crowded by workmen, who evinced the most intense interest in the proceedings. From the evidence, it appeared that the defendants and others in the employ of Messrs. Collins, belonged to a trade society, from which Mr. Argent's men were excluded, and those excluded were called "dogs." One of the witnesses (a society-man), being questioned, said they applied the term "dog" to those who did not act right towards their fellow-workmen, and he admitted that those who worked for Mr. Argent, and were not society men, were on that *account called dogs.* On the night of the occurrence in question, the defendants, and others belonging to the society, repaired to the Royal Oak public-house, frequented by Mr. Argent's men, and proclamation being made that "dogs were present," a quarrel arose between Dursal and the complainant, and they stripped and fought several rounds. The witnesses for the complainant proved that he was first attacked and struck by Dursal, and that, while he was stooping during the fight that ensued, the defendant Judge, also hit him a blow which knocked him senseless, so that they were obliged to carry him from the public-house to his employer's premises. On the other side, several witnesses belonging to the society endeavoured to make it appear that the complainant was the *aggressor*, in which however they failed. Mr. Broughton, after expatiating upon the evils of these trade combinations and quarrels, convicted the defendants, and sentenced Judge to pay 60s., and Dursal 40s. penalty, or to be imprisoned respectively for two months and six weeks. The fines were immediately paid.

Felony and Horse-Stealing.—A tall well-dressed man, named Edward Ross, displaying a profusion of black mustachios, was placed at the bar on a warrant, before Mr. Arnold, on Tuesday, upon the following charges of felony and horsestealing. Mr. Superintendent Plumb, of the Kentish constabulary, stated that on the 11th of last month the prisoner called at the house of Sir Frederick Thesiger, at Tonbridge Wells, to visit a relative of his, who is in that gentleman's service, and in the evening bargained with a livery-stable keeper, named Ralph, for the hire of a hack, valued at £20, to convey him the next day a few miles beyond Tonbridge. The prisoner bore such an imposing appearance, being attired in the undress of a military officer, that no hesitation was made in letting him have the animal, but several days having elapsed without its being returned, application was made to the local police, and the witness having obtained a warrant for the prisoner's apprehension from Mr. Fisher, a magistrate, pursued him to Sevenoaks, where he found that he had attempted unsuccessfully to change the horse for another of less value, and thence to the Hackney Road, in which he had disposed of the animal to a *chair-manufacturer, named* Davis, for £7 15s. This was the first charge, and here the witness lost all trace of the prisoner, but having at length ascertained that he had been visiting the butler of a gentleman in Montague-place, Russell-square, he called upon that person, who preferred the two following charges against the prisoner:—The butler stated that on the 16th of February, the prisoner, with whom he had been previously acquainted, called at his master's residence, and representing that he had been recently appointed to an office in the Customs through the influence of Sir Frederick Thesiger, said that he felt himself in a very awkward position, as he had to enter upon his new situation the next day, and having only his military dress to appear in, requested him to lend him his credit for a new suit of clothes. The butler, upon this representation, and knowing that his relative was in Sir Frederick's service, not only lent him an entirely new suit of his own, to be returned in the course of a week, but also advanced him a sovereign for immediate expenses, with which the prisoner left the house, but had not gone more than ten minutes when the butler found that he had been robbed of a gold watch, breguet, and guard-chain, and two seals, of the value of more than £20, and the former of which his employer had made him a present for his long services. The trace of the prisoner was again lost until that morning, when the witness received a communication from the Horse Guards, in answer to a description the witness had inserted in the *Hue and Cry* of the various robberies, and stating that the prisoner had surrendered himself up to the military authorities as a self-accused deserter, and on the witness proceeding there to apprehend him upon the warrant, he discovered a duplicate of the butler's watch in his pocket, from which it appeared that it had been pledged at a pawnbroker's in Tottenham Court-road for £4 10s, on the very day it was stolen. Mr. Arnold was of opinion that the most advisable course for the superintendent to pursue was to take the prisoner into the country, where the first and most conclusive of the robberies had been perpetrated, and the prisoner, who exhibited the utmost coolness and indifference during this recital, and declined saying anything, was removed in the custody of the officer to the railway station for conveyance to Tonbridge.

WANDSWORTH.—A House fired through Drunkenness.—On Monday, Harriet Pierce, the wife of a carpenter, living in Polygon-buildings, Clapham, was brought before Mr. Clive on a charge of having been drunk and incapable of taking care of herself. The charge arose under the following circumstances. *On Saturday night, between eight and nine o'clock, information* was brought to the station-house on Clapham-common, that the house, No. 17, Polygon-buildings, was on fire. *Inspector Creed, Sergeant Emerson, 9 V,* and about twenty of the police, proceeded to the house immediately. They found the flames raging in an apartment at the top of the house, and which the prisoner's husband rented. She was there in a state of speechless drunkenness, and they were obliged to drag her out by main force. It was full twenty minutes before the fire was got under, and not before the bed and bedding were utterly destroyed. The landlord of the house refused to allow the prisoner to remain there, and she was taken to the station-house. Mr. Clive told her she was lucky in not having been charged with arson. She appeared to have been a severe sufferer, and she might be discharged.

THAMES.—Thieves on Railways.—On Monday a well-dressed country looking boy, of good address, named John William Holloway, was brought before Mr. Yardley, charged with having stolen a lady's purse on the Blackwall Railway. It appeared that on Sunday morning, on the arrival of the Woolwich steamer at the Blackwall terminus, and while many of the passengers were hastening *towards the train for London, the prisoner, who was on the platform,* was seen by Philcox, *one of the guards,* to snatch a purse from the hand of a lady, as she was about to step into one of the carriages. Philcox immediately seized the prisoner, who attempted to slip from his cloak, but he could not unhook it in time. The lady took the purse, which contained gold and silver, from the prisoner, and departed with her husband in the train. The prisoner was given over to the custody of Feltham, a railway constable, and *he gave several accounts of himself.* One of them was, that he came down by the quarter to eleven train from London, to proceed to Woolwich; and another, that he came to Blackwall for the purpose of taking a walk along the river side. There were two well known swell mob thieves on the platform a few seconds previous. They loitered about the wharf for a short time to ascertain what became of the prisoner, and then made off. A prayer book and a few trifling articles only were found on the prisoner, who refused to state where he lived, or give any information about his friends. Mr. Yardley said he must have some account of the prisoner from his own lips before he thought of parting with him or *disposing of the case.* The prisoner reluctantly said he came from Wells, in Somersetshire, and that he was fifteen years of age. His father was a paperhanger. He had been living with his aunt, a Mrs. Smart, who had lately opened a small public house in the Waterloo-bridge-road. She maintained him, because his father and grandfather were getting poor. Mr. Yardley said it was a matter of complaint that thieves congregated about the railway stations on the arrival and departure of the trains for the purpose of committing felonies, and it appeared the prisoner was acting in concert with two fellows who had left him to his fate. He directed the police to make inquiries about the prisoner, and remanded him.

Unlicensed Pawnbrokers.—On Saturday last, David Barnett was charged with illegally carrying on the business of a pawnbroker, not having his christian and surname, and the word pawnbroker painted in large and legible characters on the door, by which he had incurred a penalty not exceeding £10. The evils of the "dolly shops," as they are termed, have been frequently brought under the notice of the police magistrates, and have been loudly condemned. Pledges are taken to these shops by children of all ages; they are open at all hours, and also on the Sabbath, and interest at a most exorbitant rate is charged. There are upwards of five hundred "dolly-shops" in the metropolis, and the poor are very great sufferers from them. The defendant was charged with receiving pledges from a boy named Fitzgerald, on Sunday, January 3, and eight following days, including the Sunday. On an article pledged for 9d. he had charged 1½d. interest for one day. *Upon another pledge he had* lent 1s. 6d., and charged 3d. for one day only. The same rate of interest was charged upon various amounts. The defendant pleaded guilty to the information, and begged for mercy.—Mr. Ballantine said *these unlicensed pawnbrokers' shops were the greatest nuisance in the* metropolis. He should fine the defendant 40s. and costs, and if a second offence was proved he would inflict the full penalty. *Half the fine was awarded to the informer.*

Daring Fraud.—William Crass was charged with attempting to *defraud John Long, a seaman, of the sum of* £13 9s. 6d. Long had been paid off from the Strathaven on the 1st instant, and handed £22 to the prisoner's wife, which she said she would give to her husband, as Long was at the time somewhat in liquor. The next day there was somewhat *of a settlement*, which though puzzling to the sailor, who is an illiterate man, still left a balance in his favour of £13 19s 6d. Wishing to go home in a Cork steamer, Long asked for the difference, to which Crass replied either that he could not or would not give it. Long subsequently found that £1 which had been put in the bill as paid on his account to a Mrs. Luxin, had never been received by that person. The whole case, as it appeared from the complainant's statement, supported by a witness named Mahony, exhibited one of the most bare faced frauds that was ever attempted. —In the cross-examination by Mr. Pelham, who appeared to be grossly misinstructed, it came out that the complainant went to the Prince Regent, under the impression that *the defendant* was the proprietor; and, besides the £22 which he had given to the defendant's wife, he had paid an additional sovereign for two days' board and lodging. The house is kept by defendant's brother, and, under the circumstance *in which the complainant* was placed, that circumstance was calculated to mislead simple and unsuspecting seamen.—Mr. Pelham, who evidently felt that he had no ground for defence, insinuated that there was no proof of any money transactions between the complainant and his client, and that the woman who called herself Mrs. Crass, to whom the money was said to have been advanced, had not been shown to be the defendant's wife.—Long: *She is his wife, and when I asked her* for my money she said her husband had taken it away to spend it. She also said that when she went to look for him he gave her a pair of black eyes, by which she is now confined to her house.—Mr. Yardley: I am empowered *by the act to inflict* a penalty of £10 in cases like this, which exhibits a most *dishonest proceeding* on the part of your client. I shall, however, proportion the penalty to the defendant's conduct, and if he is ready to pay the balance claimed, together with the sovereign alleged to be paid *to Mrs. Luxin, I shall* reduce the fine to a merely nominal one.—The £14 19s. 6d. was subsequently paid, to the great satisfaction of those who witnessed the proceedings, though it excited no little surprise in the court that the magistrate, who, in his closing sentence, said that he never witnessed a more distinct attempt at gross fraud, should reduce the £10 penalty to the paltry fine of 1s.

CLERKENWELL.—Hard Treatment of Paupers.—On Monday last four Irishmen, who said they had wives and children, solicited Mr. Greenwood's *advice:—they* had applied to the parish of St. Andrew's, Holborn, Gray's-inn-lane, for relief, where they were placed to pick a quantity of oakum in the workhouse; they had gone to work and picked the usual quantity, but when they applied for payment, they were refused by Mr. Wilkes, the relieving-officer. One of them had not tasted food since Sunday morning; neither of them had anything to take home to their families. Mr. Greenwood said he could not believe that they were treated as they described, and directed the chief usher to send an officer instantly to request the attendance of Mr. Wilkes, who soon afterwards made his appearance in court, when Mr. Greenwood explained to him the nature of the applicants' complaint. Mr. Wilkes admitted the truth of their statement. Mr. Greenwood—Then what are these poor people to do, they cannot starve? Mr. Wilkes said they had been relieved with bread and sixpence or a shilling on *Wednesday last*, and they had worked for that. He certainly did not pay them the day after they had picked oakum, as they would not be relieved again on Wednesday next, according to their regulation. Mr. Greenwood said the hardship they complained of was that they were not relieved that day; what were they to do until Wednesday next? they could not work without proper support. Mr. Wilkes: then we must alter our day, and relieve them daily; they are Irish, and they are removeable. Mr. Greenwood: if they are, they must have their bellies full, or they can't work. Mr. Wilkes: then they must come and *work and we will relieve them daily.* Applicants said they were willing to work; they had worked but they had nothing to take home to their wives and children. By the Clerk: what are they to do until tomorrow, Mr. Wilkes, they have wives and children at home? Mr. Wilkes: let them come to the workhouse. Applicants thanked Mr. Greenwood, and left for the purpose of following Mr. Wilkes to the workhouse.

An "Artful Dodge."—On Wednesday Mary Strangnett, a coarse-looking middle-aged female, was placed at the bar before Mr. Elliott, upon various charges of having obtained money under false pretences. Elizabeth Bassill, servant to the Rev. Edward Accrioll, of No. 8, Guildford-street, Russell-square, deposed that on the 26th of last month the prisoner came to her master's house about three o'clock in the afternoon, and said, "I have brought this jack for Mrs. Accrioll, and I'm not to see any one but the cook. Mrs. Accrioll says you are to give me 4s. 6d. for the jack." She then went on to say something about the use of the jack, and in consequence of what she said I gave her half-a-crown and two shillings. Before I did so the prisoner said, "You need not mistrust me, for Mrs. Accrioll told me that it was the first thing she had ever sent home from the street." I now produce the meat-jack the prisoner brought to my master's house, and which I have ascertained to be worth no more than sixpence. Mrs. Georgiana Accrioll, the mistress of the last witness, deposed that she had never seen the prisoner before, and that she did not purchase the meat-jack from her the day before mentioned. The prisoner, in reply to the charge, said she knew nothing about it. Miss Elizabeth Flyger, of No. 3, Victoria Cottages, New Cross Deptford, stated that on the 18th of last month the prisoner came to her house and said, "I have come from Mrs. Compton and a lady with a black cardinal and flock tucks, and I am to leave these two jacks, one for Mrs. Compton, and one for the other lady, and you are to pay me nine shillings for them. The lady who was with Mrs. Compton is going to send her servant for one of the meat-jacks, and you are to show her how to put the string properly on." The prisoner further stated that the lady who was with Mrs. Compton had given her 4s. 6d., but Mrs. Compton had taken it back for fear she should not bring the jacks to the house. Upon this, and believing her representations, witness paid her 9s. for the two jacks then produced, and which were only of the value of 1s. Mrs. Compton denied all knowledge of the prisoner, and said she had never purchased any meat-jacks from her. There were a dozen similar cases against her, but Mr. Elliott thought that the above two, and two others—namely, *for receiving 4s. 6d. from the servant of* Mr. John Gregory Forbs, surgeon, of 52, Oxford-terrace, Hyde park, and 9s. from the servant of Messrs. Prowett, in Upper Portland-place, Wandsworth-road, were amply sufficient for the ends of public justice to commit her upon. She was committed to take her trial.

HAMMERSMITH.—A Burglar caught Napping.—On Wednesday last, James Page was charged with burglary.—Mr. Pearson Teil deposed that he was the landlord of the King's Arms public-house, Fulham. He was called down between six and seven o'clock, by Cooper, his horse-keeper, and from what he told him, he went into the tap-room and there saw the prisoner sitting down, apparently half asleep. Knowing that he must have forcibly entered the house, he sent for a policeman. Serjeant Turner, V 7, immediately came. As he entered the tap-room, witness saw under the prisoner's feet a silver snuff-box, with a knife.—The snuff-box, the gold seal, and the silver key produced are witness's property.—The prisoner, who said he had picked the articles up, was fully committed to Newgate for trial.

Omnibus Driving Again.—On Wednesday last, Joseph Rhoades, the driver of one of the Hammersmith Conveyance Company's omnibuses, was charged with having driven over Benjamin Collas.—W. Standen deposed that on the evening of Saturday last he was proceeding from Knightsbridge towards Kensington, about half-past seven o'clock, when he saw an omnibus and a truck coming towards him in the direction of town. They were both on the Park side of the road, the truck being about a foot and a half from the footpath; and the omnibus about a yard behind it. Witness seeing the danger the man was in, hallooed out loudly to the prisoner to stop, but directly afterwards he saw the man knocked down, and one wheel went over his body, and the other over his neck. The omnibus then pulled across the road, and there stopped. The man was carried on to the foot pavement, and, in answer to the inquiries as to whether he was hurt, he did not speak, but only groaned. Witness then left.—Policeman Cox deposed that he came up just as the occurrence had taken place, and conveyed the injured man to St. George's Hospital. He had been that morning to the hospital, and had obtained from the house surgeon the certificate produced, to the effect that several of his ribs were fractured, and his lungs injured, and that he was still in great danger.—The prisoner was accordingly remanded for a week, but before the close of the court, respectable bail being offered for his appearance, it was accepted.

Nottingham.—The next meeting will be held at the Fox and Hounds, Carter's-gate, at 6 o'clock in the evening, on Sunday next, when Mr Douse will lecture.

Northampton.—The shareholders will meet for the future at Mr McGir's Temperance-hotel, King-street, at half-past 7 instead of 8 o'clock.

Manchester.—The shareholders are requested to attend a meeting in the People's Institute, on Sunday next, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

Home News.

England.

DURHAM.

Bank Failure.—Sunderland, March 8.—A great deal of stir has been created to-day in this town by the suspension of payment of the North of England Joint-Stock Bank, the oldest establishment of the kind in this part of the country. The principal office is at Newcastle-on-Tyne, but there are branch offices at Sunderland, Durham, Shields, &c. The company drew on the London and Westminster Bank. The cause of the present difficulties has been severe losses over a series of years, and, in short, a succession of bad luck has accompanied its transactions almost from the first day it commenced business. In consequence, it has never stood high in commercial circles, though its proprietary are numerous, and many monied parties are connected with it. The capital was in £10 shares, of which £8 5s. was paid up, but the shares were at a serious discount in the market, and have been quoted as low as £2 8s. 6d., at which sum they now stand in the sharebrokers' quotations. The liabilities of the company will be very considerable, and some inconvenience will be felt by traders who kept their accounts with the bank, but it is not expected to be attended with any very disastrous consequences, such as have often been witnessed by bank failures in this district.

NEWCASTLE.

Serious Accident.—An accident of a serious and alarming character occurred in Newcastle on Saturday last, which had nearly proved fatal to two young ladies, one of them a daughter of Mr. Geo. Bulman, and the other a daughter of Mrs. Arundale, both of Leazes Terrace. In the middle of the day, as a cask of black lead was in process of being lowered by a crane from the second floor of the warehouse of Mr. Spencer, chemist, Low Friar-street, it by some means slipped from the slings, and fell to the ground just as the young ladies were passing. They were both knocked down by the cask and seriously hurt, particularly Miss Bulman, who had a leg broken, a compound fracture, besides receiving a severe blow on the head. They are both, however, in a fair way of recovery.

LIVERPOOL.

Fever.—The *Liverpool Mercury* expresses great alarm at the spread of fever in Liverpool occasioned by the hordes of Irish who are filling the town. "We have no right," says the *Mercury*, "to sit still and let pestilence walk in amongst us. At this moment the progress of the fever in the cellars and garrets of Liverpool is most alarming. The first flush of warm weather will spread disease and death into hundreds of streets. The filthy state in which the poor people arrive, and the shocking dark, damp, dirty places in which they herd—as many as thirty in a cellar—are the most certain constituents of malignant fever; and deeply shall we suffer in a few weeks by the loss of many of our valued townsmen and townswomen, if the evil now growing around us be not stayed.

YORKSHIRE.

Fatal Accident on the Hull and Bridlington Railway.—A dreadful accident occurred last week on the Hull and Bridlington Railway, by which two unfortunate men lost their lives. The usual train from Hull at half-past six o'clock left this place a couple of minutes or so before its time, and proceeded towards Bridlington. It had reached a place called the Snuff Mills, about half-a-mile on this side of the Cottingham station, when the engine-driver fancied he saw something fly off to the roadside from the front of the engine. He immediately shut off his steam and reversed the engine, when on the train being brought to a stand, and examination being made, the body of a man was found jerked into a ditch by the side of the line quite dead, and that of another lying between the rails also quite dead; they were immediately conveyed along by the train to the station at Cottingham, when it was found that the bodies were in a dreadfully mutilated condition. The two men were trespassing on the line returning from their work at a Mr. Butterick's farm. There was, at the time of the accident, a luggage train coming from Cottingham, and it is supposed that as at the time (about a quarter to seven) it was quite dark, the noise of the luggage train which the unfortunate men knew to be coming towards and meeting them, drowned the noise of the passenger train which was coming up behind them. The men, to avoid being run over by the luggage train, had, it is supposed, stepped to the other line of rails, and so been struck by the engine of the passenger train almost immediately.

LOCKWOOD.

Diabolical Attempt at Rape.—During the night between Saturday and Sunday last an occurrence of the most atrocious character took place close to the Bath Hotel, Lockwood, and which but for timely assistance might have ended in murder. Between the hours of twelve and one o'clock on the above night, Mr. John Ellam, landlord of the Bath Hotel, and his son, John Oxley Ellam, were in their stables attending to a horse which had been brought in late that night, when they were alarmed by loud shrieks of "Murder," and cries for help, proceeding from the turnpike-road nearly in front of the hotel. They instantly ran round to the front, and, when within a few yards of the spot from whence the sound proceeded, they saw three ruffians forcibly holding a female up against the wall surrounding the quoit ground, and a fourth standing at a short distance, apparently keeping a look-out or watch; there were also two "navvies" standing by, but they did not appear to touch the woman. The night being fine, and the moon shining brightly, Mr. Ellam and his son had a distinct view of the villains, and saw one of them (who was also holding the woman) kick her a most tremendous blow on the abdomen, making use at the same time of the most violent threats against her for not suffering him to effect his abominable purpose. One of the ruffians also held her by the throat, and the imprints of his finger nails were clearly visible for hours afterwards. On perceiving succour at hand, the ruffians let go their hold of their victim and fled, taking the road to Huddersfield. The poor woman then sank down from sheer exhaustion and fright, and was taken into the hotel more dead than alive; in fact, for some time after her life was despaired of. More assistance arriving, the villains were pursued, and young Ellam, outstripping the rest by at least 50 yards, came up with the hindermost near Spring-gardens, with whom he fearlessly grappled and secured until the rest of the pursuers came up, when he was given into custody of a constable. In the scuffle young Ellam was severely bit by the miscreant he had captured but still kept hold of him with the utmost tenacity. The fellow was conveyed to the lock-up, and proved to be one James Wood, a notoriously bad character. Horsfall, with the assistance of the watchmen, succeeded in capturing the other two fellows before 4 o'clock the same morning, and whose names are James Parkinson and Booth Sugden, *alias* "Raggy," both equally notorious bad characters, the latter, in particular, who has been several times in prison at Wakefield, and all three were the most callous-looking ruffians we ever beheld. The woman having been carried into the hotel, had every attention paid to her by Mr. and Mrs. Ellam. Mr. Dow, surgeon, was sent for, who, on examining the patient, found she had received a tremendous blow on the face, closing up and blackening an eye,—her neck and breasts severely bruised and scratched by the fingers and nails of the desperadoes,—her side much bruised and lacerated,—and she was otherwise most dreadfully injured. On Monday morning the prisoners were placed at the bar before Messrs. W. W. Battye and J. Sutcliffe, on the charge of violently assaulting with intent, &c. The poor woman was too much injured and too ill to walk, and was therefore brought in a cab to the office to give her evidence. She stated her name to be Eliza Mathews, the wife of a miner, and that she came to Huddersfield on the previous Wednesday with her husband, who was in search of work at the Lockwood-tunnel. On Saturday afternoon he went to Lockwood, but not returning at night, she set out to look for him, and after searching most of the public-houses in the town, she went on to Lockwood, about 12 o'clock, and was followed by the prisoners, who ill-used her as before stated. The prisoners were committed to York Castle for trial at the assizes, bail being refused. Their lordships were now at a loss how to dispose of the woman; from this dilemma they were, however, relieved by Mr. Ellam offering to provide for her at his house for 1s. a-day, until the assizes, and, to prevent the husband from going away, he would (being a surveyor) employ him upon the roads. The magistrates thanked Mr. Ellam for the kindness and humanity which he had displayed throughout the entire case; too much praise could not be given to young Ellam for the persevering courage he exhibited in the capture of Wood; and but for the accident of he and his father being in the stables, and their prompt assistance at the rescue, the poor woman would in all probability have been left dead on the road

Barnsley.—Dreadful Colliery Accident.—Several Lives Lost.—A fearful coal-pit accident, attended with the loss of nearly eighty lives, took place on the afternoon of the 6th instant, at the Great Ardsley Main, or Oaks Colliery, near Barnsley. About three o'clock, several persons near the mouth of the pit were alarmed by a terrific explosion from the shaft, which was followed by an eruption of smoke, timber, coal, stone, &c., resembling the eruption of a volcano. Two or three of the men were removing the corves from the pit-mouth at the time. The parties who were in the immediate neighbourhood of this place have perished. None remain to give an account of the origin of the accident, which is believed to have been at this spot. The explosion was of so violent a character that it blew up the landing at the mouth of the pit, and shot up stones, &c., to the height of thirty or forty yards.—Immediately after the explosion, Mr. George Wilson, one of the managing proprietors, along with several men, went down into the pit to ascertain the state of the case, and to render the sufferers such aid as might be within human reach. Unhappily, the time of the explosion was when the full force of men and boys, to the number of 148 were working in the pit. Mr. Wilson was accompanied by George Armitage, the under-ground steward; and Joseph Littlewood, foreman, and several men. In descending the pit they heard groans and cries of distress from the sufferers in all directions; and on reaching the bottom some of the men, who had gathered round the shaft, addressed them with exclamations of gratitude. Several of the men still living were found to be severely wounded by the concussions that they had sustained during the explosion. Others were in a state of insensibility. Twenty-three were drawn out of the pit alive in a short period, and about an hour afterwards three others. The melancholy search was continued, and before twelve at night forty-one others were taken out dead. Being convinced that all who had not then been found must be dead, and the state of the pit being such as to render it very unsafe to continue the search, Mr. Wilson and his assistants reascended the shaft. Measures were then taken for ventilating the pit. But this was rendered difficult by the fact, that the explosion had broken down the separating wall between the down-cast and the up-cast shafts. The pit is the property of Messrs. Frith, Barber, and Co., and has been worked four or five years. It is 282 yards deep. The pit which is the scene of this sad calamity, is about two miles from the scene of the accident, which a few weeks ago caused the loss of six lives.

Later Intelligence.—The following are the results of the above catastrophe:—Forty-one men and boys have been got out of the mine, whose bodies present a most awful spectacle; so awful, that some yet remain unknown, and bodies have been taken to the residence of others in mistake. All appear horrorstruck at the calamity. The following are dead in or out of the pit—their names, residences, and families, as near as we are able to ascertain at present:—James Brown, Hoyle Mill, wife and four children; John Hough, Hoyle Mill, wife pregnant, and three children; John Littlewood, Hoyle Mill, two children, no wife; Isaac Lindly, not known; Matthew Lindly, not known; Samuel Lindly, not known; James Lees, Hoyle Mill, single man; Thos. Brown, Hoyle Mill, single man; James Whitely and two sons, Hoyle Mill, not known; George Bedford, Hoyle Mill, single; Joseph Wroe, and three sons, Ardsley, not known; John Denton, Barnsley, a boy; John Gelder, Barnsley, a boy; Richard Beardsall, Barnsley, a boy; Thomas Beardsall, Barnsley, a boy; John Buckle, Barnsley, a boy; Ezra Winter, Ardsley, widower; Joseph and Thomas Chadwick, Barnsley, young men; George Gilderthorpe and brother, Barnsley, single; George Dyson, Barnsley, wife and child; Robert Hazle, Hoyle Mill, wife and family; William Addy, George Parker, Henry Gardener, John Cooke, Barnsley, single; Joseph Turton and son, wife and two children; Joseph Fearnley, Barnsley, single; John Hitchen, Worsborough Common, single; —— Billington, Worsborough Common, single; James Kelly, Chas. Steele, Barnsley, single; Charles Matthews, —— Matthews, James Galloway, aged 26 years, died afterwards, leaving a wife and child. He was one of the 24 who were got out alive the previous day. None have been got out, although about thirty are said to be missing. Men are employed making the air roads good, so as to enable the men to make further search for the missing bodies.

Further Particulars.—On Monday, the coroner of the district opened his inquest on sixty-five bodies, which since the explosion on Friday had been recovered from the pit of the Oaks colliery, at Ardsley. The inquiry was commenced for the purpose of enabling the burial of the bodies to take place, and after the necessary preliminaries had been gone through, it was adjourned to Tuesday, the 16th instant. Forty-two of the bodies were subsequently interred in one grave, in rows six a-breast, and seven deep. The scene was a most melancholy one. Next day, a further inquest was held on six bodies subsequently recovered, and a like adjournment took place. The number of deaths is 72; and one body yet remains undiscovered in the pit.

A Public Meeting was held on Mayday-green, to take into consideration the best means of procuring justice for the wives and families of the murdered dead. Mr. Musgrave presided on the occasion. The meeting was addressed by the chairman, and Mr. Swallow from St. Helen's, after which a committee was appointed to carry out the object for which they assembled together, namely,—to collect funds to employ a solicitor. The town was divided into districts, and three of the committee waited on the shopkeepers, a few behaved liberal, but like angels' visits few and far between, whilst more than one had the daring impudence to doubt the honesty of working men, acting in the capacity of collectors. It is high time such miserable scrapers of the people's pence were brought to their senses; however, the prevailing opinion amongst them were, that as two Whig lickspittles had arrived in the shape of government inspectors, they would be sufficient to get justice done; but the working people are determined not to be fooled by such humbug, and accordingly carried out their collection amongst their own order, and are determined to have Mr. Roberts here by next Monday, when they expect to hold a public meeting.

LEEDS.

Extraordinary Case of Attempted Suicide.—On Thurday last a young woman, named Hannah Dawson, cut her throat at her home in Queen-street. A young surgeon was called in immediately after wards, and on examining her pronounced her dead, and left her. She was then laid upon a bed up stairs, uncovered in readiness for a coroner's jury to view the body. After the lapse of about an hour, one of the Leeds policemen, who was passing, asked, out of mere curiosity, to see the "deceased." His wish was complied with by her friends, and the policeman proceeded up stairs, and found her actually *breathing!* Another surgeon was called in, she was then removed to the Infirmary, and was on Tuesday very satisfactorily recovering!

BLOXWICH.

Capture of a Ghost.—For some weeks complaints have been made to the police that several persons had been sadly frightened at the awful appearance of some supernatural monster in the neighbourhood of Bloxwich, having a huge pair of horns, and enveloped in white. Instructions were given to the police to use all diligence to effect his capture, but somehow or other his ghostship became aware of the attention paid to him by the "men in blue," and "started like a guilty thing upon a fearful summons." Nothing more was heard of him, until the night of Monday, the 22nd ultimo, when he was seen traversing, with "martial stalk," the neighbourhood of Bloxwich-green, exhibiting, as on former occasions, a huge pair of horns. After frightening one or two persons, who fled at the top of their speed, he came in contact with a "field carpenter," a young man, named William Adams. Adams, it appears, was returning from his work, having his tools on his back, and not liking the ways of his ghostly acquaintance (who, by the way, became more pressing than pleasant,) sought to free himself by means of a bradawl which he had in his hand, and with which he dealt a severe blow at the left thigh of the ghost, who immediately fell upon his knees, roaring piteously. Adams then proceeded to dismantle him of his masquerade dress, when the unfortunate hero of the night's adventure turned out to be a young man named John Perry, a stirrup filer, of Bloxwich, well known to Adams. Several persons were promptly on the spot, and conveyed the ghost to his home, where he was put to bed, and a surgeon sent for to dress his wound, which, fortunately for him, though a severe one, was not considered dangerous, but he has been confined to his bed in consequence nearly ever since. As soon as he was sufficiently recovered, Perry procured a warrant against Adams for stabbing him, and had him apprehended. The accused was brought before the magistrates at the Guildhall on Wednesday last, but the complainant did not appear, and Adams was discharged.

BUXTON.

Robber Killed.—Last week a gang of burglars broke at night into Errwood House, near Buxton, the seat of Samuel Grimshaw, Esq., and seriously ill-treated the servants, but whilst they were engaged in ransacking the house, the gamekeeper came up and fired amongst them, killing one of the party on the spot; the rest made their escape.

CAMBRIDGE.

A Thief Detected and Allowed to Escape.—Between the hours of 11 and 12 o'clock on Wednesday night last, a man named Elbourn, a labourer, a most notorious thief, was detected by Mr. Newton, a farmer, of Cherryhinton, in the act of robbing him of three bushels of barley. Mr. Newton was walking round his premises; and on going up to his barn door observed a man crawling out at the bottom of it. It appears that he had, with some strong instrument, raised up the door high enough to admit him in and out. The corn, which he had just set down by the side of the barn, was in a sack. He was then interrupted by Mr. Newton, who made an attempt to take the thief, but he was knocked down by him, and he then ran away, Mr. Newton following him. After running a considerable distance in a field, he called to a man to stop, saying, at the same time, that unless he did he would cut him through. He was ultimately run down by Mr. Newton, who collared him. The thief made every effort he could to escape from the hands of his pursuer, but was overpowered. He was then brought back by Mr. Newton to his house and placed in the custody of two of his men, whilst Mr. Newton took possession of the corn and coat which the thief had left behind, and proceeded to the house of a constable for assistance. On their return (to their great surprise), they found the man had escaped, he having threatened to stab the two men with a knife, unless they allowed him to depart, to which they consented, and he has not since been seen or heard of.

DOVER.

Capture of a Robber.—At Dover, on Sunday morning, at about five o'clock, a special train arrived at Dover, with a gentleman and one of the city police, in search of a man who it was stated had robbed a merchant at Hamburgh of more than £4,000. After ineffectually searching on board the packets then about to start for the continent, they proceeded to Hollyer's London Hotel, where they discovered the fugitive quietly enjoying his breakfast. He arrived at the London Hotel by the mail train, intending to embark for the continent, but was compelled to retrace his steps with his captors.

PORTSMOUTH.

Murderous Attack by a Convict.—On Friday morning, at six o'clock, as the convicts were employed in stowing away their hammocks, one of the prisoners, a young man about 20 years of age, who is undergoing sentence of transportation for fifteen years, two of which has expired, made a desperate attack on Mr. Meatyard, the chief mate, by striking him over the head with a broomstick, to which a piece of chain was attached, felling him to the deck by the second blow; and there appears to be no doubt that the villain would have accomplished the murder of his victim, if one of the keepers, named Duncannon, at whom the prisoner also threw the broomstick, had not run to the chief mate's assistance. So serious are the injuries inflicted on Mr. Meatyard, that he continued insensible for four hours, and now lies in a dangerous state. This atrocious attack has been communicated to Mr. Capper, of the Home Office, and the culprit will, of course, be dealt with as he deserves. He has only one arm. We understand that his fellow-prisoners looked on in the affair, without attempting to interfere in behalf of the chief mate, and that some of them had previously threatened "to do for him."

Wales.

CARMARTHEN.

Defalcation of a Relieving Officer.—Edward Pugh, one of the relieving officers of the Carmarthen Union, last week absconded, taking with him a considerable sum of money, which he had received to pay the paupers in his district. The exact amount, however, cannot be ascertained until inquiry has been made in the district. From what we have been able to learn it appears that on Saturday, the 28th of February, he received a cheque from the clerk for £28, the amount necessary to pay the paupers; this cheque he got cashed, and it is rumoured that he went to a house of ill-fame in the town, where he became intoxicated, and got robbed of a portion of the money.

Scotland.

ROSS-SHIRE.

Bread Riots.—On Friday an attempt to ship meal at Fowlis, for the West Highlands, was prevented by a resolute and determined mob. The day previous a similar occurrence took place at Invergordon. A portion of grain had been put on board the vessel at Invergordon during the night, but the populace assembled, took out the grain, and marched the carts from the pier. A detachment of military has since been sent to protect the grain and effect its shipment.

Dingwell, March 1.—It being the intention of one or two corn-dealers to export grain from this port, the people gave indication of a determination to prevent it. The magistrates, therefore, summoned verbally a number of the inhabitants to a meeting, in order to devise means to keep the peace; but few attended, so that they had to issue printed circulars to about 150. The meeting having assembled at 7 o'clock p.m., only about 15 or 20 of this number took the oath to act as constables, all the rest declining—some on the ground of age, others of conscience, &c. From the spirit the people manifested, they appear determined at all hazard to accomplish their object.

THURSO.

Starvation made Easy.—We mentioned in our last, that pieces of ordnance had been carried to the head of the brae, at the mouth of the river, in addition to the planting of two small sloops on the way to the river. These formidable impediments were, however, removed. The people attempted to frighten the horses, while the carts were unloading grain at the vessel, but in this they did not succeed. They then commenced throwing stones, which struck several of the constables. The sheriff, upon seeing this, proceeded to expostulate with the people (who had assembled on the "Brae-head" in great numbers.) He was immediately greeted with hissing and showers of shingle, upon which he read the Riot Act, and immediately sent for the military, who were promptly in attendance. They drew up on the "Brae-head," and forced the crowd back at the point of the bayonet, by means of which the greater part of the crowd dispersed, and the shipping of grain was proceeded with during the day. The soldiers remained about two hours at the scene of action, and were then marched to their quarters, conveying with them one prisoner. This day all remained quiet, though the constables were in attendance to facilitate the shipment of grain. At Castletown, too, the shipment of grain on Thursday had been prosecuted without interruption.

Ireland.

DUBLIN.

Very Poor.—The rent for the week amounted to £18 11s. 5d.

CORK.

In the south devastation is holding its onward course.

The following brief abstract from the transactions of the presentment sessions tells its own awful and astounding tale:—

At a presentment sessions at Ballydehob, held on the 2d instant, for the barony of the west division of West Carberry, the following presentment was passed by Lionel J. Fleming, Esq., chairman.—To place a layer of earth over the following burying grounds, to the depth of three feet, and to dig trenches for future interment, with a view to the prevention of contagion. Granted £1,500 for Kilmoe, Crookhaven, &c. At a presentment sessions held for the barony of East Division of West Carberry, in Skibbereen, on the 1st of March, inst., a similar presentment was passed—Amount, £1,100.

Mr. A. O'Driscoll, in a letter to the *Cork Reporter*, says that in Crookhaven, "25 on an average die every day from want of food"

Kilkenny Workhouse.—There were fifty deaths last week, and five hundred and sixty-eight in the hospital—five hundred and twenty of the latter being in the Fever Hospital!

Failure of the Wheat Crop.—We deeply regret to say that the state of the wheat crop in this county is most alarming. Indeed, in several cases it is a total failure! In others its appearance is most unhealthy. Of this we are assured, on the best authority. What, in Heaven's name, will become of the people of this unfortunate country, if this failure becomes general? Government and the landlords should not lose a moment in making extensive inquiries on this subject. Not a moment is to be lost.

CULTIVATION.

The provincial journals all complain of the neglect of cultivation; and, in some cases, the local gentry are calling upon the country to till and crop the lands as well as feed the famishing people! The *Limerick Reporter* says:—

Go into the rural districts in what direction you will—ask any of the country gentlemen who are attending the assizes what progress has been made in sowing the soil with the staff of life—and you will see for yourself, as they will one and all tell you, that nothing has yet been done. Instead of sowing thrice the breadth of land to make up for the quantity of food that was supplied by the lost potato, there is not half the extent of area sown that was wont to be under oats and other spring crops in ordinary years, when the potato flourished in all its prolific abundance! And what is to become of the country if this state of things continues many days longer?

THE CURSE OF LANDLORDISM, AND EMIGRATION.

No preparations are being made to promise for the future. In Mayo, Galway, Clare, Limerick, Tipperary, Cork, Waterford, &c., &c.—including some of the most fertile districts in Europe—the people appear to be completely paralysed; individual exertion is at an end, and unless the great landed proprietors and gentry come forward at once, and enable the people to till and sow the ground, the condition of this country next year will be infinitely worse than at present. The truth is, the people—even if they had the means of cropping the land—are under the impression that, so far as their own interests are concerned, it would be only time and money thrown away. They fancy that the moment the crops came to maturity they would be swept away by the landlords; and certainly the proceedings at the recent Quarter Sessions, when landlords proceeded in hundreds to recover the November rent by civil bill process, to some extent justifies such an assumption. Acting on the conviction, the small farmers generally have permitted the ground to remain untilled, while the latter class, the men holding from 20 to 30 acres, are emigrating from every port in Ireland. The quays of Dublin are crowded every day with groups of peasants from Meath, Dublin, and Kildare, preparing to start for Liverpool, from thence they take shipping for America, and it is a notorious but melancholy fact, that these are all of the better and more respectable class, men of some mark and substance, who are hastening, while they have yet the means, out of a country which the perverse ingenuity of man has converted into a desert.

ULSTER.

Progress of Famine in the North.—All the letters and provincial journals received since our last, contain most afflicting accounts of the progress of destitution in the northern parts of Ireland. From various parts of Ulster the reports are quite as afflicting as most of those coming from the south or west.

ANTRIM.

The reporter of the *Banner of Ulster*, after giving several instances of extreme distress under which the people of the north are suffering, states, that in the town of Derrymacash, "from the 1st of January last to the 20th of February, the number of deaths in this townland alone exceeded four hundred; and almost in every instance the illness by which they were swept away could be traced to originate in want of food!"

ARMAGH.

Mortality in the Lurgan Workhouse.—It is stated that nearly 400 paupers have died in the Lurgan union workhouse during the last eight weeks. In Armagh, there is some dread that mortality will spread beyond its usual limits in the workhouse there. Typhus fever has appeared, and the medical attendant is at present ill of the disease. On Wednesday, the remains of fourteen of the paupers were lying in the deadhouse.

TIPPERARY.

The means of the Relief Committee are becoming exhausted, while the numbers requiring assistance are increasing with fearful rapidity. There are now fifteen hundred paupers in the Nenagh workhouse; and upwards of a thousand families are daily relieved at the Soup Kitchen; whilst the cultivation of the soil is, we lament to say, still almost totally neglected. Fever and dysentery are still making dreadful havoc in the rural districts; so numerous are the deaths that it is found quite impossible to find means of sepulchre, and sometimes it is difficult to obtain living men to bury the dead.

SKIBBEREEN.

The following are extracts from a letter of the Rev. Richard Boyle Townsend, descriptive of an excursion on which he took Lord Dufferin and the Hon. Mr. Boyle, in the above neighbourhood:—

We went from this to the old churchyard. There they saw the mode of sepulture now common, of throwing the bodies out of a shell coffin into a pit, and covering them so slightly that a few scrapes of a shovel soon laid bare the abdomen of one that was the uppermost! You may be assured this sufficed for so far. We passed thence to the place occupied by their more fortunate fellow-sufferers from the workhouse. These had coffins. They were, however, scarcely covered, and the ends of two of one tier of coffins (for there are three placed one over another in a grave about two feet deep, and the upper one comes level with the surface) were exposed. There was a pit in progress of being filled by bodies from the same house at the foot of these, and I asked why it was left in that uncovered, unmade state? The men employed in digging a lengthened pit said that the persons employed by the parish authorities had brought four bodies as yet, and, as they expected six more that evening, they left the pit unfinished.

They had buried six the preceding morning from the workhouse, and four more in the evening of the same day; and they are in the habit of bringing some days eleven bodies to be thus interred.

We left this only to be witnesses of a scene which, while it baffles description, shows powerfully the terrible effect such a state of things as ours is producing on a people not previously brutalized.

At the end of what is called the New-bridge, there is a miserable shed at the gable end of as miserable a cabin. The parish coffin arrived just as we reached the end of the bridge. I begged his lordship to stand and see. The men standing by begged we might move off—but we had come to see. The coffin was taken from the cart—its very size, to fit all dimensions of persons, is in itself calculated to strike with horror. It was brought to the door—it was too large for this to admit it. One of the fellows began to blaspheme and curse at others, not disposed to do his work. They went in, and after some minutes' rummaging amongst her dying family of four which she had left, they brought out the naked and emaciated skeleton of an old woman—a mere little torn remnant of what had once been a quilt being just thrown over the abdomen. One took her by the head and another by the heels, and flung her into the coffin, making some shocking exclamation! It was too much—we turned from the sight completely sickened, and his lordship made up his mind that he "had seen enough—he would not call on the doctor," with whom he was to go round the next day.

ROSCOMMON.

The deaths in every parish are still greatly increasing, and it has become quite a practice to bury the poor uncoffined. Roscommon suffers much from the famine. 41 paupers died in the workhouse during the last week, and several deaths from starvation occurred throughout the country. Fever is very rife, and unhappily in too many instances the afflicted are left to its ravages uncared for—as the uninfected do not care to venture near them.

SLIGO.

The people are dying by hundreds of starvation, and those who do not die of absolute want are carried off by fever and dysentery, chiefly diseases which have been engendered by the scarcity of provisions. Coroners' inquests cannot now be looked upon as affording a correct account of the deaths from starvation. Sir Robert Gore Booth stated before the grand jury that he knew of five persons dying of hunger in his neighbourhood, upon whom no inquests had been held; indeed, the rule now adopted by the police is not to send for the coroners when they previously know the victims of famine, and have no doubt as to the cause of their death. Inquests will now be only held upon the bodies of strangers who perish miserably by the way-side or in ditches.

GALWAY.

Tuam.—Not a day passes over us but the most afflicting and horrifying occurrences take place in our neighbourhood. Various inquests have been held for the last few days by the coroners. The most thrilling records of suffering were recorded in the evidence of the witnesses, and the verdict returned by the jury in the majority of instances was "Death from starvation." But what are these to the hundreds that are daily pining away, and of whom no notice can be taken?

Punch and Dr. Albert.—The Queen in a Pet.—The court gossips have got hold of a tale about the highest person in the realm having discovered the number of *Punch*, containing the caricature on the Cambridge election, on board the Fairy, during the late trip to Osborne House, the royal ire being violently aroused thereat, the expression of it, however, being principally confined to her left-handed relative, Fitzclarence. The prince himself is said to have taken the thing in good part, chiefly, perhaps, because the points of the quiz are appreciable only by those familiar with Cruikshank's original drawing of the "Election of a Beadle," which is here parodised. It is added, that his royal highness is terribly alarmed lest the last soubriquet of "Dr. Albert" should stick to him, and wants to know if the eternal repetition of the title, even though it be in Latin, can't be left out of the installation ceremonies? It is now notorious enough that the whole court influence was employed with desperate energy, at the express instance of those whose slightest hint is a command, to secure the return of the prince,—the representatives of nearly 1,400 livings within the gift of the crown and its immediate servants not only voting, but zealously, and in many cases unscrupulously, canvassing for him, and, on the pretext of loyalty, making converts of several who had declared themselves in favour of Powis. The proceedings at the poll were reported at Windsor with "the utmost regularity and despatch," as the advertisements say, and as much interest was exhibited on the receipt of each instalment of news, as though the prince consort really were a beadle candidate, "with five small children and a wife," as set forth by the pictorial satirist.

Lola Montes Again.—The *Silesian Gazette* gives another anecdote of Lola Montes. The *danseuse* suspected a *litterateur* of Munich of publishing some details of her adventures. As a revenge, she invited the author to tea, and he came with some hopes of gathering materials for new feuilletons. When he had taken his first cup of tea, he observed that the lady's cup had not been filled. "Sir," said she, "you have taken liberties with my character, and as a Spaniard, I must have revenge. Poison in your cup, Sir! You are a dead man!" The litterateur rushed to the apothecary's for an antidote, and was some time before he recovered from the fright occasioned by the practical joke of Lola Montes.

Lord Dundonald's War Plan.—We understand that the secret official trial to ascertain the effect of a continuous evolution of intense gas in projecting shells or shot from a tube, resulted on an average in throwing 25 six-pounder shot to the distance of 7,000 yards. From this data it is clear that balls of greater diameter would far exceed the range of common artillery. Another important advantage is said to accrue—namely, that the continuous rush during their emission would prove much less injurious to vessels projecting such missiles than the shock or recoil of single discharges. We learn that Lord Dundonald's ingredients produce an elastic emission, like that which would be evolved by kindling the end of a hawser or cable formed of hard twisted guncotton.

Death of a Character.—The individual well known by the *soubriquet* of "Turkey Willie," went the way of all the living a few days ago. His name was William Ross, but we suppose it is many a long year since he heard it very frequently pronounced. Willie was among the first in this quarter to deal in game or poultry, and for many years supplied the principal families in the town. He had then a good business, but giving himself up to intemperate habits, he lost it, and has of late years become almost destitute, and was often in want. He was sand blind, and of weak intellect, and had a peculiar cast of countenance, that harmonised very well with the visage of his constant companion—a turkey cock—which he almost constantly carried under his arm. Willie, like many blind people, in whom the want of one sense is to some extent compensated by the greater developement of another, had a very delicate sense of touch, and could distinguish almost any sort of ordinary bird or fowl by passing his hand over it. Willie was a great favourite with the servants about the houses he frequented, and for a glass of whiskey would entertain them to his hen's march, a *stroud* of his own, in which he gave excellent imitations of the call of the turkey, and other domestic fowls.—*Aberdeen Herald*.

Accident on the Eastern Counties Railway.—A man, who is a foreman of the gaugers on the line, was found early on Tuesday morning with his left leg cut off, and otherwise bruised. It is supposed that an up-train knocked him down, but how it occurred is not yet known. Mr. Hancorn, a surgeon, was quickly in attendance, and after administering to him some brandy and water, and being well assured that hemorrhage had ceased, he conveyed him to the London Hospital.

The Turkish Reformer.—The Sultan has removed some of the worst grievances of his Christian subjects.

Law Intelligence.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

Misfortune of Good Luck.—John Lyons, alias John Mings, was indicted for having stolen and converted to his own use three £10 Bank notes, the property of Mr. Edward Monckton Jones. It appeared that the prosecutor had received, on the 3rd of February, at the Bank of England, the notes in question, which he placed with some gold in a small pocket book, and the whole was deposited in his waistcoat pocket. He rode in an omnibus, from which he alighted near to Crockford's Clubhouse, St. James's-street, after which he missed his pocket book, but in his evidence he said he supposed it had slipped between his coats on returning it to his pocket after he had taken it out to pay the fare. On the 12th the prisoner was taken into custody at Greenwich, where he had been changing the notes at the shops of various tradesmen. Mr. Charnock, for the defence, called several witnesses, who all concurred in giving the prisoner a most excellent character for honesty and sobriety. From their evidence it appeared that the prisoner had picked up the pocket book on the 3rd, and had shown it to his employer, whom he had requested to keep an eye on the advertisements in the papers. Finding no mark where to find out the owner, and thinking he had waited long enough, he applied it to his own purposes, by laying in a stock of clothing for his wife and children, which were in his possession when arrested. The Learned Judge in his direction to the jury, said if the prisoner found the pocket book, and it contained no address or name whereby he could restore it to the owner, he was not bound in law to put himself out of the way to restore it; and if he had not when first possessed of it, any intention of feloniously keeping it, and if the jury thought so, he could not be convicted of larceny. The evidence was certainly rather favourable to this assumption. The jury instantly acquitted the prisoner.

Robbery.—Ann Cunningham and William Williams were indicted, the former for stealing two £5 notes, 8 sovereigns, some half-sovereigns, and some silver monies, from the person of Jeremiah O'Connor, and the latter for aiding and abetting, and for receiving, with a guilty knowledge, a portion of the property stolen. Jeremiah O'Connor deposed: I keep the Grapes public house, White street, Southwark. On the 19th inst. I had been to Rotherhithe, and on my return I met with a friend named Bryan, who saw me home. When at the corner of Millpond-street, I heard some one say, "There's Jerry O'Connor of the Borough," and on looking round I saw the prisoners in company with another woman. Cunningham came up to me, and I felt her thrust her hand in my pocket, draw out my purse, and she then ran away. I followed, calling police, when the male prisoner came up, and said, "Hollo, Connor, has she robbed you?" I replied she had, and the next moment he snatched my watch, a gold one, from my pocket, but I laid hold of it, and he then snapped the guard. Bryan came up and seized Williams, while I went for a policeman. When I returned Williams had made his escape. Bryan deposed to the above facts as far as he was related with them. A policeman said he received a description of the thieves, and in consequence he went to a house in Ann-street, Henry-street, Kent-road, where the prisoners lodged. He could not get in at the door, as it was barricaded, so he clambered a wall, and got through a window into a room, where the prisoners were in bed. Williams pretended to be asleep, but said on being "hauled" on to the floor, "You don't mean to take my gal away?" The female said she had met Williams in Kent-street. They were both taken to the station-house, and were instantly identified by the prosecutor and Bryan. Mr. Humphries, a publican in Kent-street, said the female prisoner came to his house on the 19th, and had some gin, in payment for which she tendered a half-sovereign and produced two sovereigns and another half-sovereign, which she requested the witness to keep for her until the following morning. The other prisoner joined her, and he (witness) heard him say to her, "I don't think he'll know me again." Was sure it was on the 19th, and is positive as to the identity. The jury at once found both the prisoners Guilty. A former conviction for felony was proved against Williams. It appeared he was a returned convict. The prisoners were sentenced each to be transported for seven years.

COUTTS V. DUNN.

Mr. Dunn after having been allowed to remain two or three days in the receiving ward of the Queen's Prison, has been removed to a gallery for such misdemeanants, of which he happens to be the sole occupant. His room is furnished with a chair and a comfortable bed and bedstead; but these are to be removed in ten days, and replaced with an ordinary criminal's sleeping accommodation, if he will not provide his own. He has applied to the Attorney General to be admitted to file a writ of error, without the certificate of a barrister that he has probably ground for doing so; but this indulgence could not be given, as the law required such certificate; and Mr. Humphreys has lodged a *caveat* against a revisal of the proceedings, which can only be removed upon argument, and rendering the employment of counsel indispensable.

WESTERN CIRCUIT.—Salisbury.

The Eighth Commandment.—Eliza Hopgood was tried, defended by Mr. Saunders, and prosecuted by Mr. Slade, charged by the Rev. Samuel Coswell, vicar of Chute, in the county of Wilts, with having stolen three boxes and other articles. The prisoner lived as house maid and lady's maid with the Rev. Samuel Coswell from 1841 to 1846, at wages of £8 per year. It came out in evidence that Mrs. Coswell has frequently given her maid different articles to compensate for low wages, yet among those given was found a box, of the value of 2s., a common watchcase worth 6d., a print worth 2d., and a piece of printed calico worth 6d., and a piece of carpeting of very trifling value. Those articles she was accused of purloining. A carpenter named Hopgood, living and working for his father, a carpenter, living in the village of Chute for more than thirty years past, had paid his attentions to the prisoner, marrying her about three weeks ago. Three days after their marriage both were taken into custody, the wife for stealing, and the husband charged with receiving the same. The grand jury ignored the bill against the husband, the young wife having to stand her trial alone, which she did this morning, when the jury found her Guilty. Sentence deferred. The decision seemed to surprise many present.

Rick Burning.—James Russell was next placed at the bar, charged with having unlawfully and feloniously set fire to a certain rick or stack of straw, on Tuesday, the 2nd day of February last, the property of Eliza Bell, living at West Harnham, in this county. Mr. Slade conducted the prosecution; the prisoner was undefended. The jury almost immediately returned a verdict of Guilty. Ten years' transportation.

Child Murder.—Mary Beveridge, indicted was for the murder of her son, Thomas Beveridge, months old. Mr. Poulden was counsel for the prosecution. On its appearing that no counsel was retained for the defence, Mr. Missing, at the suggestion of Mr. Justice Williams, undertook to defend the unfortunate woman. The facts of this case were very simple, but at the same time were of a very painful character, and the interest which the case excited was heightened by the fact that the prisoner was totally blind. It appeared that the prisoner was the wife of D. Beveridge, a labouring man now living at Portsea, and was the mother of several children; she had been blind for the last seven years. The husband had been for some time past a man of very dissolute habits, and had been cohabiting with a woman named Barton for some time past, leaving his wife in a state of destitution, and also treating her with great brutality when at home. This, it appeared, had much affected her mind, and on many occasions she complained of violent pains in her head. On the 22nd of January last she was seen by a neighbour suckling her baby (which it appeared she had not weaned, fearing that she should not be able to find food for it). She then said to the neighbour, "Oh, my head, my poor head." She then desired her eldest child, a girl of 15, to fetch her father from a beer house, where she had heard he was drinking with the woman Barton. The man did not come, but said he would do so by-and-by. The prisoner then desired her child to go a second time, and tell him she must see him: she at this time had her child, the infant, at her breast. When the girl came back from the beer house the second time, she found her mother with a bonnet on, without the infant; and on her asking her where her little brother Tommy was, the prisoner replied, "Oh, he's asleep." She then desired her daughter to lead her to the police office, saying, "She would get a policeman for that brazen Barton." The girl led her to the station house, where the unhappy woman said to the inspector, "I am come to give myself up as a murderess; I have murdered my child." The child said to the policeman, "You must not mind mother, for she's out of her mind." The inspector, however, asked the prisoner to explain what she meant, when she said that she had hung her child, and that it was upstairs behind the door. Upon this the inspector went to the prisoner's house, leaving her at the station, and on his reaching the house, and going up stairs, he found the child lying on the floor of a room dead, with a handkerchief tied tightly round its neck. A surgeon was called in, but he pronounced life to be extinct, and stated that the child had been strangled by the handkerchief having been tied round its throat. The case for the prosecution having closed, Mr. Missing addressed the jury for the prisoner, and called witnesses to show that the unfortunate woman had always been a kind mother to her children, but that of late her mind had been much affected, and that since the birth of the murdered child she had at times been completely insane. Mr. Justice Williams having summed up, the jury acquitted the prisoner on the ground of insanity.

OXFORD CIRCUIT.—Oxford.

Winterbourne v. Wagner.—Liability of Attorneys for Negligence.—The defendant in this case is an attorney at Oxford, and in the course of the summer of last year was employed by the plaintiff to complete the purchase of a small property at Easham, in this county. The premises were sold for £100, subject to a mortgage of £200. In the conveyance was contained no covenant respecting the mortgage, but in the recitals mention was made thereof. The defendant acted as the attorney for both vender and purchaser, and in that character attested the execution of both parties to the conveyance. Some time after the payment of the purchase money, the plaintiff was informed that the proper stamps had not been affixed to the deed. Inquiries were made at the Stamp-office, Somerset-house, where it was ascertained, upon the production of the conveyance, that the rumour was correct, and in order to set the matter right an additional sum of £3 was required to be paid, besides a penalty of £5 for affixing the stamp duty after the usual time.—Mr. Keating and Mr. Pigott appeared for the plaintiff. Mr. Alexander, Q.C., who was assisted by Mr. Gray, appeared for the defendant, and after questioning the evidence of retainer, contended that the stamps affixed by the defendant, viz., a £1 and £1 5s. were, under the circumstances, the proper duties, inasmuch as the consideration expressed in the deed was only £100, and the conveyance was made subject to the mortgage, and in it was contained no covenant on the part of the purchaser to pay off the mortgage money; in fact, the sale in question was a disposition of the equity of redemption only. The learned counsel further contended, that under the present circumstances no action for negligence could lie against the defendant, because the question was one of reasonable doubt and uncertainty, *crassa negligentia* alone would render the defendant liable. After a lengthened discussion between the learned counsel, and a refusal on the part of Mr. Keating, to be non-suited, the learned judge directed the jury that, in his opinion, a balance was proved. An attorney who acted for two persons was the attorney of both, whichever paid him; but, as to the other part of the case, there was not sufficient shown to render the attorney liable. The jury found for the plaintiff, damages £8.

Manslaughter.—W. Cave was indicted for the wilful murder of Hannah Treadwell. Both the prisoner and the deceased, on the 4th day of August in the last year, were resident in the parish of Hornton, in this county, where the prisoner kept a beer-shop, and farmed a small quantity of land. The deceased was a widow, and it was said that an illicit connexion had for some years existed between her and the prisoner. On the day in question, the prisoner was seen by some villagers at an early hour of the morning, armed with his gun. The deceased was seen with him by several parties, and she was heard, while walking and conversing with him, to make use of offensive and indecent language. Between seven and eight o'clock on the same day, the report of a gun was heard, and shortly afterwards the prisoner was seen coming from the direction in which the report was heard, towards his own house, carrying his gun. The deceased was found lying on a footpath, in the place from which the prisoner had come. A wound was found in her neck, and she was quite dead. Near the body one of the witnesses picked up a piece of burnt paper-wadding. When the prisoner was searched, in the pocket of the coat worn by him in the morning was found a piece of newspaper, which corresponded with the wadding picked up. The two pieces had plainly formed part of one newspaper. Soon after the prisoner was apprehended he made many and various statements, to different persons: to the constable he said, "I have done it, and must suffer for it. I hope it will be a warning to others." When his house was searched, where two loaded guns were found, he said they were loaded to shoot himself, but that he had had a second thought, and wished for time to repent. She (the deceased) was always aggravating him. He said he had tried to seize hold of her, and could not, and somehow in the scuffle he drew the trigger, and shot her. She had been pelting him with stones, and cut his lip. The latter part of this statement was supported by the fact that within an inch or two of the right hand of the body were observed several stones lying on the footpath. The surgeon who was called in to examine the body stated that the death of the deceased was caused by effusion of blood from a gun-shot wound.—Mr. Keating addressed the jury for the prisoner, contending that from the evidence it must be clear that the prisoner acted under strong excitement produced from the language and blows inflicted upon him by the deceased. Mr. Justice Maule summed up, explaining the distinction between murder and manslaughter, when the jury, after some consideration, found the prisoner "Guilty of manslaughter." His lordship, in passing sentence, said that the case was one of very aggravated manslaughter; that it was difficult to say that the prisoner did not intend to take away the life of the woman. The prisoner was then sentenced to be transported for life.

MIDLAND CIRCUIT.

Begging.—James Brunt, described as a common beggar, was indicted for assaulting James Ely with intent to kill and murder him. Mr. Wildman prosecuted. The prisoner was undefended. James Ely, an intelligent looking boy, deposed that he was returning to his master's house from a visit to his mother, on Sunday evening, the 1st of November last, about five o'clock. On going by a close he thought he saw a beast getting from under a thorn bush; but soon saw it was a man, who subsequently turned out to be the prisoner. As the witness was getting ahead the man called out to him to stop, and when Brunt reached him he laid his hand upon his shoulder, and said, "You are just the lad I want." Witness replied, "Am I? you won't catch me though." Prisoner instantly pulled out a knife from his pocket and struck him over the hat and head; the hat fell off. Prisoner exclaimed, "Those b—— people at the house yonder (pointing to a farm-house) would not give me anything—have you got anything?" Witness said "if he had got a halfpenny he would give it him." Prisoner then said he would murder him, and he passed his knife round witness's throat, who felt the sharp edge of the knife. Witness succeeded in jumping up and escaping to his master's house, crying murder all the way. The prisoner denied being the party, and requested to be sworn. The judge declined to accede to his request. The gaoler of Louth stated his belief to be that the prisoner was insane, and it being intimated to the judge that one of the juryman could speak to the prisoner's state of mind, the judge stated he saw no objection in a case like the present to his being sworn. Upon being sworn he deposed to certain facts, clearly showing insanity, and the jury acquitted the prisoner on that ground, and he was ordered to be confined during her Majesty's pleasure.

NORTHERN CIRCUIT.—York.

James Waddington, aged 30, was indicted for highway robbery at Leeds, on the 31st of July last.

Mr. Sugden, the prosecutor, said he was a commercial traveller, residing in London. He was in Leeds on the night in question, near to Merrion-place, walking along the street, when two women came up to him, one of whom threw her arms round him, with the pleasant salutation, "Well, my love!" Instantly his heels were tripped up, and he was thrown upon his back. She thrust her hands into his pocket, and took out four sovereigns and two half-crowns. She then went up Merrion-place, but the prosecutor darted after her, and caught her when she had got about fifteen yards. At that moment the prisoner came out of a passage close by (the prosecutor, as he swore, thinking he was coming to his assistance), seized the prosecutor's stick, and gave him a thwack with it, which knocked him down, and not satisfied with that, added two kicks, which completely saved the woman and the prisoner too from pursuit. Mr. Baron Rolfe summed up, and the jury found a verdict of Guilty. He then sentenced the prisoner to be transported for ten years.

Mutiny at Sea.—The barque Clydesdale, commanded by Captain Murchin, bound from Derry to New Orleans, had proceeded on her voyage as far as Morille, where, on the 24th ult., eight of the crew, headed by the carpenter, refused to go out further on the voyage, alleging that the ship was not seaworthy and leaky. The owners Messrs. Osborne, Allen, and Co., of having been duly informed of the circumstances, requested Capt. Ramsey, R.N., and Capt. Mason, of the Superior, now lying here, to survey the vessel, and to report whether any repairs were necessary. Both of these gentlemen having inspected the vessel the day after, agreed in declaring that the ship was seaworthy and ready to proceed on her voyage forthwith, she not making more water than was usual with vessels at sea. The seamen, continuing refractory, were taken before the Rev. J. M. Staples, J.P., Morille, on Friday last, who finding the charges proved against them, sentenced them to fifteen days' imprisonment. The sailors were afterwards conveyed to Lifford gaol. The Clydesdale remains at Morille until the complement of her crew can arrive from Liverpool, who are expected by the Maiden City steamer on Wednesday.

Horrible Death.—On Thursday week, as two boys were wheeling each other in a barrow near the edge of one of the blasts at Bowling Iron Works, one of them, named Levi Watson, 11 years old, was turned over out of the barrow into the flaming blast, seven feet deep. Although the damper was up at the time, yet the place was red hot. Immediately on his falling in, the other boy made an alarm; and a man who worked at an adjoining stack, ran to the blast and saw the lad alive at the bottom. He held down to him a long coal-rake, and with which he pulled the lad up nearly to the top; when, unfortunately, the poor fellow let go his hold and fell down again. He lay there nearly half an hour, until he was burned literally to a cinder. The small remains of the body were pulled up, and presented a shocking spectacle.

St. Leonard's, March 8.—Mr. O'Connell arrived at Hastings on Saturday evening, and immediately sent for Dr. Duke. The doctor does not think him in the dangerous state which the papers represent, but reduced by influenza and very nervous and depressed.

Foreign Movements.

"And I will war, at least in words,
(And—should my chance so happen—deeds,)
With all who war with Thought!"

"I think I hear a little bird, who sings
The people by-and-by will be the stronger."—Byron.

THE AMERICAN AGRARIAN REFORMERS.

OREGON RAILROAD — LAND ROBBERS ROUTED.

Our friends are "carrying the war into the enemy's camp" in right good earnest. For some time past a monster speculator, named Whitney, has been agitating a scheme for making a railroad from the Lake of Michigan to the Pacific, and uniting the Oregon with the eastern and northern States: the whole length of the line would be two thousand four hundred miles. Whitney proposed to effect this scheme and reward himself and his associates by the following means:—1st, Congress was to grant to the proprietors a strip of public lands *thirty miles wide each side of the intended road the whole length of the line.* 2nd, Mr. Whitney and his associates to build the first ten miles of the road at their own expense, and then the lands on five miles of the route to be sold to pay for the next five, and so on throughout the line. 3rd, Every ten miles of the road when completed to become the property of the United States until the whole was completed, the company to have the free use for their transportations; when completed the company to have the road for their own profit, subject to the service of transporting troops, government stores, &c., free of charge. 4th, If at any time before or after the completion of the road, Whitney and his associates, or their heirs, should pay, or secure to be paid, to the government of the United States, the sum of sixteen cents per acre for all the lands granted to them, then the road, machinery, land and all to revert to Whitney and his associates, their heirs and assigns, and to be their sole and exclusive property, FOR EVER.

Such was this notable scheme of legalised fraud and robbery which, so far as New York is concerned, the Agrarian Reformers have blown sky-high. We say "legalised robbery," for the scheme has already made some progress towards legalisation, and will, we fear, yet become law, unless the working men of other States bestir themselves in time, and act with the energy exhibited by their brethren of New York. Whitney's scheme was introduced to Congress in 1844, and in 1845 and 1846 favourable reports thereon were made by committees of the Senate and House of Representatives.

That scheme we have denounced as a scheme of public plunder, or, to speak more correctly, the plunder of the public on so gigantic a scale as to far outstrip in infamy the wholesale robberies committed by the Norman bastard and his cut-throat brigands. Can our readers compass in imagination a mass of land *sixty miles wide*, of the length of *two thousand four hundred miles*? This enormous quantity of land Mr. Whitney modestly demands for himself and his associates to repay and reward them for their patriotic project of making a railway to the Oregon. This land, from its *contiguity to the railroad*, would become, in course of time, of immense value. Whitney and Co. claim to have the power to sell portions of this land to complete the railroad. With an eye to the future value of the land, the prices for the first lots sold would be charged proportionately high, but the lots remaining unsold when the railroad was completed, would, thereafter, fetch a much higher price, whether bought or rented from Whitney and Co. The quantity of public lands demanded by these greedy speculators, would cut up into several "*states*," and, very probably will yet support a population of *one hundred millions*! Was not William the Norman a mere petty larcenist compared with Whitney?

But the railroad is to become the property of the United States! Yes, the nominal property; but, under any circumstances, the actual property will be Whitney and Co's. The United States' government troops, stores, &c., will be transported duty free; but the profits of all other traffic will go into the pockets of the speculators. In fact, the railroad is to be conveyed to the United States government, to protect it, at the national expense, for the benefit of the company. This is not all—provision being made to enable Whitney and Co. to take possession of the land, railroad, machinery, and all, and them and their heirs to hold the same as their sole and exclusive property *for ever*! All the robbers, pirates, and scoundrels who have expiated their offences against society by suffering the last penalties of the law (Judge Lynch's law included) since the foundation of the American states to the present time, *have—all their crimes put together—not committed* one millionth part of the outrage on society which this scheme would inflict, if carried out. We are no admirers of Lynch law, but really even such law is much too good for villains who dare to propose to rob the community of its first means of existence, and consign millions to that state of slavery which the landless poor of New York, as well as the landless poor of Liverpool, are doomed to.

Recently Whitney visited New York, to obtain popular support for his pet project, and with that view a public meeting was held in a large building called the Tabernacle. The mayor of New York was called to the chair, supported by a host of disreputable politicians and public plunderers; all "honourable men," of course. Mr. Whitney, who is described by *Young America* as "a dapper, rotund, and rather shrewd-looking gentleman, about five feet four inches, who did not seem as if he had ever been short on rent-day, or known what it was to want a supper;" explained his scheme. After explaining all the advantages of the said scheme, political, commercial, *moral*, and *religious*, Mr. W. gave place to Mr. Louis Ryckman, (agrarian reformer,) who in a masterly speech showed up the wickedness of the project, and concluded by moving a string of resolutions, exposing and denouncing it. Mr. Commerford (a. r.) rose to second the resolutions;—but here a scene of confusion ensued, caused by the determination of the "respectables" mob not to allow Mr. Commerford to speak. The working men were as determined that he should speak, and, being the majority, the "respectable" found they must either give way to fair play, or run for it. They preferred the latter; and Whitney and his associates, the mayor and the rest of the "respectables," precipitately withdrew, amidst the jeering and cheering of the working men. Mr. Ryckman was now called to the chair, and Mr. Commerford had commenced addressing the meeting when the gas was turned off. It appears that Whitney had given instructions to turn off the gas, if any opposition to his scheme should be manifested; but this was at first prevented by persons who were aware of the disgraceful plot; the Whitney gang, therefore, "shut off" the gas outside the building. The meeting was not long in the dark; in a few seconds the Tabernacle, by the aid of "loco-foco matches," was illuminated by candle-light. Mr. Commerford then continued his speech, and the resolutions, as follows, were unanimously adopted:—

That a National Railroad ought to be the property of the nation, or the property of the States through which it should pass—that the proper means for constructing a railroad is a tax on the people at large, or on those States to be benefited by the road—and that a project of this magnitude ought not to be entered upon by Congress without first submitting it to the direct vote of the people.

That while we are engaged in a war, supported by some influential journals, with the avowed object of entailing upon the country a national debt of one hundred and fifty million dollars, no new project of expenditure not absolutely necessary should for one moment be entertained by Congress.

That a national debt is a national curse, which ought on no pretence to be tolerated by a republic, unless to preserve its existence in a case so just that posterity would acknowledge the justice of the tax.

That the increasing evils of land monopoly are now so palpable and alarming that the public lands of the United States ought henceforth to be appropriated exclusively for the free use of the landless in limited quantities; and that any proposition to alienate them for any other purpose ought to be looked upon as an attempt at public plunder of the most glaring magnitude.

That the prominent truth is *now being acknowledged* that every adult, born upon the soil, has a right to demand of the state the free use of land upon which to procure a subsistence, and that if any farther obstacles be thrown in the way *to the freedom of the public lands*, the landless masses will have a claim difficult to be resisted for the use of the nearest uncultivated land to the place of their birth.

That Congress *ought to fix upon a site for a railway* to Oregon, and to survey the lands adjacent in farms and lots for the free and exclusive use of actual settlers, no one of whom should hold or even possess more than one farm or lot; that a landed democracy might be stretched across this continent—who would do their share toward making a railroad, and what would be far more important would contribute immensely to the spread of a landed democracy to the extreme confines of civilization.

That for Congress to delegate to any one man or any set of men the power to sell the public lands to make a railway, and thus tax the cultivators of the soil exclusively for that purpose, would be to enable Commerce to charge Labour too dearly, and would be far too great a stretch of power.

That Commerce has always been too much and Labour too little catered for by government, and it is now time for labour to speak out fearlessly and vindicate its rights.

That while a system remains among us by which some, with no demerit on their own part, are born in the houses of other people, landless and in poverty, with no right except to walk the high-ways and by-ways, and beg, of the possessors of the houses, lands and property, bread or work; while *others*, for no merit of *their own*, are born in possession of many houses and much land, and the proceeds of a thousand men's life-long toil—while a system so unnatural and unjust as this exists, instead of asking the general government to charge, or delegate the power to charge, two or three hundred dollars for a farm, it would be far more wise, equitable and just for the state of New York, and especially the city of New York, to demand that the land be made free, and to furnish our poor and landless citizens with the means of emigrating thither.

That if Congress, (whose right to do this act we deny,) in defiance of all justice or right, and of every republican principle, votes this immense tract of land to Mr. Whitney and his associates, we most firmly hope that the first crop gleaned therefrom will be one of determined *Anti-Renters*.

That it is a virtual denial to the inhabitants of the vast region proposed to be thus granted, of the right to self-government; the right to make their own laws; delivering them body and soul to the bondage of labour to avoid placing them in the cruel gripe of a company who, by the very nature of the tenure created by this grant, could have no relation to the people, but that of the usurer to his dupe and victim—of the tyrant to his slave—of the vulture to his prey; and farther,

That such legislation is not more tyrannical, impious and anti-republican than it is disgraceful as an outrage upon common sense,—as an endeavour to build up a land monopoly—a blasting and withering curse, whose foundations are crumbling and whose walls are tottering to their fall, assailed by the tears, the groans, the curses and maledictions of its starving victims, and the enlightened reason and benevolent aspirations of the good and great throughout the civilized world.

That this meeting condemn the conduct of the Mayor, "Mr. Whitney and his associates," in inviting the people to consider their project, and when they found the opinion of the audience adverse to their plan, endeavouring by disorganizing the meeting and ordering the extinction of the lights, to prevent a public expression of that opinion.

Foreign Intelligence.

MOVEMENTS OF THE WEEK.

The accounts contained in the Paris papers of the rise in the price of grain are really alarming. Sentence has been pronounced on the leaders in the bread riots at Buzancais. Three have been condemned to *death, four to the galleys for life*, and the others to imprisonment and hard labour. If these sentences are carried into execution, we hope that the people will do themselves justice by elevating, *à la lanterne*, the first batch of monopolists they may have the power to pass sentence upon.

Mrs. Munoz was to leave Madrid on Monday last for Paris, whither she has been preceded by Count Bresson. According to accounts from Madrid, the disgust of the young Queen to her husband had gone so far that she had resolved to apply to the Pope for a divorce. All personal communication between the hapless couple has long ceased, and they very seldom see each other, though occupying the same palace. Behold the *moral* result of the intrigues of Louis Philippe, Guizot, and the she-beast, Christina!

The prospects of the insurgent Junta at Oporto are, on the whole, brighter. The last of the government steamers had joined the Junta; on the other hand, one of the Junta's steamers, the Duque do Porto, had been wrecked, with the total loss of all her hands. General Povoas, formerly a Miguelite partisan—a very able and accomplished soldier—has taken the command of the insurgent army. Saldanha has not moved. It was believed that Povoas would take the initiative in bringing on a combat.

The ex-Ministers of Bavaria have published a very affecting address in relation to the Lola Montes affair, which they describe as "the greatest calamity which could have ever afflicted Bavaria." We must express our doubts of this; we fancy a rise in the price of beer would be regarded by all good Bavarians as a much greater calamity. The Spanish dancer has only, thus far, excited threats and window-breaking, whereas the great Beer question excited a veritable insurrection.

French policy is producing a harvest of anarchy in Greece, and infamy in Algeria. Disorganization and menaced revolution in one country, and *razzias* in the other, combine to add fresh laurels to the wreath won by the "Napoleon of Peace."

President Polk demands three millions of dollars (with a prospect of getting them) to buy peace with Mexico. If Mexico is in the market for sale, then, of course, Santa Anna is the seller. We will believe in the Mexican general's treachery when an accomplished fact, not before. This war is costing the United States immense sacrifices in men and money.

FRANCE.

THE SCARCITY.—The *Reformé* of Monday has the following on the state of the corn market:—"The rise is making truly fearful progress. Very large arrivals from abroad can alone check it. Unfortunately the quantities of grain announced are of no great importance; most of them, besides, already have their destination. They are already sold; some to municipalities and societies of assistance in the departments of the interior, and will not, therefore, influence and check the prices by their arrival." The continued rise in the price of corn is not confined to Paris, but extends throughout France. Disturbances in consequence continue. Troops of unemployed artisans and labourers are ranging the country, demanding and taking bread.

ELECTORAL REFORM.—M. Duvergier de Hauranne's Electoral Reform Bill, which has been twice before the Chamber during the present Ministry, was brought before the Bureaux on Saturday, and gave rise to a very animated discussion. Out of 361 members present, 164 voted for the reading of the proposition, and 197 against it; so that M. Duvergier de Hauranne had a majority of 33 votes.

SPAIN.

QUEEN CHRISTINA, with her husband, was to have left for Paris on Monday last. It was rumoured in Paris on Sunday, that in Catalonia and the Basque provinces the Carlists had assembled in great force, and that all communication between the frontiers of France and the Spanish capital was consequently stopped. Rumours were also afloat of the seizure of several towns in Catalonia, the flight of the authorities, the pillage of public treasure, &c.

PORTUGAL.

THE CIVIL WAR.

OPORTO, FEB. 21.—Marshal Saldanha, with 7,000 men, 900 of whom are cavalry, is at Vendas Novas and Oliveira de Azemcis, three or four leagues south of Oporto.

General Casal, who proposed making a stand against Das Antas at Vianna, has abandoned that city. He made a show of fighting at Ponte de Lima, leaving 200 men in the Castle of Vianna; but on the approach of Das Antas, he broke down the bridge, and retreated to the frontier at Valenca. Das Antas did not pursue him, and entered in triumph into Vianna, and was preparing to reduce the castle, when he received several urgent despatches from the Junta recalling him to Oporto. It was thought that Casal's movements were feints to draw Das Antas away from this city, and give time to Saldanha to cross the river and intercept him. Das Antas obeyed, and he and his division of 2,000 men are in Oporto, and at Villa Nova de Familcao, a short distance from it.

The Queen's cause has received a great blow by the desertion of the Porto steamer. This merchant boat had been hired at Lisbon, and fitted-up as a war steamer, and was very useful in carrying despatches *along the coast, and assisting in the blockade.* On leaving Vigo two days since the steward and crew mutinied, overpowered the officers, and then brought the Porto into the Douro and surrendered her to the Junta. The Junta has now four steamers—the Mindella, Porto, Duke of Oporto, and the Vesuvius; while the Queen has none, unless, as it is rumoured, she has hired the Royal Tar. Oporto is perfectly tranquil, and the city abundantly supplied. The Duke of Terceira and other prisoners have been removed from the castle of the Foz to the city prison. They are well treated. The Queen, it is said, refused to exchange Bomfim and the prisoners of Torres Vedras for the Duke.

The Junta has seized on all bills coming due in the Bank here of the Bank of Lisbon. This haul and the receipts of the Custom-house, which have been considerable on imports and exports, give them for the present abundant funds. Several Miguelite partisans are acting under the Junta, but no union between them has taken, or will take, place.

BELGIUM.

THE FAMINE.—The greatest agitation prevails all over Belgium in consequence of the high prices and dearness of food. The Belgian papers are full of details of rising prices of grain and popular commotions.

SWITZERLAND.

COMMUNISM IN SWITZERLAND.—The official journal of Darmstadt of the 1st publishes a decree, ordering all workmen, natives of the grand duchy, who are in Switzerland, to quit that country immediately; and declaring that, until further orders, no workman of the grand duchy will be permitted to go to Switzerland. This decree has been issued in consequence of the spread of communist doctrines in some of the Swiss cantons.

GERMANY.

BAVARIAN POLITICS.—The resignation of M. d'Abel and the other ministers occasioned by the Lola Montes affair, has been followed by some riotous proceedings at Munich. Four professors of the University having manifested a spirit of hostility to the king, were dismissed. On this the students accompanied by the townspeople paraded the streets shouting for the professors. They next proceeded to the residence of Senora Lolo Montes, uttering seditious cries and threats, and brake her windows. The military, who were immediately summoned to arms, could not prevent the rioters from breaking the windows of several other houses and public establishments, and even those of the royal palace were not spared. On the 2d other gatherings took place in the public thoroughfares, and many more seditious cries are stated to have been raised; but the troops had been kept in their barracks, the town-guard had been called out, and no violence was committed. On the 3d the city was quiet.

UNITED STATES.

LIVERPOOL, WEDNESDAY.—By the arrival of the packet ship Henry Clay, Capt. Noye, from New York, papers to the 9th ult., inclusive, have been received, but their contents are unusually meagre and unimportant. From the seat of war there is not any intelligence worthy of notice.

The Army Bill, empowering the Executive to raise ten additional regiments, had not been carried through the Senate.

The Three-million Loan Bill was creeping slowly through its various stages.

A dreadful steam-boat explosion took place near Mobile on the 28th ult., by which a number of lives were lost, and several persons severely wounded. The boiler first burst, and the boat afterwards took fire, and blew up, having gunpowder on board. The passengers amounted to about 100, of whom it is estimated at least 30 were killed.

Foreign Miscellany.

THE JEWS IN SWEDEN.—STOCKHOLM, FEB. 26.—The elders of the Jewish communities in Stockholm, Norkoping, and Gottenburg, have addressed petitions to the Government, praying for equal rights with the other Swedish subjects. These petitions are referred to the Board of Trade to make a report upon them.

GREAT FLOOD IN HUNGARY.—Letters from Presburgh, Hungary, mention the destructive effects of an inundation in that country. The waters were out for several days, and at one time the river had swollen to 20 feet in height.

ROME.—A snow-storm of unusual severity has visited Rome.

ST. PETER'S.—The two shapeless blocks meant for Peter and Paul, standing on each side of the ascending steps before the portico of St. Peter's at Rome, have received notice to quit, and will be replaced before Easter by two marble statues of somewhat different taste, from the chisels of Fabris and Tadolini, the one director of the Belle Arti, the other a scholar of Canova. These modern productions are on a colossal scale; each figure is nearly twenty feet in vertical height, though a single block from Carrara. *Each cost 12,000 dollars.*

Correspondence.

☞ While Parliament is sitting, it is impossible for us to find room for long letters. Correspondents are requested to be as brief as possible.

BROUGHAM v. BROUGHAM.

[Under this head, Mr. Oastler continues his exposure of the ex-Chancellor. We give the following extracts:]

If there was one principle on which his lordship rested his hope of the usefulness of that measure more than another, it was the "central power"—the commission.

* * *

Lord Brougham thus paves the way for the introduction of the commissioners: "I think I may lay it down as clearly following from what I have stated, that there is one main point, the necessity of arriving at which cannot be denied—I mean securing such a degree of unity of action in the authorities invested with the parochial superintendence as can be obtained only by the establishment of one central power. In the second place, I think it follows that the persons in whom this control shall be invested must be armed with very ample discretionary power. Next, it seems clear that these ought not to be political persons, if I may so speak—THAT THEY SHOULD BE MEMBERS OF NEITHER HOUSE OF Parliament—men belonging to no party—men unconnected (politically speaking) with the administration of public affairs, AND UNMIXED WITH THE CONTESTS OF THE STATE. If I should be consulted in the choice of the individuals, I will only say, show me a person (and I think I know that person), whose opinions on party matters differ most widely from my own, and if he be a man of *firm* mind, of extensive experience as to the working of the Poor Laws, of conciliatory manners, of sound discretion—if he be a man whom I can trust for his temper (one of the prime requisites in such a work), and that man I prefer before any of those with whom I most agree in politics; nay, more, if I saw two persons sufficiently gifted, but of opposite political opinions, I would name one of each party, in order the better to gain the confidence of the public—to show the country that, in the appointments, there is no favour—that, in the selection, the only consideration has been qualification and deserts. I have said that extensive and effective reform in the administration of these laws can only be accomplished by entrusting large discretionary powers to the commissioners. Of this no doubt can exist; and a very slight attention to the subject will convince you of it. The bad practices have taken such root, and spread so widely, that a strong hand alone can extirpate them. But it must *not* only be strong—it must be ever ready; in other words, "all must be left to the discretion of the men entrusted; for, if each time a step should be taken, either going too far, or going in the wrong direction, or stopping short of the proper point and not going far enough, you had to wait until Parliament was assembled, and a bill brought in to change the plan, and a new Act passed, it is needless to remind you, that for months the whole of the machinery must stand still." "One uniform inflexible rule, prescribed by a statute, can, therefore, never be applied to various cases; hence, the operation must be performed by a discretionary power lodged somewhere, that the hand which works may feel its way, and vary its course according to the facilitiss or obstructions it may encounter; nay, an arbitrary discretion—to use a word which has been employed invidiously towards the measure—and arbitrary, to a certain extent, it must be, because it must be both ample and unconfined, in order that the rules for its exercise may not paralyse its movements.

"My Lords, I am perfectly aware that such powers as these may be designated as unconstitutional."

Well, Sir, Lord Brougham was believed—the Constitution was set aside to make way for the commission! * * Englishmen were "reduced to a coarser sort of food!"—they were shut up in union workhouses—there they fought with each other for the pickings from putrid bones!—stinking bones!—destined to manure our fields!

* * *

That "central power" has been permitted to take its own course; to it every power of the State has been subservient—Cabinet Ministers, legislators, judges, magistrates, the army and police, nay, even spies, have been all employed in aiding that "central power" to spread its icy sceptre over England! And what then? Has it accomplished its mission?—has it reconciled the people to its "coarser sort of food?" No; but it has, as might have been expected, turned upon its authors—it has denied its responsibility to them, and defied the orders of "their lordships"—it has even disgusted its foster-father, Lord Brougham.

After a succession of denunciations from his lordship, his anger waxed hot against his former pets, the New Poor Law Commissioners; until, at length, he threatened to summon them to the bar of the House of Lords.

Read the following report of proceedings in the House of Lords, on the 13th of August, 1846, twelve years after "the same hand" had seated them in "power:"—

CONTUMACY OF THE POOR LAW COMMISSIONERS.

Lord Brougham rose to move that the returns ordered to be made by the Poor Law Commissioners by that House should be made forthwith. One was an important return relative to communications that had passed with them. It had been proved in another place that one of the commissioners had interposed, and the secretary had not made the returns. He had moved for them three times, and a fortnight since had moved that they be made forthwith, and yet they were not made. The Poor Law Commissioners were bound to make the return; to speak gently, it was a grievous neglect of duty in the commissioners setting themselves against the orders of that House. The other return was of the number of times the commissioners had met as a board since 1840; he understood the return would be "*nil*," and, if so, they had not acted in a legal manner; for the act gave power that they, or any two of them, "acting as such board," should put the act in force. It was necessary that they should hold a board; and yet it appeared in evidence elsewhere that they had not done so. He deeply regretted this, because it increased the clamour out of doors against the law, which people, for reasons of their own, made against it. After a short pause, the noble and learned lord again rose and said, that it was suggested to him that he was wrong in moving for the returns forthwith, as he had already moved for them three times, and a fortnight since had moved that they be presented forthwith, and that he ought not to move a fourth time. He therefore gave notice, that if the order were not complied with, and the returns made by five o'clock to-morrow, he would move that the commissioners and their secretary be called to the bar.

His lordship was not as good as his word; but, no matter, the opportunity was furnished, and Lord Brougham did denounce the Poor Law Commission, and thus satisfied "the clamourers out of doors" that their appointment was a great blunder.

London, Feb. 20. RICHARD OASTLER.

ALARMING DISTRESS IN MANCHESTER.

MEETINGS OF THE UNEMPLOYED.

A public meeting of the unemployed took place on Thursday, March 4, in Stevenson's-square. Mr. W. DIXON was called to the chair, and said, perhaps there has been no period since 1826 when the factory operatives were suffering so much as at present. I believe, that out of 170 mills, there are now 26 standing altogether. Some of those mills have been standing for upwards of eleven weeks, and I leave you now to judge what must be, the condition of the operatives and their families who were employed in those mills. There are upwards of seventy mills working from two to four days per week; and I ask, is it not time that something should be done to ameliorate the condition of the working classes in the manufacturing districts?

Mr. S. CLARK moved the first resolution:—

That, in the opinion of this meeting, it is the duty of government to protect the working classes against all monopolies, inasmuch as the monopolists of corn and cotton possess within themselves the power of throwing the working classes out of employment, and of starving them into acts contrary to peace and order.

Some people denied the duty of the government to take care of the people, but he thought it was instituted *for the protection* of the people. Political economists said that they would only have protection for property. But what created property? Labour—and the people were the labourers; consequently they required protection from government even before property. It was well known that the machinery in cotton mills, that goods and warehouses and shops, were protected by government in preference to the labour of the working classes. They therefore claimed protection from government, inasmuch as all governments were founded on the principle of protection. They had laws of every description for the protection of property, but none for the protection of the working classes. The very fact of that vast assembly being compelled to live in idleness, and to starve, proved that the working classes had no protection. It was the duty of the government, if they did not compel the manufacturers to find employment for the people, to find it themselves. A noble lord had said that it was the duty of the government to remove the barriers to the people getting employment; but they contended that since the people were shut out of the government, the government ought to find employment for them. He thought it was a fact that the manufacturers of this country, even those of Manchester, who had been contributing their five-and-twenty pounds to the soup kitchens, had made their tens of thousands by purchasing up the corn of the country. Up to the year 1554 there was a law to imprison parties who bought corn, or made gain, in this way, of any provisions whatever. This was not the case now, because political economists said that capital must have its swing and be protected, and labour be left to go where it will, for what government cares. He believed that it was the duty *of government either to* open provision depots, or to compel the parties who had bought grain, to sell it at fair prices—suppose at an average of the last seven years. It has gone the round of the papers that a merchant in Belfast had made £60,000 in three weeks, by buying and selling grain, and the same had been done in other places. Government ought to prevent this, because it was an indirect robbery of the working classes by making everything dear but labour, and then they generally found that the masters reduced the price of labour, and made it cheaper still. With respect to the monopoly of cotton, many believed that it was in consequence of this that the mills were working short time. That might be one reason, but there were a great many others. Government ought to put a stop to speculation in cotton, inasmuch as there were 70,000 persons employed on cotton in Manchester alone. He did not know the number in the whole manufacturing district, but the political economists asserted that the people employed in the cotton manufacture and trade were more than a majority of the working classes of the country. If that was the case, it was the duty of government to see that the people dependent on this great staple article were not compelled to starve in vast masses, like that which was there that day.

Mr. THOMAS JONES said they had been led to believe by certain politicians that, could we but extend our commerce over the whole face of the habitable globe, the people of England would become prosperous and happy, and plenty would be the lot of the toiling millions. By a strange fatality, the people of England gave their assistance to the capitalists of this country to enable them to monopolise the whole trade of Europe and of the world in their own grasp; *and now they were assembled to petition the House* of Commons to find the means of employment for the *people, that they should not lie down to die of starvation.* These men were now asking for the reduction of the duty on tea, that they might have all the trade to China in their grasp; but would the people be *again gulled by these men? The free-traders of this* country had ever been their bitterest foes—their *most wily enemies*, and unless the working men of Manchester showed them that the home market was *worth all the foreign markets in the world*, they would trample the people into the very dust of misery. The resolution said that government was bound to protect the people. Was not government ordained for the protection of life, liberty, and property? Then why had not the lives of the labourers, and their only property, their labour, been protected? Why were they left in the grasp of any remorseless tyrant that thought proper to grasp the whole of this property around us, the buildings and the land? If a man stole a grease-pot from a warehouse, not worth twopence, the law punished him for the theft; but when masters reduced wages two shillings or three shillings per week, which was robbery, no laws reached them. (Applause.) The sooner this system was destroyed, the better for the whole human race. By the old law of England, before political economy was known, the labour of the English artizan was protected; by the laws of England, passed in what were called the barbarous middle ages, any man gambling in the food of the people was compelled by law to forfeit to government the whole of the corn he had gambled in, and pay a fine of £20 for the first offence; for the second offence the corn was forfeited, and a fine of £40; for the third, beside the fine, he was stuck in the pillory and his ears cut off. [*A Voice: Served him right.*] This was one of the good old laws of the barbarous times, when men had the barbarous custom of eating plenty; and it would be a glorious thing if this barbarous custom as to eating were again in fashion. The working man, in the middle ages, obtained as much food for one day's labour as he does now for nine days' work. (Hear.) With the rise and progress of the middle classes in England, would be found the decline and downfal of the working classes. As the middle classes sprung up into manufacturers and merchants, the workmen sunk down from independent labourers into paupers and beggars. The middle classes had wrung their fortunes out of the blood and bones of the working classes, and then left them to degradation, misery, and starvation. The resolution said it was the duty of government to protect the people against all monopolies. The anti-corn law leaguers had told them, that, if there was a duty on foreign shoes, the English shoemakers would have a monopoly; or if English manufacturers had a duty on foreign cotton goods, or English farmers upon foreign corn, that these were monopolies. But he (Mr. Jones) said these were not monopolies. He called it a monopoly when a few men like Sir Joshua Walmsley got together, and got large quantities of corn, and agreed to keep up prices. When such men as Cobden and Bright erect factories and employ labourers, and prevent you labouring for yourselves—these are monopolies, and these are the monopolies we must destroy. (Applause.) We want the government to destroy these monopolies, and to find employment for the people. They had the means in their own hands, and were, therefore, bound to protect the people; and they could give them no *protection except by employing their labour, and thus* prevent such men as Bright and Cobden from making fortunes of the bones and sinews of working men. (Applause.) He seconded the resolution, which passed unanimously.

Mr. JAMES CLARKE moved the second resolution:—

That while we admit the principle of equal exchanges, and distinctly deny raising any barriers or obstacles to trade, we protest against the present specious and capricious system of commerce, as it prevents the equitable distribution of *the fruits of industry*, destroys the home market, and drives the producers of wealth into pauperism and crime.

It had long been asserted that the working classes were so foolish as to raise obstacles and barriers to trade and commerce; but they now stated publicly that they admitted that man has an undoubted right to exchange his thoughts, language, production in trade, and everything else, without let or hindrance, and that they were much belied by those who said they were opposed to equal exchanges. It was a Divine command that man should earn his bread by the sweat of his brow; but who had set that command at defiance? The aristocracy of the land, the tithe-eaters, and the fund-holders,—in fact, all the rich of the land; and in doing so, they had set at defiance the first principles of political economy. They told us there must be capital,—wealth saved and put by,—that people might become refined; that there might be something to fall back upon in times of famine and scarcity. The people fully admitted this; but would ask who had the most just right to this wealth, those who never produced a pin in their lives, while those who produced all the wealth of the nation were left, whenever these periodical convulsions came, to starve, or submitted to be immured within the walls of workhouses? He contended that the working people should have this wealth in their own hands, to fall back upon in such convulsions No one with the least sense denied the principle of a fair exchange; but they denied the right of a man who had never produced a pin, because his father had amassed wealth, to appropriate it to himself, not having earned it, but got it under the name of profit. This man stepped in between two producers, and said, "I will take the coat, hat, and shoes you have made, and I will find you customers for them; but I will give you the lowest possible price, and cut you down until you have scarcely sufficient left to buy the commonest necessaries of life, and you and your family shall always be on the very verge of destitution,—that I may sell these things dear and take the profit or difference between the exchange, and place it in my pocket, or in the bank, and by these means place you in a continual state of slavery and subjection." There was a wide difference between just exchange and the present specious system of trade, which takes from a man the produce of his industry, and barely allows him to exist. It was high time a stop were put to this. Men should not hold this power to say to the working classes, 'We want you no more; go and starve, or be immured in workhouses.' Again, capitalists had the legal power to buy up all the wealth and all the corn in the country. At this time, Mr. Sturge stated, that there was a greater amount of corn in the country than for some years; and yet while this was the fact, the government had been compelled to alter the laws on corn, still the working people were no better; the robbery was only shifted from one class of men to another; and he held it would be far better if the aristocracy held it in their hands, than that these free-traders or freebooters should have the power to buy up corn and starve the people. (Applause.) Again, here was a large assemblage, all out of work. What was the actual loss of production and of wealth to the country by their being unemployed? The capitalists paralysed the exertions of the working classes, and hindered them from having things necessary to life; and the people must be determined to put an end to this state of things. (Applause.) Few present did not want a good suit of clothes. When he wrote to John Watts, to ask if he had any work to spare, he replied that he had not; that his shelves were full and he wanted customers. Yes; and tailors were walking about wanting coats, while he had plenty on his shelves. Was not this monstrous? If the devil himself came on earth, and planned a state of society as horrible as possible, he could not have devised any more horrid than this,—that those who produce food should be walking about starving, and those who produce clothing should be walking about naked. While three million pieces of calico were in our pawn-warehouses in Manchester, the very weavers' families were destitute of gowns, shirts, and chemises, and their beds of sheets. Despite what Henry Brougham, and Roebuck, and the whole circle of political economists, might say, the people were not about to undergo a legitimate thinning or starving to death, as they were standing it in Ireland. The people here would not be murdered out of existence, that Lord Brougham might receive out-door relief to the extent of £5 000 a year; for if his lordship's principle were correct, that no able-bodied labourer ought to receive out-door relief, Henry Brougham ought to give up his £5,000 a year. (Applause.) He had calculated that, if at work, he could have clothed sixty, seventy, or eighty people comfortably: but these were denied this clothing by this *infernal* system of trade and commerce, which must have an alteration; and he swore here to-day that we would have an alteration. (Applause.) We must have it; for he would rather submit to the bayonet or the bullet, or to be sabred, than see his family starve. (Applause.) The tendency of such a state of things was to drive the people into pauperism, and the next step was into crime; for there was a point beyond which indifference was impossible. (Hear.) He, for one, would not submit to be pauperised or confined within the walls of a workhouse, that people who had reaped the rewards of our industry might riot in luxury. The tendency of the free-trade measures was to open the ports of the world. For whom? For the middle classes, that they might freely trade and traffic in the productions of the working classes of every country—(hear)—and bring luxuries to their own houses, and live sumptuously, while the producers were driven to starvation. This was the only tendency of the present free-trade measure; and the proof of it was, that every year, just in proportion as our production increased, the consumers in our home market decreased. Thus, by a strange fatality, they first cried out "Production, production," and then they cried "Consumption, consumption," for everybody but the people of this country. Thousands were every year thrown out of the consuming market. Three million pieces of calico were put into the pawn-warehouses, that the people might be starved down and driven out of the consuming market. He told these people that they must either let us into the pale of the constitution, that we might have laws passed for the protection of the people, or it would be the bounden duty of government to step in and protect the people.—(Hear.)

Mr. DONNELLY seconded the resolution, which passed unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said, since he had taken the chair, some person had handed up an anonymous letter, suggesting a resolution, which the meeting might deal with as they thought proper. It was—

That this meeting laments most sincerely that our government does not put those laws in force against forestalling and monopoly in grain, when our warehouses in Liverpool and Manchester are completely full of grain, the owners of which are the Anti-corn Law League, that called out so much against the poor farmer and the landlord, as being monopolisers. That the poor are now starving in the midst of plenty, and that this meeting prays the legislature, that our government will immediately put the laws into force. (Applause.)

A young man named WILLIAM NIXON moved the third resolution:—

That as machinery has greatly superseded manual labour, and may be increased to an unlimited extent, and consequently reduce the toiling millions to the lowest depth of social misery; we therefore call upon the government to find employment for the people on the land, where they would produce food for their relief; unite agriculture with manufactures; create a home consumption for themselves; and unite the landowners and the people in the bonds of mutual interest.

Government, whose duty it was to protect the people, having neglected that duty, they had a right to tell government they would be protected, and in what way. If there were no labour in the manufacturing towns, they had a right to say to government, "Here is the land; it is our own; and we have a right to be placed upon the land, to cultivate it for ourselves." The premier had introduced a measure to relieve the poor of Ireland by *giving them land to cultivate*; and if we have land in England, and people unemployed, government having put the Irish upon their soil, ought to put the English upon their own soil in this country, to cultivate. He did not think that any notice would be taken of the resolutions of this meeting by the government; but that would only prove that the working men of England ought to take their affairs into their own hands. It would prove that the government cared nothing at all about them; anything, in its view, was more valuable in the state than the working classes. If government did not use their endeavours to remove the distress, it would only prove their inability to be legislators and statesmen; and that if the working men of England were only placed in power, or had to elect their own legislators, they could not choose worse men than the present. (Applause.)

Mr. PHIPPS seconded the resolution.

Dr. STORY, in moving the fourth resolution, said that it embodied the letter which had been read to the meeting. He believed that if the law of Elizabeth, against forestalling, had been in force now, there would have been no occasion for large meetings on account of our fellow creatures starving on all hands. In his opinion, capital was the cause of the present miserable state of the country. This had blasted many things beauteous and fair. The power of the Queen and her ministers was limited; but what limit was there to the power of capital? He supposed that it would be considered highly criminal for 50 individuals, with 25 millions of money, to purchase all the staple commodities of life, and not allow them to be distributed to a starving people; and that if 50 bears or tigers, or such savage animals, were to come into the town of Manchester and devour or destroy all they came at, all the newspapers would exhibit the greatest horror; but was not the case of the capitalists like these cases, and was it not just to come to the conclusion that murder lay at the door of those who had been *forestalling* and laying up bread stuffs, while their fellow creatures were pining away? He concluded by moving—

That a petition founded on the foregoing resolutions be sent from this meeting, signed by the chairman on behalf of the meeting, and that the same be sent forthwith to T. S. Duncombe, Esq., for presentation.

The motion was seconded by Mr. STEPHEN CLARKE, and passed unanimously.

A vote of thanks was then given to the chairman, who replied in an able speech, and the meeting separated.

SECOND GREAT MEETING OF THE UNEMPLOYED.

A second open air meeting of the unemployed operatives of Manchester was held on Monday morning, at ten o'clock, in Stevenson's-square. About five thousand persons were present. Mr. James Clark was called to the chair.

Mr. JONES said, on Thursday last, a number of resolutions were adopted, and it was decided that from them a petition should be drawn up for presentation to Parliament. That petition he held in his hand, and he should read it:—

The petition commenced by calling the attention of Parliament to the present suffering and alarming condition of the working classes. This condition the petitioners believed to be caused chiefly by the present spurious and capricious system of commerce, which had a tendency to destroy the home market, and prevent that equitable distribution of the fruits of industry which a well-regulated system would afford. The petitioners were further of opinion that the system of trading in corn was contrary to every principle of justice, and ought not to be allowed to continue, as it permitted the capitalists of the country to withhold that article of food from the necessities of the people until they could command most extravagant and enormous profits, and enrich themselves by the starvation of the poor. They therefore prayed the house to enforce the statute law of Elizabeth made against forestalling, &c. Furthermore, the petitioners believed that machinery had greatly superseded manual labours and might be increased to an illimitable extent, so as to drive the working classes to pauperism and crime; and they therefore prayed the house to place the surplus labourers of the country on the land, where they would produce food for themselves, unite agricultural and manufacturing industry, create a home consumption, and place at once the landowners and people in the bonds of mutual sympathy and interest. And believing that the landed proprietors were, or ought to be, the natural protectors of the people, and that there was an affinity with their interests which did not exist between the industrious classes and the capitalists, who could at any time emigrate with their accumulated wealth, and leave the people to be supported by the land, they hoped that these things would be taken into careful consideration, so that the interests of the people, and of their legitimate protectors, might not be sacrificed to the aggrandisement of a class.

The speaker, having read the petition, proceeded to ask what were the causes of the suffering which they had met to ask Parliament to alleviate. The fact is, that their whole misery lay in over-production. They had produced more than the whole world could consume, and, having no power to distribute that wealth, they were left to starve in the midst of the wealth they had created. There was in this country mechanical power equal to 800,000,000 of human beings. One human being could supply the wants of three, so that they had power enough to supply 2,400,000,000 persons. The whole population of the globe amounted to 800,000,000, so that by the power of England alone they could in one year glut the markets of the world with sufficient produce to supply it for three years. Why, we had now a greater amount of commerce than any nation in the world ever had before; and we had more misery, suffering, poverty, and degradation than there was ever before. Liverpool afforded a striking illustration of this fact. Magnificence and squalor were there to be seen. Forty thousand persons were living in cellars, and the docks, the warehouses, and the public buildings proved that great wealth existed there; but the wealth was confined to the few, and the masses were involved in misery. Government, however, had the power of improving the condition of the people, by calling into existence the cultivation of the waste lands of England; they had the power of making them (the working classes) walk about in idleness, to make wealth for themselves, and improve the home markets. There were 15,000,000 acres lying waste, and capable of being brought into cultivation:—if they were allowed to cultivate that land, they could improve the face of England, make the people happy and independent, become good customers for the home markets, and set commercial and manufacturing capitalists at defiance. They must show government that they were determined no longer to submit to the present capricious system of commerce; that political economy should no longer hold them down in the dust of misery; that they were now beginning to *think for themselves, instead of allowing the broad-cloth to think for them*; that they were beginning to *take the advice of Sir Robert Peel, and taking their own affairs into their own hands.*

Mr. E. CROPPER CLARK said they had been told by political economists and others, that if working men would be sober, careful, and industrious, they would be able to save and get on in the world. Now, he had been working for eight years; he had been all that time a sober man, and he had been endeavouring to save; but the fact was, that he was now just where he was when he set out. (Laughter and cheers.) He did not expect much from the House of Commons; but they would meet and agitate, and force upon government the question, that the surplus part of the population should be put upon the land. There was no other way of remedying the evil. (Hear, hear.) Something must be done for the people. It would not do, in towns like these, to starve the people for months together, and then create a state of things that they could not get justice, and turned out for revenge. They wished to prevent that: they did not wish to see the public peace disturbed; but he could not see why they ought to be goaded on to starvation—that they had any right to have soup delivered out to them by the hand of charity, when they were able and willing to labour.

Mr. HOLDEN, a journeyman pattern designer, supported the motion at great length. The reason why he was present that day was, that England was at a crisis unparalleled in her history, and there was no class that was not interested in the way in which the crisis should terminate. If the advice given at the last and present meeting was acted on, namely, that all who were out of employment should go to the workhouse, and solicit that legitimate relief they were entitled to, he, as a ratepayer, should be compelled to fall into their ranks. It seemed to him as it the workmen had now got something like a scintillation of truth. Hitherto they had been gulled by the humbug of free trade. In the fable, it was stated that the wolves urged the sheep to separate from the dogs, their protectors, on the ground that there was no community of interest between them, and when the cunning wolves had succeeded in their object, they fell upon and devoured the defenceless sheep. The capitalists had acted the part of the wolves. They had got working men to believe that their interests and those of their natural protectors, the land-owners, were not identical, and, when they had effected a separation, they fell upon the unprotected workmen, and butchered them. All nations which had ever attained a high state of commercial prosperity had afterwards sunk into nothing. The meaning of commercial enterprise was swindling. It was based on the sacrifice of the interests of others. He was not a patriot, for that meant nationalism, he was a cosmopolite; and he said, if commerce was attended with injury to others, abandon it, and trade no more. Sir Joshua Walmsley had since September last made £100,000 by trading in the food of the people, and then he gave £10 to a beggarly soup kitchen. After alluding to the Ten Hours' Bill, the speaker said, rather than that they, their wives, their sisters, and their children, should labour for more than ten hours a day in the factories, let them sink, and the waves go over them.

The CHAIRMAN then put the motion for the adoption of the petition, which was carried amidst some cheering.

Mr. STEPHEN CLARKE proposed the next resolution, which called upon every trade immediately to form a committee, and out of it to appoint two members to act as a central committee, to meet on Friday evening. The speaker said that the present commercial system was the most infernal system in the world. When he and others waited upon the mayor, to request him to convene a meeting of the unemployed, his worship and the town-clerk evinced the utmost indifference to their state and feelings. To make an impression upon them, they must, every mother's son of them, go to the Poor Law guardians—(cheers)—and tell them that they would not be treated as were the poor miserable creatures who came here, and who were within their grasp, but that they would have relief. (Cheers.) He had agreed to go with his fellow-workmen, for he would never recommend others to do what he would not do himself. If the proposed committee were appointed they would organise meetings to keep up an incessant agitation.

Mr. NIXON seconded the motion. He advised the working men to "agitate, agitate, agitate," for that alone would do any good, and incline government to hearken to them.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and the Chairman expressed a hope that they should have plenty of more guests before to-morrow. (Cheers).

Mr. STORRY next addressed the meeting at considerable length. He thought there ought to have been a recommendation to government, in the petition adopted that morning, to billet all the unemployed upon those who had property sufficient, the same as they would billet soldiers upon the town. (Laughter and cheers.) He believed that this would open the door—he meant the factory door, and the door of the soil. The people were starving on all hands, and this was attributed to the providence of God, *in permitting the failure of the potato crop*; but this was a lie of the blackest kind. In all the ports of England, and wherever there were speculators to be found, there was grain in abundance. If such lies were palmed on the people, then there was a depth of cunning that ought at once to be exposed; and with one united voice men ought to declare, both to Parliament and every one concerned for the welfare of the human family, that something must and should be done to better the condition of the working classes. (Cheers.) Three hundred millions were taken every year from the working classes, and they got back, in return, scribes, lawyers, policemen, spies, prisons, bastiles, soldiers, sailors, hangmen, &c.

At half-past twelve the meeting was adjourned until Thursday morning.

After some conversation amongst the speakers, it was decided that the unemployed should parade the town, and that they should pay a visit to the board of guardians. One of the speakers called out "To the bastile." A considerable number then formed themselves into procession, and went through some of the principal thoroughfares.

ABOLITION OF SMITHFIELD MARKET.—Petitions are lying for signature in different parts of the metropolis, calling upon the legislature for the abolition of Smithfield market. Counter-petitions from the graziers and others attending Smithfield on Wednesday obtained 850 signatures, calling on the Lord Mayor and corporation of the city of London to use their influence to prevent its suppression, their principal argument being the fact, as proved by the money takers and bankers' accounts, that the market causes an outlay of £7,000,000 annually in the city of London.

EUROPEAN PAUPERS.—The *New York Tribune* asserts that a system has been entered upon by the cities of Germany to transport their paupers and vagrants to the United States. The *Tribune* demands "Non-intercourse" with the offenders.

LOLA MONTES.—According to a letter from Bavaria, of 28th February, the elevation of Mademoiselle Lola Montes to the rank of Countess of Sternberg, had already been carried into effect.

Imperial Parliament.

House of Lords.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5.

CONVICT AND PRISONS BILL.—Earl GREY moved the second reading of the two bills relating to convict discipline of which he had given notice on a previous evening. The government had resolved, then, to make a change which amounted to nothing less than a total alteration of the system of transportation, except as regards convicts sent to Bermuda and Gibraltar, where the term transportation meant an entirely different system than that exercised in Australia. Instead of being transported, convicts were to be kept at home, at first for a certain period in separate confinement, and afterwards, when discharged from this preliminary state, employed for a stated time on public works; the principle of this employment would be that the convicts were, to be subject to a system according to which they would have a great and direct interest in their own good conduct, and be enabled, by their industry and good conduct, not only to abridge the period for which their punishment was to last, but also to enjoy certain immediate advantages. It was also intended that every individual who really conducted himself well, who worked industriously, and did not incur any fresh punishment for misconduct, should be enable to obtain his discharge at the termination of half the period for which he was sentenced. When this period was expired, a pardon would be granted to the offender, on condition of his emigrating from England; and to assist him in carrying this intention into effect, the government proposed that criminals, during the latter period of their employment on the public works, should be allowed wages to nearly the full value of their labour, the money being allowed to accumulate until the time for granting the pardon had arrived.

Lord Brougham expressed a general approval of the government plan. Lord Stanley, Lord Denman, and the Duke of Richmond, expressed several doubts as to the propriety of the scheme.

The bills were then read a second time, and the house adjourned.

MONDAY, MARCH 8.

IRISH PAUPERS.—Lord BROUGHAM presented a petition from the Corporation of Glasgow, complaining of the influx of Irish paupers into that city. Lord Brougham complained of the conduct of the Irish landed proprietors, who either contributed very scantily to the relief of the prevailing distress in that country, or else refused to contribute at all. He admitted that persons might please themselves in contributing to voluntary subscriptions, but it was his decided opinion that, while refusing to bear their share of the public calamity, they ought not to come and ask England to do so for them, by giving them ten millions. He also denounced the scandalous jobbing which had sprung up among the gentry of Ireland, who were taking advantage of the sufferings and misery of the people, by securing for themselves places, created by the various Acts passed for the mitigation of the distress. He cited various instances in illustration, among others, one where the four sons of a clergyman held seven situations between them.

The Earl of MOUNTCASHEL and the Marquis of LONDONDERRY complained of the attacks made on the Irish landlords, and maintained that if inquiry were made into the truth of the stories propagated about their conduct towards their tenantry, they would be found, in most cases, more sinned against than sinning. The former noble peer urged Lord Brougham to move for a Committee of Inquiry into the conduct of the landlords of Ireland.

CONVICT DISCIPLINE.—Lord BROUGHAM then moved for a select committee to inquire into the execution of the criminal law. He would at the same time state that he felt disposed to regard transportation with an unfavourable eye. Some alarm had, however, been created among members of the legal profession owing to the proposed changes, but these fears were groundless, as any change in the system must be sanctioned by Parliament.

Lord STANLEY understood from Earl Grey that it was the intention of Her Majesty's government at once to carry their views on the subject into effect; and it was not till the expiration of two years, during which their experiment was to continue, that any act of Parliament would be introduced. He hoped, however, to hear that Her Majesty's government would not be indisposed to proceed by introducing a bill.

Earl GREY observed, that the law as it now stood gave the Crown the power of deciding not only as to individual offenders, but as to how certain classes of offences should be disposed of. The real magnitude of the change had been greatly overrated. It had been said that transportation was to be abolished. This was not the case. Sentence of transportation would continue to be pronounced, and it would continue substantially the same as at present, with an alteration in this respect only, that the place where part of the sentence would be carried out would be changed. This was not so substantial a change of system as to render it necessary that an act of Parliament should be proposed.

A desultory discussion then sprang up as to whether the Crown had the power to keep prisoners under sentence of transportation in England, Lord Brougham declaring that it had no such power, and Lord Campbell asserting that it had.

The motion was then agreed to.

CUSTODY OF OFFENDERS.—The Custody of Offenders Bill and the Prisons Bill then went through committee.

The house adjourned at half-past seven o'clock.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9.

Lord BROUGHAM requested Lord Clarendon to postpone the third reading of the Custody of Offenders Bill till Thursday, on the ground that several Irish peers were anxious to express their objection to the extension of the measure to Ireland.

The Earl of CLARENDON, in the absence of Earl Grey, consented to the postponement.

IRISH LANDLORDS.—The Earl of LUCAN, in reference to certain statements made by Lord Brougham on the preceding night, on the authority of letters from Ireland, which statements were wholly incorrect in their main features, wished to know whether the noble and learned lord would give up the name of the writer. The noble and learned lord should be very careful how he made statements on the authority of newspapers or letters. There was, for instance, a letter from that day's Times, dated from Ballinrobe, and stating that Lord Lucan's tenants there, and at the village of Gallows Hill, had been ejected, and the cottages dismantled; whereas, he (Lord Lucan) had no houses within two miles of Ballinrobe, and he could state upon his honour, that, as to Gallows Hill, no evictions of his tenantry had taken place, and the cottages were in the same state that they had been for years past.

Lord BROUGHAM said that he had stated the name of the writer of the only letter he received reflecting, by name, upon individuals. The names of the other parties he saw no reason for mentioning; their statements were general.

The Earl of LUCAN asked whether the noble and learned lord would at least state whether he personally knew his correspondent, and could state that he was a respectable man and worthy of credit.

Lord BROUGHAM: I beg to state that I made a statement which I thought fitting for me to make, and proper to be received by the house. Neither he nor any other man has a right to ask any peer to come to the question in this way, and I will not give an answer. (Hear, hear, and a laugh.) When the noble lord cries "hear, hear," he shows his utter ignorance of Parliamentary proceedings. I have heard statements made over and over again by peers in this house, and by members of Parliament in the other house, without giving the names of their authority, and refusing to do so when asked, stating that they believed in the fact alleged, and that was enough. Every one knows, that from the days of Harry the Third, when Parliaments first assumed a form, down to the present time, common fame is a ground for statements in Parliament.

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY, in presenting a petition in reference to a Poor Law in Ireland, contended that the Irish people were of an industrious character, and willing to use their best exertions to pay their way. In his own district, he and the other landlords found that the rents were very satisfactorily paid. Yet the noble and learned lord came forward with general statements, which were at all events totally inapplicable to those persons who had never asked the government for a shilling, and to those parts of the country where the estates were well managed and rents regularly paid. He alluded particularly to Ulster. (Hear.)

Lord BROUGHAM: If the noble marquis insists upon being blamed whether I will or not, I cannot help it. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) I never blamed him. I never made a general statement against Irish landlords. My charges were confined to three or four instances, and I said that I hoped and trusted, and also believed, that these charges could not with justice be made general. But the noble lord gets up, and says, "I will be accused, and nobody shall prevent me." (Laughter.) Why, it is the most extraordinary instance of the use of "will" and "shall" since the predecessor of the noble marquis, who called out, "I will be drowned, and nobody shall help me." (Laughter.) What can the noble marquis mean by saying that I make charges against all the Irish landlords? The noble marquis complains that I will not give information. Well, I am going to move for information now, that will settle the matter at issue one way or the other. My informant, who is a professional man, who names several most respectable people, who are acquainted with him, and who gives his intelligence not in the shape of general anonymous charges, but with all the accuracy of a professional man, says to me, "Move for the following return, and it will be seen I am right." Now, I am going to move for it, and if he is a man not to be trusted, the fact will be shown. The return is for the names of the plaintiffs and defendants in all processes for rent due on the 1st of November, 1846, brought to trial at the session at Ballina, in Mayo, on the 11th of January, 1847.

The Marquis of LONDONDERRY protested against the noble and learned lord making the landlords of Ireland a butt, with his special pleading and immense volubility of language. (A laugh.) It would end in this, that nobody would mind a bit what the noble and learned lord said—(laughter)—and would leave him in that contempt which could not fail to overtake him. (Continued laughter.) In spite of the noble and learned lord's bad jokes, he would venture to say, that the Irish would submit cheerfully to all taxes imposed by the Parliament of the United Kingdom, though they might dislike them when proposed by parties in that house.

Lord BROUGHAM said, if it was his fate not to be listened to, as the noble marquis foretold, he must only submit to the common lot of mankind, senators as well as others. He could not venture to hope to meet with the same respect as the noble marquis did when he addressed their lordships. (Laughter, amidst which the Marquis of Londonderry said "Quite safe.") If what he said was so very contemptible, he had only to hope that the noble marquis would take the usual means of showing that he did not care for it. He had used no bad jokes, he stated facts, but he did not attack the Irish landlords. As to the disposition of Ireland to submit to taxation, if the Irish would cheerfully submit to the income-tax, they must be much more loyal than we were in this country, for we did not cheerfully submit to it. (A laugh.)

After a few further observations from the Earls of CLARE and MOUNTCASHEL,

The returns were agreed to. Their lordships adjourned at half-past six.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11.

The House of Lords met, and after transacting some business adjourned.

House of Commons.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5.

IRELAND.—On the order of the day for going into committee of supply,

Mr. John O'CONNELL called the attention of the government to the necessity of drawing off the labourers now employed on public works in Ireland, to the tillage of the land. The hon. member suggested that the government should furnish seed to a larger extent than they had proposed; and that the improving tenant should be invested with the right of compensation for improvements; and that a law should be devised to compel Irish proprietors to reside on their estates.

Mr. LABOUCHERE recapitulated what had been done, and declined to undertake a course which went beyond the functions of government.

The remainder of the evening was occupied in committee of supply on the Ordnance and Navy Estimates.

MONDAY, MARCH 8.

NEW WRIT FOR CANTERBURY.—A new writ was ordered for the city of Canterbury, in the room of J. Bradshaw, Esq., deceased.

RATE-PAYING CLAUSES.—Mr. T. S. DUNCOMBE gave notice that after Easter he should move the following resolution:—"Whereas an Act which was passed in the reign of his late Majesty William the Fourth, intituled an Act for Amending the Representation of the people of England and Wales, has failed to fulfil the just and lawful expectations of the people, and such an Act ought not, and cannot, be final; it is expedient to amend the same by a repeal of the rate-paying clauses in that Act, and by the insertion of provisions calculated to prevent any undue influence being exercised in boroughs or counties, whereby the representation of the people may be prejudiced."

THE GOVERNMENT MEASURES (IRELAND).—On the question being put that the order of the day be read for going into committee on the Landed Property (Ireland) Bill,

Mr. ROEBUCK observed that the house was now about to proceed with two Irish measures, the Poor Relief Bill and the Landed Property Bill. He wished to ask the noble lord at the head of the government whether it was understood that, if the Landed Property Bill did not go through the house substantially as it now stood, the noble lord would, as the adviser of her Majesty, be prepared not to propose the continuation of the Poor Law Bill for Ireland. He (Mr. Roebuck) was for giving the Poor Relief Bill precedence; but if the other course were to be adopted, was the noble lord prepared to give him to understand, that in the event of the Landed Property Bill being substantially altered, he would not go on with the other measure?

Lord JOHN RUSSELL explained that he intended to move these bills be proceeded with pari passu, so that both the Landed Property Bill and the Poor Relief Bill might be read a third time on the same occasion. He did not think it necessary, however, to give the honourable gentleman any assurance of the course that would be pursued in the event of any unexpected contingency. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. ROEBUCK then proposed the resolution, of which he had given notice, that any plans of relief for the distress of the Irish poor by means of loans to the owners of property in Ireland, would be unjust and impolitic, unless accompanied by a system of taxation which would subject such property to the burdens already imposed upon all property throughout Great Britain. The artizan, the landlord, and the merchant of England, all brought their quota without grumbling into the general Exchequer, for the purpose of its being expended in promoting the interests of the great nation called Great Britain and Ireland. Now, there was a great variety of taxes from which the Irish population were exempt, as, for instance, the assessed taxes, the taxes for the poor, and the income tax. His object in bringing forward his present resolution was to test the stuff of which Irish members were made. If they talked to him of repeal, he would tell them to consider what repeal was in this season of real calamity. There was no talk about it now; they were all singing low, and their note was nothing but "Give, give." If that cuckoo cry was pressed upon England now, England might cut the chain which connected her with Ireland, and might cast Ireland adrift to be overwhelmed by the storm which was now sweeping over it. There had been nothing proposed by that party which would make an impression on a rational man's mind, or win for itself a moment's hearing. He (Mr. Roebuck) had taken a part in Irish debates, and he had won for himself perhaps an unenvious notoriety. [An honourable member: "An unenviable notoriety."] Amongst those who had come to him were two Catholic priests, and he hoped the honourable member for Kilkenny would listen to what he had to state: one was the Rev. Dr. Collins; the other the Rev. Mr. M'Carthy. He mentioned their names with their own consent. They came from Mallow, having been sent as a deputation from that neighbourhood. What was their first statement to him, when, after the usual courtesies, he had asked them to be seated? "Sir," said one of them, "don't believe that the gentlemen in the House of Commons that come from Ireland represent Ireland." His (Mr. Roebuck's) answer was—"Sir, I am extremely glad to hear it." (Laughter.) "Sir," said they, "they are the representatives of property in Ireland; now we, the priesthood raised from amongst the people, entirely conversant with their feelings, mixing with them, are here, sir, deputed to tell you from the Irish people this—don't listen to a word that is said in the House of Commons by any representative from Ireland." He (Mr. Roebuck) said, "I shall most religiously obey your request." (Loud laughter.) "They do not (they said) represent the people of that country—they represent the rich, and they are following out most carefully the interests of the rich, whom they represent." One of these clergymen then said there were around Mallow a number of gentlemen of large property, he mentioned the names, but he (Mr. Roebuck) did not put them down, but he asked him to send them, which he had not done. He mentioned the names of persons possessing three, four, five, six, and he thought, ten thousand a-year. He said they went around for subscriptions to those gentlemen for the relief of the starving people. The people were absolutely starving at the time, and it was stated at coroners' inquests that they were dying from starvation. They went to these gentlemen and asked them for relief for their starving brethren, and from none of them did they get any thing but the minutest trifle by way of relief; and one of these rev. gentlemen said—and he (Mr. Roebuck) would remark that he was greatly won by his manner; he had a heartiness about him; it was not what he had been accustomed to see coming from Ireland—but he had a heartiness about him which won his (Mr. Roebuck's) approbation—and his eye twinkled when he said that one of these gentlemen had seventy dogs living on meal and milk every day, though coroners' inquests were held at that man's gate upon persons who had died of starvation. (Hear, hear.) I said, "My God, Sir, do you tell me that this is the fact?" and he said, "Sir, you know who I am. I have stated to you this fact, and you can give my name."—(Hear.) This had passed within a few miles of Mallow, and men had died from starvation, while dogs lived.—(Hear.) He appealed, not to Irishmen in that house, but he appealed to his own countrymen—he raised his voice to the whole of England and Scotland, and he asked if they were prepared to hear this thing. He would say that it could not be done, and he knew that when he said that it should not be done, the voices of millions would be raised in confirmation.—If he were told that the Irish landlord had been made what he was by the Legislature, he could not deny it; but then he would add further, that the Irish landholder was a slaveholder, and that the chain of his oppression still galled and rusted in the hearts of the Irish people. Till lately old feelings had kept up a rancour between the two countries; but that rancour, though extinct in England, was still extant in Ireland. All that Englishmen wanted now was, that Irish landlords should do their duty; and should be compelled to mortgage their lands if they would not otherwise maintain the poor of their country. Perhaps it might be said that this was not the time for such a resolution as he proposed, because the Irish landlords had not received their rents. He denied the fact on the authority of a friend in that house, who informed him that Irish rents had been well received this year. There could be no mystery on such matters, for the Times newspaper was a grand Bude light cast upon all political combinations, exposing everything to public inspection except the secret workings of the hearts of Irish landlords and of English Cabinet Ministers. He told Lord J. Russell that there was a peculiarity about his situation which demanded his consideration, at it had received the consideration of the public. His cabinet was surrounded by Irish proprietors. Was it necessary, he asked, to mention the names of all the great Irish landed proprietors connected with the noble lord's administration? He might mention the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Marquis of Clanricarde, in the cabinet, and he might mention Lord Monteagle, who is beating at the door to get into it. (Laughter.) He might also mention that nobleman who shook Europe to its centre, Lord Palmerston; he might also mention the Duke of Devonshire, and also a nobleman who, though not in the cabinet, it is true, is a magnate, notwithstanding—(laughter,)—Earl Fitzwilliam. Had he not come out in support of the project of the noble lord the member for Lynn? He was the first to declare in its favour; and he (Mr. Roebuck) could understand the feelings of the noble lord when he read the speech of Earl Fitzwilliam on the occasion, he (Mr. Roebuck) was sure he clapped his hands, and said he had got the sixteen millions. (Laughter.) But there was another body stronger even than Earl Fitzwilliam, and that was the people of England. (Hear.) He might mention one more name—a noble lord whose administration he was sure deserved all praise; but still there are certain feelings in the breasts of all men—he might mention Lord Besborough. (Hear, hear.) He could go through a great number more, but these were the great landed proprietors of Ireland, in the face of the people of England, who had a narrow and exclusive administration formed for the benefit of persons of this description, for the rest is "leather and prunella." This is the real administration. There was a great number of persons on that bench for whom he had a personal regard; but he wrote them down as ciphers. Those are the real names of the cabinet, and those are the persons who, in the face of the United Kingdom, do countenance those who had sent a deputation to the noble lord (Lord John Russell) to try and frighten him, and to tell him they would not have an honest Poor Law for Ireland. Lord J. Russell was a bold man; but there was no civil courage in his answer to his question of that night—"I cannot tell what I shall do if the Poor Law is not carried." He could tell his lordship what the house would do in such a contingency—it would throw out both bills. The fact was, Ministers did not know their own policy from one hour to another, and the vessel in which they sailed, like the old Agamemnon, was only kept together by the surges of it opponents around it. He then showed, by reference to Sir R. Peel's conduct on the Income Tax, and on the Spirit Tax in Ireland, that he was very amenable to the people of England, and contended that Lord J. Russell must be made amenable to it also, for his present system would not do, and we must have a complete overturning of his present policy towards Ireland. The population of Ireland deserved the consideration of a great statesman, who could convert it into a self-supporting population like that of Great Britain. But the most preposterous mode of attempting such a conversion was to lavish criminally millions upon it. A Minister ought not to pander to such a state of things. If he did so, the consequence would be that the terrible year of 1847 would be followed by the still more terrible year of 1848, and the result would be no less fatal to the resources of England than to those of Ireland. He warned the house that it would not be long before the nation, in its political capacity, would be called in to pass judgment on all these schemes. English members would have to answer this question from their constituents: "What have you done with their money?" and would they dare to reply, "We have thrown it away on the Irish poor, because the Irish proprietors would not give it to them from their resources?"

Mr. LABOUCHERE hoped that Irish members would not be drawn into the discussion of such topics as Mr. Roebuck had raised in his speech. He trusted also that the house would refuse its assent to the proposition just laid before it. As a general proposition he did not deny its truth and justice, but under existing circumstances it would be highly inexpedient to extend the Income Tax and the assessed taxes to Ireland. If the government was "criminally lavish" in expending eight millions upon Ireland, what alternative had it but to expend this money, or let hundreds and thousands, and even hundreds of thousands, of the people of that country starve? He would not then, however, enter into any lengthened vindication of the policy of the government, his principal object in getting up being to express his hope that the house would at once go into committee, and embark upon the proper business of the evening.

Mr. SHAW thought that before Mr. Roebuck proceeded to assimilate the taxation of the two countries he ought to consider the statistical differences between them England was a rich and manufacturing country, Ireland a poor and agricultural country. The population of England was double that of Ireland. The produce of England was £150,000,000, that of Ireland £36,000,000. Wages averaged in England from 8s. to 10s. a week, in Ireland not more than 2s. a week. The rental of England was £70,000,000, that of Ireland was only £6,000,000. The revenue of England paid £44,000,000, that of Ireland only £4,000,000. In Ireland there were 2,500,000 persons absolutely destitute in ordinary times; and 2,000,000 more, who in England would be thought deserving objects for poor law relief. Circumstances like these ought to be taken into consideration before the house affirmed a resolution like the present. He wished that he could give to the people of Ireland that self-reliance on which Mr. Roebuck had dwelt so strongly; but a poor law, instead of creating that self-reliance, was a measure better calculated than any other to destroy that nascent feeling.

Mr. J. O'CONNELL rose chiefly to reply to certain strictures which Mr. Roebuck had directed against the repeal party, both in and out of the house. Was this the time in which to extend the taxes alluded to in Ireland, when the incomes of that country were curtailed by fully one-half, from the non-payment of rent? He would give the Poor Relief Bill his strongest support, but would endeavour, at the same time, to defeat certain amendments proposed to it, and seemingly favoured by the Government, which, in his opinion, would go to nullify all the benefits proposed to be attained by the bill.

Mr. BAILLIE characterised Mr. Roebuck's scheme for the relief of Ireland as fallacious. There were some parts even of this country, in which the land could not be made to contain all the people located upon it. In Ireland, so long as the potatoes were sound, the land could and did support its people; but now that the potato had perished in many parts of that country, the land could no longer do so. The difficulties of the Irish question, therefore, were not to be solved by means of a stringent poor-law.

Mr. HUME denied that there was a single union in Ireland which could not maintain the poor within it. All that Mr. Roebuck wanted by his present motion, was an equality of taxation between the two countries. There was no reason why this equality should not exist, and he thought the present time as favourable as any other could be for its establishment. As a necessary accompaniment, however, of such a measure, they must also establish an equality of civil, religious and political rights between the two countries.

Sir R. PEEL did not think that the proper occasion on which to discuss the question of the share borne by Ireland of the financial burdens of the country, nor did he regard the honourable and learned gentleman's proposition as the best mode of securing his own object. The bill before the house proposed, at a time when about 700,000 people were engaged upon public works, to put it in the power of certain proprietors, by borrowing money from the Treasury, to withdraw a portion of these from unprofitable labour, and engage them upon the tillage and improvement of the soil. The object of the bill was, therefore, a good one, and the mode in which it was proposed to be secured unobjectionable. But the proposition of the hon. and learned gentleman went to making the loan of a few hundred thousand pounds to certain proprietors the consideration of imposing the income-tax, and other taxes, upon the people of Ireland. This was compromising the real merits of the question. It was treating a problem of great magnitude in a very little way, and prejudicing the honourable and learned gentleman's own case, by mixing up with the financial question involved in this proposition such extraneous matter as it contained. He did not contest the principle of the resolution, but the whole subject which it involved was accompanied with difficulties, not insoluble it was true, but such as were not to be met by any general resolution like this. He trusted the house in approaching a bill in committee, which it might find it no very easy work to proceed with, would not, by adopting the proposition of the honourable and learned member, encumber itself with additional and unnecessary perplexities.

Lord J. RUSSELL thought that in going into a variety of irrelevant subjects, Mr. Roebuck had overlooked the strongest arguments in favour of his own proposition. If they were now renewing the income-tax, he thought there were arguments in favour of that proposition connected with the state of Ireland itself. Some suspicion had been excited in the minds of many by the course which the government proposed to pursue in reference to the two bills now before the house. They did not propose that these two bills should go together, on the ground that that more immediately under their consideration was conferring a boon upon the proprietors, and that whilst they were giving a boon by the one hand they would impose a burden by the other. It was most desirable that a large portion of the population of Ireland should find other employment than that now afforded them, and he knew of no better means of procuring them this than by encouraging the proprietors to improve their land. Now he doubted if this bill would have all the effect desired, if it were not accompanied by another measure, which provided for the compulsory maintenance of the starving poor in Ireland by the owners of property. It was upon this ground, and this alone, that it was proposed that both bills should go together. As to the great numbers now employed on the public works, he had the satisfaction of informing the house that the government had entered upon a course, since the passing of the late act, which he had every reason to hope would soon, and greatly, diminish the number at present so employed.

Mr. SMITH O'BRIEN said he did not rise for the purpose of bandying compliments with the hon. member for Bath. He believed that nothing would gratify that hon. member more than showing him that his speech had ruffled his (Mr. O'Brien's) temper, and so far from such being the case, he was rather inclined to thank the honourable member for the ardour which he had devoted to promoting a cause which he (Mr. O'Brien) warmly advocated. He believed the honourable member had done more latterly to advance the repeal question than any other individual whatever. (Hear, hear.) He did not think, however, that he was at liberty to pass in silence a challenge that the honourable member had thrown out. The honourable member spoke of the advocates for repeal coming of late with bated breath and whining tones, asking England for a continuance of the Union. He utterly repudiated any such notion; and, on the contrary, he would say that every hour of this awful year, and every day that he sat in that parliament, only convinced him more and more of the necessity of a domestic parliament for Ireland; and he would peril all that he was worth in the world to obtain a repeal of the Union next week. (Hear, hear.) The honourable gentleman proceeded at some length to show that the financial injustice perpetrated upon Ireland at the time of the Union, was a sufficient answer to Mr. Roebuck's resolution.

Mr. D. CALLAGHAN said that one of the two gentlemen whom Mr. Roebuck had censured for not subscribing to the relief fund at Mallow, had but a small property in that vicinity, and that the other had no property at all there, but lived at Fermoy. It was not for him to attribute motives to honourable gentlemen for any course of conduct they pursued in that house, but he thought people out of doors would ask why it was that the honourable and learned member for Bath had chosen to take up this subject. He would state a fact with reference to the honourable and learned member. He (Mr. Callaghan) had the misery one evening this session to sit by the honourable and learned gentleman. It happened to be the very night when the honourable member for Waterford (Sir H. W. Barron) said something which seemed to irritate the honourable and learned gentleman. An honourable gentleman came up at the moment, and, sitting beside him, said, "Roebuck, did you hear what Barron said of you?" "I did," replied the honourable and learned member for Bath. "Well," said the other honourable member, "they will all be at you one after another—take care." "Oh!" said the honourable and learned gentleman, "I have an answer for them all: I'll give them what they don't like—an income tax." (Laughter.) The honourable gentleman who thus spoke to the honourable and learned member for Bath, wore a Quaker coat and broad-brimmed hat. From his garb he ought to have been a friend of peace, and of the honourable and learned gentleman; but he (Mr. Callaghan) was sickened that a man, calling himself the friend of peace, should attempt further to exasperate the honourable and learned member for Bath, after the attacks which he had already made in that house upon Irish landed proprietors.

After some further discussion, in which Lord G. Bentinck, Mr. Monckton Milnes, Mr. Muntz, and Mr. Yorke, opposed the motion on various grounds, and Mr. B. Estcott, Mr. S. Crawford, and Mr. James supported it,

The house divided, and the numbers were—

For the amendment 26
Against it 121

Majority for going into committee 95

The house then went into committee on the bill, whereupon its various clauses passed through committee, and the chairman reported to the house. The report to be brought up on Wednesday.

The committee on the Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill was then postponed till Friday, after which

The other orders of the day were disposed of, and the house adjourned at two o'clock.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9.

Mr. S. CRAWFORD gave notice that on Tuesday, the 23rd of March, he should move for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the Septennial Act.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.—After the dismissal of the private business, Mr. EWART brought forward his motion for the total repeal of the punishment of death. After reviewing the various mitigations of our criminal code which had been made of late years, and after quoting a great mass of statistical returns to prove that crimes had decreased as the severity of punishment had diminished, he inferred therefrom that the infliction of death was no longer necessary as a safeguard against crime. He came to this conclusion from reflecting on the improved system of prison discipline which we had recently adopted, on the increased strength of our police force, and on the better education of the people. The disproof, however, of the necessity of the infliction of death as a punishment did not lie on him; on the contrary, the proof of its necessity was thrown on those who argued for the continuance of capital punishments. He urged not only that the punishment of death was not necessary, but also that it was positively injurious to the administration of justice, to the criminals themselves, to the juries who found the verdicts, and to the public for whose protection these sanguinary penalties were enacted. Beccaria had said that the great moral value of punishment arose from the certainty of its infliction. But in this country you could not inflict death as a punishment even in every case of murder. Your laws, therefore, created a system of moral gambling in the minds of your criminals, and they staked their lives against their chance of escaping punishment. It also created sympathy for the criminal instead of an abhorrence for his crime. It weakened the force of your tribunals, as both judge and juries looked not to the crime, but to the punishment subsequent to the proof of it, and were, therefore, morbidly sensitive to the responsibility under which they acted. It was not even useful as an example to the public; for it was not invested with the pomp of a solemn ceremony, but was inflicted at an early hour in the morning, as if to withdraw it from publicity. He might be asked what punishment he would substitute for that of death in cases of murder. To that question he replied that he would substitute imprisonment for life. He would cease to make punishment a civilized revenge, and would give the criminal time for repentance, instead of closing the gates of repentance against him. He thought that from the better education of our people the time was now arrived when the great experiment which he recommended could be safely and successfully tried. He, therefore, called on the house to sacrifice old prejudices on the altar of civilization and of Christianity, and to give him leave to bring in a bill for the total abolition of capital punishment.

Dr. BOWRING seconded the motion in a short speech, in which he further enforced the arguments of Mr. Ewart.

Sir G. GREY observed that he could not consent to the sweeping measure recommended by Mr. Ewart, inasmuch as he proposed to abolish the punishment of death not only in the most aggravated cases of murder, but also in cases of high treason, where life to an indefinite extent might be sacrificed by the guilty attempts of those who committed it. No one now wished us to retrace the steps which we had already taken in the mitigation of the severity of our criminal code; nor was he prepared to say that in some cases we might not even still proceed further. The only legitimate object of punishment was the prevention of crime and the protection of society. Mr. Ewart contended that the punishment of death did not answer that object; but his arguments in support of that position appeared to him to be anything but satisfactory. It was true that since the year 1841 there were certain classes of crime on which capital punishment had not been inflicted; but it was also true that since that time no case of murder had taken place in which the execution of the murderer had not followed. There had been in consequence a decrease in the number of murders committed of late years; and he attributed that result to the certainty with which extreme punishment followed the commission of the crime. In the case of murder, public opinion was not in favour of the abolition of the punishment of death; on the contrary, he believed that it would be shocked by the enactment which Mr. Ewart proposed. The public were of opinion that life was protected by the continuance of the punishment of death; and as a proof of it he referred to the readiness with which individuals prosecuted, and witnesses came forward, and juries convicted in cases of murder. He concluded by giving a direct negative to the motion.

Mr. HUME contended that Sir G. Grey had not met any of the arguments of Mr. Ewart, but had evaded them all. He asserted that there was great hesitation on the part of juries to convict at present in any case where death was certain to follow a verdict of "guilty." He implored the house to proceed in the good course in which it had been proceeding for some time past, and to allow this bill to be introduced.

Mr. AGLIONBY denied that public opinion was in favour of the continuance of the punishment of death, and contended that it was not for the public good to inflict it any longer. He should support the motion for bringing in this bill.

Sir R. INGLIS contended, upon theological grounds, that it was not left to human legislators to consider whether, as a matter of expediency, they should or should not inflict death in cases of murder. The Divine Legislator had declared that "whosoever sheddeth man's blood by man shall his blood be shed." We might deem it expedient to abolish death in cases of forgery, sheep-stealing, and other crimes, but we were not at liberty to abolish death as a punishment for murder.

Mr. BROTHERTON controverted the doctrines of Sir R. Inglis, and declared his intention to support the bill.

The house then divided, when there appeared—

For the motion 41
Against it 81

Majority against it 40

AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS.—Mr. M. GIBSON moved for leave to bring in a bill for the collection of agricultural statistics in England and Wales. The house was fully agreed as to the importance of obtaining agricultural statistics; and the object of this bill was to create the machinery by which they could be obtained. It was proposed to procure returns from every occupying tenant of not less than five acres, containing a description of every sort of crop, be it wheat, barley, or oats, sown upon his land. The returns were to be annual; but in case it should be found that annual returns were unnecessary, and that they could be more conveniently given at longer periods, a dispensing power was given to the Board of Trade to call for them at more distant intervals. England and Wales were to be divided into Superintendent Registrars' districts, and these again were to be divided into Registrars' districts. The Registrars would be authorized to appoint agricultural enumerators to communicate with the farmers. It was through this machinery that he proposed to collect these statistics. The enumerators would return their papers to the Registrar, and the Registrar would return them to his Superintendent. By the Superintendent they would be tabularized, and forwarded to the Board of Trade, by whom they would be reduced into proper form, to be submitted to Parliament. It was proposed to obtain similar returns from Scotland and Ireland, but in a different way, which he briefly described to the house.

Mr. HUME contended that this was a very wild and useless inquiry, and that the statistics in question could be more easily obtained by calling for such returns from every parish in the kingdom.

After a few words from Mr. Henley, leave was given to bring in the bill.

MORTALITY IN IRELAND.—On the motion of Mr. S. O'BRIEN, a return was ordered of the number of persons who have died in each parish in Ireland during each month since the 1st of November, 1846, in so far as the same can be ascertained by information derived from the inquiries of the constabulary, specifying the number who have died from starvation or disease consequent upon the insufficiency of food, with a summary for the whole of Ireland.

A conversation of some duration took place on the policy of making this return, in which Sir G. Grey, Mr. J. O'Connell, Lord John Russell, Mr. Aglionby, and other members joined. The success of the motion was endangered at the close of the conservation by a declaration of Mr. S. O'Brien that from 200,000 to 240,000 persons had perished in Ireland from starvation. He would never cease to arraign the Legislature if such a state of things were allowed to continue, and he would take every opportunity of publishing to the world that his countrymen were allowed to perish like vermin by the British government. This called up Mr. Hume, who remarked that as Mr. S. O'Brien had declared that not one individual should be allowed to perish from starvation in Ireland, he must call on that gentleman to declare explicitly how such a result was to be prevented. He would not allow such a charge to be brought against the government, when its humanity towards Ireland had been extended beyond all due bounds. In this declaration Mr. Henley joined, and cautioned the government not to allow any returns on the accuracy of which it could not rely, to be made on this subject. The motion was granted.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned at 8 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10.

The House met at twelve o'clock.

ARREST FOR DEBT (IRELAND) BILL.—Sir H. W. BARRON moved the second reading of this Bill. The honourable gentleman explained the provisions of this measure, the main object of which was to assimilate the law of arrest in Ireland to that existing in England, prohibiting arrest for debt when the sum demanded is under £20.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL (for Ireland) did not wish to meet the bill with any positive opposition, but he trusted that the honourable gentleman, if he would not consent to withdraw it altogether, and leave the matter in the hands of the Government, would at least consent to postpone the second reading of it until he had time properly to consider its provisions. He had scarcely been three weeks in the house, and from the multiplicity of other objects demanding his attention, he had not as yet had time to give it that consideration which it required at his hands. If the hon. gentleman would consent to press the bill no further, but leave the matter entirely in the hands of the Government, he would promise him that it would undergo the most serious consideration.

Mr. SHAW was not prepared to offer any opposition at present to the principle of the bill, but he hoped that the honourable gentleman would comply with the suggestion of the Solicitor-General in respect to it.

Mr. MONCKTON MILNES supported the second reading, adducing a variety of instances in which the law of arrest, as it at present existed in Ireland, was converted to purposes involving the grossest abuse of it.

Mr. LABOUCHERE said that he was unwilling to give any distinct pledge that if the measure were then withdrawn the Government would bring in a bill with a similar object to that of the bill now before the house. His chief reason for refusing this pledge at present was the great pressure of Irish business which existed already—some of which he feared would have to be postponed if the Government undertook to bring in a bill like that proposed by the honourable gentleman. Considering the importance of the many Irish measures already before them, he thought it would be unadvisable to risk the passage of any of them by encumbering themselves with a measure of this nature. The subject would, however, undergo the best consideration of the Government, and he hoped the honourable gentleman would consent to go no further at present, without extracting any pledge from him beyond that already given.

After some further conversation the bill was withdrawn.

DRAINAGE BILL.—The house then went into committee on the Drainage Bill.

Some amendments were proposed to the measure by Sir G. GREY, the object of which was to render certain the application of the money borrowed from the Government to the purposes designed, and to extend the benefits to be derived from the bill as widely as possible, which amendments were concurred in by Sir J. Graham and by Lord G. Bentinck, the latter, however, expressing an opinion that more money than was proposed should be expended for the purpose, if it was sought to carry it beneficially out.

The different clauses of the bill, with the amendments proposed, were severally adopted in committee.

The next business which occupied the attention of the house arose on bringing up the report on the Landed Property (Ireland) Bill, some new clauses to which having been brought up, the further consideration of the report was postponed till Thursday.

The house adjourned at 6 o'clock.

THURSDAY, MARCH 11th.

Lord GEORGE BENTINCK moved for a comparative return of the number of deaths which have occurred in each parish in Ireland, commencing the 1st day of September and ending the 1st day of March respectively. The noble lord believed the government were in possession of information showing that 240,000 persons had perished of famine and disease in Ireland.

Mr. M. MILNES, who briefly reviewed Lord John Russell's speech of Thursday last upon the subject, then maintained that the assent of the house to the resolutions now before it would give additional force to the protest which the government had deemed it its duty to make against the incorporation of Cracow. If the noble lord persisted in his declared intention to move the previous question, such a course would be liable to misconstruction abroad, and would materially weaken the protest alluded to. He then adverted to the origin and proceedings of the Congress of Vienna, for the purpose of showing that Cracow did not become a "political body" by the exclusive consent of the Three Protecting Powers. The independence of Cracow could not have compromised the security of either of their states, and it was in order to get a pretext for invading that independence that Cracow became subject to the most systematic and vexatious annoyances; amongst which he might instance the armed occupations to which it had more than once been subjected. It was by these annoyances that Cracow was driven into those acts which led to its absorption into the Austrian dominions. All this he conceived to be, to a great extent, the result of a dereliction of duty on the part of this country and France. Had consular agents been sent by these countries to Cracow, on the occasion of its first armed occupation, the misfortunes which had since befallen it might have been averted, and its liberty and independence might have been permanently secured. Lord Palmerston had intimated that a consular agent would be sent thither, but neither he, nor his successors in office, after that intimation was given, had carried it into effect, and he trusted the noble lord would explain to the house the circumstances which prevented him from carrying his formerly expressed intention into execution. The atrocity of the act, whereby the independence of Cracow was extinguished, was most apparent when it was considered that all that had been attained by it, so far as Russia, Prussia, and Austria were concerned, might have been secured without any violation of the treaty of Vienna. As to the payment of the Russo-Dutch Loan, one of the considerations for which we bound ourselves to that payment was the adhesion of Russia to the general arrangements of the treaty of Vienna. It was undeniable that Russia had disregarded some of the more important of these arrangements, and with the violation of any of them our bargain to pay the money fell to the ground.

Dr. BOWRING and Mr. T. S. DUNCOMBE supported the resolutions.

Sir R. INGLIS supported the first resolution, as did also Lord Dalmeny and Sir W. Molesworth conditionally.

Lord MAHON and Lord G. BENTINCK strenuously opposed the resolutions.

Sir R. PEEL had the greatest doubt as to the right of this country to relieve itself from the Treaty of 1815 and the Convention of 1831; and if there could be any question of such a right, he doubted the policy of attempting it. It was evident that we had received the Cape of Good Hope, Demerara, Essequibo, and Berbice as an equivalent for our portion of the interest of the Dutch Loan, and it was an express stipulation that the payment of the interest shall continue even in the event of a war with Russia. Supposing then that the violation of the Treaty of Vienna was so flagrant as that we should go to war with Russia, still, he contended, we should be bound to continue the payment of this interest. The right honourable baronet being therefore unable to agree in the practical conclusion recommended by Mr Hume, was prepared to give that portion of the resolutions a direct negative; and doubting the policy of affirming the first portion of the resolutions, he was prepared to meet it by voting for the previous question, although he repeated his opinion that the incorporation of Cracow by Austria was a violation of the Treaty of Vienna, and an insult to the spirit of Europe.

Sir J. WALSH moved the adjournment of the debate till to-morrow (Friday).

Lord J. RUSSELL strongly objected to a postponement.

The debate was finally adjourned to Tuesday next.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS, 83, DEAN-STREET, SOHO.—Mr. T. M. Wheeler will lecture on Sunday evening, March 15th, Subject—"The Effects of Monarchical and Aristocratical Government."

ASHTON.—A meeting of members will be held on Sunday evening, at six o'clock, in the Chartist-room.

BARNSLEY.—Mr Mirfield will deliver a lecture on Sunday evening, at eight o'clock, in Mr Pickering's large room. Subject—"The Rights of Man."

BIRMINGHAM.—The petition committee, and all persons holding petition sheets, are requested to meet at the Ship, on Sunday evening, (to-morrow,) and bring their petition sheets.

BACUP.—A meeting will be held in the Chartist-room, Rochdale-road, on Sunday, March 14th. Chair to be taken at half-past ten o'clock, A.M.

BRADFORD.—The members will meet in the large room, (formerly the shooting gallery), Butterworth-buildings, at two o'clock, P.M. The petition and other committees will meet, as above, at three o'clock on the same day.

BURY.—The members will meet on Sunday afternoon, in the room over the Old Water Works, Clark-street, at two o'clock.

BRISTOL.—A meeting will be held on Monday evening next, to adopt the memorial to Lord John Russell for the release of Frost, Williams, and Jones. Chair to be taken at eight o'clock.

MESSRS. CLARK and DOYLE will visit the following places during the ensuing week:—Plymouth, Devonport, Buckfastleigh and Totness.

FINSBURY.—An elocutionary entertainment, &c., will be given at the City Lecture Theatre, Milton-street, on Wenesday next. T. S. Duncombe, Esq., will take the chair at 8 o'clock precisely. The committee have issued an attractive programme, and between the parts, Mr. Butler, a young and very clever imitator of many of our popular actors, will appear. The proceeds of the benefit are in aid of the library of the Mutual Instruction Society.—Mr. T. S. Toole will deliver a mathematical lecture, on Monday evening next, at nine o'clock.

GREENWICH.—A general meeting will be held at Mr Paris's, Cold Bath, on Tuesday, March 16th, to take into consideration the propriety of calling a public meeting, to investigate the conduct of Admiral Dundas, in voting against the repeal of the Rate-paying Clauses in the Reform Bill. A subscription has commenced in aid of Dr M'Douall, and "West's Testimonial."

HULL.—A meeting will be held at the Ship Inn, Church-lane, on Sunday evening at six o'clock, on business of importance

LANCASHIRE MINERS.—The next general delegate meeting of Lancashire miners will be held at the Wheat Sheaf, Coppull, near Chorley, on Monday, March 22nd, chair to be taken at eleven in the forenoon. There will also be a public meeting, which will be addressed by W P Roberts, Esq, and other gentlemen

LIVERPOOL.—A meeting of members will be held on Sunday evening, March 14th, at Mr Farrell's, 4, Cazneau-street

MANCHESTER:—A tea party and ball will be held at the Grand Hall, Campfield, on Good Friday afternoon, in honour of the principles contained in the People's Charter; and in commemoration of the Land Scheme, propounded by F O'Connor, Esq

MARYLEBONE.—Mr. J. F. Lindon will deliver a lecture at the Coach Painters' Arms, Circus-street, on Sunday evening (to-morrow) at seven o'clock precisely. Subject—"Political Economy contrasted with Natural Economy."

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—Dr. M'Douall will lecture at the Quay-side on Sunday, March 14, at two o'clock (weather permitting). The Dr. will also lecture in the lecture-room, Nelson-street, on Monday, March 15, at eight o'clock, P.M.—Correspondence respecting the Dr.'s tour to be addressed to Mr. J. Nisbett, 6, Gibson-street.

OLDHAM.—On Sunday (to-morrow) Mr. Jones, of Manchester, will lecture in the school-room of the Working Man's Hall, at six o'clock, P.M. Subject—"How can Labour best emancipate itself?"

ROCHDALE.—On Sunday, the 28th instant, the Chartist council will meet in their room, Mill-street, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, instead of Monday night.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—Dr. M'Douall will lecture here on Thursday, March 18

SUNDERLAND.—A general meeting of members will be held on Monday, March 15th, at half-past seven o'clock, at 5, Nomber's Garth, to nominate the Executive Council Dr. M'Douall will lecture here on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 16th and 17th.

STOCKPORT.—Mr Robert Wild, of Mottram, will lecture on Sunday evening, at six o'clock.

SOHO.—The General Election and Central Registration Committee will meet at the Assembly Rooms, 83, Dean-street, on Tuesday evening next, at eight o'clock. The secretaries of the several local committees are invited to attend, and supply information respecting agitation for repeal of the rate-paying clauses of the Reform Bill. The National Victim and Patriot Widow and Orphans' Committee meet as above, at seven P.M. of the same day.

MEETING OF JOURNEYMEN BAKERS TO SHORTEN THE HOURS OF LABOUR.

On Wednesday evening a numerous meeting of the operative bakers of the metropolis was held at the White Conduit Tavern, to take into consideration the best means of shortening the hours of labour, especially as regards night-work. Mr. Oastler, "the Factory King," was present. It was expected that Mr. Duncombe, M.P., Mr. Ferrand, M.P., and Mr. C. Cochrane, would have been present, but they sent letters of apology, expressing at the same time sympathy in the object of the meeting. Mr. Wakley, M.P., was called to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN then proceeded to address the meeting, and said—The object of the promoters of that meeting was to release themselves from a grievous wrong; and if men who suffered from wrong quietly submitted to its infliction they were sure to be bad citizens, and well deserving of the sufferings imposed on them. (Hear, hear.) He knew of no class of workmen who suffered the same amount of misery, of annoyance, of persecution, and degradation, as the journeymen bakers of London. (Hear, hear.) How they had borne it so long he could hardly understand. It was only to be explained in this way—that by the time they began to get angry with the system they died. (Hear, hear.) There was not a grey-headed man amongst them. He understood that a grey-headed journeyman baker was as difficult to find as a dead donkey on a common. (Laughter.) How was this? There was no union amongst them. (Hear.) Their dough was not well set. If they only heated their own ovens for themselves as well as they heated them for others, they would not be there to complain of the grievance which had called them together. (Hear and laughter.) It depended on themselves, then, whether they would be able to produce a batch to their own satisfaction. (Hear.) He was told that there were 7,000 journeymen bakers in London, many of whom had families. But he understood that the masters did not like to employ married men. (Cries of "True.") Now, many of those who eat bread really knew nothing of the labour which was expended in its production. They little knew that the production of that bread was the cause of grievous diseases, and that frequently twenty out of the twenty-four hours were employed in its manufacture. (Hear, hear.) Nay, he was informed that frequently men were engaged in the bakehouse for two days together, without being able to stir from the toil which they had to endure. Now, was there a necessity for this state of things? (Loud cries of "No, no.") If they only combined honestly to relieve themselves, they must be successful, for their cause was a good one. The question was, how were they to succeed? First, by combination; next, by discussion; and, lastly, by temperate agitation. (Hear, hear.) Their proposal was, as he understood it, not to be employed more than twelve hours a day.—(Hear.) Well, he thought this was quite long enough for men to be engaged in any employment; but when it was recollected that the journeymen bakers were employed at the mouth of an oven, in a temperature, varying from 75 to 85, and then in a moment passing into one below the freezing point—when it was recollected that the effect of this system was to bring on a short cough, and that the consequence was a continuance of disease ending in premature death—he thought these were additional reasons why, in the baking of bread, the hours of labour should be limited to at least the number here mentioned.—(Hear.) Then, again, he wished to know if it was necessary to work at night?—(Cries of "No.") Some say that it is, and some that it is not.—(Cries of No.) Why was it necessary to work at night? To supply nice hot rolls to please the diseased palate of some old maid?—(A laugh.) He, for one, was willing to assist, and would exert all his power and influence to produce a change in a system which was alike destructive of the health, comfort and morals of the class affected by it.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. IVES, an operative baker, in moving the first resolution, which declared that the hours of labour during which the journeymen bakers were employed, namely, from eleven o'clock at night to five and six the following evening, and their occupation during the night, was injurious to them physically and mentally, and destructive of their domestic comforts, said, that although there might be some doubt as to the possibility of giving up night-work, there could be none as respected the shortening of the hours of labour.—(Hear, hear.) Not only did men connected with the baking business die earlier, owing to the severity of the labour which they had to undergo, but the old men were set aside in order that young men might be engaged—so that the old men were only to be found in the workhouses, or in some miserable room in some wretched house.—(Hear.)

Mr. WILLIAMS, another operative, seconded the resolution, and said that 12 hours were quite long enough for any journeyman to work, and the master that could not do business with such hours' employment ought to retire from it. (Hear, hear.) The speaker then protested against the system of night working, and observed that the journeyman baker was fastened down in the bakehouse, so that if a fire were to take place in the house he might be destroyed before a chance of escape could be afforded. He knew persons to die in the bakehouse, and the fact was not known until the master came to learn the result of the baking. (Hear, hear.) They must make an effort to get rid of the grievance of which they complained.

"Let it come slow, or let it come fast,
We will endeavour to be free at last."—(Cheers.)

The resolution was then put from the chair, and agreed to.

Mr. READ then proposed the next resolution, which was to the effect that night work, and the hours of labour during which journeymen bakers were employed, were the cause of the ruinous competition which existed in the trade, &c. Mr. Read proceeded to refer to the history of baking, and to contend that the present system was highly injurious to the workmen as well as to the trade at large.

The resolution having been seconded, was put and carried.

Mr. OASTLER then moved the adoption of a petition to Parliament, praying it to pass a measure to restrict the hours of labour of the journeymen bakers to twelve hours, and to abolish night work. The masters were to be solicited to sign the petition. Mr. Oastler contended that out of the twelve hours even two ought to be allowed for meals. He also contended that by shortening the hours of labour, a bonus would be given to labour, so that instead of the principle being injurious to the working man, it would be serviceable to him. He contended also, that the only way to ensure protection to the workmen, was by obtaining an Act of Parliament on the subject.—(Hear.)

The resolution was seconded and adopted.

Thanks having been given to the chairman, the meeting separated.

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Saturday, March 13th, 1847.