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ment had at their command so large a majority, why should the business of committees, and the ordinary business of the house, be interfered with by the course now proposed? Such a step would give encouragement to a small minority to throw every obstacle in the way of

... in preparations, the motto 'Divi'

tion proceeded by John-street, George-street, Tottenham-court-road, High-street, St Giles, and Broad-

street, into Holborn, where it stopped for a few minutes at the offices of the National Land Association, to take up the National Petition, which consisted of five large rolls of paper of nine or ten feet in circumference. The petition being locked on to the wheels of the procession car, it proceeded on its way to Holborn, Farringdon-street, and New Bridge street, (in which the first policeman was seen), to Blackfriars-bridge. On crossing the bridge, we observed a body of two or three hundred pensioners down by the steamboat-pier, who were loudly cheered by the people. An equal number of police (not one displaying his staff), were stationed in line, immediately on the opposite bank of the river, and on the opposite road. A little further on, a body of fifty mounted police, with cutlasses by their side, were found sta-

tioned by the side of the road. Up to the Blackfriars-road, we observed that nine-tenths of the shops were opened, but from that point they assumed a different aspect, nearly all being closed. The procession proceeded on its course by the London-road and Kennington-road, to the Common, the multitude being much increased at the Elephant and Castle by large bodies of men, who appeared to be waiting for its arrival in the various points of which that well-known hostelry forms a distinguishing centre, and at the time of its arrival at the Common this portion of the meeting could not have been less than thirteen thousand strong.

turning into the Common, and marching strong. On the east the eyes of its occupants, large bodies of men, variously estimated at from eighty thousand to one hundred fifty thousand, were wheeling and marching about in all directions, and the colours of the various trades' unions floating in the breeze, a brilliant sun adding to the coup d'œil. On the cars entering the Common, about twelve o'clock, they were immediately surrounded by large masses of the people, who most vociferously cheered Mr O'Connor and the petition.—(From the Post.)

(From the Times)

At the Elephant and Castle a cheer was given, and from this point along the Kennington-road to the common the crowd presented the appearance of a moving mass of upwards of 10,000 persons. It proceeded in silence until the cars arrived within sight of the congregated thousands already assembled upon the common. The delegates were now surrounded by an enthusiastic crowd, and received with deafening and prolonged cheers, which Mr O'Connor and his brother delegates acknowledged by waving their hats and waving their arms. The crowd then, upon the view of the delegates at this point, was totally grand and imposing. The procession of the many and the many

Societies which had already arrived were drawn up in military array at the outskirts of the common, with their several flags and banners, and also formed the line, through which the cars advanced to the place of meeting. The centre of the common was occupied by a vast assemblage, many of whom were soon seen hurrying in rapid motion to welcome the Christ-leaders. As the cars advanced into the centre of the common they were surrounded by a crowd, which every minute became more dense, and who rent the air with their shouts. The Irish Confederates and many of the trades processions remained in file where

They were drawn up, either as if expecting the cars to proceed to some other position than that which they took up, about the middle of the common, or depending upon the longer an assemblage of hearing the voices of the speakers.

Here a person approached the car and addressed Mr O'Connor with a message from Mr Mayne, one of the Commissioners of Police, requesting to have an interview with him before the commencement of the proceedings. Mr O'Connor and Mr M'Grath immediately alighted from the car and accompanied the bearer of the message to the Lyons Tavern, which was occupied and exclusively engaged during Monday

by the police authorities, military officers, and numerous interested in the proceedings of the day. The rumours were immediately refuted, and the report that the procession had been arrested, and this report spread throughout the metropolis in an incredibly short space of time. We believe that Mr Mayne announced to Mr O'Connor that the authorities would not object to the meeting taking place, but that the procession would not be permitted to pass over the bridges, that the government were prepared with means of preventing it from taking place, and were fully determined to use them if necessary. Finally, that if the procession was persevered in, he (Mr O'Connor) must

take the responsibility of the consequences, whatever they might be. Mr. O'Connor at once consented to the adjournment of the procession. Mr. O'Connor and Mr. McGrath hereupon returned to the docks, and the men which they had led, amid great cheering and waving of handkerchiefs, and a considerable concourse of persons having assembled around this car, although forming a small proportion of the entire number upon the streets, the proceedings of the day commenced.

Having quoted from the Times and the Post, we may now state for ourselves that the assemblage was a grand and imposing sight, we heard the num-

On the motion of Mr OLAKI, seconded by Mr ADAMS:

Mr DOWSE was appointed president of the meeting amid much vociferous cheering. He said,—"Men of London, this is one of the most glorious sights that

ever had but the pleasure of witnessing. (Cheera.) This is such a sight as must make the heart of every true devotee beat with joy and exultation—which at once proves to demonstration that the people of this great metropolis are in favour of the common rights of humanity. (Loud cheers.) This is a sight such as was never witnessed in this vast metropolis before. Friends, you have elected me to preside over you this afternoon as chairman. I can only say that I am very glad to do so, that I thank you for the confidence which you have placed in me, and I am thankful for more reasons than one; but, especially, I am thankful that the working class, begin-

to see that they can do their own work themselves. (Cheers.) Friends, I need not ask you to be peaceful in your conduct this day. I need not ask you to conduct yourselves with the greatest propriety; for, recollect that on your good conduct this day, on your peaceful but firm demeanor, depends the success of one of the most glorious causes ever agitated by man. (Cheers.) Mr O'Connor and the other gentlemen, whose magnificent way have come here for the purpose of doing their duty to the people who have sent them, and whom I have the honor to call the noblest and a great extent of the united kingdom. In that manner, before you, there lies a petition signed by nearly

of 300,000 people, proving beyond the possibility of successful refutation that we represent the working-men at least. The delegates of the people will do their duty, but they will expect you to do yours. Loud cheers, and cries of 'We will.' Mr O'Connor will first address you. He will give you not only his own opinion and advice, but the opinion and address of the gentlemen composing the National Convention, and of the working-men as many of your number. I beg to introduce to you, ladies your true friend and champion—the champion of the rights of humanity—Mr Feargus O'Connor. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. F. O'Conor, M.P., then came forward amid deafening cheers, which were taken up from those immediately around the car and re-echoed by the crowds in the outer circles over the whole common. He bowed repeated acknowledgments, each courteous gesture being the signal for a new effort of uproarious enthusiasm.—My children (he said), you were industriously told that I would not be among you to-day. Well, I am here. (Great cheering.)

ear, on the way were, on the front seat of this car, although my life was threatened if I appeared as I now appear, my hand does not tremble. (Cheers.) You all know that for a quarter of a century I have been mixed up with this democratic agitation; in Ireland since the year '22, in England since the year '33; and, as you also know, I have never shrunk from taking my share of all the responsibility. (Loud cheers.) When I was asked in the House of Commons on Friday, whether or no I

would attend this meeting to-day? 'Triedly, that as I
 had always sought the lion's portion of the popu-
 larity, I would not shrink from encountering no-
 the lion's share of the danger. (Great applause.)
 I have always contended for you, rights, in and out
 of parliament, and to frighten me I have received
 at least 100 letters, telling me not to come here to-
 day, for that, if I did, my own life would be the
 sacrifice. My answer was this:— I would rather be
 stabbed to the heart than resign my proper place at
 the head of my children.' (Shouts of 'Bravo!')
 Yes, you, or my children.'

Ist nicht dein Vater im Himmel? — these are your horses,
not mine; this car is yours—made of your timber;
I am only your father and your bailiff, but your
honest father said "your unpaid bailiff," (*Cheers*).
And if ever our cause was prosperous, if it be not
injured by your discretion, it is at this moment.
Never was man so badgered as I have been in the
House of Commons, and entitled, as I am, to
your confidence, let me now implore you, in
the name of that great and good God who has this
day blessed us with a splendid sunshine, let me
Gott segne Sie!

on my knees to beseech you—do not now destroy the cause I have so struggled for all my life. ('Earnest crisis of 'Hear, hear.')

In yonder car (pointing to the vehicle which carried the Petition) go with you the voices of 3,700,000 of your countrymen. They, I, and the whole world, look to you

any such halls could be built upon the Common and the irrefutable conclusion he arrived at was, that there were between 400,000 and 500,000 people present. (Cheers.) And what could they think of a military man who could estimate the meeting at not more than that double what the hall they were then assembled in could contain? Now he would speak to them of the nature of the A.C. of Sir George Grey, which they had been told would go through committee on Monday last, and become law on Tuesday. He went down to the house, and moved that it be read a second time that day six months, and at last they divided whilst he was asleep; and that day he was going down again to oppose the bill, and if he stood alone, it should never become the law of the land if he could possibly help it. Now, he would tell the meeting what was the nature of the bill. It was this, that if he spoke adversely, or published anything which could be connected with any subsequent act of other parties, he would be liable to transportation. (Oh, oh.) That was the way a Whig government wished to put down the constitutional right of meeting, in which they were supported by a corrupt House of Commons. He was one of those who were guilty of speaking bolder in his character of a member of parliament than he was in his capacity of a demagogue. (Cheers.)—and he had declared to the house that, if ever this bill became law, he would immediately declare himself a Republican. (Cheers.) He believed there was a constitutional principle, one that would enable him to bring forward a measure once in every year, and he would do so, if this bill was passed, for a Republican. He was met by some of the newspapers that that sentiment was met by 'Oh! oh! he had a laugh, but it did not hear them himself, and other papers, and it was met by 'Hear, hear.' Now he had always contended for a monarchy, subject to that power behind the Throne—the people, and he maintained that the Throne ought to be based on the affections of the people, and not on the support of a corrupt nobility. He was now again going to the House of Commons to oppose Sir George Grey's bill, which he would to the death, and he said it adversely, for after twelve hours in the House of Commons yesterday, and ten hours the day before, his physician had recommended him to have a blister on his chest, to be blooded, and keep his bed, but he would not do so while he had strength to oppose that bill. (Cheers.) Now, then, he declared, that if the bill did become law, he would to-morrow impeach the ministers, notwithstanding all the 'Oh! oh's! and laughter' with which perhaps that impeachment might be received. The ministers supposed they had achieved a triumph over the people on Monday, but if they had it would prove only evanescent, and he should not be astonished if, ere long, they found the Queen, in imitation of a King of old, exclaiming 'A special! my kingdom for a special!' (Cheers and laughter.) It was the folly of their own people (the Chartists) that had led to the chance of a collision on Monday, for if strong language had not been used on the part of some of those connected with them, there would have been no resistance to the procession. But out of evil sometimes came good. They had their meeting, he (Mr O'Connor) was sat in the front seat, though he had received instructions not to say anything that his life was endangered. (Cheers.) And he now could say very clearly before him. He would never advise them to bluster, threaten, or deal in moonshine, but he would tell them they must be wily as serpents, cunning as foxes, mild as lambs, but determined as lions. (Cheers.) Though he was thankful that they had had no hostile collision on Monday, he was determined that the folly of other men should not again place him in a position with the people whereby their lives might be endangered. He said, that the Irish people had gained a greater triumph by the moderation of the Chartists on Monday, than if 200 or 300 of them had been sacrificed through the conduct of pickpockets, and by which their cause would have been damaged, if not irretrievably ruined. He (Mr O'Connor) had twice saved the cause by his conduct; once in 1839, and now again! (Cheers.) When Mr Smith O'Brien opposed the Treason Bill, the Minister laughed, but Guizot laughed when he was told he would be impeached, that minister was not indeed impeached, for when he was wanted he was not to be found. He was *non est inventus*. (Laughter.) By their conduct on Monday last they had greatly strengthened their cause, and there never had been heard such a debate since there had been a House of Commons as would be heard on Friday night upon their petition, and he was happy to say that several honourable members had told him, that in consequence of the conduct of the people on Monday they should vote for the Charter. (Loud cheers.) He had looked with great anxiety on the results of that day, and no one could guess what his feelings would have been had he missed one of his children from the nest the following morning. He had always said that he could reform the drunkard, that he could reform the thief, by kindness, but he never could reform the cruel man, and he thanked God that he had never in his life inflicted punishment even upon a dumb animal. (Cheers.) And it would be his great boast when the Charter became the law of the land, to say that they had gained a bloodless victory. (Cheers.) Then would his head be crowned with laurel, and every one would be living in his own cottage, tilling his own field, and enjoying the fruits of his industry without diminution, while every idler would be whipped through the streets with a foot's cap on his head, they would come forward with greater alacrity than now to defend the state. In the present state of society, every man who was idle ought to be as well fed as the man who was at work—(cheers)—because they were not able to obtain employment though willing to work. But, when the Charter became law, every man would be employed who chose to work, and therefore the idler should be punished. He would not go further, for when he got upon this strain his feelings carried him away to think of the women and the children, and, if he became too excited, he should be unfitted for the discharge of his duties in another though not more important place. (Loud cheers.)

Mr WILKINS now stood up to inform the hon. member for Nottingham that he had received a letter, stating that he ought to have received on Thursday last the national petition from Halifax with 47,000 signatures, but from some cause it had never yet come to his hands.

Mr O'Connor then retired amidst loud cheering.

THE PRESENTMENT OF PETITIONS.

Mr WILKINS now stood up to say that gentleman Mr O'Connor on this subject, and that he consulted Mr Adams, "Leave it in my hands." At the same time it would not, he believed, be illegal for this meeting to present a petition on the subject.

A motion being made that the report be received, Mr WILKINS moved that the committee should draw up a petition, and that the country might see the arguments of the petitioners, and that they report to-morrow morning.

Mr FUSSELL suggested that public meetings should be held for the purpose.

Mr ADAMS seconded the amendment.

Mr CUFFAY moved that the vote of yesterday be rescinded.

The amendment having been seconded, the vote was put, when Mr WILKINS's motion was carried by 14 to 12.

MEETINGS IN THE COUNTRY.

Mr HANLEY and other gentlemen reported from Nottingham, Sutton-in-Ashfield, and Darfield (near Carlisle), and Oldham, stating that meetings had been held and resolutions carried to support the Convention.

THE SIMULTANEOUS MEETINGS.

Mr HANLEY stated that many persons in the Post Office who refused to take blunderbusses into their hands, had been deprived of their situations, and that a great number of other persons throughout London had been sworn in as special constables only to be sent to the Tower, and that the country might see the arguments of the petitioners, and that they report to-morrow morning.

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