

TO THE WORKING CLASSES.

Words are things, and a small drop of ink
Falls like a stone—upon a thought, produces
That which makes a thousand, perhaps millions,
think.

LOUIS BLANC'S REPLY TO THIERS.

'PEACE,' versus 'PROPAGANDA.'

BROTHER PROLETARIANS.

You will remember that when the declaration of rights prefixed to the (new) French Constitution was under discussion in the Assembly, called 'National,' the clause declaratory of the 'Right to Labour,' excited a good deal of speech-making, and the end of which was the rejection of the clause, and the substitution of a declaration of the 'right to assistance.' On the occasion of this discussion, the most prominent speaker, and most bitter opponent of the 'right to labour,' was the notorious traitor Thiers. You will also remember that their journals of this country, more renowned for their hostility to the working classes, than for their laudations of Thiers, for what they styled his 'admirable speeches' in defence of property, family, and social order. These journals also excited the opposite side of the question, working of being compared with their favourite Thiers, whose 'arguments,' they declared, had not been replied to, and were, in fact, unanswerable. Of course, the Press-gang omits notice of the important fact, that the most zealous advocates of the 'right to labour,' elected to the Assembly, were under prescription, some banished, some in dungeons, and others silenced by the brutal hostility of the 'moderate majority.' But the omission of the truth is, to say the least, as 'easy as lying,' and one of the other never comes to our 'best possible instructors.'

I remind you of the fact, that I may fully speak of the present. The proprietors of the *Spirit of the Age* present, with that journal of Saturday last, a translation of a small work just written by Louis Blanc, in reply to the much applauded nonsense, and falsehoods given utterance to by Thiers on the Labour Question. I hope to hear of Louis Blanc's work being published in a shape better adapted for general circulation—say a twopenny or threepenny pamphlet. The enemies of Labour's rights care to widely diffuse the poison of their doctrines, an example which should be followed by the friends of the working classes, who, in the words of the truth, on the triumph of which depends the social salvation of Labour's children.

Louis Blanc commences by declaring that he was sent to the Assembly by the votes of a hundred and twenty thousand electors of Paris, with injunctions to maintain the *Right to Labour*, and point out the means of remedying social evils. Those electors' share in the national sovereignty was confiscated, and upon an accusation proved to be calumnious, in contempt of a former decision of the Assembly, without a fair debate, in a single night, with indecent haste, and by a coup d'état, the enemies of Louis Blanc continued to procure his banishment from the Assembly. The 'moderate majority' will look after their proscriptions of BARRIS and ARMAND, Louis Blanc and CAUVIN, should hereafter be cited as a precedent to justify similar treatment of themselves! But, as Louis Blanc remarks—'Political passions are blind to consequences.'

'It is the height of ignorance and childishness,' says Louis Blanc, 'to attribute the ruin of France to the speeches at the Luxembourg. Those who refer to the distress and troubles of our present position to social reforms which have only been enunciated, but never put in practice, are like the patient who, after refusing the prescriptions of his physician, charges him with having made him worse.' Questions of social reform have agitated the proletarian population of the towns for long time before the February Revolution. The working men 'enquired into the law of past social changes, to ascertain if civilisation had not yet another day to take; and observing that the lower classes had first ceased to be slaves, and afterwards to be free, inspired by their own aspirations, they asked themselves, if they should not soon cease to be proletarians, this being the ever-form of slavery.' The political Republic might have been created, if not heartily supported, but the bourgeoisie, but the people looked upon political reforms only as a means to obtain social reform.

'This was evident the very first day of the Republic, when a working man—his eyes flashing fire, and countenance glowing with indignation, entered the Council-room, and making his market ring upon the floor, demanded, in the name of the people, the acknowledgment of the Right to Labour. It was evident also, when, on the 28th of February, thousands of workmen, their dress still soiled with the dust of the barricades, filled the Place de Greve, with flags inscribed with the words, Organisation of Labour. My former colleagues cannot forget why they proposed a government of workers, and why they proposed a long time to be opposed by me and Albert. A committee of inquiry, indeed, without a budget, or any other powers than speech! I foresaw the consequences of such a proceeding. Besides, the people require something further; their demand was for the immediate creation of a Ministry of Labour.'

The 'commission' was, in fact, a tub thrown to the whale. In the first revolution, on the ever memorable day of the taking of the Bastille, the traitor FLEURETTE wrote to DEKAYNAT: 'Hold out, while I amuse the Parisians with cockades.' Acting on the same policy, LAMARTINE abused the proletarians with speeches, until he had once more victimised the eternal dupes of political impostors. Of course LAMARTINE, ARAGO, MARBAST, and Co. never intended to even attempt the 'Organisation of Labour.' The Luxembourg Commission was appointed to gain time; doubtless with the additional object of bringing the members of that commission into discredit—by setting their speech-making without the means of reducing their theories to practice. One of the falsehoods of faction, current not long ago, was the assertion—that the 'National Workshops' were experiments founded on Louis Blanc's scheme of association. The truth was the reverse of that statement. The 'workshops' were organised by MARIE in opposition to Louis Blanc. Only two establishments of workmen, the associations of journeymen tailors and journeymen saddlers, can be taken as even partially illustrating the ideas proclaimed at the Luxembourg. The saddlers' association 'is now on the high road to prosperity,' and the tailors' association, though the object of much calumny and misrepresentation, 'made a considerable advance, completed several important orders, realised no mean profits, and showed how valuable is the practice of fraternal union to maintain order and activity in business.'

I now proceed to indicate the arguments addressed to THIERS. Louis Blanc shows and proves that—When THIERS claimed to speak for 'society as it has been in all ages and countries,' he thereby proclaimed his own ignorance or insincerity; for society has not been the same in all ages, and is not the same in all countries. Some nations have refused to allow of individual property in the soil; others have not only allowed a few to monopolise the land, but also to make property of their fellow-creatures. Feudal society was very different to the present order of things. And even now, personal slavery and wages-slavery mark broad distinctions between society in America and in Europe.

Secondly, it is not enough to proclaim with THIERS that 'the fundamental principle of property is Labour.' From this principle flow two results:—That all property not derived from labour has no foundation in right; is, therefore, unlawful. That all labour which does not lead to property receives no indemnification; is, therefore, oppressive.

Tried by these rules existing society is condemned, for while the minority by monopolising the soil, implements of production, &c., are enabled to command the labour of the majority, the mass of that majority are foodless, clothless, and homeless; although their labour the rich owe their luxurious food, rich apparel, and splendid houses. 'So that when M. THIERS declares that in justice, the fundamental principle of property is labour,' society replies that in fact, 'the labour of one class is the source of property to the other.'

Thirdly, it is not true, as asserted by THIERS, that society says to all men 'Work, work, and the fruits of your labour shall be for you and your children.' On the contrary, the majority in society finding the means of labour monopolised by a few, can only work to leave of the minority, and for the advantage of that minority. A variety of vicious laws and institutions conspire to make the labourer the mere fortunate fellow man. It is not the fruits of his labour that the workman receives in exchange for his toil, but a salary—a bribe to induce him to produce those fruits for another. That salary reduced by competition in the 'labour market' to a minimum, is barely sufficient to maintain life. Want of employment or sickness, reduces the labourer to pauperism—often death.

Fourthly, if property is, as asserted by THIERS, 'a right essential to society, inherent in human nature,' we should be careful not to debate it by making it a privilege. If M. THIERS's explanation of the rights of property be correct, it is plain that every man without property falls short of his condition as a man, since he wants that which is essential to his nature.

PRESENT AND FUTURE STATE OF EUROPE.

PART VII.

The disorder of Europe is daily becoming more complicated and alarming to all parties, without any one of them yet perceiving its cause, or having any conception of its only remedy.

Until the cause shall be known to the public, and the true and only remedy shall be applied, the confusion of mind and suffering of all will increase.

It is evident to those who reflect and possess knowledge, that two factions, nearly equal in power, are in a conflict of extermination, and both ignorant of the cause of the contest in which they are thus engaged, for life or death.

They know not that this is a contest of Nature to overcome errors and evils, which hitherto have reigned triumphant over the human race, and in their place to establish truth and goodness over all the regions of the world.

It is a contest to destroy the principle of repulsion among mankind, and replace it by the principle of attraction; to destroy also that principle which creates the universal want of charity, and to introduce that principle which will create charity in all; that will destroy anger and ill-will, and fill the minds of each with genuine kindness and affection for the entire race of man.

Until this change, from the repulsive to the attractive principle, shall be made, it will be vain and useless to talk of peace, when there can be no peace, for now there is no knowledge, truth, or goodness, to create or support peace.

It is impossible to have peace, or a virtuous, prosperous, intelligent, and happy state of society, so long as society shall be based solely on a falsehood—itsself the principle of repulsion, and containing all evil within its necessary consequences.

Had it not been for the Revolution of the three days of February in Paris, the old falsehoods and evils of society might have tormented the human race with injustice and cruelty for many years; but, fortunately for the world, Nature forced on that Revolution, which had become necessary by the crimes and oppressions of old society, to which the industrious producers of all wealth could no longer submit.

And of all the murders, bloodshed, and violence following, or which may follow, that Revolution, old society is the true cause; the reaction, as it is called, is to uphold the robbery, injustice, and murderous cruelty of this system of falsehood and deception—a system in which the strong impose upon and oppress the weak, and in which evil is called good, and good evil.

This glaring injustice of the strong or wealthy members of old society, is called by them, liberty and justice. They are blinded to its injustice and crimes, and know not the truth, or what is now their only safety, or for their happiness.

It is to be hoped and reasonably expected that men will arise in this crisis, with mind and moral courage equal to the task now required; men who will stand between the insane conflicts of aristocracy and democracy; set both factions right, and induce perpetual peace, hereafter, between them.

If this be not done, and done speedily, woe to the present and to succeeding generations! With deep interest have the principles, practices, and proposed measures of all parties, in Europe and America, been examined again and again; but not one of them, after the fullest and most impartial investigation by the writer, appears to have discovered the causes of good and evil; or even yet attempted to descend to the true cause of human folly and misery; and without a knowledge of this cause, the remedy must remain unknown.

It is now too evident that a knowledge of rational principles or practices has been hidden from the present, as it has been from all past generations; and that the extreme and extensive sufferings, created by the ignorance and irrational practices of society, are become unbearable, and will soon force some great change upon all nations.

The writer having discovered the cause of the repulsive and attractive principles of humanity—of good and evil—of truth and falsehood; and knowing that the abandonment of falsehood and the introduction of truth can alone relieve the world from the evils which all nations suffer, or are about to experience; he is most desirous that the cause of evil should be at once removed, and truth introduced for their permanent benefit.

He is aware, from the repulsive character of falsehood and the attractive qualities of truth, that any attempt to unite the two principles under any arrangements, must fail, and disappear whatever expectations may be formed of ultimate success.

He therefore proposes to the civil and religious authorities of Europe and America, as both have so glaringly failed to produce at any time, in any country, truth, goodness, or happiness, that they shall openly abandon the gross and most lamentable falsehood on which their civil and religious systems have been based, and all the evil practices which have necessarily arisen to the human race, from a foundation so ignorant and injurious. And that they shall at once begin to reconstruct society on its true foundation, by a new combination of arrangements for an improved practice over the world—a practice in accordance with the fundamental truth upon which society should be alone based.

But the civil and religious authorities of the world do not comprehend this truth, or understand the practices which will emanate from it. For this want of knowledge, as, like other men, they are creatures of the unfavourable circumstances in which they have been placed, they cannot justly be blamed, but are to be pitied for the errors which they have been compelled to receive, and for the evils which they suffer themselves, and which they inflict so severely on others.

The writer, by the powers—natural and acquired—which have been given to him, without merit of his own, has been enabled to make this glorious discovery for the permanent happiness of the human race. In consequence, he is conscious that the *onus* lies with him to make this knowledge so known to the authorities, that they shall not only understand it, but be induced 'to receive the principles and adopt the practices.'

This explanation will account for the opposition of his past life to the existing principles and practices of society; and explain the reason why he has addressed these papers to the public, and published his late letters to the Queen of the British Empire. They are thus given that the subjects, so deeply interesting for all, may be more fully opened to these authorities and to the world.

GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL LAND COMPANY AT BIRMINGHAM.

(From our own Reporter.)

A General Conference of the delegates from England and Scotland, representing the thousands who are members of the National Land Company originated by Mr Feargus O'Connor for the purpose of ameliorating the condition of the working classes, was held at Birmingham during the week.

The sitting commenced on Monday, at twelve o'clock, in the Old Fellows' Hall, King Street, but little business was done (further than arranging preliminary proceedings), in consequence of the absence of Mr O'Connor, who was unavoidably detained at Great O'odford, one of the estates of the Company.

The business of the day commenced by Mr Doyle proposing that Mr James Sweet, the delegate from Nottingham, should take the chair. The resolution was seconded and carried unanimously.

Mr McGrath was, by another formal resolution, constituted secretary. Credentials were then presented by the following delegates from their several districts:—

List of Delegates.

Mr Robert Rider, Bradford; Mr James Bolton, Oxford; Mr Kydd, London; Mr Millwood, London; Mr Isaac Isherwood, Preston; Mr William Munday, Northampton; Mr Thomas Saunders, Winchester; Mr James Torkin, Stockport; Mr Thomas M. Wheeler, O'Connellville; Mr William Brook, Blackburn; Mr Skivington, Derby; Mr Duncan Sherwin, Glasgow; Mr James Taylor, Ashton; Mr John Ashforth, Bolton; Mr Edward Mitchell, Rochdale; Mr J. Scott, Lynn; Mr John Turner, Sheffield; Mr George Burnett, Hull; Mr James Sweet, Nottingham; Mr John Shaw, Leeds; Mr P. J. O'Brien, Cheltenham; Mr T. Flood, Tiverton; Mr H. Hyatt, Bristol; Mr G. Holloway, Worcester; Mr T. Edwards, Teignmouth; Mr J. Sutton, Manchester; Mr Daniel Donovan, Manchester; Mr Jeremiah Yates, Hanley; Mr Martin Jude, Newcastle; Mr A. J. Fussell, Birmingham; Mr John White, Leamington; Mr Green, Leicester; Mr James Niblett, Newcastle; Mr John Bentley, Huddersfield; Mr Benjamin Southworth, Burnley; Mr David Morrison, Swindon; Mr Joseph Linney, Bilton; Mr Wells, Marsden.

Mr CLARK suggested the propriety of the Conference adopting the hours of meeting formerly in use—namely, to assemble at nine o'clock in the morning, and adjourn for dinner at one till half-past two, then re-assemble and sit till five o'clock in the evening. He would move a resolution to that effect.

Mr DONOVAN seconded the resolution. Mr M. JUD moved an amendment, that the Conference sit till six o'clock. The amendment having been seconded by Mr White, was, after some discussion, carried.

Mr CLARK then proposed a resolution, 'That speakers, in introducing a motion should be confined to ten minutes, and, in general discussion, to five minutes.' This he thought would, by abbreviating speeches, expedite the business of the Conference.

Mr O'BRIEN said, that in some cases it would be impossible in the time proposed by Mr Clark's resolution to explain the objects which many members (and he for one) had to introduce.

Mr WHITE seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. Mr SUTTON moved.—That an authenticated report of the Conference should be prepared by the Secretary, and circulated amongst the members of the Land Company, in order to do away with a repetition of the misrepresentations which had been disseminated on former occasions with respect to their proceedings.

Mr HOLLOWAY seconded the resolution. Mr CLARK informed the Conference that measures were taken by the directors to obtain a full and correct report of their proceedings, which would appear in the columns of the *Northern Star*. A gentleman was present from the office of that journal, whose duty it would be to furnish the public with an accurate report, which might be referred to by the members of the Land Company. In addition to this, they would have an accredited report from the Secretary of the Conference, which would embrace the minutes of their proceedings, and the resolutions agreed to by the Conference. While upon his legs, he would suggest that they should confine themselves to preliminary business that day, and take the discussion upon the programme submitted by the directors to-morrow.

Mr O'BRIEN moved.—That a committee, consisting of seven individuals, should be appointed to try all cases of disputed elections. Mr EDWARDS seconded the resolution.

Several delegates suggested, that the number of delegates upon the committee should be limited to five, and Mr O'Brien having consented to adopt the suggestion, the resolution in its amended form was passed.

The following delegates were then appointed the Election Committee:—Mr O'Brien, Mr Edwards, Mr Linney, Mr M. Jude, and Mr Holloway. Another resolution was passed, providing for the attendance of the members of the Election Committee at the general deliberations of the Conference.

A long discussion ensued as to the propriety of Mr CLARK's introducing to the notice of the delegates the case of an allottee upon one of the estates of the Company. It was finally decided that this matter should rest over until to-morrow, when the case would be disposed of.

TUESDAY.

The Conference re-assembled this morning, at nine o'clock, and the names of the delegates having been called over, the minutes of the previous day's proceedings were read and confirmed.

Mr CLARK called attention to a matter which he thought ought to be referred to the Election Committee. They were all aware that by the constitution of the Company, certain districts were empowered to return delegates to the Conference, but in no case had it been considered lawful for any body of individuals to constitute themselves into a district, returning a representative. He would therefore move, 'That the return from O'Connellville be submitted to the Election Committee.'

Mr WHEELER said, that this was not a case of disputed election, but a question involving a greivous principle. The allottees upon the estate had severed their ties to the estate, and to other matters, and had thought that no objection could be urged to their being represented in the Conference.

THE NORTH STAR.

PART VII.

rance and of feeling, France, Germany, Prussia, and Italy are attempting to form Constitutions and Codes of Laws, for which they are as yet totally unprepared, being without the requisite preliminary knowledge. They are wasting time and means in devising incongruities which they call constitutions, that will soon be as useless as waste paper.

The parties engaged in making these new Constitutions and Codes of Laws, are yet unacquainted with the elements of society. They know not human nature; they are ignorant of the causes of good and evil—of truth and falsehood—of repulsion and attraction, among the human race. How, then, can they understand the principles requisite to enable them to make constitutions and Codes of Laws for the right training and governing of any portion of mankind? Did they know the laws of humanity, the principles and practices of well forming character from birth, the elements of society, its rational constituting wealth, of governing locally and generally, and also possess a practical knowledge of the science of the overwhelming influence of circumstances over human nature; then, indeed, they would have some of the elements of the knowledge requisite to give them true ideas of what a Constitution and Codes of Laws for forming the character and governing mankind should be. Yet with these acquisitions they would lack the experience how to apply their theoretical knowledge accurately and successfully to practice. Experienced practical men can alone succeed in such enterprise.

In the succeeding communications a rational Constitution and Code of Laws for Europe shall be given.

ROBERT OWEN.

London, November, 1848.

Police Report.

LAMBETH.—STEWART'S ROBERT OF PLATE and JAMES BROWN, formerly proprietors of the Greyhound Tavern, Kingston-on-Thames, were charged on suspicion of being concerned in an extensive robbery of plate and jewels, from a house in Elizabeth Place, Brixton Road. Mrs. Smith, servant to Mr. and Mrs. Pierce, said that during the absence of her master and mistress in the country she had charge of the house. One of her nieces lived with her, and a second niece was the prisoner's wife. On Sunday she spent the day at the house of the prisoner. At about five o'clock in the evening the prisoner went out, saying he should be back in a few minutes. Witness remarked that it was odd he should have left just as the tea was ready, but he replied that he should not be long, and left the house. He returned in about twenty minutes; during his absence she felt so uneasy, having a presentiment that all was not right, that on seeing him she began to reproach herself for leaving her master's house unprotected, and the prisoner agreed with her, and said that it was rather unfortunate. Witness then went into the room and found the front door unlocked, and the drawers of the bed-room open. The plate and jewels were found in the drawers, and the contents gone, and in her mistress's bedroom she found the drawers in which Mrs. Pierce's trinkets and jewels were deposited forced open and emptied of their contents. She sent for the police, and the prisoner on coming to the house was taken into custody. Her niece, the prisoner's wife, was aware that the plate chest was deposited in a particular drawer, but she did not know where the drawers were, and the only person out of the family aware of the fact. In cross-examination by the prisoner's solicitor, the witness said she did not think the prisoner had been absent from his house more than twenty minutes. The prisoner, who said he knew nothing of the robbery, was remanded.

SOUTHWARK.—ALFRED SWINDLING.—J. Johnson, all Moor, T. Bench, W. Downing, A. Jacobs, and G. H. Hodson, were charged with swindling, and a great number of tradesmen. The accused, who were the prisoners to defend tradesmen of their goods was first discovered in consequence of the apprehension of Johnson, alias Moor, which took place in the early part of last month. He had given an order to a tradesman named Dwyer for a glass paper, and referred to Capt. Hodgson, whom he described as his uncle, for a character, and upon the faith of the latter person was induced to part with his goods. He had Johnson obtained the goods then he and Johnson then absconded. Inquiries were subsequently instituted, when it was ascertained that Johnson was concerned with a gang of swindlers who had for some length of time been engaged in note of swindling, acting as referees to each other. Several other charges of the same kind were gone into. The prisoners were remanded until next Tuesday.

MARLBOROUGH-STREET.—TADAM POTATOES.—Richard Platts, a journeyman, in the employ of Mr. Arthur, baker, in Walker's Court, Soho, was summoned for using abusive and threatening language to Mr. T. Bishop, the keeper of a coffee shop, No. 20, Berkeley Street, Soho. The complainant stated that for the last three years he had been in the habit of sending joints of meat to be baked at the oven of defendant's employer. On several occasions he had sent potatoes to be baked under the meat, and many times when the joints were brought back he had found the potatoes short in number. On Tuesday week, previous to sending the joint to be baked, he counted in the dish 107 potatoes; when the defendant brought the joint home he (witness) had the curiosity to count them again, and found that only 81 had been returned. Witness thinking that some mistake had occurred, wrote a note to Mr. Arthur, informing him that 107 potatoes had been sent to his oven, but only 81 had been returned. The note was given to him by another man, shortly returned, bringing with them the paper witness had sent to Mr. Arthur. The defendant, in a blustering manner, asked witness if he had written the note. Witness replied in the affirmative, and the defendant then called witness a liar. Defendant's language, according to the description of the plaintiff, was not only violent and threatening, but obscene and disgusting. Witness fell on the ground, being overpowered by the defendant, and was taken up by a policeman, who brought him to the police station. He was therefore ordered to find sureties to keep the peace for a month in £50 each.

THAMES.—ATTEMPTED SUICIDE IN A POLICE GAZETTE.—On Wednesday John Higgins, a boy thirteen years of age, well known to the police as an associate of young thieves, was charged with attempting to commit suicide by the property of Mr. Vesper of the firm of Vesper and Cornet, pawnbrokers, in the Commercial Road East. Mr. Vesper, police constable, No. 61, stated that he was in plain clothes on Monday evening last, in the Commercial Road East, when he saw the prisoner, and knowing him to be a thief, watched his proceedings. The prisoner walked to Mr. Vesper's shop and drew the coat from off a bed which had been placed outside the shop door for sale. The prisoner immediately ran away, and witness pursued him, and caught him with the coat in his possession. A shopman in the group of Mr. Vesper identified the coat as belonging to his master. The prisoner had been in custody several times, and was summarily convicted in January last for an offence of a similar description. Mr. Vesper said he considered the prisoner much older than he represented himself, and he had no doubt it was for the benefit of the public that he should be kept in custody. He was therefore committed to the House of Correction for three months and hard labour. (Roche, the gaoler, placed the prisoner in one of the cells by himself, and locked him up. Roche returned with another prisoner shortly afterwards, and on opening the cell door he was surprised to find the prisoner lying on the floor, apparently dead. Roche, with great presence of mind, drew out his pocket knife, and immediately cut him down. Roche instantly sent a messenger for Mr. Vesper, the divisional sergeant, and in the meanwhile obtained the assistance of Roebinson, sergeant of the police, and they both placed him before the fire in the gaoler's room. Mr. Vesper immediately attended, and applied the usual means to restore suspended animation. The gaoler soon breathed signs of life, and gradually recovered his senses. Mr. Vesper, who was greatly relieved, directed that he should be well looked after, and of strictly watched. Mr. Vesper, the chief clerk, gave instructions to Inspector Holmes, of the K Division, to procure some warm blankets and place them round the prisoner. Roebinson then took charge of the boy and conveyed him in a cab to the House of Correction, where he will be well looked after. The prisoner had, very suddenly, made a striking contrast with his hands, and said he was trying to die, and that he had killed his neck, and his weight, and that he was trying to die. After the prisoner had been brought in a cab, his father, who appeared a very respectable working man, made a statement from which it seemed that the prisoner was an evil disposed lad, and his father had tried all in his power to bring him back to honesty, but he was unable to do so. The father was deeply affected at the loss of his son, and was very anxious to see him restored to his former habits. The father was deeply affected at the loss of his son, and was very anxious to see him restored to his former habits.

THE SWISS MONKS' STRIKE.—Richard Davis, George Hanks, and George Edwards, three men, who were known as members of the well known 'friendly' gang, charged by Smith, 220 K, an active officer, generally employed on one of the detective force, who stated that about half-past three o'clock on Sunday afternoon he observed the prisoners, of whom mention has been made in the preceding communication, go down the narrow passage leading from the police station to St. George's Church. He immediately spoke to 220 K, who was on duty at the station, to stop him in plain clothes, and kept the prisoners in sight until he traced them into the church, when he spoke to the gaoler to have an eye on them. The prisoners Davis took one part of the edifice, whilst the other two went in amongst the females in the body of the church, and where complaint had been made, they were rebuffed but had previously been admitted. When the congregation was leaving the church

Davis got first to the door, but was not allowed to enter, and he and the other two were taken into custody, but none of them were properly recognized by any person present at the time. A lady who had witnessed their apprehension, stated that she saw them in the morning. These three were taken to the morning, to which Hanks self up, and makes a false statement of it, he has not a right to go to church as well as another. (Laughter.)—Mr. Yardley: What did he mean by his himself up?—Smith: To reform, I believe, sir. Mrs. Mary Anne Brooke had been at the morning service, and saw the prisoner Hanks lurking about the church, and his lady in so suspicious a manner that she was induced to ask them if they had missed anything, but they had not.—Terry, the police gaoler, stated that he assisted in apprehending the prisoners, he heard them speaking to each other from their separate cells. One said, 'It's all right, I believe, sir. We have one or two of us up with us.' Another said, 'I was obliged to shoulder George three or four times before he took the other.' Another said, 'If it was not for that fellow in the pail it would have been all easy with us.' Another said, 'Yes, he came too soon, for I had meant by all good and honest means to get a lady.' (Laughter.) Witness: I believe it is a goodly meant to be all up with them, and that a 'flick' meant to rob. Edwards did not mind what he says your worship. It is all made up word of nonsense. He does not know a word of what he is saying. Witness: Not so well as you I admit. (Laughter.) The middle one, your worship, spoke a good deal of language I could not understand. Several constables of the H. and A. Division recognized the prisoners as belonging to a notorious gang of 'mobmen.' Davis and Hanks had been tried for stealing a watch, with others, who were transported for fifteen years, but had the good fortune to escape that time. Previous convictions, however, were proved against the three, and they were each sentenced to three months' hard labour.

ASSAULT.—George Thompson, a slight, but actively young man, was charged with assaulting several police constables in the following outrageous manner:—H. 222 stated that on the previous day the prisoner was engaged in a row in Rosemary Lane, when witness remonstrated with him, and requested him to go away; but, in answer to his remonstrance, the prisoner dealt him a heavy blow on the nose, which fell him to the earth, and the blood gushed out in a stream. The prisoner, who, you see, took me by the throat and threw me into the gutter. Mr. Yardley: Did you throw him into the gutter?—Constable, No, sir. Inspector Ellis stated that he had no sign of mud on him when brought to the station house.—Rowley, 129 E, stated that, hearing a rattle, he made towards the direction, and saw the prisoner running at the top of his speed, and calling out, 'Stop thief; that fellow has robbed me of my handkerchief.' Seeing nobody else running but the prisoner, Rowley stopped him, and asked him what he had done. The prisoner, who was very much excited, and who had blood upon him, if he did not throw me down in the mud first, how could he have mud upon him?—Policeman 222: Because you put me flat into the mud. (Laughter.) Rowley proposed to state that when he tried to secure the prisoner he looked at him on the shin, and he might have been as much as he was. Witness: I believe it is a goodly meant to be all up with them, and that a 'flick' meant to rob. Edwards did not mind what he says your worship. It is all made up word of nonsense. He does not know a word of what he is saying. Witness: Not so well as you I admit. (Laughter.) The middle one, your worship, spoke a good deal of language I could not understand. Several constables of the H. and A. Division recognized the prisoners as belonging to a notorious gang of 'mobmen.' Davis and Hanks had been tried for stealing a watch, with others, who were transported for fifteen years, but had the good fortune to escape that time. Previous convictions, however, were proved against the three, and they were each sentenced to three months' hard labour.

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he was received with enthusiastic applause and highly boasted of, has now, it seems, reco

vered from his temporary hallucinations. He
thus writes to a Yorkshire paper:—

The retirement of our highly-valued member, Lord Morpeth, from the representation of the West Riding, is a consequence of the death of his noble father, occurs at a period when the trade of this important part of the kingdom is in a most depressed condition—when social evil

guish the whole race of "Snobs," they have gone a-begging to a fledgeling of the house of Wentworth — and this boy Fitzwilliam has magnanimously told them that he has no objections to condescend to represent them, but then it must be without either pledges or opinions on his part. This serves the "Snobs" right. Is it not a disgrace to so vast, intelligent, and important a constituency as the West Riding, that any portion of it should be allowed to degrade it in the eyes of the world by such an exhibition ; are there no merchants

of some of the party who talked some time ago of bringing forward Richard Oastler? We should like to see the veteran friend of the labourer, of labour's rights, and native industry, pitted against the seign of the lordly Whig house that has so long looked upon the representation of the Riding as a feudal appendage; and to see whether Yorkshire has honesty and common sense enough to reject the lordling for an "honest man, the noblest work of God!"

We shall watch the reaction, and report from time to time. We mistake the indications around us, if a great movement for the development of home resources and home industry is not about to commence.

To Readers & Correspondents.

J. SWARTZ acknowledges the receipt of the following sums for the Victim Fund, viz. —

Mr Meads	£	0	2
Mr Green	"	0	6
Mr O. Hall	"	0	3
Mr Shepherd	"	0	3
Mrs Perkins	"	0	1
Mr Chipchada	"	0	6

Mr Ingram, Blackburn, should have remitted to edit his advertisement.

Received by Mrs Fussell, from Birmingham, per J. Newhouse, the sum of £1, to exonerate Mr Fussell from the degrading task of taking picking.

THE VICTIM FUND.—We are informed, that a committee has been formed for the purpose of raising money for the relief of the poor and distressed.

NOTTINGHAM.—We understand that a committee, of the Chartists' meeting at Mr Smith's Coffee-house, Low Pavement, have undertaken the sale of the STAR, and other publications, and that they have been so far successful as to be enabled to give twenty shillings, to the victims.....

Several communications are unavoidably postponed this week.

OLDHAM.—We are informed that, in future, all Chartist communications should be addressed to Ralph Ashworth, Lord's Hall, of this town.

INFAMOUS TREATMENT OF SPANISH REFUGEES BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

many damning acts which have already won for the African butchers, CAYMANAS, an execrable and irredeemable reputation. Certain Spanish Liberals, victims of the sanguinary rule of the butcher NARVAEZ, were lately, by order of that ruffian, torn from their families and, without even the mockery of a trial, exiled to Cuba. On their way out the unfortunate men rose against the captain and crew, mastered the ship, and carried her into Bourdeaux. The poor Spaniards never doubted that they would find a refuge in the French Republic—a land conse-

demanded that the refugees should be given up to them. Will it be believed that, *contrary to the law of nations*—to say nothing of the law of humanity and the honour of France—they were given up! CAVAIGNAC—the butcher CAVAIGNAC—(whose horrible countenance is the true index of his horrible heart) refused the Spanish Liberals the protection of the French territory, and handed them over to NARBAYE, a cut-throat, mercenary! Why even

Even England—'aristocratic England' would not have permitted the performance of such an atrocity by her Government. Mark the result. The *Sun* of Thursday evening states, that on the victims arriving at Santander, NARVAEZ immediately ordered the ringleaders to be shot on the deck of the ship!

"Oh! shame to thee, land of the Gaul, ♀
"Oh! shame to thy children and thee," ♀

If this foul dishonour is not washed away in the

with stifling the revolution and plotting the speedy death of the Republic, have degraded France in her relations towards foreign nations, below—far below—even the depths of infamy to which PHILIPPE and GUZOT had brought their country before the days of February. But, patience! The hour of retribution *will come*.

ALLEGED CONVICTION OF AN INNOCENT PRISONER.—In the Third Court, at the Central Criminal Court, on Tuesday, Mr Payne, the barrister, applied to the

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(Continued from our Sixth page)

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