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OUR WEEKLY MIRROR.

With the opening of the Session of Parliament, we commence a series of articles under the above title, in which we shall from week to week epitomise the leading topics of Home, Foreign, and Colonial news, so as to bring within the compass of a glance the prominent political movements of the day, and thus enable our readers to form a judgment as to which way the main current of events is setting; and we hope to make it at once so terse and complete, that to those who preserve the "NORTHERN STAR" for binding, it will present a useful condensation of the Political and Social History of the Year.

The great home event of the week, has been the opening of Parliament by a Speech from the Throne, of which our readers will find an analysis in our leading columns. This summary, written at a late hour, enables us to add that Lord JOHN RUSSELL'S measure upon the Papal Aggression seems to be one which will prohibit the assumption of English titles by the dignitaries of the Romish Church, but will not prevent them from holding the office of Bishop, or performing its duties. As might be expected, such a measure will not satisfy either of the extreme parties. The Ultra Protestants will protest against any recognition, express or implied, of the Church of Rome or her priests, and would probably like to see the penal laws re-enacted—of that, however, there is fortunately not the shadow of a chance—while the Catholic party will declaim against any legislation upon the subject. We think, however, that such a course will satisfy the moderate-minded, and obtain a majority; and, indeed, if the allegation contained in Cardinal WISEMAN'S appeal be true, and it be necessary for the establishment of a hierarchy, and the perfect developement of the Romish Church Government, that local titles should be assumed, such a measure would be effectual, and place the contending parties in much the same position as they occupied before the commencement of the turmoil; that is, of course, if such a measure can be so strictly and accurately framed as to leave no legal loophole of escape. A difficult task, we should say, in these days of quirk and quibbles; and, perhaps, after all, the CARDINAL may prove a sort of clerical O'CONNELL, and give the Government more trouble than it bargains for, even if he do not escape altogether. The CARDINAL has already shown that he intends to take advantage of his position, by availing himself of technicalities, to throw the burthen of proof upon his adversaries. This has been shown by the fact, that a number of gentlemen had entered into an arrangement to try the question with his Excellency, under the law as it has hitherto stood; but they were puzzled how to prove that the CARDINAL had brought in and published a Papal Bull, and with an amount of simplicity, for which we should hardly have given either the gentlemen or Mr. C. PEARSON, their most prominent member, credit, they appealed to the newly made Archbishop to afford them the requisite evidence to enable them to bring the question before a legal tribunal! The wily priest, however, was too cautious to suffer himself to be caught in so simple a trap, for he is reported to have quoted the axiom that—"a man cannot be required to criminate himself;" and the expectant litigants took nothing by their motion. In connexion, we presume, with this all absorbing topic, we see that Mr. HEADLAM has given notice of his intention to move for leave to bring in a bill to extend the Statutes of Mortmain, so as to include personal estate; and, altogether, we have no doubt this continuation of the Papal hubbub will help the Cabinet to shelve all those most important political questions, and get up a sort of political house-or-fire, the confusion attendant upon which will cover their shortcomings and political delinquencies. Indeed, the "TIMES" has already indicated what seems to be pretty well understood in political circles, that the budget, which is to be produced on Friday, and his Holiness, the POPE, will be made to engross the main attention of Legislators and the public till May at all events; and then the Exhibition will be trusted to to produce a diversion, and glide over a great portion of the remainder of the Session.

Apropos of the Budget, Lord DUNCAN has given notice of a motion for the purpose of getting rid of the obnoxious Window Tax, without the abolition of which, Sanitary Reform is a fiction; and we think it pretty certain that the impost is doomed either to extinction or to considerable modification.

The saints, too, backed by a strong trading party, are already in the field, with a Bill against Sunday Trading, which Mr. WILLIAMS, the elect of Lambeth, takes under his wing. The immediate object is, to abolish the Sunday open-air markets, at which the poor buy their provisions, &c., cheaper than they can procure them at the shops; and it is probable that it will be urged as a measure of just protection to the shopkeepers, rather than as a religious provision; but let the saints once get in the small end of the wedge, and they will try hard to drive it home—the result being, that we shall have our time wasted, our patience tested, and our common sense outraged by attempts to make men religious by Act of Parliament.

It would seem that, by an answer drawn from Lord JOHN RUSSELL, that it is intended to abolish the office of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; and, though no doubt some parties will look upon it as a fresh insult to Ireland, we think it judicious to get rid of an expensive office, which has become ridiculously useless, now that Dublin doubtless is practically nearer to London than many parts of England were a few years ago. We wish there was as fair a chance of our imbecile, gossiping, and costly diplomatic corps being cut down to its proper level. Just as the growling of one dog is pretty sure to excite the ire of some, other so the activity of the Catholic Church seems to have stirred the lethargic State Establishment into motion, and the clergy are agitating for a greater power of Church Government. Personally, we have no objection to their having it on fair terms. If they want to be free they must leave behind them the golden chain which binds them to the state, and is at once the reward and the badge of their serfdom. That done, let them depart in peace; but we fear they will object to purchase their whistles at such a price.

Our criminal records this week present us with the termination of the disgusting SLOANE affair. Notwithstanding the anxiety assumed by the counsel of the Special Pleader to have the "trumped up and exaggerated story" fully sifted before the police magistrates, SLOANE and his wife found it advisable in effect to plead Guilty at the trial, and were deservedly sentenced to two years' imprisonment. So revolting an affair, especially considering the position of the parties, has not for a long time disgraced our pages, and we trust never will again; but we fear that workhouse girls are often so ill looked after by those who ought to protect them, that not unfrequently they are driven by despair to a life of prostitution.

The Commercial intelligence of the week is far from inspiriting. The still unsettled state of Europe appears to be rendering trade slack, and if it continues, and the exchanges become adverse, we fear the prosperity of the country, which the Royal Speech so complacently alludes to, will once more be a matter of history. From our Colonial possessions the newest intelligence is that the Cholera, which has caused such a fearful loss of life at Jamaica, and called forth such exhibitions of moral depravity as children leaving their parents to die untended, friends forsaking friends without help, husbands and wives leaving the corpses of their partners in life unburied, has somewhat ceased in many places, but at Port Royal and other towns its ravages still continued. The Indian Mail brings us the parting address of that real old soldier, Sir CHARLES NAPIER, to the Indian Army. We can almost imagine a severe old Roman, in the days when public and private virtues were worth something, speaking in the same severe strain. Sir CHARLES NAPIER allows a man to be "an officer" who exhibits soldier-like qualities, but he does not think the officer necessarily "a gentleman" if he gambles, gets into debt, appears as a defaulter before Courts of Requests, and cheats his creditors; and it is evident, from the force with which Sir CHARLES denounces these offences, that the censure was imperatively called for. Our Indian Empire is one of *prestige*, rather than power. *How long that prestige will endure*, when moral influence has gone, is a question "the powers that be" had better apply themselves to.

Turning our eyes to the Continent of Europe, [illegible] once more ascendant, traces here and there of the political and social volcano, which, the more closely it is pent up, the more surely it will break out at some future day. At Vienna a conspiracy has been discovered, and some seventy citizens, many of them wealthy, arrested; most ominous sign of all, it seems the garrison was deeply implicated. The government of Austria is only rendered possible by her armies, and the soldiers, once disaffected, the empire will tumble to pieces like a house of cards. It is pretty well understood that, on the first trouble, Hungary is ready again, and the Magyars appear to feel that in the next struggle the Croats and the military frontier tribes will be on the same side as themselves. Italy is subscribing, for the purpose of enabling MAZZINI, who is sheltered in Switzerland, to get up a new revolution; and the aristocratic journalists would fain persuade us, if they could, that the Lombards give their money through fear—fear of a refugee; that is the sort of tale which tradition says ought to be "told to the Marines"—a set of men once noted for their credulity. However, MAZZINI has plenty of friends, and it is to be feared that the Austrian Government will invade the Helvetian Republic, for the double purpose of securing the dreaded patriot and abolishing the last refuge of liberty upon the continent of Europe.

Schleswig Holstein is being "*pacified*" by Prussian and Austrian horse, foot, and artillery. Hamburg has been occupied by Austrian troops. Hesse Cassel is crushed under *the same dominant and arrogant power*; and the Hessian officers, who resigned rather than fight against the Constitution, are to be tried by court martial. In all this the despots, though apparently triumphing for the time, are heaping up coals of fire for no distant day. The influence of Prussia over the smaller states seems, for the moment, waning. The smaller principalities think that, with Austria at their back, they may show a spirit of independence; but if they emancipate themselves from one master, split up as Germany is, they must take another; and, as their material interest inclines them to the Prussian Alliance, probably the northern influence will ultimately prevail.

The struggle between the PRESIDENT of the French Republic and his opponents seems well nigh over. The people are clearly not with the majority of the Assembly; and the PRESIDENT, having procured the dismissal of CHANGARNIER, has triumphed. The dotation rendered necessary by the extravagances of LOUIS NAPOLEON, however, furnishes a bone of contention, and a majority of his bitterest enemies are upon the Committee. Still it is thought they will let "I dare not wait upon I would," and vote the required amount, for fear that their refusal would induce the public to subscribe the money, and thus strengthen, by a show of sympathy, the hands of the PRESIDENT. Among other gossip, there is a report of a past Legitimist conspiracy, implicating General LAHITTE, at the time he was a Minister. It was also reported that the Duke DE BORDEAUX had died; and that, if true, would strengthen the Royalist faction by uniting both the Legitimists and Orleanists in favour of the Count DE PARIS.

From America we have news which indicates that the Fugitive Slave Bill may yet sow the seeds of dissension deeper and wider, and in contrast to our own policy the Free Americans are leaning strongly to a Protectionist policy. Californian diggings still continue as productive as ever the average exports of the precious metal averaging, for the last two and a half years, 28,000,000 of dollars. The currency of the Continent already feels the effect of this, and shows it by a rise in the comparative value of silver; and probably this country will, before long, find that Nature is altering her standard of value, and lightening the burden of her responsibilities by the same means.

POLISH REFUGEES.

The Committee for the support of the above have to announce that any person in town or country who may be enabled to give constant employment to any of these deserving men will receive a bonus with each individual, varying from £3 to £7, according to the trade of his employer. Application to be made immediately to T. Brown, Fraternal Home, Turnmill-street, Clerkenwell. Funds for the above purpose have been furnished by a liberal gentleman, in order that they may be ensured employment.

In the report of the funeral of the deceased Pole a mistake occurred in the *Star* relative to the funds; the sum stated to be collected at the cemetery was the entire sum collected during the day.

THE REFUGEES.—At a meeting of the committee thanks were voted to Mr. Thomas Cooper for his address in the City-road, to the committee of the South London Hall, and also to Major Beniowski for his gift. Mr. Brown reported, that in consequence of a number of circulars having been distributed by a committee formed for the support of twenty-four refugees, reflecting on the character of the fifty-six refugees in Turnmill-street, a deputation had waited upon them, when they acknowledged that they knew nothing of the larger body, or the miserable plight they were in, or they would not have acted as they had done. The deputation would give a fuller report after the next interview with the above committee. The rent of the Fraternal Home was paid, and thanks were given to those persons who took part in the funeral, and to Mr. Rider for his letter. It was stated that a bonus would be given to persons who would find employment for the refugees, and also that a lecture would be given on Sunday evening.

BINGLEY.—THE REFUGEES.—The Democrats of this town have taken up the case of the Refugees, within the last few days; already £1 18s. 3d. has been collected, and other subscriptions are forthcoming. Subscriptions will be received at Mr. Durran's Temperance Hotel, Bingley, by William Wilkinson.

ROBERT OWEN AND THE EXHIBITION OF 1851.—The committee formed to disseminate Mr. Owen's views during the Great Exhibition, met on Wednesday evening last, when communications were received from Paisley, Halifax, Derby, and other districts, highly favourable to the objects of the committee. Parties desirous of promoting this important propoganda, will please address the secretary, HENRY A. IVORY, 52, College Place, Camden Town.

A staff of 200 enumerators have been appointed to take the population of Edinburgh for the census of 1851.

TO THE CHARTISTS.

MY OLD FRIENDS,—While the Land Company was going on, and when you were apathetic because trade was good, I did not consider that it would be of any service to your cause to promulgate my feelings and principles. I have heard that, for no short time, a great conspiracy has been attempted to be organised, for the purpose of destroying my influence and power. The same conspiracy existed in 1839; but, my old friends, remember that the leader of the conspiracy—PETER BUSSEY, and several of his coadjutors—deserted their principles and fled from their country, while I withstood and lived down their rascality.

My friends, on Sunday week I attended a public meeting at Manchester; on Monday week, a public dinner at Manchester; a public meeting, on Tuesday week, at Stockport; Wednesday week, at Rochdale; Thursday week, at Oldham; Friday week, at Ashton; Saturday week, at Bolton; two meetings at Padiham on Sunday last, and Bradford on Monday last. The meetings were all bumpers. The old veterans of the different towns and neighbourhood attended; and, although I am not a trafficking politician, and do not cater for popularity, let me assure you, that I never received such a hearty welcome, in the time of the greatest excitement, as I did in every town on my late tour. And to prove to you that I can contend against enemies and conspirators, I stated that I was ready to answer any question that any person wished to ask me.

My friends, I was very much annoyed to find that the Conference assembled in Manchester was divided into two parties; and, therefore, as the report of our proceedings will show you, I made up my mind not to take part with either. I adhered to the propriety of holding a Conference in London on the 3rd of March, and I sternly opposed uniting Chartism with any other "ism;" and I opposed a proposition that the Chartists should unite with the manufacturers, unless they would go for the Charter, whole and entire, which I felt convinced they would not do, so long as they could manufacture the working man's flesh, blood, marrow, and bones, into money.

Mr. REYNOLDS'S paper of last week gives a very inaccurate report of my remarks upon Mr. HARNEY. Mr. MANTLE certainly asked me, whether Mr. HIRST'S statement was true; but I did not say a word, nor make a single observation with regard to Mr. HARNEY and physical force; and the delegates assembled at that Conference *can* and *must* prove, that my whole conduct throughout the meeting was intended to dispel all antagonism, and unite, if possible, the two parties who are now contending for leadership. Whenever any antagonism arose, I used my every exertion to destroy it; and as I think that every man who undertakes to lead the people should be acquainted with any charge that is urged against him, in order that he may be enabled to defend himself, I beg to inform Mr. AMBROSE HIRST, that a very eloquent young man, who addressed the meeting at Stockport, and also at Padiham, told me that Mr. AMBROSE HIRST is in the employ of Mr. TINDAL ATKINSON—one of the Council of the Parliamentary Reform Association, and receiving a very good salary. Of course, the columns of the STAR are open to Mr. HIRST to make any reply he thinks proper.

My friends, of course I cannot, as yet, give you any, the slightest, intimation as to the result of the present Session of Parliament, as no motion of any consequence has been proposed; but, as I told you, I will sit with the SPEAKER and rise with the House. I was in two divisions on Tuesday night, and voted upon each. The proposition was that the House should not sit after twelve o'clock; and my proposition would be, if I could carry it, that the House should sit from ten o'clock in the morning till six o'clock in the evening, as then men would be sober, and all would attend to their business.

On Tuesday morning I went from Bradford to Leeds, from Leeds to London, and direct from the Station to the House of Commons, which few other members would have done, after having attended eleven public meetings in ten days.

My friends, I do hope and trust that the people from the several towns in England, Scotland, and Wales will elect wise and discreet men to represent them in the forthcoming Conference, and that their affairs will be calmly and dispassionately discussed. I not only agree with, but I highly approve of, Mr. JONES' proposition—that no member of the Executive shall have a vote upon that Conference, although they shall be at liberty to express their opinions—and you would be in a much better position if no Minister of the Crown, and no person receiving salary from the Government, were to vote in the House of Commons.

My friends, I have informed you before, that you would be astonished at the number of Irish members that would attend to their duty during the present Session; and upon the first night nearly all the Irish members were present, which is very unusual. I suppose you have read the QUEEN'S Speech, and I suppose, like myself, you laughed heartily at it.

My friends, let me request you—implore you—and entreat you, not to mix up any "ISM" with CHARTISM, as you may rely upon it that such a course will not only damage, but destroy, our movement; whereas, if you adhere steadfastly to one "*ism*," you are sure to achieve all other "*isms*" that the majority of the people approve of and contend for.

My friends, I am going to move the Charter, as a matter of course, but I think it will be prudent not to do so until the Conference assembled in London; and then we shall be able to develope to Parliament what the feeling of the country is; and, if this infernal Land Company, and the tyranny of the law had not exhausted my exchequer, I would pay the travelling expenses of the forty-nine delegates, and their salaries also. Many poor, but honest, follows, in the several towns that I have visited, offered me their scrip, but I declined accepting it; and my friends, in conclusion, let me tell you, that however I and my Land Plan may be reviled and persecuted, I am resolved, when the Company is wound up, to carry on a Land Plan upon my own responsibility, and to make every labourer independent of a trafficking employer. For, as I told you before, I repeat it now, it makes my blood run cold to see men, between twenty and thirty years of age, looking pale, emaciated, care-worn, and worn out, while the men of sixty, who live upon their sweat, their marrow, and their blood, look hale, healthy, stalwart, ruddy, young and vigorous. But, my friends, I do not blame them, I blame you; for, if you had worked for the Charter for one month as I have for thirty years, in England and Ireland, you would not have a drunkard, a pauper, or a criminal in the land; but, on the contrary, every man would be a soldier, and ready to fly to the cry of "my land and my cottage is in danger."

Men of the North, I thank you for your cordial and hearty reception, and, believe me, however all may desert you, I will ever remain,

Your Faithful and Unflinching friend and Advocate,
FEARGUS O'CONNOR.

THE LAND PLAN.

MY FRIENDS,—I have much pleasure in furnishing you with a letter, and an account of the value of land, which I received from one of your staunchest and oldest friends.

Here it is:—

TO FEARGUS O'CONNOR, ESQ., M.P.

SIR,—I enclose you a balance sheet, the result of an experiment upon a small plot of land attached to the parish workhouse of Stoke-upon-Trent. You can make such use of it as you in your wisdom may think best.

I must inform you, Sir, that two years ago the Democrats of Hanley and Shelton, in the above parish, came to the determination to do their own work; so they elected guardians of liberal opinions, and then appointed a deputation to submit the land and its capabilities to them; they, however, did not seem to understand it, but it appears that they have made a trial, and the balance sheet is the result of that experiment; they have taken six acres more land, and intend to cultivate it.

Sir, believe me to remain yours respectfully,
JEREMIAH YATES.

Crown Bank, Shelton Potteries,
January 26th, 1851.

Agricultural report of the boys employed in the gardens and lands attached to the Stoke-upon-Trent Workhouse.

Spittals, Stoke-upon-Trent, December 11th, 1850.

TO THE GENTLEMEN OF THE BOARD OF GUARDIANS,

We, the undersigned, respectfully beg leave to lay before the board our yearly report and accounts. The following will show the exact state of the ledger, where all the items are particularised:

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
To Cost of Seeds for two acres, one rood, twenty-three perches of land	7	9	6½
Cost of Manure	2	6	7
Depreciation of Tools	1	4	0
Rent and Taxes	8	0	0
Total outlay	19	0	1½
Balance Cr. in favour of Workhouse	35	13	1
	£54	13	2½

INCOME.	£	s.	d.
By Cash delivered to Mr. Brown, for Articles sold in the Market	13	8	9
Articles consumed in the Establishment	41	4	5½
Total income	£54	13	2½

We have omitted in the above account, the sum of £96 16s. 0d. under the head of Labour, on account of an equal sum being returned for Maintenance, which would leave the same balance in favour of the Board.

The income may be considered large, according to the quantity of land, but our system has been to raise a large income with the least expenditure. Also, it must be borne in mind, that the land produced a double crop (except that portion planted with potatoes), so the amount would have been considerably greater, had it not been a season of unparalleled cheapness. The item under the head of Rent and Taxes is only assumed in this instance, in order to show that a profit may be obtained under proper management. We have charged £1 4s. 0d. for the depreciation of tools, belonging to the establishment, because we have no regular stock of implements of our own, or rather for our particular use.

We have further to state, that the crops, generally, were abundant and good, with the exception of the potatoes, which have proved a loss to the Workhouse, through the disease prevalent in this neighbourhood, and we fear generally.

In conclusion, gentlemen, we are thankful for the privilege granted us of acquiring some knowledge of a science divinely appointed; for the three first men in the world were a gardener, a ploughman, and a shepherd, in the persons of Adam, Cain, and Abel. And further, we hope this report may meet your approbation.

We beg leave, gentlemen, to subscribe ourselves,
Your very obedient and humble servants,
Henry Johnson, John Hackney, Eli Cook, John Wood, Benjamin Walker, James Keeling, Frederick Cartwright, Samuel Shaw, William Rowley, John Brunt, Josiah Rowley, William Boulton, Samuel Stonier, James Robinson, James John, Thomas Cartlidge, Richard Shaw, Oliver Price, William Roberts, James Reeves, Henry Till, John Anson, Joseph Bates, William Doolan.
Boys in the School of the above Workhouse.

Faithfully yours,
FEARGUS O'CONNOR.

GREAT PUBLIC MEETING IN MANCHESTER.

A public meeting (duly advertised by placard) was held in the People's Institute, on Sunday evening, February 2nd On the right hand side of the chairman, we noticed the Manchester Council, and on the left Mr. Mantle and his friends.

The chair was occupied by Mr. JOHN SUTTON, who opened the meeting by reading from the *Northern Star* Mr. O'Connor's letter, after which he read the placard calling the meeting; and he (the chairman) hoped the meeting would assist him in keeping order. He then introduced Mr. James Leach, one of the delegates to the Manchester Conference.

Mr. LEACH gave a clear and concise report of the Conference, and, glancing at the position of parties in the House of Commons, said there was every probability of a general election next summer. He then referred to the Chartist organisation, and said that the Council of the Manchester locality (of which he had the honour of being a member) had all been re-installed that afternoon, and they were determined to a man (if they were backed by the members) to break through the folly that had been carried on in the Chartist agitation. Some one said, "We will have nothing to do with manufacturers." He had said as much as any man in opposition to the manufacturers; and he had the same opinions yet. Still, there were exceptions. They might find some honourable men amongst manufacturers; but they were few and far between. Nevertheless, he would take the hand of any man who would honestly go for an extension of the suffrage. It mattered nothing to him who he received the suffrage from—Lord John or anybody else, so that he did get it. Mr. Leach then referred to the last resolution, upon which the Conference broke up, and said that three delegates who voted against him (Mr. Leach) could not muster more than eighty-five paying members. Mr. Mantle's constituents numbered fifteen, and his (Mr. Leach's) 270.

Mr. DONOVAN rose, amidst the applause of the meeting, and said, having heard the report of Mr. James Leach, one of their delegates, he should propose a resolution to the meeting for their adoption; but, before doing so, he should make a few remarks. About three months ago, a body of men were elected as their Council, and from that time a certain line of policy had been laid down by the members of the Manchester locality of the National Charter Association, and the Council had strictly adhered to that policy. What the Council had done, had been under the auspices of the members—therefore, the Council and the members were one. A Conference had been held—not a very large one; but it has intelligence. The Conference had adopted a resolution to the effect, that the agitation must be purely for the People's Charter; and he (Mr. Donovan) believed—nay, was sure—that it was the only course to achieve its enactment. Mr. Donovan then referred to a members' meeting that had been held that afternoon, and to the vote it had come to, and said, if the three hundred paying members would attend the members' meeting, they would remove the stigma that had been thrown upon their numbers. Mr. Donovan then referred to the last resolution of the Conference, and the decision of the members upon that resolution, and hoped that he meeting would stand by their former resolutions. It was asserted that the Manchester Council was attempting to sell the Manchester locality to the middle classes; how did they arrive at such a conclusion? He was informed, that the resolution past at the members' meeting on Sunday, and at the public meeting on the same day, had that tendency; let them refer to that resolution. Here Mr. Donovan read the resolution. Now, the resolution said that they would aid and assist any man or body of men who were honestly endeavouring to emancipate the toiling millions, let them be Cobden, Bright, Walmsley, or any body else. This the Manchester men had agreed to, and having once taken up a position, they would not bow down to any but a superior intellect; and he (Mr. Donovan) was at a loss to discover where to find it. (At this stage of the proceedings Messrs. Clark and M'Grath entered the Hall, and were greeted by hearty cheers from the meeting.) Mr. Donovan would not occupy any more of their time, and concluded by proposing the following resolution:—"That this meeting adopt the acts of the Conference except the last resolution."

Mr. H. NUTTALL seconded the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN then asked if there was any amendment to the resolution?

Mr. MANTLE rose, loudly applauded by his friends, and said, he had an amendment to propose to the resolution, and it might seem somewhat strange that he should propose a resolution confirming the acts of the Manchester Conference, he (Mr. Mantle) having opposed it from its commencement. He was there under the auspices of Mr. O'Connor. ("No, no," and confusion.) He had come there with the honesty and integrity of long standing of Feargus O'Connor. (Confusion.)

The CHAIRMAN here interfered, and said he hoped they would hear Mr. Mantle, other persons had to follow him who were compelled to leave that Hall before nine o'clock, and creating confusion would only prevent those gentlemen from speaking. He hoped they would keep order.

Mr. MANTLE resumed: He had denounced from that platform some opinions and policy because he thought they were wrong; others had met with his approbation. He had felt it his duty to differ with Mr. Clark; nevertheless, he believed Messrs. Clark, M'Grath, and Hurst were conscientious in their opinions. He gave them credit for that, but they had not convinced him that the manufacturers would ever give up any portion of the rights they held from the people, therefore, an alliance with them would do no good. Mr. Leach had said that Social Reformers of the metropolis and the provinces are unanimously of opinion as to the prudence and justice of giving the new Executive a full and fair trial. We, therefore, recommend this Conference to adjourn until the first Sunday in March; but to reappoint the Committee of Observation, with the view of still watching the progress of events, and to report to the Conference at its next meeting, with power to assemble the delegates on an earlier day, if deemed necessary."

Mr. GODWIN seconded the resolution.

Mr. LE BLOND stated, that the line of policy pursued by the Executive, and the guarantee given by the persons elected thereon, that the question of Social Reform would not be overlooked by that body, enabled him to support the resolution—more especially as several localities in the country had called themselves by the name, and were attempting to carry out the views of the new society, which was not yet ushered into existence.

Mr. BROWETT was of opinion that, to prevent any misunderstanding, they should dissolve the Conference.

Mr. HOLYOAKE was opposed to the dissolution. They had not yet performed their work. A Convention would soon be sitting in London, and they might decide upon a different line of policy to that adopted by the Executive. The Conference, in his opinion, should remain in existence to watch the course of events. He thought the 1st of March would not be an opportune time to resume their sitting. It would look as though they wished to act as censors to the Convention.

Messrs. STALLWOOD and PETTIE supported the motion. The latter person said he would prefer the present sitting being adjourned for three months.

Mr. HARNEY stated that, since the last meeting, when he proposed the dissolution of the Conference, his convictions had entirely changed. He was in favour of the Conference meeting once a month. The Convention might not assemble in March; and if it did, it could not feel aggrieved at the Conference meeting on the prior day. They might at that meeting throw out ideas which may be useful to the members of the Convention.

Mr. J. WILSON, at considerable length, supported the motion, and argued the necessity there was of watching the motions, not only of their enemies, but of their pretended friends.

Mr. THORNTON HUNT thought they ought not to dissolve until their mission was either accomplished or proved to be an impossibility; there was the move necessity for their remaining in existence, as a misconception had got abroad that they intended to form a new association, in addition to those now in being; their object was the reverse of that—they wished not to dissent, but to unite.

Mr. RUFFY thought that the Executive, as a body, should express their ideas upon that subject. In his opinion, one of the chief objects of the ensuing Convention should be to bring about a union of the Democratic and Social Reformers. He would be no party to the continuance of the delusive system of confining their attention solely to the Charter. Mr. Ruffy showed, from the workings of the societies he was connected with, the benefits resulting from the system of co-operation.

The resolution was then put, slightly amended, and carried as above.

The observation committee of twenty individuals was then re-appointed, with the addition of Messrs. Ernest Jones, Grassby, Leno, and Bezer.

Mr. LE BLOND moved a resolution, which was seconded by Mr. LENO, commiserating with Mr. Harney on a charge said to be made against him by Mr. O'Connor at the Manchester Conference.

Mr. HARNEY thought that as they had only the evidence of one newspaper, and as the accuser was not present, they had better defer the subject.

The CHAIRMAN having expressed a similar opinion, the motion was withdrawn.

Mr. WILSON moved, and Mr. BEZER seconded:—"That this Conference recommend the Chartist body to elect delegates to the ensuing Convention." His object was to show that they entertained no antagonistic views to that body, but were anxious for its Co-operation.

The motion was carried, and the Conference adjourned.

THE FRATERNAL DEMOCRATS.

The annual meeting of this body was held on Friday evening at the Institution, John-street, Tottenham-court road.

Mr. D. W. RUFFY was called to the chair, and opened the business of the meeting.

Mr. GRASSBY, as treasurer, read a balance-sheet of the receipts and expenditure, showing a balance of £1 14s. 7¾d. in hand.

Mr. PETTIE, in the absence of Mr. Harney, gave in a report of the operations of the society during the preceding year. They now numbered 261 good paying members. They had held several well-attended public meetings. Their reports and meetings had been noticed in every democrat journal in Europe, and their influence was far more extended than their numbers and the amount of their funds would lead a person, unacquainted with all the circumstances, to suppose. It was a well-known fact, that their doctrines and principles were rapidly being adopted by the whole of the enlightened working class of this country. In addition to its other acts, the society had been enabled to render considerable assistance to many of the patriotic refugees from other lands.

In accordance with the rules of the society the committee tendered their resignation.

A vote of thanks was given to the committee, and the report received and adopted.

An election by ballot took place for the committee for the ensuing year, when Messrs. Ruffy, Harney, Milne, Grassby, Shute, Pettie, Arnott, Ivory, and Swift were the successful candidates. Mr. Grassby was elected treasurer; Mr. Pettie, financial secretary; Mr. Harney, corresponding secretary.

Mr. HARNEY read a letter he had received from the Secretary of the Hungarian and Polish International Society, stating their intention of taking the John-street Institution on Tuesday, February 11th, for a public meeting, to show their respect to the memory of the deceased patriot, General Bem, and requesting the Fraternal Democrats to send a deputation to assist in that object.

A motion was unanimously adopted—"That the society should assist in the meeting, and aid them with funds, if necessary." Mr. Ernest Jones (who was elected a member during the evening) and Messrs. Ruffy, Pettie, and Harney were appointed as the deputation.

Mr. HARNEY moved—"That the above deputation be appointed as a committee for drawing up addresses to their English and American brethren, and that it be an instruction to the committee to invite their American democratic brethren, who might be in London in the month of May, to a fraternal conference; his instruction applied only to the Americans, because it might be attended with danger for their brethren from other nations to be openly represented in that conference.

The motion was adopted, and the committee appointed.

Mr. HARNEY drew the attention of the members to a statement made by Mr. O'Connor relative to himself, contained in the Report of the Conference in Reynolds's paper.

After some discussion the matter was ordered to stand over until further inquiry was made.

Ten shillings were voted from the funds for a member in distress, and a private subscription entered into on his behalf. The meeting then adjourned.

Mr. PEARCY AND THE DIRECTORS OF THE LAND COMPANY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

SIR,—*In the Star of Saturday last a letter appeared signed by a person named Pearcy, in which the writer recommends that a new Land Office shall be opened, and that another financial secretary shall be appointed, alleging as a reason "That he knows, from personal experience, that many of the Land Members object to send any monies to the Land Office." The insecurity of the funds receivedat the Land Office is evidently the ideas ought to be created by the writer. A whisper of this kind was never breathed before, nor shall it be so now with impunity. Since my appointment to the office of financial secretary, on the 11th of July, 1847, upwards of £75,000 have passed through the Land Office, into the hands of Mr. O'Connor, as treasurer, and no man living can charge the defalcation of the fraction of a farthing upon the directors. If Mr. Pearcy can do so, he owes a duty to the shareholders, which his sense of justice, will, no doubt, induce him speedily to perform. Trusting to your sense of justice for the insertion of these few remarks,*

I am yours respectfully,
PHILIP M'GRATH,
Secretary to the Land Company.

144, High Holborn.

THE ALTERATIONS AT CUMBERLAND GATE.—With respect to the gates given by Mr. Hope, we are informed that these, together with two pair of new gates, will form side entrances, so that there will be five carriage approaches, forming an extended line, the marble arch being in the centre—an amusing arrangement, truly.—*Builder.*

A PARISIAN ROBBER, who was seized for stealing snuff out of a tobacconist's shop, by way of excusing himself, exclaimed that "he never heard of that law which forbade a man to take snuff."

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The calm which has reigned in the Assembly since the notable failure of the interpellations of M. Hovya-Tranchere, was interrupted on Thursday by a stormy debate, raised upon the rights of labour. The Constituent Assembly ordered, on the 25th of May, 1848, that a great inquiry upon the question of agricultural and industrial labour should be opened throughout the length and breadth of France. A list of twenty-nine questions was addressed to each of the justices of the peace of the 2,847 cantons of France; and in each canton a committee, composed of an equal number of workmen and masters, was formed to draw up answers to the questions proposed by the Committee of Inquiry. More than 2,000 cantons sent in their reports. A Legislative Committee, having been appointed to present an analysis of these numerous documents to the Assembly, has just reported, by the organ of M. Lefebre-Darufle, that the fruits of this inquiry pursued throughout the whole territory of the Republic for the space of three years are worth nothing, and the committee has nothing better to propose than to bury the 2,000 reports of the French cantons in the archives of the Ministry of Agriculture and Commerce. This singularly impotent conclusion called out on Monday from the ranks of the Mountain a genuine champion of the working classes, himself a son of toil, a mason, named Nadaud, representative for the department of Creuze. The tone of conviction which rings out clear from the breast of an orator who has lived among the facts to which he bears witness, won for M. Nadaud, in spite of much interruption, more attention on the whole than would have been accorded to the most eloquent of his party. A proposition that these documents should be deported in the Assembly was carried after a two days' stormy debate.

M. de Germiny, the Minister of Finance, has presented the Dotation Bill, which has been referred to the bureaux.

On the demand of the French government, M. Felix Pyat has been expelled from Switzerland.

On Tuesday the Assembly had proceeded to discuss the demand made by M. Cheron for authorisation to arrest M. Mauguin, when M. Cheron sent in a declaration, saying he desisted from his prosecution, and so the matter ended.

SCHLESWIG HOLSTEIN.

The Stadtholders of Holstein have resigned in favour of the new provisional government.

In their proclamation the Stadtholders state that the Germanic Confederation intends to protect the *established relations between Schleswig and Holstein.*

PRUSSIA.

The Schleswig-Holstein motion of Baron von Arnim and his section of the opposition, requiring the Ministry to insist on a strict observance of the conditions made with the late government of the Duchies, has been rejected in the Committee to which it was referred by six votes against four. It will, therefore, not be brought before the house.

NAPLES.

On the 11th January placards of a violent and menacing character were affixed to the walls in Palermo, threatening 'death to the tyrant,' &c. Counter bills were immediately placarded, with sentinels to guard them, *accepting the defiance*, but assuring the inhabitants that any interruption of the public tranquillity would be followed by speedy and condign punishment. Several arrests have, in consequence, taken place, and two men, it was rumoured, were to be shot.

Foreign Miscellany.

The Austrian troops entered Hamburgh on Jan. 29th, amid a dead silence on the part of the people assembled to see them. They are already doing duty in the market place.

The Emperor has granted a pardon to Count Zichy, formerly governor of Venice, who was sentenced to imprisonment in a fortress.

The five dragoons who were said to have deserted from Caprarola have returned to Rome; they had only indulged in a pleasure trip. Several political arrests have been made at Rome, both French and Roman Soldiers being employed in that service. Seven individuals, five of whom are understood to be French non-commissioned officers, have been arrested at the Hotel del Falcone. Rumours are current as to the existence of an ill-feeling between the French and Roman troops; General Gemeau has even proposed the disarming of nearly all the latter. Disturbances, created, it is said, by the republicans still occur now and then in the streets of Rome, but the crowds generally disperse at the appearance of a patrol.

Intelligence from Vienna of the 29th ult. states that another conspiracy has been discovered, extended in its ramifications. It seems that even part of the garrison of Vienna had been implicated. The 4th of March was fixed for a general outbreak. Seventy persons, students, citizens, and officers on half-pay, have been arrested. Three battalions of the garrison of Vienna have been sent to the provinces. Rewards have been offered for the apprehension of those persons who attempted to gain the soldiers. The Austrian press will not be allowed to notice these facts.

In Paris M. Mauguin, in the explanations which he has given to the committees, maintains that the debt for which he was sued was not a commercial one, but a bill payable to order, which he had signed to exonerate his son *from* a debt to that amount which he had contracted with M. Cheron. The debt which is only 1,093 francs, dates as far back as 1844.

The report presented by the Committee recommends the authorisation of M. Maguin's arrest.

It was supposed that a decisive battle would be fought in the Prussian chambers on the 31st ult., by the divers parties, on the occasion of an election for president, and that Count Schwerin, who is considered too liberally inclined, would not be re-elected; the result has turned but otherwise, for he has been re-elected by a majority of 180 against Count Cornim with 106 votes.

A prisoner in the Stadtvogti, in Berlin, named Arndt, has determined to starve himself to death, and has persisted in his refusal of all nourishment for six days, nor can any effort induce him to take any.

The disturbances at Interlaken have been put down, but been reduced to a considerable extent. The 'Kolner Zeitung' states that this tranquillity may be likened to an armistice; and that, on the one hand, the government was not prepared to go beyond the limits of the constitution of 1846, while on the other the leaders of the opposition were too cunning to push matters to the last and most dangerous extremity. The authorities are not strong enough to volunteer a struggle with the opposition, and the opposition bides its time and waits for a favourable opportunity. In the meanwhile the two parties continue a wordy war in the press, which is unequalled in animosity and virulence.

The 'Univers,' a French paper, publishes a long address, sent by the association of the working classes of Glasgow for the protection of repose upon the Sabbath to the Count de Montalembert, congratulating him on his report of the better observance of the Sabbath.

The 'Times' correspondent has the following:—'Private letters from Geneva of the 29th ult. state that the refugees, French, Poles, Germans, Italians, &c., who had been sent into the canton of Vaud have all returned to that city and its neighbourhood. Mazzini is still in Geneva; and for some time past has been actively engaged in the recruiting service of the revolution. He has money in abundance; but it is certain that these resources do not proceed, as had been absurdly stated in some of the Paris and Swiss Socialist journals, from the English clergy 'out of hatred to the Pope,' but rather from rich families in Lombardy and other parts of Italy, several of whom, there is little doubt, have acted under intimidation, and the threat of the confiscation of their property in the event of the insurrection now in course of preparation in Italy succeeding. But from whatever source the revolutionary treasury is supplied, it is affirmed that money is in abundance at Mazzini's head-quarters. Numbers of men—the far greater part refugees—are recruited, receive pay in advance, and are regularly draughted off to England, whence a part of this new expedition will set out. A considerable sum is set apart for the purchase of arms also in England, and these calculations seem to be made as if the certainty existed of completing the preparations for again lighting the flame of civil war over the whole of the Italian Peninsula. The expedition, when sufficient in numbers and equipments, will not proceed in the first instance to any part of the Roman territory. Mazzini has evidently no desire for his army to risk an encounter with the French army of occupation. Some part of the Neapolitan territory will probably be the point selected at first. It is calculated that in the first encounter any portion of the Neapolitan troops that may oppose the 'army of liberation' will be worsted; and that is to be considered as a signal for the simultaneous rising of the patriots of Italy. On the other hand, Garibaldi is expected from New York with two vessels full of volunteers, most of whom have served in Mexico. He has given out that he is proceeding to London, but it is believed that his real destination for the present is Tangiers, and from that point, when the opportune moment arrives, he will try to effect a landing in Naples. All these proceedings are perfectly well known to the Austrian government, as well as the names of those of its Italian subjects who have, either voluntarily or otherwise, contributed to the Mazzini loan; and, if the information received may be trusted, the Austrians are determined to enter and occupy the Swiss territory in the spring, in order to put an end once for all to these state of things. No government can stand quietly by and allow its tranquillity to be constantly menaced by those whose avowed object is revolution, and who are not merely sheltered as refugees by a neutral State, but comforted and encouraged. Should the proposed occupation be effected, it must of course interest in the highest degree the French government.'

The 'Vote Universal' states that it has received letters from Ledru-Rollin, at London, and Felix Pyat, at Lausanne, depicting the sufferings of the Socialist exiles in these two places during the winter, and asking for assistance. The 'Vote Universal' declares that it cannot better respond to the appeal thus made than by calling on its patriotic readers to make up by subscription a certain sum to be forwarded for the use of the exiled democrats residing in England and Switzerland.

Mr. George Thompson, M.P., has again been lecturing at Boston on the subject of the negro slavery. A telegraphic despatch of Monday states that:—'He calumniated the Bostonians in a shameful manner, and said he blushed for the city, and that acts had been committed here which made it stink in the nostrils of humanity. He abused the union meeting which was held in Faneuil Hall, President Filmore, the South, the Church—in fact, everything American, except the abolition party. He was frequently interrupted in his harangue by indignant hisses and cries. There would undoubtedly have been a serious disturbance had the fact of the meeting been more generally known.'

In Hesse Cassel the officers who resigned their commissions during the late crisis will be tried by a court-martial of Bavarian officers. It is stated at Cassel that a military convention had been concluded between the Governments of Autsria and Hesse. According to this treaty, the Hessian troops would proceed to Bohemia, and the cities of Hesse would receive Austrian garrisons.

The Minister of Commerce in Prussia has published a decree, by which part of the Sunday labour in the Prussian Post-office is abolished.

It is said that the Frankfort fundamental laws for Germany are abolished, and it is decided that all laws, decrees, and enactments which were passed since the 24th of March, 1848, will have only a provisional validity.

Some time since a Spaniard, named Dias Martinez, challenged General Narvaez to mortal combat. The General referred the matter to the Tribunals, and Martinez was sentenced to banishment for a period of eighteen months from Madrid, and to keep at a certain distance from any spot where Narvaez might happen to be residing. Martinez soon after quitted Spain, and came to Paris. On hearing of Narvaez's arrival at Bayonne he quitted Paris secretly, in company with General Armery, and proceeded to Bayonne, determined to call his persecutor to account. Scarcely had they left when a telegraphic despatch communicated the facts to the Sub-prefect of Bayonne, and instructions were given that the travellers should be prevented from putting their design in execution, otherwise they were to be treated with all due respect. On their arrival at Bayone they were sent for by the Sub-Prefect, who interrogated them as to their intentions. There was at first some hesitation, but they soon avowed the object they had in leaving Paris, namely, to challenge Nervaez to mortal combat. The Sub-Prefect had orders to compel, by force, if necessary, their return to Paris without losing sight of them. They were accordingly obliged to retrace their steps, and arrived on Monday night at Bordeaux.

In Berlin an individual representing himself, according to the police report, as an English general, and named Plantagenet Harrison, a native of Yorkshire, has been arrested for alleged frauds committed at Stralsund in the year 1848. The accused was arrested near Altona, it is said, and after passing a day in prison there, was forwarded to Stralsund.

NATIONAL REFORM ASSOCIATION.

On Monday night the first of a series of monthly *soirees*, under the auspices of the National Reform Association was held at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, when a lecture on Parliamentary and Financial Reform was delivered by Mr. Hume, M.P. The large room was crowded to the door, a considerable proportion of the company being composed of the fair sex. Tea was served up in an adjourning apartment, and at seven o'clock the more important business of the evening was commenced by a glee party singing the "People's Anthem."

Sir J. WALMSLEY then proposed that Mr. Hume, the old and indomitable friend of the people, should take the chair. Their object was to instruct the people, and his hon. friend (Mr. Hume), on learning that such meetings were proposed, at once approved of the arrangement, and declared that he would himself deliver the first lecture. (Cheers.) It had been said that the people were apathetic and indifferent to the question of their political rights; but, if this was the case, their leaders alone were to blame. (Hear, hear.) They should not teach the people to follow after collateral modes of reform—(hear, hear)—but, on the contrary, to go boldly to their object. There was no one present who would not support freehold land societies; but it should be borne in mind that it was the man's natural right they asked, and not a right merely based upon land. (Cheers.) They must remember that in this country it was by agitation that almost every great object had been gained; and as they were told by the Prime Minister himself that the people did not require reform, seeing they had not asked eagerly for it, his advice to them was to knock loudly at the door of the constitution till every man entitled to the franchise obtained his right. (Cheers.) It was not by freehold plans alone that they were to seek the extension of the franchise. He did not undervalue such plans; they were good as political engines; but their first duty was to go boldly to their purpose, and demand that men, whether they possessed land or not, should be admitted to their rights. (Cheers.)

Mr. HUME, on taking the chair, said, he did not appear there to deliver what was called a lecture, for he was no lecturer, and never wrote a speech in his life. It was his belief that many were not aware what that association, as a body of Reformers, sought for, and that many were alarmed in consequence of what had recently taken place on the continent. He therefore concurred with his hon. friend Sir J. Walmsley in thinking that the National Association should have a series of monthly meetings of the kind now held, for the purpose of giving accurate information to the public, and showing them that the only mode of avoiding such occurrences as had taken place on the continent was by adopting the principles which the National society maintained. (Hear.) He was for taking a straight forward course; he was for stating boldly and distinctly what he wanted, and calling upon those who had a monopoly of political power to give up their monopoly and extend to all the people their just rights. (Cheers.) His principle was that every man who contributed to the support of the government was entitled to a voice in the election of a representative; and he believed that all the reforms which he contended for could be obtained under our present constitution of Queen, Lords, and Commons—a system of government with which he was perfectly satisfied. The hon. gentleman then quoted passages from *Blackstone* and other authorities in favour of the doctrine that taxation and representation ought to go together. Without a thorough control on the part of the people, it was altogether impossible to check those abuses in Parliament of which they were perpetually complaining. If the people had possessed their full rights it would have been impossible, for instance, to carry out such a job as that perpetrated last session, when £12,000 a year was given to the Duke of Cambridge, a young man who had done nothing whatever to merit such bounty. He had had the curiosity to consult an actuary as to the value of this annual allowance paid to the Duke of Cambridge, and was informed that, if brought into the market, it would realize £223,000—(hear, hear)—so that a burden to that extent had actually been laid upon the people of this country. (Hear, hear.) Instead of every person who contributed to the burdens of the State having a vote, not more than one in six possessed that right. One reason giving for withholding the franchise was, that the people did not come forward to demand it. Now, it was no doubt true that the people were at present well employed, and receiving good wages, and did not take up this question with the energy which they ought to exhibit. This, however, was the very time to do justice, and, if it was not now done, the period would arrive when that justice would be extorted by threats. (Cheers.) The franchise was not only confined to a small portion of the people, but it also operated most unequally, as was shown by a variety of facts bearing upon the representation in the *National Reform Almanack*. The true way to get rid of improper taxation was thoroughly to reform the House of Commons. At present, as much agitation was spent in opposing a *particular tax*, such as the window-tax, as would, if properly directed, enable them to get rid of the anomalous state of the House of Commons altogether, and give the people the full direction of their own affairs. (Hear, hear.) The hon. gentleman then went into a variety of financial statements to show the excessive burdens under which the country labours, and, after advocating vote by ballot, short Parliaments, &c., strongly urged the necessity of an enlarged system of education for the entire people. With regard to the Freehold Land Association, he hailed the movement as one that was likely to secure for the reform cause as many votes as would enable them to wrest their rights from the aristocracy; but then it would be a period of perhaps twenty years before this could be effected, while he maintained that they ought not to endure the present system for one day. (Hear, hear.) [Here a bunch of fine white flowers was sent upon the platform by an unknown friend of the cause, with a request that it should be presented to Mr. Hume as a mark of respect, each of the flowers representing a point in the Charter. Mr. Hume, in accepting the gift, remarked that the flowers were white, an emblem, he presumed, of the purity of their motives—a remark which the audience received with loud cheers.]

Sir J. DUKE, M.P., after a few observations, moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting also offers its sincere and grateful thanks to Mr. Joseph Hume, M.P., for his valuable and long-continued advocacy of Parliamentary and Financial Reform; for the great benefits which he has conferred on the people at large, by his vigilant attention to their interests; and, more especially, for the address, replete with knowledge, instruction, and advice which he has this evening been placed to deliver."

Mr. H. KENNEDY seconded the motion which was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. HOUGHTON, a tenant-farmer, who it was intimated had just subscribed £10 to the association, moved the next resolution, and contended that it was impossible for the farmers to grow cheap corn under the heavy taxation which now pressed them down. The resolution was as follows:—"That this assembly desires to express its implicit confidence in the president and council of the National and Financial Reform Association, whose labours they cannot too fully appreciate, and whose principles and objects they determine to support."

Mr. SLACK seconded the resolution, which was also unanimously carried.

Mr. LA BLONDE said, they had held 200 meetings last year, and the expenses had been met by the funds of the association. But he begged to state that the amount of the subscriptions was contemptibly small. He hoped the ladies would give them all the support in their power, for if they succeeded in the objects they had in view they would get their tea and sugar and every other necessary of life much cheaper than at present.

At intervals during the proceedings the glee party favoured the meeting with music set to words suited to the objects of the association, and the party separated a little before ten o'clock.

MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.

The February general sessions was commenced on Tuesday morning at Hicke's Hall, Clerkenwell-green.

POCKET PICKING.—Michael Campbell, 38, and William Campbell, his son, 11, were indicted, charged with having stolen fifteen shillings and other monies, from the person of Margaret Chapman, the property of her husband, Thomas Chapman.—The wife of the prosecutor stated that on Saturday night week she was standing at the corner of Wade-street, Poplar, where the robbery was committed; and that a short time previously her husband had given her seventeen shillings, which she had deposited in her pocket. She subsequently made a purchase, for which she changed one of the shillings, and received in change a sixpence and fivepence in copper. She was soon after standing at the corner of Wade-street, when the little prisoner (his head scarcely reached as high as the top of the dock) came up and planted himself by her side. Almost immediately afterwards she felt her gown rustle, and on looking down saw the boy lift up her gown and put his hand into her pocket. He pulled out the contents and ran off. The pull the boy gave her gown somewhat drew her round. She instantly put her hand into her pocket, and finding that her money was gone kept her eye upon the movements of the boy with the hope that a policeman would come up. The boy, after the robbery, went up at once to the elder prisoner, who was standing a little way off shooting at a target for nuts. Upon the boy going up to his father they both walked off quickly round the stall. She then gave notice of her loss at the police-station.—Cross-examined by the elder prisoner: She had not, upon missing her money, put her hand upon the heads of several boys for the purpose of identifying the thief, nor had she stated that the boy who had taken the money was taller than his son.—Other evidence having been given, the jury found both the prisoners Guilty, but recommended the boy to mercy upon the ground of his youth, and under the conviction that he had been acting under the instructions and training of his father. The learned Judge sentenced the father to be transported for ten years, and the child to be imprisoned, with hard labour, for six months.

A CAB STOPPED AND ROBBED.—Francis Morgan, a young man, who appeared by his dress to be a van driver, was indicted for stealing a boa, value 5s., the property of Charles Fisher, from the person of Eliza Fisher.—At about half-past one o'clock on the morning of the 23rd of last month, the wife of the prosecutor, who carries on the business of an artificial flower manufacturer, was returning home in a cab, accompanied by a female friend, with whom she had been paying a visit in the London-road. She lived in Britannia-terrace, City-road, and on the cabman turning down a wrong street in the City-road, she pulled the check-string, and told him he was going in the wrong direction, and informed him which was the right one, upon which he turned his horse's head, and proceeded to drive as she had directed. Immediately afterwards a hat was thrown through one of the windows of the vehicle, and the next moment the prisoner opened the door on the opposite side, leaped into the cab, and seizing Mrs. Fisher's boa, he dragged it with great force from her neck, and then endeavoured to escape. Mrs. Fisher screamed lustily, whilst her friend called "Police," and on an officer coming up, the prisoner, who pretended to know nothing of the matter, was given into custody, and was conveyed by the officer in the cab to the station-house. The prisoner did not succeed in effectually securing the boa.—The jury found him Guilty, and the Court sentenced him to six months' hard labour.

ROBBERY—ADULTERY—PERJURY.—John Jacques, described as of 17 years of age, but looking much younger, was indicted for stealing a handkerchief from the person of James Syberry Sharp.—The case was clearly proved by the evidence of the prosecutor and that of another witness.—The prisoner said that he could prove that he was at home at the time the robbery was committed, and called into the witness-box a girl, who certainly was not more than sixteen, and with an infant in her arms.—The Court: What are you!—Witness: I'm his girl (pointing to the prisoner).—The Court: Do you mean that you live with him?—Witness: Yes, I do—I cohabit with him.—The Court: And is that his child?—Witness: Yes, it is. She then proceeded to depose that the prisoner was at home with her at the time the robbery was committed.—The Jury found the prisoner Guilty.—The learned Judge said it was shocking in the extreme to see such deliberate perjury committed by the girl the prisoner had called, who, young as she was, appeared to be associated under most disgraceful circumstances with the prisoner, who himself was quite a boy. He was sentenced to nine months' hard labour.

COMMITAL OF A WITNESS.—On Tuesday, a boy named Martin was convicted of stealing two shawls the property of Thomas Pybus Smith.—The prisoner belonged to a gang of young thieves infesting the bye-streets in the neighbourhood of Tottenham-court-road, and it was proved that he stole the shawls in question from a linendraper's shop door at the corner of Store-street, Tottenham-court-road. He had been in prison before several times, and he now stated that he had a father living, who was a carpenter. A man named Dyer came forward and upon oath gave the boy a good character. He said the boy had no father living. The prisoner's mother said he had a step-father. Dyer, after much hesitation and fencing with the question, admitted that he was aware that the boy had been in prison for thefts, and that he (Dyer) was living in cohabitation with the boy's mother, though at first he led the court to suppose that he came forward as an independent witness. The Court ordered him into custody, and he was removed to the House of Correction, Coldbath-fields. On Wednesday he was placed at the bar, and the learned Judge after severely admonishing him, directed him to be discharged. The prisoner was sentenced to six months' hard labour.

TEMPERANCE DEMONSTRATION.—A very numerously attended meeting of the friends of the Temperance cause took place on Monday evening at Exeter Hall, at which Mr. J. S. Buckingham presided. The chairman, in opening the proceedings of the meeting, drew an amusing comparison between the temperance movement and the religious and political agitations which have lately occupied public attention, urging upon the audience the greater importance of the former, and inviting their co-operation in checking the "alcohal aggression," by a resolute adherence to, and advocacy of temperance principles. He congratulated the friends of temperance upon the past progress, and especially upon the present encouraging prospects of their cause. It was intended that a grand convention of the members of temperance societies should be held in the metropolis in the course of the year; and he was sure that their numbers, their character, and their station also, would be such as would surprise many who were not aware of the great progress that had been made of late years in the temperance cause. (Loud cheers.) Addresses upon various topics connected with the temperance movement were afterwards delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Spencer, Forster, Newman Hale, and G. M. M'Cree; and the meeting, which was composed principally of members of the working classes, broke up at a late hour.

THE CELESTIAL SCIENCE OF THE STARS.

MR. F. MOORE having after years of sedulous devotion to the study of this sublime science, made himself perfect master of it in all its branches, respectfully offers his services to a discriminating and enlightened public, trusting that by personal demonstration some may be convinced of its truth and importance.

In Horary Astrology, Professor M. has been eminently successful, the accuracy of his calculations and the perspicuity of his judgments have caused hundreds, who before considered it to be an imposture and a cheat, to join the ranks of the wise and bear their grateful testimony to its reality and exceeding usefulness, when legitimately practised by educated and competent persons.

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Thomas Chatty, Butterleigh, Tiverton, had, from an apparent complication of disorders kept his bed for many weeks, and was 'given up' by the doctors in the neighbourhood, who were alike puzzled; as a last resource he was persuaded to try a 2s. 9d. box of these pills; long before they were finished he was enabled to walk 'out and about,' and is now happy in adding his testimony to their astonishing properties.

Robert Johnson, Ludlam-street, Bradford—'Your valuable pills have so improved my friend in Scotland, that he has solicited me to send him another box, which he feels assured will cure him; you can use our names as you think proper, that others sufferers may be convinced of their value.'—Direct to Mr. John Farquhar, weaver, &c., Kirkross, Scotland.

Mr. J. Higham, Burwell—'I am happy to say that the person, though he has taken only one box, is a wonderful deal better, and will recommend them to any one suffering.'

To Prevent Fraud on the Public by unprincipled persons, Her Majesty's Honourable Commissioners of Stamps have directed the name of the Proprietor to be engraved on the Government Stamp affixed to all his Medicines, in white letters on a red ground, without which none is genuine.

N.B.—Persons wishing to consult the Doctor, in any case, may do so by enclosing £1 by Post-office order, payable at the Holborn Office, or otherwise, with a detail of the symptoms, &c., for which Advice and Medicine will be sent. Patients corresponded with till cured.

Address, WALTER DE ROOS, M.D., 35, Ely-place, Holborn-hill, London. Hours, 10 till 1, and 4 till 8, Sundays excepted unless by previous arrangement.

Poetry.

THE TOILER'S DREAM.

The following remarkable lines are from a volume of "Poems by a Seamstress," and are the production of a young English girl. They are indeed beautiful, and, under the circumstances, thoroughly and thoughtfully appropriate.

Not in the laughing bowers,
Where, by green twining elms, a pleasant shade,
At summer's noon is made,
And where swift-footed hours
Steal the rich breath of the enamoured flowers,
Dream I. Nor where the golden glories be,
At sunset, laving o'er the flowing sea;
And to pure eyes the faculty is given
To trace a smooth ascent from earth to heaven.

Not on the couch of ease,
With all the appliances of joy at hand—
Soft light, sweet fragrance, beauty at command;
Viands that might a god-like palate please,
And music's soul-creative ecstasies,
Dream I. Nor gloating o'er a wide estate,
Till the full, self-complacent heart elate,
Well satisfied with bliss of mortal birth,
Sighs for an immortality on earth.

But where the incessant din
Of iron hands, and roars of brazen throats,
Join their unmingled notes;
While the long summer day is pouring in,
Till day is gone, and darkness does begin;
Dream I—as in the corner where I lie,
On wintry nights, just covered from the sky.
Such is my fate; and barren though it seem,
Yet, thou blind, soulless scorner, yet I dream!

And yet I dream—
Dream what? Were men more just, I might have been
How strong, how fair, how kindly and serene,
Glowing of heart, and glorious of mien;
The conscious crown to Nature's blissful scene;
In just and equal brotherhood to glean,
With all mankind, exhaustless pleasure keen.
Such is my dream.

And yet, I dream.
I, the despised of Fortune, lift mine eye,
Bright with the lustre of integrity,
In unappealing wretchedness, on
And the last rage of Destiny defy;
Resolved alone to live—alone to die,
Nor swell the tide of human misery.

And yet, I dream,—
Dream of a sleep where dreams no more shall come,—
My last, my first, my only welcome home!
Rest, unbeheld, since life's beginning stage,
Sole remnant of my glorious heritage.
Unalienable, I shall find thee yet,
And in thy soft embrace the past forget!
Thus do I dream.

Reviews.

Tait's Magazine. February. Simpkin, Marshall and Co.

The Commission to inquire into the Working of the English Universities has been made the appropriate occasion for an admirable article on the constitution and existing condition of these institutions in Scotland. The writer impartially sets forth both their advantages and their defects, and making all due allowance for the latter, it is easy to see that the former decidedly preponderate. The Scottish Universities are, in fact, essentially Democratic. They provide an education for the people in the broadest sense of the term; while the English Universities are exclusively Aristocratical, and aim as much as possible to exclude the people from their Colleges. "On the benches of a Scottish University," says the writer in *Tait*, "a young Duke of Argyle, and the shepherd's son in Glen Etive behind Ben Crauchan, sit together as young men; and the red gown suits to the back of the peasant as fitly as on the back of the peer. There is no difference—that is, within the walls of the University; for, without the gates, my young duke may spend, without the slightest difficulty, ten times as much in a week, in mere eating, drinking, clothing, furniture, and tobacco, as the shepherd's son spends during the whole session of six months. The English Universities are tenanted only by the rich. The great majority of Scottish students are poor, and live in the very humblest style, £20 or less covering their whole academical expenses for a session. How far would this sum go to pay the tailor's bill of a fashionable young long-skirted Puseyite at Oxford for one year? We know not; but long may Scotland continue, in her highest seats of learning, to imitate the Great Judge of the world in more serious matters, and have 'no respect of persons!' Let her invite, rather than discourage, the poor: remembering that Robert Burns was not the issue of aristocratic loins, that Martin Luther was a miner's son, and that in ancient times, before bishops were known, great things were done in the world by fishermen and tentmakers."

Besides this freedom from aristocratical despotism, they are also practically exempt from ecclesiastical despotism, and for all practical purposes may be regarded as secular institutions. The professors are certainly required to swear to a curiously minute doctrinal confession of faith, though we suspect that in very many cases it is with very great "latitude of interpretation," but the students may be of any church, or no church at all; and they have the further advantage of not being slavishly bound to a mere routine system of Latin, Greek, and mathematics, which, when furnished, sends them forth into the world to begin their actual education.

The great defect of the Scottish University system is its low educational standard, which forces its professors in many instances to do the work that ought to have been done in preparatory schools, by properly trained schoolmasters. However necessary this may have been in former times, there can be no doubt that there is not the slightest occasion for perpetuating the practice now. By raising the standard, and requiring a preliminary examination of a higher character from students, previous to entrance, the utility of the Scottish Universities would be greatly augmented. As it is, they are institutions of which she may well be proud, as showing that "they order these things better in Scotland" than on this side the Border, and which have, no doubt, largely contributed to the production of that intelligence, enterprise, and force of character for which Scotchmen are everywhere proverbial. "Craigallan Castle" deepens in interest as the tale proceeds. The author is evidently well acquainted with Scottish life, and some of his characters would do no discredit to the graphic pen of Galt. "Wilson's Scottish Archæology" is an article full of antiquarian lore, told in an attractive and interesting manner, and throwing much valuable light on the past history of the country. In "The Triumph of Despotism," as shown by the fall of Hesse Cassel before the infamous coalition of the Continental despots, we have one of the most forcible illustrations presented by modern history, of deadly enmity to popular liberty in any shape. Twenty years ago the father of the present Elector deliberately granted and swore to a Constitution. Since that period many attempts have been made by the dishonest Elector to set it aside, though without success until now. When this Prince and his infamous tools made their last shameless and unjustifiable attack upon the Constitution, the whole of the Judicial, civil and military officers in the Electorate, opposed passive resistance, and the decrees of the tyrant were harmless for want of force to give them effect. He fled from the capital and sought assistance from despots more powerful than himself. They granted it by marching an army to reduce the inhabitants of Hesse Cassel to submission.

Here is the result:—

These troops are known by the name of the Army of Execution. They have entirely eaten up the resources of the Electorate, and though some have been withdrawn, many still remain. They have been billeted on all the refractory *employes*, civil or military, till either they resigned or gave in their submission to the Elector's illegal decrees. Few have done the latter; many, after enduring as long as they had any means, have been compelled to the latter course. Judges of the Supreme Court have had fifteen to twenty Bavarian soldiers quartered on their families, with the threat of an additional number each day, if they will not resign their functions to more compliant successors. The members of the Town-Council, in addition to this treatment, are menaced with a court-martial and severe personal punishment, if they do not declare (which as men of conscience they cannot do) that the decree of the 28th of November last, proclaiming martial law, was in accordance with the Constitution. A widow, an English lady, has had fifteen soldiers (in addition to the usual number) billeted upon her, because she could not give any account *of her son*, who was one of the *patriotic functionaries*. One poor man who earned four florins a week had to support a Bavarian soldier, who consumed three florins to his own share. Others were so completely ruined by these exactions that not only they, but the Execution troops quartered upon them, have been *sometimes twenty-four hours* without food. One young functionary, only a few days since, who lived in lodgings on the small pittance his office afforded him, had ten soldiers quartered upon him. After a short time, he called them together, divided among them all the funds he had left, and then left them that *he* might seek food and lodging from the charity of others.

The notion of having to support a few soldiers may not sound to English ears a very terrible infliction, for happily we have never had any practical knowledge of what it really is. The cost of supporting these hostile troops, though no trifle to so poor a people as the Hessians, is, however, the least part of the infliction. We must remember that these men are placed in families *for the express purpose of rendering them miserable*, and reducing them to submission; that their will is law; that, the country being under martial discipline and foreign occupation, the ordinary tribunals, from which protection might be obtained, and by which insult and outrage might be punished, are wholly powerless; that the Execution troops live with families of the highest respectability and the most virtuous character on a footing of the most insolent and unrepellable familiarity; that many of them, especially the Bavarians, are notoriously licentious and undisciplined; and we may form some conception of the scandalous scenes which constantly occur, and of the intolerable outrages which these unhappy Hessians have daily to endure—outrages the bare mention of which is enough to make our blood boil, and the least of which in England would be the signal for a general and sanguinary outbreak.

The Elector has now returned to his impoverished country, his desolated capital, his ruined and alienated subjects—restored by the might of foreign bayonets to reign over a people whose liberties he has destroyed, whose property he has laid waste, whose before happy families he has so brutally outraged, injured, and oppressed. He was already hated and despised, for his character had long been stained with the most open profligacy and the most contemptible meanness; but now that he has broken every tie, violated every law, fled from every duty, trampled upon every popular right, and inflicted upon his subjects every conceivable variety of wretchedness, it may well be imagined with what feelings he will henceforth be regarded. That such a Constitution as that of Hesse Cassel should be thus ruthlessly trodden out, that foreign interference should have restored a prince who was too weak to carry out his own crimes, that free states should have tamely stood by and permitted this shameful consummation, this of itself is disgraceful enough to our era and our diplomacy; but that so noble a people as the Hessians should be thus bound hand and foot, and delivered over, "unwept, without a crime," to the tender mercies of a weak, bad, dishonoured profligate like the Elector, is a termination of the struggle at which humanity itself might weep and blush.

The other articles in the present number are readable and varied; the notices of books, fine arts, &c., are full and judicious. A large infusion of lighter matter, or subjects less abstract would, however, improve our old friend *Tait*.

Canterbury versus *Rome*. Nos. I., II., and III. By Ernest Jones. London: Dipple, Strand.

We are not surprised that the audiences to whom Mr. Jones delivered his lectures should have requested their publication. As far as the three now before us are concerned, they present a spirited epitome of church history and ecclesiastical practices, which is not only fraught with the deepest interest and importance to readers of every class or sect, but which, at the same time, comprises an amount of curious historical information, that must have cost the author much time, and extensive research. Mr. Jones himself explains that his object is, to show what the Church really is—a result hitherto unattained by the rival works written in the interest of Papacy and Prelacy—to reveal the injuries it has inflicted, or the benefits it has conferred—to weigh its precept and practice by the balance of Christ's words—and to arrive at a correct estimate of its enormous revenues, their derivation, and the title to their possession.

The first lecture gives a powerful and stirring history of the rise of the Papacy, up to the period of its downfal in England. The second is a history of the Royal State Church, based upon its ruins by the great wife-killer, Henry VIII.; and the third number follows up the record by a narration of the works of the Low Church of England, especially with reference to its policy towards Dissenters. The "historical notes" appended to each number add greatly to the value and the interest of Mr. Jones's work, which we cordially commend to all our readers, as being not only characterised throughout by the well-known fervid eloquence of the author, but as exhibiting, at the same time, an amount of patient, industrious, and learned research, which imparts a value to the work, far beyond its bearing on the absorbing and exciting question of "Papal Aggression." It is only needful for us to say, that Mr. Jones is no more disposed to support Canterbury than Rome; that Papacy, whether it developes itself at St. Paul's or St. Peter's, is equally his abhorrence: and that he advocates, powerfully and boldly, the complete emancipation of the human mind from all ecclesiastical thraldom, whatever that thraldom, being opposed to the principles, doctrines, and practices of Christianity, as taught and practiced by its great Founder and Exemplar. As a specimen of the matter which abounds in the pages of the numbers under notice, we take from the historical supplement the following biography of *Saint* (!) *Dunstan*:—

He was born of noble parents, Heorstan and Cynethryth, near Glastonbury, in Somersetshire, in the year 925. When a boy, while delirious with fever, he started from his couch, fancying he was pursued by dogs—and seizing a stick, fled before his imaginary foes. Crossing the hills, he reached a church at nightfall, which being under repair, he ran up the scaffolding, descended unhurt inside, and fell asleep. Awakening next morning, he wondered where he was, aroused the neighbourhood, and the occurrence was changed by his friends into the miracle of angels descending to protect him from the Devil, bursting the roof of the church, and landing him safely on the pavement. After this, his uncle, the Archbishop of Canterbury, introduced him at court, where his superior learning and acquirements caused him to be accused of magic—and he was forced to fly. It is not probable that the youth lent himself at this time to any priestly deceptions; on the contrary, he appears to have had an abhorrence of the ecclesiastical life, which was only strengthened by his becoming deeply enamoured of a young girl, whom he married, despite the opposition of his friends and relatives. He was now exposed to such a system of persecution, on the ground of his marriage, as being contrary to monastic institutions, his family desiring him to embrace the church, that his constitution for the time sunk under the infliction—his wife was torn from him, and he fell dangerously ill. It was long before he recovered; and when at last he did, he arose from his bed a fierce, broken-hearted, gloomy fanatic. Leaving his home and kindred, he dug with his own hands, a grave behind the walls of a church; it was five feet long, two wide, four feet above the ground, and deep enough to stand upright in; a little hole left at the top for air—he placed a forge inside, and day by day, as well as in the deep silence of midnight, his hammer was always heard sounding steadily, except when laid aside to say his orisons. One night the neighbourhood was alarmed by a fearful howling, and the crowd was told that the Devil had been looking in through the little hole at the top, tempting him; whereupon Dunstan had seized him by the nose with his red hot pincers, and the shrieks of the fiend had been the sound that had disturbed the vicinage. Whether this was an intentional imposture or whether Dunstan had been the dupe of his own maddened mind, and thus saluted some unlucky boor, who had ventured in the dark to peep in at the air hole, the circumstance brought him such immense celebrity, that he was forthwith invited to re-appear at court. He left his grave to revisit as a conqueror that palace from which he had fled for his life. Honour was now showered upon him. He was made Abbot of Glastonbury, *obtained a new* charter in 944, and restored the abbey with unprecedented splendour. Whether it was the gloomy ascetic spirit that had been roused in his breast, or whether, having been himself torn from the *enjoyment of domestic happiness, he grudged its possession* by another, (and the reader of the human heart will be inclined to credit this explanation), he now waged an implacable war against the married clergy, and tried to establish celibacy in the church. To effect it, he called over his terrible allies, the Benedictines, and introduced them into his monastery. The formidable militia was spread throughout the country, and Dunstan was its chief and leader. His power rose with rapidity; and scorning in his ambition all intermediate steps, he refused the see of Winchester, when offered, saying, "St. Peter in a vision had promised him the primacy." He was, however, made Bishop of Worcester, and of London at the same time. A curious circumstance now occurred that increased the superstitious awe with which he was surrounded; he prognosticated the approaching death of King Edred, and the prophecy came true. The beautiful young Edwy mounted the throne, and Dunstan forced him to establish the Benedictine discipline and celibacy among the clergy. The most terrible scenes of misery ensued—countless hearts were broken—countless homes made desolate; but while the wife was torn from the husband, the concubine was left to the priest. Perhaps the revengeful spirit of Dunstan here again triumphed when inflicting that anguish which had been heaped upon himself; if so, that spirit received a still more fearful satisfaction.

King Edwy had married the lovely Elgiva, a beautiful Princess of the blood royal, and happiness crowned their wedded life. Ancient ballads long celebrated their beauties and their virtues. The gloomy churchman could not bear the spectacle, and conjointly with Archbishop Odo, denounced their union on the ground that the princess was a second or third cousin of her husband. At the coronation banquet, the King, scarcely beyond the years of boyhood, disgusted at the excesses and drunkenness of his prelates and nobles, retired to the room of his wife and mother. Odo, Dunstan, and his relative, Cynesius, stirred up the guests at the supposed insult, and Odo ordered Dunstan and Cynesius to fetch the fugitive back. They entered the Queen's chamber, and, maddened by the scene of tranquil happiness, called Elgiva a strumpet, and, wantonly insulting the King, dragged him back to the hall of riot and debauchery. The brave boy was not, however, to be crushed thus easily, and indignant at the outrage offered to his wife and his crown, accused Dunstan of malversation in administering the treasury under King Edred. The flight of Dunstan speaks sufficiently for his guilt—and the rebellious prelate deprived of his honours and emoluments, is condemned to banishment. But he is supported by Archbishop Odo, the entire Benedictine order, and even the venerable Chancellor Turketil throws the weight of his influence in the scale. The superstition of the age was far too strong to resist, the old miracles of Dunstan were on every tongue, and young Edwy, battling for freedom, was utterly abandoned by his clergy, his nobles, and his people. The fierce Odo dissolved his marriage with Elgiva, sent a party of soldiers to the palace, and the Queen having been seized, and her face branded with red-hot iron to mar her fatal beauty, was forcibly carried off to banishment in Ireland. Edwy had no power to resist, no soldiers to defend the palace, no subjects to support the throne; he was obliged to consent to a divorce; but nature healed the wounds of Elgiva; she crossed from Ireland, reappeared in all her previous beauty in Gloucester, and threw herself into the arms of her husband. He was unable to protect her—she fell into the hands of the human fiends the priest sent after her; they tore her away, *and cut the nerves and muscles of her legs, that she might wander from their vengeance* no more. In a state of extreme torture, she lingered for a few days and died! The people, led by the priests, applauded the act! But the tragedy was not completed yet—Dunstan stirred up the men of Mercia and Northumbria to revolt, and proclaim Edgar, a mere child, the brother of Edwy, King. Edwy was excommunicated, earth and heaven were shut against him, according to the belief of that remorseless priest—the custom of that barbaric age: —and he died, one historian says by the hand of an assassin—at least by the acts of that assassin, Dunstan. The latter was now made Bishop of Westminster, and after Odo's decease, Archbishop of Canterbury. He publicly praised the murder of Edwy and Elgiva, as a meritorious act, and told the people he saw devils dancing over the body of the fallen Prince, who would have dragged him into Hell, had he not interceded.—(*Osberne*, 369, 370.)

Dunstan's insanity now broke all bounds. He claimed to be in constant intercourse with Heaven. At his consecration he caused a tame dove to alight on his head, and said it was the Holy Ghost. He declared that Christ had espoused his mother; that he had seen with his own eyes her solemn marriage to the King of Heaven, and that all the eternal choirs joined in joyous hymns, teaching him an anthem on the occasion, which he had publicly performed.—(*Acta SS. Mar t.* 4, *p.* 356.—*Osberne*, 373.) King Edgar was his tool, perhaps a more licentious tyrant never lived. Among many other crimes, he violated and carried off Wulfrith, a noble nun, and the churchman who had caused the murder of Elgiva and the death of Edwy, for marrying a third cousin, punished the sin of Edgar by merely forbidding him to wear his crown on state occasions, for seven years; these seven years the King spent in shameless vice. The secular clergy were now everywhere expelled, and replaced by Benedictines. When Edgar died, and during the minority of Edward, Dunstan ruled both church and state, with sovereign authority—but, at last, his power began to wane, the nobility were alienated, and he was forced to meet his enemies at the Council at Colne, in Wiltshire. Here he thought to restore his influence by a miracle. The greater part of the nobility were assembled in an upper chamber; the Primate sat in an arm-chair, with his personal friends, at one end of the room; he told his accusers to speak, and in reply merely said, "Christ shall judge between us." At the words, the entire floor, except that part where Dunstan and his allies were sitting, fell into the abyss below; many of the leading nobles were killed on the spot, the Prelate's chair alone remained unmoved; but the device availed him little—his power was gone—he returned to his see, and lived in gloomy solitude.

In 988, ten years after the massacre of Colne, he died, in the midst of fierce quarrels, which he bequeathed to his Benedictines on the one hand, and the secular clergy on the other, and which long split, devastated, and destroyed the nation. When on the point of death, he had his bed lifted three times to the ceiling, as about to be translated to Heaven. A monk declared that multitudes of archangels entered the room from all sides, with crowns of gold, to fetch him; but Dunstan said he was not ready; so they went promising to return on Saturday. (*Yepes, t.* 5, *p.* 120.) They came, according to their promise; at his funeral the people tore their faces with grief, and the departed churchman was chronicled as a saint on the muster-roll of Heaven.

The Operative. Part I. Berger, Holywell-street.

This organ of the amalgamated iron trades is one of the most creditable specimens of working class literature, both as to quality and appearance, that we have yet seen issued from the press. It contrasts admirably with the slang and trash published for the recreation of hon. and right hon. nobles in more fashionable quarters of the metropolis. Philosophy, soundly and eloquently written, essays laying bare the causes of social evils, and earnestly enforcing adequate remedies—tales, poetry, and scientific and practical information, are combined in the part before us, from which we would gladly make copious extracts, did space permit. Its price, however, is so low as to place it within the reach of all our readers; and we, therefore, the less regret our inability to show by a sample, how well merited is our high approval and commendation of the *Operative*.

Familiar Things; a Cyclopædia of Entertaining Knowledge. Illustrated with Wood Engravings. Arthur Hall, Virtue and Co., Paternoster-row.

An excellent addition to the literature and science of the industrial classes. The contents of the present part treat of such "familiar things" as "Our Cup of Tea," "The Sponge," "Lamps and Candles," "The Church Clock," and "The Bouquet," in a clear and attractive manner, which combines mind instruction with agreeable variety and entertainment. It is well known that "Our Cup of Tea" is subject to adulteration, and that sloe leaves are too often the substitute for "souchong." The Cyclopædia throws the following light on this practice:—

Tea is extensively adulterated in China, and still more so in England. The Chinese dry many millions of pounds of the leaves of various plants for this purpose, and more particularly for the purpose of mixing with a tea known by the term *Ankoi*, which abounds with portions of thick soft, dark green smooth leaves, and of palish hairy leaves, with strongly marked veins. The latter being detected by a familiar faint odour and marokish flavour.

The green teas are adulterated by the Chinese, with damaged black leaves, and sometimes the spurious article is entirely substituted for the genuine. The manufacture of the spurious tea is carried on at a village called Honan, situated exactly opposite to the English factories on the other side of the river, and the method of preparing it demands some little notice on our part.

The black teas that have been damaged by the autumnal floods, are dried in baskets furnished with sieve bottoms, which are placed over pans of charcoal, after which they are removed in small portions to cast iron pans placed over furnaces, where they are stirred rapidly by a workman, with his hand, who also adds a little powdered turmeric to the tea, and then about a teaspoonful of a mixture, composed of Prussian blue and sulphate of lime or gypsum. The leaves being kept stirred pretty briskly over the fire, soon acquire the bloom, and even somewhat of the odour of Hyson.

After being prepared as described above, this spurious tea undergoes the process of picking the same as if it was a genuine article, a number of women and children having the tea placed before them in broad shallow baskets, carefully remove all coarse uncurled leaves and stalks, and afterwards pass it in succession through various sized sieves, to produce the different degrees of fineness. The first produces what is called Hyson Skin, and the second Young Hyson. When the leaves are too large they are chopped and recurled.

The Chinese also substitute a species of moss, common to the mountains, for tea; and also an infusion of different sorts of fern, and the leaves of the Camellia.

It is well known among those engaged in the tea trade, that the Chinese themselves never make use of the green tea used for exportation, a fact that speaks for itself. Strong green tea, when unadulterated produces such disagreeable effects upon what are popularly termed, nervous constitutions, that some persons can never take even the smallest portion even when combined with black tea, without experiencing sleeplessness, tremors, cold perspirations, anxiety, and great prostration of the systems generally.

The brick, or tile tea is frequently imitated by mixing, sloe, and other leaves together, with the spoiled leaves and stalks of the tea plant, and some bullocks' blood, which is then compressed and dried in an oven.

In this country the adulteration is again carried on, so that the previously adulterated tea is rendered still more spurious by the merchants in our own country, who, dealing it out wholesale, are not so liable to be detected as the retailer, who again adds his share to the general sophistication. Among the home adulterations we may notice, the extensive employment of elm, ash, hawthorn, sloe, apple, and other leaves; waste tea leaves re-dried, and raisin stalks chopped up.

A precious compound, truly!

The Public Good. No. 14 for February. Passmore Edwards, Paternoster-row.

A full and sympathetic memoir of Mazzini, the modern Rienzi, is spiritedly continued in the present number of *The Public Good.* "Paul Vauban" is a capital sketch of Parisian life and incidents connected with the Revolution of February, 1848. An Universal Language is indeed "One of the World's Greatest Wants," and though the proposition is not new, we are glad to meet it again. Had there been such a language, think of the Babel we should avoid, the inconvenience and confusion that would be prevented when our visitors from all parts of the world flock to the forthcoming Exhibition? The other contents of the present number of this cheap and excellently conducted Magazine, are an agreeable *melange of fact and fiction.*

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Robert Owen's Journal. Part 3. Clayton, Strand.
The Poetic Companion; Lovell's-court, Paternoster-row.
The Peace Advocate. J. Kaye, 80, Fleet-street.
The Temperance Tract Journal. J. Kaye, 80, Fleet-street.
The Free Inquirer in Science, Politics, and Theology. Watson, Queen's Head-passage, Paternoster-row.
"*The glorious liberty of the children of God.*" *A letter addressed to the common people of the Roman Catholic laity.* By Emancipator. Whitfield, Essex-street, Strand.
Helena or the Physician's Daughter. Novello.

Public Amusements.

PRINCESS'S.

The cast of *As You Like It* comprises a large amount of histrionic force. The Rosalind of Mrs. Kean is one of those finished characters, arch without coarseness, and modulated into pathos where need requires, that wholly belong to her own mode of rendering poetical comedy. The speeches of Jaques are effectively declaimed by Mr. Kean, who in the "seven ages" skilfully applies the old principle of making the actor successively represent the phases he describes. The attitudes of the melancholy man are exceedingly well conceived. When he does not speak he is always so placed as to be a characteristic figure in the *tableau* of which he forms a prominent part. Mr. Wigan's Orlando is the best of his representations in this line of character. The solicitude displayed for Old Adam is dwelt upon with more than usual emphasis, and represented in a natural, kindly manner. The comic parts are all admirably filled. The consequential pomp of Mr. Keeley as Touchstone, the wondering stupidity of Mrs. Keeley's Audrey, and the utter silliness of Mr. Meadows' William are not to be surpassed. Mr. Addison, who plays Adam, is careful and intelligent, but he relapses into his old fault of overdoing. This part was acted at Windsor by Mr. Bartley. The *mise en scène* is very beautiful. Not only are the scenes well painted and well set, but the sylvan sentiment of the piece has been aptly caught and rendered visible so far as the necessary limits of a stage will allow. The forest is so constructed that the characters can wind their way through trees from the remotest backgrounds, and approach the audience by crossing a rustic bridge. The stream at the foot of the slope seems flowing on purpose to accompany the meditations of Jaques. Less brilliant, from the nature of the subject, the decorations of *As You Like It* are quite as creditable to the management as those of *Henry IV.*

HAYMARKET.

A little after-piece in one act, called *Good for Nothing*, was produced at this theatre on Monday night, with an extraordinary degree of success. It is said to be from the pen of Mr. Buckstone, who has been happy in the originality of his idea, in the simple, but effective, manner in which he has worked it out, and in Mrs. Fitzwilliam's most admirable performance of the heroine. The characters are all in humble life. Tom and Harry are two brothers, living together and pursuing their separate occupations, the one being a gardener and the other a railway fireman. They have, as an inmate, Nan, the orphan child of a poor friend of theirs, who had died and left her destitute. The honest fellows love her as their child, and she calls them her fathers, but they have no idea of how she should be brought up, and she is allowed to run wild about the streets, uneducated and untended, playing among the boys of the neighbourhood, and growing up a little savage, while her protectors are quite unable to determine what is to be done with her. A young carpenter, who frequents the house, tries to raise in her mind some sparks of self-respect and ambition. Charley tells her how other young women behave, and describes one young woman with whom he walks out on Sundays, dressed in her nice bonnet and shawl, neat shoes, and white cotton stockings. The poor girl, deeply mortified, and stung by unconscious jealousy, begins to see herself in her true light; and her mind, roused for the first time to reflection, is labouring with a throng of new thoughts, when she makes a further discovery. Her "fathers" are in trouble; they cannot pay their rent, and are about to be turned out of their dwelling. Her awakened faculties begin to understand something of what is passing round her, and she feels the bitterness of being "good for nothing." She takes up a money-box which has been devoted to her benefit, and which her "fathers" have made a solemn resolution not to touch, and armed with this she sets out to satisfy the landlord, having first improved her personal appearance so as to become a very decent-looking sort of damsel. A £5 note, sent to her by a parent whose child in her rough benevolence she has saved from drowning, comes opportunely to the aid of her "fathers," and she is promised in marriage to the sage carpenter. This little piece is essentially one of character, the plot being merely devised for the sake of developing the personages. Nan, loutish, sulky, and good humoured, is admirably played by Mrs. Fitzwilliam. She has evidently made a thorough study of a part entirely new to the stage, and nothing could be more tangibly real than the result. The "fathers" have each his distinctive attribute. The stoker is of that rough straightforward temperament which Mr. Howe can so well assume, and is perfectly made up as a frank, handsome specimen of the working classes. The market gardener affects serenity of temper, but always becomes loud and angry as he proceeds, and this peculiarity is most humourously represented by Mr. Buckstone.

QUEEN'S.

The interesting drama, from the French of *Palliasc*, entitled *Belphegor the Conjuror*, has been produced at this theatre on a scale of great splendour. We have already given the plot and incidents on its production at the Adelphi and Surrey theatres, and it is unnecessary to go over the same ground again. As at the Surrey there is no underplot to distract the attention of the audience from the main issue, and the character of Belphegor affords ample scope for the exercise of Mr. E. Green's well known talents. The poverty of the fond husband and kind parent, his anxiety for his family, his present to his wife, who has forsaken him for the love she bears to her sick child, his introduction as the Chevalier de Rollac to the Duke de Montbazan, and his joy at the happy *denouement*, was most admirably conceived, and received the hearty plaudits of the house. The part of Madeline, who is devoted to her husband, despite the remonstrances of her family, was sustained with great force by Mrs. C. Boyce, and in the last scene, where she has two alternatives, either to disown her husband or doom him to death, her excellent acting seemed to establish a reality. Mr. Bigwood was the *beau ideal* of an itinerant showman, and the remaining characters were well supported by the company. Great attention has been paid to the getting up of this piece, and its success is most decided. The Pantomime still continues to be a source of great attraction.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

Dr. Bachhoffner still continues his most excellent and instructive lectures on "Allman's electric light," and Mr. Pepper astounds his auditors with his brilliant and magnificent experiments with Fire and its antagonists. Among the latest additions to this establishment are the Lockwood Family, who are performing daily here, under the direction of their instructor, Mr. Frederick Chatterton, and delight the visitors with their brilliant and effective execution. To the curious in clocks we would point out one just being demonstrated, which has all the appearance of magic, and like all magical delusions, are easily comprehended; it is explained in the Great Hall of the establishment, amongst the other mechanical constructions, and was introduced here by the president of the institution, Sir George Cayley, Bart. In appearance it is simply one sheet of glass and a hand, yet this instrument chronicles time accurately.

Marshal Haynau.—The Pantomimes and the Lord Chamberlain.—The incidents of Haynau's visit to Bankside, as every playgoer knows, have been seized on by the authors of nearly all the pantomimes of the season, and the passages in which they are introduced have never failed to elicit applause. After the lapse of more than a month the Lord Chamberlain has seen fit to take official notice of this personal reference, and in one instance to request its omission. In consequence of the suggestion of the Lord High Chamberlain, conveyed through Sir William Martin, two comic scenes have this week been cut out of the pantomime at Astley's Amphitheatre, one representing the exterior of Barclay's brewery, with draymen, horses, &c.; the other the bedroom of the public house in which the Baron took refuge. As it is not imagined that the government could see any possible evil likely to arise from this representation, the popular inference is that this interference has been prompted by the Austrian Ambassador. Among other pieces, the representation of which has been stopped by the authorities at the chamberlain's office, may be mentioned the highly popular hippo-dramatic spectacle of "Turpin's Ride to York," which has been played on the boards of most of the metropolitan and provincial theatres for the last thirty-five years. The performance of "Jack Sheppard" and "Oliver Twist," as dramatised from the versions of Harrison Ainsworth and Charles Dickens, has also been interdicted. In military spectacles, illustrative of the triumphs of British arms, the Lord Chamberlain's officials refuse to allow the names of living heroes to appear as *dramatis personæ*, they being merely described by the title of their appointments, such as the "Commander of the British Forces," or the "General Commanding-in-chief," "Colonel of the Life Guard," &c.; and in one or two cases, "The Affghanistan War," for instance, which was produced at Astley's, the manuscript was returned to the Lord Chamberlain's office, in order to ascertain that the required alterations had been made. The playbills of each theatre and "saloon" licensed by the Lord Chamberlain are regularly supplied at his office, at S. James's.

CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTHDAY OF THOMAS PAINE.

On Monday last, about sixty of the disciples of this great man dined together, in the large room at the Seven Stars Inn, Nottingham. After ample justice had been done to the good things provided for the occasion,

Mr. James Sweet was called to the chair, and, in a suitable speech, introduced the following sentiment:—"To the Immortal Memory of Thomas Paine—may Reason and Common Sense guide his disciples in their warfare with the enemies of the Rights of Man;" which having been drank in solemn silence,

Mr. S. Kydd responded, and gave a faithful history of the times in which Paine lived, the difficulties under which he laboured, and the glorious services which he rendered by his pen to his adopted country. Mr. Kydd's address, which lasted an hour, was received with repeated cheers.

The following sentiments were also given and responded to:—"The Sovereignty of the People," "Feargus O'Connor, Esq., and the Advocates of the People's Charter in the House of Commons—may their number be speedily augmented;" "The Rights of Labour;" "To the Memory of John Horne Tooke, Thomas Spence, Major Cartwright, Henry Hunt, William Cobbett, and the illustrious dead of every age and nation, who, by their voice or their pen, have demanded for every man of due age and sound mind, the rights of citizenship—may their spirits animate their successors, until the working millions are free."

Patriotic songs and recitations followed in rapid succession, and, during the evening, the "Health of our esteemed Parliamentary Leader, T. S. Duncombe, Esq.," was given, and sorrow expressed for his long-continued and severe indisposition, and many wishes were expressed for his restoration to health. The "Health of Mr. Kydd, and regret at the absence of several of our Old Friends and Disciples, in consequence of age and infirmities," having been spoken to, the thanks of the meeting were awarded to the worthy host and hostess, to the Committee of Management, and the Chairman, and the company separated, with best wishes for each other's welfare.

MEETING AT SHEFFIELD.—THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN.

A public meeting of females was held on Wednesday evening, February 5th, in the Democratic Temperance Hotel, 33, Queen-street, for the purpose of reading the Queen's speech, and also to adopt a petition to parliament for the enfranchisement of adult females. Mrs. Obiate Higginbottom was called upon to preside. After she had read the speech, the following motion and petition were unanimously agreed to:—"That, seeing the Queen is enjoying her prerogative as a woman, this meeting is of opinion that until the entire enfranchisement of women is conceded, justice will not be done; therefore, this meeting resolve to petition the legislature for the enactment of a bill which will enfranchise the whole female adult population of this empire, and that the following be the petition:—

"To the Honourable the Commons of Great Brittain and Ireland in Parliament assembled,

"The humble petition of the female inhabitants of Sheffield, in the County of York, in public meeting assembled, held on Wednesday evening, in the Democratic Temperance Hotel, Queen-street, Feb. 5th, 1851,

"Sheweth, that we, the females of Sheffield do approach your honourable house with all due respect, to make known our desires and opinions upon a subject which we consider is a right withheld, but which, legitimately, belong to our sex, the enfranchisement of women. Therefore, we beseech your honourable house to take into your serious consideration the propriety of enacting an electoral law, which will include adult females within its provisions, and your petitioners will ever pray."

The next resolution was "That the foregoing petition be entrusted to Mr. John Parker, the borough member, for presentation, and that John Arthur Roebuck, his colleague, be requested to support the same."

Thanks beeing voted to the chair, the meeting broke up.

Emigration from Germany.—In the course of the year 1850, the number of German emigrants from the port of Antwerp is quoted at 7,016. Of these 6,134 went to New York, 737 to New Orleans, and 145 to Valparaiso. The number of emigrants from the port of Hamburgh amounted to 7,364, of whom 5,025 went to New York; 575 to New Orleans and Galveston; 126 to Rio Grande do Sul; to San Francisco, in the Brazils, 110; to Valparaiso, 252; to Quebec, 587; to St. Francisco, in California, 212; and to Australia, 477. The number of emigrants from Antwerp was, in 1849, 10,260; in 1848, 11,075; and in 1847, 14,613. These figures show a steady decrease of German emigration—at least, so far as the port of Antwerp is concerned.—*Kölner Zeitung.*

The Falkirk Burghs.—Mr. Bell has withdrawn from the contest for the representation of the Falkirk burghs, vacant by the elevation of the Earl of Lincoln to the Dukedom of Newcastle. The contest now lies between Mr. Baird and Mr. Wilson.

Varieties.

A Lisping Lover.—"Sal," said lisping Bill, "if you don't love me, thay tho; and if you love me, and don't like to thay tho, squeethe my hanth."

On the average (says the *Times*) every man spends about three per cent. of his income in Railway travelling.

"Jim, I hear you are on a cruise after Dick, to horsewhip him?"—"Yes, I'm bound on a *whaling* expedition."

Cure Extraordinary.—Mr. Woodman, surgeon, of Wilcombe, has, by means of plaster, successfully united the joints of two fingers, which were crushed off the hand of a boy at the first joint, and sensation is restored to the parts that were renewed.

To spin and weave, to knit and sew, was once a girl's employment;
But now to dress, and catch a beau is all she calls enjoyment.

Fat Persons.—Corpulent persons desirous of regaining their shape should apply to some newspaper establishment, for the office of collector. They will run their fat off long before their office becomes a sinecure.—*American Paper.*

The *Scientific American* says, that a man in Orange County was found, one night, climbing an overshot-wheel in a fulling mill. He was asked what he was doing? He said he was trying to get up to bed, but somehow or other the stairs wouldn't hold still.

Captain Harris the Abyssinian traveller, when introduced by especial favour into the lady-chapel of the Cathedral of Shoa, is stated to have found the walls of that holiest of Abyssinian shrines hung round with coloured prints of the great Leicestershire steeple chase.

"Ah, my fine fellow," said one man to another, slapping him on the shoulder, "you're one of the men we read of."—"How so" inquired the other; "where did you read of me?"—"In the police report!"—"The man we read of" doubled his fist, but the other was at a safe distance.

A Contrast.—The Protestants have obtained a *firman* from the Sultan, establishing them in the privilege to build churches like other Christians, as the Arminians and Greeks. A similar privilege has been refused by the Pope to the Protestants of Rome.

Incorrigibly Happy!—In one of Addison's plays the undertaker reproves one of his mourners for laughing at a funeral, and says to him:—"You rascal, *you!* I have been raising your wages for these two years, upon condition that you should appear more sorrowful, and the higher wages you receive, the happier you look!"

"Look up!" thundered the captain of a vessel, as his boy grew dizzy while gazing from the top-mast, "*Look up!*" The boy looked up and returned in safety. Young man, look up, and you will succeed. Never look down and despair. Leave dangers uncared for, and push on. If you falter, you lose. *Look up!* Do right, and trust in God.

A Curious Calculation.—Some astute mathematician announces that "one pair of rats, with their progeny, will, in three years, produce as many as six hundred and forty-six thousand eight hundred and eight rats, which consume, day by day, as much food as sixty-four thousand six hundred and eighty men, leaving six rats to starve!"

To Dog-keepers.—It has been stated to us that, lately, an eminent Liverpool gentleman has lost several fine sporting dogs from the use of scrap cake, a compound sold for the use of such animals by tallow-chandlers, but which, from the abundance of arsenic now contained in its composition, is calculated to result in fatalities far from agreeable to the patrons of the canine race.

Simplicity.—A little girl, who had been visiting in the family of a neighbour, hearing them speak of her father being a widower, on her return home, addressed him thus:—"Pa, are you a widower?" "Yes, my child. Do you not know your mother is dead?"—"Why, yes, I knew ma was dead, but you always told me you were a Welshman."

Novel Speculation.—A party has entered into an arrangement with the London and North Western Railway Company, to make use of certain portions of the interior of their Railway carriages, for the purpose of posting bills and trade announcements in them. He has purchased this privilege by paying to the Company the sum of £1,200 for the year.

Population of Sweden.—The total population of the kingdom of Sweden is estimated at 3,533,200, viz.: 1,842,400 males, and 1,690,800 females. On the 1st January, 1846, the population was 3,326,902, so that the increase in the last five years has been 216,298, or 6 per cent.

Poets and Poultry.—What the Phœnix was to the young poets of England, and the Angels to Dr. Watts, the Eagle is to the American bards. Poets seem fond of poultry. American poetry never will improve till the schoolmaster here flogs the eagle out of the young scholars of the west, as Dr. Bowyer whipped the Phœnix out of the Christ school students of London.—*New York Figaro.*

A Borrowed Countenance.—A Gascon officer, demanding his salary from the Minister of War, maintained that he was in danger of dying of hunger. The Minister, who saw that his visage was full and ruddy, told him that his face gave the lie to his statement. "Ah! sir," said the Gascon, "don't trust to that; this face is not mine. It belongs to my landlord, who has given me credit for a long time past."

A Man Framed and Glazed.—A watchman on duty in Radnor-street, Hulme, a little after four o'clock one morning last week, heard a noise at the cellar-window of a house in Albert Terrace. On directing his lantern to the window, its luminous rays displayed a man in a somewhat singular predicament; he had his legs through two lower panes, and his arms through two upper ones, and being intoxicated he was unable either to advance or retreat.

Insurance.—Among the recent speculations in the city, is a company to insure females against dying old maids. The rates of premium differ according to looks and disposition. While a smart, tidy girl is insured for two per cent., brazen, ill natured spinsters are charged, in some instances, as high as ten. Where snuff is used, one per cent. extra is charged.

Women.—Perhaps one reason why women bear affliction—as I believe they generally do—better than men, is because they make no attempt to fly from the cause of it, but betake themselves patiently to the duties, however painful, which they are to perform. It is the old emblem of the reed and the oak; they bend, and therefore they are not broken; and then comes peace of mind, which is the fruit of resignation.—*Southey's Life.*

An accomplished Miss, on returning to her father's house, after having been one quarter at a boarding school, quite shocked her brother, whose language and ideas were rather unsophisticated, with her refined expressions. "I declare," said he, one day, to his father, "our Sally has got to be so larned that I cannot understand above half what she says. 'Twas only this morning that she stuck a *po* on to *tater*, and called treacle *molasses*."

The Hen-pecked Husband's best Friend.—The other evening, after Mons. Robin had completed his extraordinary trick of making Madame Robin disappear, by putting an extinguisher over her, he was waited upon by a country gentleman, who, after expressing his wonder at the very surprising manner in which the lady had gone no one could tell where, said, "He should certainly bring his own wife to-morrow, and would like to know what Mons. Robin would charge for getting rid of her in the same manner."—*Punch.*

Printing.—A correspondent of the *Weekly News* announces that, among the specimens of ingenuity to be transmitted to the forthcoming Exhibition, is a machine of French invention, that provides for the rapid distribution and composition of printing types. In a very small compass it contains the cases, and 64,000 letters for the day's work of a compositor, who is enabled to compose Roman and Italic without shifting his position, and can distribute, compose, and justify at the rate of 10,000 letters an hour, instead of 1,000, as heretofore.

The American Senate have determined on one of the most magnificent projects of ancient or modern times—the formation of a great national road, *one hundred miles wide!* And extending from the western frontier of Missouri to the Pacific Ocean, by which communications are to be opened with California, Oregon, and New Mexico—these branch lines to be *fifty miles wide!* On the main road are to be three distinct lines—one for the railway, another for the carriage way, and a third for foot passengers—a strip being reserved for a line of telegraph.

A Refuge for the Effeminate.—A few days after Colonel Timms had gone to Wareham to visit his uncle, Mr. Elwes, a quantity of rain fell in the night. He had not been long in bed till he felt himself wet through; and putting his hand out of the clothes, found the rain was dripping through the ceiling upon the bed. He got up and moved the bed, but he had not lain long before he found the same inconvenience. Again he got up, and again the rain came down. At length, after pushing the bed quite round the room, he got into a corner where the ceiling was better secured; and he slept till morning. When he met his uncle at breakfast, he told him what had happened. "Ay, ay," said Mr. Elwes, "I don't mind it myself; but to those who do, that's a nice corner in the rain!"—*Pictorial Half Hours.*

The Frenchman and the Yankee.—A Yankee and a Frenchman owned a pig in co-partnership. When killing time came, they wished to divide the carcase. The Yankee was very anxious to divide so that he could get both hind quarters, and persuaded the Frenchman that the proper way to divide was to cut it across the back. The Frenchman agreed to it, on condition that the Yankee would turn his back and take choice of the pieces after it was cut in two. The Yankee turned his back, and the Frenchman asked—"Vich piece vill you have; ze piece wid ze tail on him or ze piece vat aint got no tail?"—"The piece with the tail!" shouted the Yankee instantly. —"Den by gar you can take him, and I take ze oder one," said the Frenchman. Upon turning around, the Yankee found that the Frenchman had cut off all the tail and stuck it into the pig's mouth.

TO TAILORS AND OTHERS.

EXHIBITION, 1851.

By Approbation of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, and H.R.H. Prince Albert.

THE LONDON and PARIS SPRING and SUMMER FASHIONS for 1851, by Messrs. BENJAMIN READ & Co., 12, Hart-street, Bloomsbury-square, London; and by GEORGE BERGER, Holywell-street, Strand, will be ready early in March. The View of the *Grand Building* in Hyde-park for the ensuing Exhibition, is executed with extraordinary skill, and will be superior to anything of the kind ever published, producing an excellent and beautifully coloured PRINT, representing various Costumes of different nations, without any additional charge. This splendid PRINT will be accompanied with the usual number of full sized Patterns, Dress, Riding and Frock Coats; Youth's new Fashionable Polka Jacket. Also, the Novel and Fashionable Registered Exhibition Riding Coat, with illustration of all particulars, and every information for Cutting and Making-up the whole. The elegant new ALBERT Riding Coat, registered by READ & Co. 13th of January, 1851, for the benefit of Subscribers only; all others are liable. Price, with all the Patterns and information as usual, 10s.; price for the PRINT alone, 7s., post free, on a roller. Sold by READ & Co., 12, Hart-street, Bloomsbury-square, London; G. BERGER, Holywell-street, Strand; and all Booksellers in the United Kingdom.

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GENTLEMEN,—Having heard your Wafers very highly spoken of by several persons who had taken them with decided benefit, I have recommended them in several cases of confirmed asthma, and their good effects have been truly astonishing. I now recommend them in all obstinate cases.

(Signed) W. J. COOPER, Surgeon.

Another Cure of violent Cough, Sore Throat, &c.

SIR,—Having an ulcerated sore throat and violent cough for several months, accompanied with excessive expectoration, and obtaining no relief from my medical attendant, and being recommended by my neighbour, Mrs. Maddison (who had experienced great benefit from Dr. Locock's Wafers), to try them, I was induced to do so, and feel great pleasure in bearing my testimony to a speedy cure experienced by me from one box only.—(Signed) CHARLOTTE HEAD.—Witness—Mr. John Noble, bookseller, Boston.—Kirton, Boston.

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2. The Student of St. Petersburg. (*Continued.*)
3. History and Effects of Peasant Proprietorship.
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NOTICE.—The Supplementary matter, completing the History of the Anglican Church, though as much condensed as possible, has been found too voluminous to be comprised in the space allotted to the notes.

A SUPPLEMENTARY NUMBER will, therefore, be issued on Saturday, the 15th inst., completing the History of the Church down to the present day, and will contain:—The Marian martyrdom. The origin, right, character, and ultimate resting place of Kings as shown in the Bible. The Rubric *versus* the Gospel. Modern law for lectures. Church persecutions in 1849-50. Dr. Croly's pleasant picture.

On SATURDAY, the 22nd Instant will appear No. I., Price Twopence, of

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On Saturday, February 8th, will be Published

SECTS and SECTARIES.

Being a Verbatim Report of the Oration delivered at the Literary Institution, John-street, Fitzroy-square, by Samuel Phillips Day, formerly a Monk of the Order of the Presentations.

Also, in a few days, will be published, Price Twopence, the Second Edition of

ROMANISM, THE RELIGION OF TERROR. An Oration, delivered, at the above Institution, by the same Author.

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NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION.

Office, 14, Southampton-street, Strand.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE hereby announce the following meetings:—

On Sunday afternoon at three o'clock the Metropolitan Delegates will meet at the City Hall, 26, Golden-lane, Barbican.

On Sunday evening next at the Rock Tavern, Lisson-grove—Princess Royal, Circus-street, Marylebone—Bricklayers' Arms, Tonbridge-street, New-road—Crown and Anchor, Cheshire-street, Waterloo Town—and New Eastern Literary and Scientific Institution, Morpeth-street, Green street, Bethnal Green.

On the same evening the Washington locality will meet at the Rose and Crown, Clipstone-street, Portland-place, and an adjourned discussion on the question—'Can the Working Classes obtain their enfranchisement without the aid of the Middle Classes?' will be resumed by Mr. O'Connor.

On the same evening at five o'clock, the United Delegates of the Tower Hamlets will meet at the Woodman Tavern, White-street, Waterloo Town; and at eight o'clock Mr. Finlen will lecture at the above tavern.

On the same evening at the City Hall, 26, Golden-lane, Barbican, a public meeting will be held. J. Hamilton, Esq., Editor of the 'BUCKS ADVERTISER' and 'AYLESBURY NEWS,' T. J. Lockhart, Esq., and several other democratic friends will attend and address the meeting. Chair to be taken at half-past seven o'clock. Admission free.

On Monday evening next the Westminster locality will meet at the Peacock Tavern, Maiden-lane, Covent Garden. Mr. William Shute, the sub-secretary, will be in attendance to enrol members.

On the same evening, at the Eastern Institution, Morpeth-street, Dr. Sexton will lecture on 'Phrenology.'

On Tuesday evening next at the Woodman Tavern, White-street, Bethnal Green-road, a Concert and Ball will take place in aid of the National Charter Fund; to commence at seven o'clock.

On Wednesday evening next, at the South London Hall, Mr. Ernest Jones will lecture. Subject: 'The People, their Wrongs and Rights.'

On Thursday evening a public meeting will be held in the Institution, Carlisle-street, Portman-market, for the purpose of reviewing the recent proceedings in Parliament. Messrs. Ernest Jones, G. Julian Harney, J. B. O'Brien, R. Le Blond, and others will attend and address the meeting. Chair to be taken at eight o'clock. Admission Free

Signed on behalf of the Committee,
JOHN ARNOTT, General Secretary.

NOTICE.

A DELEGATE MEETING will be held in the National Charter Association Room, back of the Freemasons' Arms, Quarry-street, High-street, on Sunday, February 16th, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, when the following places are requested to send delegates:—Ashton-under-Lyne, Mosley, Mottram, Hyde, Duckenfield, Stockport, Macclesfield, and Droylsden. Programme—1st. To consider the best mode to be adopted to organise the Chartists of Lancashire. 2nd. To discuss the propriety of sending a delegate to the Conference.

All communications to be addressed to William Hill, General Secretary, No. 8, Winterbottom's-trusts, Cross-leech-street.

NOTICE TO THE CHARTISTS OF CHESHIRE.

A DELEGATE MEETING will be held in the Chartist Association Rooms, Waterloo-road, Stockport, on Sunday, February 16th, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of nominating a delegate to sit in the Conference to be holden in London, on March the 3rd. Ashton, Staleybridge, Hyde, Macclesfield, and all other towns and villages in the county are requested to *send delegates to this meeting.*

All communications to be addressed to THOMAS CLEWS, 7, Wellcroft-street, Stockport.

National Land Company.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—At a meeting of the committee, held on Sunday last, the following resolutions were agreed to:—1st. "That this committee having duly considered the difficulties in raising money to expedite the winding-up of the Company's affairs, and having also considered the plan of loan as put forth by the Directors in the last two weeks' *Stars,* agree to accept the offer of £20 from a member for that purpose, and on the conditions named by the Directors, in the abovenamed document."—2nd. "That this committee pledges itself to carry out the above resolution, and to forward the sum therein stated to the Directors; likewise to see that the said conditions are duly fulfilled by all parties concerned." The committee are extremely anxious to impress upon other branches the necessity of adopting similar means to meet the expenses necessary for a speedy settlement of the Company's affairs.

To Correspondents.

J. BAYLEY, &c.—It was considerations such as those so forcibly expressed by our correspondent which induced us to announce the alteration and shape alluded to, and we still retain the same opinion as to its superior convenience. But the decided opinion of the principal agents in the provinces was against us, and we reluctantly acquiesced.

NOTTINGHAM.—J. Sweet acknowledges the receipt of the following sums, sent herewith, viz.:—For HONESTY FUND—Mr. W. Brown 6d; A Friend 1s. For WINDING-UP FUND—W. Brown 6d; M. Mellors 6d; W. Perkins 3d; *Maykin 3d; John Lester 6d.*

WE regret that a press of matter compels us to omit this week the excellent address of the National Charter Association (Manchester locality,) to the Chartists of Manchester and Salford.

J. H. O., Hull.—The memorial has been placed in the hands of Mr. O'Connor, and we shall be able to give a definite answer, and also to publish the document next week.

JOHN BAYLEY.—The suggestions shall be attended to as far as possible.

ANTI-PRIESTCRAFT.—The pressure on our columns precludes the insertion of the sensible communication of our *correspondent.*

E. DALBY, Stourbridge, will be obliged by the Secretary of the Galashiels Co-operative Store stating his address through the *Northern Star.* His object being to obtain a copy of the rules and regulations of the Store.

J. ALCOCK, Manchester.—The report was placed in the hands of the printers, and the omission of the names alluded to—if embodied in the report—was without our *sanction or knowledge.*

THOMAS FIELDEN, Todmorden.—The only answer we can give is that if your letter reached this office it would have been delivered to Mr. O'Connor. All letters for publication should be addressed to the Editor.

MR. RICHARD DEARDEN, of No. 1, Branch, Burnley, finding that the committee do not call a meeting of members to assist in winding up the Company, has forwarded 4s. for that purpose. 1s. for himself, 1s. each for his two sons, and 1s. for his son-in-law.

ERRATUM.—In the money list which appeared in the *Star* of January 25th, for Thomas Brimlow of Bolton, read Peter Fulton, of Bolton.

THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN REFUGEES.—T. Brown's List.—Mrs. Sturgeon 2s—White Horse, per Arnold 10s—Lecture by T. Brown £1 2s 3d—Mr. Gale 6d—Mr. Arnold, per Arbroath £1 5s 9d—Major Beniowski £1 2s 6d—Two Tons of Coals, ditto—Mr. Waddington 1s—Mr. Brewer and Friends, at Liningdines Cabinet Factory 13s 7d—Smith's workmen 6s 2d—Welchman 6d—Roe 6d—Lecture by Mr. Broom 10s—To view the Body of Deceased Refugee at Turnmill-street, at 1d each £1 7s 2d. Any mistake occurring at any time in the Money List, *application should be immediately made to T. Brown.*

HONESTY FUND.—A few female Chartists, and two Land members of Halifax, have sent 12s. 6d. for this fund.

THE NORTHERN STAR,

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1851.

THE MANCHESTER CONFERENCE.

No one who has attentively watched the discussion which preceded the calling of the Manchester Conference, could be surprised either at the small number of delegates that attended it, or the marked difference of opinion which characterised its sittings from beginning to end. It is, however, only those who are influenced by feelings of personal or party hostility, who will alledge that its assembling was either premature or useless. Considering the dissensions which have, unfortunately, so long prevailed, and the active opposition offered to the proposal of a Conference at all, it was quite as numerously attended as could be expected, and the results of its deliberations are precisely what might have been looked for in the present disjointed and unsatisfactory state of the Chartist body.

The principal reason for our support of the proposition to hold a Conference in Manchester was, that it would give an opportunity for calmly reviewing the causes which have brought Chartism to its present condition, and of eliciting the opinions of those who might attend it, as to the best and most available means of restoring it to a powerful position, as an element of public opinion. That an immediate agreement on either of these important points would take place, we were not sanguine or inexperienced enough to imagine for one moment. But, as the first step towards reunion is friendly discussion, and a fair hearing for all the arguments in favour of different modes of action, we did expect that the Manchester Conference would, at least, have prepared the way for a definite, affirmative, and, at the same time, conciliatory policy, in the name of Chartism.

That expectation has not been fulfilled by any formal resolutions of the Conference, and, in fact, at first sight it would appear that it had wholly failed in this important object. Closer analysis of its proceedings, however, will show that in reality a great advance has been made towards it.

If the supporters of the Manchester Council persist in their determination to advocate a constructive and conciliatory policy, without reference to the proceedings of any other body, they will, we are satisfied, find a very large proportion of the working and middle class fully prepared to support them. In the large district around Manchester, teeming as it does with an active and intelligent population, they have a wide field of action at their own doors, from which they may reap an abundant harvest. It is indeed questionable whether in any case a Central Executive could operate with equal efficiency upon it, as a Local Provincial Committee, thoroughly aware of the actual state of public opinion, of the wants, wishes, and intelligence of the district, would be able to do. But a Provincial movement of that kind need not, as it does not in essence imply any hostility to any other parallel movement. Mr. LEACH, the experienced and consistent supporter of the Manchester policy, wishes to hold out the hand of friendship to all who are engaged in the noble work of Political and Social Reform. It is true, that his long experience, gained during years of persecution, suffering, imprisonment, and toil for the people's cause, have strongly impressed his mind with the conviction, that the policy he so ably advocated at the Conference was the only mode of making Chartism speedily assume a powerful position, both in the country and in the Legislature. With these convictions he cannot, at present, honestly take any other course than that he announced he, and those who think with him, will do. But let it be carefully remarked, that their policy is neither an antagonistic nor an obstructive one. While working for the enactment of the People's Charter, they do not propose to offer opposition to any other party. They believe that every addition to the political influence and power of the masses can, in the nature of things, only give an additional impetus to their progress towards complete political emancipation, and we have no hesitation in saying we agree with them. But the practical inference from this proposition is, that such a party will oppose no other party who are working for the same object, though their plans may not be so comprehensive or efficient as their own. They will content themselves with the creation and organisation of an enlightened public opinion, and a popular movement for a definite object; and in so far as they succeed in that object, they must necessarily give strength to all collateral movements.

On the other hand, the sentiments expressed Mr. MANTLE, and the terms in which his resolution was couched, which ultimately led to the dissolution of the Conference, are such as lead us to look forward with considerable hope to the approaching London Conference in March. The Chartists of this country cannot too frequently come together in the present aspect of affairs, and especially in the present distracted state of the party. Much, indeed, will have to be done—mutual concessions, explanations, and reconciliations, will have to be made, before it can again present that united front, which is necessary to its success—which must precede public confidence and adhesion. The meeting in March will, we trust, not only end in producing this desirable result, but at the same time inaugurate a policy of such a definite and practical character, as may induce our Manchester friends to ally themselves with it. If we are to judge by the tone and temper of the speeches of those parties who at Manchester were most friendly to the London Executive, we may take it for granted, that the coming Conference will be free from the bluster, and swagger, and violence, which has made Chartism stink in the nostrils of all sensible men. Platform bravery has sunk to the level of Bobadilism, and its professors will, we hope, be shamed into silence, by the knowledge that these exhibitions will be followed by derisive laughter, instead of applause.

We want an impartial and practical survey of the present state of political opinion in this country, preliminary to the formation of a movement, judiciously organized, and vigorously conducted for operating upon it, in favour of the People's Charter.

We care not from what quarter this great boon may proceed. Manchester has tried, and, in its own district, means to act out its own honest convictions, until some better and more definite organization invites their adhesion and support. It remains now for the London Executive, and the Conference that will assemble in March, to propound measures calculated to win and retain the confidence of the country. We can but add, that that will only be done by acting upon broad principles—by abandoning all mere factious and personal views—and by remembering that they have to deal with an English and not a foreign people.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

We once heard of a person who, upon being asked what manner of a man THURTELL, the murderer, was, replied—"Oh, a very good sort of a man for a murderer." We dare say there is a great truth at the bottom of the mode of judgment adopted by that individual. In order that anything may be correctly estimated, it is, no doubt, necessary to compare it with things of its own kind. If we were to form an opinion of the Royal Speech after this fashion, we should, perhaps, be inclined to say, that it was a very good sort of Speech for a Royal Speech—neither more vapid or inane or nothingarian than Royal Speeches ordinarily are; but if we attempt to judge by any other standard—by the sayings and doings of ordinary vulgar mortals—or by the ordinary rules of common sense, we must needs pronounce it a very poor and common-place affair indeed—made up of very meagre information as to what the Ministers mean to do, and a total disregard of what the great body of the people wish to be done.

To begin at the beginning, we find allusion made to the Foreign relations of this country, and an expression of congratulation that we are in amity with all the world. We confess that, lovers of peace as we are, we cannot read that announcement without a flush of shame tingling to our very fingers' ends, when we think at what price that peace has been bought. We will not yield, in our attachment to peace principles to the most rigid Quaker that ever wore drab. We regard it as amongst the cheapest of blessings; but we think that even that may sometimes be bought at too high a price, and that there are moments when defence of the right, even by physical force, becomes a moral duty. Looking at the liberty of the nations of the Continent as of the utmost importance to us, because upon that liberty it depends whether we shall have allies working with us for the emancipation of humanity, or enemies opposing the advance of true civilisation,—holding these opinions, we are compelled to think that peace, precious as it is, has been purchased at its full value, when it was secured at the price of the sacrifice of Hungary—the downfall of Italy, the overthrow of that rising Roman republic by which MAZZINI and his compatriots promised to make Romans worthy of their ancient reputation, and proud of their name—the betrayal of all Germany, and of Hesse Cassel in particular, into the clutches of despotism—the abandonment and coercion of Schleswig-Holstein, and the threatened invasion of Switzerland, the oldest republic in the world, by an absolutist army. And though it is a good thing to live in peace with all men, we cannot regard the friendship of the ambitious and unscrupulous AUTOCRAT of all the Russias, of the BOY-EMPEROR of Austria, tool as he is in the hands of a tyrannical faction; of the vacillating KING of Prussia, and the brutal lazzaroni MONARCH of Naples, as anything to be proud of; so that we could well have dispensed with the congratulation, unmingled as it is with one word of sympathy for the oppressed peoples of Europe, and the heroes who are struggling for their emancipation.

We need not do more than allude to the paragraph which refers, with so much complacency, to the prosperity of the country, for the purpose of gladly admitting that, as compared with the few past years of almost unexampled depression, arising from the railway mania, and its commercial crisis, the famine, and the fearful epidemic which visited us, the country is comparatively prosperous; but, at the same time, we must deny that that prosperity is anything more than comparative; and that it is not so great and so stable as the patience, energy, and intelligence of the people entitle them to, or would ensure them if we had only fair and just laws to foster and direct our efforts.

The passage intimating that "the estimates have been framed with a due regard to economy" may also lightly be passed over,—it is a stereotyped phrase, "kept standing," as the printers say, for every Royal speech. All estimates are framed with a due regard to economy, of course, that meaning as much as can be conveniently got out of the people; but, as happened with the CHANCELLOR a short time since, if the parliament is too restive we may have a second budget, framed with a *duer* regard to economy; and, possibly, a third with the *duest* sense of that very estimable and valuable quality; and we shall not, in the present session, be at all grieved to see the "screw" put on the squeezable Whig Cabinet.

We are glad to see the admission, that reduction of oppressive and unjust taxes does not diminish the revenue; but are sorry, though not surprised, to see that admission unaccompanied by what ought to have followed it—namely, an intimation of the intention of the Government to still further cut down taxation.

The QUEEN, or rather her Ministers, through her mouth, express sorrow for the depression of the agricultural interest; but the landlords are roundly told that they must not look to the Exchequer for any help in their difficulty. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, with that wonderful thing in the history of Whig finance—a surplus—has listened courteously to deputations of all kinds claiming their share of the golden prize. A light has been thrown upon blocked up windows—soap makers have urged their arguments in favour of cleanliness, which is "next to Godliness"—paper has asked to be set free, so that if the Government cannot, or will not, educate the people, they may have a chance of educating themselves; and an attempt has been made to get the red stamp off newspapers, so that the people may have a press of their own, and the minister has listened to all with a bland smile; but one interest he snubs most peremptorily. The landlords and their tenantry are to rely upon the general prosperity of the country. That is the pillar of fire they are to follow through the wilderness of their troubles; and cold comfort we should think it is to the end, for we suppose increasing prosperity means more exports and more imports—corn of course included. That will result, it is reasonable to suppose, in still lower prices; and we guess that STANLEY, DISRAELI, GRANBY, and Co., will be inclined to regard the pillar of fire as a delusive 'Will o' the wisp,' flickering treacherously over the deepest bog of agricultural despond. They might be thankful, however, for the promised improvements in the transfer of landed property, which will help them out of the clutches of the lawyers; but there is a drop of bitter in that cup too, for it bodes—horrid thought—to the aristocratic mind the alienation of many an encumbered ancestral acre, so that plebeian capitalists may become lords of the soil, and vulgar unrepresented artizans may grow into 40s. freeholders. Such a change, however, is demanded by the country, and will give almost universal satisfaction.

There is also a promise of reforms in that vast legal cobweb, the Court of Chancery, which with its delays and its prisoners for periods from thirty-nine years downwards, has so long disgraced this country and cried aloud for the legislative broom to sweep it away into the dust-hole of past abuses; but we are afraid that the lawyers are too numerous and powerful in the House to allow of a real effectual reform—that the word of promise will be kept to the ear and broken to the heart, and the Chancery Reform League will still have its work to do.

The most positive paragraph in the speech is that which relates to the Papal hubbub—a bill will be brought in before this paper is in the hands of our readers, but of the nature of which, we write in total ignorance. We only know that it is to apply both to England and Ireland, and that it is at once to resist Papal encroachment and preserve religious liberty. How that difficult task is to be accomplished we must leave to time to reveal.

What strikes us most with respect to this speech, however, is the omission of any reference to the most important political topics. From the silence of the document we may infer, that the great mass of the people of this country are still to be insulted by the maintenance of our restricted franchise—that education is to be left to shift for itself, and that colonial reform, rendered more necessary than ever, by the contemplated withdrawal of troops from our colonies, is to be neglected. We can only come to the conclusion that the Cabinet is either afraid or unwilling to do its duty on these great questions, or that it is incompetent to meet them; and in either case, the speech proves that such a body is unworthy the confidence of the country, and only to be tolerated by the fear, that in the attempt to escape from the evils we endure, we may suffer others that we know not of.

PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW.

If Lord JOHN RUSSELL has his own way, the present Session will repeat his past "do as little as you can" policy. We have been fairly made aware of the quantity of Ministerial work that will be submitted to Parliament; and not less frankly told that, if the Government can at all manage it, the Session will virtually close in May, with the opening of the great Vanity Fair, in Hyde Park.

The two principal dishes of the Ministerial *cuisine* are, the measure extorted by the policy of the Roman PONTIFF, and the Budget. Of the first—at the time we write—nothing is known in detail, but the terms in which it was announced by Mr. HAYTER, sufficiently indicate its scope and nature. It is to be simply levelled at the assumption of Ecclesiastical Titles, derived from places in the United Kingdom, and will, in no other respect, affect the existing rights and freedom of members of the Roman Catholic Church. By extending its provisions to Ireland, where the Dignitaries of that Church have already been formally and legally recognised, and given precedence to, the question arises whether, in respect of that country, this is not retrogressive legislation, by which Ireland will be deprived of privileges she has enjoyed for years. The measure will have to encounter the determined hostility of many sections of the Legislature. To the Roman Catholics it cannot be otherwise than offensive; and to the Dissenters—who conscientiously oppose all State Church dignities and endowments—it will be equally obnoxious, because it makes the Legislature spread its shield over the Bishops of the English Church, and protect them in the exclusive monopoly of rank and power.

A bold and far-sighted statesman would have dealt more firmly and comprehensively with this vexed question. The formal prohibition of Titles will be a mere mockery. Practically, they will continue to be applied to those on whom they have been conferred; and we shall have another added to the already too long list of "legal fictions," which demoralise public opinion, by the difference between law and fact. There is—as we have formerly said on this subject—but one way of settling the question satisfactorily, and for ever. Establish open definitive diplomatic relations with Rome, and then, by means of a *Concordat,* admit the Roman Catholic population of the United Kingdom to the enjoyment of all they may consider necessary for the perfect organisation of their Church, under such limitations and with such sanctions as already exist, even in professedly Roman Catholic Countries on the Continent.

As to the Budget, it would appear that Sir CHARLES WOOD gains in boldness as his lease of office is lengthened. With the experience of his previous failures, and the late period at which he brought forward his financial schemes, the announcement that in the first fortnight of the Session we are to have the Budget, is positively startling. During the last eight or ten days he has had deputations from the paper makers and publishers, asking for the repeal of the duty on paper—from the soap makers, requesting a remission of the tax on that necessary article—from gentlemen connected with newspapers, soliciting the abolition of advertisement duty—and many others. We know not whether there are any other class-interests who desire to "whisper" their wants "in his ear;" but if so, we opine there is small chance of their being listened to. It is evident that Sir CHARLES has made up his "Budget;" and the answer to all applicants will be, "that it can't be altered."

Besides these two principal government measures, there are a few of minor importance, though of a progressive character. For instance, the promise of Lord SEYMOUR, that we are to have bills brought in for the enclosure of three of the forests under his jurisdiction, would imply, that at last the peculation, jobbery, immorality, and mischief of all kinds, direct and indirect, which have hitherto flourished under the mismanagement of the Woods and Forests, is to be at least reformed. Time it was put an end to altogether, for anything more infamous or disgraceful than the revelations of the blue book on the subject, never was placed before the public. The large, valuable, and beautifully situated estates which have heretofore only entailed a loss upon the country, ought to become not only a source of revenue, but, better than that, a means of giving profitable employment to a large amount of additional labour, and of adding to the agricultural wealth, and, consequently, the subsistence fund of the population. It is quite possible, however, that with the usual aptitude of the aristocracy of all political creeds, for jobbing in land, these bills may be made the pretence for filching large slices from the public domain; and we shall therefore narrowly watch these measures.

The debate on the address was a prosy, lifeless, and dull affair in both houses. The extreme care that had been used to exclude from the opening speech every topic on which there could exist the slightest difference of opinion, had the effect its framers intended. It prevented an amendment from any quarter whatever. This result was also aided by the studiously vague and general terms in which the Roman Catholic Question was mentioned, and the anouncement that the whole question would soon be formally brought before the house by the introduction of a bill.

On Wednesday, Mr. HUME took occasion to expose an abuse of patronage by the PREMIER, in very forcible and indignant terms. The leech-like propensity of the Whig squad is well known, and has been characteristic of the party ever since it was a party. Apparently, Lord JOHN thinks the House of Commons a sort of family pasture, whereon he may pleasantly fatten his relations and subordinates, without any reference to fitness on the part of the favoured individuals. After a service of half a century, Mr. LEY—the late clerk to the House of Commons—died, and left the disposal of his lucrative, but onerous and responsible position, in the hands of the MINISTER. The terms in which the nature, variety, and extent of the duties were mentioned by the PREMIER, in proposing a resolution commemorative of the services of the deceased clerk, the universally admitted importance, both to the SPEAKER and to members, of having at the table a gentleman thoroughly acquainted with all the forms and the business of the House—all pointed to one conclusion, namely, that the person appointed to the office should possess great practical experience of the duties appertaining to it. Not so, thought Lord JOHN. Passing over the coadjutors of the late Mr. LEY, he promotes one of the lucky hangers-on and subordinates of the party to the office. Sir DENIS LE MARCHANT has no experience whatever; but he has been a useful hack, and verily his reward has been great!

Mr. BROTHERTON kept his promise of last session, and moved that the House adjourn at midnight as a matter of course, and without putting the question whatever might be the business before it. The after-midnight sittings, are, however, too precious to the factions who alternately rule the country for them to be given up. It is in them that the various snug jobs, and flagrant peculations of public money, are perpetrated. Measures, which if passed by means of ministerial influence, would still at least have been exposed, if brought forward at eight or nine o'clock in the evening, are quietly smuggled through at one or two o'clock in the morning, when most of the members have left the House; and the few who remain are jaded and half asleep, or consist principally of the jobbers who profit by this contraband trade in legislation. Not only was Mr. BROTHERTON'S motion defeated, but the very moderate proposition of Mr. HUME, that no new money vote should be brought in after twelve o'clock, shared the same fate! This is a sufficiently significant indication of the course the Government and the majority mean to pursue with reference to voting away the public money. The whole system of night sittings deserves consideration. It is found by experience that more business is done, and better done too, during the Wednesday sittings, from twelve o'clock in the forenoon till six in the afternoon, than during the more protracted night sittings. These latter only afford occasions for display at the early and closing portions of the evenings, but the moment the show debate for the night has been adjourned, or disposed of by a division, forthwith the benches are cleared, and the real business is left to be transacted by the Government *employes,* who are bound to keep a House; a few expectants of the good things that drop from the Treasury, and perhaps some half-dozen men of business, who keep up a useless growl about abuses they are powerless to prevent.

The Protectionists do not intend to be entirely dumb. Mr. DISRAELI has given notice that he will treat us to another edition of his "Lamentations" over the wretched condition of "the owners and occupiers of Land," at whose expense all the rest of the community, we are assured, are growing rich, prosperous, and happy. The Jeremiad will, no doubt, end with the same results as all previous appeals to the present Free Trade Parliament. Manchester is still in the ascendant, and "the owners and occupiers" must be content to wait for "the good time," which they are kindly assured "*is* coming"—no one can exactly tell when.

Manchester has not yet spoken out in Parliament. At various gatherings in the North, the leading oracles have pronounced on the principal questions of the day; upon most, if not all of them, in direct opposition to the Ministerial policy. But will they act upon their recorded opinions, or follow the same temporising course they did last session, and support the Whigs, merely to keep the Tories out? So long as the so-called "Liberals" in the House of Commons do that, there is no chance of carrying any effective reform in the country, whether that reform aims at fiscal or political amelioration. Out of office the Whigs form capital Reformers; in office they are the greatest of all obstacles to progress, or improvement. But even "the Manchester School" is becoming aware, that it is behind the public opinion, and the popular wants. There is a complete severance between the opinions and the interests that prevail in Parliament, and the sympathies, aspirations, and opinions of the masses outside. In the one, questions of mere detail, or local and sectional interest are discussed; while in the other, broad, fundamental, and organic changes occupy all minds, and throw a not-doubtful light upon the destinies of the future. As yet, however, the voice of the People has no utterance in the People's House (!) Land and Cotton, Railways, Ships, Stocks, and Shares, have exclusive possession of it. Humanity is dumb there—but it is not *dead.* Landlordom and Cottondom had better think of that fact.

CHARTIST EXECUTIVE.

TO THE ENROLLED CHARTISTS MEMBERS.

FELLOW CHARTISTS,—I accept the trust which you have reposed in me as a sign that, in spite of past deceptions, you still participate in reliance on the higher motives of men; that you approve of efforts to promote union among the people, without compromising the independence of our organisation; and that you sanction the desire to give our policy a more practical turn, so as to further, in the directest mode, the material well-being of the many.

I hold that you can obtain no great national measure unless you are backed by the great body of the People itself. It is equally true that you cannot obtain the recognition and permanent establishment of any power until that power exists and is displayed: you cannot obtain the Parliamentary enactment of Universal Suffrage until you have created Universal Suffrage, and *used it!* By that I mean that you must be able to command not in single, convulsive, and transitory efforts but steadily, and on every needful occasion the manifest support of the People. But you cannot command that support steadily and readily, unless you hold out to the People some idea more tangible than that of politics; power; sufficient as that idea may be for *you,* who constitute the thinking and active portion of the People. You must make the national policy appeal to the wants which press immediately on the immense mass of the People; thus giving to the multitude, while you struggle for political power, an earnest of the benefits which that acquisition would secure for them hereafter.

It is for these grounds that I expect the agitation for the Charter to be strengthened and forwarded if we use our organisation, without further delay, to concentrate the claim of the people to the right of subsistence for labour—a fair day's wage for fair day's work, on land, in factory or shop; the claim to relief from taxation, by transferring it from industry to property; and the claim to improvement of the laws regulating labour—the law of combination, partnership, contracts, and the like.

To do that there is no need to relax the movement for the Charter. On the contrary, every benefit obtained by the way will hasten your course by strengthening the confidence of the People at your back, and manifesting your power to your opponents.

Feeling that I have your sanction in that view, I shall use every suitable opportunity to strengthen our movement by combining in our policy the great leading principles of political and social regeneration for the people.

Believe me to be your faithful servant,

Hamersmith, Feb. 3, 1851. THORNTON HUNT.

MONIES RECEIVED

For the Week Ending Thursday, February 6th, 1851.

FOR THE

THE HONESTY FUND.

RECEIVED BY W. RIDER.

	£	s.	d.
Sheffield, per G. Cavill	0	12	9
...ngton, per C. Potts	2	7	4
King's Cross, near Halifax, per C. Rawnsley	0	11	6
Nottingham, per J. Sweet	0	1	6
Mr. Lester, Brook-street, Bayswater	1	0	0
Tiverton, per H. Land (4th sub. The 10s announced last week, as for Winding-up, being for this fund)	0	8	6
From South Shields—A. Morton	0	1	0
W. G. Gilfillan	0	1	0
Stockport, Twenty Land Members, per C. Gurdy	0	10	0
Stockport Chartist Association, per W. Benfold	1	0	0
Ashton-under-Lyne, per J. Taylor	1	10	0
Walsall, per J. Higgins	0	10	0
Kidderminster, Messrs. Wimbury, White, and Hartwell	0	3	0
Ashton-under-Lyne, per W. Aitkin	0	4	6
Halifax, a Few Female Chartists and two Land Members	0	12	6
	£8	14	7

RECEIVED AT LAND OFFICE.

J. Codlin	0	1	0
F. O. C. Watson	0	0	6
G. Watson	0	0	6
J. Watson	0	0	6
S. Scholefield	0	0	6
W. Cullingham	0	0	6
J. S. B. Grantham	0	2	0
W. Pizer	0	1	0
Rastrick, per J. Kaye	0	10	6
Simstry, per Gregory	0	4	6

RECEIVED BY JOHN ARNOTT.

South Shields, per H. Hains	0	1	6

WINDING-UP OF THE LAND COMPANY.

RECEIVED BY W. RIDER.

	£	s.	d.
Mrs. Mann, Aberdeen	0	1	0
A. M'Kay, Woodside, by Aberdeen, per W. Lindsay	0	2	0
J. Keeling, A. Keeling, and Mary Leach, Leek	0	1	6
From Leicester—Mary Trickey	1	10	0
Mary Mundy	0	10	6
J. Bruce	0	10	0
Aynhoe, E. Robins, and T. Baughan	0	2	0
J. G. Cherry, New Bitchburn	0	1	0
From Bishop Wearmouth—J. Bell	0	1	0
G. Barker	0	2	0
J. Day	0	1	0
W. Willburn	0	1	0
W. Dobbie	0	1	0
Nottingham, per J. Sweet	0	2	0
Mr. Lester, Brook-street, Bayswater	0	1	0
Macclesfield, per E. Dear	0	7	0
South Shields, per W. Gilfillen	3	3	0
From Boston—H. Peat	0	1	0
Mary Anne Peat	0	1	0
Stockport Branch, per C. Gurdy	1	0	0
J. J. Perkins, Walsall	0	0	6
Kidderminster, Messrs. Wimburg, White, Hartwell, and Herilage	0	3	6
J. Fowler, Blackburn	0	2	6
Messrs. R. H. and J. Dearden, and J. Hersfield, Burnley	0	4	0
Brighton, per J. W. Mills	0	6	9
	£7	15	9

RECEIVED AT LAND OFFICE.

J. Cox	0	0	6
W. Watkins	0	5	0
J. Stockholt	0	0	6
W. Hyde	0	2	0
P. Eveson	0	0	6
G. Stotley	0	1	0
E. Stotley	0	1	0
J. Stotley	0	1	0
P. Lapworth	0	1	0
J. Ward	0	1	0
R. Lamport	0	1	0
J. Gyles	0	1	0
T. Harris	0	4	0
J. Codlin	0	0	6
F. O. C. Watson	0	0	6
G. Watson	0	0	6
J. Watson	0	0	6
A. Watson	0	0	6
J. Scholefield	0	0	6
W. Cullingham	0	0	6
J. S. B. Grantham	0	4	0
W. Pizer	0	1	0
Rastrick, per J. Kaye	0	12	0
J. Bird	0	1	0
W. Ayers	0	1	0
J. Fulcher	0	1	0
W. Phillips	0	1	0
J. Philips	0	1	0
W. Dains	0	1	0
J. Copley	0	1	0
J. Copley, jun.	0	1	0
J. Rayall	0	1	0
J. Taylor	0	1	0
B. Newman	0	0	6
S. Watts	0	1	0
J. Massey	0	1	0
R. Hayes	0	1	0
G. Wiltshire	0	1	0
T. Hughes	0	1	0
W. Cartwright	0	1	0
W. Rankin	0	1	0
W. Dunn	1	16	0
C. Apps	0	1	0
J. Horton	0	1	0
J. Wildsmith	0	0	6
W. Jenkins	0	0	6
G. Crumps	0	10	0
J. Phillips	0	5	0
Newcastle-on-Tyne, per J. Watson	20	0	0
Symster, per Gregory	0	2	0
R. Pitfield	0	0	6
J. Mellar	0	0	6
R. Pemberton	0	0	6
W. Leaver	0	0	6
J. Dearden	0	0	6

NATIONAL CHARTER FUND.

Received by W. Rider.—W. Rigg, Bellingham, Hexham 1s—Walsall, per J. Higgins 7s.——Received by John Arnott.—Mr. Thomas Browett 1s—Newport, Isle of Wight, per E. Crry 15s—Northampton, per J. Rymill 10s—Collected at John-street £2 4s 3½d—Cards at John-street 5s 1d—W. J. at John-street 1s—Todmorden, per C. Shackleton £1—Bradford, per C. Shackleton 12s 3d—Midgley, per C. Shackleton 4s—South Shields, per H. Hains 5s—Mr. Scale, Wardour-street, per J. Grassby 2s 6d—Mr. G. J. Harney 1s—Merthyr Tydvil, per J. Owen £1—A few friends, Portsmouth 1s.—Total £7 17s 10½d.

FOR THE HUNGARIAN AND POLISH REFUGEES.

Received by W. Rider.—H. Smith, Milborne Port 3d—Bingley Democrats, per J. Smith £1 18s 3d—Ashton, per W. Aitkin 4s 4d.

WINDING UP AND DISSOLUTION OF THE NATIONAL LAND COMPANY.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COMPANY.

Friends.—The bill for dissolving and winding up the affairs of our association is now prepared, and has been lodged at the proper quarter as required by law, along with a petition from the Directors, for introduction to the House of Commons immediately after the commencement of the approaching session.

There yet remains necessary legal and other steps which the presentation of these papers to Parliament will necessitate, which cannot, however, be taken unless the necessary funds be provided forthwith.

The Directors do not desire, nor is it reasonable to expect, that these expenses, which should be borne by the entire Company, should be paid by a section only. They propose that whatever may be advanced for this purpose shall be by way of *loan*; that all monies so lent shall bear interest at the rate of five per cent per annum—both principal and interest to be paid out of the proceeds of the sale of the Company's property, before any dividend shall be made in favour of any member whatsoever. Thus *all* will be *made* to contribute towards the fund. Those who will not advance money themselves will be made to pay interest upon sums lent by others.

The Newcastle, South Shields, and Ashton branches have already proposed that a plan of this sort should be acted upon; and the Directors in thanking them for the suggestion, have now to announce *that they have opened a book at the Office of the Company*, for the purpose of entering sums to the credit of each individual subscriber, who will obtain a certificate of the amount lent, and which certificate shall entitle the holder to receive back, at the winding up of the affairs of the Company, both the whole amount lent, together with five per cent. per annum, from the date of its advancement.

That all monies sent shall be by Post Office Order, addressed to the Directors, 144, High Holborn, and made payable to the Treasurer, Feargus O'Connor, Esq., at the Post Office, Bloomsbury.

Branch Secretaries, and others desirous of bringing the affairs of the Company to a speedy and satisfactory settlement, are respectfully requested to promote the LOAN FOR WINDING UP, to the extent of their power.

Feargus O'Connor,
Christopher Doyle,
Thomas Clark,
William Dixon,
Philip M'Grath.

Dublin.—Catholic and Repeal Association.—The "rent" on Wednesday was declared to be simply "nothing." One of the orators, endeavouring to account for this melancholy result, attributed the stoppage of all payment to the absence of the "leader," in consequence of which the country contributors either forget their friends in Dublin, or sent their shillings to Mr. John O'Connell in London. The chairman handed in 10s.

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

A public meeting, convened by the Executive Committee, was held at the Literary Institution, John-street, Tottenham-court-road, on Tuesday evening, for the purpose of taking into consideration the "*Queen's Speech*, and the probable policy of the Government."

The meeting was crowded to excess, and the members of the Executive were loudly cheered upon taking their seats.

Mr. W. D. Ruffy having been called to the chair, opened the proceedings by reading the Queen's Speech, which was received with roars of laughter and ironical cheers. He then read an apology from Mr. Reynolds, for not attending, on the ground of ill health. A similar excuse was made for Thornton Hunt. Mr. O'Connor was engaged at the House of Commons.

Mr. Bezer was called upon to move the following resolution:—"That this meeting having heard Her Majesty's speech upon the opening of parliament this day, cannot but express our opinion of its unsatisfactory character, as no reference is made to the all-important subject of the extension of the suffrage, the reduction of our enormous taxation, and many other grievances of which we have just cause to complain; and being convinced that the prosperity of the productive class can only be ensured by the enactment of the People's Charter—we, therefore, determine to use our utmost energies to effect this desirable object." He presumed the Committee had called upon him to speak, as being a tangible proof of the prosperity of the working classes, alluded to in the Speech. He had no wonder to express at the Speech—it was similar to the *usual documents. In this, as in all previous ones*, the estimates were to be laid before them without delay. Grievances might remain in abeyance, but money must be had immediately. Her Majesty spoke about the reduction in taxation. How little of that had reached working men? He must pay as large a duty on his two ounces of tea for sixpence, as the aristocrat upon his of superior quality. The speaker then, in a humourous manner, dwelt upon the difficulties endured by the landed proprietors, and wished to exchange his position with them. He knew they were not laughing at what he said, but at the wretched humbug so audaciously paraded before them. He then dwelt upon what he termed the spiritual portion of the Speech, and, in a strain of cutting ridicule, showed the illiberalty of the sentiments contained therein. Without liberty, alike to all, there could be no such thing as religious liberty. It was a question of pocket, and not principle, and showed that they politely damned each other wholesale, retail, and for exportation. He took the best side of the question, which was neither side. They should stand in between them both, open the oyster, eat it, and give a shell apiece to each of the opponents. He longed for the time when they would have a true reformation; when each man could worship according to his own conscience, and not allow himself to be robbed by either party. In to-morrow's papers, some would be blaming the Queen for the speech not being Protestant enough; others that it was not liberal enough. Some would be calling out, who was to reign—the Pope or the Queen? He trusted the time would soon come when both their reigns would cease. Mr. Bezer, throughout a long address, was greeted with tremendous applause and roars of laughter, at his witty and humorous comments.

Mr. Holyoake seconded the resolution, and commenting on the address of the last speaker, adduced as a strong evidence of the right of the working man to the possession of the franchise. There was one feature in the speech which struck him as being an improvement upon past ones; it referred in gratulatory terms to the prosperity of the working class; it was a novelty to see them noticed at all. Another improvement was a promise of an amendment in the law of transfer of property. Though this was not of great importance to the working classes at the present time, yet he trusted the time would soon arrive when, through the aid of the Building and Co-operative Societies, they would acquire property, and be enabled to profit by that law. The missions in the speech were many and important; it said nothing about the social rights of the people; it referred not to a law of partnership—an important feature in connexion with their social progress. The government was aware that all reforms were brought about by the diffusion of knowledge, yet no allusion was made to the untaxed diffusion of knowledge by the abolition of the paper stamp and newspaper duties. He objected to the allusion made in the Speech to the prosperity of the kingdom being ascribed to Divine Providence. He did this, not on religious, but on political grounds. If they allowed this constant reference to Providence in times of prosperity, it enabled the legislature to throw the destitution and misery created by their bad laws also upon the decrees of Providence. It was due to the people, and also to the Queen herself, if she called upon them for allegiance and respect, to have made some allusion to the admission of the working class into the pale of the constitution. This speech spoke of their being well employed; this was of little avail, unless their work was properly paid for. There was much more work done in this country than was consistent with the health or improvement of the people. They did not want more work, but a proper distribution of the work amongst all, including those who now performed none. He though that if the Queen possessed any conscience, she must feel that it was disreputable to receive such an abundance from the hard earnings of the working class, without manifesting both public and private anxiety to ameliorate the destitution endured by so many of her people. He could not sympathise with that portion of the speech which alluded to Papal aggression. Government could have easily put it down, or rather have allowed it to put itself down. If the people had been represented in Parliament, did they think that France would have been allowed to put down the infant republic of Rome? If Mazzini had been in power, there would have been no fear of Papacy; it was then extinct even at the fountain head, and even now it was only upheld in Rome by French bayonets. Knowing this fact, he did not believe that ministers could be in earnest in the *sentiments they expressed*. Mr. Holyoake concluded amid much applause.

Mr. Jones—who, on rising, was loudly cheered—supported the resolution, and said, that the government were opening their session—their shadowy programme was before them—and in it the great questions of the age, "land and labour," were untouched. They, too, were opening their session, and beckoned them to a higher aim—they directed them to political organisation, and its objects—free access to land, and free access to machinery. Their Executive said, we will stave off all important questions as long as we can; but the People's Executive told them, they would bring them on as fast as possible. They told them not of the friendly assurances of foreign princes—knaves who would cut each other's throat if they were not afraid of the people, who would bury them; but they told them, that the Chartist organisation was rapidly extending—that six new localities had been established during the last week, where the Charter before was almost unknown. The last plot of faction had exploded, and they were fast completing a union; while their privileged foes were dividing amongst themselves. They promised them, that the old Charter Association should not be merged or broken—that the great flag should not be cut up into little pocket-handkerchiefs. They would have no new moves—no new associations. Faction had dug its own grave. They could now march against the foes without. They pointed them not only to political organisation. *They did* not merely wish them to obtain freedom—they wished them to obtain bread as well, without which freedom was never of long continuance. They told them that the Charter would secure them free access to land and machinery. That of the four elements there was no more reason why land should be monopolised by individuals than fire, air, or water. The Executive's programme, on opening their session, should therefore contain the following clauses:—That the land and all the minerals contained in its breast be declared national property, and that the national expenditure be met by a tax upon all land and minerals. That the State supply all men desirous to work with the means for doing so, be it machinery or land; that those unable to work be supported at the public expense, and that gratuitous national education be open to all. The nationlisation of land was the talisman of their future. It was no robbery from the rich; the present small proprietor would be benefitted by the change; for taxation need not be higher than in America, where the entire civil and military expenditure was less than eight millions a year. All taxation being defrayed by land and minerals; the small proprietors would pay less in rent-charge to the State than he now paid in taxes to the pensioner—in tithes to the parson—and in rates to the parish. The farmer would be benefitted, for he would have no rates, tithes, and taxes as at present, and his rent-charge to the nation would not be one-fortieth part of his present rent-charge to the landlord. The shopkeeper, whether as a member of a co-operative society or otherwise, would be benefitted, for he would no longer be crucified between the rich pauper and the poor pauper, but would grow affluent among the blessings of home trade. Who then would be the loosers? The landlords—30,000 men who monopolised seventy-seven million acres of land. Rob *them*! do you say? They have been robbing *you* for the last 800 years. Injure them! What injury have they not done to you! If the choice came as to who should suffer rather, let the 30,000 be impoverished, than thirty millions perish by slow death! Compensation to them! It was them who said compensation to us! But their fall might be broken, the change might be gradual. They might be left a certain amount of their lands to form the same as the rest, or they might receive a gradually diminishing rent-charge through one or two generations. Under present circumstances they were falling into ruin. Look to Ireland, more rich had been impoverished, more estates confiscated, than if the insurrection of '98 had ripened into a dozen revolutions. The free access to labour also implied that the monopoly of machinery should cease. What freedom, what guarantee for bread could exist, as long as the wealth of a few men enabled them to be the exclusive possessors of machinery? It was a mockery to tell the poor man he might work unless you gave him the means to work with. Whilst a few men were in possession of the means, they could dictate the price of workman's labour, or throw him out of bread altogether. It was, therefore, necessary that the state should, on fixed conditions, supply working men's associations with machinery, by which they could labour for themselves, on the principle of co-operative fraternity. The only real capital, besides labour, was land and minerals. The state should act as trustee of that capital for the people. That would be the only just relation of capital and labour. Capital should be taxed, not industry. Taxation thus raised would hold the relation of a fair interest, paid by the worker for the use of the land and its minerals, in farming and manufacture. That was the only just system of taxation. Mr. Jones then entered upon the subject of the National Debt, and stated a novel method of paying it, and concluded amid great applause.

Mr. Bronterre O'Brien supported the resolution. The speech was nearly innocent of the sins of commission, the only fault in it was calling upon them to sympathise with the landlords and farmers. His plan was only to sympathise with those who sympathised with him; and as he had never experienced any sympathy from them, he had none to give them in return. It was, however, great in sins of omissions. Mr. O'Brien then dwelt upon the evils of landlordism, profitmongery, and usury, and showed that all the evils of society sprung from those sources. Neither lawyers, parsons, or any of those classes were ever needed by any but by the upper classes, and would quietly sink into nonentity were those evils abolished. Any plan of reform was mere humbug, which did not go for the nationalisation of the land, the proper adjustment of public credit. Mr. O'Brien was much applauded during a very long speech.

Mr. Harney said it was no great thing to congratulate the people upon being at peace and amity with all the nations of Europe. If the people of those lands had been free, then it would be a subject for congratulation; but it was nothing to be proud of, that we were at amity with the despots of Austria and Russia. Everywhere signs of revolution were to be seen; when Austria formerly combatted Hungary, the Hungarians were divided among themselves, but now the most craven slave in Hungary would rise with his brethren to throw off the Austrian yoke. Arrests were hourly taking place in Vienna and the soldiers were being removed from that capital, and others marched there because they had become contaminated with revolutionary doctrines. In Schleswig Holstein tyranny had been triumphant, not through the cowardice of the people, but by threats of force, and their placing dependence in the treacherous words of the King of Prussia. In Hesse, a gallant people had been coerced by brute force. Were these things for the Queen of England to congratulate the Parliament on? To come to home affairs, instead of all the people being employed, it was a well-known fact, that thousands of workpeople in that metropolis were destitute of employment. When Prince Albert visited the Crystal Palace, he must have seen that hundreds of workmen were to be found there seeking in vain for work, though hundreds were leaving it, unable to live upon the wages given to them. He must have seen this, and might have spoken of it to the Queen; and if so, how could she put her name to such palpable falsehoods? He was sorry that working men themselves were much to blame in this matter. He saw by the papers, that instead of working men laying their grievances and want of employment before Prince Albert, when he visited that building, they met only to cheer him, and then beer was given them, and they cheered still more lustily. While working men could be found to act so, they must not expect to raise themselves from their prostrate condition. Mr. Harney then alluded to Papal Aggression, and said, that when the question was before parliament, if measures were adopted, which would, in any way, trench upon the religious liberty of their Catholic brethren, then let men of every religion, and men of no religion, stand up in defence of the doctrine of true liberty. The true way to do away with Papal and every other Aggression, was to spread knowledge—to let truth grapple with error. It was ridiculous to read the congratulation in the speech on the decrease of crime, when it was well known that our present laws fostered *crime in a similar manner that doctors lived upon* disease. Mr. Harney then entered into other matters contained in the speech, and sat down amid loud cheers, first suggesting that the words "extension of the suffrage" in the resolution, should be changed into "the all important subject of the enfranchisement of the millions."

The resolution, as amended, was unanimously agreed to.

A vote of thanks was given to the chairman, who acknowledged the same, and the meeting dissolved. A resolution was passed at a late stage of the meeting:—"That the Executive should be called upon to investigate the charge against Mr. Harney, and that they should call a public meeting, and report the result." A collection was made at the door, and members enrolled.

Chartist Intelligence.

NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION.

Offices—14, Southampton-street, Strand.

The Executive Committee of this body held their usual weekly meeting, as above, on Wednesday evening last. The whole of the Committee, Mr. O'Connor excepted, being present. Mr Thornton Hunt, the newly elected member, was introduced by Mr. Holyoake. Mr. Le Blond presided. Correspondence was received from Bingley, Halifax, Newport (Isle of Wight), Northampton, and South Shields.

Mr. Jones having submitted his motion in accordance with the notice given last week,

The following, on the motion of Messrs. Holyoake and Harney, was, after a brief discussion, unanimously agreed to:—"*In reference to the* notice given last week by Mr. Jones, the Executive, considering that the people have a perfect right to elect whom they please to represent their interests, resolve that a simple notification be published; that members of the Executive be considered eligible to be elected as delegates to the forthcoming Convention."

The Secretary reported that the financial statement, from February to the 25th of December last, which had been delayed in order to allow time for several localities to send in their returns, was now prepared, and

On the motion of Messrs. Reynolds and Milne it was agreed:—"That Messrs. Hunniball and Piercy be appointed to audit the same, and report thereon at the next meeting, in order that the statement my be forthwith printed and sent to every locality throughout the country."

The Secretary then stated that on the previous evening a resolution had been unanimously adopted, at the great public meeting, held in the Hall of the Institution, John-street, requesting the Executive Committee to investigate the statements made by Mr. O'Connor at Manchester, relative to Mr. G. J. Harney, and report the result to a public meeting to be called for that purpose.

After some discussion, it was unanimously decided, on the motion of Messrs. Reynolds and Grassby:—"That next Wednesday evening be specially appointed for that purpose."

Messrs. Shaw, Newley, and Cummins, attended as a Deputation from the United Councils of the Tower Hamlets, in order to further urge on the Executive the necessity of advising with Mr. O'Connor, *with reference to his sessional motion for the enactment* of the People's Charter; and the deputation also stated that they had been instructed to call the attention of the Executive to what had been reported in the proceedings of Manchester, as to what Mr. O'Connor had said regarding Mr. Harney.

The Chairman, in reply, said that the first question brought under their notice by the deputation would be fully discussed, and receive that attention which it demanded from the committee on some future occasion; but, through a press of business, it was inconvenient to do so on that evening; and with regard to the second, that a time had been named to inquire into the subject.

Messrs. Roberts and Hoppy also attended as a deputation from the Washington locality, to solicit the assistance of the Executive in re-organising that locality. The deputation were assured that the committee would do their utmost to foster the localities, and they were advised to apply to Mr. Ernest Jones, and also to the talented young men connected with the Democratic Propagandist. The deputation then retired, and the committee adjourned to Wednesday, Feb. 12th.

Signed on behalf of the committee,
John Arnott, general secretary.

Sheffield.—The usual weekly meeting of the Charter Association was held in the Democratic Temperance Hotel, 33, Queen-street, on Sunday Evening; Mr. John Seward in the chair. After the settlement of sundry accounts more immediately connected with the association, Mr. Cavill handed in an additional 3s. 6d. for the Defence Fund. Mr. Thomas Rooke also handed in 8s. 3d. for the same fund, and Henry Flanagin 1s., thus making 12s. 9d., which was ordered to be sent without delay. A number of females have taken collecting books for the above fund. The Secretary was directed to invite Mr. Barker, of Leeds, to give a farewell address previous to his leaving England, after which the meeting adjourned to Sunday evening next.

Cripplegate Locality.—A numerous meeting of members was held on Monday Evening after the public meeting at the City Chartist Hall. After considerable local business was transacted, "A vote of thanks was given to Mr. Mantle for his conduct at the Manchester Conference." Arrangements were then made for a benefit for the Hall, to be held on Tuesday, the 18th, at John-street.

Manchester.—On Sunday afternoon, February 2nd, a members' meeting was held in the large Ante-room of the People's Institute. The meeting was not so numerous as the last. The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed, also the financial statement for the month. Income £9 17s. 11½d., expenditure £6 6s. 9½d., leaving a balance of £3 11s. 1¾d., for the month. Mr. Leach then gave a report of the doings of the Conference, after which the following resolution was carried:—"That we adopt the resolutions of the Conference except the last." This created a very animated discussion, after which an election of councilmen for the next three months took place, the term of their holding office having expired. The following persons were elected councilmen:—James Leach, Daniel Donovan, Henry Nuttall, James Wainwright, Samuel Jones, James Mooney, William Murray, Thomas Cooper, Thomas Fildes; John Sutton, chairman; William Foster, *treasurer*; *Joshua* Gutteridge, financial secretary; James Alcock, corresponding secretary, 12, Byrom-street, Upper Duke-street, Hulme, Manchester.——On Monday evening, the Council assembled and transacted their local business in the large Ante-room of the People's Institute, after which the following resolution was agreed to:—"That this Council promulgate the resolutions of the Manchester Conference with a strong recommendation to the people to adopt the same, with the exception of the last resolution upon which the Conference broke up, believing that it is the only course of proceedings that can or ought to enlist the sympathies and support of the people of this kingdom."

West Riding Delegate Meeting.—A West Riding Delegate Meeting was held at Nicholl's Temperance Hotel, on Sunday last, but in consequence of another delegate meeting being held at Hebden Bridge on the same day, only five delegates were present; these, however, represented the principal districts in the Riding. An arrangement was entered into for the better organisation, and more effectual working of the country districts. The following places were mapped out, to be visited and brought into working order as soon as possible, namely:—Elland, Midgley, Mixenden, Ovenden, Wheatley, Illingworth, Moor, Queen'shead, Baly-Bridge, Sowerby, Birkenshaw, Eckles-hill, Idle, Shipley, Bingley, Wilsden, Stanningkey, Pussey, Thornton, Clayton, Horton, Manningham, and Holme-lane. After this business was gone through a lengthened discussion took place on the conduct of the editor of the *Northern Star*, in reviewing the proceedings of the last delegate meeting; and, on the motion of Mr. Henry Horsfall, of Halifax, seconded by Mr. Edward Smith, of Bradford, a resolution was passed denying that the delegates had used dictation, they merely recommended that no delegate be sent from the West Riding, leaving the localities to please themselves; and, further repudiating the political teaching of the editor of the *Northern Star*, whom the delegates by no means approve of as a schoolmaster. A discussion was then entered into on the necessity of raising funds for the establishing of an independent Democratic Newspaper, the profits arising from the sale of which to be employed in supporting the agitation; but owing to the thin attendance, the subject was deferred to the next meeting, when it is hoped that the delegates will come prepared with instructions on the subject.

Manchester.—On Wednesday, the 29th ult., a crowded public meeting, convened by placard, was held in the People's Institute—Mr. John Sutton presided. Spirited addresses were delivered by Messrs. Clark, Hurst, M'Grath, Donovan, Leach, and Mantle, which were most enthusiastically responded to by the audience. The prevailing idea was, that the movement must become more practical in its working before any impression could be made upon the legislature of the country. The men of Manchester have taken up this subject with an energy and a devotion which reflect honour on them, and which, it is to be hoped, will eventuate in a glorious awakening of the democracy of England from the slumber in which they have been so long bound.

Finsbury.—At the usual weekly meeting on Sunday night, in Turnmill-street, the financial business was adjourned to the next meeting. On the motion of Mr. V. Johnson, it was agreed, that a ball shall be held on Wednesday night Feb. 12th, in the hall of the Fraternal Home, (being the last night of this association's engagement with the committee of that establishment,) for the purpose of assisting this association out of its financial difficulties, incurred by the unjust government spies' interference in our meetings, and to liquidate the debt due (by the members of the late Finsbury locality,) to their general treasurer. On the motion of Mr. Carter, a new code of bye laws for this association was unanimously received, and transferred to a new council for deliberation. Mr. Weedon moved, seconded by Mr. Gardner—"That the portion of the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th of January, to the effect that this locality do not join any democratic body until after the London Conference be rescinded." The motion was lost. The following persons were elected councilmen:—Gurney, Weeden Windmill, Gardner, Lombard; V. Johnson, treasurer; and D. Cater, Secretary.

Bradford.—At the weekly meeting on Sunday evening Mr. North gave a report of his delegation to the Manchester Conference, and received the thanks of the meeting. The quarterly meeting was then held, and the following persons were elected to the council:—George Hallewell, William Smith, James Goodwind, John Boardly, Henry Clegg, John Moore, Edward Smith, William Stainsboy, Daniel Holroyd, Samuel Broadbent, John Sager, Broomfield section; William Tempest, room-keeper; William Connell, president; Annanias Kitchin, Treasurer; Joseph Hudson, financial secretary; Thomas Wilcock, corresponding secretary. To whom all communications must be addressed, to the care of Thomas Umpleby, news-agent, Manchester-road, Bradford, Yorkshire.

Rochdale.—Feargus O'Connor, Esq., M.P., addressed a crowded and enthusiastic meeting in this town on the 29th ult. Mr. Thomas Livesay in the chair. The chairman stated, that some parties had attacked Mr. O'Connor's character and conduct in his absence, and that they had now an opportunity of meeting him. After waiting a considerable time, and no one coming forward, Mr. Ambrose Tomlinson moved, and Mr. Robert Gill seconded, the following address, which was carried unanimously:—

TO FEARGUS O'CONNOR, ESQ., M.P.

Honoured and Esteemed Patriot,—We, the inhabitants of Rochdale, are desirous of expressing our sincere attachment, unfeigned admiration, and deep, heartfelt gratitude for your long, ardent, and gratuitous labour for our interests and our liberties, both in and out of the House of Commons. The vollies poured by you upon the corrupt legislative assembly—the Charter repeatedly—repeal of the union—fixity of tenure for Irish farmers—corn rent—annihilation of tithes—equitable adjustment between national creditors and national debtors—your denunciation against ministers when they introduced the infernal Gagging Bill—your efforts to bring back those suffering patriotic spirits, Frost, Williams, and Jones, to the bosoms of their disconsolate families—your support of the case of the Glasgow cotton spinners and Dorchester labourers—your aid given to Mr. Bell when prosecuted for writing an excellent article in the columns of a questionable principled newspaper—your strenuous exertions in favour of a Ten Hours' Bill—your every vote as hitherto registered on the scroll of parliamentary divisions—and lastly, your gigantic effort to place the poverty-stricken, down-trodden, misery-crushed toilers of England upon the soil of their nativity: the remembrance of these, together with the sufferings you have endured, the numerous sacrifices you have made on our behalf, these, sir, have called forth our expressions of unbounded gratitude. What though a class government refused to enrol the Land scheme rules? What matters if an English jury have proclaimed you honest, and returned a verdict afterwards against you for costs? Though vitiated poets have been paid for prostrating their genius by endeavouring to raise a national prejudice against you; though some of the most popular leaders of our movement have not been slack in their insiduous attempts to crush your influence; though the corrupt, factious, venal, and lying press of this country has laboured ceaselessly to blast your reputation, and shake our confidence in you, sir, yet these have failed, for we beg to assure you that in no town or city in England have you a more attached body of adherents, or one possessing greater confidence. By calumny, prosecution, and persecution, they sought to ruin you; many of them thought our hopes of future success were destroyed, because of the failure of your Land scheme, but it has stimulated thousands in their endeavours to gain more practical knowledge of a practical science. Go on then, noble sir, in your work for human redemption; we wish to be emancipated from political thraldom and social degradation; our enemies and yours may laugh in their security. They can sneer, scorn, and imprison or transport us; we have neither gold nor thundering instruments of destruction, but we have truth on our side. Your invidious opponents lean on a reed of falsehood, you stand upon the rock of justice, and so long as you are determined to maintain the position, and bid defiance to all assaults of our foes, we still confide in you,—our children will be taught to revere your memory—boys shall lisp, ambitious youth utter, and hoary age pronounce with reverential accent, "O'Connor endeavoured to awaken sympathy for our class with our race; 'twas O'Connor gave vent to matured thoughts, and schemes, and influences, the tendency of which will be to change the indifference which now prevails towards the depressed mass of the people." Sir, be not dismayed; fear, like a bitter drop, mixes with our oppressors' pleasure cups; their consciences and insecurity destroys the charms of their ill-gotten wealth at each succeeding convulsion in the department of commerce. Your memory is enshrined in our hearts, and as time rolls into the distant future, you will be proclaimed the enemy of the persecutor—the friend and indomitable defender of the persecuted; your unflinching advocacy of our principles commands our admiration, and we wish fervently that you may have health and strength, and live long enough to be able to say—class legislation, prejudice, bigotry, and intolerance have I conquered, and the oppression of ages I have buried in the hideous depths of its own eternal ruin. In conclusion, we tender you our heartfelt thanks, feeling confident you will continue in the same glorious career until full measures of justice be dealt equally to the universal family of man.

Yours respectfully and sincerely,
The People of Rochdale.
Signed on behalf of the Meeting,
January 29th. Thomas Livesey.

Mr. O'Connor having replied, the meeting was addressed by W. P. Roberts, Esq., after which the *business terminated.*

Coventry.—At a meeting of the council held on Sunday evening, a resolution was unanimously agreed to:—"That deputations be appointed to visit Leamington, Nun-Eaton, and the villages adjacent, to urge the necessity of immediately re-organising their localities, to co-operate in sending a delegate to the forthcoming National Convention, and renewing the agitation for the People's Charter. —On Monday evening the above resolution was confirmed; and it was resolved:—"That a levy of sixpence be made on each member, exclusive of their weekly contributions, to be paid in one month."

Manchester.—At a meeting of Chartists held at No. 2, Coblin-street, on Wednesday evening, Mr. W. Grocott in the chair, the following business was transacted. It was unanimously resolved:—"That the Manchester Council having by their late acts and resolutions placed themselves out of the National Charter Association, that we resolve ourselves into a locality of that association, and in connection with the legitimate Executive thereof." Resolved:—"That the followieg gentlemen constitute a council for the next three months: William Grocott, chairman; John Knight, vice-chairman; Edward Hooson, treasurer; John Cameron, J. G. Clarke, senr., J. G. Clarke, junr., Thomas Ormesher, Frederick Smith, John Whitehead, John Riley, Christopher Hartley; W. B. Robinson, financial secretary; George J. Mantle, corresponding secretary. The secretary having read the minutes of the members' meeting, an address was unanimously adopted. The secretary announced subscriptions to the amount of £4 3s. 6d., after which the following resolutions were adopted:—"That a meeting of members and friends be held at No. 2, Cable-street, Oldham-road, on Sunday afternoon, the 9th inst., at half-past two o'clock." "That arrangements be immediately made for a public meeting, and that three members of the Executive be invited to attend." The Council then adjourned to Monday evening next.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNITED TRADES.

T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., President.

Established 1845.

"Fiat Justitia."

"If it were possible for the working classes, by combining among themselves, to raise, or keep up the general rate of wages, it need hardly be said that this would be a thing not to be punished, but to be welcomed and rejoiced at." — Stuart Mill.

Lynn, February 5th.—The position of the sailors of this port, in their noble resistance against the dishonest aggressions of their employers, is assuming every day a more favourable aspect. The compact of the shipowners begins to show strong evidence of a speedy break up, while the men are firmer than at the commencement of the struggle. A meeting of the mechanics and artisans of the town of Lynn was held in the Albion Hall, on the evening of the 30th ult., which was most numerously attended; when resolutions were unanimously passed, condemnatory of the conduct of the shipowners, and a committee appointed of representatives of the Trades, to collect subscriptions in aid of the Sailors' Relief Fund. The case of the five seamen, condemned by the Clerical magistrate of Downham to seven days' imprisonment and hard labour, for collecting subscriptions for the sailors, was also brought before the meeting by Mr. Peel, who strongly condemned the harshness of the proceedings, and called upon the tradesmen of Lynn to take immediate steps to inquire into the legality of the magistrates, proceedings, and to memorialise the home secretary for his removal from the Commission if his conduct could be proved to have been illegal. This suggestion was immediately responded to, amidst loud cheers.

Captain Matthew Creek moved the appointment of a committee for this express purpose. The resolution was carried by acclamation, and five respectable shopkeepers were instantly proposed, and as quickly agreed to serve upon such committee.

The committee, so appointed, have commenced their duties in earnest, and have called a public meeting of the inhabitants for Tuesday evening, when the case, in all its disgraceful bearings, will be publicly brought forward; and the inhabitants are invited to aid the committee in obtaining justice for the grievous wrongs inflicted, and compensation for the insults offered through them to the whole mercantile navy of England.

While these occurrences are so favourable to the cause of the men, the small owners are beginning to wince under the effects of their own bad conduct. Upwards of seventy sail of ships have been lying idle, eating their keels away by insurance, mortgages, masters wages, &c. That this state of things can long continue no one supposes.

On Monday night a general meeting of the Sailors was held in the Baptist's School-room. Nearly all the seamen in the port were present, and a more orderly or more unanimous meeting never was held upon any similar occasion. One universal response was given to Mr. Peel's urgent injunction that they should stand firm in their resistance to their owners' proceedings, and they should rely, with confidence, on the exertions which were being made to raise the funds necessary to relieve their necessities. An account of the receipts and disbursements was read and passed, which presented a very favourable balance in hand.

On Tuesday morning a very cheering occurrence took place, which indicates the speedy breaking up of the Masters' Company. The brig Symmetry shipped a crew at the full wages, and made rapid preparations to put to sea. A gang of upwards of thirty tars volunteered to assist in getting the ship in sailing trim. It was a beautiful sight to witness the pleasing excitement in the multitudes who lined the shore and quay, watching with intense interest, the proceedings on board the brig. A deputation of three men had been appointed to witness the signing of the articles for £3 for the voyage. The figure 3 was conspicuously chalked upon the bows and quarters of the vessel. All things being in readiness the sails were hoisted with man-of-war celerity, amidst the cheerings and salutations of thousands of the spectators. The ship being released from her moorings dropped down the river amidst the most deafening huzzas of those on shores responded to by the volunteers on board; and thus the first rent has been made in the bond entered into by the owners. Since this period information has been received of others being prepared to follow the example of the Symmetry.

More activity is visible to-day in the harbour. Some are taking in ballast, others are bending sails, and other strong symptoms of preparations for sea.

These are the natural and inevitable consequences of a firm and united determination to resist oppression. The conduct of the sailors is admirable, and the sympathy and interest of the ratepayers and inhabitants is increasing to an extraordinary extent.

Feb. 5. Wm. Peel, Sec.

E. PERRY AND HIS CHARGE OF CONSPIRACY.

We promised in our last to give a report of this case. That it could be even called a conspiracy i a wonder to many, but when the private views and intrigues, the business influence, and other influences, are taken into account it is not so much a wonder after all.

It was remarked, that "Harry never made so lame a tale—that he appeared ashamed of the case he had in hand; he was all confusion, first quoting from this authority, then the other—sometimes against, others in favour—until he was told he was not clear;" which would, of course, if true, vex the acute Petty Session Attorney of Wolverhampton. His remark, that "the defendants were not only charged with having, by legal means, conspired to effect an illegal purpose," is sufficient to show his legal acumen in a case of so grave a nature as that with which the defendants were charged. And the well timed rebuke of the late Mayor might well produce a laugh at the conductor of so trumpery a case, got up, no doubt, more to frighten than to hurt—at least, it is harmless yet. What a Grand Jury will do with it remains to be seen.

CHARGE OF CONSPIRACY AGAINST FIVE JOURNEYMEN TINMEN.

On Tuesday, at the Town Hall, five journeymen tin-plate workers, named George Duffield, Thomas Woodnorth, John Gaunt, Alfred Pitt, and Henry Rowlands, were charged, on the complaint of Mr. Edward Perry, tinware manufacturer, with entering into a conspiracy to prevent him carrying on his trade of a tinplate worker, to seduce and entice his workmen from his service, and to compel him to alter the rate of wages paid to his workmen; the information likewise alleged that several workmen had left Mr. Perry's employment in consequence of such conspiracy. During the first part of the hearing, the magistrates on the Bench were J. Barker, Esq., G. Robinson, Esq., J. Hartley, Esq., J. Underhill, Esq., and J. Neve, Esq., but Mr. Neve retired before the case concluded. Mr. H. Underhill appeared for the prosecution, and the accused, who had been apprehended under warrants were defended by Mr. Bartlett, who appeared for Pitt and Rowlands, and Mr. Stuart, who attended for Duffield, Woodnorth, and Gaunt.

The witnesses in the case, sixteen in number, having been ordered out of court, Mr. Underhill stated the nature of the charge, and remarked that he need not remind the Bench that the present investigation was simply to inquire whether there was not such a *prima facie* case against the accused as to warrant a further inquiry. After alluding to the law on the question, Mr. Underhill stated, that had Mr. Perry been so advised, he could have instituted proceedings against the defendants, under the 6th Geo. IV., c. 129, sec. 3, under which magistrates had power to summarily commit for three months any parties combining to make his employer alter his mode of business. He (Mr. Underhill) proposed to prove all the defendants guilty of a series of acts, which he should give in evidence, committed by the defendants both jointly and separately. All that he had to do was to show the commission of such a series of acts, and give evidence from which other acts might be fairly implied, as would make one consistent chain of circumstantial evidence. When he had once established the concert between the defendants—when he had shown them acting together for one common object, each became liable for the overt acts, as it was termed, of the others. The defendants were not only charged with having by legal means, conspired to effect an illegal purpose, but with also having used illegal means.

Mr. Robinson said he did not understand people conspiring legally to do an illegal thing. (Laughter.) Conspiracy was to do an unlawful act, or to do a lawful act by illegal means. Every combination to do an illegal thing must be an offence.

Mr. Underhill observed he meant by means legal in themselves, and proceeded to state that it was necessary for him to prove further than that it had entered into the minds of the five defendants, and that they had confederated together to effect the objects alleged: the offence was complete, whether the purpose was carried out or not.

Mr. Underhill then called a number of witnesses, principally persons who had been employed in the service of Mr. Perry, and by whose evidence he endeavoured to prove, that they had been induced to leave the employment of that gentleman—that they had been supplied with drink by the members of the trade who were on strike, and furnished with railway tickets to various towns at a distance. Upon cross-examination, however, the evidence completely broke down, as the witnesses were unable to recollect dates, names of persons, or indeed any material point whatever, on the plea that they were so drunk they could not remember. One of the witnesses deliberately refused to reply to the questions asked him, and was committed to prison for contumacy. Another—a woman—upon whose testimony Mr. Perry strongly relied—having published a statement said to have been made by her, in his pamphlet on the subject—distinctly denied that she had made any such statement.

After wading through the whole of the evidence from beginning to end it only presents a conspiracy against labour. Some of the witnesses were instrumental in bringing before the public that which has brought the present defendants into their present position. John Manton, the very man who wrote the first book to be presented to the employers, who acknowledges to have written to the office in London for Mr. Green. We remember Mr. Barker, on one occasion, saying "that letters told secrets," and should Mr. Barker see some letters he would alter his opinion, and say, "Well, I did not suspect that."

There is one feature in this movement, and in this case, which must not be omitted, and that is, although Mr. Underhill made it a boast that he should bring a case home against the Central Committee or a portion of them, he has not succeeded even in getting a single member of our Association, for the two defendants, Pit and Rowlands, have been discharged, the other three not being members. The case, it appears, against Duffield, Gaunt, and Woodnorth, is to go before a Grand Jury, and there, no doubt, it will meet its fate, which, we think, it ought to have done in Wolverhampton.

THE ROCHDALE STRIKE.

The strike terminated on the 4th inst. under the following circumstances, after the men being out for 28 weeks. On Saturday night last the excitement appeared to be increasing, a number of young men, women, and children having escorted one of the "knobsticks" all the way from Littleboro' to Rochdale, shouting, and holding lighted candles to his face, to his place of destination. On Monday eight of the factory operatives were summoned to appear before the Rochdale bench of Magistrates, charged with intimidation; and two others, with intimidation and assault. The court was crowded to excess. Mr. Roberts, of Manchester, appeared on behalf of the defendants; Holgate and Roberts, of Rochdale, on behalf of the complainants.

Mr. Roberts, of Manchester, showed that it was not a question of intimidation and assault between the man in the employment (at present,) of Mr. Scholefield and the parties on strike; but the fact was, it was a question of wages between Scholefield and his own work-people: and, as it was quite clear that it was a difference about wages, he was of opinion that it could and ought to be settled by arbitration. If Mr. Scholefield and the authorities wished to create greater excitement in the neighbourhood, they could do it by the conviction of his clients. He proposed, therefore, to postpone the trials till that day fortnight, the only difference between Scholefield and his clients in one branch being a demand of one farthing of an advance—in another three farthings—and so on in proportion for others. He would submit the following arbitrators:—Three reverend gentlemen, three manufacturers, and three working-men. If the committee of arbitration could not settle before the fortnight, he would then refer it to the decision of William Chadwick, Esq., Magistrate. If they would postpone the trials he would pledge himself that there should neither be intimidation, assaults, or disturbance.

The Magistrates granted Mr. Roberts's request.

The parties adjourned to the Wellington Inn. The rooms were soon filled with Mr. Scholefield's hands, and a deputation from the weavers was immediately called to an interview with their employers, and settled to elevenpence per thousand for jobbing—previous prices ten-pence per thousand. Weaving count twenty shillings and twopence three-farthings on old looms—on the patent looms twopence-halfpenny, and advance one-eighth for each count; after previous price, twopence-farthing. Throstle piecers agreed to seven shillings and sixpence for fourteen dozen spindles, four sides; previous prices for throstle piecers seven shillings. Winders, tenpence per thousand for double twist, sixpence for single. Mule spinners—number of spindles previous to strike, 444, paid two shillings per thousand; enlarged mules, since strike, to 1,033 spindles; price agreed to one shilling and sixpence per thousand. At the conclusion Mr. Scholefield stated that at the end of the month he would balance up, and if they found he was not paying as high a price as any Lancashire manufacturer, for the same work, from the same kind of machinery, he would then make up the difference. Thus terminated one of the most arduous struggles of factory operatives.

The following is the balance-sheet of the strike:—

Total Expenditure	£74	16s.	8d.
Total amount	168	4	11
Balance in hand	122	8	3½

Yours respectfully,
Rochdale. H. M'Mannus.

Charter League.—On Sunday evening last a meeting was held at the Tulford Coffee-House, Farringdon-street. An interesting discussion took place upon the passing political events of the day, in which several of the members took part. It was announced that on Sunday evening next the delegates to the Conference at Manchester would deliver their reports, after which a discussion would ensue upon the prospects of democracy.

Sir E. Bulwer Lytton has been appointed deputy-lieutenant of the county of Herts.

NEWSPAPER

The Metropolis.

THE HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE PAST WEEK.—The official report says:—"The decrease in the deaths of London, which was announced in the last return, has been followed by an increase to the same extent, and the rate of mortality is again equal to that which prevailed during the first two weeks of January. The deaths which, in the previous week, were 956, have risen to 1,041—a number which nearly coincides with the average (namely, 1,059) as derived from the returns of the ten corresponding weeks in 1841-50; but they are less by 114 than this average, if it be corrected on the assumption that population has increased at the same rate as it did between the censuses of 1831 and 1841. In the epidemic class, small pox was fatal last week to 16 children and 3 men, whose ages were between 20 and 35 (the 19 deaths from this disease showing a decrease of 13 on the previous week.) Measles was fatal to 30 children, being an increase; scarlatina, to 16 lives, hooping cough to 51. Typhus and diarrhoea seem to increase slightly, and the deaths from these in this return are 48 and 25 respectively. This class, which now comprises 230 deaths, is above the average, and seems to make progress. Out of the whole number of cases in which small pox was fatal, it is stated only in three that vaccination had been performed. The births of 773 boys and 764 girls, in all 1,537 children, were registered in the week. The average number in six corresponding weeks of 1845-50 was 1,395. At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.498 in. The mean daily temperature was, on every day except Sunday and Saturday, above the average of the same day in 10 years. It has shown considerable fluctuations during the week. Having been 36.5 deg. on Sunday, it rose to 49.2 deg. on Wednesday, when it was highest, and exceeded the average by 10.8 deg. It then continued to fall till it was only 37.6 deg. on Saturday. The mean temperature of the week was 41.1 deg. The wind was generally in the south-west till Saturday, when it turned to north.

INHUMAN TREATMENT OF AN INFANT.—On Saturday last, Mr. H. M. Wakley held an inquest on the body of Joseph Broadfield, a child three months old. The body was emaciated and almost bloodless, and the features resembled those of an old care-worn man. The mother, a wretched girl of eighteen, had been married but three months to the child's father, a cabman, and declared that she had received from him no more than 3d. or 4d. a week for the support of herself and child since her marriage. She had taken the child to the hospital twice, but on the third attempt to do so her husband beat her, and compelled her to leave the child to die. The poor child's body was covered with sores, the result of inherited disease. The surgeon was of opinion that the hereditary malady might have been eradicated, and that deceased died from want of food and attention. The jury were well disposed to bring in a verdict of manslaughter against the parents, but ultimately decided that "Deceased died of syphilis, having been grossly neglected by both parents."

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE RIVER.—On Sunday afternoon, as some boys, who had clandestinely obtained possession of a waterman's boat, were rowing near Bugsby's Hole, the vessel got foul of a tier of shipping, the tide running strong at the time. Being unskilled and afraid they rose from their seats in great alarm, and capsized the boat. Their cries brought a number of persons to their assistance, and three were saved, but two were unfortunately drowned.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Saturday afternoon last, as a young woman, wife of a porter employed at the Vauxhall station of the South Western Railway, was crossing the Wandsworth-road, under the railway arch, she was struck by the leader of a waggon team, lost her footing and fell amongst the horses feet. Both of the off wheels passed over her head, and death took place instantaneously. The driver of the waggon is said to have been perfectly sober when the accident occurred.

SHOCKING SUICIDE.—On Tuesday, Mr. Langham, the deputy coroner for Westminster, held an inquest at St. George's Hospital, on view of the body of William Walker, aged thirty-five, late butler and valet to Captain William Lyon, R.N., 22, Park-lane, Grosvenor-square, who committed suicide by shooting himself with a pistol belonging to his master.—Joseph Smith said that he was footman in the service of Captain Lyon, who was at present abroad, and had known the deceased five years. Deceased was a married man, and had latterly seemed very depressed in spirits. On the previous Wednesday morning witness went into the pantry to see him, it being then about eight o'clock, and found him in bed not very well. Having given him a cup of tea he left the house for a few minutes, and on returning was told that deceased had shot himself, which, on hastening to his room, he found to be the fact. Blood was flowing from a wound just above the heart, with a discharged revolving pistol belonging to Captain Lyon, and which was always kept in deceased's room for protection, lying across his breast. A surgeon was present, at whose desire deceased was conveyed to the hospital, where he died, in witness's presence, on Friday afternoon. The deceased had latterly complained of ill health. Witness subsequently found two letters in deceased's room, in his handwriting, one addressed to his wife and the other to his sister. The former one said—"My dearly beloved wife—Before this reaches you I shall be no more; I shall have passed into the presence of my God uncalled for. I could not live to see you come to poverty." The one to his sister began, "My dear sister," and contained these words, "Give my love to my dearest mother, and avoid, if possible, telling her the death I die." The jury returned a verdict of "Temporary insanity."

SUSPECTED MURDER.—On Tuesday, Mr. Carttar held an inquest at Woolwich, on the body of a man found floating in the mid-channel of the Thames, off Woolwich. The right leg was broken, and there were three wounds on the head, which reached the bone. The immediate cause of death was drowning, but it was deposed by a surgeon that the wounds were inflicted before death. The body was not identified, and the jury returned an open verdict.

BIRTH IN A STATION HOUSE.—On Saturday morning last, an unknown Irishwoman seated herself at the door of the Marylebone Police-station, Marylebone-lane, where her piteous moans quickly attracted the attention of the police, who ascertaining that she was in labour, had her carried into the station-house, where they quickly made for her a bed of great coats, and procured the attendance of a doctor and a female. Ere many minutes elapsed the poor creature gave birth to a still-born child. As soon as she was sufficiently recovered for the exertion the police conveyed her to the infirmary of the workhouse, where she is progressing favourably.

PROSECUTION OF CARDINAL WISEMAN.—A report has been for some time in circulation that some gentlemen residing in Westminster, who objected to the appropriation of their ancient city as the seat of an archiepiscopal see of the Roman Church, and did not themselves like to be governed by one of the cardinals of the Sovereign Pontiff, had accepted Cardinal Wiseman's challenge to test the legality of the recent Papal proceedings by an appeal to the law, provided he would admit that they took place with his consent. It appears that a long correspondence has taken place between the Cardinal's solicitors and Mr. H. W. Vallance, the solicitor retained for the proposed prosecution, and we are given to understand that it is in the press for publication in a pamphlet form. The Cardinal took time to consult with counsel, and it is understood that, under their advice, takes the benefit of the legal axiom, that a man is not bound to criminate himself. Diligent endeavours, it is said, have been made by the solicitor to obtain from other sources, legal proof that the Pope's letter and the Cardinal's manifesto were published by the authority of the latter, but hitherto without success.—*Times.*

SEARCHING THE VAULTS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—On Monday evening the ceremony of searching the vaults beneath the houses of parliament, customary since the discovery of the Gunpowder Plot, took place previous to the assembly of parliament on Tuesday. The ceremony shorn of much of its official character, the procession consisting merely of the under officers of the Sergeant-at-Arms and the police on duty at the parliament house.

PAPAL AGGRESSION.—A deputation of the attorneys solicitors, and proctors of England and Wales, consisting of Mr. D. S. Brockett, Mr. William Woodroffe, Mr. William Vizard, jun., Mr. R. Beachcroft, and Mr. J. M. Clabon, had an interview on Monday with the Lord Chancellor, to request his lordship to present to the House of Lords a petition signed by upwards of 6,000 attorneys, solicitors, and proctors against the Papal aggression.

IMPROVEMENT OF LEICESTER-SQUARE.—On Tuesday evening a meeting of the inhabitants of Leicester-square and its immediate locality, was held at the Sablonière Hotel, to take into consideration Mr. Wyld's proposal for the erection of his great Globe in the centre of the square, and for other improvements and ornamental arrangements. Mr. Hodges took the chair. Mr. Wyld, M.P., who was accompanied by the architect of the proposed building, entered into a detailed account of his plans for the structure, which, he stated was to be composed of iron, glass, and wood, and was originally intended for the National Exhibition, but, ultimately, he had come to the determination to seek for a public locality for erecting the edifice, and he knew of no place better calculated for the object than Leicester-square, than which a more neglected spot was not to found in the metropolis, he proposed to purchase the site from the present holders for £3,000 for ten years and the inhabitants were only present as a mark of courtesy, as they had no legal right to oppose his application. Should the building turn out a failure he (Mr. Wyld) would undertake to restore the square at the end of the term of ten years, previous to which he would place new iron railings round a flower garden, to be established in the centre, and put the whole square into thorough repair. An inhabitant of the square wished to know if it was Mr. Wyld's intention to use the building for any purpose of trade? Mr. Wyld stated that he intended selling catalogues of the Exhibition and geographical publications. Mr. Ridgway was delighted to find that a reformation was about to take place, and expressed a hope that in future Leicester-square would become a more reputable locality than it had been for so many years. Mr. Cochrane supported Mr. Wyld, and pointed out the beauty of the proposed building; he said that a properly drawn deed should be prepared, and, if not adhered to that the parishioners should have the power to remove the building. He thought that not only the immediate inhabitants of the locality but the whole country, were indebted to Mr. Wyld for proposing to erect a building which would be a credit to our metropolis. The following resolution was finally agreed to: "That this meeting expresses its thanks to James Wyld, Esq., M.P., for his exertions to rescue Leicester-square from its present dilapidated condition, and expresses its concurrence in the plans of Mr. Wyld, for the erection of his great globe in the centre of the square." A committee, composed of the following gentleman, Messrs. Hunter, Child, Ridgway, Parsons, Martle, Nind, and Hodges, was appointed to watch the interests of the inhabitants.

EXTENSIVE FIRE IN THE STRAND.—A few minutes before seven o'clock on Wednesday morning, the family of Mr. White, of the Temple Divan, St. Clement's-churchyard, very narrowly escaped suffocation from fire. It appeared that Mr. White, his wife and children, slept on the third floor, over the billiard room, and at seven o'clock were aroused by a strong smell of smoke. All escaped to the roof, except Mrs. White, whose weight, it appears, broke down a table on which she was standing. Fortunately Robinson, with a Royal Society fire escape, was present, and, being a powerful man, he ascended his ladder, entered the attic, and, taking Mrs. White in his arms, brought her down without injury. Water was plentiful, and several engines having speedily arrived, in about an hour the fire was extinguished, but not until the billiard and other rooms, with the whole of their contents, had been destroyed.

MINISTERIAL VISIT TO THE GAOL OF NEWGATE.—On Wednesday, immediately after the conclusion of the trial of the "Sloanes," which will be found in another portion of our columns, Lord John Russell, accompanied by Sir George Grey, and other officials connected with the inspection of prisons, arrived at Newgate, for the purpose of witnessing and inspecting the various arrangements made therein by the direction of the visiting justices for the health and care of the prisoners. Lord John Russell and Sir George Grey were received by the Lord Mayor, Sir James Duke, M.P., Alderman Humphery, &c., and escorted by them through the prison.

The Provinces.

FATAL LEAP FROM A RAILWAY TRAIN.—On Saturday evening last John Houghton, sawyer, of Bispam, got in one of the carriages of a late train at Ormskirk, without a ticket, for Rufford. In order to escape detection he leaped out of the carriage when it was about sixty yards from Rufford station, but unfortunately he was thrown forward, and his head came in contact with one of the rails. He died shortly afterwards from the effects of the injuries received.

PROSECUTIONS FOR THE ILLEGAL MANUFACTURE OF MALT.—At the Shire Hall, Nottingham, on Saturday last, several malsters, carrying on business in that county, were fined in penalties amounting to £3,400 for various infractions of the excise laws.

SIR JOHN BARROW'S MONUMENT STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.—During the thunderstorm which raged on the 30th ult. at Ulverston the monumental tower erected to the memory of the late Sir John Barrow, Bart., was struck with lightning. The tower, which has just been completed, is in the form of a lighthouse, 100 feet high. It is erected upon Hoad, a hill near Ulverstone, standing above the level of the sea upwards of 400 feet. No conductory rod has yet been put up. The electric fluid has struck the dome—but whether inside or outside is a mere matter of speculation—and dislodged nine huge stones, weighing at least three hundred a piece, five of which have fallen down the inside of the tower, and four down the outside.

A WORKMAN upon the Liverpool and Manchester Railway was killed on Saturday last, at the foot of the Sutton incline. He was injudiciously crossing the line when an engine came up, knocked him down, and passed over his body.

REPRESENTATION OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.—The writ for South Notts has at length been received by the High Sheriff, and Tuesday, the 11th inst., at half-past ten o'clock in the morning, has been fixed upon for the nomination to take place at Newark. The show of hands will then, no doubt, be greatly in favour of Mr. Barrow; and if a poll be demanded by the nominator of Lord Newark, as doubtless will be the case, the Friday and Saturday following are to be devoted to recording votes in the several districts. The official declaration will be made on the 18th inst., at the place of nomination.

CURIOUS ROBBERY.—On Tuesday the magistrates of Bristol were engaged in hearing a charge of felony preferred under somewhat curious circumstances against a man named Grizzle. The prisoner, who had the appearance of a waggoner, was accused of having stolen six cows, and during the examination the magistrates' clerk stated the following particulars. The cows were stolen from the farm of Mr. J. Smith Aldwick, in the county of Gloucester, who, upon discovering his loss, instituted inquiries, and the result was that he found that Grizzle and his wife, a young woman to whom he had only been married a fortnight, had fled to Bristol for the purpose of embarking to New York in an emigrant ship called the Mary Anne Peters, which was ready to sail, and only awaited a wind. Having procured a magistrates' warrant, Smith followed them, and at Bristol got it backed by a justice, having the necessary jurisdiction. He also procured the assistance of two constables of the Clifton division of police, and having engaged a boat and waterman he proceeded down the river, boarded the ship and commenced a search, leaving the waterman alongside to take charge of the boat and await their return with the prisoner. The latter when the boat came alongside took alarm, and hid himself over the bows, and while the constables were searching below he offered the boatmen two sovereigns to row him ashore. The golden bait proved too tempting to be resisted, and two boatmen complied, although the attempt proved nearly fatal to both of them, as the boat had a narrow escaped of being swamped off the Dung Ball. They got ashore, however, but were soon pursued by the farmer and the officers in a steam-tug boat, who succeeded in apprehending the object of their pursuit in the Porthead Hotel. While on board the police sergeant had learned from some of the emigrants that the prisoner's wife had sent a person on shore to carry him a bag of sovereigns, so that he might have the means of escaping to Liverpool or Plymouth, and taking ship from one of those ports. The officers were, accordingly, on the look out, and seeing a boat with some landsmen in it, they gave chase to it, and obtained from one of the men, who confessed that he had received it from the prisoner, a bag containing £116 8s. The magistrates' clerk further stated that the vessel had sailed with the wives of the prisoner and the other man, both of whom had lost their passage. The prisoner was sent for examination before the Gloucestershire magistrates.

SHOCKING RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—On the 31st ult. a fatal accident happened at Chesterfield Railway Station to John Bombard, stoker of the Stavely coal train. The train had, it appears, come from Stavely that morning, laden with coal, and Bombard was engaged coupling the empty waggons together in the north siding of the station, previous to taking them back; the train was then set in motion, but Bombard, from some unexplained cause, had not got on the engine at the proper time, and running after it, got upon the step, but not having time to get further, he had to stand in that possession; almost simultaneously with this circumstance the engine reached a post erected by the side of the railway, and there not being sufficient room for him to pass, he was crushed fearfully in the lower part of his body; one of his legs was literally turned round by the force of the collision, and in falling he was still further mutilated by being struck by the connecting rods. He was taken to the Swan Inn, and medical attendance procured, but he was so dreadfully injured that he died in about an hour and a half from the time of the accident.

WINDSOR ELECTION.—The new writ moved for on Tuesday night in the House of Commons, for the election of a Member of Parliament for the royal borough, in consequence of Mr. Hatchell having been appointed Attorney-General of Ireland, has created very little excitement, in consequence of there not appearing the most remote probability of any attempt being made to oppose that gentleman's re-election.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT COLCHESTER.—On Tuesday morning an accident, resulting in the loss of two lives, occurred in Maidenburgh-street. Two waggons and a tumbrel laden with beans, the property of Mr. Gladfield, of the Wick-farm, St. Osyth, were proceeding down the street, which is a very deep descent, when the waggon acquired such an impetus (the hill being paved and there being no skid on the wheel) that the thill-horse was overpowered, and the whole team descended the hill at full speed. On arriving at the bottom the two men who had charge of the waggon, unable to retain their hold of the horses, were knocked down, and the wheels of the waggon passing over them their death was instantaneous. A coroner's inquest was held on the bodies and a verdict of "Accidental death" returned.

MEASURES are in progress for the establishment of a Female Penitentiary for the whole of the West Riding of Yorkshire.

Wales.

HEAVY FLOODS.—The long-continuance of wet weather, joined with the late very heavy rains, have had the effect of completely flooding the lowlands in the Aberdare valley. The river Cynose spread over its banks, and completely inundated the country to such an extent that it was feared that the traffic on the line of railway would be interrupted, and damage to the line itself ensue. Fortunately, however, no injury was sustained. In the neighbourhood of Dowlais there has been an immense fall of rain which, with the torrents from the mountains, have inundated the country, rendering the roads perfectly impassible. The river Towy, in Carmarthenshire, has overflowed its banks and flooded the country to a great extent. The town and neighbourhood of Cardigan have been visited by terrific falls of rain, which have completely flooded the lower parts of the town, floating chairs, tables, beds, &c., in the houses, the torrents of water carrying everything before them. Much damage has in consequence been sustained in various parts.

Scotland.

PROVIDENTIAL ESCAPE.—The members of a certain officious fraternity which nestles on the borders, encountered the other day, in the prosecution of their vocation, a formidable foe. A box of questionable shape arrived at Tweedmouth from a Scottish town in the west, with an address, directing its further conveyance southwards. It was raised by the officers of the excise, and found heavy; it was shaken, but gave no satisfactory reply, the outer covering, which was of wool, was removed, but the inner case only excited greater curiosity. It was composed of lead securely soldered round the edges. It was evidently a prize. But how to get at it was the question. One of the searchers suggested that they should have the railway office poker heated, and with it melt the soldering. All agreed to this, but during the heating process, one of the officers, wiser than his fellows, suggested that as they must ultimately have a plumber to renew the fastening, they had better have him at once to undo it. This proceeding, though delaying their gratification, was acceded to. The plumber was procured, and he decided that it would be wiser to cut than to melt the solder, which he presently did; when an opening was made the contents were discovered to be—gunpowder! Had the heated iron but come in contact with this, what would have been the consequences? With "bated breath" the spectators congratulated each other on their escape, and heartily wished the suspected package a safe and speedy conveyance to its destination.—*North British Mail.*

SCOTCH SALMON.—Saturday last was the first day of the salmon season, and, as may be expected, the supply was not inordinate. The quality, however, was of a superior description. We saw salmon in Fyfe Place, caught in the Tay, and selling at so high a figure as 3s. 6d. the pound, with a very fair demand even at that price.—*Glasgow Mail.*

Ireland.

THE IRISH PORTER TRADE.—The Irish porter brewers are now carrying on a most prosperous trade, chiefly on account of the vast amount of the exports to England, where the consumption of "Dublin stout" has become immense. The principal establishment is that of Messrs. Guinness and Co.; but there are several other extensive breweries in this city, all of which are at full and constant work. It is stated that the net profits of the Messrs. Guinness amount to nearly £50,000 per annum. They have some hundreds of persons in their employment, and their arrangements are conducted upon a most liberal scale, whilst their charities are munificent. One of the partners in another Dublin brewery, which also carries on a large English trade, has just retired, taking £100,000 out of the firm as his proportion.

OPERATION OF THE POOR LAW.—In the Limerich union, which, since the famine, had been remarkable for the great extent of its pauperism, there had been a material diminution last summer, but latterly the workhouses have become excessively crowded, and the commissioners have found it necessary to remonstrate on the subject. The liabilities of the union now amount to £21,234.

A LARGE and influential meeting was held in the Royal Exchange, on the 31st ult., to promote the establishment of a packet station on the western coast of Ireland, and was in every sense a most important one. Several of the nobility, gentry, and merchants attended. A committee was appointed to carry out the objects of the meeting, and a deputation was also chosen to wait on the Lord Lieutenant to request the exercise of his influence in accomplishing those objects.

THE IRISH Tenant League has published an abstract of its accounts, from which it appears that, up to the 31st of December, the total receipts were £581 2s. 1d., and the disbursements, £522 7s 7½d., leaving a balance in hand of £58 14s. 5½d., which, by further subscriptions was, on the 22nd ult., swelled to £245 4s. 5½d. The further disbursements, however, have reduced that amount to £188 18s. 2d., and the liabilities of the League at that date was £261 10s. 4d. The expenses of the Limerick election appear to have exceeded £400, and of this sum £200 are still due. The deputations to the counties cost £120.

NEW IRISH MUNICIPAL BILL.—The *Limerick Chronicle* says—"Government intend to bring forward a general municipal bill for Ireland, assimilating the corporations to the form in Dublin, thereby concentrating all local boards in the municipal body, and in this event the government of St. Michael's parish, in this city, will be transferred to the corporation."

ROMAN CATHOLIC FRIARS.—OFFICIAL INQUIRY.—The *Cork Examiner* says that instructions have been received by parties in that city, "to institute inquiries as to the exact number of the friars belonging to the different religious orders established in Cork." That journal adds, "It is presumed, whether justly or not it is impossible to say, that those inquiries—which have been also commenced in other places—are with a view to some hostile movement on the part of the government."

THE NEW PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES.—Several of the Irish boroughs will have a smaller constituency under the New Franchise Act, than they had under the old law. Kinsale, of which Mr. Hawes is the present representative, has had its qualified electors reduced fully one half, from 298 to 140. This was caused mainly by the reduction of the valuation of the borough by the Poor Law Guardians, to the extent of twenty five per cent.

THE BOARD OF TRINITY COLLEGE have acquired the identical sword worn by King William at the Battle of the Boyne, and which is now in their museum. This precious relic cost them 300 guineas.—*Saunders' News Letter.*

THE POOR LAW DIFFICULTY.—As the winter advances, the embarrassment of some of those unions which had been most deeply involved during the famine, are increasing. The *Limerick Reporter* states, that the Directors of the National Bank of Ireland have determined not to honour the application of the Board of Guardians for a further advance of £2,500, until the outstanding debt shall have been paid, and that the works of an auxiliary workhouse have, in consequence, been suspended. An extraordinary meeting of the Guardians has been convened, to consider the course to be adopted under such difficult and disheartening circumstances.

RE-ADJUSTMENT OF RENTS.—It is singular that reductions of rent have been more general in the northern province than in other parts of the country, although the farmers in Ulster are in far better circumstances than the same class in the other provinces. The *Newry Examiner* states that, upon the estate of Alexander Henry, Esq., a permanent reduction of thirty per cent. has been made to the tenantry, after a re-valuation of the lands, in order "to enable the tenants to live and to obtain for himself satisfactory payments." The tenantry of Lord Powerscourt, in Tyrone, have obtained an abatement of twenty per cent. on the rents now in course of payment.

THE O'CONNELL FUND.—The *Limerick Chronicle*, of Saturday, contains the following:—"Mr. John O'Connell proceeds on Monday morning for London to attend the opening of Parliament. The sum collected by the committee of Mr. John O'Connell's fund, in this city, exceeds £200, of which £100 will be fowarded to him previous to leaving Dublin to attend his Parliamentary duties."

DUNGARVAN ELECTION.—Under the head of "The Representation of Dungarvan," the *Cork Reporter* says:—"Our Dungarvan correspondent, writing under date January 29, says: 'Long threatening comes at last. Mr Maguire's opponent has entered the field. Several open houses are now in full work, and bread and tea are dealt out in profusion to the electors. The new candidate, who is a Whig, is supported by the Duke of Devonshire, and all the local landlord influence. Dr. Hally, P.P., also goes with the government man. To think of raising the wind here by the cry of 'repeal,' is all moonshine.'" The new candidate for this borough, upon the Whig and Liberal interest, is Mr. Norton, formerly Chief Justice of Newfoundland, and now a member of the English bar.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS.—Mr. Geo. Bennett, Q.C., has retired from the Crown prosecutorship of the Munster circuit; and the government have determined to appoint a member of the bar for each county in the province. Mr. Sergeant O'Brien gets Limerick; Mr. O'Hea, Cork; and Mr. R. Henn, one of the other counties.

DUBLIN UNIVERSITY.—A royal commission of inquiry, similar to those issued for the English Universities, has been determined on by government for the University of Dublin, and has been already semi-officially announced to the heads of that institution. It is stated that this announcement was made in the course of an interview with some members of the college board, by Lord Clarendon himself, and as the news was, of course, as unwelcome as it was unexpected, it is invidiously added, that it was not announced until after the University had published its address to her Majesty, on the Papal aggression. The Archbishop of Dublin is to be the head of the commission.

CONSECRATION OF THE BISHOP OF ROSS.—The Right Rev. Dr. Keane, the New Roman Catholic Bishop of the new diocese of Ross, was consecrated on Sunday last. The ceremony was performed with great pomp in the parish chapel of Middleton, where Dr. Keane had been parish priest, the consecrating prelate being the Roman Catholic Metropolitan Bishop of Munster, the Most Rev. Dr. Slattery. There were five other Roman Catholic Bishops present on the occasion.

RAILWAY DEFAULTER.—In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Monday, a verdict was obtained by the Wicklow, Wexford, and Waterford Railway Company, against a defaulting shareholder; and judgment was allowed to go by consent in four other similar cases.

PROGRESS OF EMIGRATION.—In former years there had been comparatively little emigration, unless during the spring months; but, since the famine, emigrants have been quitting our shores all the year round. Even in the depth of winter, many of our population have braved a steerage passage across the Atlantic, in their anxiety to escape the miseries of their condition here. Already there are preparations at some of the ports for the opening of the spring emigration, and large amounts are received by each American mail from persons who had emigrated, to enable their relatives to join them in the "new country." At the various banking establishments, but chiefly at the branches of the Provincial and National Banks of Ireland throughout the country, orders varying in amount from £3 to £12, are daily paid, to a very considerable amount, amongst the inhabitants of the towns or the peasantry of the rural districts. It is stated that no less a sum than £44,000 was remitted to the city of Limerick alone, within the last year, for emigration purposes.

THE TENANT-RIGHT MOVEMENT.—A tenant-right meeting was held in Banbridge, county Down, on Monday, which was attended by several Roman Catholic and Presbyterian clergymen, and at which resolutions similar to those adopted at former tenant-right meetings were agreed to.

ILLEGAL CONFEDERACIES.—A proclamation from the Lord-Lieutenant appears in the *Dublin Gazette* of Tuesday night, intimating that it has been represented to his Excellency that "illegal confederacies and combinations have been entered into by divers ill-disposed persons, in the baronies of Upper and Lower Dundalk, and adjoining districts in the county of Louth, and that in consequence thereof, several serious outrages have been committed upon persons and property in the said county," and offering a reward of one hundred pounds for such information as will lead to the conviction of any of the parties engaged in such confederacies.

ABOLITION OF THE VICEROYALTY.—Earl Talbot has addressed a letter to Mr. Long, one of the secretaries of the late anti-centralisation meeting at the Rotunda, in which he says:—"I was prepared last session to have given my vote against the bill for the abolition of the Viceroyalty, if it had come to the vote; and I shall be still more ready in the approaching contest to resist it, if it should (which I do not at all apprehend) be again brought forward." Lord Carew is also opposed to the abolition.

Central Criminal Court.

The February session of the Central Criminal Court commenced on Monday, before the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, the Recorder, the Common Sergeant, Alderman Sir J. Duke, the sheriffs, under-sheriffs, &c.

PERJURY CASES.—Charles Hailing surrendered to take his trial for misdemeanour. Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Parnell were for the prosecution, and Mr. Huddlestone appeared for the defendant.—The misdemeanour imputed to the defendant was, that upon the trial of a cause, "Marks v. Boulnois," in the Court of Exchequer, he had, in giving evidence for the defendant in the action, committed wilful and corrupt perjury.—Mr. Hawkins, after the examination of Marks had been concluded, said he had ascertained that a witness who was to have been called to confirm his testimony was not in attendance, and under these circumstances he felt that he had no other alternative but to withdraw from the prosecution.—A verdict of Not Guilty was accordingly taken.

There was another indictment against Henry Hailing, the brother of the defendant, arising out of the same circumstances, but in this case no evidence was offered, and the jury returned a verdict of Not Guilty.

An elderly female, named Ann Rinckman, surrendered to take her trial for perjury. The prosecutor did not appear, and no counsel was instructed on his behalf.—Mr. Payne, on behalf of the defendant, applied for her acquittal, and put in an affidavit to the effect that the prosecution had been instituted solely for the purpose of extorting money. The prosecutor, it appeared, had been a tenant to the defendant, and she had sued him in the County Court for rent, and to obtain possession of her premises, and upon her obtaining a verdict against him, it appeared that he had gone before the grand jury and preferred a bill against her for perjury, alleged to have been committed by her in her evidence before the County Court judge. The defendant, upon the finding of the grand jury, had been compelled to give bail; but it was evidently never intended to go on with the charge.—The Recorder thought it would be better to postpone the case to next session, in order that fresh notice should be given, and if the prosecutor did not then appear, he should certainly estreat his recognisances.

STEALING A COAT.—Thomas Cullum, 75, pleaded guilty to the charge of stealing a coat from the waiting-room of the South Eastern Railway station at London-bridge.—He was sentenced to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for six months.

STEALING A WATCH.—Henry Everett, 23, a private in the Royal Artillery, pleaded guilty to two indictments, one of which charged him with stealing a watch and chain, the property of a comrade named Johnston, and the other with obtaining a quantity of flour by means of false pretences.—He was sentenced to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for six months.

A LAWYER SWINDLED.—Joseph Armstrong, 39, labourer, a shabby looking man, was indicted for a misdemeanour.—The facts of the case were these. The prosecutor, a Mr. Walter Justice, is a solicitor, living at No. 6, Bernard-street, Russell-square, and has a client named Rowe, a blind gentleman, whom he (prosecutor) had never seen, but transacted whatever business had passed between them by correspondence. On the 18th of last November a cab drew up to his office, and a blind man, assisted by a boy, got out and came in. The man introduced himself to him as Mr. Charles Rowe, and then requested his (prosecutor's) opinion about some business, and he, thinking him to be his client, at once entered into details, without asking him any further questions, the circumstance of the man's being blind quite throwing him off his guard. The *soi-disant* Mr. Rowe then stated that he had a person named James Armstrong, who occupied a house of his at Nine Elms-road, and that he owed to him (Rowe) the sum of £68 moneys lent, and besides the recovery of that sum he wanted to consult him about another matter, which was that Armstrong, having received notice to quit the house at Nine Elms at Michaelmas, had requested the favour of staying a few days until he was suited, but that he had not gone out. The prosecutor told him that his remedy would be to apply for the whole quarter, upon which the self-styled Mr. Rowe instructed him to write for it, and also for the £68. He further added that he had found a tenant for the house that the man Armstrong occupied, and that he should want a pair of leases drawn up, and would get prosecutor to do it. He then left, and in pursuance of these directions prosecutor wrote as directed; but before the blind man left, he having heard that his client had moved from where he had been accustomed to correspond with him, asked for the new address. The blind man pulled from his pocket a letter, the envelope of which had been through the post, and bore the address, "Chas. Rowe, 3, Warwick-street, Vauxhall-road," and this further tended to throw prosecutor off his guard, as he understood it was somewhere in that direction his client Mr. Rowe had moved to. The letter having been sent through the post to Mr. Armstrong, on the 20th prisoner came to prosecutor's office shortly after ten, and seeing prosecutor expressed his surprise that Mr. Rowe should have written to him about the £68, as he had not any other intention but to pay it, and that with regard to the rent, he would pay a half-quarter, and that he would be round that day at four with the whole amount, the money lent and the two quarters, making in the whole between £80 and £90, and further desired that prosecutor should get from his client, Mr. Rowe, some deeds, the property of his (Armstrong's) wife, which had been deposited when the loan was made. Shortly after he was gone the blind man came as before, and expressed his gratification at the manner in which the matter had been settled. Prosecutor then mentioned to him about the deeds, and Rowe said he had deposited them with a friend and should require some money to release them, and eventually borrowed £68 from prosecutor by cheque, promising to be back by three with the deeds, when the prosecutor could pay himself out of the money Armstrong brought. Neither Rowe nor Armstrong coming at the appointed time, prosecutor sent to the bankers and found that the cheque had been paid. He then discovered that Rowe did not live at Vauxhall, nor Armstrong at Nine-elms, and the following artful method had been adopted:—Armstrong had got a lady, keeping a cigar shop in Warwick-street, Vauxhall, from whom he bought some trifling article, to allow a letter addressed to him, as Mr. Charles Rowe, to be left there, and in the same manner did he get the letter addressed to him from the prosecutor, requesting some one at Nine Elms to ask the postman for the district if a letter for him had been sent, and if so, to take it. A reward of £10 was then offered for their apprehension; and a bill falling into the hands of the cabman who had driven prisoner and the blind man to prosecutor's offices, led to the apprehension of Armstrong, but the other had not been found. It further appeared that the blind man and prisoner had been well known to each other for years, and had passed by a variety of names.—The jury found him Guilty, and he was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment.

FORGING A MILITARY PASS.—James Lawes, 21, a private in one of the regiments of Foot Guards, pleaded guilty to a charge of uttering a forged travelling pass upon the Eastern Counties Railway, with intent to cheat the directors of that company.—Mr. Ballantine, who was instructed on behalf of the prosecution, said it appeared that by some arrangement between the government and the directors of the different railways, soldiers, when on duty, were permitted to travel on the several lines at a very reduced scale of charge, and the usual course was for the commanding officer of the regiment to sign a sort of order, upon which the soldier was permitted to travel at the reduced fare. In the instance now in question, the defendant had presented a pass, which purported to be signed by Lieutenant-Colonel Hay, who was his commanding officer, and upon this pass he was permitted to travel to Norwich. It subsequently turned out that the document was forged, and inquiries were made, which led to the present prosecution.—The prisoner put in a written paper, in which it was stated that upon the day in question he had obtained a furlough to enable him to go and see his father, who lived at Norwich, and who was on the point of death, and having missed the parliamentary train, and not having sufficient money to pay the fare by the ordinary trains, he was induced to commit the offence in order that he might get to Norwich in time to see his father before he died.—Lieutenant-Colonel Hay said the prisoner had been in his regiment for two years, and was a very good young man, and he would have been promoted but for this transaction. He also said that he thought the prisoner had been led into the scrape by some of the older soldiers.—The Pay-Sergeant of the prisoner's regiment also gave him a good character; and, in answer to a question put by the court, he said that a furlough had been granted to the prisoner to enable him to go to Norwich to see his father, who was dangerously ill.—Mr. Ballantine said that on this same day five other forged passes were used upon the railway.—The Recorder, in passing sentence, said there was no doubt that the prisoner had committed a very serious offence, and the company had acted very properly in bringing the matter forward as a caution to others. At the same time there were some favourable circumstances in his case, and he should, therefore, not feel himself called upon to subject him to a severe or degrading punishment; but it must be perfectly well understood by the prisoner and all others in his position, that if the offence was repeated, a punishment of that description would most certainly be inflicted. He then ordered the prisoner to be confined in Newgate for one week.

THE ROBBERY IN CORNHILL.—Joseph Bassett, 42, watchmaker, pleaded Guilty to stealing a quantity of musical boxes and clocks, valued at £100, the property of Joseph Savory, his master. He was sentenced to seven years' transportation.

THE FORGERY AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.—John Watson, a respectable looking young man, not described in the calendar, was indicted for forging and uttering an order for the payment of money, with intent to defraud Messrs. Fox and Henderson, the contractors for the erection of the glass palace. The prisoner had forged a time ticket, purporting to be for a man named Lovell, who, he alleged, was discharged, and had obtained the sum of 14s. 7d., but at the end of the week Lovell, who had not left the works, applied for his wages, when the fraud was discovered, the prisoner having by that time quitted his employment. The jury found the prisoner Guilty.—It was proved that, in 1849, prisoner had been convicted at this court of a burglary, and imprisoned for one year. He was ordered to be transported for seven years.

CHARGE OF STEALING BROKEN VICTUALS.—Ann Preston, a most respectable-looking elderly woman, was indicted for stealing 5lbs. weight of bread, 2 oz. of cheese, 11 oz. of mutton, and 3 lbs. of artichokes, the property of Henry Dixon; and Mary Rednap, a decent, but very poor-looking woman, with an infant in her arms, was indicted for having received the same, knowing them to have been stolen. Mr. Robinson prosecuted, and Mr. Woollett defended.—A policeman said that on the 10th of January, he was set to watch the house, when he saw Rednap enter with her basket, and when she came out again he asked what she had got in it. She said a bit of bread and cheese. Witness looked and found some mutton, bread, a piece of cheese, and some artichokes.—The articles were produced in court, and consisted of the broken half of a 2lb. loaf, about a fourth part of another, and a few broken pieces, all very mouldy, a small piece of cheese, some small and very withered potatoes and artichokes, two or three scaps of mutton fat, and the bone of a leg of mutton, with a small portion of meat about the knuckle.—The Common Sergeant told the jury the question they had to decide was whether Preston might not think she had a right to give what she had.—The jury, having been locked up some time, acquitted the prisoners.

STEALING CHAFF.—Samuel Watson, 41, labourer, was indicted for stealing two bushels and a half of chaff, value 10s., the property of William Reeve Mihell; and Samuel Saxby, who surrendered to take his trial, was charged with feloniously receiving the property, knowing it to have been stolen.—It appeared that the prosecutor is a farmer at Dagenham, in Essex, and the prisoner Watson was a carter in his service. On the day mentioned in the indictment he was sent to London with a waggon and four horses to fetch a load of dung, and it appeared that he was permitted to take any quantity of chaff he considered necessary to feed his horses during the journey upon such an occasion. He started late at night, and about four o'clock in the morning he was observed to stop at the White Hart public-house, in the Green-lane, Barking, which was kept by the prisoner Saxby, and a policeman saw him take a full sack out of the waggon and carry it into a shed in the yard, where he was joined by Saxby. The policeman went up to the parties, and upon putting some questions to them the prisoner Saxby at first denied that anything had been brought upon his premises by the other prisoner, but upon the constable making a search he found the sack of chaff in the shed, and Saxby then requested him to say nothing about the matter.—Mr. Parnell, on behalf of the prisoners, said the defence he was instructed to offer was that there was no intention on the part of either of the prisoners to commit any offence, and that the fact was that the chaff had been deposited by Watson in the shed in order that he might be able to feed his horses with it on his return journey.—Evidence was adduced to make out this defence, and several witnesses gave the prisoner Saxby an excellent character.—The jury returned a verdict of Not Guilty.

TRIAL AND SENTENCE OF MR. AND MRS. SLOANE.

At ten o'clock on Wednesday, the learned judges, Mr. Justice Coleridge and Mr. Justice Cresswell took their seats on the bench, and the defendants, George Sloane and his wife Theresa Sloane, were placed at the bar. The male defendant did not appear to exhibit much emotion, but his wife was very much affected, and she appeared hardly able to stand. She wore a thick veil over her face, and her features could not be discerned without difficulty. A chair was placed for her, and she remained seated during the proceedings. The counsel for the prosecution were Mr. Montagu Chambers, Q.C., and Mr. Huddlestone. Mr. Clarkson and Mr. Bodkin were counsel for the defendants. The prisoners were indicted for misdemeanour, and they both pleaded Not Guilty to the first two counts of the indictment, and Guilty to all the others.—Mr. Chambers having addressed the jury, Mr. Justice Coleridge said that the case had been opened very fairly by the learned counsel for the prosecution, and it appeared to him that, upon the facts as stated, the two first counts in the indictment could not be supported. According to the opening, at the time she first went into the service she was between fourteen and fifteen years of age, and at the time this offence was alleged to have been committed she was between sixteen and seventeen; and it appeared to him perfectly clear, that a person of that age could not come within the definition of a person of tender years. The duty of a master and mistress to supply a servant with food arose from an implied contract between them; and it was unnecessary for him to say that they did not sit there to decide upon breaches of contract; and the only question they had to consider was, whether a criminal offence had been committed.—Mr. Justice Cresswell was of the same opinion, and the jury found the defendants Not Guilty upon the counts referred to.—Mr. Clarkson then made an application to the Court to be permitted to put in affidavits in mitigation of punishment. Mr. Chambers said that if the application were granted, he should apply to be allowed to put in affidavits in answer to those made by the defendants.—In consequence of an observation that fell from the Court, Mr. Clarkson withdrew his application. The defendants were then removed from the bar. At a later period of the day they were brought up for judgment. Mr. Justice Coleridge addressed them in the following terms:—George Sloane and Theresa Sloane, you have pleaded guilty to several counts of an indictment which charged you with having, in various ways, and upon various occasions, assaulted and ill-treated a girl, name Jane Wilbred, who was a servant in your employ. We have read with great care the depositions that were taken in your presence, before the magistrate, and we did not think it advisable to grant the application made by your counsel that you should be permitted to put in affidavits in answer to them and in mitigation, partly from the circumstance mentioned by him, namely, your poverty, and a desire therefore to avoid putting you to an unnecessary expense, and partly because there are certain facts and certain statements in those depositions which seem to speak for themselves and to defy contradiction. It seems that this young person—almost a child—an orphan, with no natural protector, came into your service, and it would seem that she was selected partly from the circumstance of her being an orphan, and having apparently a better constitution than some of the other girls, and therefore more likely to do you good service in the capacity in which you engaged her. For some time it appears that there was no reason for complaint on her part, but at length your course of treatment towards her appears to have entirely changed. Taking into consideration, however, the age of the girl and her opportunities of obtaining redress, the court does not consider that you are legally responsible upon that portion of the indictment, and your punishment will not be increased on account of it, but, at the same time, there is very little doubt that your conduct towards this poor girl has been most cruel in withholding from her proper Christian food. I say this because you know that the indictment not only charges you with withholding proper food, but also with forcing upon her matter at which nature revolts, and which I will not offend the ears of the court by further alluding to, it will be sufficient to say that you are charged with having forced upon her that which was nauseous, unwholesome, disgusting, and unnatural. One would have thought that the situation of that poor girl when she came into your service would have demanded especial protection at your hands, and that while she conducted herself well you would have assumed the position of her natural guardians. It is impossible not to take into consideration the position of the parties charged with such an offence. One of you, a gentleman devoted to the study and practice of the law, who must be taken to be thoroughly will versed in a matter so simple as this, and who must have known what was his duty. The other, I regret to say, a female and a wife—one who, it might have been thought, would have been the first to protect a young helpless girl who was placed in her power, but who, I regret to say, appears by the depositons to have taken an equal if not a greater part in all the indignities that were practised. When, after several months had elapsed, the condition of this unfortunate young girl became known through the kind and humane interference of a gentleman connected with your own profession, what was her condition? Emaciated, almost at the point of death, and so desperate her condition that she could not even be sent back to the union workhouse, but the only place she could be sent to was a hospital. The extreme state of emaciation to which she was reduced was evinced by the almost incredible reduction in her weight, and the cause of that emaciation appeared to be also clearly shown by the circumstance that the administration of proper wholesome food speedily resorted her to health and to original bulk. It also appears by the depositions that, upon the person of this unfortunate girl being examined, marks of violence, some of recent and some of older date, were discovered—those marks of violence extended all over her person, and evidently shewing that she had been subjected to a long and severe course of ill treatment. I do not state these circumstances with any view of giving unnecessary pain. I trust that reflection has already caused you more pain than any remarks or punishment the court can inflict. I have thought fit to make them, because it is quite right that the public should know that in every case, where it is satisfactorily shown that a master or mistress has acted with cruelty towards a servant, that the court is determined to institute a strict inquiry into all the circumstances, and to award severe punishment. It now only remains for me to pass upon you the sentence which has been decided upon for your offence, which is that you be severally imprisoned for two years.—The defendants heard the sentence without betraying any emotion, and at the close of the learned judge's address they retired hastily from the dock.—The Court was exceedingly crowded during the whole of the day.

HORRIBLE MURDER IN PARIS.

At the end of last month M. Desfontaines, manufacturer of bronzes, Rue St. Honoré, 422, was obliged to dismiss his man-servant for misconduct, and he applied to one of the *bureaux de placement* (register-offices for servants) for another. The *bureau* sent a young man of about twenty-four, who produced excellent certificates, and was at once admitted. Early in the morning of the 13th the new servant, who had then been about a fortnight in the place, went to the corner of the Rue Royale and bargained with two porters to convey three trunks, containing, he said, goods and patterns, to the Centre Railway, Boulevard de l'Hôpital. He then took the men to the house, and having told the *concierge* that his master had already left for the railway station, that he was about to join him, and that they should be absent several days, he helped the *commissionaires* to put the trunks, which were very heavy, into a hand-cart, and saw them leave. He afterwards went away himself. The neighbours were greatly surprised to see the shop of M. Desfontaines closed on the next and following days; but, to their inquiries, the *concierge* said that he had gone with his servant on a journey which was to last several days. As, however, he had not spoken of this journey either to his relations or most intimate friends, and as, moreover, his business required his presence, some alarm was felt, and a communication was made to the commissary of police. An application was even made to the prefect to cause an investigation. Things were in this state when, three or four days ago, the prefect of the department of the Indre informed the Minister of the Interior that a horribly-mutilated corpse had been found in the railway station at Châteauroux, in a trunk which had been sent from Paris. This trunk bore the address "Moreau, watchmaker, at Châteauroux," but no watchmaker of that name resided, or ever had resided, in the town. The trunk had been opened in consequence of a strong smell which issued from it. As soon as this intelligence reached the Prefecture of Police, the recent declaration respecting the disappearance of Monsieur Desfontaines was called to mind, and orders were given to send up the trunk and the body to Paris. Inquiries having been made as to when and by whom the box was sent from Paris, it was ascertained that on the 13th three trunks had been taken to the station by two *commissionaires*; that one, resembling a lady's travelling trunk, covered with oil cloth, and weighing 190 killogrammes, had been sent separately to Châteauroux, whilst the other two, which were more solid, larger, and heavier, had been taken by the owner to Bourges, and he had paid extra for them, as they exceeded the weight of luggage allowed to each passenger. The trunk arrived in Paris yesterday morning by the five o'clock train; it so happened that the two *commissionaires* who had conveyed it to the station arrived at the same time with the luggage of a person about to leave. They and the trunk were sent to the Prefecture of Police, and a judicial investigation was forthwith commenced. The trunk, or rather box, was fastened with a lock, and bound round with cords. The judicial authorities of the Indre had placed their seals on these cords. The address, "M. Moreau, watchmaker, at Châteauroux," was written in a bad hand, on a common piece of paper, and stuck on the box with wafers. As the box was rather small, the murderer had cut the body into pieces, and had deposited first the trunk, and then the legs, and then the arms and head. M. Desfontaines was a strong and courageous man, and the murderer must have killed him as he was asleep. It is supposed that, after the commission of the crime, the murderer possessed himself of everything of value in the shop and apartment, and packed the property in the two trunks. The apartment and shop have not yet been entered by the authorities. Yesterday telegraphic despatches were sent to the frontier to arrest the domestic, but from the length of time he has been away (seventeen days) there is every reason to believe that he has already got out of the country. It is supposed, from the direction he took, that he has gone to Spain.—*Galignani's Messenger.*

SURREY ADJOURNED SESSIONS.

The February sessions, for the county of Surrey, commenced on Monday morning at the Court-house, Newington-causeway, before Thomas Puckle, Esq. (chairman,) and a full bench of magistrates.

ROBBERY BY A LODGER.—Wm. Andrews, 21, was indicted for stealing two gold rings, a watch, two brooches, and other articles of jewellery the property of Henry Thomas Proctor, a beer shop keeper, 94, Lambeth-walk. Margaret Proctor, the wife of the prosecutor, stated, that on Wednesday evening, the 18th ult., the prisoner came to her house and asked whether she could let him a bedroom for a month or two, and that he wanted to come in that night. Believing, from his appearance, that he was a respectable man, she told him she had one to spare, and a little after twelve he retired to bed. On the following morning he came down and asked whether he could be supplied with breakfast, and being told that he could, he requested her to boil him two eggs, and that he was going out to be shaved, and would soon return to breakfast. As soon as he was gone she went into the bedroom where he had slept and found that the jewellery and watch had been stolen from the chest of drawers standing there. There was no key in the drawers having lost them some time previously. The prisoner, who declared his innocence, was found Guilty, and the court sentenced him to six months hard labour at Brixton.

THE JARROW COLLIERY.

We give the following extracts from a letter which has appeared in the MINING JOURNAL which painfully shows the alarming state of the Jarrow Colliery, and the daring recklessness of the manager, in enforcing the use of gunpowder in a pit charged with inflammable gas. After alluding to the vast sacrifices of life in this colliery, the writer proceeds to say:—

When I show the present condition of this mine, its mode of working, and the unusually dangerous processes to which it is subjected, the surprise will be that the catastrophe has not already arrived. Upwards of eight years ago the utmost ventilation in the main passages was little more than three feet per second, which dwindled down in the boards to one foot and one-eighth foot per second, two-thirds and one mile and a quarter an hour. (*Shields Mining Report*, p. 34.) It may be imagined what it is now, with eight years' workings, and the low-main seam additional, with no additional means to ventilate it.

At that period, three years before the last accident, the record of these facts contained this startling warning:—"That the air thus struggling through *these* extended passages, where gas oozes at every pore, should become surcharged and explosive, is a physical consequence as clear as a mathematical demonstration. In such a system there is everything to encourage the production of an explosive mixture, just sufficient air to prepare in some neglected recess the combustible, not enough to dilute or sweep it away. Perpetually ready, on the slightest derangement of any of its machinery, it falls naturally at once into a vast arena of subterraneous thunder, whose terrors a boy's finger can unloose." "This," said the *Economist*, "looks like prophecy read by the light of the late explosion; but it is only sober science and common sense, tracing the necessary connection which subsists between cause and effect."

Let us again apply them. Dr. John Hutchinson, of London, *who made some most interesting investigations* in the northern mines, when examined before the Committee of the Lords, in 1849, is asked by Lord Wharncliffe, (*Evidences*, p. 147—qy. 1447,) "What mine are you speaking of?" Answers, "I am speaking of Jarrow Colliery. *There was, by way of ventilation in the mine, just the least movement of air, like as if it were a man gently breathing upon you*, from the extremely constricted state of the shaft. When I was going towards that mine, I asked a miner, 'which is the way to Jarrow Colliery?' and he said, 'Sir, I do not know of any colliery; but there (pointing in the direction of the colliery) is a butcher's shop.' It was very distressing to see it, but more so to go into it."

And Mr. Wood, the distinguished viewer, is asked by the same Lords' Committee "What is the present state of Jarrow? we see that there are frequent accidents there." And says, "That is the same seam; it is the Bensham seam, and *it is an extremely fiery colliery, discharging a vast quantity of gas*, not only in the coal itself, but from the floor of the mine. I think those mines are certainly liable to accidents of considerable magnitude, under any circumstances; and *therefore the only way of working such mines* (as Jarrow,) *with safety, would be to work them entirely with lamps*." (*Minutes of Evidence*, p. 212.)

This view was taken of it by the proprietors and viewers after the last explosion; its terrors operated as a means of safety to the survivors, and no naked light was for the future to approach this gas magazine.

John Atkinson, deputy from Jarrow, examined by the same Committee, says (5499):—"At Jarrow they work all with lamps; no candles have been allowed to go down ever since the last explosion." This was said in 1849, but in 1850, growing *bold by immunity from accident, for they had been* nearly five years without any, the viewer resolved, in the face of every danger, on the introduction of naked lights for particular purposes, and the men, alarmed for their lives, struck work,—with what reason and result we shall shortly see. Considering the fatal antecedents of this mine, the absence of ventilation, the enormous quantity of gas, in 1830, by the force of a single blower, detaching six tons of solid coal, (*Phillips' Report*, 1850.—Appendix No. 4, by Thomas Taylor, p. 7,) and in 1841 filling 7,700,000 cubic feet of passages in three days. (*Shields Report*, p. 7,) and considering the conviction, right or wrong, that the Davy lamp is a security against circumstances so eminently dangerous, it might be supposed that the proprietor and viewer of such a mine would have been rejoiced to have secured their people and their works against the always impending destruction, by its continued adoption.

But no; a calculation is made, and it is found that the cost of working the coal by lamps, where gunpowder cannot be used for blasting, amounts in addition to about 3d. per score, *one penny per ton*, and would cost the colliery about £100 a year. So that, for this miserable saving, hundreds of valuable lives are to stand daily on the brink of a precipice, *to be plunged*, there is a physical certainty, at no distant day into the abyss; and for this, numbers of families living in constant terror, part daily from their husbands, fathers, sons, and brothers, with dread forebodings of each day; and, at last, their worst fears realised in the desolation of their hearths and homes; *and for this* a whole district is to be laid in mourning and in woe.

Was it not time for the Government to take the mines of Britain under surveillance, and the people under protection? Let us see.

The men, in June last, struck work, chiefly because they were ordered to blast with gunpowder, and to use naked lights to do so. I find this reference *to it in a local paper* (*Shields Gazette*, Aug. 9, 1850):—"With the wages question we have nothing to do, that being a matter which masters and men must settle between themselves; but we cannot refrain from expressing our astonishment that, in a pit so notoriously ill-ventilated and dangerous as Jarrow, the use of gunpowder as a means of blasting should be thought of, even although the hewers should not be asked to fire the shots, but this should be done by others. Loss of life will very probably be the consequence, and it is a heavy responsibility that man takes upon him who encounters such a risk for the sake of saving a little money." It was then agreed that there should be no blasting, and no naked lights, and the people, reassured, resumed work. But it appears the manager of this colliery had not foregone his fatal intention, and having *discharged* some of those men who had been most prominent in refusing to be accessories to their own destruction, he insisted soon after on the coal being blasted with gunpowder; and to slur over the practice, or for some other motive, which I will not seek to penetrate, he insists upon the men, at the same time, working with the safety-lamp. Working with the safety-lamp, and blasting gunpowder with candles, not only in the same mine, but in the very workings which, by the adoption of the lamp, are emphatically pronounced unsafe by the viewer! This is a most extraordinary course of conduct—indefensible, criminal, self-condemned, and big with fatal results.

The men, much alarmed, before the appointment of inspectors upon the 13th November, memorialised the Home Secretary, urgently praying his immediate attention to "*the great danger to which they* were exposed by their master introducing powder as a means of blasting coal in a pit so notoriously ill-ventilated as Jarrow." These are their own words, from their own document, and no better course could be adopted than by throwing themselves, in the emergency, upon the protection of Government. The charges against the men risking the lives of themselves and fellow-workmen by recklessness does not hold good here, at any rate, and probably in most other cases; but the silence of the grave is not easily broken.

Sir George Grey, it appears, had immediately on the appointment of the northern inspector of mines referred the workman's memorial to him, for we find him at Jarrow on the 29th November, accompanied by some of the men and the viewer, examining the condition of the mine. The nature of his opinions and suggestions, of which copies I understand were given to both masters and men, may be learnt from another memorial to the Home Secretary, which is expressed so well, and breathes such just and proper sentiments, that I cannot do better than leave this part of the case in their own hands.

"At a meeting of a large number of the workmen of Jarrow Colliery, held on Tuesday, December 17, I was requested to forward to you the following details regarding the safe working of the pit, and the continuance of the process of blasting the coal, as before complained of to you. The workmen are desirous to express their gratitude to you for the prompt attention in directing the inspector of mines for this district to examine into the causes of such complaint, and they beg to intimate that they were highly satisfied with the attention that inspector gave to the case, the result being a confirmation of the justness of such complaint, attended with kindly suggestions for removing the cause thereof, but which suggestions they regret to observe have not been attended to, nor has the practice of blasting the coal been discontinued, the master refusing to order the said practice to be laid off. Under these untoward circumstances, they feel themselves necessitated to appeal to you, trusting that something will be done to induce their employer to take some steps, either to increase the quantity of air, or to cease blasting the coal whilst the current of air is so weak as it is at present. They desire also to state that they have appealed to their employer on the subject, *but he refuses to adopt any such modes* as were so kindly suggested to him by the inspector, his answer being, that the whole of the workmen who thought themselves in danger might leave the colliery, thus leaving them no alternative but either to risk their lives or to allow their families to want bread, the depressed state of the coal trade rendering it next to impossible for them to obtain employment elsewhere. They would, therefore, humbly intreat (seeing the pit is subject to sudden irruptions of gas, commonly termed blowers, one of which, only a few days ago, was ignited by the firing of a shot, and created considerable alarm among them, but which, happily being of small force, was attended with no loss of life); that some attempt should be made by the authorities to take cognisance of the matter, and for which attention, in addition to the regard the case has already had at your hands, they will consider themselves under deep obligations.

"I am, Sir, on behalf of the workmen,
"Your humble and obedient servant,
"Dec. 20, 1850."

"The following are the names of the workmen who guarantee the above statements, but whose names are forwarded in confidence, seeing the individual who wrote the last letter to you has been discharged from his employment at the colliery."

The Home Secretary, true to his duty, it appears had sent further instructions to the inspector on the subject, and again we find him at the colliery on the 30th of December, investigating the case; and a day or two after the following report, found in the hands of the owners and workmen, each having received a copy, enables us to give it entire:

"NEWCASTLE, Dec. 31.—Having yesterday again visited the east workings of the colliery, I have to observe, in reference to my former report, as follows:—1. That the quantity of air passing into the colliery is considerably increased by sundry measures.—2. That the doubling of the cross-cut doors is incomplete, inasmuch as one of the doors is only a swing door, instead of a frame door.—3. But, notwithstanding the increase of air, upon viewing the continual extension and change of circumstances in these workings, the universal system of bratticeing, and the number of swing doors, together with the acknowledged necessity of working entirely with safety lamps, I am bound to declare against giving my sanction to the practice of firing shots with candles, even under the discretion of the overman and deputies, in a seam six feet high, and so liable to sudden discharges of inflammable gas."—Signed by the Inspector.

The increase of air named in the first article is only a portion drawn from another part of the mine, and sent to this point of greatest danger, or rather immediate alarm, weakening that other part. There is no means, and no increased power has been attempted to be applied for ventilation—the mine remains exactly as it has ever been in that respect. And I know that the entire air consists of little more than 7,000 cubic feet per minute, split and divided amongst about sixteen working boards, giving in them an imperceptible breathing of air—not a mile an hour.

The writer then alludes to the Walls End Colliery, where the same description of coals are worked, and where the viewer will not allow a shot to be fired; or a candle to go within a mile of such workings; and concludes as follows:—

If any viewer is allowed at his pleasure to precipitate British subjects to destruction, to take the *exact course to produce it, to set* aside the repeated warnings of experience and clear consequences, to defy the officers of Government appointed to protect the miners and the mines, and repudiate the opinions and practice of experienced viewers, then farewell to Davy lamps, inspectors, and all appliances of safety.

If one viewer may so act, so may all, and British mining, instead of advancing in safety and in science, will again retrograde, under such auspices, into a state of barbarism. This faint description of the condition of things here, will, I earnestly hope, be in time to aid in arresting, what I cannot but conceive, an impending calamity.

THE MINERS OF THE NORTH.

A meeting of the miners of Handsworth Woodhouse, near Sheffield, was held on the 29th ult., to reorganise the Miners' Association of Great Britain. At the appointed time, seven o'clock, the large room belonging to Mr. John Stamforth was filled. After the appointment of a chairman, Messrs. Daniels and Clark addressed the meeting in a masterly manner, showing the benefits that would result from a union of masters and men in destroying competition, which is fast reducing the small capitalist to bankruptcy, and the working man to the bastile. The address gave entire satisfaction, and was listened to with the greatest attention. Thirty members were enrolled, and a meeting was appointed to be held on the Saturday following to form a committee for carrying out the above object. The petition for an Eight Hours' Bill was numerously signed by the meeting.

DERBY AND NOTTINGHAM MINERS.

A public meeting of the miners of Shipley and its vicinity was held on Monday last, in the Market-place, Shipley, and by adjournment at the White Lion Inn: the large room of which was crowded.

Mr. W. WALKER, of Clay-cross, was called to the chair, and opened the meeting with some very sensible remarks.

The following resolutions and petition were moved by Messrs. CLARK, BROWN, HENSON, and COTTERILL, and ably supported by Mr. W. DANIELLS, in a long speech, which was loudly cheered:—

"That this meeting is of opinion that, while almost everything is improving, the condition of the miners of Great Britain is getting worse, and being convinced that they cannot protect their only property, which is their labour, unless they are *united together, and cultivate a spirit of love and* friendship towards each other; therefore, this meeting resolves to join and support the Miners' National Association, being convinced that that society, if properly carried out, has a tendency to benefit both masters and men, and will injure no party. We are the more determined to join the above association, as one of its objects is to settle all differences between masters and men by arbitration and fair argument, instead of having recourse to disastrous strikes."

"That this meeting is convinced, by dear-bought experience, that among the manifold grievances by which the mining trade is now suffering, that underselling each other among the masters, and over working among the men, are not the least evils; consequently, in order to remedy this injurious state of things, and to remove the ignorance now prevailing among the mining population, we resolve to petition the legislature to pass an Eight Hours Bill for the working and regulating the mines and collieries of Great Britain, so that we may have time to obtain information ourselves, and be enabled to give a proper education to our children."

"To the Honourable the Commons of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled, the petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth,

"That your petitioners are miners, and from the nature of our employment are subjected to many and various dangers; that we are surrounded by noxious life and health-destroying gasses, and are, for the greater part of the winter, shut out from the light of the day. That owing to the hard and long hours of labour to which your petitioners are subjected, premature old age and early death are common among us.

"That your petitioners deplore the ignorance which unhappily prevails among the mining population, and are convinced that this great evil can never be remedied whilst the present long hours of working in mines, and the physical exhaustion consequent upon the hard, unnatural labour among miners continues; therefore, your petitioners earnestly pray your honourable house to pass an Eight Hours Bill for the working and regulating the mines and collieries of Great Britain, to especially apply to all boys and young men employed in the mines under eighteen years of age, so that they may have time to obtain proper instruction, and that the present deplorable ignorance may be effectually removed.

"And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray."

It was then resolved:—"That a short report of the proceedings be sent to the people's paper—the *Northern Star*."

Three hearty cheers were then given for the union, and the meeting broke up.

After the public meeting, a delegate meeting for the two counties was held, delegates being present from most of the mining districts.

Mr. WALKER was again called to the chair, and Mr. W. DANIELLS was chosen county corresponding secretary.

After the local and financial business were disposed of, and the report of the delegates given in, from which it appeared that the union was in a prosperous state, the following resolutions were passed:—

1st.—"That a Victim Fund be established, and that 1d. per week, per member, be paid thereto."

2nd.—"That we strongly advise all organised mining districts to do all they can to bring out again the *Miners' Advocate*; and, in the meantime, that Mr. Daniells be requested to write a pamphlet on the question—'What do the Miners want?' Such to be sold at a cheap rate."

3rd.—"That the Victims pay be 7s. per week, and 3s. 6d. per week boys."

4th.—"That beds be provided for the lecturers, at the respective places which they may be at."

A most excellent union spirit was displayed by the delegates, all being determined to do their best to forward the good cause.

Meetings have lately been held at Old Basford, Underhill, Cossa, Ripley, Heage, North Wingfield, Hunston, Dronfield, Woodhouse, Handsworth, Woodhouse Mill, Whittington, Staveley, Brimmington, Swanwick, Heanor, &c.

Five new lodges have been opened, and many added to the ranks of the association. All the above meetings were addressed by Mr. Daniells, and several by Mr. Clark.

THE MANCHESTER CONFERENCE.

WEDNESDAY.

The minutes of the previous day were read and confirmed.

The secretary read the following letter from Mr. Duncan Sherrington, of Glasgow:—

"48, Rumford-street, Bridgeton, Glasgow,
January 25th, 1851.

"DEAR SIR,—I have no doubt but the Council in Manchester will be surprised at the Chartists of Glasgow taking no part with them in the present Conference, but I can assure you that the leading portion of them are very dissatisfied at the Chartists of England for showing so much party spleen as they are doing; believing as they do that no evil results could flow from any portion of the country holding a Conference to endeavour to organise the scattered elements together. They, along with you, think that some change in the mode of agitating the people must be adopted. We must have no more bluster and braggadoci; we have now, I think, had sufficient experience to teach us the evils resulting from such a mode of agitation, and I hope that the spirit manifested at this Conference will be such as to give a loftiness and respectability to the movement, that the Press will be compelled—instead of insulting and degrading us—to acknowledge that we are progressing onward; for whatever some may think, there is no mistaking of the matter, that the minds of the vast majority of the people of the country are moulded by the view that the Press puts forward regarding us. We have only to look back to the position we occupied in 1848 in the minds of the people, before the wrangling and bluster commenced, at least in Glasgow, I can assure you that the middle classes were all but coming over to us, and subscribed very liberally to assist the movement, but so soon as the Press launched forth its vituperation, so soon did they begin to show a different spirit, and when called upon for assistance, we were pointed out the conduct of different parties, and told that if that was Chartism, they could not countenance it; indeed some of them told us that they would rather subscribe for a rope to hang us, than subscribe to support such characters. Now seeing the influence the conduct of those attending this Conference, is likely to produce on the minds of both the working and middle classes, I do hope and trust that the course pursued will be such as will give no handle to the Press to abuse, but the contrary; and that no measures of an extreme nature will be added to the Charter. Indeed I do think that if we had all along argued the necessity of adopting the Charter as a measure of justice to the unenfranchised people, instead of terrifying the various interests and classes about their annihilation, that we would have stood in a much better position than we now do. These remarks may be adverse to the opinions of some of the parties attending the Conference, but I can assure you that, from the experience I have had in the movement, and of the various failures I have seen, together with the opinions I hear expressed by the parties that I have mixed with, has brought my mind to the conclusion that I have come to regarding the outcry for social rights and co-operation. First get the Charter, and then I have not the least doubt but that measures of a social nature will soon spring out of it. For instance, tell the aristocracy that you intend to make the land national property and destroy them as a class, and you at once make them your mortal enemies; tell the middle classes that as soon as you get the Charter that you intend to do without them, and institute labour bazaars for the exchange of your labour; and, I would ask, is it at all likely that they, as a class, will assist you? No, sir, they will throw every obstacle in your way that they can. To avoid making enemies ought to be the greater part of our policy; create friends among all classes of society, if we can, and if we succeed, our triumph will soon be achieved.

"I am, dear sir, yours in the Cause of Progress,
"DUNCAN SHERRINGTON."

Mr. CLARK said, he would now, with the consent of Mr. Leach, the seconder of his motion, substitute the following for that before the Conference, namely, "That this Conference recommends the Chartist body to aid and assist the endeavours of all societies, whose objects are to obtain the reformation of all or any of the institutions of the country."

Mr. LEACH seconded the motion.

Mr. O'CONNOR thought it would be better to frame a resolution, simply stating that the Chartists would offer no opposition to other parties; but not pledging them to render support. The resolution proposed by Mr. Clark would create divisions among the body, and cause this Conference to be looked at with suspicion and distrust.

Mr. LEACH said, that every act of his in that Conference was grounded upon the fact, that there was at present no Chartist organisation in existence. They were met there to lay down principles for the guidance of a movement, which they thought best. The question as to how the rights of the people were to be obtained must not be any longer tampered with. If they wished to make the Charter an act of parliament they must not only achieve the old system of obstruction, but aid every reform which would be likely to strengthen their cause and hasten the time of its triumph. He would not lose his time in attending mere Financial Reform meetings; but meetings called for the extension of the franchise, however small the measure, should have his support. He ridiculed the idea that partial enfranchisement would prove an injury, as too despicable for refutation. Mr. Mantle's resolution breathed the most foul suspicions of other political parties. If they indulged in this they should not be surprised at retaliation. He thought that the worst enemies of the people were those who were continually circulating insidious suspicions among them. Whatever might be their resolve on the point before them, he would, while holding firmly by the Charter, support any party seeking power, for his order.

Mr. O'CONNOR said, he would now move an amendment, which, while it met the views of all parties, would, at the same time, show that they were not catering for middle class popularity. He would move, "That the people shall offer no opposition to any party who will honestly join with them for the establishment of the People's Charter, whole and entire." And as nearly all had said that they had confidence in Messrs. Bright, Cobden and Walmsley, even those, if they would go honestly for the Charter, were included in his proposition.

Mr. LAWSON seconded Mr. O'Connor's motion.

Mr. CLARK said that Mr. O'Connor's motion proposed just nothing at all. It most generously asked them not to oppose those who would honestly support them. He did not think that a resolution of this body was required to induce the people to do that. The principle of his resolution was, that the Chartists should countenance, aid, and support those reformers who did not go the whole length of the Charter as the surest means of rendering that document law. He strongly deprecated the system of denouncing politicians as dishonest, because they did not come up to their standard of perfection. Mr. Bright had been frequently mentioned. He believed that that man was as honest in his convictions as any Chartist in the land. Mr. Clark said he hoped they would never have a democracy in England that would ascribe differences of opinion to dishonesty, instead of errors of the judgment.

Mr. O'CONNOR.—I have no more confidence in your manufacturing reformers, than I have in a band of robbers.

Mr. CLARK thought that they were as honest as any other men, and Mr. O'Connor mistook popular opinion, if he thought that ungenerous suspicion and class antipathy were congenial with it. By acting in the spirit of his resolution, they would enrol an association a thousand times stronger than any he had ever witnessed. They should not act under the impression that all must be conceded to them whilst they conceded nothing.

Mr. O'CONNOR said that Mr. Clark, in order to prove the integrity of the reformers, said they might as well say that Mr. Cobden was not sincere in advocating Free Trade, as to say that he was not sincere in advocating reform; but he would ask what proofs had these men given of their devotion to the cause of the people? Had they ever voted for the Charter? If they thought to get the Charter from these men, they might as well think of snuffing out the moon. They should entirely rely upon themselves. The Charter was the only thing for them; but he would advise them to wait until the Conference met in London to see what kind of an organisation they proposed for the people.

Mr. MANTLE had no objection to Mr. O'Connor's motion. It was a transparent attempt to shelve that of Mr. Clark. He would advise Mr. Clark to withdraw his motion, and take no further notice of the point to which it referred.

Mr. NORTH said his constituents would offer no opposition to any party. He would support the Parliamentary Reformers himself.

Mr. LEACH said if the proposition of the Parliamentary Reformers were bad, let them be honest, and tell the people to oppose it; if good, to support it. If they pursued the old system of obstruction they never would gain strength. He had no objection to adopt Mr. O'Connor's proposition; he was sure they would be unanimous upon it, because it merely asked them to agree with their friends.

Mr. HORSFALL said he would have all parties free to oppose, or support, as their judgments directed.

Mr. HURST supported Mr. Clark's proposition.

Mr. O'CONNOR said they should keep the Charter clear of every "*ism*" and confide only in themselves; they should not look for aid from any other party. Look at the Parliamentary Reformers; they gave, on one platform, £1,560 to promote their own measure; but they would not give one farthing to carry the Charter. To show how hostile they were, they were opposed to his speaking on their platforms. He implored them to do nothing that would create division or suspicion. There never was a time when union was more required. They would witness during the next session such a struggle as never took place in the house before. He wished it to be understood by the country that no division was in this Conference; but, as for co-operation with the manufacturers, he would say,—

"As well may the lamb with the lion unite,
The mouse with the cat, or the lark with the kite."

After a few words from Messrs. MANTLE and PICKVANCE.

Mr. M'GRATH said that, as they yesterday condemned the past policy of the movement, it was now their duty to define an improved one. A party without a policy was like a body without a soul. It would not do to be satisfied with merely talking about the Charter, without pointing out some tangible and intelligible means of rendering that measure law. As Mr. Leach said, political change could only be accomplished in two ways—by physical revolution, or by an act of the Legislature. To the former means the people of England were immovably averse, and he was pleased that such was the fact. Then the recommendable and available means was through the law. That being a settled point, he asked, was it not their first and paramount duty to win the support and affection of the electoral body? How was Parliament to be influenced except through them? And with that class hostile to them and the aristocracy irrevocable enemies, what would be the people's prospect of emancipation? An intelligible answer to that question had been often asked but never given. It was their duty to contend for the Charter in its integrity and entirety, but it would be their folly to refuse aid from parties willing and able to render it. They have aforetime petitioned even for the repeal of the rate-paying clauses in the Reform Act; then why should they curl up their lips in contempt at so extensive a measure as that proposed by the Reform Association? He was for preserving in its integrity an association for the Charter, but working in amity and good will with every other reforming body. The policy of the resolution was the policy of the men of Manchester, as expressed at the large meeting on Sunday night last. It was the policy of every sensible Chartist in England, and if the men of Manchester stood by it, he was sure this would soon be the rule of action in every locality in England.

The Chairman then took the vote, and Mr. O'Connor's motion was carried unanimously. Mr. Clark's was carried; Messrs. O'Connor, North, and Mantle dissenting. Mr. Mantle's was lost, that gentleman and Mr. North alone supporting it.

THURSDAY.

The minutes were read and confirmed.

The CHAIRMAN said that the next point in the programme was whether they should agitate for the Charter, pure and simple, or whether they should ally it with social rights?

Mr. O'CONNOR moved, that the object of the Association be the Charter,—whole, entire, and alone.

Mr. LEACH seconded the motion, which, after a few remarks by Mr. North, was carried unanimously. Mr. Leach next brought forward the subject of co-operation. He was ever an advocate for an extensive application of the principle by working men. He was confident that if the members of the Land Company had done their duty they might have sent thousands weekly to the Land Fund. He thought they would do well to encourage this principle on account of the strength it would give, by binding the people together by the tie of interest. He (Mr. Leach) then went into detail, showing that co-operative societies of working men were rapidly spreading throughout Yorkshire and Lancashire. Among others, he said that the Bacup Co-operative establishment was worth over £5,000. Generally connected with these societies were found libraries, reading-rooms, and classes for educational purposes. These, by improving the circumstances of the members, must soon produce a telling effect upon society. They were rapidly spreading intelligence; and that was the only basis on which to rear up a durable monument to the liberties of a people. He did not propose to connect co-operation in any way with the Charter, but he thought that body would act wisely in recommending the widest possible extension to the principle. He moved that the Conference recommend to the working classes the establishment of co-operative stores as an available and practicable means of improving and elevating their condition.

Mr. CLARK seconded the motion.

Mr. O'CONNOR could not agree to this recommendation. He did not see that co-operative stores were likely to do much to promote the Charter. They might confer some benefit upon those who belonged to them; but, as he often told them, the man earning £2 a week looked with contempt on him who only earned £1, and the man who earned £1 looked with contempt upon him who earned ten shillings. He could not support any recommendation that would, in the remotest degree, mix up the Charter with anything else.

Mr. CLARK said, the same argument now used by Mr. O'Connor against Co-operation was used against the Land Company, by those agitators who see no hope for the people but in *crisis* and *convulsions*. He hoped that they would never see any other Democracy in England than a liberal, tolerant, and conservative one. The Land Company proved the means of enabling the Chartists to obtain the use of the most magnificent Town Halls in England, in which to promulgate their principles, until the language of some orators excluded them from such places of meeting. He supported the motion as one which recommended a principle likely to benefit the circumstances of the people, and whatever had that tendency was calculated to strengthen their demand for their political rights.

Mr. O'CONNOR would define the effect this system would have on the people. He met a number of the allottees after their location at Minster, and inquired whether they were not free traders before coming to the Land? They replied that "they were." He asked them "Were they free traders now they were on the Land?" Their answer was "No; because the effects of free trade would be to lower the price of land produce." That would confirm his maxim, "That self interest is the basis of man's action."

Messrs. NORTH and LAWSON supported the motion.

Mr. LEACH would state a fact which would show that the Co-operators were not averse to politics. During the imprisonment of Ernest Jones the Halifax Co-operators subscribed most handsomely—he believed upwards of £52—towards the support of his family; whereas the veritable Chartists, as they call themselves, would not subscribe the means of exempting him from the degradation of oakum picking. These men would join a sensible and rationally conducted agitation, but they would ever hold aloof from political buffoonery.

Mr. HURST said, that Co-operation was a great engine of amelioration in the hands of working men, to work which nothing was wanting but the will in themselves. He cordially agreed with the resolution.

Mr. O'CONNOR said that he would offer no further opposition.

The motion was then put from the chair and carried, Mr. Mantle dissenting.

Mr. MANTLE submitted the following resolution:—"That the delegates feel it to be their duty before separating, to make public their anxious desire that neither this Conference, nor any of its acts, may be deemed disrespectful towards, or antagonistic to, the London Executive. And, further, this Conference cherishes an anxious hope that the Conference to be held in London on the 3rd of March next, may be so emphatically the representative of the people, as to be powerful to legislate for, and inaugurate a national movement, at once worthy of the English people and the sublime object of the People's Charter." He said he hoped that some of the members of this conference would moderate the feelings which seemed to actuate them towards some persons on the London Executive. He had heard some of them declare that they would never again act in concert with those parties; he did not admire the mode of their election. He thought this Conference should throw themselves into the breach with a view to restore union and confidence. Let them, by all means, take their seats in the London Convention, and there combat whatever they thought wrong in the management of those men. He thought they had, in that Conference, that which was essential to a great movement. They had the long experience, the unquailing resolution, the unwavering devotion, and the tried honesty, which could alone create a sound organisation—and could alone consummate a just and great cause. He would, therefore, implore the delegates present to go to the London Conference, and there combat and conquer any improper views of policy expressed by those parties in London. He did not at all see that the adoption of his resolution would at all compromise their honour, their position, or their judgment.

Mr. NORTH seconded the motion.

Mr. O'CONNOR said that he did not think he had ever listened to a more conciliatory speech than Mr. Mantle's; and if he had studied for a whole month he could not have penned a better or more timely resolution, than the one now before them. Surely, if their object was union they must adopt it. He thanked Mr. Mantle most cordially for introducing it.

Mr. CLARK said, the resolution now before them, if adopted, would stultify the Conference. He thought that they were assembled to conduct their business irrespective of any other body; but they were now called upon to make their labours subservient to those who had continually maligned and misrepresented them. It would be impossible for them ever to co-operate with these men, until their mode of agitation underwent a thorough reformation. It was their duty to fulfil the mission for which they were sent, regardless of what the London Executive or any other body thought of their conduct. They came there to perfect a plan of organisation—let them complete their work, and let the country judge it by its merits. He, for one, would not consent to submit their proceedings for ratification to the London Conference. And as for antagonism to the so-called Executive, that body was the exponent of a policy, which the Conference had already condemned. He never quarrelled till he was first assailed, and as long as he lived he would not permit an assault upon him with impunity.

Mr. M'GRATH said, that Mr. Mantle, from the commencement of their business, had been fighting the battle of his patrons with zeal and ability. His first act was an attempt to get the Conference to vote itself a nonentity. He then opposed every motion proposed, and now, at the eleventh hour, he proposes to make some body, not in existence, supervisor of their proceedings. He could not consent to vote the incompetency of that body to do its own work; let them perfect and promulgate their organisation and policy, and let the London Executive and the London Conference adopt them, or reject them at pleasure. Were they not aware that the proposed London Conference was convened in direct antagonism to the present one? And were they not also aware, that the most unmeasured calumny and abuse were heaped upon all those favourable to the Manchester Conference? He hoped that they would proceed firmly, like men, in prosecuting the great work for which they had met. If a peace offering was to be made, let it come from the aggressor, and not from the aggrieved.

Mr. NORTH thought that the Conference about to assemble in London would be a fair representation of the people. He was sure that the blood and thunder men would be at a discount in the Conference. He felt certain, after what had been seen, they would not be listened to by this generation. Whoever goes from Bradford would support all the views of that Conference, except aiding and assisting other reformers.

Mr. HURST said, considering the antecedence of their movements, Mr. Mantle asked them to do too much. He should consider the amount of denunciation with which they had been assailed within the last two months. Every man ought to have some feeling of personal respect, and the passing of that resolution would imply an entire want of it on their part. They did not pretend to represent a party, though he might say, in passing, that their policy had already received the sanction of a great number of individuals throughout the empire. They must not leave their work half done, that would be but weaving Penelope's web. He hoped Mr. Mantle would withdraw his resolution, which was ill-timed, and calculated to do no good.

Mr. O'CONNOR said he differed with Mr. Hurst, as to the effect of Mr. Mantle's motion. It was one likely to create union. As regarded the Executive he was, it is true, a member of it, but he stood alone there. He had submitted motions in that body, respecting the Manchester Conference, to which he could not get a seconder. He knew that antagonism existed, and he wished to put a stop to it.

Mr. LEACH said he regretted antagonism as much as any person, but could not consent to put it down at the expense of principle. The Manchester democrats sent him there to do their work, and he could not degrade himself, nor would he sneakingly desert his post. He expected nothing more than that a few approvers of the past policy of the Executive would form the London Conference, and he for one was not prepared to submit his labours to their award. They were there to attempt to create a new mind, and they must show, by their conduct to the country, that they were competent to the task. He knew that Manchester would send no delegate to London. Let their own actions go forth to the world, and let them be judged thereby. The resolution, in its present shape, was an abnegation of all they had done. He would, therefore, move as an amendment—"That the latter part of the resolution be wholly rejected, and for the words 'antagonistic to the London Executive' there be substituted the words, 'to any political body who are endeavouring to aid the people in the attainment of their rights.'"

Mr. M'GRATH seconded the amendment.

Mr. CLARK said the better course for Mr. Mantle to pursue would be to withdraw his resolution, and endeavour to imbue his friends in London with his own amiable sentiments. Mr. Mantle told them that they would be opposed bitterly, unless they propitiated, by their good offices, the London Executive. He hoped that this opposition would be estimated at its real worth by the Conference, and that, by their vote, they would show themselves capable of doing justice to the wishes of their constituents.

Mr. O'CONNOR would advise conciliation, and that Mr. Mantle would not press the latter part of his resolution.

Mr. MANTLE refused to withdraw it.

After some further discussion, Mr. P. ROBERTS said, although not a delegate, he was anxious to give his opinion on the resolution. He judged of it by itself. At the present time their movement appeared to him beset with two difficulties. The one was, that there were violent men who went to meetings and talked fustian; these men were dangerous. They have taken the emblem of red, which he supposed to be symbolical of sanguinary intention. He thought Chartists could never be too much on their guard against these violent men. He believed his countrymen were too deeply imbued with the love of order, ever to be made the dupes to any great extent by those designers. They are treacherous and cowardly; their extravagance should be satirised and ridiculed whenever it is exhibited. The other, which presents itself to my mind, is a desire of genteelising ourselves. Whilst we avoid the Scylla of redism, let us also avoid the Charybdis of gentility. They could not shut their eyes to the fact, that for the last ten years reformers had been watching them, and it was only the other day they saw their wants for the first time. Did not this show dishonesty? Why did they not recognise the Chartists before? These men were the opponents of all measures calculated to relieve labour; they did not honestly desire the Charter. They only wanted a wider extension of the franchise to prevent Protectionist ascendancy. These men would compromise with the government any day for a less measure of justice than that which they pretended to seek. Those who had always fought the battle should still continue the leaders of the people, and if they countenanced anything less than the Charter they would inevitably be juggled and sold.

The Conference here adjourned until Friday morning.

FRIDAY.

The minutes of the preceding day were read and confirmed.

The adjourned debate was opened by Mr. LEACH, who said, every man who votes for that resolution will confess his incapacity to perform his duties. It was virtual admission of their incompetency; and he thought that such men as Mr. Roberts should be very wary how he stigmatised as dishonest, parties, who were going for less political reformers than themselves. If there were any parties upon whom they ought to look with suspicion, it was upon those who had neither the magnanimity nor the humanity to believe that there integrity was only resident among themselves. Manchester, by many large public meetings, had affirmed the policy and the resolutions their passed. He was sent there to support a policy very different from the spirit of the resolution proposed by Mr. Mantle.

Mr. O'CONNOR said, he hoped that Mr. Leach would not press his amendment to a division. What objection could he have to the London Conference? He would guarantee that the Conference should not be the tool of the Executive; and if their plan was one which he could approve of, he would recommend it to the delegates. He could not see how any one could object to a single line in Mr. Mantle's proposition. Let them not make it known to the country that any antagonism existed. He would not surrender his political principles, whatever trafficking politicians may say or do. The people would never associate with Messrs. Bright, Cobden, and Hume, if he could help it. Nothing ever annoyed him more than hearing Messrs. Bright, Cobden, and Hume, lauded as consistent men. Their (the delegates) purpose should be union, and there never was a time when it was more necessary. They would be astounded at the convulsion which the next session would exhibit. If three hundred thousand elected him to the London Conference, their united voices would not induce him to give a vote contrary to his convictions. They would find him there as energetic as ever: he would go with that party that represented the people. Although he had little influence with the Executive, he succeeded a few evenings since in preventing a socialist resolution from being introduced, at a meeting in John-street.

Mr. M'GRATH said, Mr. O'Connor in his speeches and writings made frequent mention of trafficking politicians. He thought that Mr. O'Connor should distinctly state who he meant, in order that the people may be on their guard against the deceivers. This phrase was now used in another place, and that, too, with an exceedingly bad grace. Men who derived from four to six pounds per week from the Chartist agitation should be the last in the world to prate about trafficking politicians. If this insulting phrase was intended to designate men who honestly gave their time and talent for a stipend less than mechanic's wages, he thought it both unjust and cruel. The labourer was worthy of his hire, and the Chartist lecturer, who honestly performed his engagements with the public, was as honourable a man as he who earned his living in the heated factory by the sweat of his brow. He had heard no argument to induce him to alter his opinion respecting Mr. Mantle's motion.

Mr. MANTLE said, that that Conference should not attempt to force its plan against the will of the majority. He felt certain that the policy of the Executive would be rejected by the London Conference, and that the policy which that body would sanction would be a conservative one, that being most in unison with the genius of the English people. The principle of order was deeply rooted in their hearts, and was not to be easily eradicated. They should sacrifice private opinion for public good. If the leaders pursued a course inimical to union, the people would taboo them in every town in England.

MR. HURST had listened with pain to the misdirection of Mr. Mantle's talents. The course which he now advised would terminate the whole of these proceedings, and place them in abeyance till some body, which might or might not assemble in London, stamped upon them the seal of their sanction. He, for one, did not recognise the authority sought to be established; he acknowledged no fealty towards it. Who called this London Conference of which they had heard so much, and to which, in humility, they were to submit their labours?—the so-called Executive. Who will respond to the call?—the people! no, but the fraction which supports the Executive. The policy of that body was well known; it had been considered already in their resolutions. Their platforms were more exclusive than those of either Whigs or Tories. He could mention a case where a young man, not twenty years of age, was prevented from addressing a public meeting by a vote put by members of the Executive. He had no confidence in men who could act in this anti-democratic spirit, and would never consent to submit his labours to the supervision of them or their patrons.

The CHAIRMAN then took the vote upon the resolution and the amendment, when there appeared for the amendment, Messrs. Leach, Clark, and M'Grath. For the resolution, Messrs. O'Connor, Mantle, North, and Lawson. The resolution was consequently carried.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the resolution just passed was tantamount to a dissolution of the Conference, and that he, as Chairman, should proceed no further with the business.

Mr. M'GRATH coincided with the Chairman, and said, that as the men of Manchester had in four public meetings held during that week confirmed the policy sanctioned by the Conference, except the last resolution, it was for them to pursue their onward and independent course. He would go before the meeting on Sunday evening next, and despite all the logic and eloquence in the world, he would obtain from the men of Manchester a vote confirmative of their policy.

Messrs. LEACH and CLARK having expressed their unwillingness to proceed further, the Conference dissolved.

Imperial Parliament.

TUESDAY, FEB. 4.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—The session of 1851 was opened to-day by her Majesty in person. The doors of the House of Lords were thrown open at twelve o'clock, and shortly after the peeresses and other ladies who had been fortunate enough to obtain orders from the Lord Great Chamberlain began to arrive, and continued to do so until the house was crowded by a galaxy of beauty and fashion, greater and more diversified than was ever witnessed on a similar occasion. There was also an unusual number of peers, judges, and foreign ministers present.

Shortly before two o'clock, the Lord Chancellor took his seat on the woolsack, and soon after the booming of cannon announced the arrival of her Majesty.

Her Majesty, who was attired in a white satin brocade dress, embroidered with gold, and wore a splendid tiara of diamonds, entered the house at twenty minutes past two o'clock, being led by the Prince Consort, and accompanied by the officers of state, heralds, pages, &c. Her Majesty appeared in excellent health and spirits.

The Prince Consort wore crape on his left arm as mourning for the Queen of the Belgians.

When her Majesty had ascended the throne, the whole house rose, and remained standing until her Majesty motioned the house to be seated. At this period the scene presented was of a most brilliant and dazzling character. The sun who so often lends his rays to gild these gorgeous spectacles, shone with unusual splendour for this season of the year, and heightened the effect of the scene.

Mr. Pulman, the deputy usher of the black rod, having summoned the Commons to the bar of their lordships' house, the silence which for some minutes had reigned in the magnificent hall, in which were assembled the greatest of England's nobles and the *élite* of her beauty, was broken by the rushing and jostling of the members of the Lower House, who, headed by the Speaker, dressed in his robes of state, all but fought their way to the bar. After order had been with some difficulty restored, her Majesty, with a clear voice, and distinct accent, read the following:—

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

It is with great satisfaction that I again meet my parliament, and resort to your advice and assistance in the consideration of measures which affect the welfare of our country.

I continue to maintain the relations of peace and amity with foreign powers. It has been my endeavour to induce the States of Germany to carry into full effect the provisions of the treaty with Denmark which was concluded at Berlin in the month of July of last year. I am much gratified in being able to inform you that the German confederation and the government of Denmark are now engaged in fulfilling the stipulations of that treaty, and thereby putting an end to hostilities which at one time appeared full of danger to the peace of Europe.

I trust that the affairs of Germany may be arranged by mutual agreement, in such a manner as to preserve the strength of the confederation and to maintain the freedom of its separate states.

I have concluded with the King of Sardinia Articles Additional to the Treaty of September, 1841, and I have directed that those Articles shall be laid before you.

The government of Brazil has taken new, and I hope efficient, measures for the suppression of the atrocious traffic in slaves.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

I have directed the Estimates of the year to be prepared and laid before you without delay. They have been framed with a due regard to economy, and to the necessities of the public service.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

Notwithstanding the large reductions of taxation which have been effected in late years, the receipts of the revenue have been satisfactory.

The state of the commerce and manufactures of the United Kingdom has been such as to afford general employment to the labouring classes.

I have to lament, however, the difficulties which are still felt by that important body among my people who are owners and occupiers of land.

But it is my confident hope that the prosperous condition of other classes, of my subjects will have a favourable effect in diminishing those difficulties and promoting the interests of agriculture.

The recent assumption of certain ecclesiastical titles conferred by a foreign power has excited strong feelings in this country, and large bodies of my subjects have presented addresses to me, expressing their attachment to the throne, and praying that such assumptions should be resisted. I have assured them of my resolution to maintain the rights of my crown and the independence of the nation against all encroachment, from whatever quarter it may proceed. I have, at the same time, expressed my earnest desire and firm determination, under God's blessing, to maintain unimpared the religious liberty which is so justly prised by the people of this country.

It will be for you to consider the measure which will be laid before you on this subject.

The administration of justice in the several departments of law and equity, will no doubt receive the serious attention of Parliament; and I feel confident that the measures which may be submitted, with a view of improving that administration, will be discussed with that mature deliberation which important changes in the highest Courts of Judicature in the Kingdom imperatively demand.

A measure will be laid before you, providing for the establishment of a system of Registration of Deeds and instruments relating to the transfer of property. This measure is the result of inquiries which I have caused to be made into the practicability of adopting a system of registration calculated to give security to titles, and to diminish the causes of litigation to which they have hitherto been liable, and to reduce the cost of transfers.

To combine the progress of improvement with the stability of our institutions will, I am confident, be your constant care. We may esteem ourselves fortunate that we can pursue, without disturbance, the course of calm and peaceable amelioration; and we have every cause to be thankful to Almighty God for the measure of tranquillity and happiness which has been vouchsafed to us.

The Address, in answer to the speech from the Throne, was moved by the Earl of EFFINGHAM. The noble earl expressed much satisfaction at the amicable state of our foreign relations, and at the prosperous condition of the revenue, attended, as these favourable circumstances, were, by remunerative employment, and increased comforts on the part of the people, especially in the manufacturing districts. He did not deny that considerable distress existed amongst those engaged in agriculture, particularly tenant farmers; but the labourer was in a better condition, and he had no doubt that British energy would bring the farmers through their pres nt diff-

culties. It was gratifying to find a determination expressed on the part of the Sovereign to maintain the rights of the Crown and the independence of the nation against all encroachments, and with that feeling he considered that the attempt of the Pope to interfere with our internal and domestic concerns should be met by a legislative enactment. At the same time he trusted that Roman Catholics would still enjoy the right of full toleration.

Lord Cremorne seconded the Address, and observed that most of the Roman Catholic peers and members of the other house would approve of the policy of the government in maintaining the supremacy of the Crown against the measures of the Court of Rome.

Lord Stanley, though not altogether satisfied with the language of the Speech, would not propose an amendment. He rejoiced that the important classes of landowners and occupiers were now spoken of with respect, and that their distress was at length acknowledged; but he saw no hope held out of a diminution of their difficulties by the agency of legislative measures. He maintained, unaltered and strengthened, his convictions of the impolicy of the measure of 1846; and he could not see any prospect of a permanent increase in prices under the existing law, without some alteration in our financial system. He characterised the aggression of the Roman Catholic Church as most dangerous, and unconstitutional, and insolent; but he had not the remotest desire to deprive his fellow countrymen of that persuasion of their religious freedom. Still, whatever was done in England towards meeting the emergency by legislation, must be extended to Ireland; for what was a violation of the supremacy of the Crown in one case was just as much so in the other. He looked, then, with anxiety for the measure of the government upon this subject; but he warned them that if it was inadequate in this respect, they would be trifling with the feelings and convictions of the people. Let them deal manfully and boldly with the question, or not deal with it at all.

The Duke of Richmond, after complaining of the effects of Free Trade, hoped that the government would return to protection, in order to restore the energies of the British farmers.

After some observations from the Earl of Winchilsea,

Lord Camoys, as an hereditary Catholic, distinguished between the authority exercised over things spiritual and things temporal. For the former he looked to Rome; but with regard to the latter, in common with the large majority of his co-religionists in this country, he owed loyalty to the Queen, and should protest equally against any Papal interference with individual consciences, and every attempt he might make to exercise temporal jurisdiction here. He argued for the perfect maintenance of toleration, and submitted that the Roman Catholics in England had not violated the compact made with them, under which they were admitted to civil privileges. Some expressions in Lord John Russell's letter he looked upon as insulting to himself as a Catholic, but he considered that epistle as written in a merely private capacity. He eulogised the forbearance exhibited by all sections of the Catholic clergy and laity in spite of the violent denunciations hurled at them, and the obloquy to which they had been subjected.

The Marquis of Lansdowne rejoiced at receiving so high an assurance of the loyalty and British spirit of the Roman Catholics in England. Briefly reviewing the principal topics of the address, he offered a few sentences of vindication as to the course pursued towards foreign powers, the free trade policy of the government, agricultural distress, foreign competition, the emancipation act, and law reform.

Lord Roden was disappointed at not finding in the royal speech a promise to maintain the protestant principles of the constitution.

The address was then agreed to.

Lord Redesdale returned thanks for his selection to succeed the Earl of Shaftesbury, as chairman of committees in their lordships' house.

Their lordships adjourned at a quarter past nine o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—The house met for the despatch of business at four o'clock.

Mr. Hayter announced, upon the part of government, that on Friday next Lord John Russell would introduce a bill "to prevent the assumption of certain ecclesiastical titles in respect to places in the United Kingdom;" and that on Friday the 14th the Chancellor of the Exchequer would bring on the budget.

Among a multitude of notices of motions and questions, Mr. Cayley announced his intention of proposing a resolution for the abolition of the malt tax; and Mr. Disraeli, that he would, on the 11th inst, call the attention of the house to the continued distress existing among the owners and occupiers of land, with the view of devising means for their relief.

The Speaker having read the Speech from the Throne,

The Marquis of Kildare moved the address in reply, very shortly recapitulating and echoing the topics and sentiments of the Speech.

Mr. Peto was the seconder. He dwelt especially on the excellent fiscal and social effects which had been derived from the late commercial reforms, instancing the increased quantity of our exports, the satisfactory condition of the manufacturing labour markets, the increase of ship-building at the outports, and the general decrease of crime, basing his propositions with respect to these points upon elaborate statistical evidence. He called upon the house to adopt the paragraph respecting Papal aggression as binding no one to a particular future course of action, as scouting any infringement on the rights of conscience, and read a quotation from an old speech of Lord John Russell, maintaining the right and demonstrating the duty of one State to stop short the veiled and insidious encroachments of another.

Mr. Roebuck rose with profound pain to accuse a so-called Liberal Ministry of taking the first backward step towards the revival of an obsolete intolerence, and that, too, at a time when the house was being congratulated upon the prosperous social state of the country arising from the abolition of ancient and bigotted restrictions. The Bill contemplated by government was to be directed against the Pope, not as an Italian prince, but against him as the Bishop of Rome, and in his ecclesiastical capacity. It was therefore directed against the spiritual rights and belief of the Roman Catholics, and was no more nor less than "gross persecution." Besides, this so-called Papal aggression was nothing new. It began long ago, and with the full sanction of the Premier. England had been "parcelled out" for years; but inasmuch as the dignitaries of the Catholic Church were now made bishops, instead of vicars apostolic, the powers of the Pope in England were actually diminished, because the bishops would act so far independently, a power denied to their predecessors the vicars. He ridiculed the petty jealousy which cavilled at a mere empty title, advertd contemptuously to the "columns of rubbish" which had been spoken on the question, and, quoting Lord John Russell's formerly expressed sentiments, to the effect that we could not and ought not to try to fetter the spiritual authority of the Pope, demanded to know how and when his lordship had found out the rottenness of all his old opinions. The Catholics, Mr. Roebuck contended, had been led to understand that what had recently been done might be done by them without offence—instancing the universal official recognition of the territorial titles of the Irish Catholic hierarchy; and then, after comparing the Wesleyan with the Catholic "parcelling out" of England, concluded by declaring that the recent agitation was a disgraceful revival of the ancient Puritanic bigotry of the country.

Sir R. Inglis replied to Mr. Roebuck, insisting that no country in Europe would have submitted to such an act as that by which the Pope had usurped the prerogative of the sovereign, and treated the people as a nation of heretics. Resistance to such aggression was not new in our history, though he admitted too large concessions had been made by the present ministers in Ireland and the colonies. He appealed to the extraordinay unanimity of the nation upon this subject, and trusted that the government would not be deterred from acting up to the spirit of Lord John Russell's letter to the Bishop of Durham.

Mr. J. O'Connell vindicated the act of the Pope in substituting a regular hierarchy for vicars apostolic, which, though not sanctioned by, was known to, the government of this country.

Mr. A. Hope, representing not the church of England, but an English constituency, was bound to uphold liberty of conscience. In 1829 we had granted emancipation to the Roman Catholics; everything we know now we knew then, and had provided for; and he thought the church of England, if left to itself, was strong enough to contend against such an act as the appointment of thirteen men, with certain titles by the weakest prince in Europe.

Mr. Anstey could find nothing in the address to which he did not heartily and fully subscribe. As a Catholic, not of the court, but of the church of Rome, he was not ashamed to call the act of the pope an aggression; it was an aggression upon the Roman Catholic laity, who had struggled against their subjection to the undue power of the prelates. The letters apostolic would deeply affect the civil rights of the laity, and make our courts of equity the instruments of injustice. Legislation, however, must not stop at the barren question of title.

Mr. Plumtre took the same view of the subject as Sir R. Inglis.

The Earl of Arundel was prepared to oppose any measure of persecution, or any attack upon the constitutional liberties of Roman Catholics.

Mr. W. Fagan denied the right of the Legislature to interfere, by an act of coercion, with the Roman Catholic Church, which was not an endowed Church, with reference to a measure most salutary to that Church.

Mr. Hume drew the attention of the house from the subject of the Papal Aggression—his observations upon which he should postpone until he saw the promised bill—and noticed some other topics in the speech. He regretted the occupation by the Austrians of the free town of Hamburgh; he rejoiced at the projected reform of the Court of Chancery, which he wished to see abolished, and at the prospect of a system of registration: but he lamented that nothing was said in the speech on the subjects of a reduction of taxation, the state of the representation, and the colonies.

Colonel Sibthorp arraigned the whole policy of the Ministers with respect to Rome, agriculture, free-trade, and the Exhibition.

Mr. G. Berkeley adverted briefly to the condition of the labouring classes, of the tenant farmers, and of the colonists.

Mr. Grattan protested against any attempt to fetter or coerce the Roman Catholics of the United Kingdom by re-opening a question which was settled in 1829.

Mr. Bankes, on the part of the agricultural interest, thought it his duty to make some remarks upon that part of the speech which referred to the condition of that interest, whose "difficulties," it was said, would be diminished by the "prosperity of other classes." He contended that if the producers of the food of our labouring classes were foreigners, it was a fallacy to suppose that increased consumption could benefit British farmers, who were desponding and alarmed. Agriculture must have relief, and the only shape in which it could be afforded was by a fixed duty on foreign corn.

Lord John Russell, after expressing his satisfaction that there would be no division upon the address, justified the course pursued by the government in respect to foreign affairs; and in allusion to the suggestions of Mr. Bankes, observed, that although a temporary fixed duty upon foreign corn, adopted in 1840 or 1841, might have prepared the agricultural interest for an inevitable change, he did not believe it could have been maintained, as the foundation of a permanent system. Be that as it may, however, the Legislature had adopted another course, consonant to the great interests of the country, and tending, in his opinion, to its political and moral tranquillity. Lord John urged various arguments against the policy of a protective system, and in favour of that of free trade, which, he observed, must be considered as a whole, and as a whole its prosperity proved that it was a system grounded upon sound principles. He, therefore, gave Mr. Bankes and his friends no hope of a 5s. duty upon foreign corn, which would be only valued by the farmer as a symptom of a return to a system which would abridge the material comforts enjoyed by the labouring population. Addressing himself then to the subject of the Papal aggression, Lord John delicately reproached Mr. Roebuck for the low motives he sometimes imputed to public men, and avowed that he had written the letter to the Bishop of Durham, because he entertained the sentiments he then expressed, and could not refrain from giving publicity to them. He enumerated the concessions made to the Roman Catholics, the liberality, and even favour, with which they had been treated by the present government. In this state of things—the Roman Catholics having no reason to complain—the Court of Rome suddenly thought proper to divide the whole country into dioceses, creating an Archbishop of Westminster, of all places, and proclaiming to the people that English counties were to be "governed" by Roman Catholic prelates. It did appear to him that such an act, which he believed the Roman Catholics of England generally did not desire, could not be passed over in silence. With respect to the measure necessary to check this proceeding, his opinion was, that the authority of Parliament would be sufficient, and it was not his intention to go beyond the occasion in the measure he should propose, which would embrace the whole of the United Kingdom. He did not attribute to the Court of Rome a spirit of hostility towards this country; but Lord Shrewsbury had declared, that there was a party at the Court inimical to England, and that party was paramount there, which would go far to explain the step it had taken.

Mr. Disraeli applied himself to the depressed condition of agriculture—a condition, the long continuance of which was at length astonishing even the ministry. The landed interest was in fact furnishing the capital in which all other classes were thriving. Last year, government grudgingly acknowledged agricultural complaints. This year agricultural distress was announced. Next year, as this was an age of progress, agricultural ruin would probably be trumpeted. But what was the use of these acknowledgments of a great interest in difficulty, if no attempt was ever made to ascertain, and then to grapple with the cause? All that the ministry said was, that they "hoped" the depression would pass over; using in fact, the language of "amiable despair." He complained that artificial protection had been swept away, while artificial burdens had been left; and on a future occasion he pledged himself to point out the natural remedies which justice demanded and which policy sanctioned. With respect to the Papal aggression, he took Lord John Russell's letter to be the manifesto of a cabinet, and he believed that when that letter was written much more was contemplated than the mere preventing the assumption by Cardinal Wiseman of a territorial title. That the aggression was "insiduous," he did not agree with; on the contrary, the pope had only frankly done what the noble lord had said there was no harm in doing, and what had long ago been done in Ireland with the noble lord's full consent. Unless, then, the Premier was prepared to attempt the solution of the great problem of the reconciliation of the claims to allegiance of the English Throne with the demands of obedience made from the papal chair—unless he was prepared to undertake this great task, he would have done much better in leaving the whole matter alone.

The address was then agreed to.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 5.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—The house sat at four o'clock.

Mr. Hayter stated that he had on the previous evening moved the issue of a new writ for the borough of Dungarvan, under an erroneous persuasion that the seat had been vacated by Mr. Sheil. He now moved for a *supersedeas* to stay any election proceedings being taken on the writ.

Mr. Roebuck having interpellated the law advisers of the Crown respecting the presidents to be followed in such cases,

The Attorney-General replied that Mr. Shiel having only been appointed to an office on the foreign diplomatic staff of the government did not thereby vacate his seat in the house; and as the writ which had been moved for would be necessarily inoperative, the proper course to adopt was to stay further process by a *supersedeas*.

In reply to Mr. Reynolds,

Lord J. Russell announced his intention of submitting to parliament during the session a measure for abolishing the vice-royalty of Ireland.

To a question by G. Berkeley,

Lord Seymour replied, that three bills were in preparation having reference to the administration of the royal forests, one of which would apply to the New Forest.

Lord John Russell moved a resolution, expressive of the apprecation of the house of the long services, extending over a space of forty-nine years, of the late Mr. Ley, so long their indefatigable and excellent clerk.

Sir R. H. Inglis corroborated the eulogium pronounced by Lord John Russell.

Mr. Hume, while agreeing cordially with the resolution, expressed his strong feeling that the vacancy had been most improperly filled up by the appointment of a gentleman utterly inexperienced in and utterly ignorant of the practices and the customs of the House of Commons. (The honourable gentleman's brief address was loudly and significantly cheered.)

Mr. Gouldburn said a few words eulogistic of the late clerk.

Lord John Russell defended the appointment, stating that, in his conscientious opinion, the selection of Sir Denis Le Marchant was an excellent one. As for want of experience, a Speaker, a far more important official, could necessarily have no experience, when first appointed to the chair.

The "Rush" of the Commons to hear the Queen's Speech.—Mr. Hume said he wished to say a few words on this matter. Those who had, yesterday, accompanied the Speaker to the House of Lords, would recollect the disorderly manner in which the members had been compelled to follow him, and what danger the Speaker himself had to find his way there. (Hear, hear.) He thought this was highly derogatory to the dignity of the house. Even when they did arrive at the House of Lords, there was not room enough below the bar to contain one quarter of the members. He happened to be the twenty-fifth after the Speaker, but both sides of the bar were so filled that he neither saw the Queen nor heard her voice. ("Hear," and laughter.) It was an eternal disgrace to the house and to the country, that they had expended so much money on a place so ill-suited to carry on the business of the country. Could no means be adopted by which decorum could be preserved in future? (Hear, hear.) He recollected that, on one occasion, the coat of a member of the house, who now filled a high office abroad, had been torn—(laughter)—and that his shoulder had been dislocated. That was in the old house; but it was as bad or worse in the new house. What he wanted was, that a committee should be appointed to consider of such arrangements as would enable them to go to the House of Lords as became their character and position. (Hear, hear.) If there was only room for a hundred members, lots might be drawn to ascertain who were to accompany the Speaker, that order might be preserved, and that they might be able to conduct themselves as other men, soberly and decently, not like a mob. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) He was himself knocked against the corner there, his head was knocked against the post, and he might have been injured if a stout member, to whom he felt much obliged, had not come to his assistance. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) It was no laughing matter. It concerned the character of the house, and it must be matter of regret that such a scene as that which had taken place yesterday should have been presented to the Queen of England at the bar of the House of Lords. (Hear, hear.) He thought that this matter might be left in the hands of the present committee, who were perfectly competent to deal with it. (Hear.)

Mr. C. Lewis having moved the usual sessional orders,

Mr. Hume moved an order enacting that no money vote should be passed after midnight.

The motion was opposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Sir G. Grey: and supported, for various reasons, by Mr. Williams, Mr. Spooner, and Colonel Sibthorp.

Being carried to a division, there appeared—

For the motion 47
Against ... ... 167—69

Mr. Brotherton moved an order that the house should adjourn regularly at midnight, the Speaker to vacate the chair when the hour arrived without putting the question.

On a division this motion was also rejected by 108 votes to thirty-two—seventy-six.

The Marquis of Kirkdale brought up the report on the address.

Lord D. Stuart referring to the paragraph relating to the foreign relations of this country, said, that he thought it would have been more creditable to our government, and more agreeable to the noble lord the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, who had so often declared his anxiety on the subject, if he had been able to come forward and say, "We have not allowed the Turkish government to be coerced into delivering up these unfortunate men, nor have we permitted the Turks to be forced by Austria to become the jailors of that government. (Hear, hear.) It would have been most creditable to the noble lord could he have said, "Kossuth is no longer detained a prisoner against the law of nations, and contrary to the avowed desire of this country. (Hear, hear.) He (Lord D. Stuart) felt the more upon this subject, because it was very well known that the sovereign of Turkey had no desire to detain these poor men in captivity, seeing that they had done nothing against him or his dominions. It was notorious that the Turks had no desire to continue these barbarities, but were compelled and coerced into doing so by the representations and influence of Austria. More than that, it was perfectly notorious—or at least it was generally believed by every one who had any acquaintance whatever with the affairs of Turkey—that if the influence of this government were properly exerted, earnestly and sincerely exerted, the Turks would be very glad to return, as they had before, a decided negative to the unjust demands of Austria and Russia. (Hear.) He wished, therefore, that something of the kind had been mentioned in the speech from the throne, instead of the subjects which had been thought worthy of a place there. The last year had passed over in complete silence, and instead of Kossuth—that great man for whom such interest was felt in this country, throughout Europe, and in the United States of America—being liberated, he was allowed to rot in an infamous gaol, in which he had been immured through the brutality of the Austrian government, and allowed to remain, through the apathy of our own. (Hear, hear.)

The question that the report be read a second time, being put, and no member of the government rising,

Mr. Hume called the attention of the ministers to the question which had been put by his noble friend (Lord D. Stuart) on a matter on which the public out of doors deeply sympathised, and which last year commanded as much interest out of doors as the Papal aggression did now. The question which his noble friend had put was—why was the paragraph relating to the the Hungarian refugees, and the efforts of her majesty's government to ameliorate their condition, omitted from the present speech, while the cause which had led to its insertion of the speech of last year still existed? He thought respect for public opinion ought to extract from government some explanation whether there was any hope for those unfortunate men, who were now, at the instance of Austria and Russia, confined in Turkey. It would be satisfactory, also, if the noble lord would state the number of them.

Viscount Palmerston—I can assure my hon. friend that her Majesty's government were not inattentive to the subject alluded to. (Hear, hear.) Communications have been carried on by her Majesty's ambassador at Constatinople, with the Turkish Divan, with a view of obtaining the release of these persons, but I am sorry to say that those efforts have not, as yet, been attended with that success which we could desire.

Mr. Hume—Will the noble lord state whether all the Hungarians who took refuge in Turkey, are still detained there, or whether any have been set at liberty?

Lord Palmerston—I cannot state exactly. The number now at Katayah is not so great as it was; a considerable number, 700 I believe, who remained at Shumlah for some time, have, I understand, lately been forwarded to Constantinople, but whether to be stationed at any place in that locality, or for the purpose of being conveyed elsewhere, I cannot say.

The report was then agreed to, and the house adjourned at a quarter past seven.

THURSDAY, Feb. 6.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—In the house of lords, last night, in reply to a question by Earl Fitzwilliam,

The Earl of Minto stated that during his recent visit to Italy, nothing had come to his knowledge relative to any intention of altering the constitution or the nomenclature of the Roman Catholic hierarchy in England; and that when the missive from the pope was published here, the circumstance took him completely by surprise.

Their lordships adjourned at six o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—In reply to a question by Mr. Wood,

Lord J. Russell said is was his intention to carry out the resolution of last session respecting the oath of abjuration, with a view to the relief of a certain class of Her Majesty's subjects.

The noble lord then moved the following resolution:—"That the house will not proceed upon any motion for an address to the Crown to which opposition is offered but in a committee of the whole house, except with respect to matters which have been previously submitted to a select committee." He pointed out the incongruity of the existing practice with the general rules of the House, and the inconveniences attending it, as exemplified last session in the case of the Post-office.

After a short debate the matter was deferred until next Tuesday.

The House adjourned at a quarter to six o'clock.

FRIDAY, Feb. 7.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—On the motion of Lord Brougham, leave was given to bring in a bill extending the jurisdiction of the County Courts, so as to include cases of bankruptcy. The bill was read a first time.

After some further business, their lordships adjourned at half-past six o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Papal Aggression.—Lord J. Russell moved for leave to bring in a bill "to prevent the assumption of certain Ecclesiastical Titles, in respect of places in the United Kingdom." Having glanced at the recent act of the Pope in this country, Lord John explained that when the contingency first arose, the opinion of the law officers of the Crown was taken, to the effect that the assumption of the prelatic titles could not be successfully impeached; and that, though the introduction of the letter apostolic fell under the penalties enacted by certain statutes, these had lain dormant for a very long period, rendering the success of any prosecution very doubtful. Two plans, modelled upon the practise of other countries, had been proposed for new acts. One was to enact that no bull or writings from Rome, of a nature prejudicial to the kingdom, should be allowed to enter it; another to subject all such writings to the scrutiny of some civil authority, without whose sanction they could not obtain currency. After briefly detailing the inconvenience that might result from the adoption of either of these plans, the noble lord referred to the principles laid down when the Emancipation Act was passed, and accepted then by the Roman Catholic clergy, that no titles should be assumed in the hierarchy of that church, bearing any aspect of rivalry with the Protestant establishment. This principle it was now designed to carry out. For this purpose to protect the Catholic laity from aggression, and to guard against the absorption of endowments, the measures he designed to introduce would forbid the assumption by Roman Catholics of any titles taken from any territory or place within any part of the United Kingdom, and would contain clauses rendering void any acts done by any parties under those titles, and annulling any bequest made to them, which should at once fall into the power of the Crown to administer according to its discretion. This measure, he contended, would repel the offered insult, and secure the independence of the kingdom. It was his hope that the Pope would prudently accept the intimation and withdraw his claim. But if angry councils should prevail at the Vatican, an arduous struggle might ensue, throughout which, for his own part, the conduct he should pursue would be in accordance with the principles he had always advocated, embodying the desire for perfect liberty of conscience with the most jealous repugnance to any interference of ecclesiastics with the temporal supremacy of the crown. The noble lord concluded by a brief vindication of his consistency as a veteran champion of religious toleration.

Mr. Roebuck contrasted the vast promises laid down by Lord John Russell, alleging invasion and insult, with the insignificance of the measure he had founded on them.

Mr. J. O'Connell acknowledged the temperate character of the ministerial proposition, and felt himself able to support the measure, though he believed it would prove inefficient and paltry.

Mr. H. Drummond, though no Catholic, rejoiced that a church existed which still, in matters of faith, presented a bulwark against the advances of infidelity and latitudinarianism.

Mr. E. B. Roche looked upon the bill and the speech of the prime minister as essentially mischievous, and inspired with the evil spirit of bigotry.

Mr. Moore argued at much length against the right of the State to interfere in matters of opinion.

Mr. Bright commented upon the inconsistence between the tenor of Lord John Russell's letter where the progress of high church principles was set forth as the most threatening danger, and his conduct in omitting all mention of that danger in the royal speech, and proposing a trivial measure in which it was not touched. But he believed that this would be but the beginning of measures, if the precedent of interference were once established. He contrasted the minister's declaration against the interference of ecclesiastics in temporal affairs with the vast secular powers, numerous dignities, and privileges enjoyed by the prelates and clergy of the established church, and the political union they maintained with the civil governors. For ages the church had existed as a political machine, and the opponent of all legislative reforms. Unfortunately zeal had entered its ranks; it was rent by bitter schisms, and kept together only in name by the possessions to which it held a parliamentary title.

Mr. Disraeli announced his intention of voting for the measure, which, however, he declared would utterly disappoint the country, and proceeded to dilate upon the ministerial letter, the official synods, the solemn deputations, the innumerable gatherings, and universal excitement which had led up to the anti-climax of a paltry bill, providing a remedy purely technical, and doing nothing more than prohibiting a few ecclesiastics from assuming a few titles.

Sir R. H. Inglis entered into a warm defence of the Established Church, against the bill of indictment which he said had been preferred by Mr. Bright.

On the motion of Mr. Reynolds, the debate was then adjourned.

THE PROPAGANDIST SOCIETY.

A public meeting convened by the above, was held on Monday evening, at the City Chartist Hall, Golden-lane.

Mr. Leno was called to the chair, and spoke on the present and future prospects of the democratic movement in this country.

Mr. Harman moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting is of opinion that the poverty and its attendants, misery, and vice, which characterises the thorough career of the industrious portion of the English people, will never cease to exist until the principles of the "People's Charter" in their, entirety are recognised as truthful, and adopted by the country."

Mr. Finlen seconded the resolution, and was greatly applauded.

Mr. Bezer supported the resolution, and n allusion to the attendance of the police (who are now invariably to be found in uniform at every Chartist meeting,) stated that on that day fortnight he intended in that hall to deliver a lecture, "Upon the use and abuse of our police system." Facts had come to his knowledge that the government, in the most unmanly manner, were endeavouring, by sending police to their meetings, and by getting tradesmen and others to caution their workmen against joining any physical force movement, to impress upon the public mind that an outbreak was about to take place in May, and then, under the pretence of having received secret information, to place the metropolis during the period of the Exhibition under a physical force despotism. He then commented upon the fact of their being sent to Chartist meetings whilst meetings of every other description were unattended. He intended to write to Sir George Grey and the commissioners of police for sending police to his lecture; and he thought it incumbent upon the Chartist public to spend, at least, one evening, in considering this new insult placed upon them. Mr. Bezer was loudly cheered.

The resolution was then carried unanimously.

Mr. Crowe moved the following resolution, and quoted many authorities in support of his views:—"Resolved, that this meeting is of opinion, the so-called Act of Union between England and Ireland passed, in the year 1800, was unjust in principle, contrary to the express will of the Irish people, and is maintained only by virtue of that treachery, which was so extensively indulged in to incompass it. And this meeting is further of opinion, that the Irish people not having learned to acknowledge the same as a *bona fide* national compact, are qualified in demanding its immediate repeal."

Mr. Slocombe seconded, and Mr. Ryan supported, the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Wood moved the next resolution as follows, and entered into a detailed statement of the expenditure of the English and American Government:—"This meeting being impressed with the belief that monarchy is the most feigned source of crime and destitution, engendering monopoly, selfishness, and injustice; thereby becomng a foul hot bed of corruption, profligacy, and legalised plunder, is unanimous in its opinion that nothing short of a pure republic, in which the rights of every member of the community would be alike recognised, can benefit the now impoverished people of England, who are, in fact, the only true and legitimate sovereign—the source of all supreme power."

Mr. Hewett seconded the resolution.

Mr. Stallwood spoke in opposition to it.

Mr. Wheeler replied to the observations of the last speaker, and supported the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

It was then announced that Mr. Hamilton, of the *Aylesbury News*, and — Lockhart, Esq., would address the meeting in that hall, on Sunday evening. A vote of thanks was then given to the chairman, and the meeting separated at a late hour.

O'CONNOR DEFENCE FUND.

TO MR. RIDER.

Sir.—You will find enclosed a Post-office Order for £2 7s. 4½d. for the Honesty Fund, payable to you at the General Post-Office, St. Martin's-le-Grand. To be acknowledged as follows:—C. Potts 1s.; A. Hassall 1s.; J. Hassall 1s.; J. Stubbs 1s.; J. Cartwright 1s.; J. Clay, sen., 6d.; W. Hassall 1d.; J. Wright 6d.; S. Sigley 6d.; G. Bullock 6d.; W. Hewitt 1s.; J. Sigley 6d.; J. Parker 6d.; R. Griffin 3d.; W. Buxton 3d.; D. Bromley 6d.; J. Sover 6d.; W. Mathes 6d.; R. Johnson 6d.; J. Hammersley 6d.; G. Bates 4d.; E. Wright 7d.; James Ray 6d.; J. Bromley 6d.; J. Wilkinson 6d.; C. Woodward 6d.; J. Clay, jun., 3d.; W. Mooney 6d.; S. Holmes 6d.; E. Box 6d.; A Friend 6d. Proceeds of a Theatrical Representation by the Longton Dramatic Amateurs £1 10s. 1½d.

The Committee return their thanks to those friends who have assisted them on behalf of the above fund. The Longton Dramatic Amateurs also return their grateful acknowledgments to those persons who visited them on their theatrical representation, and beg to state, that as their humble abilities were so well received, they will feel pleasure in rendering assistance to any good or charitable cause at any future time. Friends desirous of contributing to this fund, can do so, by applying to Charles Potts, Finance-road, Longton Potteries, Staffordshire.

HONESTY FUND IN THE POTTERIES.

Since my last letter I have received the following sums, and I cannot but express my extreme regret at witnessing the apathy displayed towards the People's Friend by the people themselves. The disposal of the china and vases will take place on the first Monday in March; therefore not a moment should be lost; let me hear from all without further delay, so that the sum may be worthy of presentation to assist Mr. O'Connor, as well as creditable to yourselves.

Money received:—Robert Johnson, Glasgow; Thomas Haworth, Burnley-lane; Samuel Healey, Macclesfield; Edward Thurman, Mrs. Littlewood, Miss Nottingham, all 6d. each; Joseph Pickford, Congleton, 1s.; W. J. B. Mills, Brighton, 2s. 6d.

R. Hopkinson, Secretary.

Old Hall-terrace, Hanley,
Feb. 3rd, 1851.

The Mercantile Marine Act.—The clause strictly enforcing the provision that all masters, first or second, or only mates, of foreign bound vessels shall produce certificates of competency before being allowed to sail in such vessels, came into full operation on Monday, and no vesssel will now be permitted to put to sea unless the officers in charge produce certificates proving them to be fully competent. This regulation was not carried into force on the 1st of January because the authorities were not able (owing to the immense number of applications) to supply the certificates within the prescribed time.

A meeting of the shipowners, masters, and seamen, took place at Liverpool on Tuesday, to protest against the Mercantile Marine Act.

Police.

BOW-STREET.—The Fleeced Cabman.—T. Brown, 50, a labouring man, was charged with refusing to pay for his conveyance in a cab.—The prosecutor stated that on Saturday night he was proceeding down Long-acre, having just set down his fare, when he was hailed by a boy, who asked him if he wanted a job. The boy took him into King-street, where he found prisoner with a woman, whom he supposed to be his wife. The woman asked him to take them to the street at the back of Snow-hill, and agreed to give him a shilling, the fare being 1s. 4d. On arriving at a house in the quarter indicated, prosecutor set the woman down, who said she would be back in a minute, but he waited an hour for her in vain. By this time he began to think he had been cheated, and applied to the prisoner, who was asleep in the cab, and apparently unconscious of what was going on. He was quite drunk when the woman put him in. Prosecutor then gave him into custody. Prisoner said he knew nothing of the woman; he was intoxicated at the time, and had lost all his money, which he believed the woman had stolen.—Mr. Hall asked prosecutor whether he did not think that prisoner and himself had alike been cheated by the woman, who wanted a ride for nothing?—Prosecutor thought it was so; and the magistrate dismissed the case.

Stealing a Letter.—William Smith, a letter-carrier, employed in the district of Pimlico, was brought before Mr. Hall charged with stealing a letter, containing a half-sovereign, which came into his possession for delivery.—Mr. Walter R. Sculthorpe, a president of the London district, stated that owing to the loss of several letters passing through the receiving house in Pimlico, he was directed to send a letter with marked money, which he did, addressing it, "Miss Tibbetts, care of Mrs. Ringham, Chapel-place-mews, Belgrave-square," and sent it to the inspector at the office in Pimlico, by whom it was dropped into the box to be sorted, after which, having ascertained that it had not been delivered, inquiries were made among the different persons in that office, the result of which was that the prisoner was the person through whose hands it passed in sorting, although, when asked, he denied knowing anything about it. He was then searched by Peake, the constable, who not only found the marked coin, but also the envelope of the letter upon him.—The prisoner admitted to the constable that he had taken the letter wilfully, and that it was the effects of drink that caused him to commit such an act.—When the prisoner's lodgings were searched by Mr. Cole, inspector of letter-carriers, he found a great number of newspapers and periodicals of all kinds, from each of which the direction had been torn.—The prisoner declined saying anything to the charge, and he was fully committed to Newgate for trial.

Training for Newgate.—Patrick Coghlan, 12 years of age, was charged with stealing a small quantity of lead pipe, the property of Baron Overstone.—The boy was employed as a plaster's labourer at the mansion of his lordship, in Carlton-gardens, and was searched on suspicion as he was leaving work on Monday night, when the lead in question was found in his basket.—Prisoner did not deny the charge, and when at the station said that he had seen his father do so, and thought it was quite right.—Mr. Jardine said that whether the boy's statements were true or not, it was evident he had been abetted by persons older than himself. He was reluctant to punish the boy, who was obviously the agent of others; he must, however, commit him to the House of Correction for fourteen days, and to be once whipped.

MANSION-HOUSE.—Robbing a Church.—H. Wilson was charged with having stolen a coat in the vestry-room of the Church of St. Mary-le-Bow.—The sexton of the church said: On Sunday, at a quarter past three o'clock, the prisoner came into the church, and sat in the south aisle, close to the vestry door, while the service was being performed. I soon afterwards went into the vestry, and found him there with the coat of the Rev. Mr. South, who is evening lecturer, on his back. The reverend gentleman was performing service at the time. The prisoner, in answer to my inquiries, said he entered the vestry because he wanted to see the clergyman, and he pulled off the coat, and said he had put it on because he was in extreme distress.—The Lord Mayor sentenced the prisoner to imprisonment and hard labour for six weeks.

Robbery at a Concert.—William Probert, who was a few days ago charged with having robbed a young lady of her gold watch in Sussex-hall, Leadenhall-street, was brought up for final examination.—The young lady and her brother, and two female friends, had gone to a concert in Sussex Hall, and the prisoner, who was accompanied by a well-dressed female, gave up his seat and that of his companion for the accommodation of the prosecutrix and her party. In the course of the bustle of making room the prisoner put his hand round the lady's waist. He and his female friend then became invisible, and the watch was missed from the chain. The prisoner was subsequently taken into custody by an officer, who observed him departing from the room.—Storey and other officers recognised the prisoner as the constant companion of thieves, and stated that he was in the habit of "working" in steam boats in summer and in concert rooms in winter, and that a well-dressed female always "worked" with him.—Committed for trial.

An Inveterate Window Smasher.—Mary Pulham, a desperate old woman, was charged with having smashed a pane of plate glass in the house of the landlord of the White Hart Tavern, in Abchurch-lane.—The defendant, who has been very frequently imprisoned for offences of the kind, and had been just discharged from Bridewell, swore she would repeat the mischief upon the first opportunity.—The complainant said the woman had broken his windows upon two former occasions.—The Lord Mayor said that a course had been adopted to check the taste for breaking the Mansion House windows, and it had proved efficacious. Perhaps a similar plan would "tell" at the White Hart Tavern.—The complainant said he was prepared to administer the preventive medicine upon the next appearance of the defendant or any other window smasher.—The defendant was committed to hard labour for six weeks. Upon being removed from the bar she said she should certainly bonnet the complainant upon her discharge and do for him, and he should never know anything about it.

Buying Bargains.—William Dubois was charged with having defrauded William Allan, a cooper, who resides on Garlick-hill. The prosecutor said: On Saturday evening last at six o'clock, as I was going home through Aldgate the prisoner stopped me, and asked me if I wanted any tobacco. I said, no; and he then said that he and a mate of his had come ashore, and were without money, and they had a few articles which they brought from abroad—I think he said from China—and he asked me to go with him to Jewry-street. I consented, and he took me to a public-house, in the parlour of which we saw a man, whom he called his mate. He showed me a shawl, but I refused to purchase it. The other man then showed me two waistcoat-pieces, which he said contained enough to make four waistcoats, and he offered them to me for 25s., saying that one piece was silk velvet and the other was satin. I refused the price, and was going away, when the prisoner stopped me, and said I should have the articles for 15s. I offered half a sovereign for them, and the prisoner agreed to take it, and I paid his partner that money. As I was going home, I asked a tailor what my bargain was worth, and he denied that the articles were either silk velvet or satin, and that they were not worth more than between 3s. and 4s. The prisoner was committed for trial.

CLERKENWELL.—Equality of the Law.—James Filcox, a groom in the service of Mr. Danby, late M.P. for Sussex, was charged with deserting the child of his wife, from whom he had long been separated.—The case was not established, and after it had been heard Mr. Danby bitterly complained of the unjustifiable intrusion of the warrant officers into his residence. On Monday, just as he was about to sit down to dinner, he was summoned to the library, where a row was going on. The constable and another person had entered that room wholly without his authority. They might do what they liked outside the house, but he advised them, if they should come that way again, not to repeat the intrusion. Had they applied to him, he would have seen that defendant surrendered.—Mr. Combe said that having seen their man, the officers were bound to follow him to effect the capture. If a party made an escape into a poor man's cottage, he was followed and captured, and why should he not be in a gentleman's house? The matter here dropped.

WORSHIP-STREET.—Highway Robbery.—S. Cole, *alias* Pluckrose, was charged with stealing from the person of W. Bishop, a purse containing twelve sovereigns, a half sovereign, and a cheque for £4 4s.—Prosecutor stated that about nine o'clock on the evening of the 23rd of January, he was passing across Haggerstone-fields, when he met the prisoner, who observed "It's a dark night." Prosecutor assented, remarking that he had lost his way. Prisoner said he could find the path, and volunteered his assistance, which was declined. Prisoner then crossed to the right, a little in advance, and spoke to some person, but instantly returned, and crossing to the left got on a slight embankment, saying "Oh here's the path; give me your hand. I will help you up." Prosecutor did so, but was at that moment seized from behind by another man, who put his arm round his neck, and threw him to the ground. Prisoner instantly drew a knife, and said "Hold him down." He then cut off the right-hand pocket of prosecutor's trousers, containing the property named, and afterwards twisted his gold guard from his neck. Both men then made off, while he was calling for help.—Police-constable Morell deposed to having taken the prisoner into custody at a coffee-house, for another offence. Prosecutor identified him from among others in the station-house.—Prisoner, at his request, was remanded for three days, to prove an alibi.

WANDSWORTH.—Wanton Damage by an Italian Organist.—An athletic Italian, who gave no other name than Guiseppe, was charged with intimidation with intent to extort money, and with breaking the window of his victim when that means had failed. The offence was proved; Guiseppe pretended to know nothing of English, which he had spoken freely enough in menaces.—Mr. Beadon fined him one shilling or seven days' imprisonment.

WESTMINSTER.—Mr. Samuel Venn, a baker, carrying on a very extensive business at 20, Queen's-buildings, Brompton, and who is also headborough of Kensington, was charged with violently assaulting and wounding John Brian, an engineer, employed at the Crystal-palace, by striking him with a policeman's truncheon.—Defendant was ordered to find sureties for his appearance at the sessions, which he immediately did.

A Remedy for Highland Destitution.—Among the remedies for the destitution which prevails in the Western Isles, none would be more efficient than the opening up of foreign markets for the produce of the herring fishing. All the narrow firths between those islands swarm with herrings during particular seasons; but, as the produce of the fishery already exceeds the demand for the article, there is no inducement, but the contrary, for any inhabitant of the sea-washed rocks of the west to prosecute the fishing. Were France, or any other of the Roman Catholic countries of the Continent, from which our herrings are at present excluded, induced to lower their prohibitory tariffs, the new outlet would cause the fishing to be prosecuted with success in the western isles, and this branch of industry would prove a far more permanent remedy for the pauperism of the Hebrides than any scheme for splitting up these islands into crofts, and rearing a family on the produce of half an acre.—*Banffshire Journal.*

The Window Tax.—The vestry of St. Clement Danes have passed the following resolution on this subject:—"That this vestry, being of opinion that the window duty is unjust in principle, being a tax levied for the purposes of war, and partial in its application, and productive of misery and disease in all crowded localities, it should therefore be at once entirely abolished, and no longer disfigure the statute book."

A Guard was killed on Monday, on the Whitehaven and Furness Railway, in consequence of his head coming in contact with the brick-work of a bridge; he being on the top of a carriage while the train was going at full speed.

The number of Mormonites, or "Latter-day Saints," in the United Kingdom, is stated by the *Millennial Star* to amount to 30,747, including 4,937 in Wales; 3,257 in Scotland, and ninety in Ireland.

Constitutions, however Weak or Debilitated, may be completely renovated by Holloway's Pills.—The extraordinary sale of these admirable pills throughout every part of the civilised world, is the most convincing proof of their efficiency in the cure of various disorders. In cases of weak or debilitated constitutions, their properties are such as to purify the blood, invigorate the system, and establish the soundest health. Persons suffering from lowness of spirits, nervousness, imperfect digestion, deranged stomachs, bilious affections, liver complaints, determination of blood to the head, or even epileptic fits, will find in this truly valuable medicine, a certain, safe, and efficacious remedy.

Markets, &c.

CORN.

Mark Lane, Monday.—The show of wheat samples from our neighbouring counties was small this morning; but having a large arrival of foreign wheat and flour, the former principally from the Black Sea and Mediterranean, the sale was very slow, and 1s. cheaper for all but the best qualities. For foreign the sale was very limited at barely last week's prices. In flour little doing. Barley dull sale at previous quotations. Beans and peas went off slowly, and white peas declining in value. With oats we were well supplied, and unless for the finest fresh samples sales could not be made unless at a reduction of 6d. per qr. upon last Monday's prices.

Wednesday.—Our supplies of both English and Foreign grain have been moderate since Monday. In spite of this, a general dullness is prevalent this morning, and we note no improvement for any article upon Monday's prices.

Richmond, (Yorkshire,) Feb. 1.—We had a fair supply of wheat this morning, and all was cleared off. Wheat sold from, 4s 6d to 5s 6d; Oats, 1s 10d to 3s; Barley, 3s 0d to 3s 6d; Beans, 4s to 4s 8d per bushel.

CATTLE.

Smithfield, Monday, February 4.—Our market to-day was seasonably well supplied with foreign stock, in the general quality of which a decided improvement was noticed. The demand for it was, however, very inactive. From our own grazing districts, the arrivals of beasts fresh up this morning were again somewhat extensive for the time of year, whilst their condition was unusually good. Owing in a great measure to the large receipts of meat up to Newgate and Leadenhall, the beef trade was in a very inactive state at prices barely equal to those of Monday last; the highest figures for the best Scots being 3s. 8d. per 8lbs. On the whole the supply of sheep was good, both as to number and quality. All breeds were in moderate request, at last week's currency. The top general figure for the best old Downs was 4s. 4d.; whilst a few superior qualities realised 4s. 6d. per 8lbs. Nearly 1,000 head were out of the wool; and there were about 100 Dorset lambs on offer. Calves, the supply of which was small, at unaltered quotations. We were scantily supplied with pigs, in which a very limited business was doing, at late rates.

Beef, 2s 6d to 3s 8d; mutton, 3s 4d to 4s 4d; veal, 3s 0d to 3s 10d; pork, 2s 10d to 4s 0d.—Price per stone of 8lbs sinking the offal.

Newgate and Leadenhall, Monday, Jan. 27.—Inferior beef, 2s 0d to 2s 2d; middling, ditto, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; prime large, 2s 8d to 3s 0d; prime small, 3s 0d to 3s 4d; large pork, 2s 6d to 3s 6d; inferior mutton, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; middling ditto, 2s 10d to 3s 6d; prime ditto, 3s 8d to 3s 8d; veal, 2s 6d to 3s 8d; small pork, 3s 8d to 4s 0d; per 8lbs. by the carcase.

PROVISIONS.

London, Wednesday.—During last week there was an improvement in the tone and character of our market. Butter attracted more attention, and a good business was done in all descriptions of Irish for the northern and other parts of the country, in addition to the purchases of the dealers here. Prices ruled for Carlow at from 76s to 86s.; Cork, 82s to 84s; Limerick, 74s to 80s; Waterford, 72s to 76s; Sligo and Tralee, 70s to 74s per cwt. landed. Foreign was also in more request at 103s to 106s for Friesland; Kiel, 96s to 100s best quality; and for other kinds in proportion. Bacon was held with firmness, and for higher rates in consequence of the government advertising for a large extra supply of pork for the navy, and, with a steady demand, prices ranged from 40s to 45s for Irish landed and on board; Hambro', 39s to 42s per cwt. Hams rather more saleable at 56s to 66s. Lard met ready buyers at 48s to 54s bladdered and kegs at 40s to 44s.

English Butter Market, Feb. 3.—Our trade is just now in a healthy state, inasmuch as the middling butter left with us finds sales, which had hitherto been neglected. Of fine qualities we have little or nothing remaining. Dorset fine weekly 88s to 92s per cwt.; do., middling and stale 70s to 80s; Fresh 9s to 13 per doz. lbs.

BREAD.

The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 7d. to 7½d.; of household ditto, 5d. to 6½d. per 4lbs. loaf.

HIDES.

Leadenhall.—Market hides, 56lb. to 64lb., 1½d. to 2d. per lb.; ditto, 64lb. to 72lb., 2¼d. to 2¾d; ditto, 72lb. to 80lb., 2½d. to 3d.; ditto, 80lb. to 88lb., 3d to 3¼d.; ditto, 88lb. to 96lb., 3¾d to 4d.; ditto 96lb. to 104lb., 4d. to 4¼d.; ditto, 104lb. to 112lb., 4½d to 4¾d.; Calf-skins, each, 2s. to 3s.; Horse-hides 6s. to 7s.

WOOL.

City, Monday, Feb. 3.—The imports of wool into London last week were 230 bales from South Australia, 497 from Rouen, 16 from Germany, and 145 from Mogadore. The wool trade is steady for most descriptions.

Liverpool, Feb. 3.—Scotch.—There is still only a moderate demand for Laid Wool. White Highland is rather more inquired for. There is still a dull demand for all kinds of crossed Cheviot Wool, and to force sales a little less money would require to be taken.

Foreign.—The announcement of public sales here for the 6th and 7th inst., of about 2,000 bales colonial, and about 1,000 bales low wools on the 7th, after the fine ones, has prevented anything like active business by private contract; still, for anything offering on arrival great competition exists, and very high prices paid.

Imports for the week 2,778 bales; previously this year 5,562 bales.

The Gazette.

From the Gazette of Tuesday, February 4.

BANKRUPTS.

Andrew Eve, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, turner—William Hood, Lawrence-lane, Cheapside, commission agent—Richard Tredinnick, Threadneedle-street, mining agent—Charles Watt, Southampton-street, Pentonville, baker.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

D. Jack and Co., Glasgow, wholesale stationers—J. Somerville, Longstone, innkeeper—J. Rose, Banff, banker—A. Pendrigh, Edinburgh, merchant.

From the Gazette of Friday, February 7th.

BANKRUPTS.

John Skam, of Stukley-road, Clapham-road, builder—John Slater Marshall, of 91, Goswell-road, Clerkenwell, boot and shoe dealer—Abraham Friedeberg, of 2[illegible] Houndsditch, furrier—James Dixon, of Morley, Yorkshire, dyer—John Wyatt, jun., of Somerset, grocer—James Shirt, of Frodsham, Cheshire, provision dealer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

Hoseason and Co., of Glasgow, merchants—Aitken, Mathie, and Co., of Glasgow, founders—Alexander Brown, of Glasgow, manufacturer—Alexander Graham, of Ba[illegible] contractor.

BIRTHS.

Young Patriots.—Lately, at Radford, near Coventry, was registered Feargus O'Connor Bird, the son of Benjamin Bird; and also Ernest, son of John Parkers, both of the above place.

DEATH.

At Darlington, on the 31st January, Jane, wife of [illegible] William Carlton, aged thirty-three. The friends of Democracy bore her to her final resting place on Sunday last. She was an ardent lover of liberty.

Printed by William Rider, of No. 5, Macclesfield-street, in the parish of St. Anne, Westminster, at the Printing office, 16, Great Windmill-street, Haymarket, in the City of Westminster, for the Proprietor, Feargus O'Connor, Esq. M.P., and published by the said William Rider, at the Office in the same street and parish.—Saturday, February 8th, 1851.