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TO READERS AND FRIENDS.

Our Friends will, no doubt, feel surprised at the singular heading to this day's paper. The transfer of the Journal from its late to its present Proprietors has necessitated the passing through all the formalities attendant on the publication of a *new* newspaper. We have complied with all the requirements of the Stamp Office; but it has been impossible to prepare the new distinctive die in time for this number, wanting which, it would have been illegal for the paper to have appeared under the title, solely and exclusively, of the 'Star of Freedom.' No doubt, next week we shall be in a position to appear under our proper designation.

PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE.

Give me the liberty to know, to utter, and to argue freely, according to conscience, above all liberties.—MILTON.

FOURTEEN YEARS have passed away since the ('Northern') 'Star' arose in the political firmament *to illumine and guide the suffering* children of toil in their struggles towards a better, brighter, future. Pouring a flood of light upon the land, its rays entered the homes of the humblest, and men who had politically been sitting in the Valley of the Shadow of Death, came to see and know each other as brethren. A God-like impulse forthwith dictated that union—that confederation of numbers—by which the weak become mighty, and the poor (usually so powerless) are made invincible. From hill and vale—from the stifling factory and the grimy workshop—from loom and forge, poured forth *a* people unrecognised by legislators and rulers, excepting in the character of blind unreasoning instruments—hewers of wood, and drawers of water—bondmen to create wealth, and slaves to build up the blood-cemented greatness of their rich and privileged masters. That these unhappy heirs of poverty and slavery should presume to speak of themselves as 'the people,' was insolence unexampled, presumption unparalleled. So argued aristocrats and plutocrats. Nothing heeding, that 'people' unknown to the 'Constitution' (!), that nation within a nation, raised louder and louder its cry for Liberty—the liberty to live the true life of Humanity—the liberty to cast off the fetters of serfdom, and assume the franchises and duties of the Free. Then was heard a sound like that of armies marching to battle—the tramp of thousands, and tens of thousands, as they gathered around Freedom's banner in those mighty assemblages for which the years 1838 and 1839 will will long be memorable. What though nominally no national union or association had existence, though the people, in their respective localities, united under such designations as convenience, taste, or tradition suggested,—some in 'Political Unions,' others in 'Radical,' 'Chartist,' 'Democratic,' and 'Working Men's' *Associations,—wanting a proper union*, there was something better—the union of hearts. Had that union continued, the establishment of popular sovereignty *might have dated from the year 1839*; but division crept into the people's ranks, and all was lost. It would be worse than useless to make this or that section or person responsible for the reverses experienced then and at subsequent times. There were faults all round the compass. Undoubtedly, the worst evils were caused by Egotism and Falsehood, the eternal and most fatal foes to Democracy. Enough of the Past. My purpose is not to re-open old wounds, but to revive the recollections of former Energy, and, if possible, to summon that Energy to renewed life and action. Despite mistakes, failure, and suffering, the cause is as sacred and as worthy of a people's support now as it was in the days of 'Peterloo,' or the first years of Chartism. Popular Education has advanced, the truculent tenets of ancient Toryism are disavowed by the heirs of PITT and CASTLEREAGH; the Whigs have lost their mischievous influence; *and even the middle-class Radicals*, though they shrink from adopting the good and safe principle of 'Justice to all—Privilege to none,' yet are fain to confess their impotency unaided by the working classes, thus inviting the unrepresented to dictate the terms on which to found a truly *national* movement. To at once inaugurate such a movement, what is there needed? Simply the abnegation of personal pretensions, and an unmistakeable desire to make all considerations subservient to the one great end—that of the People's Emancipation.

The ('Northern') 'Star' has run its course. In its day it enjoyed an influence unexampled in the history of weekly journals. Other newspapers have had as large a circulation, but not one of them has had the influence over masses of men, at one time exercised by the 'Star.' That it should decline in every sense of the term, was but natural. It was essentially the representative of a past phase of political progress. Democracy, as now understood, widely differs from the Democracy of 1839. The Democracy of the present aspires to a solution of more than the political question. The right to life includes more than the right to a vote, or the right to be freed from some portion of the burden of taxation. The right to labour, and to a righteous appropriation of the fruits of his own labour, are part and parcel of the 'Rights of Man.' But any mere verbal recognition of these rights in any Declaration, Charter, or Constitution, would be but a mockery. Nominally, all Britons are 'free-born;' but do they so live? The Rights above-named must be mere abstractions, so long as privileged classes shall continue to monopolise the soil, credit, and the instruments of production; and so long as vicious arrangements compel the wealth-producer to toil chiefly for the benefit of tax-eaters, consumers of rents and dividends, and a class or classes of distributors multitudinously superfluous. The abolition of proletarianism, the abrogation of that system of wages-slavery, by which the working classes are held in a description of serfdom, in some respects worse than that chattle-slavery against which Exeter-hall philanthropists raise such loud outcries, is the mission of Democracy. Unaccompanied by the possession and exercise of their Social Rights the people would find their Political Rights barren and valueless. Indeed, history has demonstrated, and never more strikingly than within the past few years, that, failing to understand, possess, and exercise their Social Rights, it is not possible for a people to long retain possession of their Political Rights. Universal Suffrage has been repeatedly established by Revolution, thrones have been overturned and Republics proclaimed; but because the people were not sufficiently enlightened and determined to make corresponding social changes, their victories, their sufferings have been in vain. Blood has flowed like water, yet the peoples have gained literally nothing but experience. May the wisdom which should be the fruit of that experience develop itself when again the peoples shall be in a position to forecast their future.

The relations of Labour to Capital; and the means to be employed for the working man's social emancipation, without violence or wrong to any other man,—these all-important questions are henceforth inseparably associated with Democracy. Social Reform, on its side, is not the less dependent upon Political Reform. Class-usurpation and Class-legislation are the great barriers to Social Progress. Universal Suffrage—exercised by an intelligent people—implies a free Press, freedom of association, and the immediate or gradual recovery of all those social rights and powers wanting which Labour must remain the dependant, the slave of Money and Privilege.

In another, and most important, respect, the Democracy of 1852 differs from that of 1839. Among other lessons taught by experience must be included that of the 'solidarity of nations.' Had France carried her Revolution of February beyond the frontier, the Reaction would have been stifled in its birth, Europe would have been free, and France would have escaped her present humiliation. England is not blameless. The British Government coerced the Portuguese, deluded, and abandoned the Sicilians, connived at the destruction of Italian Freedom, and permitted the subjugation of Hungary by a foreign invader. At this hour, it is in the name of England that our rulers basely pay homage to the tyrants of the Continent, and still more meanly submit to wrong and insult at the hands of the slaves and satellites of Austria. To this policy, at once both slavish and criminal, the sentiments of the British people are opposed. But their sentiments are unrepresented in the Cabinet and Legislature. Far from reflecting that sympathy for 'oppressed nationalities,' which, undoubtedly, is cherished by the majority of the British People, British Statesmen, so-called, are eager to apologise for the crimes of the European despots, both legitimate and illegitimate. That the chiefs of the two great parties, the leaders of both the late and present Governments, vied with each other in their praise of the French usurper, at a moment when the heart of every honest man beat with the strongest indignation at the contemplation of that tyrant's atrocities, is a fact that, reflects, not more disgrace upon a DERBY and a RUSSELL's than humiliation upon the county dishonoured by their rule.

It is time that England should forsake her policy of selfish isolation, and assume a position answering to the claims of Humanity. All other European nations are gagged or overawed, and if not here, then nowhere on this side of the Atlantic may freedom look for a true and faithful ally. Nations have their duties as well as individuals; and certain it is that all the duties of this country are not comprised in the Manchester formula—to 'buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest market.' One grand, leading duty for this nation to perform, is to take the initiative and the lead in that organisation of the peoples which no terror, no proscription, can much longer prevent. In the great war of principles, England will be compelled to take a side. The sympathies of our rulers are evidently on the side of the despots. To nullify this great evil British Democracy must declare its unequivocal adhesion to the cause of the peoples.

"THE STAR OF FREEDOM"

will represent these advanced phases of Democracy. It will contend for the Social Rights and Social Salvation of the People; and will insist upon the necessity and duty of all nations combining to work out their common deliverance.

But above and before all, the "STAR OF FREEDOM" will advocate such a reform in our Political Institutions as will invest the People with sovereign authority, and thereby enable them to work out their own regeneration, and to give effective aid to their Brethren of other lands. Of all Political Reforms, the first to be sought is Reform in Parliament; and of all schemes for reforming the Representation, there is but one worthy the People's support—that which will enable *every man* to exercise his rights as a citizen, fully and freely, through the means of UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE, VOTE BY BALLOT, ANNUAL PARLIAMENTS, EQUAL ELECTORAL DISTRICTS, NO PROPERTY QUALIFICATION, and PAYMENT OF MEMBERS.

To revive the energy and to re-establish the union so strikingly manifested in the early days of the 'Northern Star,' to collect the scattered forces of Democracy, to unite hearts and hands in national combination for the triumph of our sacred principles, will be the unceasing, unswerving aim of

L'AMI DU PEUPLE.

Foreign and Colonial Intelligence.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent).

PARIS, Wednesday, April 21st, 1852.

From Paris starts the signal for the uprising of nations. Of late it has always been the French who have set the example of sacred insurrection and revolution. Over the whole continent of Europe, the enslaved, depraved, and wretched people have no hope save in a general appeal to arms. They wait the signal. The tocsin must sound here, the clang of arms, the beating of drums, the roaring of cannon in Paris, will, therefore, be sweet music to the ears of the oppressed nations of Europe.

Europe presents a strange spectacle. She is like some flock of innocent sheep, with, at the throat of every one, a furious bull-dog pinning them to the earth. In the centre is a sullen old ram, held down by one of the fierce hounds that once guarded the gates of Hades. The old ram is still, but only preparing to struggle. The rest look on anxiously; at the least movement of the leader they will struggle also.

Hungary, though trodden under foot by despotism, though crushed by taxes, though overrun with spies, is but a volcano gradually inflaming, and its lava mounting to the surface; Poland sighs to be in motion; Rome is kept still by an army of police and twenty thousand foreign troops; Venice longs, ardently, to see her beloved Manin once more; Milan is more sombre and Austrian-hating than ever; Vienna is kept still only by an overwhelming military force; Berlin the same; Baden, Hesse-Cassel, and Wurtemburg likewise; while France lies for the moment prostrate beneath the yoke of an iron despot, the rival of Nero and Caligula.

But France is only temporarily quiet. She longs for action. A vast army, the apathy consequent on February and June, 1848, lavish expenditure of public money, the anxiety for some repose, keep the French still. But when the end of the year comes, when a reckoning takes place, when a crushing deficit astound the whole nation, when a year shall have wearied the people of a gagged press, a defunct tribune, a sham representative; when they shall sicken at being plundered, robbed, stripped by a gang of bandits, as shameless and vile as Jack Sheppard, Maudvin, or Cartouche (one taking twelve millions, another 100,000 francs, another 30,000, and so on) then the hatred, contempt, and disgust of the nation will explode, and we shall again be launched on the stormy path of revolution.

The present calm is wholly factitious. An insurrection in Paris, which is being prepared unceasingly by Orleanists and Republicans, would end all. Let the Republicans rise and triumph in Paris, and the face of Europe would be changed in a week. The Pope would fly once more, and the wretched ruffian of Naples would be expelled from his throne, while Mazzini at Rome, Manin at Venice, Kossuth in Hungary, other patriots at Milan, Vienna, Berlin, would vindicate the rights of man, and establish, once for all, peace, unity, and concord.

Let none deceive themselves. This democratic revolution must, and will take place. The sooner it comes the better.

The state of the press is dismally ludicrous. The editors know not what to say, so they say nothing. They are threatened with seizure for a gibe, for the merest allusion which looks like opposition. The "Charivari" has been threatened with extinction, for a hint telling against the President's nasal organ. He has not forgotten the continued satires upon himself which appeared before December.

The review and *fete* of the tenth is finally selected as the day on which the Empire is to be proclaimed—accidents excepted. Now the accident that stands in the way is the determined opposition of the Emperor of Russia, who upheld the so-called rights of Henry V., Count de Chambord. The Muscovite Czar is very willing for Louis Napoleon to bring the French people to boot, to teach them reasonable notions, to make them mind authority, to habituate them to military and priestly rule, all with a view to the glorious restoration of the divine right, Bourbons. An imperial dynasty on the throne, firmly fixed, would militate against this blessed consummation. So the Emperor of Russia protests, and Napoleon hesitates.

A pretty thing it is that a conclave of ruffians—such as Alexander Russia, Francis Austria, Ferdinand Bomba, Louis France and fools, such as Henry V., should have anything to do with the fate of the unfortunate millions. These fellows actually fancy that the nations of the earth have been made for their good pleasure, forgetting that, but for a ridiculous accident, they might have been born John Tomkins, Bill Slater, or any other heroic democratic individual, or wretched nobody. There will be no real progress until we strip rank, power, title, of its gaudy trappings, and look at them in their nakedness.

The history of monarchy is this: A hundred men, a hundred families find themselves on an island. There are ninety industrious, hard working men, and ten idle rascals. But these idle rascals are clever and acute, and audacious; so they band together, take advantage of the disunion and ignorance of their fellows, and levy plunder on the rest, which they call taxes. Then the cleverest rogue of the ten is named captain, duke, king; while to ensure the continuations of his tyranny, he rewards his associates with titles, a share of the plunder, makes himself hereditary chief, and so on. In course of time, thanks to the ignorance of the ninety and their descendants, they forget how rascally their rulers came to be over us, and are led to believe that God put them at their head. Hence the absurb belief in divine right. In all countries some similar process, in barbarous times, has led to monarchy and aristocracy, which, from tradition, we are ninies enough enough to regard with veneration and respect.

"There's a good time coming."

The gradual abolition of the standing army in France is called for by the Republicans. They are convinced that there is no hope for economy, or retrenchment, or for Democracy, until this nuisance is abolished.

Arrests, transportations, exiling, continue with unabated vigour. No man is safe. No man dares to express an opinion for fear of arrest. The least disrespectful allusion to the Prince President is followed by arrest and imprisonment. The infamous spy system is carried out to a frightful extent—it is the bulwark of the new constitution.

But there are events brewing of which the future knows nothing. I shall keep you well up to the Democratic news of Paris, and send you extracts from the reports of my correspondent at Vienna, Venice, and Berlin, &c. There are events of moment at hand.

CRUSADE AGAINST THE FOREIGN JOURNALS—THE COMING "EMPIRE"—THE VICTIMS OF TYRANNY—PRECAUTIONS AGAINST THE WORKMEN—DEATHS OF NOTABLE CHARACTERS.

On Sunday a general razzia was made on the foreign newspapers received at the post-office. In answer to inquiries, the applicants were informed that orders had been sent from M. de Maupas to send all the journals received from abroad to the ministry of police. Such an act of despotism exceeds the tyrannical system of Russia and Austria. For some time past great irregularity has been experienced in the distribution of foreign papers, the greater part of which, particularly those from Belgium and Switzerland, are kept back till their intelligence is out of date. Evidently the system of terror on which the present government, leans is, instead of relaxing, growing more intense. Discontent multiplies, and in proportion must be multiplied the pressure which coerces all complaint. No class escapes the vexatious activity of the government, whose iron hand pinches in all directions, and smites all who groan under the infliction. But of all the fantastic schemes afoot, the debasement of the copper coinage is that which will most completely depopularise the President, whose effigy is to be spread by this means. What peasant throughout France will be brought to understand how he can suffer aught but loss by being forced to give up a penny that weighs an ounce, to receive in turn one that weighs only half an ounce. What better argument against the government *de facto* would the factions of pretenders desire to put in the hands of all Frenchmen than this dwarfed copper piece, which is to penetrate everywhere. A government that shows so little policy in its reforms is likely at no very distant period, to afford a very gratifying spectacle to its enemies, by making use of the rope allowed it in the manner they most desire. Hence, there is little tendency towards fresh adhesions on the part of important men. The purses afforded out of the public pocket to senatorial sinecures are unenvied by the prudent in proportion to the smothered indignation of the oppressed tax-payer.

It is reported that several distinguished professional men have refused the oath of fidelity to the President as well as M. Martin (de Strasbourg.) Among these are M. Villemain, secretary of the Academy; Jules Simon, professor at the Sorbonne, and formerly member of the constituent assembly; Boissonnarde, professor at the Sorbonne, and a celebrated Greek scholar; Boussingault, member of the Academy of Sciences, and professor at the "Conservatoire des Aris et Metiers;" and several professors of rhetoric in the colleges of Paris.

The following passage of the "Moniteur de l'Armee," the official military journal, has been much noticed:—"The grand ceremony of the 10th of May will be an admirable military *fete*, in which the entire army will be represented, and will give to the head of the state a fresh assurance of its devoted concurrence towards all the great measures which are about to lift society upon a solid and durable base."

It is impossible that language can speak clearer the intention of the army to propose the empire; these words admit of no other interpretation. What is to be the President's demeanour in the presence of this demonstration, and how is he to make good his speech of March 29 at the Tuileries? In the meantime, this great military *fete* absorbs public attention. An altar will be erected in the midst of the square, mass will be celebrated in the open air, as in the great civic *fetes* of the first revolution, and then the distribution of the eagles will commence, upon the same spot where the Emperor in person performed this function after his coronation. Five thousand plates for officers' schakos have been ordered from a manufacturer of the Marais, bearing the eagle, with a space left for a crown.

The minister of general police has sent a circular to the prefects of departments, containing directions with respect to political offenders who have been condemned by the departmental commissions to *internement* (forced residence in a particular place), and to *surveillance* of the police. The minister says that the object of the *internement* is to "destroy relations and influences which had produced grave disorders and veritable dangers;" and that the object of *surveillance* is "to prevent communications destined to favour plots against the safety of the state, or manœuvres of a nature to compromise public tranquillity." The *internes* are to be subjected to *surveillance*, and both they and the *surveilles* are to present themselves once a fortnight before the local authorities of the place in which they reside. They are not to leave the department, even for a temporary purpose, without permission, and the prefect of the department to which they may wish to go is to be informed when the permission is granted. The prefects are to display great severity with respect to demands to visit Lyons and the neighbourhood or Versailles, and are to display great reserve in granting authorisations to visit the departments of the Allier, the Basses-Alpes, the Ardeche, the Cher, the Herault, the Indre, the Nievre, and the Var. The minister reserves to himself alone the power of giving authorisations to visit Paris or its *banlieue*, and intimates that they will only be granted as an exceptional favour in very serious cases.

The following is the form of a recantation which the political prisoners in the south of France have been forced to sign by the *grace* commissioner, M. Quentin Bauchart, before the clemency of the President could be extended to them:—

"I, the undersigned, ——, declare that I accept with gratitude the pardon granted me by the Prince President of the Republic of the penalty of expulsion from France, to which I was condemned by the mixed commission, and I promise never to belong to any secret society, never again to occupy myself with politics, and to be faithful to the government which France gave to herself by the votes of 20th and 21st Dec., 1851. I also promise to conform as a person under 'surveillance,' to the orders of the authorities."

Orders have been sent to several prefects in the south of France to send no more political exiles into Belgium, but only to England. Some few from some of the provinces are to be sent into Spain, but upon condition of proving their means of existence, and undertaking not to reside near the frontier.

Two newspapers in the department of the Gironde, the "Journal du Peuple" and the "Courier de la Gironde," have been seized.

The term of the imprisonment of M. Proudhon having expired, he has been exiled into Belgium, and Bastogne has been fixed as his place of residence.

A letter from Bordeaux of the 14th inst. states that there were several women amongst the political prisoners embarked on board the steam vessel Colbert for transportation to Algeria.

The Tribunal of Correctional Police continues to punish with a certain degree of severity the persons guilty of using insulting language respecting the President of the Republic. On Saturday a workman named Humbel was sentenced to six months' imprisonment and 100f. fine for that offence; another, named Charbonnet, to six months' imprisonment; and a third, named Guerin, to a month's imprisonment.

It appears that the immense influx of workmen to Paris has excited the fears of the President, who is naturally apprehensive that, in the event of any outbreak, the conflict between them and the military would assume a very serious aspect. The President has, consequently, directed the Minister of General Police to address a circular to the Prefects of departments to exercise great reserve in furnishing pastports to working men desirous of proceeding to Paris. Very few are likely to obtain these necessary documents, as it is to be a condition that they shall possess sufficient resources to enable them to live a month in the capital without labour.

Prince Paul of Wurtemberg, brother of the reigning King of Wurtemberg, brother-in-law of Jerome Bonaparte, and consequently uncle of the President, expired on Friday the 16th, at his hotel in the Place Vendome. It is said that the prince was converted before his death from the Protestant faith to Roman Catholicism.

Marshal Gerard died on Saturday, at four in the afternoon, in the seventy-ninth year of his age. Etienne Maurice Gerard, Count and Marshal of France, was born in April, 1773, at Damvilliers (Meuse). He entered the army as a volunteer in 1791. He was present at Fleurus; was at one time *aide-de camp* of Bernadotte; was colonel at Austerlitz; general of brigade in the Russian campaign; general of division in September, 1812; count of the Empire in 1813; marshal of France in 1830; peer of France at the same time; general-in-chief at the taking of Antwerp in 1832; twice Minister of War; twice President of the Council of Ministers; commander in-chief of the National Guards of the Seine; twice Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honour; Grand Cross of that order since July 29, 1814. The deceased took part in all the great battles of the Empire. In consequence of the death of Marshal Gerard there remain at present only five marshals in France—Reille, promoted in 1847; Jerome Bonaparte, in 1850; and Excelmans, Harispe, and Vaillant, in 1851.

The money hitherto raised by the sale of Louis Philippe's books has been seized. The sale will doubtless be suspended.

Some of the members of the Conseil des Prud'hommes, and the delegates of the workmen employed in the shawl manufactories of the department of the Seine, have presented a petition to the President of the Republic, praying him to cause an import duty of 1 000f. each to be placed on long Cachemire shawls of foreign manufacture, and 500f. on square shawls. The petitioners state that this duty is necessary for their protection, as, although the shawls of French manufacture are, they say, superior in beauty and quality to the Indian Cachemires imported from England, the latter have a preference, merely because they are of foreign make.

A letter from Bourges of the 16th inst. announces an incendiary fire to have taken place on Easter Sunday morning in a wood not far from the town, by which an extent of twenty-five acres was burnt down. There appears to exist no doubt that this fire was the work of incendiaries, who fifteen days previously set fire to the forest of Plaimpied, the property of the hospitals of Bourges.

The "Journal de l'Yonne" of the 16th inst. contains an account of a great number of incendiary fires which had taken place in that department within a few days.

On Monday night 300 political prisoners were packed off in companies, from the fort of Ivry, to the terminus of the Rouen Railway, whence they were conveyed to Havre to be embarked for the penal colony of Lambessa, in Africa. Among these unfortunate persons was M. Souesme, whose pardon having been announced in some paper, drew reclamations from the "Assemblee Nationale" against this excess of clemency.

The extinction of opinion in two fresh provincial newspapers is announced to-day. The "Union" of Dinan, and the "Commerce Breton" of St. Malo, announce that they cease, under the present circumstances of the press, to have anything to do with politics.

In the list given by the "Moniteur" of the lectures which are to open at the Sorbonne, the name of M. Jules Simon, professor of philosophy, does not appear. M. Jules Simon was member of the Constituent, and belongs to the party of Moderate Republicans represented by General Cavaignac. The omission of his name in the official organ is attributed to the refusal of M. Jules Simon to take the oath of fidelity to the President.

A new circular has been issued by the Minister of Police, to his subordinates, the police inspectors-general, designed to put a specious varnish upon the odious spy system of which he has been made the head. To these gentlemen, eight only in number, is confided the "lofty mission" of pouring perpetual floods of light upon the Prince President of the Republic relative to the wants, wishes, interests, habits, and tendencies of thirty millions of Frenchmen. If they act up to M. Maupas's instructions, they will certainly be the most hard worked men in France. They are not to remain long at home, but are to be continually running about in their bailiwicks, learning the price of corn and other provisions, inquiring what leases are to be renewed, what property is to be sold, how agriculture, commerce, and manufactures are going on, and what may be the daily state of charitable establishments, mortgage banks, and all useful and philanthropical institutions. Public morals, public religion, public theatres, and public-houses, are all to be under their superintendence. They are to push their way into the master's manufactory and the operative's hovel, and to be continually putting questions to masters and men. In addition to this they are to act as lecturers, and are to preach everywhere the virtues of the Prince President of the Republic. The impertinent interference implied in the above catalogue will not in all probability be so extensive as may be intended because, unless the inspectors be more than mortal, their time will be fully occupied with the more congenial part of their duties pointed out in conclusion, namely, to keep a sharp look-out upon secret societies, books, newspapers, and all political conversation.

The following placard was lately found upon the walls of the mayor's house at Florac (Lozere) underneath the copy of the President's speech at the installation of the great bodies of the state:—

"Impudent usurper! God is our defender, and, in spite of the oppression of your despotism, Socialism, which His Son planted upon the earth, will remain standing, for He has said, 'All shall pass away, but My words shall not pass away.'

"(Signed) AN UNFORTUNATE PROSCRIBED."

Underneath this were drawings of a death's head and a dagger.

The Mayor of Rouen has decreed that the Place and Rue de la Republique shall in future be called the Place and Rue Imperiale.

The "Moniteur" announces that the distribution of eagles to the National Guard will not take place at the same time as to the army, but is adjourned to August 15th.

GERMANY.

BERLIN, APRIL 16.—The new constitution for the Electorate of Hesse has been published at Cassel on the 14th inst. Having been drawn up by the federal commissioners and M. Hassenpflug in the plentitude of arbitary power, it may be taken as a fair sample of the sort of thing which absolutists in Germany are willing to let pass under the name of a constitution. That it offers no real check to the governing power may be presumed. The thing is not worth more than this notice, excepting the addition that the enjoyment of civil rights is made dependent on the confession of Christianity, whereby the emancipation of the Jews in Hesse is totally recinded.

The death of the Grand Duke of Baden is now hourly expected.

The emigration from Germany has so increased that the Bremen journals record almost with terror the number of persons who sailed from that port on one day, the 15th; it is estimated as above 5,000.

BELGIUM.—The Chambers were prorogued on the 17th by proclamation.

An electric despatch from Berlin, dated April 19, says:—"The opening of the Congress of the Zolleverein took place to-day. M. de Manteuffel, President of the Council of Ministers, pronounced the opening discourse, in which he expressed a regret that circumstances had not permitted government to convoke the Congress sooner. At the same time he hoped that their deliberations would have for results the renewal of the Zolleverein, and that it would be extended to other states, by means of treaties having for effect to draw closer the existing union, by creating new interests, destined to develop material prosperity.

Letters from Cassel state, that several political persons have been arrested, on secret information given by a young painter, who, as a compensation for his disclosures, stipulated for his maintenance in Rome, whilst prosecuting his studies.

AUSTRIA AND ITALY.

It is reported at Vienna that things are in such a sad state in Italy, that the troops "do regular police duty." Two circumstances which occurred not long since at Florence form very pretty "pendants" to the Mather story. As an Austrian guard was passing, an Italian—whether intentionally or not my informant did not know—spit close before the officer in command; the latter arrested the offender, and made each of the men spit in his face. A young man, the son of the President of some judicial court, who was walking in the outskirts of the town, and reading, accidentally ran against an Austrian captain. The latter employed some offensive epithets, which were returned with interest by the hot-blooded Italian. The end of the matter was that the man in uniform had the civilian arrested, and twenty-five blows were inflicted upon him in Austrian military fashion. It is said that the commander of the corps in Tuscany was so offended at the behaviour of his subaltern, that the latter was removed from Florence. A day or two after the Italian had been flogged, an Austrian officer was severely wounded as he was returning home after dark. It is the opinion of my informant that things cannot possibly remain as they now are in Italy for any length of time. The Austrian officers openly say that they should like "to drive the Italians into the sea," and the Italians vow that if they had the power they would put every one of their oppressors to the sword.

Accounts from Naples, dated the 14th instant, state that during the last few days the politically accused, amounting to twenty-eight, had been removed from the prisons of Naples to the penal islands.

The accounts from Montefusco, where Poerio and his companions are confined, are still very sad. A special order has arrived, from the general of the district, at Montefusco, which says, "These prisoners are to be treated with the full prison severity, especially Poerio and Nisco, who are not worthy to live. *They are to have no medical treatment.*"

IONIAN ISLANDS.

A letter written by an English visitor to Corfu, says:—"We are all speculating on Louis Napoleon's movements and the doings of the new English Ministry, but principally with reference to the war question, and as to any change in the governor of these islands, who is quite as tyrannical in his way, though a Whig, as Louis Napoleon. As far as I can judge the people will not stand it much longer, and you will hear more of his doings in England before long."

TURKEY.

We have received accounts from Constantinople to the 5th inst. Public attention was much excited in the Turkish capital by the movements of troops which were taking place in the neighbourhood of the Moldavia-Wallachian provinces, and by the presence of the Emperor Nicholas in Bessarabia, where he was about to pass some grand reviews. The Divan does not, however, appear to share in the apprehensions entertained by the public on this subject.

An ambassador with a numerous suite has arrived from Candahar. A few days since he remitted his letters of credence to the Sultan, who received him with great courtesy. It is said that the mission relates to certain concessions claimed for the pilgrims of the north of India. Others will have it that it concerns the Herat question, and that the ambassador has instructions to engage the Sultan to declare war against Persia. A great mystery is attached to the negotiations with the Porte, which cannot ultimately but become public.

SWITZERLAND.

A telegraphic despatch received yesterday from our Paris correspondent announces the termination of the electoral contest in the canton of Berne. The question for the voters was, shall the mandate of the council, an executive body, liberal but conservative, be enrolled or not? The answer is 42,000 votes for maintaining the council in office until the lapse of the period for which they were elected, and but 36,000 for the revocation.

AMERICA.

PARTY CONTESTS—FATAL RIOT—KOSSUTH AT MOBILE AND NEW ORLEANS—ABOMINATIONS OF SLAVERY—DREADFUL STEAM-BOAT DISASTERS—&c., &c.

The "New York Tribune" of the 7th inst. reports that the politicians of both parties have been actively at work within the two preceding weeks, marshalling their forces and making preliminary arrangements for the Presidential contest in November.

The Whigs of Kentucky seem to have chosen for their candidate as future President, the present occupant, Millard Fillmore, in preference to Scott or Webster. Judge Douglas seems to be the favourite of the Western Democrats.

An awful riot took place at the election in St. Louis lately. As near as can be ascertained, a few Germans took offence at some cause not stated, and fired with guns from one of the houses in the vicinity upon a crowd at one of the polls. The latter became infuriated, and tore down the house. The alarm soon spread, and a mob was speedily collected who were also fired upon from the windows of three or four houses, which in their turn were demolished. A large number of persons were either killed or wounded during the *melee*.

Kossuth has had a most enthusiastic reception at Mobile. The meeting was very large and unanimous. Many of the most distinguished Alabamians participated. The date of his return to New York was uncertain. He was said to have received a considerable sum of money in aid of his cause.

Kossuth's visit to New Orleans appears to have been rather of a private than a public character.

Another fugitive, Ores Preston, has been arrested at New York, torn from his home and family, and consignd to slavery. "It is useless," says the "Tribune," "for us to attempt to depict the grief and despair of Preston's wife, when her husband was torn from her by the officers, nor the pitiful sorrow of his little step-daughter, who was there to take leave of him; but in place of our report of tears and exclamations of these bereaved ones, every wife and child can imagine what their feelings would be if the husband and father should be suddenly seized, doomed to endless bondage, and hurried from them for ever."

We are glad to follow with an opposite picture to the above: The late Mrs. Ware, of Frankfort, Kentucky, by her will emancipated all her slaves—thirty in number—and purchased for them thirteen hundred acres of good land in Ohio, lying on the Miami Canal. Twenty-seven of these disenthralled human beings recently arrived in Cincinnati from Frankfort in charge of the executor of the estate of their late mistress and were purchasing waggons, agricultural implements, and stores for their new home.

On the night of the 5th, a storm of wind, and snow, and hail, combined, broke upon the city of New York, doing considerable damage to property. The tide in the North River rose so high that the water in many places broke over the piers, and in West, and other adjoining streets, a large number of streets were flooded.

Destructive fires had occurred at Paducah, Kentucky, Louisville, and Elizabeth City, North Carolina.

Intelligence had reached New York of the total loss of the steamship North America, Capt. Blethen, which vessel belonged to Mr. Vanderbilt, and was employed on the new line between San Juan and San Francisco. It appears that on the night of the 28th of February, this splendid vessel ran on a sunken reef about seventy miles south of Acapulco. The night was fortunately calm and clear, which enabled all the passengers and crew to get ashore in safety. The vessel was bound from San Juan to San Francisco, and had on board about 800 passengers. These unfortunate people with the crew had made their way to Acapulco by land. The passengers by the steamship Tennessee, which touched at that port at the time, bound for San Francisco, generously made up a purse of 1,000 dollars for the relief of the sufferers, but this would render little aid toward supplying the wants of so many people who were in a state of entire destitution.

The steamer Independence, with a valuable freight, had been totally wrecked at Malta-Gorda. She ran aground and in a terrible storm, and went to pieces. The whole cargo, and many of the passengers, were lost.—On the 3rd, the steamer Redstone, from Maunson (Va.), for Cincinnati, with about seventy persons on board, blew up as she was leaving port. The force of the explosion was terrific, and completely shattered the boat, which immediately sunk in twenty feet of water. Only the captain and clerk were saved, and the former was severely, if not fatally, injured. On the 4th the steamer Glencoe, of New Orleans, while making her landing at St. Louis, burst all her boilers, and taking fire, burnt to the water's edge. She had 150 passengers, a large number of whom were killed; and three other steamers, lying along side, sustained considerable damage, and a number of men belonging to those vessels were also killed by the explosion.—On the evening of the 1st instant, as the steamer City of Richmond was going up the bay to New York, a schooner was seen to settle down stern foremost; four men were seen on board, forward and when all of a sudden she disappeared. A boat was lowered from the steamer, but none of the crew could be found. Some articles were picked up, among which was a water-cask, on which was painted "Rainbow." Her mast-head still remained about four feet above water.

Advices from Ecuador report that a fleet, composed of two barks and four smaller vessels, were seen lying off Tumbes. It was supposed this was Flores' squadron with which he intended to attack that town, and was preparing for an engagement. The government had despatched a war steamer against Flores' fleet. Flores had bought the Pacific Steam Navigation Company's steamer Chili, and had engaged from 2,000 to 2,500 men, principally Germans and Irish.

According to correspondence from Havana, received at New York, there had been a serious hailstorm in Cuba which had injured the tobacco crops. The sugar grinding had also been affected by rains. The greatest preparations were making for a series of magnificent *fetes* in Havana.

Advices from Costa Rica, of recent date, give a favourable account of the progress of that Republic, and the efforts making to enable it to share in the advantages opened up by the stream of traffic passing along its border through the adjoining State of Nicaragua.

THE HEROINE OF THE ILL FATED AMAZON.—Miss Smith with her aged mother, who have for the last two months been staying at Winchester, left the residence of the Mayor on Southampton, on Thursday, by the railway, for Dublin.

Waifs and Strays.

A DISPROVER.—Mr. Brougham, during his indefatigable canvass of Yorkshire, in the course of which he often addressed ten or a dozen meetings in a day, thought fit to harangue the electors of Leeds immediately on his arrival, after travelling all night, and without waiting to perform his customary ablutions. "These hands are clean," cried he, at the conclusion of a diatribe against corruption; but they happened to be very dirty; and this practical contradiction raised a hearty laugh.

A SEXTON in Salisbury Cathedral was telling Charles Lamb that eight people had dined at the top of the spire; upon which Lamb remarked that they must be very sharp set.

WHO'S HE?—An old woman, in a village in the west of England, was told one day that the King of Prussia was dead, such a report having arrived when the Great Frederick was in the noon-day of his glory. Old Mary lifted up her great slow eyes at the news, and fixing them, in the fulness of vacancy, upon her informant, replied, "Is a! is a!—The Lord ha' mercy!—Well! well! The King of Prussia! And who's he?" The "who's he?" of this old woman might serve as a text for a notable sermon upon ambition. "Who's he?" may now be asked of men greater as soldiers in their day than Frederick or Wellington; greater in discovery than Sir Isaac or Sir Humphrey. Who built the Pyramids? Who ate the first oyster?

PRAYING FOR A PARTNER.—The Hungarian ladies are passionately fond of dancing. A lady told Mr. Paget that, in her dancing times, she well remembered that she never said her prayers for her "daily bread," without adding "and plenty of partners at the next ball, I beseech thee."

COLERIDGE AND THELWALL.—Thelwall and Coleridge were sitting once in a beautiful recess in the Quantock hills, when the latter said, "Citizen John this is a fine place to talk treason in!" "Nay, citizen Samuel," replied he; it is rather a place to make a man forget that there is any necessity for treason!"

DEAR MEAL.—Fanny Murray, a beauty of Walpole's time, was complaining of want of money, when Sir Robert Atkins gave her a twenty pound note. She said, "D——n your twenty pound note, what does it signify?" clapped it between two pieces of bread and butter, and ate it!

EASY REMEDY.—"I like to hear a child cry," jocosely said the Abbe Morold. "Why?" "Because then there is some hopes of his being sent away.

MARCH OF INTELLECT.—A beggar, some time ago, applied for alms at the door of a partisan of the Anti-begging Society. After in vain detailing his manifold sorrows, the inexhorible gentleman peremptorily dismissed him. "Go away," said he; "go—we canna gie ye neathing." "You might at least," replied the mendicant, with an air of great dignity and archness, "have refused me grammatically."

A DEMOCRAT'S DEFINITION OF A GENTLEMAN.—A gentleman is one who has no business in this world.

A SKULL without a tongue often preaches better than a skull that has one.

Sir Richard Steele has observed that there is this difference between the Church of Rome and the Church of England: the one professes to be infallible, the other to be never in the wrong.

IF Kings would only determine not to extend their dominions until they had filled them with happiness, they would find the smallest territories too large, but the longest life too short, for the full accomplishment of so grand and noble an ambition.

SOME reputed saints that have been canonised, ought to have been canonaded, and some reputed sinners that have been cannonaded, ought to have been canonised.

AN Irishman fights before he reasons, a Scotchman reasons before he fights, an Englishman is not particular as to the order of precedence, but will do either to accommodate his customers.

DESPOTISM can no more exist in a nation, until the Liberty of the Press be destroyed, than the night can happen before the sun is set.

If you cannot inspire a woman with love of you, fill her above the brim with love of herself—all that runs over will be yours.

FROM PUNCH.

INAUDIBLE SOUNDS.—We well remember being puzzled by a pamphlet we once saw, entitled, "A treatise on Inaudible Sounds." We know we stretched our imagination to the utmost, but for the life of us we could not imagine the existence of an "inaudible sound," with the exception, perhaps, of that of a codfish. Time, however, and M. Louis Napoleon, have together helped to reconcile the anomaly. There can be no question whatever now that inaudible sounds are the speeches in the French Senate.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.—A precocious cadet at Addiscombe, being asked for his opinion on the subject of calibre, replied at once that he considered it a decided bore.

HARD SWEARING IN FRANCE.—A most startling article appeared last week in the "Times." It was a catalogue of the various oaths taken by French statesmen and French officials, from the time of the Consulate to the time of the last oath proposed by the President—oaths of all colours, and all as seriously carved as the patches of aharlequin's jacket. The President has, of course, his own notion of an oath—that is, of an oath sworn by himself. When a chinaman is sworn, he breaks a saucer. When a Louis Napoleon swears, nothing is broken except—the oath.

SOMETHING TO BE THANKFUL FOR.—Lord Derby is not Master of the Rolls.

FEARFUL INCREASE OF ROMANISM.—Another detachment of 3,000 French soldiers have gone over to Rome!

MODERN ARMOUR.—The only uniform in her Majesty's Service in which the coat of mail is retained, is the postman's.

THE BEST HAND AT PIECE-WORK.—Monsieur Scribe.

THE WORST FORM OF FRENCH TYRANNY.—Nearly 1,200,000 French corsets are imported into this country every year!

"A MEMBER of a Young Man's Mutual Improvement Society" is informed that the Conscript Fathers of Ancient Rome were not persons who had been "drawn for the militia."

NOTORIOUS HANDS AT PEACE-WORK.—Messrs. Cobden, Bright, and Sturge.

AN OLD SAYING PULLED TO PIECES.—We have it on the authority of an old saying, that there is "wisdom in a wig;" but a young lady, who has been two or three times to the Ladies' Gallery in the House, declares, that, "though she has always paid the greatest attention, she never could see the least 'wisdom in a Whig,' or in a Tory either."

RULES FOR HEALTH.

By a Scotch Philosopher, who has tried them all.

Never drink anything but water.
Never eat anything but oatmeal.
Wear the thickest boots.
Walk fifteen miles regularly every day.
Avoid all excitement; consequently it is best to remain single, for then you will be free from all household cares and matrimonial troubles, and you will have no children to worry you.

The same rule applies to smoking, taking snuff, playing at cards, and arguing with an Irishman. They are all strong excitements, which must be rigidly avoided, if you value in the least your health.

By attending carefully to the above rules, there is every probability that you may live to a hundred years, and that you will enjoy your hundredth year fully as much as you did your twenty-first.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

MR. SMITH O'BRIEN, &c.—The following, from a New York journal, has appeared in the Dublin newspapers:—"As we are going to press we learn that orders have been issued for the release of the Irish state prisoners, Smith O'Brien, John Mitchell, and their companions: subject, however, to the condition that they are not to set foot in the United Kingdom. Particulars in our next."—*New York Truthteller.*

The Chancellor of the Exchequer acknowledges the receipt of the half of a £500 note from "L. M." for unpaid income tax, with interest.

IRON STEAM-SHIP BUILDING AT LIVERPOOL.—An order has been received in this country for the construction of thirty iron steam-boats for the use of the Danube Steam Navigation Company. They will be large flat-bottomed boats, 176 feet long, 25 feet beam, and 9 feet depth of water, and so constructed that they will be able, even with a very large cargo, to navigate in the shallow waters of the Danube.

CHARGE OF SWINDLING AGAINST A LADY OF TITLE AND HER HUSBAND.—Much excitement has been created at Cover, in consequence of the arrest of Lady Emily Augusta Fitzgerald and her husband, William O'Brien Fitzgerald, on a charge of swindling.

On Saturday last Mr. W. Williams, M.P. for Lambeth, forwarded to the Chancellor of the Exchequer a memorial from a number of country publishers, stating that they had been illegally intefered with by the Stamp Office, and praying for compensation.

ELECTRIC TELEGRAPHS.—The Town Council of Glasgow, of Edinburgh, and the merchants of Perth, and several of our contemporaries on the other side of the Tweed, are urging the necessity for extension of the telegraphic system, both to cheapen its use, and to ensure greater despatch; and the newspapers to be able to give later news to their local readers.

RAILWAY FARES FOR TROOPS.—It appears that the Secretary-at-War proposes in a circular to railway companies, that they should reduce the fares authorised to be charged for the conveyance of troops by railway, the present fares being twopence per mile for each officer, and one-penny per mile for each soldier.

OMNIBUS COMPETITION.—The competition among the omnibuses which run from Paddington to King's-cross for a penny each passenger, the whole distance, is now so great that three run in company. Those which run from Paddington to the Bank now charge a penny from the former place to Portland-road, and from thence to King's-cross a penny, but as soon as the latter point is passed, and the competition ceases, the notice respecting the penny fares is reversed, and the threepence becomes the lowest fare charged, however short the distance travelled.

PROFESSOR WILSON has closed his brilliant career by retiring from the Edinburgh Chair of Moral Philosophy, on account of declining health.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE BLACKWALL TERMINUS IN FENCHURCH-STREET.—Operations have commenced for effecting a very considerable enlargement of the City terminus of the Blackwall Railway.

THE ELDAD SISTERHOOD.—The "Plymouth Journal" again devotes half its space to "disclosures" of disgusting practices at the Eldad sisterhood of Mercy, taken from a pamphlet published subsequently to that of Mr. Spurrell, by "Diana Campbell, a novice lately seceded." Miss Bowring, daughter of the well-known linguist, poet, and politician, was till lately a sister; after considerable vacillation, she has returned to the bosom of her friends.

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Porter	10d., and 12d.	"
Stout	14d., 16d., 18d., and 20d.	"
Table Ale and Bitter Table Ale 4d., 6d., 8d., and 10d.		"

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The following is the list of articles—	s.	d.
Hall Lamp, 10s 6d; Umbrella Stand, 4s 6d	15	0
Bronzed Dining-room Fender and Standards	5	6
Set of polished Steel Fire-irons	3	6
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Bronzed and polished Steel Scroll Fender	8	6
Polished Steel Fire irons, bright pan	5	6
Ornamented Japanned Scuttle and Scoop	4	6
Best Bed-room Fender, and polished Steel Fire-irons	7	0
Two Bed-room Fenders, and Two sets Fire irons	7	6
Set of Four Block-tin Dish Covers	11	6
Bread Grater, 6d; Tin Candlestick, 9d	1	3
Tea Kettle, 2s 6d; Gridiron, 1s	3	6
Frying Pan, 1s; Meat Chopper, 1s 6d	2	6
Coffee Pot, 1s; Colander, 1s; Dust Pan, 6d	2	6
Fish Kettle, 4s; Fish Slice, 6d	4	6
Flour Box, 8d; Pepper Box, 4d	1	0
Three Tinned iron Saucepans	5	0
Oval Boiling Pot, 3s 8d; Set of Skewers, 4d	4	0
Three Spoons, 9d; Tea Pot and Tray, 3s	3	9
Toasting Fork	0	6
	£5 0	0

NOTE.—Any one or more of the articles may be selected at the above prices; and all orders from £5 and upwards will be forwarded, carriage free, to any part of the kingdom.

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PROSPECTUS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNITED TRADES FOR THE PROTECTION OF INDUSTRY AND EMPLOYMENT OF LABOUR IN AGRICULTURE AND MANUFACTURES.

Established 24th of March, 1845.

OFFICES, 259, TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD, LONDON.

PRESIDENT.—G. A. Fleming, Esq.

COMMITTEE.—Mr. Frederick Green, Mr. William Peel, Mr. Thomas Winters, Mr. Edward Humphries.

TREASURER.—George A. Fleming, Esq., 6, Saville Row, Walworth Road, London.

BANKERS.—Joint Stock Bank of London.

AUDITOR.—Joseph Glover, Esq., Public Accountant, 12, Bucklersbury, London.

SECRETARY.—Mr. William Peel, 259, Tottenham-court-road, London.

Objects and Principles.—To secure as far as possible a 'Great National Industrial Union' of all Classes of Labourers, and to concentrate the various Trades' Unions into one consolidated confederation, thereby multiplying their powers of usefulness, and enabling each trade to defend its own interests with the whole strength of the Association.

To secure as far as practicable, a 'fair day's wage for a fair day's work' to all classes of artizans and labourers, whether skilled or unskilled, who may join the Association.

To settle all disputes if possible by arbitration and mediation.

To employ members at their respective trades whenever practicable, who are thrown out of employment, in consequence of resisting reductions of wages or other aggression upon their interests.

To secure the payment of every man his wages in the current coin of the realm.

To cause the employers in all trades, wherever practicable, to provide properly lighted and ventilated workshops for those employed by them, in order to do away with middlemen, and the sweating system; and prevent the numerous evils arising from work being done at private houses.

To regulate the hours of labour in all trades, with a view to equalise and diffuse employment among the working classes; so that some shall not be overworked while others are starving for want of employment.

To urge upon government the necessity of employing the surplus labour of the country in useful works, such as the reclamation of waste lands, improvement of harbours, deepening of rivers, &c.

To promote the formation of Local Boards of Trade or Courts of Reconciliation for the purpose of amicably adjusting disputes between employers and workmen, and thus effectually preventing the occurrence of strikes.

To obtain the appointment of a Minister of Labour, to superintend the carrying out and practical operation of these various measures, for improving the condition of the working classes.

To establish a general fund to employ the surplus labour of the Trades.

1. *Constitution.*—The Association consists of men, women, and children, who conform to its laws.

2. *Management.*—It is governed by a Committee and President who are elected annually by the members in general conference.

3. *Powers and Duties.*—They direct and control the business of the Association, receive all applications from Trades for advice and assistance, and by mediation, arbitration, or other proceedings, protect the interest and promote the well-being of the Associated Trades in all cases of Trades' disputes and difficulties.

4. The internal arrangements of the separate branches are left to the management of its own Committee, or officers.

5. *Benefits.*—A weekly allowance to members when resisting reductions of wages or other aggressions, upon the principle of mutual assurance and according to a liberal scale based on the average wages returned by each trade. The mediatorial assistance of the Central Committee in cases of dispute and where practicable the substitution of honourable employment instead of the system of compulsory idleness.

Trades joining this Association are required to pay, if their Average Wages are ten shillings and under, an Entrance Fee of three pence; if above ten shillings, sixpence; together with four weeks levies of twopence in the pound on their Average wages; also one penny (monthly contribution) to a Victim Fund, and twopence for a copy of the Rules of the Association, in advance.

All applications for rules or other information to be addressed to Mr. William Peel, 259, Tottenham Court road, London, and all Post Office Orders made payable to him at the Bloomsbury Post Office.

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MERCHANT TAILORS, OUTFITTERS, HATTERS, AND HOSIERS.

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Artistes of the first standing are employed in the Cutting Department, not surpassed by the leading houses of the West End.

Every article sold is cut upon the premises, and made under the supervision of experienced men, employed for that specific purpose. The Goods are bought first hand from the Manufacturers for CASH ONLY, for the most part, or from the first Wholesale Houses, and being sold for CASH ONLY, can be afforded at a profit so inconsiderable, that, but for the immense demand, would not pay expenses. The very large stock of Ready Made Clothes always on hand affording to Families and Gentlemen an almost unlimited choice of costume or any emergence, or otherwise.

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(Signed) WILLIAM GALPIN.

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(Signed) FREDERICK TURNER.

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Copy of a Letter from John Forfar, an Agriculturist, residing at Newborough, near Hexham, dated May 15th, 1850.

To Professor HOLLOWAY,

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'Gentlemen.—The lady for whom I ordered your food is six months advanced in pregnancy, and was suffering severely from indigestion and constipation, throwing up her meals shortly after eating them, having a great deal of heartburn, and being constantly obliged to resort to physic or the enema, and sometimes to both. I am happy to inform you that your food produced immediate relief. She has never been sick since, had but little heartburn, and the functions are more regular, &c. THOMAS WOODHOUSE. —Devon Cottage, Bromley, Middlesex.'

Cure No. 2,391.

'Gentlemen,—I am using your Food with great success. Before I commenced I could not take a meal of any description but was sure to suffer great pain after it, from indigestion I suppose, but thank God I am much better. I have recommended your Food to a great many of my fellow-sufferers. ALEX. CALDER, Sergeant Royal Sappers and Miners, Ordnance Survey, Dewsbury.—Dewsbury, Yorkshire.'

Cure No. 710.

'I have found it to be a simple, though very efficacious and pleasant food, doing good to my own and others' functional disorders. Rev. CHARLES KERR.—Winslow, Bucks.'

Cure No. 7,843.

'Having read by accident an account of your Revalenta Arabica Food, I was determined to try if it would do me only half the good others said they had derived from it: for I felt I should be well satisfied if such should prove the case, having for several years spent a great deal of money on physicians. Accordingly I commenced eating it three times a day. When I first read what other people said about your Food, I thought their letters must be puffs, but now I feel as though they had not said half enough in its praise.—ELIZABETH JACOBS.—Nazing Vicarage, near Waltham Cross, Herts.'

Cure No. 49,963.

'I was in such a state when I commenced your invaluable Revalenta Arabica Food that I might as well have been dead. I could hardly move, and my sufferings were awful. I am now so well, thanks to your Food, that I went yesterday to see a steeple chase, and was able to cross the ditches as well as some of the horses; My restoration is a matter of astonishment to all my friends. With gratitude to you, &c.—HUGH EVOY.—Fethard, October 21st, 1850.'

Cure No. 49,962.

'Dear Sir,—Allow me to return you my most sincere thanks for the very great benefit I have derived from the use of your Arabica Food. For ten years' dyspepsia and nervous irritability had rendered life a perfect burthen to me. The best medical advice, frequent bleeding and blistering, and an astonishing amount of drugs, produced not the slightest abatement of my sufferings; in fact, I had given myself up, when providentially I met with your invaluable Food, and now am enabled to add my testimony to the many you already possess. It has done for me all that medicine failed to effect, for I am enjoying a state of health such as I have been a stranger to for many years. With my best wishes for your prosperity, as the discoverer of so valuable a Farina, I am ever gratefully yours. ELIZABETH YEOMAN.—Gateacre, near Liverpool, October 21st, 1850.'

Cure No. 9,108.

'Dear Sir,—I had been suffering during three months from a violent spasmodic affection of the stomach and heart, which my medical attendant called angina pecotris. Three weeks' use of your admirable Food perfectly cured me. You can make what use you think proper of this letter. JOSEPH WALTERS.—Broadwall Colliery, Oldbury, near Birmingham.'

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Poetry.

FRAGMENTS FROM "MY SCRAP BOOK."

By Gerald Massey.

MORNING.

Morn bursts the dark upon her golden wings,
Fiery as Night had sprung a jewel-mine;
The quick mad splendours rend and burn the gloom;
Cloud after cloud lights up a rainbow-roof.
Lo! what a triumph-arch of pillar'd pomp
The conquering Day doth trail her grandeurs through!
What living tides of glory burst and foam,
And hurry along the starry streets of heaven!
While Earth, from morn's sweet sacrament of dew,
Lifts up her flashing face to heaven and smiles;
Clad in auroral hues and flame-like glory.

EVENING.

A spirit-feel is in the air to night,
The flowers pour out their myriad vials of fragrance;
The stars are trembling through the holy hush
Like dew-drops in the fields of heaven, or tears
That hang rich jewels on the cheeks of Night.

COMING STORM.

The black clouds, big with battle-thunder, lower;
Dead calm, with murther'd breath, the earth lies husht,
And listens like a maiden sore afraid,
Hearkening, heart-stifled, for the stealthiest tread
Of one who grimly comes to ravish her,
His purpose brooding over him a gloom
To burst on her in all Lust's bloody fire.

FAME.

As dying limbs do lengthen out in death,
So grows the stature of our after-fame!

GOD IN ALL.

There is no heart so earthy, but at times
Hath eager leaps to clutch at nobler life,
And some blind gropings after better things.
Some smiles of God live in the darkest being,
And soul-light glimmers even on helot-brows,
Like mellow moonlight silvering through a cloud!

REVERENCE.

The reverent heart familiarly doth take
Unconscious clasp of high and holy things,
Like little children playing of old with Christ.
A humble vesture is heaven's livery—
A worshipful heart, God's own grand crowning crest.
And Love—Creation's crowning miracle—
Is God's high oracle to man: while Reverence
Is Man's true passport to God's presence-chamber.

A BRAVE MAN.

In the world's wrestling ring of mighty deeds,
He ever clutched the palm of victory:
A royal, conquering heart!—the Ills that grind
The many down from Love's transfiguring height,
Are mettled into martial attitude.

THE TEACHER.

He rose up as the Prophet's wings of flame
Fluttered within him: all his aspect burned
With an unearthly fire. He was caught up
The mount Transfiguration, with eyes fixt
In air, as though he talkt with one beyond!
Thus he stood looking down the centuries
Like an hoar hill that lifts its silent peak,
To catch the unrisen morn, while all the plains
Are drows'd and darkling. So upon him lay
The morning-glory of some distant day.

Reviews.

In an age when independence of principle consists in having no principle on which to depend, and free-thinking, not in thinking freely, but in being free from thinking:—in an age when men will hold any thing except their tongues, keep anything except their word, and lose nothing patiently, except their character; to improve such an age must be difficult, to instruct it dangerous; and he stands no chance of amending it who cannot at the same time amuse it.

La Dame aux Camélias, By DUMAS THE YOUNGER. *And the Literature of Licentiousness.*

IN February, 1847, Marie Duplessis died in her splendid apartments in the Boulevard Bonne Nouvelle, Paris. She was the daughter of an ignoble Norman of Caen, called Martin the Sorcerer, a man of evil reputation among his neighbours. Marie wore wooden shoes, and was brought up more in fear of the devil than of God. In 1838, Martin the Sorcerer brought the future Sorceress to Paris, where he speedily died, or otherwise disappeared. There were but two roads open to the girl—the road of Industry, and the road to Shame. Too young for the latter, Marie went to work at a dressmaker's in the Rue St. Jaques, where she was starved and beaten. At length she ran away, and, having attained the years of indiscretion, she enlisted in the service of the Students of the Quartier Latin. She now appeared at the Prado on a Sunday in a modest little silk dress, pretty little shoes, and a coquettish little bonnet, which framed a face, then of budding beauty. Here she soon became the Bella Donna. A young Duke happening one morning to pay a visit to the Prado, was struck with her beauty, and a week afterwards all Paris sang pæans to the charms of the lovely mistress of the Duc de Guise. For four years, Marie was the most courted, flattered, and famous courtezan in Paris. A long reign in that Metropolis of Ephemera! But she was seized by the fell grip of disease, called by courtesy 'consumption;' and for many months was shut up in a room, sealed from the light of day—invisible to all, even to the Count P——, her then highest bidder. Oh! what fearful mysteries and tragedies are enacted behind the curtain of life! Here, in darkness, and in silence, the Queen of Parisian beauty languished at the throne of grim Death! Only twice did she emerge from her living tomb, and it was on both occasions to go to the theatre—on her leaving which two hundred of the young aristocrats of Paris ranged themselves in her way, and bowed before that bedizened Magdalen, who swam on in her supernatural beauty, clad in waves of white satin—a jewelled mockery! She died! and all Paris crowded, with hungry eyes, to pry on the abiding place of so celebrated a woman. Such is a sketch of the woman who is the heroine of Dumas' novel, which has been so successful that he has dramatised it! Tragic enough, if that were the object; but no —the subject is chosen for the opportunity of presenting pictures of courtezan life. And this terrible and fatal evil is destroying the noblest life of the French nation. The rage for the lascivious literature of licentiousness increases daily, and French art has transformed itself into a pandar to the *blasé débauché* and the *roué*. The life of the courtezan, with its mad riot, its enervating luxury, its palace-brothels, and hospital-terminus, has usurped the place of noble aspiration, battling heroism, and is Lord in the very throne of Love. It is not woman, the holy, the pure, and the worshipful, painted by the magic hand of genius, and held up for admiration and chivalrous devotion—it is Circé, who with her lewd enchantments turns her wretched devotees into swine. She is a goddess in the land where Joan d'Arc, with her heroism so startlingly beautiful, led her countrymen to victory—where Madame Roland lived, loved, and suffered, and where that glorious woman, large in heart and brain—George Sand—still lives to write. It is the apotheosis of Whoredom at the Carnival of Sensuality. The poetry of life, its rich and sparkling hopes, its generous affections, its wealth of pure and priceless love, and all its human nobleness, no longer please; they pall on our diseased taste—paint us the life of disease, in warm, rich colours, and with all the glozing, honied, witchery of sin, and if you administer an occasional *flagellation*, it will enhance the zest. This is the cry of their corruption, and the response is such works as 'La Dame aux Camélias,' and other pictures of courtezan life, by innumerable writers, each emulating the other in stimulating voluptuousness, and in titillating sensuality. This literature circulates to a fearful extent among the working classes of France, and is a frightful source of immorality. Faint hope of a people thus enchanted by lewd sorceries! Its vitality is being sapped day by day. Nor is this dastardly work of catering for the devil limited to France. We mark the slimy trail of the serpent through the length and breadth of our own land. The reptile fascinates its victims by thousands with its apparent beauty, and the next instant the poison of its deadly sting is working in their blood and marrow. Men, of the most villanous organisation, with all the vices of the French writers, without a touch of their genius, their sparkling wit, their talent for clothing vice in a garb of beauty, and making sin itself loveable. These wretched imposters have adapted and imitated the works of the courtezan school of France to such an extent that each new issue has its English travestie a thousand times more degrading than the original. These circulate by hundreds of thousands among the ignorant working classes of this country; and these procurers for hell drive a roaring trade in their work of seduction, defilement, and damnation. Oh, but we know how their infamous work speeds among the young of the manufacturing towns, and its horrible consequences. We have seen with bleeding heart, how they devour, with the hungriest avidity, this offal and garbage, which is administered to them as a stupifying decoction for the better perpetration and consummation of robbery, perhaps murder. We intend to treat this subject at greater length at some future time, and tear down the silken mask which hides the hideous features of this whore of the modern Babylon, her bloated, blotched, face—the lustful glare of infernal light which lurks in her lecherous, leering eyes, and her flesh almost quickening into reptile life, from very rottenness, even while she flashes in splendour, and sings the song of the Syren. Meanwhile, if there be any who should chance to see these words, who are in the toils of the strange fascination, which this literature has for many, even high-natured and of noble temperament, we would implore them to gather up their strength and burst the fetters which, though of silken seeming, canker and corrode to death. The banner of Democracy should be borne aloft, so that the pure breeze and the sunshine of heaven may play upon it. Borne, by men who keep their hearts pure, as a holy sanctuary for the principles which they love and cherish. Democracy is noble and ennobling, and its disciples should make their lives living epistles of truthfulness to all men. Patriotism and purity should ever be found together. Democracy scorns the pandars to Lust and the betrayers of Ignorance.

The 'Dame aux Camèlias' has not yet been adapted into English under a new name—the usual mode of procedure—but, doubtless, it is being *worked up*, and the poor slaves of excitation will riot in their saturnalia in due time. Better, say we, a thousand times better, return to the ghostly horrors of Monk Lewis, The Knight-of-the-bloody-shoe-string bathos of the Radcliffes, or even sup brimful of Lloyd's blood-and-murder atrocities—they were far, far less pernicious and corrupting, than this Literature of Licentiousness.

The Comic History of Rome. By GILBERT A'BECKETT. London: Bradbury and Evans.

WHAT a different signification our forefathers attached to the name of 'Wit' to that which it has dwindled into with us. A wit with them was a man of brilliant parts—one who could kill an error by laughter—a man of searching, subtle humour. With them Shakespeare was a wit. With them wit meant quick understanding, sudden, luminous bursts of happy thought, keen satirical allusion, naive touches of characterisation woudrously suggestive. With us it means punning, conceit, and caricature! The name of penman should be altered into pun man at once. Everybody puns, and thinks himself a wit! It is the age of punning—as in the time of the Encyclopædiasts it was the age of irony, and it was the fashion to sneer, and as after Byron, it was the age of misanthropy, and fashionable to be miserable. 'Punch' has much to answer for in this punning mania and broad-grin pasquinade. If poor dear Tom Hood and Laman Blanchard could see what their flashing merriment, and rollicking humour, and sparkling wit, have ended in, what barnacles have stuck on to the bulk of their Fame, —how eagerly they would forswear their claim to the foundership of what is called the "Punch" School.' This ambition to be thought funny, to say smart things, is working most fatally in the literature of the day—it is sapping at the root of all solemn earnestness, all faith, all nobleness. Senseless levity is fast eating out the sturdy, truthful, saxon spirit, and the language of Shakespeare and Milton, and the grand Commonwealth men, is scouted for the slang of Evans and the cidercellar!

Gilbert A'Beckett is a punster, one of the modern WITTY school; and this book is intended to be FUNNY. We never waded through so much dreary fun-less ness. It has not wrested from us one hearty burst of laughter—nothing but disgust, utter disgust. No humour, no truth, no subtle characterisation! And then, the sublimity of burglarious, Louis Napoleon-like audacity, for him to parody Roman History! He is not a wit—his work is not witty. He is only a Mud-lark, and his work is a mud-lark! It is throwing handfuls of dirt to deface the noble features of heroic statutes, and each successful daub is a palpable hit!—a pun! Thus some atrocious effigy of a jest is made to depend on the hook of a Roman nose, and the magnificent Roman eye, that flashed lightnings and rolled red ruin on the world, is set a glimmer with laughing gas, and blinks upon us thro' modern 'blue ruin.' Heroes, and the early gods of young imagination are presented, for the first time, for our edification, in the Nicol Paletot, and the Joinville Tie! Grand types of strength and beauty, and poetry, are metamorphosed into GENTS, BRICKS, SWELLS, SLOW, and FAST men. Some of the vapid effusions of 'Punch' itself have been bad enough of late years—somewhat akin to the cachination of a galvanised corpse; but Gilbert A'Beckett is worse still. He lately defended this book with a plea that it tended to make history amusing to children, and would rivet their attention where the ordinary method failed, fancy catechising a model child thus educated! Caius Gracchus would be a 'PLUCKEY COVE,' Hannibal a 'JOLLY BRICK,' Lucrece a 'STUNNER,' and Quintus Curtius 'an ass;' by the bye, as a specimen not of the worst kind, this is how he caricatures that grand old legend and illustrious personification of the great and glorious spirit of self-sacrifice.

QUINTUS CURTIUS—ACCORDING TO GILBERT A'BECKETT.

No sooner were the divisions of the people healed, than the city itself began to be torn to pieces in a most extraordinary manner. Rome was convulsed to its centre; the earth began to quake, and the citizens to tremble. A tremendous chasm appeared at length in the Forum; and as the abyss yawned more and more, it was thought unsafe for the people to go to sleep over it. Some thought it was a freak of Nature, who, as if in enjoyment of the cruel sport she occasioned, had gone into convulsions and split her sides. Others formed different conjectures; but the chasm still remained—a formidable open question. Some of the people tried to fill it up with dry rubbish, but they only filled up their own time, without producing the least effect upon the cavity. In vain did the largest contractors undertake the job, for it was impossible to contract the aperture, that, instead of being small by degrees and beautifully less, grew every day large by fits and starts, and horribly greater. At length the augurs were consulted, who, taking a view of the whole, announced their conviction that the perforation of the earth would continue, and that, in fact, it would become in time a frightful bore, if the most precious thing in Rome were not thrown into it. Upon this, a young guardsman, named Curtius, fancying there could be nothing more precious than his precious self; arrayed himself in a full suit of armour, and went forth, fully determined to show his metal. Notice was given that at an appointed time a rapid act of horsemanship would be performed by M. Curtius; and as there is always great attraction in a fete which puts life in jeopardy, the attendance, at a performance where death for the man and the courser was a matter of course, was what we should call numerous and respectable. All the rank and fashion of Rome occupied the front seats, at a spectacle throwing everything else into the shade, and the performer himself into the very centre of the earth, which was to prove to him a centre of so much gravity. Having cantered once or twice round the ring, he prepared for the bold plunge; but his horse having looked before he leaped, began to plunge in a different direction. Taking another circuit, M. Curtius, spurred on by ambition, put his spurs into the animal's side, and the poor brute was hurried into the abyss, though, had there been any way of backing out, he would have eagerly jumped at it. The equestrian performance was no sooner over, than the theatre of the exploit was immediately closed, and a lake arose on the spot, as if to mark the scene as one that might command a continued overflow. The place got the name of the Lacus Curtius, in honour of the hero, if such he may be called; and his fate certainly involved the sacrifice of one of the most precious articles in Rome, for it would have been impossible to find in the whole city such a precious simpleton.

Here the puns are among the author's best; but, then how miserably lively applied to such a subject! We would seriously ask Mr. A'Beckett, as a conscientious magistrate, how he can ever punish young spreeish gentlemen for their funny employment in wrenching off door-knockers and bell-handles? He ought to appreciate the WIT of such performance, it being so palpably akin to his own. A fellow feeling should make him kind to them. In conclusion, we see no earthly reason why such a work should have been published, unless some cynical enemy of the 'school' has done it on the principle of the old Spartan custom, of making a slave drunk that the exhibition of his idiotcy might disgust their children with drunkenness. In such wise we accept it, and recommend it as a melancholy warning.

Men of the Time; or, Sketches of Living Noteables. London: Bogue, Fleet-street.

This is a sketchey attempt to give short Biographies, and other information, of the principal Men of the Time—Authors, Artists, Composers, Capitalists, Demagogues, Dramatists, Engineers, Journalists, Monarchs, Ministers, Poets, and others, 'too numerous to mention.' The idea is excellent, but the work is not so well carried out. It is a kind of 'Peerage for the People,' though many of the People's Peers are not to be found in its list. While undue prominence is given to names unknown to the people, we miss those of Charles Kingsley, Maurice, and many others known to Science, the Arts, Democracy, and the People. And why, we would ask the compiler, why is the honoured name of John Cassell omitted? That Howard of modern philanthropy, who saves the people thousands of pounds to its pockets annually, by the use of his incomparable coffees, and thousands of lives annually by the use of his incomparable Worsdell's Pills. If Mr. Bogue would permit us, we should be happy to write the Biography of this great benefactor of the human race for the next edition of this work, which is advertised to appear annually. One more omission and we have done. Our friend and champion Ernest Jones is not here; and we appeal 'to the judgment of the people,' is not he a 'Man of the Time?' And an imminent one, too? Then, why is the Editor of the 'Notes' not included in 'Sketches of our Living Noteables?' There are also some mistakes we could point out; as an instance, 'Festus' is said to be the only work of the Poet Philip James Bailey, whereas, he has since published 'The Angel World,' a poem of great beauty, though far inferior to 'Festus.' Altogether the 'Men of the Time' is a book of more value as a data for writers, than satisfactory to the general reader.

The following is an average specimen of its merits, being an account of Girardin, one of the foremost names of late years that every one has heard. A man of rare energy, who once sold his own-made blacking-paste in the streets of Paris, and has since figured prominently in the great scenes of history. Many of our French friends look upon him as a clever Charlatan.

EMILE DE GIRARDIN.

Emile De Girardin, a French Journalist, was born, probably in Paris, about 1802, and is said to be the illegitimate son of Count Alexander Girardin, but was baptised in the name of Lamotte. He was educated in one of the Gymnasia of the capital, and when about twenty employed a small sum of money, bequeathed to him by his mother, in establishing a literary journal, to which he obtained a good number of subscribers. Having signed his articles in the name of Girardin, his father commenced legal proceedings against him for an unlawful assumption of his name. In spite of an adverse judicial decision, Emile retained his name, and also contrived to escape the conscription from his inability to give the name of his birthplace, or so much as to declare himself a Frenchman. The Revolution of February found him an Inspecteur des Beaux Arts. Shortly after that event, he became the editor of the "Journal des Connaissances Utiles," of the "Panthéon Littéraire," of the "Musée de Familles," and of the "Voleur," displaying great industry, and that practical tact which has always distinguished him. These journals having failed one after another, he published a book called "Emile," which had no better success. M. Girardin had now no fortune but his pen, and he had lately married the clever Delphine Gay, who was in a similar position. Under these circumstances he associated himself with an adroit man of business, one M. Boutemy, no richer than himself, and the two projected the "Presse" newspaper, since become so celebrated throughout Europe. The prospectus, written with a clever audacity, announced a journal which was to be both larger and cheaper than any then published in France, and to be the property of a joint-stock company. The scheme succeeded, the shares sold rapidly; in 1836 "La Presse" appeared, and took its place at once as an established newspaper. The success of the prospectus is the more remarkable, as, in 1832, Girardin had founded a company of proprietors for the publication of a literary journal, and was prosecuted for having defrauded the shareholders by paying dividends out of capital. He was acquitted of this charge by the court, and the rapid subscriptions for the shares of "La Presse" seem a sufficient answer to it on the part of the public. When a year old, the newspaper reckoned as many as 15,000 subscribers. From the first day of its existence the "Presse" was better made up than any of its contemporaries. These were all merely political papers, and relied for success upon their leading articles. The "Presse" took care there should not be a fact of the least importance—not a promotion in the army, the navy, the clergy, the municipal bodies—not a scientific, mechanical, or commercial discovery, nor an important cause pleaded, which should remain unrecorded in its columns. Girardin gave out that he would make war upon the cliqueism of the Parisian press as it then existed. He made a merit of being a man of no party, and took for his motto, *Au jour le jour*. True to his motto and the practical, money getting character of his speculation, he has supported and renounced, in turn, every minister and every opposition chief. To two principles only has he been constant—hostility to England and advocacy of Russia. His accomplished wife came to his aid in the work of increasing the attractiveness of his paper, and wrote in the "Presse" a series of most amusing articles, entitled, "Causeries Parisiennes," with immense success. Always busy consulting the tastes of his subscribers, Girardin further invented the Roman Feuilleton, as it is called—a novel or tale, written in an *ad captandum* fashion, of which, about a dozen columns are published *per diem*. Alexandre Dumas, George Sand, De Balzac, Frederic Soulie, and other writers, were engaged at enormous rates of remuneration, and increased immensely the circulation of the journal. With increasing subscribers, the advertisements rapidly multiplied, as Girardin had foreseen. It has been said, with truth, that he was the first to teach the French public the use of the newspaper advertising sheet. In 1846 the Compagnie Duveyrier agreed to pay a hundred thousand francs per annum for a limited number of columns. Ten years after its establishment, "La Presse" was yielding a revenue of £8,000 a year. Its financial history, from 1848 to Dec. 2, 1851, was probably less satisfactory to its proprietor; at the latter date it was suppressed, with all the independent journals, by order of M. Bonaparte. In 1834 Girardin obtained a seat in the Chamber of Deputies by the influence of the ministry, of which he was then an ardent supporter, and was returned for Bourganeuf. In 1836 an event occurred which leaves an indelible stain on his memory. Moved, less even by personal rancour, than by a desire to improve the speculation in which he had embarked, he attacked Armand Carrel, of the "National," so grossly in the columns of "La Presse," that a duel took place, in which the greatest journalist and one of the noblest patriots France has known fell by the hand of this adventurer. He was re-elected for Bourganeuf in 1838, and again in 1839, when the Chamber declared the return void on account of his inability to prove himself a French citizen. He, however, found his way back into the national parliament, and during the last years of Louis Philippe's reign gave M. Guizot, his former ally, considerable trouble. At the Revolution of February he was particularly active, and received immediately from Louis Philippe the act of abdication. He failed, however, most completely in gaining the confidence of any considerable body of Frenchmen. When Cavaignac was invested with the chief authority, Girardin was confined for a time, as a precautionary measure. He continued to write without any fixed principle until Louis Napoleon Bonaparte suspended his paper.

History of the French Revolution. By LOUIS BLANC. Vol. 3. London: Jeffs.

OF all the French historians we prefer Louis Blanc —he combines the brilliant force of Michelet, the perspicuity of Thierry, the logical acumen of Guizot, with the grace of Lamartine. He is a poet as well as historian—a prophet as well as a painter. There is little doubt but this will be THE revolutionary history of the Revolution *par excellence*. M. Louis Blanc has found valuable materials for his work in our Museum, which is far richer in the records of that magnificent era than the Paris collection. Thus, he is enabled to shift the Conspiracy long known as that of Philip Egalité from his shoulders to those of the Count de Province. There is no writer who so thoroughly penetrates and reveals the causes and undercurrents of Revolution as M. Louis Blanc. Witness his most masterly commencement of the 'History of Ten Years.'

And as an instance of this insight or instructive genius for that purpose, we would point to the opening chapter of this work on the stateof property before theRevolution, and the consequences of the fall of the Feudal system; after which follows the gospel before the Revolution; then succeeds some of the most glorious writing in all history, and pictures as vivid as those of Carlyle, and far more highly-finished. (How different to the humdrum prosiness of most of our historians!) There are two galleries of revolutionary portraits in the volume of most exciting interest: the one is filled with the m[illegible] Constituent Assembly; the other, with [illegible] journalists, &c. Among others are Maury, D[illegible]port, Barnarve, the Lameths, Mirabeau, Cam[illegible] Camille Desmoulins, Brissot, Marat, and Robespier[illegible]e, perfect as living Daugerreotypes. Louis Blanc has made a noble and a manful effort to put the maligned character of Marat in its true light, and he has succeeded. He deserves the grateful thanks of all patriots for his praiseworthy defence. With his reputation, it is noble and chivalrous. Of this man whom Camille Desmoulins called a 'divine being'—this 'monster' whose bust was thrown into the sewer! M. Louis Blanc asks in conclusion—

How came he to inspire so many passions in the people, a people remarkable for the constancy of their *instincts*? Question profound! Besides, what were his *motives*? Ambition? Why, when he desired a dictatorship, he wished it not for himself but for Robespierre, whom personally he *did not know.—Cupidity? At his death*, an assignat of *twenty-five sous* was all the money found in his house. —*Thirst of honours?* While living he protested against the injury that would be done to his ashes if buried with *the great.—The* passion of glory? He had it when young; but had it not been violently exposed since then to many curses, and could he be ignorant that after his cries of vengeance would come to trouble the silence of his tomb?—The taste for popularity? Each morning he scattered his own to all the winds. Where is room for egoism to be found in the voluntary choice of a dark existence, surrounded with anxieties, always menacing and always menaced, and of which the horror was only lessened by the affection of a woman, the second star which lighted this hell?

We shall only have space for the following brief sketch of the 'Incorruptible:'—

Robespierre was there! Not that any one had at that time [1789] divined his future ascendancy. In the eyes of those gentlemen who, with the easy and graceful indifference of men of wit, attempted to play the part of the Gracchi, the advocate of Arras was an object of mirth. The Revolution not being as yet transformed into his image, they found his speeches heavy and formal. His appearance in the tribune, which afterwards made them tremble, then made them smile. Of all that there was of grand and fatal in the man, nothing appeared: only that in every debate he went to the bottom of the question. Alone, in the midst of men tormented with so many opposite sentiments, he marched right on, without fear, without hesitation, without regard for persons or consequences, his mental eye fixed on the horizon. The warmth which other men have in the heart he had in the intellect. He was impassioned by his intelligence. He had beliefs; but they were as solid and as cold as steel. His convictions were at the same time sullen and unchangeable. It was enough for them to distrust the powers of agitation that lay in him. They only learned to comprehend him when they learned to understand the Revolution itself. As he explained his ideas in profound and inflexible formulus, on all sides burst forth a peal of insulting laughter. Nevertheless, on studying these fixed maxims of his,—on putting his faith to the proof,—on looking into his sad eyes,—on contemplating his thin face, of which the olive complexion became in certain moments like the colour of the sea,—some of these men had a confused presentiment of his destiny. "This man," Mirabeau remarked one day, in a moment of involuntary emotion, "will do something:—*he believes what he says.*"

THE COUNTESS OF RUDOLSTADT.

[*Sequel to "Consuelo."*]

By George Sand.

CONSUELO was born in Spain, in what part she knew not. Her mother was a wandering gipsy, living by her songs. When Consuelo was a child, she was, with her mother, entertained hospitably at a Chateau in Bohemia, where a handsome youth, the lord's son, treated them kindly. That chateau was Giant's Castle, of which she was one day to refuse to become the chatelaine. That young lord was Count Albert of Rudolstadt, whose wife she was to be.

At ten years of age she began to sing in the streets of Venice; and there the justness of her voice attracted the attention of Master Porporina, who placed her in one of the free schools of music.

She then loved Anzoletto, an orphan; but he, becoming jealous, wished to break with her, and Consuelo fled to Bohemia.

She was welcomed by the Rudolstadts, at Giant's Castle, and became the governess of the Baroness Amelia, the old Count's niece. Here she was beloved by Count Albert, who passed for a crazy man, but who possessed a mind poetically exalted far above those that surrounded him.

One day the perfidious Anzoletto arrived at Giant's Castle, with the intention of carrying Consuelo away from Albert; but, becoming aware of his design, she left the chateau early in the morning, and travelled to Vienna on foot, to seek her old master Porporina.

Thinking Consuelo's love foolish, Porporina suppressed their correspondence. When she again saw Albert he was on his death-bed; she became his wife, and when his spirit had passed away, her master dragged her from her husband's corpse, and she returned to the stage.

Having, with Porporina, left Vienna for Berlin, Consuelo met the King of Prussia, disguised as the Baron de Krentz, at the chateau of Roswald, in Moravia, where she prevented the assassination of Frederick. Porporina was not allowed to cross the Prussian frontier, and Consuelo was compelled to go on alone to Berlin, to fulfil his engagement.

One evening at the Opera, Consuelo saw the pale face of Albert looking down upon her from the first tier of boxes; and, some days afterwards, Cagliostro, a sorcerer, having promised to show her the person of whom she then thought, showed her, not the Porporina whom she had figured in her mind, but Albert. She again saw the same face at the entrance of the Cabinet of Curiosities in the Royal Palace. This mystery was, however, cleared up when she learnt that this apparition was no other than Trismegistus, a man consulted as a sorcerer by the Princess Amelia, and who was an associate of the famous Cagliostro. The Princess Amelia had long loved the celebrated Baron Trenck, proscribed by Frederick for presuming to love the sister of a King! Consuelo had become the confidant of this unfortunate passion. Watched by the emissaries of Frederick, her secret relations with the Princess, and her lover were doomed; and the despot determined to punish her.*

THE ARREST.

When Consuelo awoke in the morning she found a wreath of white roses suspended above her head, round the crucifix which she inherited from her mother, and from which she had never parted. At the same time she remarked that the branch of cypress, which, from a certain evening of triumph at Vienna, when it had been thrown on the stage by an unknown hand, had never ceased to ornament the crucifix, had disappeared. In vain she sought for it on all sides. It seemed as if in placing this fresh and sparkling wreath in its stead, this mournful trophy had been purposely removed. Her servant could neither tell her in what way, nor at what hour this exchange had been effected. The flowers were as fresh as though they had only been gathered the moment before, and as full of perfume as if it were in the midst of summer. Consuelo sighed bitterly as she thought that such beautiful roses were to be found at this season in no other place than the royal greenhouses, and that her maid might well attribute this homage to the king. "And yet he did not know how much I valued my cypress," thought she; "why has he taken it from me? Wherefore, indeed! Accursed be the hand that committed this sacrilege, to whomsoever it may belong!" But as Porporina angrily threw the crown far from her, a small piece of parchment fell from it; which having picked up, she read the following words in an unknown handwriting—

"Every noble action deserves its reward, and the only reward worthy of great minds, is the homage of sympathetic spirits. Let the cypress disappear, generous sister, and let these flowers bind your brow, if it be but for a moment. It is the diadem of your bethrothal; it is the token of your eternal league with virtue, and that of your admission to the communion of believers."

Consuelo, stupified, examined the characters for some time, her imagination in vain trying to detect in them some resemblance to the writing of Count Albert. In spite of the distrust inspired by the circumstances in which she was placed, and without clearly knowing why, she obeyed the affectionate injunctions of these unknown friends. She placed the wreath upon her disordered hair, fixing her eyes upon a class, as though she expected to see a beloved and cherished shade behind her.

Her revery was broken by a violent ring at the bell, which made her tremble, and a servant came to inform her that M. de Buddenbrock had a message to give her directly. This message was delivered with all the arrogance of a king's *aide-de-camp*, when he is no longer beneath the eyes of his master.

"Mademoiselle," said he, as soon as he had entered the salon, "you must follow me directly to the king; make haste, for the king must not be kept waiting."

"I shall not go to the king in my slippers and dressing-gown," replied Consuelo.

"I will give you five minutes to dress yourself," returned Buddenbrock, drawing out his watch, and making her a sign to withdraw into her chamber.

Before the time, Consuelo reappeared before Buddenbrock. She appeared so calm and undaunted, that he begun to fear that her influence with the king might bring him into disgrace for his bad treatment. He, therefore, became humble, and said to her, hat in hand, in his most polite manner:—"This, Mademoiselle, is a magnificent winter's morning."

"Certainly, sir baron," replied Consuelo, with an ironical smile; "the weather is magnificent for a drive outside the walls."

While saying this, Consuelo thought that she might, indeed, pass the rest of this magnificent day on the road to some fortress. But Buddenbrock thought that she threatened him with that fate; and in spite of his anxiety to please, he could not conceal the anguish he felt.

Consuelo was shown into a small and dirty apartment, where she heard the king declaiming to Voltaire against female conspirators. After a quarter of an hour of painful anxiety, the terrible Frederick at last appeared, frightfully disfigured by passion.

"Listen to me attentively!" he said to Consuelo, darting a dreadful look at her; "you are unmasked, you are lost; you have but one means of saving yourself, that is, to confess all this very moment, honestly and unhesitatingly." And as Consuelo was preparing to reply: "On your knees, unfortunate creature; on your knees!" he cried, pointing to the ground; "it is not standing you can make such a confession. Your [illegible] should already be humbled to the dust. To your knees, I tell you, or I will not listen to you."

"As I have absolutely nothing to tell you," replied Consuelo, in a calm tone, "you have nothing to hear; and as for kneeling before you, you will never make me do so."

For a moment the king thought of trampling her beneath his feet. Consuelo involuntarily looked at Frederick's hands, which were stretched convulsively towards her, till she almost fancied she could see his nails lengthen and stand out from his fingers like the claws of a cat about to rush on its prey. But the royal claws were as quickly sheathed. Frederick, in the midst of his meanness, had too much grandeur of mind himself not to admire courage in others. He smiled while affecting a contempt he was far from feeling.

"Miserable child!" said he, with an air of pity; "they have succeeded in making a fanatic of you. But listen! the moments are precious. You may yet purchase your life; in five minutes it will be too late. I give you five minutes; use them to advantage. Determine to reveal everything, or prepare to die."

"I am prepared," replied Consuelo, indignant at a threat which she thought it impossible that he could carry into execution, and which she believed to have been devised to frighten her.

"Be silent and take time for reflection," said the king, seating himself before his desk and opening a book with an affectation of tranquillity which could not altogether conceal deep and painful emotion.

The king continued to read for some time, while Consuelo resolved to bravely beard the tyrant and treat him with contempt.

"Have you come to a resolution?" he asked, at last laying down his book and crossing his legs, his elbow leaning on the table.

"I have no resolution to come to," replied Consuelo; "I am under the dominion of injustice and violence, and nothing remains for me but to submit to the consequences."

"Is it I whom you tax with violence and injustice?"

"If it be not you, it is the absolute power you exercise which degrades your character and misleads your judgment."

"Good! you take upon yourself to judge my conduct, forgetting that you have but few moments to save yourself from death."

"You have not the right to dispose of my life; I am not your subject; and if you violate the rights of nations so much the worse for you. As for me, I would rather die than live one day longer under your laws!"

"Your hatred towards me is at all events ingenuous," said the king; "but you are ill acquainted with the rights of nations and human laws. Your sovereign has the right to put to death whoever comes into his states to conspire against him."

"I conspire?" cried Consuelo, carried away by the consciousness of truth, and too indignant to exculpate herself; and she turned away as though she would depart, not knowing clearly what she was about.

"Where are going?" said the king, struck with her air of innocence.

"I am going to prison, to the scaffold, or wherever you wish, provided only that you spare me this absurd accusation."

"You are in a passion," replied the king, with a sardonic laugh. "Shall I tell you why? It is because you came here to play the part of a heroine before me, and now you see that your acting only serves me as an amusement. Nothing is more mortifying, especially for an actress, than to fail in her part."

Consuelo, disdaining to reply, crossed her arms, and looked fixedly at the king, with an assurance which all but disconcerted him. To smother the passion which was once more swelling within him, he was obliged to break the silence and fall back upon his raillery, always hoping to irritate the accused, and lead her to lay aside her reserve and distrust in self-defence.

However, he was at last overcome by the dauntless Consuelio, and caused her to be conducted to another chamber. He rung the bell, and the *aide-de-camp* hastened to his master. The King appeared softened and communicative.

"Buddenbrock," said he, "this girl is an admirable creature! At Rome she would have deserved a triumph, a car with eight horses and crowns of oak! Cause a post-chaise to be got ready, conduct her yourself outside the town, and put her under a good escort upon the road to Spandau, to be there shut up and subjected to the discipline of state prisoners—do you hear?"

"Yes, sire."

"Wait a little. Get into the carriage with her as you go through the town, and frighten her by your conversation. It will do her good to make her think she is to be given up to the executioner and flogged over all the causeways of the town, as was the practice in the time of my father the king. But, while telling her these tales, remember that you are not to hurt a hair of her head and put on your glove when you offer her your hand. Go and learn, as you admire her stoical devotion, how to conduct yourself towards those who honour you with their confidence. That will do you no harm."

THE PRISON.

Consuelo was carried back to her lodgings in the same carriage that brought her to the palace. Two guards were placed before each door of her apartment in the interior of the house, and M. de Bruddenbrock gave her an hour to make her preparations, warning her that her packages would be searched by the keepers of the fortress she was about to inhabit.

The locks of her trunks had been broken open, and all her manuscripts and jewels carried away, by the rapacious agents of the secret police, who, being poorly paid, were allowed thus to make up for the smallness of their salaries.

Her crucifix, however, had been left, and Consuelo took it down, and put it in her pocket. She next examined the crown of roses, which lay faded upon the floor, and remarked with affright that the slip of parchment containing the mysterious encouragements was no longer there. As this was the only thing which might seem to connect her with any conspiracy, she sought anxiously for it, and at last, chancing to put her had in her pocket, found it there.

Reassured on this point, she hastened to put together the articles necessary for an absence, the duration of which it was impossible to tell. Suddenly, the noise of something heavy falling in the middle of the chamber attracted her attention; it was a large nail run through a small note.

The style was laconic:—"Do you wish to escape? Show yourself at the window—in three minutes you will be in safety."

The first impulse of Consuelo was to run to the window. But she stopped half-way, as she thought that her flight, in case it could be effected, would seem like the avowal of her culpability, and such an avowal, in such a case, always suppo-es accomplices.

"Oh! Princes Amelia!" thought she, "if it be true that you have betrayed me I will never betray you! I will discharge my debt to Trenck. He saved my life; if it must be so, I will lose it for him."

Animated by this generous idea, she finished her package with great presence of mind, and was quite ready when Buddenbrook came to warn her that the time of departure had arrived. She thought his manner more hypocritical and disagreeable than usual.

He did not forget the instructions of Frederick, and as they rode through the streets of Berlin, he laboured to terrify her with the prospect of infamous punishments in store for her.

When they reached the gate of Berlin, one of the granadiers, who accompanied the carriage on horseback, approached the opposite door, and said to her rapidly in a low voice: "Be easy, signora, much blood will be shed before any evil is allowed to befal you." In her confusion, Consuelo failed to distinguish the features of the unknown friend, who immediately withdrew. The carriage took the road to the fortress at full gallop, and in an hour Consuelo was incarcerated in the chateau of Spandau with all the customary formalities, or rather with the few formalities, which absolute power has occasion to employ.

During her first night in prison she was troubled by fearful dreams. She had just awoke, when three knocks at the door were heard, and the keeper cried, in a loud voice—"Prisoner, No. Three, get up and dress yourself; I shall return in a quarter of an hour."

Upon his return, the jailor, whose name was Schwartz, informed Consuelo that she might live here as well as at home, at her own expense.

"But," said Consuelo, "my purse has been taken from me; I have no money."

"Well, madame," replied Schwartz, not without a visible effort over himself, "I am going to prove to you that my family is honest, and that you have to do with worthy people. Your purse is in my pocket; here it is!" and he shook the purse before the eyes of Consuelo, and then quietly replaced it in his pocket.

"May it profit you!" said Consuelo, astonished at his impudence.

Schwartz then proceeded to say that he would keep the money and supply all her wants; and that her harpsichord and music would be sent to her chamber.

(*To be Continued.*)

* The portion of this work, of which the above is a brief outline, appeared, *in extenso*, in the last six numbers of the FRIEND OF THE PEOPLE, now incorporated with this journal.

Literary Notes.

The current number of the "Quarterly Review" contains an interesting article on "Recent Epics," in which his magniloquent reverence, Robert Montgomery, gets unfrocked of his (poetic) Divinity, after a glorious dressing.

One of General Washington's state papers, the "Farewell Address," accounted one of his choicest and most masterly *compositions, is discovered to have been written by Mr.* Hamilton.

In "*Frazer*," Kingsley's *tale of* "*Hypatia*" *moves* along sparklingly, evincing at every page his knowledge of human nature, especially in its religious development and its fanaticism. The critics, however, will have it that the subject is a failure. We shall see. Macbeth and Shylock would have been *predicted failures to our dramatists, only* Shakespeare has succeeded with them.

We think No. II. of the "Westminster Review" an improvement on the first. The crack articles are on "Physical Puritanism," by Dr. S. Brown, and the new "Theory of Population, deduced from the General Law of Animal Fertility," by Herbert Spencer, and "Europe, its Conditions and Prospects." There is also a very clever article by G. H. Lewis, on "Shelley and the letters of Poets." The summaries of contemporary literature—English, American, French, and German, are too short and sketchey.

Mr. Horace Mayhew has delivered three lect[illegible] at Edinburgh, on "Hidden Life in L[illegible]" [illegible] Poor," "the Work[illegible] [illegible]ondon." Subjects—"The [illegible] [illegible]men," and "the Thieves."

Among forthcoming literary novelties, it is announced that Jerrold has a story in preparation, and that Thackery that twin Hogarth and Fielding, of our century, will have his new work out in four or five weeks from this time.

Among the novelties *already* issued, is a work on "Salt;" in which the author asserts that the true meaning of the *myth of the* pillar of salt, into which the *self-willed* spouse of Lott was transmogrified, is, that she killed herself with eating salt. Indeed, according to this philanthropist (a Howard yclept) salt, is man's "original depravity." Who know but *he may be the "coming man,"* destined to realize Fourrier's prophecy, and *turn the Ocean* into a "bowl of punch?" Pray God he may.

Lamartine is writing a serial work, called the "Civilizer," in which he proposes to write the History of Humanity (Modest man!) in the lives of its great men, from Moses to Napoleon.

The "*Revue des deux Mondes*" contains a beautiful portrait of the German poet, Henri Heine, and a notable article on Margaret Fuller.

How are the mighty fallen! Douglass Jerrold is installed Editor of "Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper."

A little boy, ten years old, drowned himself in Derby on Wednesday last, from mortification at his mother having discovered that he stole sixpence.

TO THE ELECTORS AND NON-ELECTORS OF THE TOWER HAMLETS.

GENTLEMEN,—In consequence of my having been honoured with a requisition most numerously signed both by Electors and Non-Electors, requesting me to allow myself to be put in nomination as a Candidate for the Tower Hamlets at the ensuing Election, I now come before you to ask for your suffrages and support. I am also induced to take that course because at several numerously a tended Public Meetings, resolutions embodying the spirit of the requisition have been almost unanimously carried.

I do not pretend to conceal that this step is a most serious one, and much as I desire the high honour of representing the liberal opinions of the Tower Hamlets in the legislature, I would not have committed myself to the course I have now taken, without a fair prospect of success; but having done so I pledge myself that I will not deceive my friends and supporters by stopping short of going to the poll.

With that determination it is but right that I should afford to those whom I aspire to represent a full and complete insight into the views I entertain, and the measures I should be prepared to support.

The first question to which I shall refer is the great question of POLITICAL FREEDOM, which is taking so strong a hold upon the minds of the people of this country. I am thoroughly impressed with the conviction that the only measure consistent with justice is the admission of every sane man untainted by crime within the pale of the constitution; and I am perfectly persuaded that public opinion is generally tending toward a recognition of the great political truth that the basis of representation should be MANHOOD and INTELLIGENCE, instead of Property and Taxation, and to the establishment of UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE among the institutions of the country.

Looking to that as the great fundamental political change upon which all others must rest, I am not insensible to minor and subsidiary measures which would of necessity accompany it. Among these are an EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTORS TO REPRESENTATIVES, facilities for protecting the voter from intimidation, by means of VOTE BY BALLOT, and a considerable SHORTENING OF PARLIAMENTS; approving of which I pledge myself, should I be returned, to present myself annually before the constituency and seek an approval of my conduct. It also appears to me to be absolutely certain that with the attainment of the right of the people, other time-honoured abuses—remnants of a past age—would be razed to the ground. The voice of the people once fairly allowed to be heard, the SEPARATION of CHURCH and STATE would be secured, as also the EMANCIPATION OF THE JEWS. Then the great dissenting bodies of this country would be freed from the mingled insult and injustice of being compelled to support with their property an ecclesiastical system opposed to their consciences, and religion would be left to that voluntary support which furnishes the best test of the sincerity of its professors, and is most consistent with its fullest and highest development.

It would be an unpardonable omission in an address of this character to pass by the topic of EDUCATION. I am sensible that the subject is surrounded by difficulties of no ordinary character, but I am also unable to shut my eyes to the fact that the two great results of ignorance, are poverty and crime, and that a people can never become really civilised or virtuous till some steps are taken to meet and deal with those evils. I would therefore earnestly support the enactment of a measure which should provide for that Training which it is necessary all should receive without violating the principles or scruples of any community. The plan which appears to me to present the best chance of success, is one which would give to LOCAL BODIES the power to conduct their own educational arrangements.

Other candidates who seek the favour of representing you in Parliament, no doubt entertain views nearly in accordance with those which I have expressed—but the distinctive ground upon which I stand is the mode in which the POVERTY and LABOUR of the country is to be legislated for. I believe the LABOUR QUESTION to be that which more immediately presses for solution, and upon the satisfactory settlement of which the welfare of all classes depends. It is my opinion that when trade and manufacture leaves thousands of men idle, it is as much the duty of the rulers of the country to provide employment for them, as to furnish the means of education. Our laws already acknowledge the obligation of the state to find the bare means of subsistence for those who cannot find the opportunity to support themselves by their own labour. But bare existence is not all that is required. The labourers of this country do not require CHARITY, but the INDEPENDENCE OF HONEST LABOUR—and while there are in this country the two great sources of all wealth—land and labour—both idle—both ready to be brought into contact, and to produce necessaries and luxuries for millions, I cannot conceive that the trading classes of this country can be fairly called upon to pay for the support of those who are both willing and able to provide for themselves.

A measure which makes a PROVISION FOR THE GREAT UNCERTAINTY OF EMPLOYMENT, presents itself to my mind as the great essential to the social improvement of the people. It would render the intense competition which presses so severely on all classes less burdensome; and it would open up new markets by the creation of a large consuming class at our very doors.

In addition to such a measure as that, I would ask for an amendment of the LAWS OF PARTNERSHIP which fetter and restrict enterprise. A thorough revision of the PATENT LAWS so as to enable the poor inventor to secure to himself, at a small expense, the reward of his own ingenuity, and a simple means of LEGALISING ASSOCIATIONS for the purposes of trade and industry.

I need only glance at the abolition of the TAXES UPON KNOWLEDGE—and a fair distribution of the INCOME TAX as absolutely necessary. I conclude by saying that I give my thorough, earnest, and hearty adhesion to the principle of FREE TRADE, not only as part of a fiscal system, but as a principle which should permeate every act of government, and make COMMERCE, MANUFACTURE, EDUCATION, ASSOCIATION, and RELIGION FREE for all and beneficial to all; and if by the adoption of Free Trade the legislature should be the means of depriving Industry of Employment a recognition of the principles which I have briefly alluded to will prevent that unlimited internal competition which degrades both the trader and worker to a low social and moral position.

WM. NEWTON.

35, Arbour Square, Stepney, April 14th. 1852.

GRAND JUNCTION OMNIBUS COMPANY.

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This company will have a series of lines of omnibuses running through the Metropolis and Suburbs, on the Paris system. It will not only be profitable and convenient to the public, but beneficial to omnibus servants, by not employing them more than twelve hours (time for meals being allowed), and giving a Sunday of rest. The wages will be paid on Friday, so as to prevent the necessity for Sunday trading.

Waiting-rooms, with all the conveniences of railway stations, will be fitted-up.

Estimates have been prepared, and which can be seen, showing that a large dividend will be payable.

The offers of support to this company have been so great since its first announcement, that the committee are enabled to commence with a less amount of capital than was originally proposed.

Applications for shares and prospectuses to be made to the Secretary, Solicitors, Manager, or the Superintendent.

N.B.—The Committee have extended the time for application for shares to the 29th inst., after which the allotment will be made.

THE ATHENÆUM INSTITUTE for AUTHORS and ARTISTS.

30, Sackville-street, London.

Every companionship of men require some particular bonds of union; some natural basis and some common object which induce concentration; and the promoters of this undertaking have based their arrangements on the peculiar position and circumstances of Literary Men and Artists.

In dealing with mental workers, that is, men who are more interested in the works themselves which they pursue than in the commercial results, it became peculiarly necessary to adopt special arrangements. The prospect of profit and pecuniary benefit is sufficient with commercial men to attract attention and command support. Literary men, as it is well known, profess themselves particularly ignorant of figures and calculations; and they have neither the confidence nor the caution, as regards pecuniary transactions of business men. To such a class the common appeals fall dead; and, whilst lawyers and doctors, clergymen and traders, and even soldiers and sailors, have founded Associations and Assurance Offices, the Literary men, have gone listlessly on, united by no common bond, and assisted by no mutual Institutions. The true reason of this may be, that every literary and artistic man passes through an ordeal that teaches him to be entirely self reliant; and the very mode of action which his desires induces him to endure evils which business men have been habituated to avoid or overcome. Of their superior intelligence and aptitude for the most onerous offices and duties of life there can be no doubt; and there can be no impediment, but their own want of resolution, to their founding a noble Institution.

Most of the evils suffered by Literary Men arise from their not being organised as a profession. The barrister and the attorney, the clergyman and the military and naval officer, have the advantages of an established profession; they have their associations and institutions; their rank is definitely settled; their united efforts have a national importance; and the road to social happiness smoothed and opened to them.

Yet literature and art are professions—distinct callings, and have the fullest right, from the mental cultivation and natural endowments of their professors, to be ranked among the liberal professions. Authorship has become a separate and distinct occupation. Our country alone demands that six or seven hundred volumns in the shape of newspapers be published every week; the literature of past times and of foreign regions, re-adapted to our tastes, are clamourously demanded by a reading nation; and educational and professional works are in constant demand. Every transaction of life passes under the pen of the author, or is illustrated by the artist; and every species of authorship is in demand.

If it be asked, "What are the advantages of a profession?" we can only ask in reply, "What are the advantages of association?" which we take to be so numerous that we cannot venture to recapitulate them here. The advantages of an organised profession may be seen in the law; which, mighty as it now is, penetrating all the offices of the state and the ministration of the Government, yet in the Third Edward's time was not in existence, the professors of this branch of learning being then, and even subsequently, as vaguely situated as the professors of literature are at the present day. When they became organised, royal bounty bestowed houses and lands on them; and noble professors made endowments; and now the glory of the greatest is reflected on the meanest; in national movements their united voice is heard; their rank is recognised in society, and they are a class almost especially set apart to receive honours and offices.

If it be objected, that the genius of past times is different to our own; that may be admitted, and yet, the advantages of organising literature into a profession not be impugned. The advantages of, and, indeed, the necessities for, association increase with increasing civilisation; and to repudiate this advantage, when all other ... are eagerly seeking it, is to neglect our own, and cause it to ... descend in the social scale.

To effect some reform in such an anomalous state, though on no sufficient basis, seems to have occurred to many literary men. In general, however, these efforts have proceeded no further than the founding an alms-fund; whilst the most important object should be, to found such an institution as would cement the interests of the class, and ultimately lead to the organising literature as a profession. The literary man may feel grateful for benevolent intentions, but his pride and self-respect should lead him rather to elevate and consolidate the corps to which he belongs, in the same effective manner that has characterised the proceedings of the lawyers.

It seemed to the promoters of the present Institution, that in order to effect this object it was necessary to form an Institution that would call forth the efforts of the literary man on his own behalf; and collect into a corporate body the professors of literature and art; and for this purpose the Athenæum Institute is founded.

To the extraneous aid of the possessors of rank and wealth, we are aware objections are made; but though they are not without cogency, they do not seem to us conclusive. We think literature has a right to ask the assistance of these other two great powers of society, because it so materially assists them, and because in many of its branches it has no other mode of being paid by society. The several scientific, the highly imaginative, the profoundly legislative authors, do not produce promptly marketable, though they produce priceless works. La Place, Wordsworth, Bentham, could not have existed had they depended on the first product of their works; they would have perished before an acknowledging world had given them bread. Yet their works have made the fortunes and the reputation of legislators and capitalists, and refined the minds of princes and peers.

The teachers of a nation, and the moulders of the national sentiment, should be cared for as much as those who make and administer its laws.

For these reasons Literature may seek an honourable alliance with rank and wealth, and receive their aid without degradation and without subservience. It is desirable that the three important powers come to a liberal and mutual understanding. Literature, science, and art have done everything for civilisation; and it is time that civilised society should do something for those whose very position prevents their amassing the ordinary returns of skill and labour.

The humblest literary man works for something more than hire; and produces something more effective than a mere piece of merchandise. His book is not only sold to the profit of the bookseller, but to the benefit of the public. The publisher pays for its mercantile value, but the public should reward the author for its moral and social effect; as they take upon themselves to punish if it have an evil tendency.

The Institution now proposed, it is hoped will meet the two important points of the case, and reconcile the claims of literature and art on national assistance, with that self-supporting independence which should characterise all intellectual men.

OBJECT, GOVERNMENT, CONSTITUTION, REVENUE.

The sanction and assistance of those distinguished by exalted position and abilities being exceedingly serviceable to the progress of the Institute, the following Gentlemen have kindly consented, on its formal and legal establishment, to become—

VICE-PRESIDENTS.—The Right Honourable the Lord Justice Knight Bruce, etc. The Right Honourable Benjamin Disraeli M.P., etc.

PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE.—(The following Gentlemen have undertaken to act in an honorary capacity as an initiative Committee.)—Bayle Bernard, Esq., Shirley Brooks, Esq., J. B. Buckstone, Esq., Stirling Coyne, Esq., Thornton Hunt, Esq., G. H. Lewes, Esq., F. G. P. Neison, Esq., F.L.S., Angus B. Reach, Esq., F. G. Tomlins, Esq., Provisional Manager, with power to add to the number.

OBJECTS.

The Institute to consist of four Branches.

1.—A PROTECTIVE SOCIETY.
2.—A PHILANTHROPIC AND PROVIDENT FUND.
3.—AN EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.
4.—A LIFE ASSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

1.—The Protective Department will take cognizance of legislative measures affecting Literary and Artistic interests; and by inducing co-operation amongst the members would be enabled to produce the beneficial effect attendant on professional organisation; a main object with the Institute. This branch, following the example of the Dramatic Authors' Society, contemplates protection of the rights of members in transactions relating to the property of their works; and, when fully organised and established, might, in particular cases, undertake the negotiation of agreements for members, and act in the capacity of agents, under certain regulations, which will be more specially settled and detailed in the regulations and bye-laws of the Institute.

2.—The Philanthropic and Provident Department will provide Annuities to necessitous members—make provision for the destitute Widows and Orphans of Members—grant aid to sustain the annual payments of policies—and exercise such other philanthropic functions as the governing body may deem desirable. Such aid being understood in all cases to apply only to deserving and necessitous members. The details of this portion of the plan will be more particularly defined in the Laws of the Institute.

3.—The Educational Department will educate, board, and lodge the children of members at an exceedingly advantageous rate, though not gratuitously, except in the case of destitute Orphans, or other cases. This branch would be mainly supported from the philanthropic funds and, doubtless, the admirers and supporters of literature would largely aid this portion of the Institute. Members would be entitled to its advantages, under the rules and regulations more especially set forth in the general laws of the Institute.

4.—The Life Assurance Department is established for the purpose of promoting provident arrangements amongst the members, and the ultimate formation of a Capital Fund. In furtherance of these objects, an advantageous arrangement has been made with The Athenæum Life Assurance Society, by which the Institute will add to its income by saving considerable expenses, and, at the same time, have at its disposal a valuable portion of the profits of the Life Society for philanthropic distribution amongst the necessitous members of the Institute. In return for these advantages, it will be greatly to the interest of the members to insure in the Athenæum Office; and the Institute will, to the utmost of its power, promote insurance therein, as one of the most beneficial forms in which Authors and Artists can provide for themselves and their families.

GOVERNMENT.

A PRESIDENT of the highest social rank.

VICE-PRESIDENTS—Exalted members of society, who will have the option of acting as Honorary Directors.

HONORARY-DIRECTORS—Authors and Artists of the most distinguished position, who would be Trustees and Governors of the Philanthropic Fund

BUSINESS DIRECTORS.—Authors of repute. A Manager whose duty it would be to work the system in all its branches. The Manager and Directors to be paid as such officers usually are.

CONSTITUTION.

The Institute will consist of two classes of supporters, the Professors, and the encouragers of Literature and Art.

It will also be divided into two classes of subscribers. The Philanthropic Subscribers, and the Provident Subscribers, who will be otherwise distinguished as Non-Participators, and Participators in the philanthropic portion of the scheme.

NON-PARTICIPATING SUBSCRIBERS are supposed to include the following:—

The Royal Family and Great Officers of the State, on account of the political and moral influence of authors.

Noblemen who have manifested a marked predilection for Literature and Arts.

Men of Fortune interested in Literature and Art.

Authors of Fortune, who, from philanthropic motives, would aid the Institute.

Publishers, Printers, Stationers, and others whose fortunes are derived from the labours of authors and artists.

PARTICIPATING SUBSCRIBERS include—

Professional Authors, consisting of that mass of writers who produce the current literature of the age in works of science, imagination, education, and the vast periodical and newspaper press of the Empire.

Professional Artists, including all who obtain their living by the exercise of the Fine Arts in all their variety.

REVENUE.

The revenue will be derived chiefly from two sources, the subscriptions of the Non-Participators, and the Participators, but there would be other sources of income, as hereinafter specified.

THE SUBSCRIPTIONS OF THE NON-PARTICIPATING CLASS will be applied in a novel manner by means of Life Assurance, so as to produce a large Capital Fund which shall be gradually available to the philanthropic purposes of the Institute. Thus whatever sums are subscribed by the encouragers and admirers of literature and art will be applied to assure the lives of such non participating subscriber, or any acceptable life to be nominated.

It is considered that the admirers and encouragers of Literature and Art, will thus be induced to subscribe liberally to a fund which they will see accumulating into sufficient amounts to be of permanent service to the classes they desire to benefit.

In order to meet the circumstances of the case, the non-participating subscribers will be separated into the following divisions, and would contribute, as it will be seen, in different degrees.

The First Division of Non-Participating Subscribers.—The Royal Family, the Nobility, and Men of Fortune, would be asked to subscribe, so that their lives, or lives to be nominated, might be assured for any sum not less than one hundred pounds, which principal sum should go to the Capital Fund of the Association at their decease. This class would have the option of nominating a life, or the Institute of choosing one.

The Second Division of Non-Participating Subscribers, consisting of the successful and propertied authors, and others who are interested in, or who sympathise with literature, would only be solicited to insure their own lives or the life of any one they might choose to nominate, at the usual premiums, giving the profits to the Institute, but not the sum assured.

Annual subscriptions thus applied would gradually create a Capital Fund to be at the disposal of the Institute for beneficial purposes.

Previous to making any estimate as to the probable capital that might be thus amassed, it is necessary to assume an average age of the supposed subscribers; and forty is thought to be a fair one—which, taking the rates at the Athenæum, or any other unimpeachable office, would give a premium of about three per cent. That is, for every three guineas a year subscribed there would on the average be £100 assured.

Thus, if the Crown, taking the assurance at the average age, were to subscribe to this Institute of the Authors and Artists of the country the same sum generally presented annually to each of the Dramatic Funds—namely, £100, the Institute would be ultimately benefited to the amount of £3,333 6s. 8d.

Although it is impossible to state what subscriptions could be derived from the contributions of the great and wealthy, yet it is necessary to postulate some amount; and, after a due consideration of the munificence they display when their sympathies are excited, it has been calculated, that by the method proposed, the following amounts might be ultimately obtained towards the assistance of the professors of Literature and Art.

	£	s.	d.
1 at £100 per year, would produce at the death of the party so subscribing	3,333	6	8
10 at £50 per year	16,666	13	4
50 at £30 per year	50,000	0	0
50 at £15 per year	25,000	0	0
100 at £6 per year	20,000	0	0
100 at £3 per year	10,000	0	0
Total capital ultimately accruing	£125,000	0	0

The advantage of appropriating the subscriptions to the Assurance of sums, that will ultimately drop in to the benefit of the Institute, is, that provided the philanthropic portion of the scheme do not prosper, the policies will remain for the benefit of those subscribing.

By this plan, those who sympathise with Literature and Art will have an opportunity of gradually testing the scheme, and thus would not be risking their money on an unsuccessful attempt. There are, doubtless, many noble minded and wealthy individuals who would subscribe largely to any method that would permanently benefit the workers in Literature and Art; and there may be reckoned still more who would give their subscriptions in a mode such as proposed, by which they could gradually test the result of their liberality; and who thus might conscientiously compound, as it were, for all claims of a like nature.

A hadsome Annual Subscription to the Institution would be a fair answer to all private solicitations.

THE SUBSCRIPTIONS OF THE PARTICIPATING CLASS would consist of Annual Contributions of not less than a Guinea. It is hoped, however, that in consideration of the beneficial purposes of the Institute, that the amount of the annual subscription would be in accordance with the means of the Subscriber; and in case of relief being required, some regard would be had to the amount bestowed by the claimant on the Institution, and the number of votes would be regulated by the sum subscribed, each guinea carrying a vote. Such subscription, provided the Subscriber came within the Institute's definition of author or artist, would constitute Membership, and would admit to the right of participating in 'The Philanthropic and Provident Fund,' 'The Protective Branch,' 'The Educational Department,' and the other rights and privileges of the Institute. The particulars of which will be specified in the laws of the Institute.

In addition to the two foregoing sources of revenue, there would also be the following:—

Annual Dinners, Dramatic Performances, and the Donations of marketable Copyrights, or the joint production of an Annual Work to which the contributions would be gratuitous.

One of the chief objects being to create a corporate feeling, and to establish a professional Association, there can be little doubt that Donations and Endowments would in time be bestowed upon the Institute as they ever have been on all similar institutions.

The profits arising from the Life Assurance Department would also afford means of revenue, as the silent accumulations thus obtained are much greater than those not accustomed to deal with them imagine.

In time, also, the annual interest of the Capital Fund would form a large item of revenue.

The transactions of the agency and protective departments would also yield some profit; and altogether it will be seen that if the scheme be only moderately carried out, a very handsome income would accrue to the Institute.

In conclusion, the object of the Institute is to afford to authors and artists the advantages arising from Extensive Co-operation: and it is highly desirable so large a class should make an effort to thus benefit themselves. To secure success, nothing is wanting but a hearty determination on the part of those most interested in producing such a result. It is the union of numbers that produces the magnificent results shown in the various Commercial and Philanthropic Institutions of the Empire, and it is earnestly urged that authors and artists should take advantage of their numbers. Nothing can be accomplished without numbers—with them everything. The appeal now made is universal in its application to intellectual workers, and it is hoped it will be responded to so as to neutralise all cliquism, whether arising from literary sectarianism, or the antagonism of political sentiments.

Prospectuses may also be had of Mr. Charles Mitchell, agent to the Institute, Newspaper Press Directory Office, 12, Red Lion Court, Fleet-street, London.

Communications to be made to the Provisional Manager, 30, Sackville-street, London, or any of the Provisional Committee.

LETTERS FOR WORKING MEN.

No. I.—THE GENERAL ELECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE STAR OF FREEDOM.

SIR,—The minds of that influential section of the community—the class endowed by our admirable Constitution with the patriotic faculty of choosing Members of Parliament—the minds of this privileged class are, we are told, now occupied by the absorbing question of the next election, when Lord Derby 'is to take the sense of the country.' We, who are only free-born Britons, but not yet enfranchised, may also venture to take some interest in the matter; albeit, the before-mentioned admirable Constitution considers us as having *nothing* to do with the laws, except to obey them My Lord Derby is about to consult the country; T'other party (or parties, for they say there are several, though the difference is of little consequence,) will also *consult* the country. To what purpose this *consultation* we may judge from one or two samples of preliminary elections. At Monmouth the question is, *Protection* or *Free Trade*? The answer furnished by Mr. Crawshay Bailey, and his 500 bludgeon men, who declare that Monmouth is in favour of *Protection*, though it is said that the whole drove of electors would have come down on the other side, if they had the Protection of the ballot, only to prevent them from being punished one by one. Independent patriots! Then in Ireland they put the question—*Landlordism* or *Tenant Right*; and, of course, which ever way the seventy electors who form the majority in New Ross shall vote, will be 'the sense of the country.' If Duffy shall come in two ahead, what a triumph of *Tenant Right*; if Redington wins by a neck, to say nothing of the head, will it not be clear that Toryism is the beloved of Ireland? For are not the seventy independent electors the 'sense' of New Ross!—and is not New Ross a fair specimen of Ireland? And so on, in the same approved good fashion, in fifty other places. What a pity St. Albans is no longer allowed to express 'the sense of the country!' What an utter *farce the whole business is—a farce about as disgraceful* as the recent French farce, enacted by command of Napoleon the second. The difference is, that France had a pretence of Universal Suffrage: here they unblushingly tell us, that asking the opinion of one man in seven is taking the sense of the country; and even the opinion of this seventh is such an opinion as can be got by bribery, intimidation, and foul practices of all sorts. The 'Honourable House' pays *just two millions sterling to ascertain the sense of the country, in order that it may be a faithful servant.* Very patriotic, is it not? But the whole concern is consistent. The very questions propounded—will you have Protection or Free Trade?—will you have Conservative or Democratic?—are farcical. The first *is the Whig form, the second the Tory form*, of the question; which, in plain English, means only—will you have this set of noble noodles, or that set of as ignoble noodleships, to misgovern the country? In each form the question is a blind. There is no fear of Protection being restored: the cry is only got up by the Free Traders, who would make political capital out of it,—who, indeed, would fain force the Conservatives to *try it on*, that they may gain great credit by overthrowing them. And, as to the 'democratic intention,' the Tories, who impute it, know well enough that their opponents are as little democratic as themselves,—know well enough that it is many years since a lord among them had an atom of democratic principle in him. The whole thing is at bottom but a personal squabble between the Derbies and the Russells—the Liberals, as they call themselves, backing the latter, that they may creep into office under shadow of the Whig weakness. And whether Tory or Whig succeed, what have the people to do with the election? Nothing at all, so far as siding with either is concerned. They have, however, this to do with it,—that they are every way the victims—victims of the success of either Peachum or Lockit,—victims of Peachum and Lockit's reconciliation, when all parties resume their game of Parliament, and victims even while the quarrel lasts; for the quarrellers use them for their private ends, and abuse them at their first convenience. The people ought also to have this to do with it—to be heartily ashamed that such shabby fooleries are played off in their name and to their mischief. And perhaps when they learn to be ashamed of the matter, they will come to mend it. How to mend is another thing, and may not be so easy. That it is time to begin we may be sure, when even the 'Times' is compelled to cry out, that the farce of a general election is beyond endurance—that public opinion must be brought to bear upon it. But who shall bring it to bear? Who shall even endeavour to learn what that opinion is?—the Tories? They know well enough that feudalism has not the votes of the country; they know well that privilege dares not depend except upon privilege—a select limited aristocracy—(O ye Hertfords and ye D'Orsays)—upon a selected constituency. Nothing but a packed jury will serve their turn. Young England—the reformed Conservatives in white waistcoats? They may take public opinion upon a cricket-ground. The Whigs? Base as they are, they cannot hope that the country is base enough to choose them. It only put up with them. Nothing but a packed jury could save them. *The Free Traders?—Not they either.* They dare not evoke the full opinion of the country even on their own pet theory, for its answer would go too far Yes! Free Trade for the labourer as well as for the combined employers. The Philosophic Radicals?—They cannot even agree upon an opinion on which to take the sense of the country. The Parliamentary and Financial Reformers?—Oh yes, they are the daring men to probe public opinion to its depth; only let *them leave out at least a million of the 'dangerous'* classes—those who are not allowed to live twelve months in one spot, and they will go even for 'Universal' Suffrage, and get a score or two of Christian clergymen to back them, with the assurance that the Franchise '*is a trust* bestowed by divine Providence' upon 'every Englishman *who has a home* in the country,' (the homeless may be——) and so 'the Christian is under special obligation to contribute his share of *activity to*'——'a body which, under the presidency of Sir Joshua Walmsley, has done, and is doing, much worthy of its patriotism,' &c. So far are these men from venturing upon public opinion, that they dare not even define their own, but wander about the country, making fine *speeches* for Universal *Suffrage*, and *always* winding up with a most illogical proposition for the exclusion of a million or thereabouts; plaguing us with twaddle about their 'half loaves,' their 'four courses' for hungry men who cannot get six, their 'instalments' of so much in the pound for the public creditor, and such like sophisms, till even Toryism, which at least confesses a principle of some sort, seems respectable in comparison with such mock democracy. Their *half loaves to all* are whole loaves to a favoured class, and no loaves to the rest. Their four courses instead of six, means a dinner for four men, and two men left to starve. Their so much in the pound is not so much to every creditor, but as Mr. Newton well-expressed it at the Tower Hamlets meeting, 'A fraudulent preference' to those whom they think they can most easily influence. The Hume and Cobden Reformers, who want a garrison to keep down Amalgamated Engineers, are not the men to move the country, even when they 'affect a virtue though they have it not.' And the Chartists, what can they do? 'A pretty question,' say some of you, 'when you have been telling us this year past that Chartism is as good as dead.' Alas! it is too true. The party is broken up. But what then? If the *party* is gone, the *men* remain: their wants the same, their energies really not so much worn as to be quite exhausted. We have not got the Suffrage yet. The need, the hope, which stirred us in 1839, may move us yet. True, we have *failed*: but why? Not by any means (whatever our friend "Ion" may say) because we adhered so closely to our principle; but because we sought to win a national object by a class movement, by the movement of a class without political power. Let us retrieve our error, and leaving our class Chartism in its *grave*, but still true to the old object for which Chartism was, ask for a national party to carry it out. Let us bring out public opinion—ay, even at the next election! How? *The machinery is simple. Take Leeds for instance* (meaning no personality). The return of two liberal members there is said to be sure with some 2,500 votes. What proportion is that to the adult male population of Leeds? Well that the sure men are 'Liberals;' if they were red Tories, they would be equally sure with this number of votes; and, Liberals or Tories, the will of the non-electors is not consulted. These 2,500 speak 'the sense' of Leeds Is it so? That is what I would ascertain. On the day of *nomination* I would have each candidate asked—"Are you 'in favour of extending the Suffrage to every male adult of 'sound mind, not actually under sentence for crime? Yes 'or No? *No reservations, no qualification of twelve months'* 'residence, or a claim to be rated, or other such clever 'impediments to the universal exercise of the Franchise. 'Are you prepared to aid in procuring the Franchise for 'every man, in virtue of his right, as an active member, 'a component part of the State, in virtue of the State 'requiring his duty and allegiance? Will you pledge your-'self to support that principle in the House of Commons, 'whenever and by whomsoever it shall be moved? and will 'you pledge yourself *to move at least* the recognition of the 'principle in the next Session, if no other mover shall be 'found for it? Yes or No!' Whatever may be the answer, be you prepared with the numbers of the non-electors, those who hold the principle, and if his answer be 'Yes,' *then bid him go up to the Commons House* as the representative, not only of the privileged voters, but also of so *many non-electors.* If his answer be 'No,' then sign your names to the following, or a similar form of petition; and *let it follow him to the Commons House*:—

"TO THE HONOURABLE, &c.

'The petition of the undersigned [here give number] adult male inhabitants of Leeds,

'SHOWETH,—That your petitioners, holding it to be the right and duty of every man of sound mind, not under sentence for crime, to take part in the *government* of the country, do hereby declare that Sir John Stokes, said to be elected for the town of Leeds as its representative in Parliament, does not represent them the undersigned. They, therefore, pray your honourable House to take such measures as may to your wisdom seem good, in order to obtain *a full, fair, and free representation of the said town of* Leeds.

'And your petitioners will ever pray.'

[Signing the same with names and addresses of adult male inhabitants.]

So, setting aside all minor questions—for all questions are minor in comparison with this—caring nothing for the little difference of Tory, Whig, or Radical, poll in every locality for this question of the Suffrage, and let the sham Parliament know the real 'sense of the country.' So also count hands for a new National Party—not one of class, but of all: a party which shall be strong enough to make its will respected. *One man in every town can set* the work afoot. How it would work I will make the subject of another letter.

SPARTACUS.

To Correspondents.

J. THOMPSON, Manchester, and R. WILSON, Liverpool.—Yes, we have seen the scurrillous libel of that gentleman who GOES A BEGGING WITH THE CAP OF LIBERTY IN HIS HAND—respecting middle class gold. The principles and sentiments of this Paper will be the best answer. We can afford to let him go on fulminating his lies and slanders for the present. Should we think it worth while to reply, we shall give some strange revelations of that gentleman's proceedings, which will include some very humiliating facts relating to his anxiety to clutch at middle-class gold. But, depend upon it, we shall not give him the benefit of our circulation, by noticing him in this paper,—with his miserable circulation of 500. We shall take other means.

THE SOCIETY OF THE FRIENDS OF ITALY will hold their third Conversazione on Wednesday evening, the 28th inst., at the Princess's Concert Room, Castle-street, Oxford street, London. The lecture will be on "England's Place and Duty in Europe," by Professor Newman. *The meeting will be addressed by Mazzini.*

W. BERWICK.—We will not forget Poor Ireland; your case and others of the kind shall have our earliest attention.

J. B. M.—Many thanks for your kind letter, which, however, we must decline to publish, it being one of a host of such.

OUR BEST THANKS are also due to friends in Birmingham, Sheffield, Manchester, Halifax, Ashton-under Line, Glasgow, and numerous other cities and towns, for their kind congratulations, which we hope to prove worthy of.

MONIES RECEIVED.—For the Fraternal Democrats, J. Smith, 1s.

FOR THE O'CONNOR FUND.—Nottingham, per J. Sweet, 4s.; Ashton-under-Lyne, per William Aitken £3.

NOTICE.

☞ A Gentlemen of eminent legal attainments, has been engaged as LEGAL ADVISER, and will fully and gratuitously answer the questions of Correspondents wishing trustworthy information on points of Law.

THE STAR,

SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 1852.

THE STAR OF FREEDOM

Has arisen. Arisen at a time when all is distrust and indifference with the masses of the people, and, when the gloom of Despotism, and the shadow of portending events, gather round us like the darkness of coming night. At such a time our humble light cannot but be welcome to the hearts and homes of thousands. And as the deepest gloom reveals the starriest soul, so may the surrounding darkness serve to blazon forth the 'Star of Freedom' in the political firmament, so that its light may be seen from afar, the watchfire of the people, the beacon of British Democracy. We commence our undertaking full of heart and hope, in despite of all untoward circumstances. We bring to the people's struggle for freedom and right heads and hands unwearying, and unwearïable, and hearts as full of faith as ever in the immutability of justice, and its coming triumph. Many a hard battle has yet to be fought—many a hoary wrong has to be demolished—many more tears will fall to the earth, and many more groans will *ascend to heaven, before the day of Victory arrives*; but fearlessly and faithfully we fling ourselves into the glorious work, eager to strike a blow wherever oppression rears its Gorgon head, and speak the word of healing cheer, wherever a slave bends to the lash, or a nation to the yoke. We believe that Freedom has a work for us to do, and we shall perform it with despot-and-devil-defying earnestness, and with spirit unconquerable. We have laid out our lives to aid in the work of destroying tyranny and slavery—to put an end to this speculation in man by man—to starve all willing idlers—to insure to industry the fruits of honest toil, and to enlarge those limiting institutions of our country, which are kept in existence at the expense of murdering all the budding mind and growing intelligence of the working classes. This, readers, is also your work. Your assistance is demanded in the struggle now raging between the oppressors and the oppressed. The right divine of kings and priests, and the right of the people to govern themselves. Rally round us, then, in our endeavour to establish the 'Star of Freedom,' and in our efforts to gather up the scattered forces of Democracy, which only need to be marshalled in the right direction, to ensure the popular triumph. Only work with us as we will work for you, and the 'Star of Freedom' may become as the olden pillar of fire, *to lead the suffering people out of the Egypt of modern slavery.* And to continue our allusion to that grand old Exode, so full of mighty meaning—though we may never live to reach the political and social Canaan, for which we struggle and aspire—even though we may not climb the Mount Pisgah of the *future*. Yet let us fight on, and plant our footsteps firm up the ascent of our up-hill journey, so that others who follow after shall see where our footprints have beaten out the rugged road, and, with tears of joy, bless those who have gone before.

A TRUE MILITIA.

No true-hearted Briton could feel otherwise than proud of the dauntless spirit of his countrymen, when they lately awoke from their apathy, and expressed their hatred and defiance towards the miscreant LOUIS NAPOLEON, and his royal and imperial co-conspirators on the continent.

The cry of the awakened people was for arms—arms to protect Right and Freedom; and they scorned alike the cowardly 'discretion' of the Whigs, and the absurd and unmanly doctrines of the peace palaverers.

How has that great national cry been answered? The men calling themselves a Government, to whom chance has for a time entrusted the destinies of the Empire, utterly incapable of appreciating either the *feelings* or the interests of the people, have endeavoured, as customary, to use the '*agitation*' for their own selfish ends.

Nothing could so well demonstrate the incapacity of our aristocratic rulers, and more fully show the absence of all sympathetic ties between them and the masses of the British people, than the manner in which they met the defence agitation. The nation demands a national force, and the Government increases the standing army. The present aspect of European affairs is such as to inspire the mind of every enemy of Absolutism with *grave apprehensions, and to make it* more than ever evident that the liberties of any nation cannot safely be entrusted to hireling armies; that the free nation's only natural defender is the nation *itself.* Yet, notwithstanding the imperative necessity for a citizen army, the imbecile and short-sighted factions, who have usurped the *Supreme Power*, propose to call out some eighty thousand men for a few days drill every year. Every thinking man must easily see the utter inadequacy of such a force, with such training, for the defence of a great country. Palpably, this scheme has been formed, not from any desire to endow the people with the means of defending their own rights, and of redressing their own *wrongs, but* simply as a concession to that awakening indomitable spirit which they feared, and could not hope to quell or contemn. And it is by no means improbable that, besides the greater patronage and power to be derived from the increase of the standing army, they had in view a project, the success of which would be most disastrous to the cause of freedom in England and in Europe. The uselessness of the ill-trained Militia, which their measure would call into existence, must soon become apparent, and the failure of this experiment, of what they would call 'arming the people,' would be used as a pretence for giving arms to none but 'regular' soldiers; so that the defenceless civilians would be placed at the tender mercies of any CASTLEREAGH, or TORRINGTON, or WARD, who should chance to come into power, backed, as he would be, by the bayonets of his Prætorian guards. If possessed of even the best system of representative Government, what guarantee should we have for its preservation, when laws and law-makers might be easily set at defiance by any knave whom chance might pitchfork into possession of all the material power of the nation?

But a deeper stigma than even that of a culpable ambition, must rest upon those sordid 'Cotton philosophers,' who denounce the destruction of human life by the *sword*, and who are the advocates of so-called 'Peace,' even if shame or slavery be its price, while they are coining into gold the flesh and blood, not of men alone, but of women and children also.

We do not at all doubt that that maudlin sentimentality, which seems to superficial observers to be the main characteristic of the men of peace, is only that of those not over strong-minded people, who catch greedily at the gilded pill of every quack, and who are led to believe every error and deceit. The originators and active supporters of the 'movement,' we believe to be men of different metal, actuated by very different motives.

We need only to consider whence the peace-at-any-price doctrine arose, and who are its most constant and unflinching advocates, to understand the cause of that bitter hostility with which they have greeted every proposal for arming and training the people.

Our readers must all be well aware that the prime movers in the Peace agitation are the employing class, and the "liberal" supporters of the moneycracy. To the interests of these this arming and training of the workers would be doubly detrimental, *inasmuch* as it would, by making them conscious of their own power, encourage them to resist the tyranny and extortions of their task-masters; while it would, on the other hand, shorten the hours of toil, and consequently prevent a proportionate amount of the spoils of labour finding its way into the pockets of the capitalists.

The working classes would do well to take the claptrap of the interested peace-mongers for what it is *worth*. Far from the lessening of production being an injury to the interests of the producers, it is the very thing needed for the amelioration of their social condition. Did they work one day a week more than they do now, they would be still poorer than at present; and did they work one day less, they would receive a proportionate benefit. It is the capitalist who would lose a portion of his unjust profits, and, therefore, it is he raises a cry against the disturbance of industry.

Let one day in each week be set apart for military training—a training which should include *all* the population, and instead of disturbing industry, the limitation of labour would be found to have the effect of restoring a healthy action to that over-gorged *monster, which is now so named; while the* physical exercises they would be subjected to would renew and preserve the health of those who now suffer from the *enervating influence of sedentary pursuits.*

When wealth and greater comfort have come to the homes of the poor, happiness will be there also; and when they can look upon themselves with respect as members of that society of which they are armed defenders, nobler thoughts will spring up in their *minds, pointing* the way to complete freedom. Then our country may again become 'Merry England,'—and be not, as now, the haunt of wretchedness and *grief.*

But no such good can flow from the wretched measures that Whig and Tory offer. The cause of freedom and progress cannot thus be served unless the people bestir themselves to obtain a Militia Bill, which shall be a real arming of the nation: and they energetically oppose such worse than useless measures as those of a RUSSELL and a DERBY, which principle and expediency alike condemn. To obtain such a Bill another measure must first be wrung from our class-government; a measure establishing the principles of the Charter, and thereby the veritable Sovereignty of the people.

THE APPROACHING ELECTIONS.

The fast approaching General Elections constitutes the only exception to the general dearth of political topics. It is rumoured that Parliament will be dissolved before the expiration of the month of May. Should this prove true, the 'bubble bubble, toil and trouble,' of the electoral Saturnalia will accompany the Midsummer holidays, or, at furthest, will add to the delights of the Dog-days. Be it a week sooner or later, it is evident that the term is short from the present moment to that which will witness the candidates of all parties and factions, outbidding each other for the 'sweet voices of the multitude,' and the votes of the 'free and independent' proprietors of that convertible commodity—a vote. The utter baseness and rottenness of an immense proportion of the electoral body the recent Elections at Harwich, Monmouth, and similar sinks of corruption have made patent to the world. In constituencies less corrupt, class interests and party prejudices induce the election of representatives, but little, if any, superior to those who unblushingly occupy their seats in the Legislature, not in consequence of their superior worth, but by virtue of their superior wealth. Between the corrupt and the prejudiced of the electoral body, the mass of the people are crucified. It is sometimes pretended that the Suffrage is held by the Electors as a trust for the community at large. If true, the Electors are most unjust stewards, and infamous betrayers of the trust reposed in them.

The theory of 'trusts,' like many other sublime and mystic theories connected with that impenetrable myth, the 'British Constitution' is plainly and simply *humbug*. If to any section of the community the Suffrage should be delegated as a 'trust' for the rest of the body politic, in common fairness it should be confided to those who constitute the majority, and whose existence is indispensable to the State. Were such a trust ordained, would not the middle class forget their clumsy theory, and loudly clamour for—rights—rights for all? If the middle class really believe in the 'trust' theory, they are bound to prove their sincerity by paying some deference to the wishes of those who vastly out-number them, and whom they assume to represent.

The approaching Election will afford them a glorious opportunity of demonstrating their patriotic and fraternal regard for the rights and wishes of the non-electors. Whether one or two members are to be returned, let the Electors, previous to the nomination, submit the several candidates for the approbation, or otherwise, of Public Meetings, open to *all classes*; and let the voice of the majority determine the votes. By so doing the middle class will show that they know how to exercise a 'trust;' if they cannot, or will not, comprehend the theory of rights. On the other hand, the Non-Electors should not wait for any such display of unusual and extraordinary liberality, on the part of their privileged fellow countrymen. The Non-Electors may be sure that they will get (from both Electors and Elected) precisely as much as they can take—and no more. If the forthcoming struggle is to be turned to account by the working classes, they have not a moment to lose in preparing for the conflict. Remembering the *manifestations* of Chartist principle and Chartist strength in 1842 and 1847, we must confess our surprise and sorrow at the almost universal apathy in relation to this grave and important question. Everywhere constituencies are being parcelled out between Whigs, Tories, and sham Radicals, without intervention or interference of the Democracy. Nottingham is a striking example. When the last General Election took place, while other constituencies could do no more than carry their Chartist candidates by show of hands, and in some instances added thereto a few hundred votes, Nottingham succeeded in returning Mr. FEARGUS O'CONNOR by a great majority. At this moment that stronghold of Radicalism is being appropriated by three or four 'shams,' whose sole claim to the suffrages of the Nottingham Electors consists in their possession of that wealth which will enable them, if elected, to join the ranks of the collective wisdom 'at' masquerade in the guise of Legislators." Where are

the "Men of Nottingham," once so famous for their democratic spirit? We fervently hope that ere long we shall witness a more cheering prospect of union among the working classes, and that their movements will make a sensible impression on the character of the next House of Commons.

NOTES.

From an announcement in our first page, our readers will learn, that legal impediments prevent, for this week, the completion of the arrangements for transforming the 'Star' into the 'Star of Freedom.' Nor have these been the only difficulties in the way of the production of such a Journal as we aim at calling into existence. In fact, our readers must look upon this week's impression as only a 'preliminary number;' and as bearing scarcely any resemblance to the very superior Journal they may expect from our hands on Saturday next.

We have no recollection of a week so barren of striking events as this has been. Parliament met again, after the Easter recess, on Monday last; but, excepting two questions brought before the Lower House, the proceedings have been of no great interest. The Domestic News of the week presents but few attractions (!) to those who delight to take their fill of horrors. The Foreign Intelligence exhibits nearly the same dead level. The night-mare of Despotism sits heavily on the heart of Europe; and from the Seine to the Danube the sobs of manacled Right are stifled by the gag of Terror.

On Wednesday the Bill introduced by Mr. SLANEY into the House of Commons, to legalise Industrial and Provident Partnerships, was read a second time, and, the Government consenting, was ordered to be referred to a *Select Committee.* Possibly next year Mr. SLANEY'S Bill, or some similar measure, will become law. The important question of the Taxes on Knowledge came before the Commons on Thursday night. As we intend to comment on this subject next week, we shall merely notice the important fact, that in his reply to Mr. M. GIBSON, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, seemed to intimate his willingness to abandon the Advertisement Duty, and to be not very anxious as to the conservation of the Stamp Duty. Under these circumstances Mr. GIBSON declined to press his motion to a divison, and the debate was adjourned to Wednesday the 12th of May.

ARE WE 'PROSPEROUS?'

TO THE EDITOR OF THE STAR OF FREEDOM.

SIR.—The important subject of discussion in the columns of the daily press, and at the public meetings throughout the country, is the present condition of the labouring portion of the community. On that point we claim to be heard. It concerns us, and we esteem it of paramount importance. For parties, factions, political rivalries, the battle of the 'Ins and Outs,' we care not a straw—for facts and principles we care much—for the welfare of the masses we care most. Their case is ours; with and for them we shall struggle; on their side we take our stand; by them we shall stand or fall. We write earnestly, maturely, and for a defined purpose—the general elevation of the industrial orders, believing most devoutly that 'the safety of the people is the highest law.'

It is asserted by the economical doctors that this country is extremely 'prosperous,'—'prosperous beyond precedent.' We ask for the proof—it is at hand; instantly are produced long columns of figures, proving a vast increase of our exports and imports. The Board of Trade returns are presumed to be unanswerable; and they show beyond argument the vast extent and rapid extension of our domestic, colonial, and foreign exports and imports.—We are assured that the 'operatives' must be 'prosperous.' If not, 'Why do you see street after street—nay, whole suburbs—rise up, as by magic, from the green sward, from the stubble of last year's harvest, from the hill-side, from the heathery skirt of the moor, under the very shade of the ancient oak? Why do you see cottages run up for labouring men with a comfort and an elegance unknown to the last generation; with good drainage, pure water, abundant and almost free? Why are there flowering plants, and worked muslin blinds in all the windows, new furniture in every room, and the young families within well-clothed, blooming, playful, and happy?' That is a charming picture; a most delightful scene. It is not painted by us; it is the work of the artist who decorates the pages of the 'Times.' Really he is a genius of the first order. It is to be regretted that he should devote himself to the thorny walk of politics. So rich an imagination would win for its lucky owner a fortune in the more pleasant path of romance. No working man, in the absence of an especial assurance from the writer, could believe that his picture is intended to represent the every-day life of working men. What say the more than 2,000,000 of agricultural labourers constituting the base of the industrial pyramid of the United Kingdom? Have they 'flowering plants and worked muslin blinds' in *all* the windows—are their 'young families' within *well-clothed*, blooming, playful, and happy? What say *the Spitalfields weavers, whose dolorous complaints* have moved the hardest of hearts? Was their recently-held meeting in their own district all a sham? Were those resolutions, unanimously voted by themselves, and setting forth their deplorable condition 'all' false? What say the handloom-weavers of England and Scotland, numbering hundreds of thousands—those unfortunate men, who, on the authority of Sir James Graham,' are engaged in 'hopeless competition' *against wood*, iron, and steel? Is their organised movement, praying the government to assist them to emigrate from their native land, an imposture. How answer ye, the powerloom weavers of Bingley, Radcliffe, and districts, as you in your hundreds parade the streets of your own and neighbouring townships 'out on strike,'—*not for an increase of wages, but against an* increase of work and a reduction in pay—are you 'happy?' What say such of the ship wrights and joiners of the Thames, the Wear, and the Tyne, as daily beg in vain for leave to toil. Is their idleness a willing idleness? What say those bootmakers, tailors, and needlewomen of London who starve out life, half-employed and wretchedly paid? Do they answer, 'Our children are playful?' we are the 'happy' inmates of the charming cottage filled with 'new furniture?'

'All' have one answer; it is brief, but expressive. 'We are oppressed.' If this country were 'prosperous,' why do her children flee from her shores in hundreds of thousands? A love of country is a *natural instinct—it is the very keystone of patriotism.* Englishmen *of the last generation cherished it in* excess; those of the present carry about with them but a faint impression of the past, and that impression, slight though it be, is *felt* rather as an incumbrance, than cherished as a virtue. What has occasioned the change? Is it the result of a more extended sympathy, an insight and appreciation of the feelings, habits, and associations of the dwellers in other lands? We wish that we could heartily answer in the affirmative. Has the surface of the soil become barren?—are the fields, the hills, the dales less cheerful or health-inspiring? The soil is fertile and cultivated—the scenery picturesque and beautiful. Is there not room enough? 'There is not.' That is a common, *but* an unfounded assertion. Then, how comes it that so many Englishmen are unwilling or unable to live in their own fatherland. The country is 'prosperous,' and the working men are in haste to leave 'prosperity.' We are told to look at the poor law returns, *and there we shall see, in plainest* arithmetic, the social condition of the people indicated. We have read the returns. We have looked for ourselves into the condition of some of those rural districts which are said to be 'most prosperous.' We have found the male population, in numbers, much under the female. We have asked, where are the men?—The women answer us, that their brothers have emigrated, and they themselves work in the fields. It is an easy matter to boast of a trifling decrease of actual paupers, *when the male population* have been exported as so much useless rubbish, *to be got rid of* anywhere and anyhow, cast on the banks of the Mississippi, or sunk in the sea. Is it 'prosperity' that turns the women of the agricultural districts into the fields to work like beasts of burden, for a bare scanty pittance? Talk to us of the improved cottages that are being built. Why not say a word or two about the cottages that have been pulled down, or allowed to fall stone by stone into mournful decay. In the memory, of a few of the present generation, the number of cottages that have disappeared are countless. Each crumbling cottage indicated the fate of a family. Each ruined family added *to our pauper, our criminal,* our emigration, or our churchyard returns. Families have been forced to crowd together, to sleep incongruously, and with a lessened regard to decency—ending in the breaking up of all that is sacred and virtuous in domestic life—untieing the first bond of social order; and an inevitable increase of outrage has been met by the establishment of an unconstitutional military power, called a 'rural police force.' Dissatisfied by the incumbrances *so augmented*, the landlords and cotton lords entered into an unholy alliance to divorce poverty from property, and coin gold out of the bones and sinews of men, women, and children. It is remarkable, that if our 'prosperity' be, as it is asserted, that, side by side therewith, Manchester, the emporium of the cotton trade, should show an increase in pauperism and crime. Yet such is the fact—our authorities being the published accounts of the Poor Law Guardians, and the published statement of the Recorder. Why men knowing all these things can dare to tell the working men of England that their order are 'prosperous,' we are puzzled to find out. Such monitors are dead to the promptings of conscience, and have forgotten the duty they owe to their country and posterity. Are we told that such things belong more to the past *than to the present?* We reply that the past is the parent of the present; and he who hopes to separate them knows not what he does. Are we assured that it is not well to lift the veil from hidden sores? What would be thought of a surgeon who was afraid to probe a wound? What *patient can hope for a cure who is ashamed to own that he is diseased?* Away with mock sentimentality; it is gathered in heaps about the streets; it has dressed itself out in lawn and fine linen. It is *perfumed* and painted. Those who know nothing better, fancy it to be sweet and beautiful. Whether *we meet with it in church or chapel, in lecture-room* or theatre, in the byways or highways, we discover it to be sickly, cadaverous, unwholesome, and in the nostrils of healthy men and women it stinks like rotten flesh.

Much stress is laid, by the gentlemen engaged on 'prosperity,' upon the rapid increase of exciseable commodities. *The increased consumption* of tea, tobacco, beer, spirits, &c. is asserted to be a *sure proof* of 'prosperity.' We are of opinion that if the working classes generally eat more beef, mutton, veal, pork, and enjoyed what by Englishmen is conceived to be 'good living,' fewer exciseable articles would be required. Every working man knows that, as a rule, he smokes most tobacco, and, if at all *attainable*, drinks most spirits, when he is only partially employed, and his diet low. We fear there is too strong a tendency in our population generally, to consume exciseable articles rather than the more substantial fare of beef and bread. We remark in passing, that excessive, and, therefore, unnatural, toil, *tends more than, perhaps, any other single cause to increase* the consumption of tobacco, gin, and beer. We do not conclude therefrom that an increase in the sale of tobacco, gin, and beer is an unanswerable fact, proving by itself the 'prosperity' of a country.

Our estimate of national prosperity is not a party or partizan estimate. We have not yet learned to weigh out humanity by the standard of exports or imports. We belong to neither the old nor the new sect of political economists, although we have anxiously endeavoured to learn here a little and there a little from each. We assert that history, experience, and the most far-seeing economy are combined in proving that the natural but generous improvement of the working classes is the surest guarantee of the peace and safety of all; and legislation is only beneficial in so far as it contributes to that end.

We admit the vast material development indicated in the tables of the Board of Trade, to be undeniable. We own at once that the buying and selling have been on a gigantic scale. It is possible that those exchanges might have been more profitable. Our own experience satisfactorily convinces us that our national powers of production are immense. That experience also tells us that the producing classes have not had their fair-share of the increased wealth; and as the workers have *not* been enriched thereby it is not difficult to know who have—they are a few, comparatively a very few, fortunate and speculating millionaires.

GRACCHUS.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

When this gigantic glass-bubble was first blown, we had no faith in it. We knew that it was to be elected for the aggrandisement of the few at the expense of the many; and it has succeeded admirably. We then suggested that the *motto placed over the front of it should be,* "The cheapness of man is our every-day tragedy." As regards the hypocritical assumption of the Peace-men and the Economists, that it would promote the mutuality of the peoples, that's all bosh—the carnival of Competition, amidst a war of antagonistic interests, was not precisely the place in which to promote fraternity and amity. With these feelings, we certainly do not feel particularly anxious about its destruction. It seems a *pity* to pull down so beautiful and fairy-like a structure, but, were it to stand, the working classes would have little or no part or lot in the matter. It is not their Crystal Palace. It would be made a mere fashionable lounge, which must, of course, be kept very select. If any thing would cause us to rank on the side of its preservators, it would be because of those few miserable individuals who are *annoyed* by its being in their neighbourhood, and would, consequently, pluck it down despite the wishes of thousands. We think we know the secret of the general Press opposition to its destruction: Paxton has made immense sums of money by it; and, we believe, the Press is highly fed to write it up. Numerous meetings have been held in the metropolis to protest against its destruction, but, we believe, it is doomed. Suppose this were to be its epitaph—

"*De mortuis nil nisi* BONE'-EM!"

A MOTHER AND SON CONDEMNED TO DEATH.—Sarah Anderson, or Fraser, aged forty, and her son, James Fraser, aged 17, were arraigned at the Inverness assizes for the murder of William Fraser, husband of the one prisoner and father of the other, by administering to him poison. The deceased was an innkeeper at Inver, and upwards of sixty years of age. In the course of last September the deceased was suddenly taken ill, was seized with violent vomiting and purging, and in a few days died. At the time his death did not excite suspicion. His body was interred in the churchyard of Rigg, and in the course of a *few days some mysterious reports got into circulation as* to his fate. The body was disinterred, and the contents of the stomach being analysed, it was found that he had died of arsenic. After a lengthened trial the jury found them Guilty, but recommended them to mercy. His lordship passed the usual sentence upon them.

MILTON'S RIB-BONE.—Mention is made of Cromwell's skull; so it may not be out of place to tell you that I have handled one of Milton's ribs. *Cowper* speaks indignantly of the desecration of our divine poet's grave, on which shameful occurrence some of the bones were clandestinely distributed. One fell to the lot of an old and esteemed friend, and between *forty-five and forty years ago*, at his house, not many miles from London, I have often examined the said rib-bone. That friend is long since dead; but his *son, now in the vale of years,* lives, and I doubt not, from the reverence felt to the great author of "Paradise Lost," that he has religiously preserved the precious relic. It might not be agreeable to him to have his name published; but from his tastes, he—being a person of some distinction in literary pursuits—is likely to be a reader of "Notes and Queries," and if this should catch his eye, he may be induced to send you some particulars. I know he is able to place the matter beyond a doubt.—*From "Notes and Queries."*

ACCIDENT ON THE MANCHESTER SHEFFIELD, AND LINCOLNSHIRE RAILWAY.—On Saturday night an accident occurred to the five o'clock train on the short branch of this line from New Holland to Barton, on the south bank of the Humber. A new engine was drawing this train, and, with one stoppage, had brought it in safety to Barton; but, on arriving there, from some cause at present unknown, the driver and guard were unable to make their breaks act, and the engine went, at the rate of twelve or fourteen miles an hour, through a thick wall at the end of the line into the station house, the internal fittings being completely smashed. The station master was writing at his desk at the time, and had a *very narrow escape. Hearing* the shouts of the people outside, he ran out, and had not been gone a second, when the buffers of the engine smashed the counter he was sitting at into splinters. The driver and stoker saved themselves by leaping on the platform. The former went back to New Holland, gave information of the accident, and has not been heard of since. Several of the passengers were injured. Mrs Morely, of Hull, was severly cut and bruised about the legs, and several others are now under medical treatment.

EPIDEMIC CHOLERA.—By advices received from Erzeroom, it appears that cholera has again broken out with *severity in Persia, where the pestilence* commenced before its recent visit to this country and the rest of Europe. It has appeared at Soouk Boolck, near Suleimanich; and it is also reported that typhus was raging at Tehran, as well as at Tabreez. There can be no assurance that it will not spread and take its former course, yet nothing is done for this metropolis, though it is *certain* that typhus is more rife in Gray's-inn-lane, Whitechapel, and St. Giles's, than at Tehran or Tabreez.

THE GOVERNMENT BALANCE SHEET.—On Thursday the government balance sheet for the year ended the 5th inst., was printed in a parliamentary paper. The excess of the income over the expenditure was £2,170,990 3s. 6d. The balances in the Exchequer on the 5th of April, 1851, were £7,879,671 16s. 9½d., and on the 5th of April inst. they were £6,838,846 14s. 2d.

PROCLAMATION OF OUTLAWRY.—At the Sheriff's Court on Thursday the following persons were called upon to surrender under penalty of outlawry:—Joseph Benson, John Pounds, John Hugh Wadham Pigott Smyth Pigott, the Hon Brownlow Cecil (Lorn Brownlow Cecil), George Dracato Papa Nicholas, John Lloyd, Alfred Lewis, Mary Sabina de Melfort (Countess de Melfort,) Algernon Massingberd, Osborn H. Sampays, William H. Smith, W. David Shirreff, and William Smith.

Co-operative Chronicle.

THE WORKING TAILORS' ASSOCIATION, LONDON.

A CHAPTER TOWARDS THE ASSOCIATIVE HISTORY.

PRELIMINARY REMARKS.

The oak is contained in the acorn, the universal in the individual, and even as the history and experience of one man's life may be a matter of national interest, so may the history and experience, the origin, rise, errors, and successes of one Association contain a warning, a stern lesson, and a wholesome example for all Associations that follow after. It is an old saying, "that a fool may profit by his own experience, but a wise man profits by the experience of others." Pioneers are usually sent in advance to clear away obstructions and unveil the pitfalls; and so in this cause, we should reap advantage from those who have gone before us, *why should we eternally repeat their errors and* blunders? They have erected signposts to mark the spots, let us read them. Their failures in the Past we should make the stepping-stones for our success in the Future. With this view, I propose to jot down a few facts relating to the "Working Tailors' Association," which claims to be the Standard-bearer of the present Co-operative Movement. It is pre-eminent among the London Associations, as being first in starting, first in success, and, certainly, first in blundering. Its history has yet to be written; the present editor of the "Journal of Association," wrote a sketch of it in the earliest part of its career; and Walter Cooper also contributed a portion of its history to the "Christian Socialist;" but the public can have no definite idea of the matter, as such a mass of misrepresentation has been circulated, and innumerable conflicting statements *made respecting it.* This Association does not assume to be the Moses of the nineteenth century, missioned to lead the people out of their worse than Egyptian bondage, but *it does assume to aim a blow at that* Moses of this century, who is leading and crushing them into that deeper and bitterer slavery—Moses of the "Mart," whose customers are martyrs. Moreover, though not the first English Association established on the Co-operative principle, it is the *first that purposes devoting* one-third of its profits to assist the establishment of other Associations upon the same principle. It also, of all others, claims to have made Association a veritable, practical, living fact. And that is worth much in this age of theories and palaver-panaceas. It is worth more than much preaching. It has very forcibly illustrated what working men may do in spite of all present difficulties, if they will but unite and direct their own industrial energies with their own intelligence for their mutual benefit, and work for each other instead of working against each other, and competing with each other in a hand-to-throat strife for the means of living, even while they permit the capitalists to stand like the Croupier at the head *of the gaming board and rake up* all the wealth, which they, poor gamblers, for life and death have toiled, and hungered, and suffered, to produce. We, the advocates and exponents of the associative principle can now say to its opponents, combat association in theory and on paper as much as you please, and as successfully as you may, this associa*tion in practice* is a far different thing; now combat that. You have said that working men did not possess business tact necessary to the carrying on of business on their own account. You have said that working men would never sufficiently conquer their mutual jealousies, and vanquish their mutual distrust, and work together in fraternal unity. We can now reply—come See how signally your taunts and assertions have been defeated. We have replied to you by silently working out our maligned, but glorious principles, and now we are triumphantly successful. I do not write about this experiment because it is arrogated that a few tailors *assembled in Castle-street, for their mutual, mental, moral,* and monetary profit will save the world. Nothing of the kind. But their rise and progress has been anxiously marked by deeply interested thousands, and the name of association has become a magic word of talismanic influence. It has been a rallying sign for those who have long waited in doubt and darkness, looking for a sign, and day by day has the tide set in in our favour, gone surging and surging onward, and swift success has crowned our efforts. Day by day has new strength been added to the movement, not only in town and city, but in the obscure nooks of village and hamlet. This is success which cannot be contravened. These co-operative associations and stores may yet go down, but the lesson learned by those who have worked in them can never be forgotten; the insight obtained into the practical working of self-government—the glimpse they have caught of the beauty and blessing of brotherhood—can never be effaced. They will have learned that the man who is a slave in his own heart, and a tyrant in his own household, would be a slave and a tyrant still, even though social and political thraldom were abolished to-morrow, an experience which can never be lost, while the fact of such associative success, in the face of such difficulties, must live on as a matter of history, bearing proud testimony to the truth and vitality of our principles. Of course, the associative tree, like other fruit-trees, has not born all ripe and sound fruit for its firstlings; it has had its bitter crabs and rotten windfalls; but this we may say, that its worst and rottenest fruit has not been the result of natural growth; but of pernicious grafting, in spite of which it has yielded a generous harvest.

Nor was it anticipated that all would be smooth and serene,—we expected the storm and strife. The pioneers of any new cause have usually rough work to perform, and they must be prepared to face danger, and to conquer difficulties, if they would achieve success. God knows at what a cost great principles and noble truths have ever had to be established in the world! They have ever demanded from their enunciators and champions the greatest of self-denial the sternest self-sacrifice, and the most undaunted heroism The best days of the best lives must be devoted to them and it needs that their apostles should toil terribly through long years with the zeal and the faith of martyrs, to endue them with enduring life, and make the world acknowledge them. This has been the history of every great cause, and of every immortal idea that have warred with the world and the old anarch Custom, through all the ages. And we did not expect the Socialist idea to be the one grand *exception.* See now! we have against us mighty monopolies of capital, law, and government; and not only have we to fight these, but, worst of all, we shall have to bear with, and to live down the jealousies and prejudices of our own class, which will be excited against us; for so fatally have want and misery done their damning work on thousands, that their redemption will have to be wrought out as much in their despite as by their assistance. All this, I repeat, we expected; but, in turning our attention to self-government on a small scale—in humbly endeavouring to realise the republic in the workshops—in clubbing our little monies for the purpose of carrying *on production and distribution* on our own account, *we might not have expected to be indis*criminately and virulently maligned and attacked by the professed friends and representatives of the working classes. Nor did we deserve to be taunted as being the recipients of "*demoralizing charity,*" who paid four per cent. interest *for the capital worked with.* Again, as working-men, we anticipated being frequently found illustrating that peculiar fraternity so often existing between brothers, a kind of chartered right of quarrel; and, as associates, we arrogated to ourselves a kind of associative prerogative to pitch into each others productions and proceedings; but we did not trade in it, nor did *we extend such co-operative privilege to* those who did. And, like the affectionate mother, who "would'nt let nobody else have the pleasure of walloping her own child," we reserved to ourselves our own quarrelling and bickering, and claimed to be monopolists in mutual chastisement. *But, more of this hereafter.* With all our opposition and misrepresentation, the lot of the pioneers of Socialism in this country is light and easy to theirs who have gone before in many another cause. We have a smooth path, compared with those who have lived and laboured for mankind's advancement in the past. Yet there will be that to hear which will need a true heart and a lofty faith. Association will not be wrought out without a tedious and painful probation. We shall see many an unsuccessful attempt, many a false friend slinking from the contest, and many a break up of old friendships into bitter *and sorrowful strife. Even on the day of starting we may,* standing on the delectable *mountains of hope, admiration,* and enthusiasm, get a glorious glimpse of the land of promise, smiling there in the far future; but, friends, there is many a dark shadowy valley, and many a rugged wilderness between, with no glimpse of the Canaan to be seen. Yet let us remember, that even then we are nearing the social cynosure, and to-morrow may see us on a loftier summit still, with one more difficulty vanquished, one more proud march of progress made. Let us take heart; the right is with us, and the genius of liberty watches over us. Courage. And yet these divine ideas of Liberty Equality, and Fraternity, which the brave and hopeful yet think to translate into every-day life, shall govern the world and bless humanity.

GERALD MASSEY.

CONFERENCES WITH WORKING MEN.

Some three or four years ago, Professor Maurice and some other gentlemen of the legal and clerical professions, anxious to get at the working-men and establish some kindly interchange of feeling with them, held some conferences, which were well attended by working men; their *best practical result has been the establishment* of the present Working Associations now in successful operation in the metropolis. The success of that series of meetings has determined the promoters of this associative experiment to resume them. The third of the new series was held on Wednesday evening, at the Working Tailors' Association, 34, Castle-street East, Oxford-street, London. The attendance was numerous, including the Rev. Mr. Maurice, Mr. Ludlow, Viscount Goderich, and a number of leading men connected with past and present "Trades' Unions." The subject for debate was that adjourned from last week, viz., —"Trades Unions in the Past, the Present, and the Future,"

Mr. Stallwood, as mover of the adjournment, defended "Trades' Unions" for their efficacy in the Past. The individual labourer was easily crushed by the capitalist; not so with a band of men, when firmly united in the bonds of interest and fraternity. Mr. S. having concluded an able and interesting speech,

Mr. Walter Cooper said he concurred in much that had fallen from the previous speaker; much good had resulted from Trades' Unions, although they had failed in keeping up wages; and agreed entirely with John Bates, when he said you must "raise up the lowest, or they will drag you down to their level."

Viscount Goderich said he was happy to find that nothing had been advanced against the principle of union; they had certainly done good service in past times, and prevented wages falling to slop level. Self-employment he thought was well calculated to bring peace between Labour and Capital, and must tend largely to social amelioration.

Mr. J. D. Styles, Secretary to the Operative Builders' Union at the time of the great strike, entered at length into a history of Trades' Unions, and suggested the propriety of calling together the heads of trades' bodies with a view to the carrying out, on a large scale, the principle of self-employment.

Mr. Hooper followed in an able speech in defence of Trades' Unions, and said, they did not hear of the rights of vegetables, and he could not conceive what right minerals (capital) had to protection any more than vegetables.

Mr. J. Douthwaite, one of the Executive Committee of the late Consolidated Union, gave an interesting account of Trades' Unions in the past.

Mr. J. J. Bezer followed in a most amusing speech, relating to the rise and progress of the Costermongers' Union, and the good results to the dealers in fish; and at the same time delivering a most severe castigation to their opponent—the very pious Alderman Wire.

The President, Professor Maurice, very ably summed up the various arguments that had been used *pro.* and *con.*, and said good practical results could not fail to flow from such discussions.

The meeting, by vote, declared that the next subject for discussion shall be—"What system of Co-operation shall we adopt for the future?" To be opened by Mr. Lloyd Jones, on Wednesday evening, May 5th.—Adjourned.

THE PROGRESS OF CO-OPERATION IN AMERICA.

The movement for the organisation of Union Stores, as they are called, still advances in the interior of this State and in various parts of New England, notwithstanding the warm opposition of the merchants in many localities.

The object of these organisations is to supply their members with dry goods, groceries and other articles of consumption usually obtained from the merchants, without the profit which the latter impose. The inhabitants of a village or school district, for instance, combined under suitable rules, each putting in a due proportion of money to start with, and appoint a Business Committee, with an agent to go to the city and buy for them all together. The goods are brought home and each receives what he has ordered, at wholesale cost, with a small additional charge, sufficient to cover the pay of the agent and the other contingent expenses. If the Union is large enough, a store is taken, and kept open every day, and the agent is constantly employed, with other help if necessary, though as the business is all done for cash, comparatively few clerks will be required. This is a Union Store, and if the Committee and the agents are competent and faithful, the members will be supplied with goods at from 20 to 33⅓ per cent. cheaper than the merchants, who must live and get rich by their business, can afford to sell them. This saving is one which benefits directly the mass of the people; it makes the man with the dollar as rich as one with a dollar and a quarter was before; and thus the general amount of comfort, enjoyment, and independence among the population is very considerably increased, while the Union Store dispenses with the necessity for such competition by furnishing goods always at wholesale cost, and *charges, without adding* anything for profit, it releases a large number of persons from the occupation of storekeeping, to engage in other employments of a more productive nature. Instead of remaining as commercial agents to be supported by the public, they go to increase the great army of producers, who employ the diminished number of commercial agents now required. The machinery of commerce is thus simplified, its expenses vastly reduced, and the number of persons who have to bear them increased.

It is perhaps natural for the merchants to oppose this change, because it threatens to take from them the business on which is based their hope of getting rich. But this is not a good reason for rejecting the new plan, or for giving it up where it has been found successful. The interest of the masses ought always to be preferred to that of the few, and always will be in a *free country.* A much more commendable course is that adopted by one or two merchants within our knowledge. Instead of proclaiming the Union system impracticable, and endeavouring first to prevent the establishment of union stores in their vicinity, and then to injure them after they were established, these men have gone into the movement themselves, giving it the benefit of their business experience, advice, and assistance. This was acting with manly public spirit, and has insured them, as it deserved, the enlarged esteem and respect of their fellow-citizens.—*New York Tribune.*

Trades' Intelligence.

THE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS.

PUBLIC MEETING OF THE TRADES OF LONDON.

A public meeting of the Trades of London, to aid the Engineers in their resistance to the "Masters' Declaration"—which the editor of the "Dispatch" states he would rather break stones upon the road than sign—was held at St. Martin's Hall, Long-acre, on Thursday evening, April 22nd.

The several Trades were represented by their delegates. At half-past eight,

Mr. JOSEPH WOOD (Stoneman) was called to the chair, and, in a most eloquent speech, opened the proceedings. He stated that a resolution and a petition to the House of Commons would be submitted to the meeting. He did not think much of the House of Commons, seeing the people were not represented therein. (Loud cheers.) He called on them to continue their support to the Operative Engineers, and then the declarationists must succumb to the will of the united millions. (Loud cheers.) He would now introduce

Mr. TURNER (Stonemason), who moved the first resolution:—"That the Operative Engineers, expelled from their employment by an Association of Employers, having, during fifteen weeks, submitted to privations of an extreme character, in the endeavour to procure an amelioration of the workman's position; having also, during that time, conducted themselves in a manner worthy of the principle for which they were contending, this meeting is of opinion that they have deserved well of the working classes of this country; and as the Associated Employers have left their operatives no other alternative between a dishonourable submission to their arbitrary rule, or compulsory idleness, with its consequent evils and privations, it is imperative on every workman to exert himself to the utmost in supporting the operatives, and in averting from them and from the Trades of Britain, the injury and disgrace which would ensue from their submission." Mr. Turner said, the position of the Engineers to-day might be that of any other trade to-morrow; the builders even might be the next victims. (Hear, hear.) Hence, it behoved them to urge those with whom they were associated to subscribe most liberally, and thus prevent such a calamity. He asked the workmen to be equally earnest in their cause as was the oppressor in his work of tyranny. (Cheers.) He concluded by submitting the resolution.

Mr. WALFORD (Pimlico, Working Builder), in seconding the resolution, said twenty millions of money had been raised to emancipate the West India slaves, but white slaves were still allowed to wear their chains. He was for re-hoisting the banner, inscribed "Am I not a man and a brother?" Until the chains were knocked from all, the question for their consideration was, shall the Engineers submit?—shall they be allowed to pine in want and degradation? If they gave a negative reply, they must be up and stirring, and, by their exertions, give practical effect to their sympathy. A sacrifice of only one pint of fourpenny ale per day from each would effect the much desired object. (Hear, hear.) Recently a sum of twenty-five thousand pounds was put down in as many minutes, to resist the Protectionists; the first subscriber being one of those who oppressed the Engineers. (Loud shouts of "Hear, hear.") Let the workmen follow this example on behalf of the oppressed mechanics, and success was certain. He hoped soon to see Mr. Newton in Parliament—(tremendous cheering)—to raise his voice in settling the great question of Labour and Capital. (Continued cheering.) He thought it their duty to look forward, and haste on the good time when men should work for themselves and enjoy the fruits of their Labour. The resolution affirmed that the Engineers had endured extreme privations. He trusted this stain would be wiped away by every man doing his duty. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. WM. NEWTON now rose to support the resolution, and was received with loud cheers, again and again repeated—He said: It had been the wish and hope of the members of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers to remove the evils affecting their trade, viz., piecework and overtime. They were actuated by feelings of humanity, to take so high a position and abolish the totally unnecessary hours of labour; but they had been opposed by grasping Employers, who appeared to have but one object in view, that of accumulating capital. And in this country the production of wealth appeared to have arrived at perfection—but there was an immense difference between the production of wealth and general happiness. (Cheers.) However, the operatives had shown their sincerity by their acts. The 5,000 men who had been supported by the Amalgamated Society had never gone without their week's allowance—(hear, hear)—and the individual sacrifices of the men had amounted to 26s. per week; which he thought a thorough test of their sincerity. At the commencement of the strike, "The Times" had said there were a few men sitting in Little Alie-street, supported by a very few men out of doors—but a very few days had elapsed ere they were compelled to admit that the Council was supported by eleven out of twelve thousand engaged in the trade. (Loud cheers.) At the time when the Operative Engineers put forth their declaration of principles, some few amongst their number were desirous of working overtime; but immediately they were shown the evils this would inflict on the mass of their fellow-men, humanity prevailed, they gave way, and unanimously voted the abolition of overtime. And they had also endeavoured to show the Employers that this was equally their interest as it was that of the Operatives. They had succeeded with those of the metropolis, until, unfortunately, on an evil day, a deputation had come from Manchester, headed by Platts and Co., the result of which was, that the Employers closed their shops, and threw thousands out of employment. They remained thus closed for one month; and they re-opened with that declaration which was an outrage to humanity. (Great applause.) Well they knew how inadequate their own funds were; consequently they had appealed to their fellow workmen, and they must express their deep gratitude for the great support they had received. (Loud cheers.) There were as many now receiving support from the funds of the Amalgamated Society as there were on the very first day of the Strike. He did not mean to deny the published statements as to the number of men who had signed the declaration; but these were some of the vagabonds who had trod the streets of London, and who could not find employment anywhere in quiet times, who had appended their names a dozen times over. (Cheers.) When these men presented themselves at the Employers' gates, the document was handed to them, and they immediately appended their names. The Employers then said, when we want you we will send for you. (Laughter.) This farce was again and again repeated, and it was discovered that some had presented themselves at as many as twelve different places; but the number of good men who had appended their names was few indeed. (Loud cheers.) Yet the Masters still persisted in presenting the degrading document, although the men had withdrawn their just demands. The Masters had thought one month would exhaust their funds and their patriotism, consequently they kept closed for precisely that period; but the men had kept faith under privation and suffering for fifteen weeks. (Loud cheers.) Some now asked the question—"Having aided in the consumption of £40,000, and the declaration still continuing on the gates of the employers, shall we not be justified in signing it without having the least intention of keeping our words, as it is forced on us, and ours will be a most unwilling compliance?" In reply to which he (Mr. Newton) said—"If they did they would be placed in one of two positions—first, if they signed without any intention of acting up to their signatures they would be public liars; in the second, if they did act up to it, they would at once become industrial serfs." Was it not disgraceful that men should be driven to such alternatives? He appealed for further support to prevent so dire a necessity. (Hear.) Let the 4,500 men still be supported, and they would continue their manful resistance until success crowned their efforts. (Tremendous and long-continued cheering.)

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Mr. HARROP (Shoemaker,) in a brief but emphatic speech, proposed the second resolution, as follows:—"That in consequence of the rapid succession of industrial disputes, this meeting is of opinion that a federation of the trades of Britain, for deliberation on trades' matters, is necessary to prevent a recurrence of similar disastrous events."

Mr. M'VIE (Bootmaker,) seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. J. PETTIE, (Secretary to the Trades' Federation,) moved the adoption of the following petition:—

"TO THE COMMONS HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT.

"The humble Petition of a Public meeting of the Trades' of London, held in St. Martin's Hall, Long-acre, in the city of Westminster, on Thursday April 22nd,

"SHEWS,—That by an Act of Parliament made in the Sixth year of King George the Fourth, intituled 'An Act to Repeal the Laws Relating to the Combinations of Workmen, and to make other provisions in lieu thereof,' it is provided that the said Act should not extend to subject any persons to punishment who shall meet together for the sole purpose of consulting upon and determining the rate of wages or prices which the persons present at such meeting or any of them, shall require or demand for his or their work, or the hours or time for which he or they shall work in any manufacture, trade, or business, or who shall enter into any agreement, verbal or written, among themselves for the purpose of fixing the rate of wages or prices which the parties entering into such agreement, or any of them shall require or demand for his or their work, or the hours of time for which he or they will work in any manufacture, trade or business, and that persons so meeting for the purposes aforesaid, or entering into any such agreement as aforesaid, shall not be liable to any prosecution or penalty for so doing, any law or statute to the contrary notwithstanding.

"That by the said act thirty-three previous acts of Parliament, whereby unions of workmen, for the purposes aforesaid, had been prohibited, were repealed.

"That, in consequence of the permission given to workmen to form peaceable unions for the purposes aforesaid, various societies, called "Trade Societies," have been formed, and very extensively supported by subscriptions of money from working men, having, among other objects, the object of facilitating unions of workmen for such purposes as aforesaid, whereof the societies whereto your petitioners belong form a part.

"That many such societies exist in London and its suburbs, and that they are widely spread over the whole country.

"That the rules of these societies extend to make provision for many other objects of a benevolent nature, such as provision in case of sickness or old age, or casual want of work, or for the burial of its members, or for their widows or orphans, besides the objects aforesaid, and that the right of the members to participate in the benefits thus conferred depends on the continuance of their subscriptions.

"That in consequence of a dispute which has recently arisen between certain of the members of a society of the nature aforesaid, called "The Amalgamated Society of Engineers," and certain manufacturers by whom they were employed, a combination has been formed, including many of the largest employers of working Engineers, and that the employers so combined refuse to give employment to any workmen who will not sign a declaration to the effect that they are not, and will not become, members of a trade society.

"That your petitioners are apprehensive that, should the example thus set be followed by other employers, the liberty intended to be secured to the working population by the Act aforesaid will be seriously interfered with.

"That the results of such an attempt on behalf of the employers will in the opinion of your petitioners be detrimental to the interests of the working classes, and will be calculated to give rise to a great amount of falsehood and hypocrisy.

"That it will also subject many of the working classes to the loss of the benefits secured to them by the rules of the Societies to which they belong, and by destroying all confidence between man and man, lead to the greatest national calamity.

"Your petitioners therefore hereby pray your Honourable House to institute an inquiry into the conduct of the employers by whom such declaration as aforesaid has been put forth, and to take such steps as you may deem advisable to secure to your petitioners, and the working classes of this kingdom in general, the free exercise of the right of union granted to them by the Act aforesaid.

"And your petitioners will ever pray, &c."

Mr. DADDO (Hatter) seconded the motion for the adoption of the petition.

Carried unanimously.

On the motion of Messrs. Pettie and Newton, a vote of thanks was carried by acclamation to the Chairman; who, in responding, noticed the advent of the "Star of Freedom." The names of its future Editor and contributors were greeted with most enthusiastic applause. The meeting then dissolved.

THE ENGINEERS' DISPUTE.

The number of men who have resumed work on the Employers' terms during the past week amounts to 4323. This is an unusual increase. We hear that the increase for the week in one establishment is eighty. At the Employers' meeting on Wednesday Messrs. John Elce and Co. were expelled from the association for violating its 5th rule, which requires the signing of the declaration. Messrs. Elce and Co., it appears, have had their works closed during the Strike for alteration and repairs, and they are now resuming work with hands who sign a form drawn up by the firm, instead of that adopted by the association. We understand that at a meeting of the letter-press printers held at Hayward's Hotel, Bridge-street, on Monday evening, it was resolved to advance £200 to the Amalgamated Society. A voluntary weekly subscription is also being entered into among the body, to be continued until the termination of the dispute. The printers had previously advanced £100 in aid of the Amalgamated fund. The carpenters and joiners of Manchester and Salford and the neighbourhood held a meeting at the New Concert Inn, Oxford-road, on Monday evening, the result being, as we understand, a determination to adopt rigorous measures to support the members of the Amalgamated Society in their determination not to sign the "declaration."—*Manchester Guardian.*

THE DEPARTURE OF THE ARCTIC SHIPS.—The expedition under the command of Captain Sir Edward Belcher, consisting of the Assistance (the Commodore;) the Resolute, Captain Kellet; the North Star (store-ship), Commander Pullen; the Intrepid, Commander M'Clintock; and the Pioneer, Lieut. Commander Sherard Osborn, left Greenhithe on Wednesday morning at half-past four, for the Arctic Regions, with a firm and determined hope to bring home decisive intelligence respecting the fate of Sir John Franklin and his missing companions. Sir Edward Belcher reached Greenhithe by the last train from London, and immediately issued the necessary orders for the squadron to prepare for proceeding down the river at the above-named early hour. The morning was beautifully calm, and the sight of the five ships slipping from their moorings was exceedingly pretty, and one that will not readily be forgotten by the few spectators that had assembled to witness their departure.

NEW CHARTIST LOCALITY.—A few members of the Hoxton locality have formed another locality in St. Luke's parish, to be called "the Hoxton and St. Luke's Chartist Locality." We wish you to give the address of our place of meeting in the "Star of Freedom"—which is, the Aurora Coffee-house, Featherstone-street, City-road.

CANINE SAGACITY.—A dog having fallen down a deep well at Brentwood, various means were tried to get it up alive; at last a rope with a hook was lowered, which the dog grasped with its mouth, and holding on, it was drawn safely to the top.

VERY LIKE A WHALE!—There are two bantam hens in the possession of a lady at Plumstead, which have each laid an egg every morning for the last eighteen months, except on Sunday, and never during the whole of that period had an egg been found on that day in either of their nests!—*Kentish Mercury.*

Holloway's Ointment and Pills have cured a Desperate Wound in the Leg.—Patrick Leinster, residing near Carrick-on-Shannon, injured his leg about two years ago with a plough, which caused a most formidable wound, which spread over the leg to a most alarming extent, so that he could not put his foot to the ground, and, in despite of all his efforts and the various remedies he used, it would not heal. In this very bad state he applied some of Holloway's Ointment to it, and regularly took the Pills; this treatment had such an effect on the wound that in little more than a month his leg was perfectly cured.

CRIMES AND OFFENCES.

DARING HIGHWAY ROBBERY AT HAVERING.—On Saturday night last, as Mr. Arnold, jun., of the Parsonage Farm, Havering, was on his return home from London, when near home, as he was passing the first bridge near Cheese-cross Farm, *two men came up, and catching him under the* chin, "garrotted" him, and then violently threw him down backwards. Another of the gang then fell on him, and, after knocking him about with a bludgeon till he was senseless, cut off his breeches pockets in which were two sovereigns and two pounds in silver, and some other articles, which they took away and made off down a lane. Mr. Arnold, before the third man knocked him down, fought desperately with the two men who garrotted him.

ATTEMPTED MURDER OF A WOMAN BY HER HUSBAND.—BIRMINGHAM, Monday.—Last evening, about six o'clock, a man named John Mitchel, a joiner, living at Winsor-green, near the new gaol, in this borough, shot his wife. He had been drinking in a neighbouring public house, and left to go home. Mitchel had not been away many minutes when the report of a gun was heard, and he presently returned to the public-house, saying, "I have done it." On inquiry, it was ascertained that some dispute arose between himself and his wife, whereupon he took up a loaded gun and shot her on one side of the head and face. Surgical assistance was speedily obtained, and the husband, who gave himself up to the police, was conveyed to the Sandpit-station. The woman, who is said to have been of intemperate habits, is dreadfully injured, and little hope is entertained of her recovery.

INFANTICIDE IN ISLINGTON.—As a man was crossing a field near Barnsbury Park, Islington, he found the body of an infant lying in a ditch. Dr. Adams, who examined the body, declared that notwithstanding its decomposed state, he was enabled to state that deceased was born alive, and that, if not from violence, at least its death was caused by neglect.

SUSPECTED MURDER OF A NEW-BORN CHILD.—At an early hour on Monday morning, a remarkably fine-grown male child was found lying at the bottom of the Mill-pond-bridge, Nine Elms, Battersea; in letting off the water, a bundle was discovered containing the body of the child and a heavy piece of iron, which had been placed by the inhuman person to keep the body from discovery.

ATTEMPTED MURDER BY POISON AT NEWCASTLE.—On Monday morning Henry Williamson, a brushmaker, was brought up at the Borough Police Court, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, before the sitting magistrate (John Bulman, Esq.) on the charge of administering poison to his wife, with intent to murder her. From the evidence that was given it appears that the prisoner has been separated from his wife for a considerable time, and had been twice bound over to keep the peace towards her, the second term not having yet expired. On Saturday morning he went to her lodgings in Peppercorn-chare, and induced her to accompany him to the Grey Horse Inn, where they had a gill of ale between them. *In the* afternoon he went to her again, and after drinking together and partaking of food, the woman became unwell. When she complained of being ill, her husband pulled from his pocket a small bottle, and said, "I have got something here that will cure your stomach." She replied, "No, I will take nothing out of a bottle from you." Upon which he said, "I will not give you anything that would injure you." She then tasted the liquor, but finding it very disagreeable, refused to take any more. Her husband then said, "If you are afraid, I will take some myself." The woman, after a little hesitation, tasted again, and was then about to throw the bottle away, but her husband seized it out of her hand, and ran off. A friend of the woman's, who was lying in the room upon a sofa at the time, immediately suspected that poison had been administered, and sent for a surgeon. On Mr. Rayne's arrival he found the woman vomiting, and at one perceived, from the odour, that she had taken laudanum. It was with the greatest difficulty that he could keep her awake for several hours, and if the most energetic means had not been promptly resorted to she most have died. The prisoner was apprehended by police-officer Craigie on the following morning.

SUSPECTED INFANTICIDE.—On Saturday morning last a man, named Stephen Cole, in the employ of Mr. Heath, cowkeeper, Ebury-street, Pimlico, found the body of a remarkably fine female infant, carelessly wrapped up in two pieces of dirty old brown paper, in one corner of the yard. This was about five o'clock, and as it appeared to have not been long left there, Cole immediately communicated with the police at Cottage-road station, where it was taken possession of and sent to Mount-street workhouse.

MYSTERIOUS TRAGEDY.—The head of a woman, supposed to be from forty to fifty years of age, was on Saturday taken from the Giant's-basin of the river Irwell, Cranbrook, Manchester, under circumstances which lead to a suspicion of murder. The head had been severed from the trunk by means of some sharp instrument, nearly the whole of the hair removed, and then thrust into a reticule basket, and covered over with a piece of cotton print. There is a deep incision over one eye, but no fractures or bruises about the skull.

EXTENSIVE EMBEZZLEMENT.—On Monday information was received that Mr. George Frederick Foden, the well-known coal agent of Lancaster, had gone off, taking with him £500 in cash, the money of the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres. At the instance of the noble earl, a warrant for his apprehension has been placed in the hands of Superintendent Wright. It is thought he will try to emigrate to Australia or America.

ROBBERY OF £1,600.—On Monday information was received at the chief police station, Scotland-yard, that the confidential valet of Colonel Howard had absconded, stealing upwards of £1,600 from the colonel's residence at Brighton, chiefly in Bank of England notes. Immediately on receipt of the intelligence the principal officers of the detective police commenced operations for the capture of the delinquent.

ATTEMPTED MURDER IN CAMBERWELL.—On Tuesday evening last, about nine o'clock, a most furious and murderous attack was perpetrated in South-street, Camberwell, which will probably sacrifice the life of the victim. At the time in question an elderly man, named Walter Phinn, a waiter at the Gardeners' Arms, was passing along South-street, when he was met by a man, named John Blakesley, who suddenly, making use of an oath, seized Phinn by the throat, and said, "I have been looking for you for these last seven years." He then struck him a violent blow in the face, which ruptured the cartilage of the nose, and brought Phinn to the ground. He was then violently kicked by his assailant (who wore a pair of thick nailed shoes), by which several ribs were fractured. Phinn then rose to his feet, but was again knocked down, and ferociously kicked about his head and face, causing such dreadful contusions around his eyes as temporarily (and it is feared permanently) to deprive him of sight. The scalp of the head was dreadfully lacerated, and the skull severely fractured. Several of the teeth were knocked out, both jawbones fractured, and various other injuries inflicted, so that the poor man was necessarily removed to Guy's Hospital, where he remains with very slight hopes of recovery. Prior to his being taken to such institution, he was attended and examined by Mr. John Swan Flower, surgeon to the P division of police, who declared him to be in a state of very great danger. His life would doubtless have been sacrificed but for the timely assistance of Sergeant Godfrey, 17 P and police constable Michael Dwyer, 135 P, who came up during the affray, and by taking Blakesley into custody, prevented his inflicting further injury. The reason alleged for this violent and murderous attack is, that an improper intimacy had existed between Phinn and the wife of Blakesley. Phinn, however, declares that both Blakesley and his wife were perfect strangers to him, and the wife also confirms this statement, and adds, that her husband's brutality and violence have caused her no less than three miscarriages.

DARING BURGLARY AT AN HOTEL.—On Wednesday information was received at the metropolitan police stations of a daring burglary having taken place at the Clarendon Hotel, Clarendon-road, Notting-hill. It appears that on Tuesday night last, about twelve o'clock, the thieves obtained an entrance to the above house by cutting away a portion of the sash of the back parlour window, and succeeded in carrying off a cheque for £150 on the Commercial Bank, another cheque for £40 on the same bank, £16 4s. in silver, and 3½d. in copper. The depredators also abstracted a quantity of silver money, belonging to one of the servants.

THE MAGELLAN PIRATES.—Great excitement prevailed at Valparaiso in consequence of the arrival of the Virago (her Britannic Majesty's steamer) and Chilian brig of war *Meteor*, accompanying the American schooner bark Florida and British brig Eliz Cornish, with the revolutionists of the Magallan Straits. They all landed on the 24th. Cambiaso, the murderous leader, being heavily ironed, was conducted in a *birloche* (cab), but looked very cool, and amused himself by twisting his moustache and nodding to any chance acquaintance in the crowd. There are 350 in all, 180 of whom were taken by the Virago from on board the Eliza Cornish, in the Straits, the balance having been brought from Chiloe, where they had been taken to, while on board the Florida a counter revolution on board having mastered Cambiaso and his men, and delivered the vessel up to the legitimate authorities. Captain Talbot, of the Eliza Cornish, Mr. Cornish, passenger, and son of the vessel's owner, Mr. Shaw, owner of the Florida, and eight others (including one woman), were all shot in cool blood, without any apparent cause, but just to satisfy Cambiaso's craving for blood. As soon as the news reached Valparaiso of the massacre on board these vessels, a despatch was sent to Commodore M'Cauley, at Callao, then on his way to Panama, who immediately returned to the former port with the United States frigate Raritan. These vessels had been employed to convey the rebel troops from Valparaiso to Monte Video. When the Virago passed through the Straits on her way from England to the Pacific, Cambiaso formed the plan of taking her, by inviting the officers to a banquet on shore, there giving them poisoned drinks, and sending poisoned provisions on board. Fortunately, the apothecary of the colony, to his honour and credit, positively refused to be a party to such an infamous affair, and the threat of being shot, therefore, did not shake him. Ere this, Cambiaso and his minions have probably received their deserts.

ACCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES.

A WOMAN KILLED BY A BULL.—On Saturday evening Mrs. Martha Kendar, aged forty-four, the wife of Mr. Kendar, pianoforte-tuner, Richmond, expired in St. George's Hospital, from the effects of injuries received by a ferocious bullock, the property of Mr. Hitchcock, butcher, Richmond. From what can be ascertained, it appears that Mrs. Kendar was passing down the street when the animal, which happened to be loose in a yard, suddenly rushed out into the road, and knocking deceased down, trampled on her so savagely that, when taken up she was obliged to be conveyed to the hospital, where every means possible were resorted to for the purpose of saving her life, but without avail, as she died on the 16th inst.

MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR.—At half-past four o'clock, on Monday morning, a man named Butler, a bargeman, living at Tivoli Gardens, discovered the body of a very respectably-dressed woman lying on the shore off Turner's timber-yard, near Battersea bridge. The deceased is between forty-five and fifty years of age, and five feet high, has fair complexion, hazel eyes, very large features, rather masculine, and was dressed in a black stuff visite, brown Coburg gown, black silk petticoat, but had no stays, stockings, shoes, cap, or bonnet on. The body was subsequently identified as that of a lady who was staying at Mr. Gosling's, the Swan Inn, Battersea; that, having retired to rest at ten o'clock on Sunday night, nothing was seen of her after that time, but there is no doubt that after all the household had gone to bed, she descended from her sleeping apartment, opened the back door, and walked through the tea-gardens, down the wooden steps, into the Thames.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT.—A frightful accident occurred at Ravenstonedale corn-mill, a few days ago. Young Mr. Anthony Dawson, a noted wrestler, was left alone by his father at half-past nine o'clock in the morning. While in the act of placing the belt upon one of the wheels to set more machinery to work, he was caught by the axle, wound up by his clothes, and crushed in the most shocking manner. Some idea may be formed of the sufferings of the unfortunate man and the awful pressure upon him, when we state that his body thus entangled, stopped all the power and machinery of the mill, and that he was held in that painful position upwards of four hours. The accident was not discovered till eight o'clock, when the sufferer was released. Two surgeons were immediately in attendance, but could render him no assistance, and he only lingered until one o'clock. He was quite sensible all the time, and gave a full account of the accident.

DEATH BY DROWNING.—On Friday evening last a painful excitement was created at Oxford by the announcement that two young men, named Arthur Moysey, shopman to Mr. Evans, and George Perrott, shopman to Mr. Oliver, linen-drapers, of this city, had been drowned in Sandford Lock, by the sinking of a boat in which they, with three other companions, had been to Nuneham. By the timely assistance which was afforded by several persons near the spot at the time of the accident three of the party were rescued from their perilous situation; but the two above-named young men perished, notwithstanding every effort was used to effect resuscitation by Mr. Ley, resident surgeon at the Littlemore Asylum, and his assistant, Mr. Hicks. Perrott, who was twenty years of age, belonged to this city, and his father, who was servant at Trinity College, died about Christmas last. Moysey was twenty-three years old, and was the son of a farmer living in Devonshire.

FIRES AND LOSS OF LIFE.

EXTENSIVE FIRE IN PICCADILLY.—On Sunday morning, at a few minutes before one o'clock, a fire, involving the destruction of at least two thousand pounds' worth of property, broke out in the extensive premises belonging to Mr. J. Hill, camp equipage and wholesale trunk-manufacturer, situate at No. 212, Piccadilly. The flames originated from some unknown cause in the manufactory, behind the dwelling-house, and owing to the large quantity of stock in the place, the fire extended with more than usual rapidity; so that in the course of a very brief period the flames shot through the different windows and also from the roof, to the danger of destroying every building near. After the arrival of the engines the firemen were obliged for some minutes to leave the main body of fire, whilst they beat down the flames raging in the surrounding houses. The latter having been accomplished, the whole force was then brought to bear upon the factory, and after some hours' hard working, the flames were eventually extinguished.

DESTRUCTION OF THE RAINBOW TAVERN, RATCLIFFE.—On Monday morning, about one o'clock, the inhabitants of Queen street, Ratcliff, were painfully excited, in consequence of the sudden outbreak of a fearful fire in the premises occupied by Mr. W. Werneking, licensed victualler, and proprietor of the Rainbow Tavern, situate at No. 4, in the before-mentioned street, which was attended with serious effects to one of the inmates, and almost fatal results to several other persons. Shortly after the discovery of the fire, the spirit vats had burst by the action of the flames, and on the liquors becoming ignited, the fire rushed up the staircase with such impetuosity as to cut off all means of escape by the regular way. The several residents of the house on attempting to gain the street by the staircase were driven back again to the rooms by the flames, and there being no way of escape left than the upper windows, the poor creatures made their appearance at them, and in a half-frantic manner bewailed their impending fate. Mr. Werneking having fortunately succeeded in gaining the street in safety, he obtained the assistance of an old ladder, and having placed it against one of the windows, he was in the act of leading his wife down when one of the rounds gave way and she was thrown upon her face. Fortunately, she was not very seriously injured. The servant girl, however, who was in the second floor back, on finding the fire approaching her room, in order to avoid being burnt to death, jumped out of window, and fell with a fearful crash on the ground. The poor creature was picked up, and was found to be so seriously injured that she was forthwith obliged to be removed to the hospital, where she at present remains in a state of great suffering. A man and a boy were also obliged to make a precipitate retreat from the first floor, and the lodgers were driven to similar expedients. Fortunately, however, no one was burned to death, although they had such narrow escapes. The firemen were setting their engines to work, when all of a sudden, as if by magic, the whole building fell to the ground. The action of the flames had been so severe on the uprights of the building, that when they became consumed the whole structure fell, when the fire communicated with the premises belonging to Mr. E. Standish, No. 5, next door. The destruction of the last-named building appeared inevitable, when the Brigade, who were aided by about fifty hired assistants, worked the engines with full vigour, and they at length succeeded in getting the flames extinguished. The origin of the misfortune is enveloped in obscurity.

SEVEN CHILDREN DESTROYED BY FIRE.—The latter end of last week a most appalling occurrence took place at the village of Renton, sixteen miles from Glasgow, by which the lives of seven children were destroyed and two dwelling-houses consumed by fire. The scene of the calamity was in Main-street, and consisted of two and one-story buildings, the one in the rear of the other, and occupied by John Drain, labourer; James Loy, labourer; Donald Sinclair, of Narryman; John Stewart, labourer; and two other families, all of whom have irreparably suffered from the dire catastrophe. In appears that on the evening in question, between six and seven o'clock, a dense volume of smoke was seen issuing from the window of an attic in the front house occupied by Loy, in which his two sons and five other children had been amusing themselves in the afternoon during his absence at work at Dumbarton. It was at first conjectured that it was the chimney only which had taken fire, but the flames spread with such fearful rapidity that in a few minutes the roof was in flames, and the fire had taken effect upon the thatch of the adjoining dwelling-house in the back land. Although efforts were made to get into the house and arrest the progress of the flames, there is every reason to believe that the villagers were ignorant that seven children were being burned to death in one of the apartments, for no attempt seems really to have been made to rescue them from the flames. The flames continued their work of destruction until both houses were consumed, but in the meantime the children were missed, and the wretched parents with their neighbours could only regard the progress of the devouring element in helpless agony. As soon as possible, however, the people set to work, and they succeeded at an early hour the following morning in extricating the bodies from the smouldering ruins, but so much charred and disfigured as not to be recognisable even by their own parents, with the exception of the brothers Long, who had evidently perished in each other's arms, and who were distinguishable by their respective sizes. The following are the names and ages of the deceased:—Michael Loy, twelve; James Long, four; Hugh Sinclair, six; Samuel Wilson, six; Elizabeth Sharp, five; James Stewart, four; and James Paul, four years of age. It is not known how the fire originated.

DESTRUCTION OF THE FOREST OF DEAN BANK.—The banking house of Messrs. J. W. and R. Hall, known as the Forest of Dean Bank, has been utterly destroyed, besides the adjoining houses being severely damaged. The fire was first discovered about four o'clock in the morning, the inmates being aroused by persons in the street, and they found the staircase in flames from the bottom. Fortunately for most of them some painters had been employed on the premises, and had left one of their ladders against the front of the house, by means of which they all managed with much difficulty to reach the street, with the exception of one of the female domestics, a girl between seventeen and eighteen years of age, who, we regret to state, perished in the flames. There was a large amount of gold and bank notes in the bank, which, with the books of the firm, were in a fire proof box, and escaped.

IRELAND IN AMERICA.—On Sunday last 3,000 emigrants arrived at this port. On Monday there were over 2,000—on Tuesday over 5,000 arrived—on Wednesday the number was over 2,000. Thus in four days 12,000 persons were landed for the first time upon American shores. Every year brings to our shores, from foreign lands, more than 300,000 souls. Most of these emigrants came hither from Ireland.—*New York Times.*

EMIGRATION.—Upwards of 250 men, women, and children, left Penrith, per rail, for Liverpool, on Monday last. The men are mostly natives of Alston and neighbourhood, and are engaged by Mr. Thompson, of Hexam, formerly mine agent at Green Side, for working in the government gold mines of Bathurst, in Australia.

SUICIDES AND INQUESTS.

SUICIDE AT A COFFEE-HOUSE.—On Tuesday, Mr. W. Baker held an inquest at the George Tavern, Old-street, St. Luke's, on the body of Richard Cartwright, aged forty-two years, who committed suicide under the following circumstances. Alfred Robinson, proprietor of the Star Coffee-house, 99, Old-street, stated that the deceased on Saturday night last, shortly after nine o'clock, entered the coffee-room, and engaged a bed, which deceased paid for, at the same time requesting to be shown to his sleeping apartment immediately. Witness lighted the deceased upstairs to a room on the second floor, and heard no more of him until the following morning, when witness knocked at the bedroom door, at which the deceased replied, "Yes, yes, I am coming down." Shortly afterwards, a heavy fall was heard, but witness did not go up again until eleven o'clock, when he discovered the deceased lying on the floor in a pool of blood, with a severe wound in the neck, and by his side was an open razor. Witness raised an alarm, and sent to the station house for the police, but deceased was dead when first discovered. Inspector Gibbs, of the G division, produced a pocket-book found on the deceased, in which was written in pencil, "A distracted mind has driven me to this." The officer, on searching the room, found under the bedstead the remains of a letter, which had been torn up, and when the several pieces were joined together, the following were the contents, being directed to Mr. Samuel Cartwright, Golden-square, Hampstead:—"Dear Sam,—I have had a few shillings from you, and the things I have left I hope you will pay yourself out of them. Take the clothes I have on me and the things I left at the house where I once lived, for I am an outcast on the face of the earth, deserted by those I loved. I hope God will forgive them and me. Let me be buried by the side of my poor mother if possible, but I do not wish my wife to come to my funeral, if I have one. God bless you all. (Signed) RICHARD CARTWRIGHT."—Samuel Cartwright, the brother, said the deceased had formerly been a butler in a gentleman's family at Hampstead, but had been out of a situation four months. Deceased had also been separated from his wife through distress, and had left three children. Latterly the deceased had been very low and dejected, owing to his difficulties and altered position. The coroner having remarked on the case, the jury returned a verdict of "Temporary insanity."

DETERMINED SUICIDE IN SOMERS TOWN.—On Saturday forenoon, a married woman, named Loader, living at 6, Bridgewater-street, Somers Town, whose husband is the occupier of the house, committed suicide under the following distressing circumstances. The inhabitants were alarmed, in consequence of hearing the screams of the children, who rushed into the street in a frantic state, and who were exclaiming that their mother had thrown herself into the water butt. Mr. Clark, boot and shoe maker, residing in the same street, went into the house, and seized hold of the legs of the unfortunate woman, which were projecting from the butt, but she kicked so violently, that she released herself from him, and dropped into the butt. Three other neighbours followed, with whose assistance she was got out. Messrs. Davis, Fraser, and Bagley, surgeons, promptly arrived, and an abundance of warm water was supplied by Mr. Jackson, licensed victualler, and landlord of the Eastnor Castle, adjoining, upon which she was put in a hot bath. Other remedies to restore animation were resorted to, but without effect. Deceased had been attacked for some days past with a brain fever, and the previous day, the medical gentleman attending her, directed she should be watched, as she showed symptoms of an aberration of intellect. This was done; but, unfortunately, during the absence of a minute of the female with her, she left her bed, and committed the act which led to her death. She has left eight children.

DETERMINED ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—On Wednesday morning a woman, named Catherine Brooks, aged twenty-four years, who resided at No. 6, Castle-lane, Westminster, attempted to destroy herself by swallowing oxalic acid, which she purchased at a druggist's shop, in the vicinity. Police constable B 214, discovered the unfortunate woman lying on the pavement in a state of insensibility, and conveyed her to Adelaide Ward, Westminster Hospital—when a razor was found concealed in her bosom. Fortunately the rash act was discovered in time to prevent fatal consequences, when Dr. Barlow and Mr. Halford being sent for, applied the stomach pump with such success that the unhappy woman is now placed out of the reach of danger. Her husband being out of employment for some time, and in pecuniary difficulties, prompted her to commit the rash act.

SUICIDE OF A FEMALE IN A POLICE CELL.—On Tuesday, at the Marlborough-street Police Office, Mary Ann Hill, aged fifty-two, a poorly-dressed needlewoman, living in Little Wyld-street, Drury-lane, was brought before Mr. Hardwick, charged with stealing a jug and two basons from the outside of a china-shop, No. 36, Prince's-street, Leicester-square. Having admitted the truth of the charge, she was removed to the ordinary cell for commitments. The gaoler, Welsh, inquired if he should send and acquaint her friends with her situation? The prisoner said she had a husband who was ignorant of what had occurred; he was out of work, and she had no money to pay a messenger to send to him. Welsh replied he would provide a messenger and pay him himself, taking the chance of the husband repaying him. Welsh then left the cell, leaving the prisoner quite tranquil. The prison van in a few minutes came to the court, and the gaoler went to the magistrate's clerk, Mr. Bishop, for the commitments. The time required for this was very short, and there could not have elapsed more than fifteen minutes since he left the prisoner in the cell. On going down to the cell, he remarked that round the grating in the door which admitted light and air, a portion of a dress was placed. He opened the door of the cell, and finding an obstruction, he put his head in, and on seeing the prisoner hanging, he called out to the assistant constable to come. Without a moment's delay, or waiting to force open the door, the gaoler with his knife cut the noose, and the prisoner fell lifeless on the floor of the cell. Medical assistance was sent for, which almost immediately arrived, but when the prisoner was inspected, she was pronounced quite dead. The prisoner, it appeared, had knotted tightly a black silk handkerchief, and had contrived to fasten it to the only part of the cell which admitted of such an act. She had placed this knotted handkerchief round her neck and then deliberately strangled herself. To effect her purpose she was obliged to adopt a kneeling position. The doctor, on seeing the knots and their pressure on the throat, said death must have ensued in about five minutes.

MELANCHOLY SUDDEN DEATH IN A SURGERY.—On Tuesday, April 20th, Mr. Brent (Mr. Wakley, the coroner's, newly-appointed deputy), held an inquest at the Fitzroy Arms, Clipstone-street, Fitzroy-square, on the body of Francis Thomas Langley, aged thirty-two, whose death occurred under the following melancholy circumstances:—It appeared that the deceased, who was a bedstead maker, resided at 14, Cleveland-street, New-road, from whence, on Sunday last, he buried his wife, who had died from cancer in the breast. After the funeral, he returned, with the rest of the mourners, to his mother's, who lives in the same neighbourhood, and where he appeared in good health, but depressed in spirits. About nine o'clock at night, his sister-in-law, leaving to go home, he went with her to see her into an omnibus, but had only proceeded a short distance when he was seized with a fit of coughing, and vomited blood. He was conducted to the surgery of Mr. Currie, Norfolk-street, Middlesex Hospital, where, from the great flow of hœmorrage, it was found impossible to administer anything to him, and having with difficulty gasped out the words of "wishing to see his mother once more as it was all over with him," he expired. On a *post mortem* examination taking place, the cause of death was found to be a rupture of the pulmonary artery in the chest. Verdict, "Natural Death."

MYSTERIOUS DEATH.—An inquiry, which lasted three hours, was taken by Mr. W. Carter, the coroner, at the Britannia Tavern, Mitcham-green, as to the death of Patrick Roche, aged forty-seven, an itinerant glass mender, who came to his death in the following extraordinary manner:—He had been staying about Carshalton and Mitcham about a month since for the purposes of his business, and on Monday fortnight was late at the Goat at the former place, where he had engaged a bed. He got to the common, and as it was raining placed himself under "the big tree," as it is called, in it, and afterwards went by the blue houses, as was supposed, to go to his bed. Nothing more was seen or heard of him until last Thursday, and no one could account for his extraordinary disappearance. There is an old well on the side of Mitcham-common, and although it is within a yard, there are no gates to keep the public from its dangerous precincts. The man had no doubt gone there for the purpose of sleeping, and had sat down on the edge of the well, which is but a few feet high. On Thursday, some one went to the place for water, and it occurred that she could see a shawl at the bottom, and she gave information of her belief. The circumstance caused a great deal of excitement at the time, and almost a disbelief of her story; but the drags were obtained, and the body of Roche was brought up from the bottom of the well. The jury, after the summing up of the coroner, could not decide as to whether it was his own act or that of any other person: and they returned a verdict specially—"That Patrick Roche was found dead in a well, but how he came there they had no evidence to show."

FRIGHTFUL CONTEST BETWEEN TWO MANIACS.—The wife of a workman and her son, living in the village of Laigny (France), have for some time been labouring under mental alienation, but, nevertheless, the man left them to themselves whilst he went to work in a village in another department. A few nights ago the inhabitants of the village heard a noise in the house, which lasted the whole of the night. In the morning some of them went towards the house, and they found the two lunatics, armed, one with a scythe, the other with an axe, trying, with extraordinary fury, to break open the door. They had already destroyed every article of furniture, and, from deep gashes on their persons, it was evident they had attacked each other. They were covered with blood, and uttered fearful yells. Some persons sought to enter the house, but they brandished their weapons, and made dreadful threats, so that they dared not enter. At length some gendarmes arrived, and two of them, at the risk of their lives, entered by the window. Their presence produced a great impression on the unfortunate maniacs, and they allowed themselves to be bound and carried away.

SHIPWRECKS AND ACCIDENTS AT SEA.

SERIOUS COLLISION AND LOSS OF LIFE IN THE CHANNEL.—A most disastrous collision, resulting in the loss of a Dutch ship and most of her crew, was announced on Saturday at Lloyd's. It appears that on Friday morning, the Triton, bound from Bremen for Cardiff, was anchored off the Bill of Portland, when a Dutch trader, name unknown, in working up ran into the Triton amidships, doing her considerable damage by the collision. The Dutchman was low in the water, and, her hull receiving a fearful shaking, she soon began to fill, and went down in deep water, when every soul on board perished, except the master and his brother, who were fortunately picked up by a pilot boat.

SCILLY, April 16.—The Mary Hay, of and for London, from Jamaica, in working into this port on April 13, struck on a rock, and afterwards on the Bream Ledges, filled, and has become a total wreck; some rum and pimento saved, very much damaged.

The Renown, M'Iver, from Bahia to Hamburg, put in here a few days ago short of provisions, and yesterday the cargo was found to be so much heated, or, in fact, on fire, that she was run on shore and scuttled, when the fire was extinguished. About 126 bales of tobacco, and ten of cotton, have been landed in good condition; but the remainder of the cargo is supposed to be damaged.

PORTLAND, April 16.—A galliot, belonging to Rotterdam, from Liverpool to Lisbon, with salt, whilst working into the anchorage in Chissel Cove, ran into a schooner lying at anchor, and shortly afterwards sunk—four men were drowned.

QUEENSTOWN, April 15.—The Advocate, which drifted on the rocks yesterday has capsized, has her stern stove in, and is expected to become a wreck: part of her cargo will be saved.

LEMVIG, April 11.—Bells, Dunn, from Newcastle to Elsinore, was stranded off Harboore, April 10, and lies in a dangerous position; crew saved.

ELSINORE, April 15.—The brig Tancred, or Tanquid, of Sunderland, from St. Ubes to St. Petersburg, ran on shore a little below the Castle of Kronborg, this morning, but it is hoped she may be got off without much damage.

The Aliwal, from Baltimore to Liverpool, which was abandoned on the 28th of March, was passed on the 31st off St. George's Bank, and 160 barrels of flour taken from her, by the fishing smack Lucy Ann, arrived at Gloucester, U. S.; she was found tight, with pumps choked.

THURSO, April 19.—The Edward, from Liverpool to Dantzic, which was stranded on the sands at Dunnet, on the 9th inst. has been got off; cargo not much damaged.

QUEENSTOWN, April 18.—The Advocate from Moulmein, went on shore at Robert's Head Bank in deep water yesterday; nearly the whole of her cargo has come on shore.

CUXHAVEN, April 14.—The Horatio, from Matanzas, is on shore leaky, is discharging, and will get off should the weather remain as it is now; but very little wind would suffice to make her a wreck.

BRIDPORT, April 16.—The Triton, of London, from Cardiff for Bremen, has put in leaky, having been run into while at anchor by a Dutch galliot, which almost immediately went down.

PETERHEAD, April 16.—The Sarah Maria, of and from Norden for Port Gordon, got on the rocks near the entrance of the North Harbour this morning, and it is supposed cannot be got off; the materials will be saved.

ST. MICHAEL'S, April 4.—The Samuel C. Nelson, which had been riding off this harbour dismasted, waiting orders, was driven on shore here during a gale April 2, and has been sold.

HAVANA, March 29.—The Pandeo Romano, New Orleans to Trieste, was towed in 23rd instant, totally dismasted, by the Lord Ashley, New Orleans to Liverpool, which in casting off the tow-line was driven on shore, and parted amidships—crew saved.

NAVAL AND MILITARY NEWS.

Orders have been received at Devonport countermanding those previously given, for the preparation of the Dauntless, steam ship, Captain Halstead, for the conveyance of Sir Charles Hotham and suite to the Brazils. Unfortunately this order was not received until the whole of the fitments were completed, the men of the dockyard having been engaged in the work for the previous fortnight, and the officers and crew of the ship had laid in the necessary stock and equipments for foreign service. Upon them the change in the destination of the ship is felt to be a great hardship, and has created much dissatisfaction. The Vixen steam sloop is to proceed to the Brazils in the place of the Dauntless.

The wind, which has so long prevailed from the E.S.E., on Saturday veered to the southward and westward for a few hours, during which upwards of 100 sail of merchant vessels left Plymouth Sound for the eastern ports.

The Herald, Captain Denham, fitting at Chatham for a survey of the islands of the Pacific, is very nearly ready to leave the Thames, and will finally sail for her destination early next month. She takes out, as interpreter, Since Peah, a native of one of the Pacific islands, who came to this country two years ago, and who is an intelligent young man. He will have charge of the seeds which are to be planted in some of the islands. Among the important objects entrusted to Captain Denham will be the survey of the islands of the Pacific, so as to form a chart, showing the best navigation through them from the Isthmus of Panama to Sydney; to select a point for the establishment of a coal depot; and an island for a penal settlement. Presents to the natives, to the value of some hundred pounds, will be taken out by the Herald.

Woolwich, April 19.—This morning the Duke of Northumberland, accompanied by the junior lords of the Admiralty, visited Greenhithe, and inspected the crews of the Assistance, the Resolute, the Intrepid, the Pioneer, and the North Star, the vessels appointed to the Arctic expedition.

We have been informed that a contract for barrelled meats for the navy (salt provisions) has been lately entered into with the same parties who furnished the Goldner preserves. We give this report precisely as it has come to us, in the hopes that it will be officially denied.

The smallpox has broken out on board her Majesty's steam frigate Dragon. The clerk has been attacked by it and sent to the naval hospital at Lisbon.

Letters from China inform us of a disastrous accident to the Sphynx steam sloop, Commander Shadwell, and the Contest, 12, Commander the Hon. J. W. S. Spencer. On the 21st of January these vessels were proceeding into the Bay of Sheipoo in search of pirates (of whose doings and whereabouts they had received official notice,) the Contest in tow of the Sphynx when the latter struck on a rock not laid down in the charts. The shock was terrific, carrying away entirely her false keel and forefoot, while the Contest ran into her with such force and violence as to knock her off or over the rock, making at the same time a clean sweep of all the after upper works, and carrying away the mizen mast, while she lost her own jibboon, figurehead, and cutwater, and sprung her bowsprit and foremast. In consequence of this misfortune the Sphynx had to go to Whampoa to be docked. We regret also to add that the smallpox had broken out on board her, and that several men and officers, including both lieutenants, are laid up with it, and the gun room steward had died from it.

The Echo, with two flats in tow, proceeded to Cowes on Tuesday to remove the depot of the 36th Regiment, 370 strong, to Southampton, *en route* to Pembroke.

Portsmouth Garrison.—The regiments in garrison are busily engaged training their quota of men to the use of the Minie rifle. The troops composing the garrison of Portsmouth amount to 4 600 men.

Chatham Garrison.—Detachments, consisting of upwards of 2,000 men, from the several depots of regiments stationed in India, are under orders for embarcation to join the head-quarters of their respective corps.

The Simoon, iron troop-steamer, Captain Kingcome, embarked late on Friday evening one officer and eighty-two men of the 20th Regiment, two officers and eighty-four men of the 23rd Regiment, and two officers and forty-two men of the 54th Regiment. She sailed for Queenstown (Ireland) on Sunday at noon, where she is to receive two officers and fifty-two men of the 66th, and one officer and ninety-two men of the 71st Regiment, with which detachments she will proceed direct to Quebec, from whence she will bring home a regiment.

The Lily, 18, Commander Sanderson, has had a "brush" with a piratical junk, which she sent to the bottom with upwards of eighty people on board; her own casualties in the engagement were two men wounded.

Portsmouth, Wednesday.—The Encounter, 14, steam-frigate, Captain George T. Gordon, anchored at St. Helen's last night, at eleven p.m., and came up to Spithead this morning. She left the Tagus at five p.m. on Thursday, and has been under steam nearly all the way home. She brought letters and despatches, two midshipmen, and a few invalids from the squadron.

The Orestes, 14, Commander Hawker arrived this morning from the Cape of Good Hope, which she left on the 14th of February. She has taken two prizes in the Mozambiqua, and shares in three others with the Castor, 36, Commodore Wyvill. The last capture was a fine Spanish pirate, having fifty dare-devils for the crew, and a most ugly long twenty-four pounder swivel amidships, which would have done awful execution could it have been worked against the Orestes when chasing her, but owing to bad weather the pirates had stowed it below, and in their desire to get away did not waste time in the endeavour to mount it. This was the sort of piratical slaver which stood thirty-nine shot being fired into her from the Orestes without bringing to, notwithstanding she got hugged so closely by her captor that musketry could be fired into her. The Orestes has been three years and a half in commission, and will now be paid off.

A PEACEFUL EXPEDITION.—The Japan expedition, according to a Washington correspondent, is to be merely a hydrographical survey of the Japanese coast. The thirty-two pounders are to be used merely as measuring instruments in the triangulations; the cannon balls are for procuring base lines. If any Japanese is foolish enough to put his head in the way of these meteorological instruments, of course nobody will be to blame but himself if he should get hurt.—*New York Herald.*

EXECUTIONS.

LEWES.—On Saturday Sarah Ann French, who was left for execution at the late assizes for poisoning her husband, underwent the extreme penalty of the law on the drop in front of the county gaol in this town, in the presence of about 4,000 persons consisting chiefly of country people from the surrounding districts. When the time arrived for the sentence to be carried into effect, she appeared greatly agitated and excessively weak, and it was a matter of doubt whether she would be able to proceed to the drop on foot. Calcraft, the Old Bailey hangman, having pinioned her, a procession was formed, and the miserable woman was led to the scaffold, supported by two turnkeys. Judging from her appearance, it would almost appear that, at the last few moments, she was unconscious of what was passing. The executioner, with his usual alacrity, adjusted the rope and cap. The bolt, in the course of a minute or so, was then withdrawn, and the wretched woman was launched into eternity. It was some minutes ere she appeared to have ceased to exist, her struggles being rather long and severe. After the body had hung one hour it was cut down, and buried in the precincts of the gaol. The unhappy culprit fully acknowledged her guilt to the chaplain, and completely exonerated the young man, Hickman, from any participation in the crime.

EXECUTION OF ABEL OVANS AT MONMOUTH.—On Friday morning, at nine o'clock, the convict Ovans who was convicted at the recent Monmouth Assizes of murdering a child, the illegitimate offspring of himself and Jane Dove, by throwing it into a canal, underwent the extreme penalty of the law. The female Dove, who was tried for the same offence, was recommended to mercy by the jury, who believed her assertion that it was Ovans alone who perpetrated the crime. A respite staying her execution was received at the gaol on Thursday night, in order that further inquiries might be made. Up to the last moment Ovans denied his guilt, and persisted in declaring that it was the woman who had destroyed the life of the child.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS—STATE OF HEALTH IN THE METROPOLIS.

(From the Report of the Registrar-General.)

Last week the births of 805 boys and 839 girls, in all 1,644 children, were registered in London. The average of seven corresponding weeks in the years 1845-51 was 1,373.

The mortality of London again exhibits a slight increase, the deaths in the previous week having been 1,051, those in the week that ended last Saturday being 1,092. In the ten corresponding weeks of 1842-51 the average number of deaths was 944, which, if raised in proportion to increase of population, becomes 1,038. The mortality of last week therefore exceeds the corrected average by 54 deaths.

In comparing the returns of the last two weeks it appears that there is a small increase in epidemics, in diseases of the nervous system, the heart, and the digestive organs, but a decrease in diseases of the organs of respiration, and also in the tubercular class. Small pox, which in the previous week was fatal in 34 cases, numbers in the present return 38, which are those of 31 children and 7 adults, 6 of whom were 20 years of age and upwards. In 6 cases it is stated that vaccination had been previously performed, and in these the patients died at the following ages:—2, 3, 7, 10, 22, 27 years. Measles has increased in the two weeks from 11 deaths to 18; typhus, remittent fever, &c., from 51 to 56. Influenza numbered in the two weeks respectively 4 and 6 cases; croup 8 and 10. Last week there were 2 caused by syphilis, and 1 by noma. The wife of a labourer, aged 26 years, died suddenly on 31st March, at 21, Goodman's-yard, Whitechapel, from cholera. An inquest was held on the body.

The class which includes diseases of the respiratory organs still exhibits a great excess above the ordinary amount at this period; the number of deaths referred to it last week being 214, whilst the average of corresponding weeks, corrected for increase of population, is only 165. In these weeks the actual numbers ranged from 107 to 185, which latter amount is much below what is now experienced. Bronchitis predominates, and, with the exception of phthisis, produces at present a greater mortality than any other disease on the list. It carried off 102 persons; pneumonia, 77. Phthisis was fatal to 139; its mortality, which is always great, is not sensibly aggravated by causes that have given additional force to other diseases.

IRELAND.

ARRIVAL OF GENERAL ROSAS AT QUEENSTOWN.

DUBLIN, APRIL 19.—The arrival of the ex-dictator Rosas at the port of Queenstown is thus announced in the "Cork Reporter" of Saturday:—

"Her Majesty's steamer Conflict from the River Plate, arrived at Queenstown on Friday, having on board General Rosas, his family and suite. The conflict left the Plate on the 10th of February, touched Bahia on the 5th of March, and was bound to Portsmouth, but was obliged to put in here owing to head winds. We understand that during her voyage one of the boilers burst, by which four men were killed. The general and his family landed and walked about Queenstown on Friday."

IMMENSE EMIGRATION.

The "Galway Mercury" states that so great is the anxiety felt by the poor labouring classes in that part of Connaught to escape from the "land that bore them" that such of them as have been fortunate enough to obtain employment on drainage works have adopted the following novel and extraordinary mode of enabling themselves to emigrate:—It appears they are paid fortnightly, and when the pay night arrives about 300 of them assemble and pay 6d. each into a general fund. A number of tickets corresponding with the number of persons present, are then placed in a hat, and on one of these the word "America" is written, all the rest being blank. A ballot then takes place, and the lucky drawer of the prize ticket has his passage to America paid for him, and receives a small sum to subsist him for some time after his landing there. During the week just closed no less than six vessels have set sail for Queenstown, laden with emigrants, bound respectively for Boston, Qubec, New York, and St. John's. The gross number amounted to 877 souls.

PRESS PROSECUTIONS.

The Attorney-General, taking a leaf out of the book of the present Master of the Rolls when that right hon. gentleman filled the post of first law officer, has in a kindly spirit entered a *nolle prosequi* in the case of the "Queen versus the proprietor of the 'Dundalk Democrat.'" The proprietor of the "Democrat," in a letter addressed to the Attorney-General, tells that high functionary that he (Mr. Carton) was perfectly astounded when he received the unwelcome notice of no trial; that he does not accept this act as one of leniency; that, on the contrary, he hails it as an important triumph for the popular cause, and that that triumph has not urged him to change one particle of his policy.

THE LATE FATAL AFFRAY IN THE NORTH.

The inquest was held at Kells, county Antrim, on the body of Samuel Whan, the man who was shot by the constabulary in the affray with the Orangemen, has terminated. It appears that Lodge No. 592, invited by its master, proceeded from the townland of Maxwell's-walk, to pay him a visit, avoiding the villages of Kells and Connor, which lay in their way. Returning, however, they resolved to pass through the latter village. Opposite the constabulary station they were interfered with by the police, who attempted to prevent their passage, and to seize the principal persons in the procession. Being resisted, and two of their number beaten, the police retreated to their barracks, which was immediately attacked with stones by the people. The constabulary fired three shots to disperse them, wounding Whan in the groin. The unfortunate man, who had not been in the procession, and had taken no part in the affair, but was passing accidentally, died from the effects of the wound on Tuesday morning. The jury, after hearing the evidence, and consulting for some time, returned unanimously:—"That the deceased, Samuel Whan, met his death by a gun shot wound, fired from the police barrack at Connor; and we are further of opinion, that such was without sufficient cause."

THE ARMY.

DUBLIN, April 20th.—The Carabiniers, now concentrated in Portobello Barracks, are in daily expectation of receiving the augmentation of officers consequent upon the regiment being placed upon the India establishment.

SEIZURE OF ARMS.

Early on Saturday morning, an unusually large body of constabulary, under the command respectively of Mr. Crawford, of Newry, and Mr. Holmes, of Crossmaglen, aided by a party of the 71st Regiment, assembled near Hawthorn Hill, and made a diligent search for arms in the murder district of the county of Down. Captain Warburton, R.M., was in attendance at the village of Meigh. The guns, pistols, &c., seized amounted to fifteen, but it is supposed that the country people have their arms cased in wooden boxes, and buried in the bogs and fields. Ten persons were taken as prisoners, marched into Newry, and lodged in the Ballybot Bridewell. They were brought up on Monday morning, before Captain Warburton, at the Ballybot Court-house, and informations were taken against them to stand their trial at the Quarter Sessions. They were afterwards admitted to bail.

A "BRICK" OF AN UNCLE.—A journeyman mason, named Brefond, was a few days ago employed to make some repairs in a chimney in the apartment of a gentleman residing in the Rue des Francs Bourgeois, Paris. While about his work, the mason broke a brick which he found in the chimney, and, to his surprise, he discovered that it was hollowed out, and contained a bank note for 500 francs. The workman was alone, and might readily have appropriated this sum to himself, but he honestly communicated the fact to his employer, who called to mind that, about two months before, he had written to his uncle at Amsterdam for a supply of money, and had in return received a carefully sealed-up package, which, on opening, he found to contain nothing but the brick in question, which the indignant recipient threw into the chimney.

A LARGE OTTER TAKEN NEAR WINDSOR BREWERY.—Mr. C. Tatner, of the Eagle Brewery, Slough, and a friend, were out on a fishing excursion near the Windsor weir, and had sat down to their noon-tide repast on Romney Island, just below Windsor-bridge, when, to their astonishment, an otter crept from the ground close to where they were sitting. As the creature bounded past them, one of the party gave it a kick on the head, which rather stunned it, and retarded its motions; it succeeded, however, in reaching the river, instantly diving, and rising to the surface on the opposite shore, near Mr. Cleave's garden. The chase was kept up for about ten minutes in the most spirited manner, and eventually "the fish destroyer," was taken alive in a large landing net. The animal was a remarkably large one, and has been sent alive to a London naturalist.

LAW INTELLIGENCE.

RIGHT OF JEWS TO SIT IN PARLIAMENT.

COURT OF EXCHEQUER.—MONDAY.

MILLER *v.* SALOMONS

The Court gave judgment in this case. The importance of the question, as involving the right of a Jew to take the parliamentary oaths with the omission of the words "on the true faith of a Christian," attracted a considerable number of persons to the court to hear the judgment delivered. Among those present were the defendant himself, Alderman Salomons, M.P., and Baron Rothschild, M.P. Lord Rutherford, of the Scotch Court of Session, and recently Lord Advocate of Scotland, was present, and was accommodated with a seat on the bench. The judgment of the Court was given against the claim of Alderman Salomons, there being only one learned judge, Baron Martin, in his favour, while the other three members of the court—Baron Alderson, Baron Parke, and the Lord Chief Baron—concurred in holding that the words, "on the true faith of a Christian" were of the essence of the oath; and that if these words were omitted, the oath was not taken at all.

The legal aspect of the Jewish disabilities question is therefore settled. Neither he nor Baron Rothschild, nor any other Jew, can take his seat in parliament until the law is altered.

INSOLVENT DEBTORS COURT.

IN THE MATTER OF HENRY FRANCIS WOLLASTON.

This insolvent, a merchant, who had traded as "Wollaston and Co.," at the Cape of Good Hope, and at Great St. Helen's, London, applied to be discharged.—The case occupied the court from the commencement of the sitting until past five o'clock. The insolvent owed in the aggregate upwards of £20,000, and Messrs. Frith had obtained a judgment against him for about £7,000. The debts owing to the insolvent, in the schedule, were £3,586, in addition to which property at the Cape had been given up, and paid a dividend, the opposing creditors receiving £111 as their share. It appeared that in December, 1849, the insolvent applied to the Insolvent Court at the Cape, and was examined. In March following he suddenly left the colony. He came to England, and not having a certificate, he was sued on a judgment recovered in the Supreme Court at Cape Town, and was now in custody at the suit of Messrs. Frith. An attempt was made to make him a bankrupt in this country, but the adjudication had been annulled.—Mr. Commissioner Law was engaged until the rising of the court in the investigation, and the further hearing was adjourned to Tuesday, the 27th inst.

MONEY-LENDING TO OFFICERS OF THE ARMY — IN RE GERMAN WHEATCROFT.

This insolvent, a Lieutenant in the 6th (Enniskillen) Dragoons, whose case was before the Court on Saturday, again appeared.—Mr. Nichols opposed the application for discharge on the part of Mr. Salomons. Mr. Lucas appeared for two creditors named Harris and Lazarus. Mr. Macree opposed for a Mr. Evans. Mr. Cooke, Mr. Dowse, and Mr. Sargood supported. — The case on the present occasion occupied several hours. Two points were urged in opposition,—namely, that the arrest was friendly, and that the petition should be dismissed; and secondly, if the petition was sustained, there should be an adverse judgment, for contracting debts without reasonable or probable expectations of payment. It appeared that the insolvent, who is now only twenty-two, obtained his lieutenancy in the course of last year. His pay was £104 a year, which was not sufficient for his mess expenses. His debts were about £2,500, arising (with the exception of one) on bill transactions, and he ascribed his insolvency to the facilities of getting money on the discount of bills. Whilst he was stationed with his regiment in Dublin, he received circulars from "agents" of money-lenders, offering him accommodation. A person named Schwabaccar was one, who had introduced him to some of the opposing creditors; and another named O'Grady, had raised him money from Mr. Evans. Of the nine creditors on the schedule, six resided in Dublin; one in Derbyshire, who had arrested him; one in Limerick (Mr. Evans); and one in London. The insolvent said that officers in the army received circulars every month from money lenders or their agents, offering them advances. He had been charged from sixty per cent. for the advances. Mr. Salomons, a jeweller in Dublin, who opposed, held bills for £279 17s. 6d., and the money obtained was only £170. The bills had been renewed, and on each occasion he was charged large sums. Mr. Lazarus was a creditor for £153 10s., the discount of bills, and all he had given was £91 16s. 9d. Mr. Harris was a creditor on bills to £805 15s., and he had advanced £550, the remainder being discount and charges on renewals. Mr. Evans was a creditor for £225, and the advances were £180. The insolvent's father, who resides at Winkfield Park, Derbyshire, had made him an allowance when he entered the army, but discontinued it, as his son sent back a £10 note he had forwarded for his expenses. Recently his father had paid £330 to tradesmen for his son, but refused to pay what he termed "Jew debts." An offer of 5s. in the pound had, however, been made, and refused.—The Chief Commissioner gave judgment. Cases like the present were connected with circumstances which were to be deplored. This was the case of a young man, just bursting into life, plunged into debt, and an applicant for his discharge. It was the lamentable facilities given to young men at the universities and in the army that had occasioned the fall of many, but he did not remember to have heard in other cases of an "agent" between the parties seeking out the young men to lend them money. He (the Chief Commissioner), after the evidence given, could not believe that the arrest was a friendly one, and as the petition was to be sustained, the question was, what case had been proved against the insolvent? Which of the five creditors was entitled to the protection of the court? There was not one among them who had not contributed to, or occasioned his downfall. It was clear the young man had been sought out; that money had been advanced in the manner described; and, in his opinion, it was not a case in which they had a claim on the Court for its protection. His Honour, after saying that he did not think he was acting contrary to the spirit of the act in ordering the insolvent to be discharged, declared that he was entitled to the benefit of the act, and ordered him to be discharged forthwith.—Some applause followed, which was instantly checked.

COURT OF BANKRUPTCY.

IN RE W. BENNING.

This was the certificate meeting. The bankrupt was a law bookseller, of Fleet-street. The accounts extend from 1844 to 1851, and show the unsecured debts to be £10,845; secured, £1,919; liabilities, £200. The assets were returned at £372 good debts; £1,200 in property; property in the hands of creditors, £1 800. The amounts received from various sources (from 1844 to 1851) were about £9,500; various expenses exceeding that sum. The accounts commence with a capital of £5,859.—Mr. Commissioner Fane granted an immediate certificate of the second class.

IN RE RALPH TITCOMBE

This was the last examination meeting. The bankrupt was a butcher of Highgate. From the statement of Messrs. Harding and Pullein, the debts are about £3,100; assets, about £1 300. The accounts being deemed satisfactory, no opposition was offered, and the bankrupt passed, an allowance being made to the accountants out of the estate.

IN RE C. W. ELLIOTT.

The bankrupt, a grocer, at Aylesbury, came up for the purpose of passing his last examination. Messrs. Harding and Pullein stated the debts to be about £600; assets, about £500. His Honour (Holroyd) ordered an adjournment *sine die*.

IN RE GULL AND WILSON.

This was the last examination meeting in the case of George Gull and Francis Deacon Wilson, described as Russia brokers, of Old Broad-street. The balance sheet extended from the 1st August, 1850 to the 23rd of February last, the date of the failure. The following are the principal items: To creditors unsecured, £2,315; disputed claims, £4,532; liabilities on trade bills, £3,112; creditors holding security, £13,305; capital of Wilson, £1,000; brokerage and commission, £3,429. By good debts, £1,549; doubtful ditto, £952; ditto, claimed to be set off differences, £4,484; ditto arising out of disputed claims, £1,025; given up to assignees in cash, bills, and office furniture, £259; bills receivable, £23; property held by creditors, £12,520; loss on goods, £311; trade expenses, 727; drawn out by Gull (inclusive of liquidation of former debts), £2,115; by Wilson, £613; liabilities, £3,112 — Mr. Murray, for the assignees, did not object to their passing, but put a few questions to one of the bankrupts as to certain casks of tallow which were not accounted for. The bankrupts then passed.

IN RE JOHN RUTTY.

The bankrupt was a draper in Gerrard-street, Soho. This was the certificate meeting.—By the report of the official assignee (Mr. Graham) it appeared that the bankrupt commenced business in 1838, with one Dudley, with a capital of the latter of about £800; the partnership was dissolved in May, 1848, after paying a composition of 17s. 6d. in the pound, and the trading was continued by the bankrupt. In January, 1849, Rutty compounded with his creditors at 11s. 6d. in the pound. His debts then amounted to £5,873, but they were taken at £4,520; a composition of 11s. 6d. in the pound was accepted on £5,873, which amounted to £3,379, leaving about £1,143, with which amount he commenced the balance sheet. Only a portion of the creditors came into the arrangement, the rest received 20s. in the pound, amounting to £1,273; to others who signed the deed of release, bonuses were paid amounting to £100. The balance sheet, comprehending a period of nearly three years, contains the following items:—Capital, £1,143; claims of unsecured creditors, £6,868; ditto of secured, £200; the profits are, £1,338; the assets consist of good debts, £140; property, £1,180; the losses are, £2,873; the personal and trade expenses, £1 600; salaries and wages, £931; rent, &c., £1,054; insurance, £96; law costs, £405; interest and discount, £1,114. The official assignee also stated that the bankrupt received an advance of £600 from a Mr. Pearson, on a bond conditioned to pay £150 per annum for three years for the use of this £600. He paid the £150 for three and a half years, and Mr. Pearson is now a creditor on the estate.—His Honour gave judgment that he should reduce the period of suspension to six months, then the certificate to be of the third class; and he should grant protection, as there was no fraud.

The pirates are beginning to appear on the waters of the Levant. They carry their audacity so far that they have actually come up close to the port of Smyrna in search of booty, which they have succeeded in carrying off safely in the very teeth of an Austrian man-of-war. They take good care never to come near any vessels carrying the English, French, or Russian flag.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

Taunton.—Mr. Labouchere has announced his intention of again being a candidate for this borough, as "a firm friend of rational freedom, both civil, religious, and commercial." Mr. Arthur Miles has also intimated that he again offers himself as a candidate.

Leeds.—The committee of Mr. Baines and Sir George Goodman determined to complete their canvass, notwithstanding the intimation of Mr. Beckett's retirement.

Birmingham.—On Wednesday, a public dinner was given to Messrs. Muntz and Scholefield, who, as well as Mr. Geach, M.P., addressed the large assembly, and were very warmly received.

Bolton.—On Thursday evening, Mr. Crook, one of the Liberal candidates, addressed the electors, and a resolution approving of his principles, and of his fitness to represent the borough, was unanimously agreed to.

Bradford.—Col. Thomson, M P., and Robert Milligan, Esq., M.P., visited Bradford on the 16th, and attended one of the most crowded meetings ever held in Bradford. Each of the hon. gentlemen addressed the meeting, which resolved that they were worthy of the support of the constituency at the next election.

Beverley.—Mr. Sergeant Channel is in the field as Protectionist candidate for Beverley.

Cambridge.—Election matters seem to be conducted with considerable spirit on both sides. Messrs. Anstell and Macaulay, on the Conservative, and Messrs. Mowatt and Adair, on the Liberal, side, have addressed meetings of their respective supporters.

North Leicester.—It is currently reported that both the present members intend retiring after the present parliament, and that the Marquis of Granby will succeed Lord Charles Manners; but who will take Mr. Farnham's place we have not heard.

Aylesbury.—At a meeting held on Wednesday night Mr. Houghton announced his intention to contest the borough, but a resolution of want of confidence in him was carried unanimously. "There is no doubt," says the "Bucks Herald," "that Mr. Layard will enter the field for the borough."

York.—On Wednesday, Mr. H. Vincent, who polled 861 votes at the last election, addressed an assembly of the citizens from a balcony in the market-place. He delivered a long speech. He was for not only maintaining an untaxed loaf, but for carrying out our Free Trade policy in all directions. He was for absolute religious liberty, and would vote against all propositions that would tax one man to maintain another man's religion. He was in favour of direct taxation, and for a large reduction in our present expenditure. He belonged to the peace party, and would vote against militia bills in every form.

Greenock.—The contest will be between Lord Melgund and Mr. Dunlop.

Evesham.—Mr. Sergeant Wilkins is a candidate on Liberal Free Trade principles.

Cardiganshire Boroughs.—The "Carmarthen Journal" intimates that Mr. Inglis Jones, the Conservative candidate, will certainly go to the poll against Mr. Pryse Loveden.

Sheffield.—Mr. William Overend, barrister-at-law, has addressed the electors of Sheffield as a Free Trader. He is also a law, financial, and electoral reformer, but "decidedly hostile to the ballot." A requisition has been forwarded to Mr. S. Kydd to come forward as the Chartist candidate.

Durham (City).—The "Advertiser" published at Durham states that its party have adjusted their differences, and intend to fight a united battle. Their candidate is Lord Adolphus Vane, against whom is arrayed Mr. Atherton, Q.C. Mr. Granger, one of the present liberal members, stands again; but Mr. Spearman has announced his intention of retiring.

Dover.—Viscount Chelsea having addressed the electors as a supporter of the Derby Ministry, has called forth manifestoes from the sitting members, Sir G. Clerk and Mr. Rice. The local papers speak of his lordship's case as almost hopeless.

Denbighshire.—Sir Watkins W. Wynn has issued a brief note to the electors, in which he excuses himself from making a personal canvass, on the ground of his approaching marriage, which is fixed for the 28th inst.

Tavistock.—We are informed that a very numerously signed requisition has been presented to Mr. Trelawny from Tavistock, and that he has, in reply to inquiries made to him by his committee, stated, that whilst he holds himself honourably bound to abstain from offering himself as a candidate, yet he certainly will not decline to sit, if elected.

East Suffolk.—Mr. F. Kelly addressed a numerous meeting of electors at Framlingham on Saturday, and in reply to the query whether he would support a motion for the repeal of the malt tax, distinctly stated that he would not do so, for the revenue arising from it was too large for any Ministry to risk its repeal.

Tower Hamlets.—Mr. W. Newton has issued an address to the electors and non-electors of the Tower Hamlets, as will be seen by our advertising columns.

Hull.—Viscount Goderich, eldest son of the Earl of Ripon, is mentioned as a candidate.

Finsbury.—Messrs. Duncombe and Wakley have issued a joint address, announcing their intention again to come forward. "Our opinions remain unchanged with regard to all the great national questions that have occupied the attention of the Legislature during the long period we have enjoyed the distinguished honour of being your representatives." Some opposition is threatened, but nothing definite seems to have been decided.

Sunderland. — Mr. Hudson, the ex-Railway King, in common with the bulk of his party, has given up Protection.

Ennis.—The O'Gorman Mahon on arriving at Ennis met but an indifferent reception from the constituency. His appearance in the streets was the signal for uproar and shouting, but by some of his friends he was cordially welcomed back.

Halifax.—Sir Charles Wood and Mr. Crossley are the "Liberal" candidates. The Whigs assert that their return is certain.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

The increase of traffic since the 1st of January, over and above the receipts for the corresponding period of last year, has been considerable upon some of our lines. On the following lines it has been—

Great Northern	£43,086
South-Eastern	17,963
Great Western	15,096
Eastern Counties	14,770
Midland	12,775
Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire	9,460
York, Newcastle, and Berwick	8,100
South-Western	7,343
York and North-Midland	7,278
London and North-Western	4,546
Caledonian	4,944

The gross increase upon our railways since the 1st of January has been nearly £280 000. The increase has been about £2 10s. per mile per week.

"Herapath's Railway Journal" has the following summary of railway traffic:—

Miles.	
1852 on 6,565	£274,840 received.
1851 on 6,247	251,070 „
Increase 218 or 3.43 per ct.	23,770 or 9.46 per ct.

The receipts per mile per week are £42; for corresponding week of 1851, £39½; showing an increase in the receipts received per mile per week of £2½.

At the special meeting of the West Cornwall Company, held on Wednesday, it was resolved to borrow a sum not exceeding £114,680, for the purpose of completing the line to Truro with as little delay as possible, and paying off certain liabilities.

At the half-yearly meeting of the Dublin and Kingstown Company a dividend at the rate of three per cent. for the year was declared.

Opening of the Shrewsbury and Hereford Railway.—The Shrewsbury and Hereford Railway has been opened as far as Ludlow, twenty-seven miles.

THE EXTRAORDINARY MURDER BY A BOY IN NORFOLK.

Lynn, April 20.—Yesterday James Pears, the boy against whom a verdict of Manslaughter was last week returned by the jury empanelled to inquire into the death of another boy named William Day, who was shot whilst crow-keeping in Tutwell Fen, on Saturday, the 10th inst., was brought up for final examination before the district magistrates at the Downham petty sessions (having been examined and remanded *pro forma* previous to the coroner's inquest,) charged with feloniously killing and slaying the said William Day. In the course of the inquiry, it was shown that the little boy, James Pears, had succeeded in burying the body of Day, although the latter was much taller than himself, with no other aid than that of his own firmness and determination. Evidence substantially the same as that given before the coroner's jury having been adduced, after some deliberation, the Court decided to commit him for trial at the next Norwich Assizes, for "killing and slaying Wm. Day," a course which, independently of the coroner's warrant (upon which also he stands committed), leaves it open to indict him either for manslaughter or wilful murder although it is generally supposed that the former course will be preferred. He was taken back to Swaffham Bridewell, where he will remain till the assizes.

RESPECTABLE ROBBERS WEIGHED IN THE BALANCE AND FOUND WANTING.

On Wednesday, at the Sessions-house, at Newington, the following persons were convicted of using short weights and measures:—Thomas Mansell, of the Albany-road, Camberwell, fruiterer, 21s., for three weights against the purchaser. Henry Merritt, of Pomeroy-street, Old Kent-road, chandler, 35s. and 6s. costs, seven weights wrong. James Cattan, Manor-street, Kent-road, 10s., a weight very wrong. — Chambers, greengrocer, living in the same neighbourhood, 10s., for deficient weight. John Gatobee, greengrocer, Stockwell-street, Kent-road, £4, sixteen weights against the buyer. William Denyer, Old Kent-road, cheesemonger, 15s., for a similar offence. William Joseph Craywood, John-street, Christ Church, chandler, 5s. Matthew Day, two weights and a weighing machine against the buyer; this person lives in Upper Ground-street, Christ Church; the chairman told him that this was too serious a case to be passed over, he must pay 20s. and 6s. costs. Daniel Pitman, Upper Ground-street, chandler, 20s., nine weights having a balance against the purchaser. James Uwin, James-street, Christ Church, 5s., a weight wrong.

THE ANTI-MILITIA AGITATION.

The Militia Bill, as we anticipated, is growing more and more unpopular; the middle classes, true to their monetary instincts, denounce it, on the plea of an increased agitation; the working classes, because they have nothing to fight for. Give them an interest in the country and you need not fear but they will defend it. Numerous meetings have been held in London and the provinces; the general opinion seems to be that the government know right well that the voluntary system of enrolment would be a failure, which would result in the compulsory system, which might enable them "to supply some barrier against the current of the continually increasing and encroaching democratical influence in the nation." Meetings have been held in various parts of the metropolis, also at Bradford, Canterbury, Halifax, Coventry, Leeds, Uxbridge, and numerous other important places. At a meeting held in Camberwell-hall on Monday night, Mr. Chamerwzow, who proposed the first resolution, remarked that—"This Militia bill was an attempt to establish a military despotism among us, and he objected to it as being opposed to morality, religion, industry, and progress. If Louis Napoleon should invade this country, in addition to other forces, at least 10,000 political refugees in this country would take up the musket against him." A meeting was held in the Great-room, Broad-mead, Bristol, on Wednesday, April 14th, at which was voted a powerful address from the young men of Bristol to the young men of England, calling upon them to resist the proposed militia.

On Wednesday evening a meeting of the inhabitants of Marylebone was held at the Literary Institution, Edward-street, Portman-square, for the purpose of adopting measures to prevent the passing of the Militia Bill.

Mr. J. Williams, M.P., took the chair, and expressed his opinion that neither Lord John Russell nor Lord Derby had made out a case for the bill. In times gone by the Marylebone volunteers had been the terror of the world, and if need arose they would be so again. (Laughter.) But they wanted fewer soldiers, and not more, and he trusted they would be able to defeat this measure. No effort of his would be wanting to frustrate the plan, and he said so because he believed that such a force would have a most demoralising effect. (Cheers.)

Mr. J. Bell moved the first resolution, and scouted the idea that the French intended to cross the Channel to insult our wives, to cut our throats, and burn our houses. (Cheers.) It was not likely that Louis Napoleon, with his hands full at home, would attack, without provocation, the greatest nation in the world. The fact was that there was some ulterior object in view, and that the real aim was to protect the Government against the people. He concluded by moving the following resolution:—

> That this meeting is of opinion that the enrolment of the militia would be oppressive and injurious, especially to the industrious classes, and a heavy tax upon the parochial rates; that the advantage derivable from such force would not be commensurate with the evils inseparable from the system; and that the sum of nearly £15,000,000 sterling, now annually expended in maintaining the national defences, ought to be more than sufficient if proper economy were observed.

Mr. Passmore Edwards seconded the resolution, and declared the time a most inopportune one for the establishment of the militia system. The country was now thoroughly roused upon the question, and every meeting that had been held was unanimous against the measure. Because Louis Napoleon had succeeded in a *coup d'etat* in France, it was supposed that he could achieve something of the kind here. But the *coup d'etat* was the result of a long course of policy, and so any invasion of this country must be the result of a previous preparation. Neither Prussia nor Russia would allow France to break the balance of power in Europe; but even if they did, was it likely that what Napoleon the Great could not do with all his military genius, Napoleon the Little could accomplish? (Cheers.)

The second resolution which was follows:—

> That the petition which has been now read be adopted, and signed by the chairman and others now present, and that it be intrusted to Sir Benjamin Hall, M.P., for presentation to the House of Commons, and that Lord Dudley Stuart, M.P., be requested to support its prayer,

was proposed by Mr. Joseph, and seconded by the Rev. Dr. Burn, the rev. gentleman who has lately attained some prominence as a Political Reformer.

After speeches from Sir B. Hall, Lord D. Stuart, and others, a good deal of confusion and some amusement were caused by a woman, apparently mad, who screamed out an incoherent tirade, in which the words "Militia Bill" were alone distinguishable. The men of Marylebone seemed as much at a loss how to deal with her as they would probably find themselves with a division of the French army quartered in their borough. Luckily, however, the fit passed away, and the amendment, having been negatived, and the resolution carried,

The proceedings terminated with the usual vote of thanks to the Chairman.

EXTRAORDINARY CAREER OF A LONDON CLERGYMAN.

The inhabitants of the district of St. Barnabas, in the parish of St. Luke's, Old-street-road, have been painfully excited for some time past by a series of statements, which have resulted in the revocation of the licence of the Rev. Richard Jones Temple by the Bishop of London, and a prohibition against again taking clerical duty in the metropolitan diocese. Richard Jones, *alias* Risiart Johns, *alias* Robert K. Jones, *alias* Richard Jones Temple (for by all these fictitious names was the identity of his curate mystified), commenced his public or ministerial life in December, 1841, at the Independent Dissenters' School at Blackburn, in Lancashire, which school was subsequently merged into a more general college, near Manchester, in 1843. From that college Richard Jones was publicly expelled for immorality. Shortly after this he changed his name and his religious principles. He became a baptist, and as the Rev. Risiart Johns was inducted into the office of pastor of the baptist congregation at Whitchurch. While holding this position he gave out that he was engaged to a Miss Mary Owen, a young lady at Bangor, who during his residence at Whitchurch became suddenly possessed of £18,000 bequeathed to her by an uncle in India. One morning he informed some influential members of his congregation that he had dreamed that his betrothed lady had been thrown from her carriage by a runaway accident, and that dreadful and ghastly appearances had told him that the lady was hopelessly injured. On the strength of these representations £10 was advanced to him to enable him to go to Wales, a letter written in Welsh, which none of his people could read, purporting to come from Bangor, and confirmatory of his dream, having been produced. This letter, he said, informed him that Miss Owen had died from concussion of the brain. He started accordingly for Bangor, but proceeded as far as London only, and then returned to Whitchurch some days after, stating that his health had there failed him, and that his physician had told him that to prosecute his journey into Wales would imperil his life. Not appearing ill on his return, he was taunted at his quiet resignation and submissive apathy under the loss of an heiress of £18,000, and doubts arising as to the truthfulness of the story, connected with other circumstances which had occurred, inquiries were prosecuted, and it was ascertained that no such accident had happened at Bangor, nor was any such person as Miss Owen known. The reverend gentleman was consequently obliged to leave Whitchurch, and having become acquainted with a clergyman of the established church, the conversation frequently turned upon the subject of church and state, and in the course of time Mr. Risiart Johns acknowledged the errors he had fallen into in keeping aloof from the established church. He sought employment within its pale, and after six months' privacy, he reappeared, Richard Pritchard Jones, in the character of an Irish Scripture reader, and was eventually admitted into holy orders by the Bishop of Cashel. In the course of a few months he left Ireland, and on his arrival in England assumed the name of Richard Jones Temple. He then obtained the curacy of St. Sepulchres, Northampton, where he passed himself off as a distinguished literary character, and heir to a fortune. Subsequently, by a forged testimonial, he obtained a licence from the Bishop of London to officiate as curate in the district of St. Barnabas. A detection of the forgery caused such an investigation which led to the discovery of the above detailed facts, and to the revocation of his licence in the metropolitan dioces.

MISS VINCENT'S MARRIAGE—EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCE.

The marriage of this lady, the proprietress of the Victoria Theatre, has been attended with the most unhappy circumstances. She selected for her partner in life Mr. Benjamin Crowther (late of Astley's), a fine handsome young man of eight-and twenty, who, having seceded from Mr. Batty's Amphitheatre, was starring in "Mazeppa," and other hippodramatic spectacles at the Victoria. The courtship was but of short duration, and the preliminaries for the wedding soon arranged. The marriage took place on a Saturday, at Trinity Church, Carlisle-lane, Lambeth, and the "happy pair" left town immediately after the ceremony to spend the "honeymoon" at Brighton; but their happiness was soon disturbed, for on the following Thursday, on their return to their residence, Barkham-terrace, St. George's-road (opposite Bethlehem Hospital), the bridegroom was seized with a brain fever, attributed by his medical attendants to over-excitement. It was reported at the time that he was compelled to be placed under restraint in a public institution. This was untrue. But, melancholy to state, it is now the fact. Mr. Crowther is an inmate of a private lunatic asylum at Peckham. The fever having subsided, he became in a low and depressed state of mind, and at this time a settled melancholy pervades him, notwithstanding the most eminent physicians have been consulted, and every meansadopted to arouse him from his hypochondriacal condition. Mr. Crowther was for many years a member of the *corps dramatique* of Astley's, and is much esteemed by a large circle of professional and private friends. Miss Vincent, on the demise of Mr. Osbaldeston, became possessed of the Victoria Theatre, and likewise the bulk of his fortune, which was settled on her and her daughter, Miss Beatrice Osbaldeston, a young lady about eighteen, independent of which Miss Vincent had realised a handsome competency by her professional exertions.

Imperial Parliament.

MONDAY, April 19.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—The Lord Chancellor laid on the table a bill to abolish the office of Master in Chancery. He explained the means by which he proposed to provide for the due performance of the duties at present discharged by the Masters, and stated that the bill had been prepared with the assistance of other four judges in equity.

Lord Cranworth and Lord Campbell expressed their approbation of the measure, Lord Campbell insisting especially upon a remedy for the abuse by which suitors were sent from one court to another at the caprice of the judges.

The bill was then read a first time, and the Mutiny Bill having been read a third time and passed, their lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—A number of petitions against the Militia Bill were presented by Colonel Thompson, Mr. Cobden, and other members. Also against the extradition of deserters, from seamen of Hartlepool, and from masters, mates, and seamen of the port of London; by Mr. Hindley, from a mutual improvement society at Ashton, against the stamp duty on newspapers.

The Committee on the Charitable Trust Bill was postponed until Monday next.

The Attorney-General obtained leave to bring in a bill to render it necessary to summon Grand Juries within the metropolitan district, and for the amendment of the criminal law in other particulars.

East India Company's Charter.—Mr. Herries moved the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the operation of the Act 3rd and 4th of William IV., c. 85, for the better government of India, and to report their observations. He reminded the house that from the year 1734 there had been a gradual tendency to the abolition of the exclusive rights and privileges of the East India Company; that in 1813 private traders were admitted to compete with the Company in the commerce of India, and that in 1833 the Company was not only divested of its exclusive rights of trading, but inhibited from trading at all, whilst the act then passed, the operation of which he now proposed to subject to inquiry, took away from the Company all their territorial rights as proprietors of the soil, which were made over to the Crown, and their commercial assets were disposed of in the manner provided by that act. In turn for this immense sacrifice the stock of the Company, amounting to £6 000,000, was not to be subject to redemption until 1874, provided, however, that if, during that forty years, the agency of the Company in the government of India should be withdrawn from them, they would be entitled to demand the redemption of their stock at the rate of £200 for every £100 stock. The Company also retained the entire patronage of India, which had always belonged to them as incident to their territorial rights, except that they had not the appointment of the Governors and Commanders-in-Chief. On the other hand, the Crown had the power of revoking all appointments; but the Company possessed the right of revoking that of the Governor-General of India without the consent of the Crown. In the year 1854 the existing system would cease with the act of 1833, and Parliament had now three courses open to it—first, to suffer the act to expire; second, to renew the act without further inquiry; and third, to institute the examination he now suggested before it came to any final determination. The late government had resolved to propose the appointment of committees in both houses; and, after the most mature consideration, the present government had thought this the course most befitting the importance of the subject. It was natural to inquire, he observed, what had appeared to have been the effect of the changes introduced in 1833, during the last twenty years, touching the welfare and progress of our Indian empire—not merely whether the revenues had prospered, but whether the administration, under the existing management, had, in other respects, contributed to the well-being of the people. The total gross revenue had increased from £18 407,000 in 1834 to £24,379,000 in the present year, showing an augmentation of £6,000,000 in less than twenty years. The charges, however, had increased, so that in the last year there was a deficiency of £678,000. How had this occurred? The wars in which British India had been involved, in Affghanistan, in Scinde, and in the Punjab, had swallowed up no less than £36,000,000. But when he looked at the Indian debt, he found that the addition had been only £20,000,000; it followed, therefore, that, so buoyant had been the Indian revenues, that they must have furnished £16,000,000 towards the extraordinary war expenditure. It might be said that this large revenue extracted from the country had tended to exhaust its resources. There was no better way of meeting this allegation than by showing the progress of Indian commerce; and it appeared that the amount of the exports and imports, and that of the tonnage entered inwards and outwards, had more than doubled in the last twenty years. At no former period, he thought, were the prospects of India so favourable as at the present moment. Mr. Herries then read various details, the results of which showed that the natives of India were largely employed in administrative as well as in judicial offices; and that the establishments for native education had been greatly augmented. He then reverted to the outlay on account of canals, roads, tanks, and other means of communication, far exceeding, he said, the deficiency of the revenue, which had consequently been absorbed in the permanent improvement of the country. After stating the extent of the patronage distributed by the Court of Directors in the last seven years, he observed, with reference to the agency exercised by the East India Company in the government of India, that it was a mistake to suppose the Company were mere ministerial functionaries; they had the power of objecting, and furnishing, and requiring information to and from the government—who were ultimately responsible for all political measures—not only by correspondence, but by confrontation. He had himself felt the great advantage arising from this agency, and had no hesitation in saying that for the good government of India it was an agency of infinite importance. It would be the duty of the committee to make the most searching inquiry into the expediency of retaining this agency, which had worked well for the last twenty years. If found to be inexpedient, it would be for the wisdom of parliament to devise some other system.

Mr. Anstey moved, by way of amendment, in addition to the motion, that an address be presented to her Majesty, praying that Commissioners be sent into British India, instructed to prosecute inquiries and report the evidence, with their observations. He proposed this Commission, because, even if the picture drawn by Mr. Herries had been as correct as it was flattering, the inquiry proposed by him could not be complete without information from the natives of India, which was impracticable without local inquiry. They could not consistently with the interests of the 110,000 of inhabitants of India, and the 40,000,000 of tributaries, and with the interests of the Crown, whose subjects they were, reconsign for ten or twenty years to a company of merchants, or to a Minister, the absolute authority over the lives and labours of that population, without taking some security beforehand for their good government. The right hon. gentleman stated that the amount of the debt did not exceed two years' revenue; and he spoke of that as an encouraging circumstance, when compared with the great debt of this country; but there was a fallacy in the analogy. The revenue of this country was a public revenue derived from taxes as distinguished from the revenue of the proprietors of the soil; but the revenue of India was made up of both branches. To produce it we had taken sixty per cent. of the annual produce of the land, and had placed a tax upon every thing which could by possibility be taxed, from the highest article of luxury and vice to the most indispensable articles of daily life. Yet the revenue so compounded of that enormous empire, with a territory as large as Europe, infinitely more fertile, and better peopled, had never exceeded in net amount £21,000,000 sterling. Not another farthing could be added to the revenue of India, but the expenditure increased year by year as the debt increased, consuming the resources of the present and anticipating those of the future. This was the financial position which the right hon. gentleman thought so admirable. The people of India, however, thought otherwise. They said that their position was one of hopeless misery—that it had been so since they had been under British rule—and that it was better or worse in proportion as that rule was more or less direct. To the tyranny and robbery of the Mussulmans and Mahrattas we had added our own. According to the authority of the East India Company themselves, things were at a dead lock. There was not a penny that could be taken out of the pockets of the people of India which had not been taken and spent. Salt, that essential to life, had not escaped the pernicious system. The natives had consequently been obliged to forego, to a great extent, the use of that article, and this deprivation had resulted in the cholera. The first authentic account of the appearance of cholera in India was coincident with the imposition of the salt monopoly by Warren Hastings. It had never ceased in that country since, and, by way of retribution, it had even visited our own shores. The honourable gentleman proceeded to denounce the impolicy of the augmentations of territory, and of the wars arising therefrom. He added — The natives ought to be admitted into the highest offices; there were natives fit for them. India would never be peaceful and contented till she was prosperous, and that would never be until she was governed according to Indian, and not European, views, and for Indian, and not European interests.

Mr. Baillie differed from Mr. Anstey as to the best means of obtaining the required information. The question was now a more simple one than formerly; it was merely whether the powers given to the East India Company by the act of 1833 should be curtailed or modified.

Sir. T. E. Colbrooke, Mr. Hardinge, and Sir. J. Hogg opposed the amendment, and Mr. Hume advised Mr. Anstey to withdraw the same, on the ground that it was impracticable. And after some observations from Sir R. H. Inglis,

Lord J. Russell, assuming that it was intended that the government should propose and parliament decide upon the plan for the future government of India, thought that the appointment of a committee would be useful in the way of collecting information and making suggestions respecting that vast question. Our first care should be to provide for the millions of India the benefits of good government, and especially for their education and social improvement; and in these respects, he thought, we had in a great degree performed our duty to the people of India. The question of patronage, he agreed, affected the Constitution of the country, which might be endangered by vesting it in a Minister of the Crown, and he thought it was a most fortunate circumstance that a mode of government had been found which whilst it provided for the good administration of India, placed the sovereignty or that vast empire under the Crown of the United Kingdom without injury to the working of the Constitution.

After some remarks from Mr. Goulbourn, Sir H. Willoughby, and Mr. Mangles, the amendment was negatived, and the original motion was agreed to.

The house then went into committee, and adopted the several clauses of the Passengers Amendment Act.

The Poor Law Board Continuance Bill was then read a second time; other bills were forwarded a stage, and the house adjourned at one o'clock.

TUESDAY, April 20.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—The Royal assent was given, by commission, to the Mutiny Bill, the Marine Mutiny Bill, and several private bills. The Patent Law Amendment Bill (No 2) was read a third time and passed.

The Maynooth Grant.—The Marquis of Clanricarde drew the attention of the house to the Maynooth grant, and having compared the statement made on a former occasion by Lord Derby with that made a day or two ago by the Solicitor-General, wished to know distinctly what were the intentions of the government with respect to the maintenance of the grant.

The Earl of Derby, after some explanations as to the statements made by himself and the Solicitor-General, said that the government had no present intention of altering the existing law, and that ample notice would be given should circumstances arise to induce the government to take another course.

An animated but desultory discussion then arose, in which Lord Grey, Lord Derby, the Earl of Harrowby, the Marquis of Lansdowne, and the Bishop of Cashel, took part, after which the subject dropped, and their Lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Petitions were presented by Mr. Bethell, from Aylesbury, against the Militia Bill; by Mr. Mowatt, from Penryn, against the Militia Bill; by Mr. W. J. Fox, from nearly 800 mechanics of Oldham, in favour of the bill for industrial and provident partnerships; from the Baptist congregation of Oldham, for an ocean penny postage; from inhabitants of Oldham, for the same; (2) from inhabitants of Finsbury, for Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge; and from Royton, for the Industrial and Provident Partnerships Bill; by Mr. G. S. Duff, from Peterhead, against the Paper-tax and the Taxes on Knowledge; by Mr. Clay, from sailors of Hull, against the Sailors Desertion Bill; by Colonel Thompson, from the operative letter-press printers of Bradford, for the removal of the taxes on paper, advertisements, and stamps on newspapers; by Mr. Foley, from Stourbridge, Wordsley, the Lye, Pershore, in the county of Worcester, against the Militia Bill, and from Pershore, praying for the preservation of the Crystal Palace; by Mr. Williams, from 4,100 householders of Lambeth, in favour of preserving the Crystal Palace; by Mr. Bright, from working men in Manchester, from Independents of Carnarvon, from Bridgnorth, from Whitehaven, and from St. David's Pembrokeshire, all against the Militia Bill; by Mr. G. Sandars, from Wakefield, in favour of preserving the Crystal Palace; by Mr. Farrer, from Stockton-on-Tees, against the removal of the Crystal Palace. A large number of petitions against the Maynooth grant were presented by a number of members.

The Working Classes.—Mr. Slaney gave notice that on that day fortnight he would move for a standing committee, or unpaid commission, to report from time to time suggestions for measures beneficial to the working classes.

Outrages on British Subjects Abroad.—Lord D. Stuart put a question to the Chancellor of the Exchequer respecting an outrage committed on a non-commissioned officer (Corporal Braggs) belonging to the Marine Artillery serving on board her Majesty's ship Firebrand at Leghorn. This non-commissioned officer, having, on leave of absence, landed at Leghorn, was, while walking about the town, constantly followed by two Tuscan police-officers. He remonstrated with them, stating that he was on shore upon leave; but his remonstrances had no effect. A Maltese gentleman volunteered his services as an interpreter, and explained in Italian that the Englishman in uniform was on shore upon leave, and had no intention of doing wrong. Notwithstanding this, the Tuscan police-officers expressed their determination to follow him, upon which Corporal Braggs volunteered to go to the nearest police-office. When there, the police produced a chain and put it on him. Corporal Braggs, knowing that he had done nothing wrong, resisted, but, though strong, he was overpowered, and at last secured by the arrival of other police-officers. It was stated that he was laid on his back in the station-house, bound with irons, and kept there the whole of that night; and on the following morning he was transported, in broad daylight, in full uniform, and wearing irons, to another station. The captain of the Firebrand addressed a despatch to Mr. Scarlett, Secretary of Legation, calling for redress, and that a demand to that effect had been made on the Tuscan government. He wished to know whether the Chancellor of the Exchequer was in a position to say that sufficient and suitable reparation had been made for this outrage, and, if so, whether the right hon. gentleman would explain in what that reparation consisted, or whether the government were continuing to direct their attention to the subject, and proceeding to take further steps to obtain redress?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said the hon. member was inaccurate in supposing that an officer in her Majesty's service in full uniform had been thus maltreated at Leghorn. A corporal of Marines had been upon leave on shore, had got into some squabble with the police, had been very ill-treated, and the Tuscan government had imprisoned the head of the police at Leghorn for eight days. At one and the same time her Majesty's government received information of the outrage and of the course pursued by the Tuscan government. He begged to inform the noble lord that the punishment of arrest for eight days was never accepted as sufficient redress by her Majesty's government, and communications had taken place, and were still continued, on the subject of this outrage. The government did not accept that imprisonment as sufficient reparation for the outrage experienced.

Lord D. Stuart next referred to the case of Mr. Mather, and

The Chancellor of the Exchequer observed that that case was the subject of active communication, and, therefore, it was quite impossible for him at present to go into details respecting it.

"The Rev. Mr. Bennett.—Mr. Horsman moved "That an humble address be presented to her Majesty, praying that she will be graciously pleased to direct inquiry to be made whether due respect was paid to the decrees of the constitutions and canons ecclesiastical of the Church of England, in the recent institution of Mr. Bennett to the vicarage of Frome." The hon. gentleman entered at great length into a history of the case of Mr. Bennett; and the conduct of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, in having instituted Mr. Bennett to the vicarage of Frome against the wishes and remonstrances of the inhabitants of the district.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that he felt strongly the inconvenience of discussing such matters in a popular assembly. For his own part, he believed there must exist a power of appeal to the Archbishop, and if so, it was premature to bring the case before parliament; or, if brought before parliament, it should be so brought in a different shape—it should be the subject of legislation, and not of a mere motion for an address to the Crown. The right hon. gentleman concluded by moving as an amendment the previous question.

Sir H. Verney hoped that Mr. Horsman would not accept the invitation of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, but persevere in his motion.

Sir H. Inglis agreed in the views of the Chancellor of the Exchequer and supported the amendment.

After speeches from Messrs. Ewart, Hume, Newdegate, Sir John Pakington, and Lord John Russell, and some other members,

The house divided, and the numbers were:—

For the previous question	100
Against it	80—20

Hungarian Refugees.—Lord D. Stuart moved for copies or extracts of any communications which have passed between the government of this country and Turkey, and other foreign governments, respecting the Hungarian and other refugees detained at Kutayah, from the date of the last despatch on this subject, a copy of which had been laid before this house, up to the present time (in continuation of papers already presented to parliament). The noble lord explained that those papers related to what had occurred while the late government was in office.

Mr. Hume expected, as a matter of course, that the papers would be produced. They related to a subject in which the people of this country were deeply interested. A large portion of the community felt that an attempt had been made to violate the laws of nations against those men whose fortunes had been affected by the proceedings of Austria, and large meetings of the people had urged the late government to use their influence in giving protection to those men.

Lord Palmerston, as far as he was concerned, did not object; and Mr. Disraeli, after this statement, not opposing the motion, it was granted.

The Committee on Friendly Societies (No. 2) Bill was postponed to Tuesday next.

The other business having been disposed of, the house adjourned at twenty minutes past nine o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, April 21.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—A number of petitions were presented against the Maynooth Grant, and the Militia Bill.

Mr. Slaney presented a batch of petitions from Norwich, London, Woolwich, Salford, Glasgow, and other towns, in favour of the Industrial and Provident Partnerships Bill.

Irish Fisheries.—Mr. Conolly, in moving the second reading of the Irish Fisheries Bill, discussed at much length the general policy and character of past legislation upon this subject, especially the act of 1842, and explained the leading objects of the bill, which consolidated the existing laws, and introduced provisions adapted to secure the interests of proprietors without injury to the public.

Lord Naas said, this was a question of infinite difficulty, involving a multitude of conflicting interests, and with which it was impossible for a private member to deal satisfactorily. He admitted that the law upon this subject was not in a proper position; but the effect of the bill as it stood would be to infringe the rights of property, by the sweeping away titles guaranteed by parliament. Something, however, ought to be done, and it would be the duty of the government hereafter to endeavour to grapple with the question. In the meanwhile he recommended that the bill, which was open to various objections, should be withdrawn.

Mr. Monsell, M. F. Scully, Mr. H. Herbert, Captain Jones, and Sir William Somerville, concurred in this recommendation; and, after some remarks by Mr. Whiteside and Mr. Frewen,

Mr. Conolly withdrew his motion.

Mr. Frewen moved the second reading of the Building of Churches, &c. Bill, explaining its general scope and the objects of the several clauses.

The Speaker noticed that one of the clauses was not within the title of the bill.

Mr. Gladstone pointed out other informalities, and the order for the second reading was discharged.

Mr. Deedes moved the second reading of the Parish Constables Bill.

Captain SCOBELL suggested some objections for the consideration of the committee.

Sir J. TROLLOPE, not opposing the second reading, observed that the bill would cast the charges of the constables upon the parochial rates, although the object was altogether away from the object of these rates, and of no special benefit to the owners of land. This objection could be dealt with in the committee.

After a few observations from Mr. AGLIONBY and Mr. PACKE, the bill was read a second time.

The House then went into committee upon the Enfranchisement of Copyholds Bill. The clauses of which were considered and agreed to.

INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT PARTNERSHIPS BILL.—Mr. SLANEY moved the second reading of this bill, which he had brought in upon the recommendations of two successive committees, its object being to give to industrial and provident associations of the humbler classes the advantage of having a cheap tribunal. He had communicated with the right honourable gentleman opposite (Mr. Henley), and found that the principle of granting such a tribunal was generally admitted. But with the view of presenting the bill in the most acceptable shape to the house, he proposed to read it a second time now, and then refer it to a select committee.

Mr. HENLEY was extremely glad the subject had been brought under the consideration of the house, because a great number of persons were interested in it, and were very sanguine in their expectation of benefit being derived from some such measure. It was necessary, however, that the bill should go to a Select Committee, for desirable as it might be in the first instance to bring a measure of this nature within the provisions of the Friendly Society's Act, yet the question required the most serious consideration, lest new and greater difficulties were created than those which already existed.

The bill was then read a second time, and ordered to be referred to a select committee.

The Proclamation for Assembling Parliament Bill was read a second time.

The Burghs (Scotland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

The house adjourned at twenty minutes past five o'clock.

THURSDAY, APRIL 22.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—On the motion of the Earl of DERBY,

The St. Alban's Disfranchisement Bill was, after some discussion, read a second time.

Lord REDESDALE then moved that counsel be heard at the bar in opposition to the bill.

After some discussion, in which the motion was supported as being conformable with precedent by Lord Campbell, and opposed by Earl Grey, and other noble lords,

The house divided—

For the motion	41
Against it	15
Majority	—26

Their lordships then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NEW MEMBER.—Sir FITZROY KELLY took the oaths and his seat for Harwich. The hon. and learned gentleman was introduced to Sir R. H. Inglis and Mr. Masterman.

Numerous petitions were presented.

TAXES ON KNOWLEDGE.

Mr. MILNER GIBSON brought under the notice of the house the policy of deriving revenue from Taxes upon Knowledge, for the purpose of moving, in separate resolutions—that such financial arrangements ought to be made as would enable Parliament to dispense with the duty on paper; that the newspaper stamp ought to be abolished; and that the tax on advertisements ought to be repealed. He wished to be understood as not representing any particular interest, neither that of the paper maker, nor the newspaper proprietor, nor the publisher of cheap productions; therefore, if he were told that certain paper makers, newspaper proprietors, or publishers were opposed to the repeal of these taxes on the ground of vested interest, that would be no answer to the motion. Neither could he permit this to be treated as a party question. His motion was simply that the duty on paper ought not to be considered as part of our permanent system of taxation. The Excise regulations connected with the manufacture of paper were most oppressive and vexatious; yet they were not sufficient to protect the honest against the fraudulent manufacturer. Notwithstanding the precautions of the Excise, it was a notorious fact that large quantities of paper were sold which had never paid duty, and they came in competition with the goods of the fair and honest trader who was subject to taxation. He held in his hand a letter from Mr. Herbert Ingram, the proprietor of the "Illustrated London News," to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in which he clearly showed the evils arising from the existing system, and the great benefits that would result to the public as well as to the trade if the Excise impost was removed. He mentioned that when the manufacturer obtained straw from farmers to use in the production of paper, that simple article was taxed 100 per cent. Therefore, as an agricultural question, he submitted it to Hon. Members opposite. If the tax were repealed, it would have a most beneficial effect in increasing the employment of capital and labour in Ireland. There was no reason why the people of this country, under a judicious system, should not become the exporters of paper as well as cotton to all the world. (Hear, hear.) His argument was, that the paper duty did not so much increase the price of cheap literature as it retarded its good. We have cheapness in our literature, but we wanted goodness too, and he would now, with the permission of the House, point out how the duty interfered with its quality. Mr. Cassell, a large publisher of penny works, one of which was called the "Public Instructor," paid £100 per week to the government for duty, and if that tax were abolished, the money would not go into his pocket, or to reducing the price of his publication, but rather to improving the literary matter which it contained. It was a monstrous thing that a man before he could circulate such useful publications as he had in his eye must pay £100 a week to the public Exchequer, and though he had failed to make his position intelligible to the house, he hoped the day was not far distant when the paper duty, which rightly belonged, not to the government, but to the literary man, would be struck out of the statute book. Upon this branch of the subject he had received a letter from Mr. Charles Knight, wherein he proved that in the case of many valuable publications the government derived more profit from them than the writers or the contributors. Nothing could stop the progress of cheap literature; and it was, therefore, of the utmost importance that it should be rendered as good in quality as possible. The paper-duty only yielded £1,00,000; and he called upon the house to decide whether that was a fair set-off against the moral good which it prevented in the country. The fact was the tax like the stamp and advertisement duties, was put on in a time of war, not so much, he suspected, for the purposes of revenue, as to give the government some control over the press. The advertisement duty, which produced £160,000 a year, was as stupid as it was as unjust. Need he point out that it was for the interest of the country that its commerce and trade should be as free as the air we breathe. (Hear.) Well, what was it that stood in the way of one man making known his wants to another but this very advertisement duty? In America, where no such duty existed, there were 10,000,000 advertisements inserted in the newspapers every year, but in this country the number scarcely reaches 2,000,000 a year. But the injustice of this tax was abominable. The servant girl was charged the same as the nobleman or the public company possessed of boundless wealth: while a line was charged the same as a page,—but the fact was, he repeated, the tax was intended to cripple our newspapers, and not to raise revenue, or why was not the same tax imposed on advertising vans, omnibuses, and dead walls? He would now pass to the question of the newspaper stamp, and show that it was never intended as a revenue tax. How was it originated? On the 17th January, 1711, there was a message from the crown, and, at the end of that message, there was a complaint of the licence that was than taken in publishing libels, and recommending the house to devise some remedy. The house in its reply admitted the evil, promising to find out some remedy, and in accordance with that promise certain resolutions were passed, amongst which was one establishing the newspaper tax. So the house would see the origin of this tax, as well as the advertisement and paper duty, was to supersede the office of censor. He, for one, did not object to the stamp, so far as it related to the postal transmission, but the tax was imposed on 80,000,000 of papers anually, while only 35,000,000 availed themselves of the post office. What he wanted then was that only the latter number should be taxed, and he was glad to say that Rowland Hill thought with him. Mr. Gibson referred to the contents of certain unstamped productions to show that the tax did not accomplish its original purpose—that of checking the dissemination of mischievous matter. From this topic he returned to the vast circulation of the "Times," which, he said, seemed to be eating up the rest of the press; the effect of its extraordinary popularity being, as Mr. Gibson argued, a serious evil, by creating a kind of monopoly and limiting the diffusion of intelligence, and which he endeavoured to trace to the tax in question. After some general remarks upon the policy of these taxes, and the embarrassments to which they might lead, he contended that parliament was justified in dealing with them upon broad, public grounds.

Mr. EWART seconded the motion, dwelling upon the effects of the advertisement and stamp duties, which, arguing from the example of America, he maintained, limited the circulation of newspapers in this country, and robbed the poor of an innocent enjoyment.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER assured Mr. Gibson that the present government were not actuated by any sinister feelings towards the newspaper press, or any apprehension respecting its influence. He was bound to consider these questions, not under philanthropical or popular aspects, but as a financier. With regard to the paper duty, he did not contest the accuracy of Mr. Gibson's observations upon the effects of the Excise regulations upon the manufacture of paper, but he was not aware that their injurious operation was limited to that manufacture; he could make out as good a case for soap. The question was whether they were not necessary evils. With every desire to relieve industry and to promote education, but considering, as he must, the effect of these propositions upon the credit and finances of the country, he did not feel justified in assenting to them. On Friday, the 30th, he would place before the house the real state of the finances of the country, and when Mr. Gibson and his friends were in possession of that statement it would be open to them to declare their views. With respect to the advertisement and stamp duties, he thought they were subjects which deserved the gravest consideration; but, he repeated, he must consider them primarily with reference to the effect of their repeal upon the general revenue. The advertisement duty was one which ought to be gravely considered, and the government had considered it. He distinguished that and the stamp duty very much from the duty on paper, which was so large that every one should hesitate before he consented to relinguish it. All these matters, however, depended entirely upon the state of the finances, and the House must feel the great inconvenience of coming to a premature decision on questions of this kind. He reminded the House that there was a determination on its part not to impose new taxes; that the two great sources of our indirect taxation had been attacked, and that a committee was now making war upon a principal source of our direct taxation. Under these circumstances the House should pause before it adopted a motion that would reduce the revenue nearly £1,500,000, and he thought it was not asking too much to call upon it to permit him to make his financial statement without the incumbrance of such a vote. He, therefore, felt it to be his duty to oppose the motion.

Mr. WAKLEY suggested that after this declaration the debate should not be prolonged, and he moved that it be adjourned.

Mr. Cobden concurred in this suggestion, as well as Mr. Gibson, who, having been absent from the house during the speech of Mr. Disraeli, wished to have a distinct understanding whether the subject of these duties was to be taken into consideration by the government.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, what he had stated was not with reference to this motion. In reviewing the taxation of the country these duties could not be omitted from consideration, but it was not to be supposed from any statement he had made that they had been specially considered. No terms had been made as a condition of the adjournment.

After some observations from Mr. Hume, Mr. Mowatt, and Mr. Frewen, the debate was adjourned.

The other business was soon disposed of, and the house adjourned at a quarter past eight o'clock.

[The following appeared in our Second Edition of last week]:—

LEVANT PIRATES.—A Trieste newspaper complains that pirates continue their depradations in the Levant with increased audacity. A fortnight ago a piratical vessel entered a port near Smyrna, and carried off a considerable quantity of booty, though an Austrian schooner was in the port at the time. It is chiefly Austrian ships which are attacked, the pirates fearing to meddle with those of England, France, or Russia. The Austrian government accordingly intends to send a frigate, two corvettes, and two steamers against them. The Neapolitan government also intends to fit out some vessels.

SUSPECTED MURDER.—LEEDS, FRIDAY AFTERNOON.—A Mr. Harrison, of Woodlesford, has been found dead at Hunslet, under circumstances that induce the suspicion that he has been murdered. He was discovered in a ditch with water in it, but only three inches deep. An inquest on the body will be held to-night.

THE MURDER IN LAMBETH.—On Thursday afternoon the mutilated remains of the unfortunate woman, Elizabeth Wheeler, who was so brutally murdered on Saturday afternoon last, by her son, Thomas Cathie Wheeler, were deposited in their final resting-place, in the burial ground of old Lambeth Church, High-street, Lambeth; a vault had been provided by her relatives, in the ground away from the church. In order to prevent the assembling of a large concourse of persons on the occasion, the body was very judiciously removed to a place some short distance off on Monday night, immediately after the coroner's inquiry had closed.

DEATH OF LORD PANMURE.—This nobleman died at Brechin Castle, Forfarshire, on Tuesday afternoon.

TOWER HAMLETS.—MR. THOMPSON AND MR. AYRTON.

An aggregate meeting of the Nonconformists of the Tower Hamlets took place last evening at the Royal British Institution, Cowper-street, City-road, "for the purpose of hearing addresses from Mr. Thompson, M.P., and Mr. Ayrton in reference to the ecclesiastical establishments and the great principles of religious liberty." There was a crowded attendance. Mr. W. Hows was unanimously called on to preside. On Mr. Thompson and Mr. Ayrton appearing on the platform they were greeted with loud cheers. The candidates having addressed the meeting, the following resolution was carried unanimously, followed by three cheers for Mr. Thompson and Mr. Ayrton:—"That this meeting of the Nonconformist electors of the Tower Hamlets, deeply impressed with the important crisis at which they are arrived, and the grave responsibilities which it involves, feel it to be their solemn duty to assert the great principle that the civil power, whether viewed in its legislative or administrative functions, has no right, authority, or title to interfere with the religious opinions or to direct and control the religious practices of the people. That applying this principle to religious endowments and schemes of national education, this meeting feels bound to withhold its support from any and every candidate who is not prepared to oppose any attempt to endow one sect at the expense of others, or to the extension of the principle of endowment or state support to all sects; and who is not prepared also to defend and support the religious education of the people, unfettered by state pay or state control, as the most precious guarantee of the civil and religious liberties of this country."

THE ENGINEERS' STRIKE.

A case of considerable importance to both masters and men has been brought under the consideration of the Hon. G. C. Norton, at the Lambeth Police-court. Two men, named Francis Keene and Richard Oram, operative engineers, and members of the Engineers' Amalgamated Society, were brought before that magistrate on a warrant, charging them with having assaulted James Goodman, one of their own class, in the employment of Messrs. Maudslay and Field, the extensive engineers in Lambeth. James Goodman said:—I am an engineer in the employment of Messrs. Maudslay and Field. On Saturday last, the 10th inst., I left my work at four o'clock, and went alone to the Tower public-house. After I had been there about ten minutes the two defendants came in together, and two others accompanied them. The defendants asked if there were many at work at our place, and I replied there were a great number of them. They said, "I suppose you have signed the document" (a declaration by those who have signed it that they had no connexion with the Amalgamated Engineers' Society), and I replied, "Yes." Richard Oram addressed me first. I then added that we had a great number at work, and that a great many others would like to come too if they had a chance. They then called me all the "knobsticks" they could think of, and used bad language. A friend of mine named Cumming was present, and he, addressing them, said, "Why don't you let the young man alone?" Up to this time I had not spoken to them, but they immediately began cursing and swearing at me as hard as they could. (The witness here corrected himself by saying that Oram alone had used bad language to him.) Cumming then went for a policeman, and the defendants followed him out, and I walked behind. I then saw two friends of the defendants on the opposite side of the way. All four came across the road and ran after Cumming, and struck him. Oram struck first. I received several blows on the nose, and while striking me the defendants made use of a bad expression, saying you are one of them. (The witness exhibited marks on the face.) In cross examination the witness said—I am not, and never was, a member of the Amalgamated Society, but I did receive eighteenpence from them for eight days. I am not a working ingineer, but an engineer's labourer. I will swear that before any words were spoken by the defendants, neither Cumming, nor the others present, nor myself, nor anybody in the employment of Messrs. Maudslay, began shaking our pockets and ringing our money. I will swear that I did not see any money shown to the defendants. I did not hear anybody present say to the defendants, "You poor Amalgamated—." No threats were used towards them. —James Joseph Cumming, an engineering labourer, in the employment of Messrs. Maudslay and Field, corroborated the greater part of the statement of the last witness. In his cross-examination this witness said he never belonged to the Amalgamated Society, but had received altogether 8s. 3d. all the time he was "out." He had never applied to the society to support him. He made no direct application to the society, but understanding that the committee were sitting at the Crown public-house, he went there, and received 5s. out of donations received at two public-houses, and altogether only got 8s. 3d.—A witness named James Swain said he saw the complainant and defendants standing near the end of the Watherloo-road on the day in question. The former had his hands in his pockets, and kept calling after the latter that they had money in them. A scuffle then ensued, but it was very soon over. This witness denied being a member of the Amalgamated Society, though he acknowleged receiving money from the society.—Stephen Shorthouse, a blacksmith, who was in company with the last witness, completely corroborated his evidence, and added that the complainant put his finger to his nose and pointed towards the defendants. This witness admitted being a member of the Amalgamated Society, and receiving pay from it.—Mr. Norton said it was clear that the evidence of the complainant did not bring the case within the terms of the Combination Act, and he was inclined to think they had in a great measure provoked the treatment they had experienced, by reason of their having called after the defendants, and acted offensively towards them, after having parted peaceably. He should not, therefore, send the case to the sessions, but impose a fine of 20s. each, and the cost of the warrant, or, in default, to stand committed to prison for twenty-one days each.—The fines were immediately paid, and the defendants at once discharged.

FOREIGN.

UNITED STATES.—The United States steam ship Pacific arrived at Liverpool on Thursday.

There is again a complete dearth of news.

The Crescent City arrived at New York, with advices from California to the 2nd ult., and 1,500,000 dollars in gold dust.

Crime has alarmingly increased in San Francisco within the past month. Hardly a night passes that the most daring burglaries are not perpetrated in some part of the city, and notwithstanding the violence of public opinion against robbers, and the certainty that if caught in their acts, the rascals would in all probability meet with instant death, they seem to grow more emboldened as they continue successful.

An atrocious murder was committed at Spanish Bar, on the 16th ult. Mr. Charles H. Dexter and Captain Daniels were found cut to pieces in their beds. The murderers were supposed to have been Mexicans. No arrests have been made. The victims were generally esteemed.

Police Intelligence.

A BATCH OF RUFFIANS.

At the Hammersmith Court, on Monday, William Winning, aged sixty years, a whitesmith, of Acton, Middlesex, was charged with assaulting and wounding his wife, Comfort Winning, who was unable to leave her bed in consequence of the assault.—George Curtis, a cabman, of Acton, stated that on Saturday evening last a quarrel ensued between the prisoner and his wife respecting some money which he had been after at Ealing, and was disappointed in receiving it. The prisoner was very much excited, and upon going into the shop he took up a thin piece of iron from one of the benches, and threw it with some considerable force at his wife. The iron caught her upon the leg, and entered her calf.—Sergeant Earthy produced the instrument, which was a soldering iron with a very sharp point. The officer stated that the iron had gone right through the leg, having entered the front part and out of the back. The prisoner was in the habit of ill-using his wife, especially when he was intoxicated. The witness said the surgeon who had attended the prisoner's wife was rather doubtful of her recovery, as she was in a very delicate state of health.—Remanded.

At the Lambeth Police Court, Albert Brown Gerrod, a fashionably-dressed young man, who gave his address the Prince of Wales Hotel, 9, Air-street, Piccadilly, was charged with threatening the life of his wife, Mary Jane Gerrod.—Mr. Wontner, who appeared for the complainant, said that his client had been living under the protection of a gentleman of fortume, who allowed her ample means to procure a quantity of furniture of the most valuable description, as well as jewellery, amounting together to the value of £700 or £800. The prisoner, who was a lawyer's clerk at the time, finding her with so much comfort about her, wrote to the gentleman under whose protection she was for his permission to marry her. The complainant in an evil hour gave her consent, and about six months ago they were married. The prisoner soon lost his situation, led a life of idleness, and lived, as it was represented was his intention, on the property of his wife, by pawning and selling it. This led to various disagreements between the parties, and on the 31st of last month the prisoner was held to bail, but since then he had gone to the lodgings of his wife, and made use of threats to take away her life.—The magistrate thought that sufficient had been shown to justify his calling on the prisoner to find additional bail for his good behaviour for six months.—A Mr. Smith, who described himself as the proprietor of the Prince of Wales Hotel, in Air-street, Piccadilly, tendered himself as one of the prisoner's bail, and was subjected to a severe examination. He denied that the Prince of Wales was an improper house, or that the furniture in it belonged to Madame De Touzan. He also denied that any part of the furniture in the house had been removed from a brothel in Bury-street, kept by Madame De Touzan. The bail was ultimately accepted, and the prisoner discharged.

At the Thames Police Court, John Crawley, a rough-looking Irishman, was brought before Mr. Yardley, charged with being disorderly and assaulting a respectable young woman named Elizabeth Ainslie, of 10, Eaton-place, White Horse-lane, Stepney. The complainant, the wife of a mechanic, whose face was swollen and discoloured, stated, that on Saturday night she had been to market in the Mile End-road, and was returning home when she saw the prisoner ill using a poor old man at a stall near Mile End-gate, and throwing some things about which the old man was offering for sale. She expostulated with the prisoner, and begged of him not to act in such a barbarous manner, on which he commenced swearing at her and threw some of the articles she had in her market basket into the road. She picked them up, and he then laid hold of her and wanted to walk alongside of her, and treated her very roughly indeed. She broke away from him and hastened towards her home. Believing she had got rid of the fellow altogether, she began to slacken her pace, when he suddenly pounced upon her again and forced her into the roadway. She called out for help, and he made use of a most dreadful expression and struck her a tremendous blow with his clenched fist under the jaw, which felled her to the ground. Some bystanders interfered and secured the prisoner. Her shawl was torn by the prisoner when he first attacked her. The prisoner, in a most insolent and boisterous manner, said he was in a public-house when the woman came in and said, "Halloo, Jack! Here you are!" and asked him to treat her, and on his refusal to do so abused him most shamefully and tore his clothes.—The complainant, who is a very modest women, of retired habits, appeared astonished at the statement made by the prisoner, and being recalled by the magistrate said, it was quite untrue. She was in no public-house with the prisoner.—Roche, the gaoler, said the prisoner had not long been out of gaol, and belonged to a gang of ruffians who were in the practice of standing at the end of an alley in the Mile-end-road, insulting women as they passed, putting their feet out and tripping them up.—Mr. Yardley fined the prisoner £5, and, in default of payment, sentenced him to be imprisoned for one month.

At the Clerkenwell Police Office on Tuesday, Anthony Valareano, a powerful-looking Italian, twenty-seven years of age, was charged by Mr. James Price, landlord of the Hole in the Wall, in Baldwin's-gardens, with a desperate outrage and assault. The prisoner was also charged with having violently assaulted the police, whilst in the execution of their duty.—Mr. Price having been sworn, said that on Monday forenoon, at about twelve o'clock, the prisoner entered his house, drunk, and called for some liquor, which he refused to serve him with. He became very violent, and commenced breaking the gas ornaments and glasses, and subsequently he made a murderous attack upon him (Mr. Price), beat and kicked him in a dreadful manner, and no doubt would have murdered him, had it not been for the interference and assistance of his neighbours. The prisoner escaped into a house, 21, Baldwin's-gardens, and the police were sent for.—Henry Tyler, 42 G, whose hand was bandaged up, his finger having been nearly bitten off by the prisoner, deposed that he received information that an Italian had nearly murdered Mr. Price. He proceeded to Baldwin's-gardens, and entered the house No. 21, into which the prisoner had escaped. He saw the prisoner, and told him the nature of the charge against him, and to consider himself in his custody. The prisoner became excedingly violent, and he was immediately surrounded by about a dozen Italians, who swore that forty policemen should not take him. Witness deemed it prudent for his own safety to leave the place and procure assistance, and he soon afterwards returned with a strong party of officers, with whom he entered the house, when the prisoner rushed at him, knocked him down, kicked him, and, seizing his arm, forced his finger into his mouth, and nearly bit it off. They had a desperate struggle, and the prisoner clung to the banisters, which gave way, and they fell down stairs together. The other Italians pulled out long knives to fight against the police, who were necessitated to use their staves to protect their lives. After great resistance the prisoner was secured in the station-house.—Mr. Tyrwhitt ordered that the prisoner should pay the full amount of the damage done, or a week's imprisonment; 20s., or a week, for the assault on Mr. Price; and 20s. for the assaults on each policeman, or, in default, a week's imprisonment in every case.

SUSPECTED CHILD MURDER.

At the Worship-street Police Court on Tuesday Elizabeth Witfoard, a decent looking, middle-aged woman, was placed at the bar before Mr. Hammill, charged on suspicion of having been concerned with her daughter, Margaret Witfoard, in the wilful murder of a newly-born male child.—James Denham, a shoemaker, stated that the prisoner and her daughter occupied a front room on the second floor of a lodging-house, next door to him, in Dorset-street, Spitalfields. Shortly after six o'clock that morning, he had occasion to proceed into the yard at the rear of his house, and had only been there a short time when he heard the shrill cries of an infant, which evidently arose from the bottom of the closet adjoining his own, and attached to the house in which the prisoner resided. After listening for about two minutes to the sounds, which gradually subsided into a stifled moan, resembling that of a child in the act of suffocation, he at length looked into the place whence the cries proceeded, and distinctly saw a heavy stone or brick, which had evidently been dropped through the aperture of the adjoining closet. After a short interval he observed a second stone fall down upon the spot, and the cries of the child, which had still continued after the descent of the first missile, were instantly hushed. He communicated what he had witnessed to one of his neighbours, who accompanied him into prisoner's house, at the back door of which they met a young woman, whom he believed to be her daughter, in the act of entering from the yard, and on intimating to her what he had seen and heard, she declared that he must be mistaken, as no one but herself had been there. On repeating his suspicions, however, she hastily passed him and hurried up stairs to her mother's apartments, and witness immediately repaired to the station-house, and gave information of the occurrence to the police.—Green, H 61, proved that upon searching the place indicated by the last witness, he observed there a large brick and a flag stone, on removing which the body of a male infant, which was still warm, and evidently newly born, was discovered laid beneath them. After wrapping up the body, which was quite naked, and placing it in the charge of another officer, he proceeded to the prisoner's room, and on questioning her as to the condition of her daughter, who was lying upon a mattress on the floor, she stated that the latter had gone to bed in apparent health, but had afterwards been taken ill, and had been twice down stairs during the night. Mr. Mears, the divisional surgeon, was then sent for, who examined the young woman, and directed her immediate removal to the infirmary of the workhouse, to which the body of the deceased child was also conveyed, to await the coroner's inquest.—Mr. D'Eyncourt said that it was a very painful case, but as there was no evidence whatever to implicate the prisoner, he should at once order her to be discharged.

DISGUSTING CHARGE AGAINST A SURGEON.

At the Marlborough-street Police Court, on Wednesday, a modest-looking girl came forward and said she had been invited by another girl, an inmate of the same institution, about three weeks ago to take a walk, and had been taken by that girl to a house in Portland-road, where she had been introduced to a person who had attempted to commit a capital offence, but the attempt had been frustrated owing to her cries and resistance. She did not state what had happened, but on discovering that the same girl induced another of the inmates to promise to accompany her to the same gentleman's house in the Portland-road, she made a communication to the matron, who at once informed the committee of what had been stated. As there appeared to be a strong presumption that a system of entrapping young girls for immoral purposes could be established, the committee determined upon taking magisterial advice on the case.—Mr. Hardwick, having questioned the girl, immediately directed a warrant to be issued against the person who had assaulted the complainant, and on Tuesday Mr. Richard Amble, surgeon, of No. 1, Portland-road, was brought in custody to this court, and placed before Mr. Bingham.—Mary Ann Newberry was then sworn. She said: I am nearly eighteen years of age. I am at present staying in a charitable institution, No. 9, Rose-street. One of the girls, Harriet Berrington, a clergyman's daughter, asked me to take a walk about three weeks ago. I went with her, and she took me to a house, No. 1, Portland-road. I stayed in the kitchen, and Harriet Berrington went upstairs. She remained so long, that I sent the servant up to say I could not wait any longer. She came down, accompanied by the defendant, whom I had never seen before. I was asked to go upstairs. I went into the drawing-room, and the defendant asked me how I did? I said, "Very well." The defendant went into a bedroom with Harriet Berrington, but came out in a few minutes, and locked her in the bedroom. The defendant then locked the drawing-room door, and a short time afterwards he took me by the shoulders, dragged me down on the floor, and attempted further violence, but I kept screaming loudly, and resisting him. I heard the girl Berrington kicking at the door while I was screaming. In consequence of my screaming the defendant desisted, and I got up and immediately left the house.—Mr. Bingham asked if the house in Portland-road was a house of ill-fame?—Mr. Chapman said it was a private house, where the defendant carried on business as a surgeon.—Mr. Bingham asked if there was any other case?—Mr. Chapman said there was no other case. The other girl had only been asked by Berrington to go to the defendant's house, but she had been stopped from going. The complainant said Berrington had told her the defendant had persuaded her to bring as many young girls to him as she could.—Defendant: I am perfectly innocent of the charge. I had no felonious intention. Miss Berrington's father, a clergyman, lived in my house, and I was very kind both to father and daughter; in fact, I almost supported both of them. The daughter sometimes called upon me, and once when she called she told me she was staying in a place of refuge near Soho-square. The last time she called she brought a young girl with her. That girl had been three or four times to my house before, and had taken wine with me. Instead of screaming out, as she says, she did nothing but laugh and giggle; and if I had any such intention as she has stated I might have succeeded without any difficulty; but I had no such intention. The girl Newberry was recalled.—Mr. Bingham.—Have you been three or four times to the defendant's house, and have you had wine with him as he has stated?—Mary Ann Newberry: I went with Berrington once before, but the defendant was not at home. I only saw the defendant on the last occasion, and it was then he offered us wine, and I drank some.—Mr. Bingham: The Rev. Mr. Berrington is well known at this court, and, if I mistake not, has stood more than once at that bar.—The defendant said his knowledge of Berrington and his daughter was but slight.—Mr. Bingham (addressing Mr. Chapman): Have you reason to think the girl Berrington was in the habit of taking other girls to the defendant's house?—Mr. Chapman: I cannot say for certain.—Defendant: I am a highly respectable man.—Mr. Bingham (to Mr. Chapman): If you think there is no chance of any further charges of this sort against the defendant—that of inveigling or inducing girls from your institution to come to his house, I am of opinion this case ought to be sent to the sessions; but, if you insist upon it, I am ready to dispose of it here. But, if you have any notion that other girls have been taken to the defendant's house, I think it ought to go to the quarter sessions. —Mr. Chapman: I cannot say there have not been other girls taken there. I understand Berrington stated to the matron that the defendant induced her to take other girls to his house.—Defendant: I deny that. The girl Newberry has been at my house three or four times. She came there with a felonious intent, and that I might do what I pleased with her. I certainly kissed her, and unpinned her shawl, but that was all. There were persons in the house at the time, who must have heard her screams, if she had made any noise. But I was taken in the street quite unprepared, and brought to this court.—The defendant was ultimately ordered to enter into his own recognisances in £200 to appear the next day.

At the Marylebone Police Court, Mary James was placed at the bar for final examination on a charge of robbery and fraud to a considerable extent.—The prisoner, who had nothing to say, was fully committed for trial upon several charges brought against her.

AN ARTFUL DODGE.—CAUTION TO THE BENEVOLENT.

At the Lambeth Police Court on Tuesday an artful attempt was made to impose on Mr. Elliott, and diminish the funds in the poor box, by a female who had represented herself as the wife of one of the victims of the engineers' strike.—The applicant, who gave her name Jane Carpenter, and who enacted her part to the utmost perfection, represented that her husband, at the time of the engineers' strike had been in the employment of Messrs Maudslay and Field, and turning out with the other men had brought ruin and destruction on himself and family, and the object of her application, she said, was to obtain such assistance from the poor-box as would enable her to proceed to the residence of her friends at Portsmouth, to whom she had previously sent her three children. While she was making her application she shed abundance of tears, and deplored the folly, as she called it, of her husband and others like him allowing themselves to be dictated to by the Society, to the total destruction of their homes and families, in so affecting a manner as to enlist the sympathy of all present, and the magistrate considering the case one of great distress, said he should grant her request provided he found her statement to be true.—It was fortunate that his worship took this wise precaution, for Lockyer, the officer instructed to make inquiries, reported to Mr. Elliott that no such person as Carpenter had been employed at Messrs. Maudslay's nor was the applicant known at either of the places she had given her address, and he (Lockyer) had no doubt whatever that she was a gross imposter.—That the officer was correct in his conjecture there could be no doubt, as the applicant, who promised to be in attendance the next day forenoon, never made her appearance.

BEGGING-LETTER IMPOSTERS.

At the Clerkenwell Police Court, on Wednesday, Thomas Stone, alias Stanley, alias Hamilton, alias Murton, alias Whitmore, &c., was placed at the bar for final examination, charged, at the instance of the Mendicity Society, with having obtained various sums of money from Mr. Whitbread, the brewer, and the nobility and gentry.—The prisoner, it appears, has been known for some years past as a begging-letter imposter, who acted in conjunction with a woman with whom he cohabited. They had practised their designs upon his Grace the Duke of Wellington to the extent of upwards of £700, and on being discovered, through the instrumentality of the Mendicity Society's officers, his Grace attended personally and prosecuted them to conviction.—The prisoner has been transported for forgery, and only returned about two years ago.—Mr. Richard Foster, architect, of No. 9, New Ormond-street, Queen-square, being sworn, said, that on Friday, the 26th of March last, his attention was attracted by an advertisement in the "Times" newspaper, headed "To the Charitable and Affluent." It stated that "T. C. M." was the daughter of a deceased merchant, who, about two years ago, died in a railway carriage. She was then in good circumstances, but had been reduced to the greatest distress, and the smallest donation would be thankfully received. A letter, &c., was to be directed to Miss T. C. M., post-office, Randolph-street, Camden-town. Witness sympathised with the writer, and addressed a letter enclosing half of a £5 note, requesting particulars, on which he received an answer which induced him to forward her the other half of the note. The letter was signed "Frances Morton," and he was then requested to direct his answer to No. 27, Cromer-street, Brunswick-square. He subsequently received letters from the same person, requesting an interview, and representing that she wished to put her child out to nurse, as she had received the offer of an engagement as teacher in a gentleman's family, at St. John's-wood, and that £2 or £3 would enable her to manage comfortably. Witness advanced in all £10.—Mr. Tyrwhitt fully committed him to take his trial.

CONVICTIONS UNDER THE FACTORY ACT.

At the Thames Police Court on Thursday, Mr. Joseph James Foote, proprietor of a silk manufactory in the Whitechapel-road, appeared to answer twenty informations, charging him with various violations of the Factories Act, such as working young women overtime, boys under age, neglecting to hang up the names of inspectors, sub-inspectors, &c., in conspicuous places in the premises, not having a clock to regulate the hours of meals, &c., and the neglect of other requisite formalities.—Mr. Redgrave, a sub-inspector of factories, appeared to support the informations, and stated that the term "young persons" included all parties between the ages of thirteen and eighteen, and at the same time pointed out the various sections of the acts under which the informations were laid.—Mr. Foote pleaded guilty, but at the same time said he erred in ignorance of the statute. The costs in each case varied from a maximum of £5 to a minimum of £2 and £1. It was agreed to take a minimum of £1 each in the first five cases, with two guineas costs. The other informations were abandoned.

SUDDEN AND REMARKABLE DEATH.—Yesterday afternoon Mr. Baker held an inquest at the Lord Liverpool Tavern, Dempsey-street, Mile-end, respecting the death of Mr. Joseph Roach, aged forty, a revenue officer. On Monday last deceased met, at his lodgings, near the Thames police court, a female named Mrs. Stafford, with whom and his landlady he took tea. Shortly afterwards he entered with the woman Stafford a house of assignation in Oxford-street, Stepney, and about three minutes after they had entered a room the inmates of the house heard a heavy fall on the floor. A servant went up stairs, and on reaching the apartment found the door open and the deceased lying on the floor face-downwards. Mrs. Stafford was leaning over him, and said she thought the gentleman had fainted. The deceased was turned over, and various means used to restore him, but he remained in a state of unconsciousness, and apparently dead. A cab was shortly afterwards procured, in which the deceased was placed, and conveyed home, but must have been dead before he was put into the vehicle. The deceased was quite sober and cheerful when he entered the house. Mr. S. G. Hayes, surgeon, of Jubilee-street, Stepney, said he had made a post mortem examination of the body, and found that about a pound and a half of blood had escaped into the pericardium caused by the rupture of an aneurism of the heart of long standing. Any bodily exertion or sudden excitement would cause death. He must have died instantaneously. The death was certainly from natural causes. The jury returned an unanimous verdict of "Natural death."

THE UTTERMOST FARTHING.—A gravestone in Middlesborough churchyard was broken and defaced, last week, by order of "the pastor," the Rev. Mr. Peel, because the full amount agreed to be given to him for allowing it to be placed there had not been paid.

Markets, &c.

CORN.

MARK-LANE, Monday, April 19.—We had a moderate supply of English wheat this morning, which met with a readier sale, and in some instances rather more money was paid than on Monday last. In foreign wheat we had little doing, but prices very firm. Flour met with inquiry at former rates. Barley, beans, and peas without change. Being moderately supplied with oats, and the weather continuing very cold, so as to check vegetation, dealers were more inclined to buy, and the trade was more animated to-day, with an advance of 6d per qr., more prrticularly upon light qualities. Linseed cake firm. In cloverseed hardly anything doing, though offered on lower terms.

HAY AND STRAW.

SMITHFIELD.—Fine upland meadow and rye grass hay, 76s 78s, inferior 55s 60s, superior clover, 83s 85s, inferior, 60 65s, straw, 22s to per load of 36 trusses.

WHITECHAPEL.—This market to-day was well supplied, but trade moderate. Best hay, 66s 76s, inferior, 55s 60s, best clover, 75s 85s, inferior, 60s 70s, straw, 22s to 28s per load.

CATTLE.

SMITHFIELD, Monday, April 19.—From our own grazing districts the receipts of beasts fresh up to-day were unusually heavy, the time of year considered, and in excellent condition. Notwithstanding that the attendance of buyers was large, and that the weather was favourable for slaughtering, the beef trade was in a very depressed state, at a decline in the quotations obtained on Monday last of 2d per 8lbs. The extreme figure for the best Scots was only 3s 4d per 8lbs., and a total clearance was not effected. The show of foreign stock was but moderate. There was a considerable increase in the supply of sheep. All breeds met a very dull inquiry, and in some instances the currencies had a downward tendency. The extreme value of the best old Downs in the wool, was 1s 2d per 8lbs. Nearly four-fifths of the sheep were shorne. From the Isle of Wight 320 lambs reached us, and the arrivals from other quarters were large. The trade was heavy, at a further decline in prices of 2d per 8lbs., the current rates being from 4s 6d to 5s 6d per 8lbs. We had a very slow sale for calves, the supply of which was moderate at last week's prices. The pork trade was unusually heavy at previous quotations.

Beef 2s 2d to 3s 4d; Mutton, 2s 6s to 4s 2d; Veal, 3s 0d to 4s 2d; Pork, 2s 6d to 3s 8d. Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.—Friday.—Beasts, 706; Sheep, 5,010; Calves, 160; Pigs, 260.—Monday.—Beasts, 4,836; Sheep, 26,420, calves, 221; Pigs, 380.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, April 19.—For the time of year, large supplies of country-killed meat have come fresh to hand in excellent condition. The show of meat slaughtered in the metropolis being very moderate, the demand for beef, mutton, and veal is steady, at full prices; but lamb and pork are lower to purchase.

Inferior beef, 2s 0d to 2s 2d; middling ditto, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; prime large, 2s 6d to 2s 8d; prime small, 2s 10d to 3s 2d; large pork, 2s 4d to 2s 10d. inferior mutton, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; middling ditto, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; prime ditto, 3s 0d to 3s 6d; veal, 3s 0d to 4s 0d, small pork, 3s 0d to 3s 5d, per 8lbs. by the carcase.

HIDES.

LEADENHALL.—Market hides, 56lb. to 64lb., 1½d. to 1¾d. per lb.; ditto, 64lb. to 72lb., 2d. to 2¼d; ditto, 72lb. to 80lb., 2¼d. to 2½d.; ditto, 80lb. to 88lb., 2¾d to 3d.; ditto, 88lb. to 96lb., 3d to 3½d.; ditto 96lb. to 104lb., 3¼d. to 0d.; ditto, 104lb. to 112lb., 4d to 4¼d.; Calf-skins, each, 1s. 0d. to 3s 0d.; horse-hides 5s. to 0s.

OILS.

Linseed, per cwt., 26s 0d to —s 0d; rapeseed, English refined, 30s 0d to —s; foreign, 30s 9d; Gallipoli, per ton, £44; Spanish, £41 to £—; Sperm, £84 to £86; bagged, £84; South Sea, £33 to £—0s; Seal, pale, £30 0s to £— 0s; ditto coloured, £3 10s; Cod, £32 to £—; Cocoa Nut, per ton, £38 to £40; Palm, £29 6s.

PROVISIONS.

There have been some small quantities of new Irish butter in during the past week, and sales were immediately effected, whilst old has sold slowly, and at reduced prices; of this the stock is considered large for the time, and it is fancied it must be sold at a heavy loss to the owners.

There has been a good trade in foreign butter at about former prices; the imports are moderate.

Provisions are steady at former quotations, with rather an upward tendency.

Bacon is 1s per cwt. higher. American boneless middles are worth 43s to 45s.

Prime mess pork remains at 65s to 67s.

Choice beef is still sought after. There is not enough on the spot to supply the wants of the dealers. Several parcels are being sent up from Liverpool; but the high rates asked, 100s for prime tierces, prevent free sales, and cause the dealers to buy as sparingly as possible.

Lard moves very slowly, the price is nominally 47s to 48s per barrel.

Cheese is winding up badly; about 6,000 boxes of inferior quality and poor condition are pressed at 30s to 36s.

POTATOES.—SOUTHWARK, April 19.—Since the last report, the supply has been quite equal to the demand, except for good samples of Regents, which have made more money; but second-rate or inferior has almost been unsaleable, particularly Scotch reds or cups. The following were the quotations:—York Regents, 70s to 90s; Scotch, 65s to 75s; Perth and Forfarshire cups, 60s to 65s; Fifeshire, 50s to 55s; Kent and Essex, 65s to 80s; Wisbech and Cambridge, 60s to 70s.

COALS.

(Prices of Coals per ton at the close of the market.)

LONDON, April 19.—West Hartley, 13s—Holywell, 13s 6d—Howard's West Hartley Netherton, 13s 6d—North Percy Hartley, 14s 6d—Ravensworth West Hartly, 14s—Ravensworth Pelaw, 13s 6d—Redheugh Main, 11s—Smith's West Hartley, 14s—Tanfield Moor, 12s 9d—Tanfield Moor Butes, 12s 6d—Tyne Main, 11s 6d—Wall's end &c: Harton, 14s 6d—Hebbuon, 14s—Johnson, 13s 6d—Lawson, 13s 6d—Northumberland, 13s 6d—Riddell 14s—Walker, 14s—Eden Maine, 15s—Lambton's Primrose, 15s—Bell, 14s 9d—Belmont, 14s 9d—Braddyll's, 15s 6d—Hetton's, 16s—Haswell, 16s 6d—Kepier, 15s—Lambton, 15s 6d—Richmund, 15s—Russel's Hetton, 15s 9d—Stewart's, 16s—Cassop, 15s 6d—Hartlepool, 16s—Heugh Hall, 15s—Kelloe, 15s 6d—South Hartlepool, 15s 6d—South Kelloe 15s—Thornley, 15s—Tees 16s—Lockgelly Parot, 20s—Nixon's Merthyr and Cardiff, 23s—Ships at market, 135—sold, 78—unsold, 57.

TALLOW.

MONDAY, April 19.—Since our last report the demand for all kind of Tallow has ruled very inactive. Prices, however, are supported. For forward delivery so little is doing that the quotations are almost nominal.

To-day, P. Y. C. on the spot is quoted at 35s 9d to —s 0d per cwt. Town Tallow plentiful at 35s per cwt., net cash. Rough fat, 2s per 8lbs.

HOPS.

BOROUGH, Monday, April 19.—There is no alteration to notice in our market during the past week. The demand is but moderate though prices are firm at previous quotations.

Sussex Pockets	110s to 120s
Weald of Kents	120s to 145s
Mid and East Kents	140s to 210s

WOOL.

The imports of wool last week were 2,033 bales from Port Phillip, 2,400 from Syndey, 451 from Mogadore, 120 from Bombay, 370 from the Cape, 34 from Hmmburgh, 323 from Alexandria, 678 from Adelaide. Parcels of both English and colonial continue to change hands for shipment to the continent, but for home use very little business is doing.

COLONIAL MARKETS.

TUESDAY EVENING.—SUGAR.—This article has decidedly improved to-day. The public sales have been very large, yet all found buyers at 6d. advance, and strong working qualities, in some instances, at 1s. advance on last week's currency. 650 hhds West India sold, including 200 hhds. Barbadoes, in public sale; 3,500 bags Mauritius sold in public sale from 28s. to 34s.; 3,500 bags Bengal Benares, 31s. 6d. to 36s.; and 15,000 bags Madras, 32s. 6d. to 29s., good and fine, 32s. to 43s. The demand for foreign has also been good by private contract to-day. The refined market continues very firm. Grocery lumps, 44s. 6d to 48s.; low qualities scarce at 44s. 6d.

COFFEE.—The public sales have been small, and chiefly brought in. Quotations are unaltered. Good ordinary native Ceylon, 35s. to 38s. 6d.

TEA.—The public sales of 11,000 packages went off without spirit (1,503 only of congou offered;) in all about 4,000 packages sold; fine gunpowder at rather higher prices; all other sorts about previous rates.

COCOA.—450 bags Trinidad sold in public sale at the full prices of last week, 28s. to 45s.

COCHINEAL.—The public sale, amounting to 200 bags, went off without spirit. About one-third sold; Honduras, silver, 3s. 3d. to 3s. 10d., black, 4s. 1d; Teneriffe, 3s. 9d. to 4s. 6d.

SPICES.—There has not been a public sale to-day.

COTTON.—The market is firm. About 200 bales sold.

TALLOW remains steady, and quoted at yesterday's price, 35s. 3d.

INDIGO.—1,700 chests declared for the next quarterly sale. Thirty serons Guatamala sold in public sale at full prices, 3s. 3d. to 4s. 6d.

In other articles no material alteration.

MONEY MARKET.

Some uneasiness was manifested in the Stock Market on Tuesday, the effect of which was an almost general decline in Public Securities. Consols were last quoted, for money, no better than 99⅞ to ⅛, and for account ⅛ higher. This changed appearance of the market can only be accounted for by an inactive state of business and the absence of speculation. [On the preceding Thursday, for the first time since June, 1845, they rose to par.]

REDUCTION OF DISCOUNTS.

The Directors of the Bank of England, at their meeting on Thursday, decided to lower the minimum rate of discount from 2½ to 2 per cent, on bills of exchange. This disproves the assertion that money was dearer. In Lombard-street 1¾ and 2 per cent. were the charges on best paper, and loans on Stock were granted at 1 per cent. before this alteration at the Bank was known. The English funds have been firmer, and there is a little money stock being taken. Consuls realise 99¼ to ½ for Transfer, and 99½ for Account.

Bankrupts, &c.

From the London Gazette of Tuesday, April 20th.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

Henry Cooke, Leamington Priors, Warwickshire, hatter.

BANKRUPTS.

Patrick Beirns, Liverpool, tailor, May 4th, June 2nd: solicitor, Mr. Yates, jun., Liverpool.

William John Darkie, and James Porter, Hayfield-place, Mile-end-road, carpenters, May 2nd and 31st: solicitors, Messrs. Surr and Gribble, Lombard-street, City.

John Dawson, Tolleshunt Darcy, Essex, surgeon, April 30th, June 4th: solicitor, Mr. Abell, Westminster and Colchester.

Mary Fouracre, Wigan Lancashire, innkeeper, May 1st and 27th: solicitor, Mr. Price, Wigan.

William Hodge, Great Marlborough-street, Westminster, wholesale manufacturing stationer, May 5th, June 8th: solicitors, Messrs. Linklater, Bucklersbury, City.

Edmund Spettigue, and George Farrance, Chancery-lane, Ask-sellers, April 30th, June 4th: solicitors, Messrs. Tilson and Co., Coleman-street, City.

John Hints Watkins, Woolwich, grocer, April 29th, May 27th: solicitor, Mr. Batho, America square.

A STRANGE "FISH" IN A SALMON NET.—The other morning the salmon fishers at the Broom of Moy fell in with an unusual customer when hauling their nets. He made a desperate resistance in the water, and when got to the land was found to be a large otter, which had got within the swing of the net whilst intent on the capture of a fish for breakfast. On the bank he was exceedingly fierce, and sprang into the air with the whole weight of the net, but a few blows of a stick soon put an end to the destructive animal. He measured four feet in length from the head to the tip of the tail.

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