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TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CHARTIST CO-OPERATIVE LAND SOCIETY.

My Dear Friends,—As it has been the invariable practice of all parties to keep you in profound ignorance of the value of the Land, and of the mode of acquiring it, I feel convinced that every incident, even the most trifling, will be of interest to you. Possession of the Land of this country has been long associated with an undefined superiority. The man who had £100 a-year derived from Land considered himself vastly superior to the man who derived £500 a-year from trade. A landed or ready money qualification alone entitles Squires to shoot, a landed qualification alone qualifies members to sit in Parliament. For instance, a man may have ten millions of money and not be qualified to sit in Parliament for county or borough. To represent a county, he must be qualified with £600 a-year derived from Land: to represent a borough, £300 a-year derived from the same source—in short, the term, landed proprietor, has always carried with it the notion of class distinction, while the law of primogeniture, of settlement and entail, has precluded the possibility of the working classes buying, or even renting, as much Land as they could compass capital to cultivate.

In 1835, when I opened a commission from the great Radical Association of Marylebone, at Stockport, and throughout my several subsequent tours, I shewed you very clearly that, in less than two years you might purchase as much Land as would be an equivalent for the tithes of the country—that, in five years, you might purchase as much as represented the interest of the National Debt—and in twenty years you might purchase all the Land of the country—upon the principle of Co-operation. Since then, I have pointed out to you that all the properties, made by canal companies, insurance companies, railway companies, and joint stock companies of every description, were all made upon the principle of co-operation. Now I will lay down a simple fact for you, one strictly analagous to the land plan that I am now so presperously progressing with. In 1835 it used to cost me for coachmen, guards, and living on the road, about £6 10s. to go to Manchester in twenty hours, with my legs cramped up to my chin, and unfitted for active business for twenty-four hours. I can now go to Manchester with comfort in thirteen hours for £1, living included, and can go from the train to a public meeting. Now, no one man could have effected this reduction, nor could all the coach proprietors in the kingdom, of themselves, have made a road to Manchester. This has been all done by co-operation. So precisely with Labour and the Land: even 100 of you co-operating could not have withstood the legal expence of making out title, and transfering the property, and performing such other requisites, nor, were you able to purchase it, could you have sufficiently assisted each other to insure ultimate success. I have so far succeeded, however, in taking the veil from your eyes as to have convinced thousands and tens of thousands of persons, not only of the capabilities of the soil, but of the people's ability to possess themselves of it. Believe me, that this was no easy task, and one in the accomplishment of which I was sure to meet with the hostility of the press, the opposition of those who live upon labour, and last, not least, those who thrive by mouthing labour's wrongs and preserving labour's sorrows, that they may fatten upon its misfortunes. They hoped that your ignorance of the science of Agriculture, and of the value of Land, would make you easy believers in their ravings. They never told you that their own opposition, in part, sprung from their ignorance of the subject, and that a want of knowledge of it would render agitation an unprofitable trade. I shall shortly, however, be in a situation to put a few awkward questions to the several philanthropists who, cotemporaneously with myself, proposed to build houses for you, and otherwise to relieve you from a portion of your sufferings. I shall resort to my old plan upon such occasions, and shall ask those gentlemen for THEIR BALANCE SHEETS. I shall ask them to show me what has really been done in the process of emancipation? And before they answer me I shall be able to point to not less than 500 Acres, not of barren Land, but of the best description of Land, purchased within LESS THAN ONE YEAR since your Association could be said to be established.

Every public man who really desires to better the condition of the working classes, will always court the fullest and most searching inquiry into every one of his actions. In fact, the very life of our society is INTEGRITY. I would much rather be cheated out of £500 ot the society's money by being taken advantage of in a speculation, than that one of its most insignificant officers should be a defaulter to the amount of sixpence. And, besides all pecuniary considerations, there must be confidence in the ability as well as in the intentions of those who undertake the management of so gigantic a scheme. In order then to establish that confidence in me, it was necessary that men from different parts of the country should see and judge for themselves, between the anticipations and forebodings of my enemies, and the real thing itself. This opportunity has now been extensively afforded. Hundreds of persons, from all parts of England—Manchester, Liverpool, Leeds, Nottingham, Northampton, London, Essex, and in fact from all parts, have visited the Chartist Estate; and the plain blunt truth is, that they would scarcely believe it possible that such a paradise could fall to the lot of their order. It gave me extreme pleasure to escort these parties, so interested in the undertaking, over labour's first purchase; and the many times they shook my hand and implored blessings upon me, and turned up their eyes in wonder, more than repaid me for all the trouble that I have taken for them. Some matters of minor detail appear to stagger some of our distant friends, who will not believe that cows afar off always have long horns, and who were sceptical about my cow, though she has no horns at all. I showed my cow to every one, as I take great pride in her, especially as I have made her so tame that she will come up to me in the middle of the field and put up her head to have it scratched. One of our members from Nottingham (Hanbing) who has five cows of his own, visited me on Tuesday; he will tell the people in his district whether or no I overrated the cow. He said, that he never saw such a cow in his life—that he recently bought one himself that gave TWENTY-SIX quarts a-day—he offered to pay me down the money I gave for her, although I sold the calf for 45s., and to leave me the use of her for two months. Now all that I shall say of my cow is, that all who don't believe in her let them come and see her, and judge for themselves.

I shall now direct your attention to what to you is of the greatest importance, namely, the knowledge as to how money is made of labour. I have shown you many a time that the man who employs a thousand operatives, and who reduces their wages by two pence a day each, makes £2,600 a year by this filching alone. I will now show you how a farmer can make his money, though more creditably, just by attending to his men. A farmer who employs twenty men, and stands over them, can always, independently of his fair profit on labour, make £626 a year as a bailiff, thus—Every labourer who works under the eye of a master will return that master 2s. a day over and above the legitimate profit upon the other two shillings a day. That is, the twenty men scientifically put to work will do more work in three days than twenty men left to themselves will do in a week, just as twenty well officered men will beat forty who are badly officered. This is a subject which I am most particular in keeping for ever in your view, because in the case of our occupants, every soldier is an officer; every man works task work, but it is for himself, and he will take care not to go beyond his strength. As to the buildings, some of the shareholders have seen the materials, and when they saw the seasoned old oak for window and door-frames, and the strong pannelled doors of the best deal, their observation was, "Eh! but that's rare stuff." Now let me show yon what co-operation can effect. Lady Bentley, who professes to be a great philanthropist, has built some cottages for the poor in the neighbourhood of Herringsgate: each cottage consists of two rooms, a kitchen and a room above it, and in order to MAKE THE POOR COMFORTABLE, her philanthropic ladyship lets them at a rent of 2s. 6d. a week each, or £6 10s. by the year, without a morsel of ground, and without the £15, the £22 10s., or he £30, and even without the certainty of remaining in beyond her ladyship's pleasure.

This subject is so new, and the advantages of the plan so break upon me as I proceed, that I must keep it eternally before you. I can refer to all my speeches upon the subject and so can you, and you must bear in mind that I have told you that I did not want you to go in carriages or even to ride—that I didn't want you to be idle a day in the year, except when you were not able to work; but that what I did want was to make you independent of all casualties, uncertainties, and markets, and to make you independent of the influence of capital, the GRINDING EFFECTS OF MACHINERY, and the caprice of masters. What I did want was to see you with your families comfortable and independent about you, never wanting a day's meal, or good clothing, able to give every one of your children a good education, to see you independent of parish relief, and to find you every day in the year with more money in your pocket than would be demanded to meet any casualty, calamity, or uncertainty. Well, I assert without the fear of contradiction, that I have done that, and more than that—that I have placed every shareholder and his family in a situation to eat, if they can, every particle that grows upon two, three, or four acres of ground, while their spare labour, sold at the lowest rate, will always fetch more than will pay the rent. Nay more, I now assert, in the teeth of the enemy, that in less than five years from the day each man is located, he will be enabled to purchase his allotment for ever, while, besides that, the land will be worth £2 an acre more than when he gets possession, as every inch of it will be like a market garden within that time. I am determined to put this question before you in every shape and form. A man gets four acres of land, say worth a pound an acre; in five years that man will have lived upon it, and have saved as much as will purchase it, and at the *end of the five years* it will be worth £2 an acre more than his rent, that is £8 a year, which, at 25 years purchase, is £200, which he will have earned, besides living and purchasing his land within the five years.

Now, I defy any man living to controvert this assertion; or I defy any located member, unless he is an idle vagabond, to want a day's meal. Let me now suppose a man to be in the lowest state, and to be copartner with a breeding sow, and never to devote his time to working off his farm, and his family never to earn a shilling, and that their whole labour is devoted to the maintenance of themselves and the sow; and suppose that sow only to have pigs once a-year, and six pigs at each litter, and that the young ones are sold when they are worth 25s. each, this partner of the pig has £3 a-year over and above the rent of his house and land—in short, there is no possible way by which the weakest man can apply his labour to two acres of ground, that the produce will not pay the rent and produce double as much as his family can consume.

The houses of the emancipated paupers are now proudly rearing their heads as a sample of what co-operation, energy, and integrity can do. The estate appears covered with industry; and besides the future blessings that it will bestow upon its owners, it is refreshing the whole parish with the expenditure of the Society's funds. It would be impossible to describe the difference of the appearance either in the estate or myself, from week to week. M'Grath and Doyle are zealously and manfully aiding in the good work, and are, I assure you, fully earning their wage by saving it, and more, to the Society. I hope, while Clarke and Wheeler are performing cabinet business, soon to be in a situation to make a commencement for Section No. 2; and now I shall conclude with an anecdote that will make you laugh. On Monday last I was superintending the cutting down of some underwood. I was sitting on the stump of a tree in the shade, when an Irishman with a bundle on his back accosted me, and the following dialogue took place:—

Well, my good fellow, what's the matter?
I'm come to see if your honor will give me a job.
I have no job for you I'm afraid: what have you been working at?
Wisha! I was a soger.
Were you discharged?
I was.
Did they give you anything?
Wisha! they did.
How much, and when were you discharged?
About nine months ago, and they gave me two months' pay.
Well, and have you spent it all?
Oh! then, and indeed I have.
What, spent it all in nine months, and ow want a job?
Ah, then, where the devil is the use of talking that way? Shure you knows that there's fools as well as wise men in the world, and I'm one of them.
Well, I am very sorry, but I haven't a job for you.
Wisha! its bad enough, may be you'd have something to give me agin the road?
Indeed I have not. Go to his lordship, and ask him to give you something. [Doyle was his lordship.]
Who the devil is he?
Lord Torrington.

Presently my friend returned, and the dialogue was resumed as follows:—

Well, what did he say?
By J——s! but he is a poor Lord, he says he has no money.
Go to him again, and tell him that there's no compassion in this country for a poor Irishman, if he happens to be a Tory and a Protectionist. Well, what does his lordship say?
He said he never interfered in money matters, but to come to you, and that he left it all to you.
Well, but you know I'm but a working man myself.
A working man is it, by J——s but you've got a fine easy job of it, if you call that working.

Now, my friends, requesting that no one will recommend parties to leave their homes on the chance of getting work, and that all visitors will REMEMBER TO PAY FOR THEIR MILK,

I remain your faithful friend and bailiff,
Feargus O'Connor.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS, Thursday, June 4.

This evening the House of Lords re-assembled, after the Whitsun holidays.

The Earl of Dalhousie moved the second reading of the Customs Duties Bill.

The Duke of Richmond opposed the Bill, and moved that it be read a second time that day six months.

This amendment was supported by the Earl of Wicklow and Lord Ashburton, and resisted by Earl Grey and Lord Monteagle.

Ultimately, the question was put from the Woolsack, the amendment negatived, and the Bill read a second time.

On the motion of Lord Dalhousie, the Committee on the Bill was fixed for Monday week.

The Friendly Societies Bill passed through a Committee.

And the House adjourned at a quarter past eight o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—Friday, June 5.

Lord Ripon moved that the Hardinge and Gough Annuities Bill be committed.

Lord Monteagle strongly objected to the clause which provided that the annuities should not be given during the lives of their Lordships, in consequence of the East India Company having settled pensions on their Lordships for life.

The Duke of Richmond moved, in committee, to expunge the third clause, which made the parliamentary grant to cease so long as that of the East India Company of £5,000 was paid to Lord Hardinge.

Lord Ripon opposed the amendment.

After considerable discussion a division took place, in which the amendment was carried by a majority of 38 over 26.

The Bill then went through Committee, as also did Lord Gough's, which was similarly amended.

Earl Fitzwilliam then brought forward his resolutions, with regard to railway schemes, which, after some observations from Lord Dalhousie, were withdrawn.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Friday, June 5.

Sir James Graham stated, in reply to Mr. G. Berkeley, that no alteration of the present system of delivering letters on Sundays was in contemplation.

THE POOR LAW REMOVAL BILL.

Mr. E. Denison moved that it be an instruction to the committee on the Bill, to make provision for the establishment of union settlements. After a day to be fixed for each union all paupers of the parishes comprising the union to be settled in the union, and not in any parish of such union. That such paupers be maintained, and all expenses defrayed from a fund levied from each parish in the proportion of the expenditure for the relief of the poor incurred by such parish for the last seven years. Debts already charged on the rates, and interest due in respect of such debts, not to be affected by the change.

Mr. Bankes opposed the instruction, because no proposition could have been made which would more effectually operate to prevent the employment of labourers.

Sir James Graham said, that as the principle involved in the instruction was one which he had himself proposed to the house in a former measure, he would support it; but if it should be the pleasure of the house not to sanction that instruction, he should not on that account recede from the Bill proposed by her Majesty's government. As to the delay which would be occasioned by adopting the motion of the hon. gentleman, he could only say, that if the house should carry the motion, he would take care that the Bill should be altered accordingly in a few days, and laid on the table of the house early next week.

After observations from Sir R. Inglis, Colonel Wood, Mr. Rice, Mr. Christopher, Mr. Strutt, Mr. Packington, Mr. C. Wood, Mr. Henley, Mr. V. Smith, and Mr. Newdegate.

Mr. T. Duncombe moved as an amendment, "That it be an instruction to the committee on the Poor Removal Bill, that they be empowered to make provision for the repeal of all laws regulating the settlement of the poor, and to make provision that all poor persons entitled to relief henceforth shall have the necessary relief afforded to them within the union where such necessities occur; and shall also make provision to supply the requisite funds from the county rates, or such other equitable assessment as Parliament in its wisdom shall devise." The House, the country, and the Ministry, must be well aware that free trade in the abstract had not been popular with the great operative classes of the country. They had looked upon the contest between the landed and the manufacturing interest with apathy and indifference, regarding it as a sort of 'pull-devil, pull-baker conflict," the baker being upon the whole rather the favourite.—(Laughter.) And why was it that they regarded the struggle with apathy? Because they did not believe that the capitalists of the country, whose fortunes had been amassed by their labour and skill, were sufficiently mindful of their interests in times of depression. The large manufacturers, who had accumulated immense fortunes by the industry of the labouring classes, ought not to be the persons to turn them adrift to wrestle with adverse fortunes in the moment of distress, after they had taken out of their sinews every particle of sap which they could extract. (Hear, hear.) The poor had too often reason to charge the manufacturers with such oversight during periods of commercial depression. (Hear, hear.) The Right Hon. Baronet at the head of the Government on the occasion of submitting to the country his plan of commercial reform, held out an adjustment of the law of settlement as a great boon to the manufacturers and landed interest. It now, however, appeared the question was to be treated in a very different manner, he (Mr. Duncombe) would have been content to take the measure as he found it, if the right hon. baronet had remained firm to his principles. It was not the provisions of the Bill that were valuable, but in the address of the right hon. baronet there was a valuable communication, to the effect, that where the labourer required relief, that relief should be given upon the spot where it was requisite, instead of driving the poor person from post to pillar, as under the present law of settlement. The right hon. baronet had, however, altered his original intention, and had acceded to the proposition of the hon. member for Malton. He (Mr. Duncombe) was sure that the country would not permit itself to be done out of the measure, as unquestionably it would be, if the proposition of the hon. member for Malton were to receive their sanction. The hon. gentleman concluded by moving his amendment.

General Johnstone seconded the amendment.

Mr. Bright was at a loss to discover whether the object of the hon. member for Finsbury was to oppose the Bill and the instruction of the hon. member for Malton, or to have a blow at the manufacturers. He stated, that the working classes felt no interest in the change about to be made in the Corn Laws; but he (Mr. Bright) believed that those classes felt the greatest interest in that change, and that the union which for the last two years existed between them and their employers had had the effect of bringing the leaders of both sides of the House to the opinion that the Corn Laws could be no longer maintained. Wherever manufacturing establishments were supported by large capital there was more attention paid to the comforts and education of the operatives than was bestowed on them in concerns carried on by limited capital, and yet the honourable member for Finsbury pandered to the prejudices of ignorant persons by speaking of the disadvantages inflicted on the operatives by large capitalists. There was a concern at Halifax which, for three years paid wages to the amount of £120,000, and during that period the proprietors did not return one single sixpence to the income tax. (Great laughter and cries of "Hear, hear" from Lord George Bentinck.) He (Mr. Bright) hoped that the noble lord, the member for Lynn, did not think so badly of human nature as to suppose that this was not possible. (Laughter.) During that period the proprietors of that concern did not make 6d. profit. He told the hon. member, for Finsbury, that those parties with whom he was found at public meetings out of doors had been the greatest enemies of the repeal of the Corn Laws. (Cries of "Name.") Let the hon. member read the public reports of those meetings, and they would find out the names. He (Mr. Bright) stated the fact, and he meant to maintain it. He would only add, that the hon. member did not represent the opinions of the working classes when he said they were apathetic on this question, and though he might have succeeded in inflaming the bad passions of the working classes within his sphere, he (Mr. Bright) would warn him not to call himself the representative in that house of the working classes in Lancashire and Yorkshire.

Lord G. Bentinck regretted that such an attack should have been made on his hon. friend (Mr. Duncombe). He believed his arguments to be true, his reasoning to be conclusive. He could instance 340 cases of poor suffering individuals who were thrown into the infirmary from the wounds and afflictions they had been subjected to in the mills, and of that number he knew that only two were compensated. Are the charges against the hon. member for Finsbury just? I should have thought, if there were any man in this house who had a right to say he knew something of the feeling of the operatives, it was my right hon. friend the member for Finsbury. (Hear, hear.) Upon what interest is he returned to this house? Is it on the interest of the millowners, or is it on the interest of the landed aristocracy? Is he not especially returned by a constituency consisting of the lower classes — of the working classes? Therefore, I think we have a right to take the opinions of the hon. member for Finsbury as affording a just criterion of the feelings of the operatives of the country. (Hear, hear, hear.) And I do believe he has told the house the truth when he told you that the operatives took no great interest in the question mooted between the agricultural and the manufacturing interest. (Hear, hear.) Sir, I do not believe that the operatives are Free-traders. (Hear, hear.) He thought as regarded the motion of the member for Finsbury, that the further consideration of it should be adjourned, in order that the house might be able to consider the matter fully and maturely. (Hear.)

After some observations from Lord John Russell and Lord J. Manners, the House divided first on Mr. T. Duncombe's amendment—

For Mr. Duncombe's Amendment	59
Against it	105—
Majority against the Amendment	46

The House then divided on Mr. E. Denison's instruction—

For the Instruction	92
Against it	70—
Majority for the Instruction	22

Mr. T. Duncombe said, he considered that some amendment of the poor law of this country would be more acceptable than an Irish Coercion Bill, and should have precedence of it. On Monday, therefore, he should make a motion to that effect.

After a short discussion, it was arranged that the House should go into committee *pro formâ* on the bill next Monday, in order to intoduce the amendment consequent upon the instruction which had been carried; a future day to be then fixed for going regularly into committee.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned at half-past twelve o'clock.

Correspondence.

THE COMING ELECTION—DUTY OF THE PEOPLE

LETTER II.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "NORTHERN STAR."

Sir,—If food and clothing and habitation can only be raised from the earth, and if that earth must be monopolised, if a few only amongst mankind must possess it, then the landless must necessarily lie at the mercy of these few and their only hope—their only chance of enjoying any approach to a sufficiency of the necessaries and common comforts of life depends upon the checks which government shall place to the rapacity of the monopolists. The least reflection, the smallest amount of consideration, will be sufficient to convince any man of this truth. In all ages, and by all governments, however constituted, this has ever been done, either to a greater or a less extent; and in proportion to the efficiency of these checks have the people been ill or happily governed. In fact, sir, society could not long exist without them; yet, in defiance of this obvious truth, there are a set of men pretending to know more of the science and philosophy of governing than hath ever before dawned upon the intellect of man, calling themselves *political economists*, who maintain that these checks ought not to exist, and who have already infected government with their doctrines. If ever doctrines deserved the name of "damnable," these are of the number; and if they must continue to pervade the councils of the nation, their effects will be direful in the extreme.

When inventions have been discovered calculated to mitigate the primeval ban, they have ever been wrested to the unholy purpose of ministering to the ambition of a few; and when, in the conflict of opinions, principles have been elicited which exhibited in too glaring a light to permit its continuance, the injustice of any law or institution then in being, advantage has been taken of the moment to make or establish another, tinselled over with mock liberality, which gave to the oppressor a still wider range. Under the pretence of fostering science for the benefit of the human race, the former was encouraged, and under the mask of growing civilisation, the latter was removed. The landless were once the acknowledged property of the owners of the soil, and bought and sold them like their cattle. Benevolence and humanity warred against the system, till the mind of age would no longer tolerate it. Their emancipation followed—a freedom which absolved the rich from the charge of support in helpless infancy, decrepit age, and secured to the poor the privilege to toil whilst strength remained. Thus the advantages of emancipation have been on all sides; the poor have gained in name only—the rich in reality. So that were the poor to desire the restoration of their former state, it would net be permitted; and they might long for the flesh-pots of Egypt in vain.

But, sir, whether our wanderings through the barren wilderness since hath brought us nearer to the "promised land," I know not; yet, from the tops of our long chimneys "geouly countries" have been descried, where wine, and grain, and fruit exists in overflowing abundance. The "spies" have given a good report; Cobden is one of them. The march is begun. The advance-guard has crossed the boundaries as miraculously as of yore; and Jeruho's walls are evidently about to tumble from the effects of mere sound, like the blasts of ram's horns, alone. Our sorrows are nearly at an end; and ease, and plenty will soon be enjoyed by all. Do not suppose that the opposition of our great leaders to women and children toiling only ten hours a-day, proves anything against this ease and plenty being hereafter enjoyed. It is only for a great *principle* that they contend—"to buy in the cheapest market, and sell in the dearest, either food or human labour," without the interference of law, as heretofore, to limit the freedom of commercial intercourse. Wine and spirits may hereafter be brought us without incurring the penalties for smuggling; and women may prostitute their persons and men their strength, without encountering laws to restrict their bargain.

If the land was not monopolized, and tithe and rent exacted for the mere liberty of cultivating the soil, there might be nothing in all this freedom inimical to man's happiness; but owing to this monopoly, our females are driven from the country to overcrowded cities, where hundreds fall victims to licentious wealth; and men depressed by competition, must hire out their labour, as in Ireland, for sixpence per day. It is a gross delusion to talk about freedom of barter, whilst such monopoly exists; our necessaries become a law more binding and imperative than any which can be made by man. Pride will do much, but hunger more.

This course then, fellow workmen, must be pursued in future. Either our natural inheritance to which we, as equal descendants of Adam, are alike entitled, must be restored, or government must protect us from the avarice of our employers. Hitherto we have foolishly imagined that the removal of some great tax would benefit us. If the national debt were removed, we should not derive a years' advantage therefrom. We have alike deceived ourselves with regard to Trades Unions, forgetting that the power of Government was for good or ill. Many legal restrictions have been placed upon the owners of cotton factories; if no such restrictions had been laid, the machinery would have remained unboxed, regardless of the number of cripples, and our mills have still been running like the lace factories of Nottingham, night and day, though thousands sunk yearly to the grave, from sheer exhaustion. The battle must be transferred from the employers to the governing power, the petty warfare upon minor fortresses, for an attack upon the Capital.

Our labour is now performed, not as formerly in an isolated, but in a collective capacity. We must insist on the hours of labour being reduced to those limits, which crowded rooms and a vitiated atmosphere, renders absolutely necessary to the preservation of health and strength. The wages of the workman must not be reduced below that standard required for a full supply of the necessaries of life; and our unemployed must have full support, not left to the Guardians or Poor Law Commissioners to limit, but fixed by law. These things are essential to our safety—our very existence in times which are rapidly approaching. We may contend for them without losing sight of those principle of political freedom, which will enable us to command that which all are compelled to admit, as justly our due. They cannot deny the fact of a limit to man's endurance of toil; they cannot deny our being entitled to a sufficiency of food for our labour, or our right to support when labour cannot be had. The mean dastardly villains, who, like Cobden and Bright, are drawing thousands a year from your toil, may say, and will say, this cannot be done; but when new inventions have multiplied so within the last forty years, that thousands may now produce, what would without these inventions have required as many millions, are we to believe that we cannot be as well fed as before? Pshaw! they saw we are devoid of intelligence; we have been fools it is true, but our folly has mainly consisted in believing that they meant us well, and in trusting to their professions. They have abused our confidence, and furthered their own ends at the expense of our too credulous faith. That credulity is at an end, all confidence is destroyed. Neither their sympathetic twaddle in Parliament, nor their professions at the hustings can be any longer believed, but if the present system must continue, it is high time to seize upon every opportunity to bring within the arena of public discussion, the leading doctrines of the unfeeling political economist. If these doctrines must prevail, it would be mercy to put at once into practice Marcus's plan of painless extinction; and also to give a death dose of laudanum to every working man who has attained to forty years of age. Already half our children die before they are five years old, after enduring an amount of suffering which would make the stoutest heart bleed to behold; and if a man has arrived at the age of forty, and should happen to lose his situation in a mill, it is an hundred to one if he ever gets work in any of them again. If this horrid state of things must continue, I would if nothing better could be done, cry loudly for mercy; mercy to the infant by legalizing the theory of Marcus, and mercy to the unemployed, by hurrying them with equal speed to a premature grave. Nothing but a limit, fixed by law, to the grasping power of avaricious employers, will ever amend our condition, whilst society is constituted as at present. Peel's present measures or any others, however extensive and liberal, without this limitation, will only end in miserable disappointment; and like Catholic Emancipation and the Reform Bill, but increase the power of our oppressors, add to our privations, and rivet more firmly our chains.

Yours respectfully,
Preston, June 2nd, 1846. Richard Marsden.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

ALGERIA.

MASSACRE OF THREE HUNDRED FRENCH PRISONERS BY THE ARABS.

MARSEILLES, May 27.

The *France Algerienne*, in date of 23rd May, has the following:—

"The master of a small sailing vessel, which left Djemmaâ-Ghazaouat on the 9th instant, has announced to us a horrible event—the massacre in the Deira of Abd-el-Kader of all the French prisoners. General de Lamoriciere immediately ordered the Gregeois steamer to repair forthwith to Djemmaâ-Ghazaouat with Col. Martimprey on board to examine the merits of this alarming report, to establish its authenticity, or otherwise, and to collect all the particulars of this odious act of barbarity, of the fact of which we would fain doubt, but alas! we fear it is but too true. The state of the sea prevented for three days the execution of M. de Martimprey's mission; the Gregeois, however, arrived at length this night. From the report of M. de Martimprey, as well as from all the reports collected relative to this fatal event, it is clear that Abd-el-Kader ordered the massacre of our prisoners, and that this order has been executed. We hasten to state that up to the present time this order has not extended to the officers, who have escaped this horrible butchery. I will now summarily relate the reasons which induced the Emir to adopt so merciless a resolution."

REVOLUTION IN PORTUGAL.

The important intelligence has been received from Portugal of the downfall of the Costa Cabral ministry, and of general insurrection having broken out in that country. Public excitement was at its greatest height, and deep alarm filled the minds of all classes. The dissolution of the government took place on the 17th of May. The Queen had commanded the Duke de Palmella to form a new ministry, but up to the 20th he had not made any sensible progress in the execution of his task. Count Villa Real had been previously sent for by the Queen to form a ministry, but he failed in the attempt. With regard to the extent of the insurrection, the Lisbon correspondent of a morning paper says:—"The shadow of this approaching event had been perceptible for some days before; for, although the official journals daily announced the defeat and dispersion of the insurgents, facts had come to light which plainly showed that the insurrection, on the contrary, must have been gaining ground. It was known that young Villa Real, a son of Count Villa Real, had put himself at the head of large body of armed peasants, and taken possession of the town of Villa Real, in the province of Tras os Montes, whence his father's title is derived; that another body of malcontents had surprised and disarmed a strong detachment of troops at Amarante, and by making themselves masters of the bridge over the Douro, at that town, had opened a communication with the Minho, insurgents; and that the movement had extended through other parts of Tras os Montes. Notwithstanding all this, the Lisbon public was completely taken by surprise, when, on Sunday morning, the Oporto steamer came over the bar, having on board, evidently as a runaway, the Minister of Justice, M. Jose Cabral, the very individual who so shortly before had been sent to that city armed with the most ample and unrestricted dictatorial authority. As far as I have been able to learn, it appears that the flame of insurrection spread rapidly from the Minho all over Tras os Montes, in which latter province alone about 8,000 men were in arms, under the direction of a junta composed of the most influential of its proprietors, including young Villa Real, and that the commander of the military division, Viscount Vinhaes, seeing this formidable array, and observing an evident disinclination on the part of the soldiers to act against the people, entered into negotiations with the Junta, the result of which was an agreement to a suspension of hostilities for six days, to await the Queen's answer to the demands of the insurgents, which were—the dismissal of the Costa Cabral Ministry, and the repeal of all taxes upon labour. On receipt of this unwelcome intelligence, and perceiving unequivocal symptoms of a revulsion of popular feeling against him in the city of Oporto, M. Jose de Cabral thought it prudent to make a precipitate retreat; and the Duque de Porto having been kept in readiness with her steam up, he stole, quietly on board during the night, and when daylight came the redoubtable dictator was *non inventus*. In a few hours after the arrival of J. Cabral in this city, a Council of Ministers was held, at which it was resolved that they should tender their resignations. The whole population of the province of Beira has now risen. A body of insurgents, computed at from 4,000 to 5,000 strong, have entered Coimbra, driving out the troops there stationed, who at first offered some resistence, but gave up the contest and retreated towards Oporto, on finding that the inhabitants of the town were against them. Coimbra is the seat of the University, and is about 70 miles south of Oporto, and 130 north of this city. Reports are in circulation of fresh outbreaks in all directions, and by this time, no doubt, nearly the whole country is in a state of insurrection. In this city the ferment is constantly increasing. So strong is the feeling against the Cabral brothers in this city, that it is generally thought they will be off for England by the packet going to-day. That they are in great "bodily fear" is evident from the fact of their having slept last night and the night before at the barracks of the municipal guard.

THE INSURRECTION TRIUMPHANT.

We have advices from Lisbon, by the Pacha steamer, to the 30th of May. A most extraordinary series of events had taken place, which will be found fully detailed in our correspondent's letter. The Cabrals had fled in the Pacha to Cadiz, where they had been received with distinction by the Governor. The Cortes had been dissolved, the entire legislation of the Cabrals had been abolished by Royal decree, the Bank of Lisbon had suspended payments for three months, in consequence of the excessive run on them for metal, and the impossibility of immediately converting the jewels, gold, and securities deposited with them in the excited state of the country. The Company Confiança had likewise been permitted to suspend payment for three months. The new administration had been definitively constituted as follows:—

President of the Council and Finance Minister—Duke de Palmella.
Minister of War—Marquis de Saldanha.
Interior.—L. S. M. D'Albuquerque.
Foreign Affairs—Conde de Lavradio.
Justice—J. F. De Soure.
Marine—J. J. Loureiro.

INDIA.

The Bombay mails of the 1st of May have arrived; they are remarkably barren of exciting intelligence.

The Governor-General and the Commander-in-Chief had reached Simla, where they intended to remain during the hot and rainy seasons. The troops had taken up their stations for the same period in the newly acquired districts along the Beas, and also in Lahore. The Sikh soldiers were tranquil, but not satisfied. The Governments of Lahore and Jamoo were engaged in tracing out the frontiers between them. Gholab Singh is not popular with the Sikhs, who accuse him of having sacrificed their country to gratify his personal ambition. Dhost Mahommed, who was delighted on hearing of the invasion of the British dominions by the Sikhs, has since resumed a pacific policy, for the rapidity of the British conquests had not allowed him time for any offensive operations against Peshawur, although some preparations for that purpose appear to have been made at Jellalabad by his son and Wuzeer, Akhbar Khan. It is evident from the position of the different Rajahs and their adherants, as well at Lahore as in the neighbouring states, that the present cessation of hostilities is kept up rather as a temporary armistice than a lasting peace. The division of the spoils of Runjeet Singh's kingdom is not satisfactory to them, and it is highly probable that before 1846 expires there will be other conflicts.

In the meantime the British are not idle either in consolidating their new provinces or in weakening their enemies. Amongst the *materiel* of war surrendered by the Sikhs, were specially enumerated the guns which had been pointed against the British Indian army. Those guns, to the number of 256, have reached Delhi, and they are to be taken with all the pomp of a military procession from that city even as far as Calcutta.

POLAND'S REGENERATION.

The Democratic Committee for Poland's Regeneration assembled on Monday evening, at the office of the Chartist Executive, 83, Dean-street, Soho; Mr. T. Clark in the chair. A balance-sheet of the receipts and expenditure was laid before the Committee, and will be published in this journal after being examined by the auditors. The following propositions were then discussed and ultimately unanimously adopted:—

OBJECT OF THE COMMITTEE.

The object of this Committee is to aid the Polish patriots in their efforts to establish the independence of their country, and the equal political and social rights of all classes of the Polish people.

MEANS.

1st. By the creation of an enlightened public opinion in support of the Polish cause, towards creating which opinion, the Committee purpose to publish at certain intervals, Reports, Addresses, and Tracts illustrating the past and present state of Poland, the wrongs, sufferings, and patriotic acts of the Polish people, and the bearing which the question of justice to Poland has upon the general cause of European progress. The Committee will also hold public meetings whenever by so doing they may best serve the Polish cause. Lastly, the Committee will endeavour by petitions and other available means to agitate the Legislature and influence the British Government in behalf of Poland.

2nd. By obtaining for the patriotic exiled Poles pecuniary assistance when needed, and aiding them and their cause by every other practicable means.

RESOLUTIONS.

1st. The Committee will hold regular meetings the first Wednesday in every month.

2nd. The Secretary shall prepare, and at every monthly meeting lay before the Committee a condensed report of all events during the preceding month connected with the Polish question,—such as acts of oppression on the part of the oppressors of Poland, and of resistance and sufferings on the part of the oppressed, and all political movements bearing on the Polish question. The Monthly Report to be published in the Democratic Journals.

3rd. The Committee shall publish quarterly an account of all moneys received and expended, together with an "Address" to the British People on the events of the preceding quarter, and the progress and prospects of Poland's Regeneration.

4th. The Committee shall hold special meetings on the anniversaries of memorable events. The Secretary shall also have the power to summon special meetings of the Committee whenever he shall see cause.

Feargus O'Connor, Esq. was appointed Treasurer to the Committee, and Mr. J. Moy, Financial Secretary. Some other business was transacted, and the Committee adjourned till the first Wednesday in July.

G. Julian Harney, Hon. Sec.

Accident on the Newcastle and North Shields Railway.—An accident occurred on Monday, on the Newcastle and North Shields Railway at the Newcastle terminus, but fortunately without any serious consequences to life or property. The seven o'clock train from Shields, heavily laden with passengers, overshot the station, and ran with tremendous force into a stone building, used as a warehouse at the end of the line. The engine struck the gable corner, and brought down a third of the building, which it penetrated nearly a yard, where it stopped, being little more than a couple of yards from the coal depot, a precipice fifteen or sixteen feet below the level of the line. The engine was partially covered with the debris, which arrested its progress, or the catastrophe would have been appaling. As it fortunately happened, however, the steam had been turned off and the wasehouse checked the momentum of the train. The shock was of course, extremely alarming, and the screaming of the passengers, principally females and young persons, was heard at some distance in the town, which soon caused a large crowd to assemble. The railway attendants, however, got the passengers out as soon as possible, and closed the station gates. None of the carriages were broken or displaced, and they were *very soon detached from the* engine and removed on to the other line. Several of the passengers received blows, and two or three had slight abrasions.

Serious Riots in Glasgow.—The notorious 76th.—Since the arrival of the 76th Regiment in Glasgow the inhabitants and police have been seriously annoyed by the drunken, disorderly and blackguard conduct of a large number of the corps, who, so far as present appearances are concerned, seemed bent upon setting the laws of ordinary decency at defiance. On Monday evening a very formidable riot took place at the foot of Saltmarket-street, chiefly occasioned, we have no hesitation in saying, by the irregular and improper conduct of a large party of the 76th, during which 24 of the police force were more or less injured in their persons. The disturbance was commenced about 6 o'clock by a number of soldiers coming into collision with the police, and the rioting after that time, particularly in the vicinity of the green, had all the characteristics of a regular engagement. The evening being celebrated as the birthday of Her Majesty by the youth of the eity in the usual noisy way, there was more than an ordinarily large turn out of people in the streets, particularly at the Cross and the foot of Saltmarket. The soldiers mixed themselves up with the crowd in parties of three, four, five, and six, exciting them by exaggerated statements of facts connected with some rioting on the previous day, and by and by the police, to the number of about 20 men, were attacked near the Adelphi Theatre by an immense mob of blackguards, who had congregated on the green opposite the Old English Chapel. Staves, brickbats, and all kinds of missiles were showered upon them, and they were forced to retreat up Saltmarket-street. On Tuesday night a riot similar to that detailed above took place at the foot of Saltmarket-street, accompanied, if possible, by more ruffianly and outrageous conduct on the part of the soldiery of the 76th Regiment and with more serious consequences to the bodies of the police. As in the former case we have referred to, the soldiery were encouraged and supported by the veriest scum of the city. The riot commenced about 6 o'clock, and was continued for several hours, during which no fewer than 21 officers and watchmen were struck with stones, sticks, and soldiers' belts, and many of them were seriously injured. The origin of the affray, so far as we have been able to learn, is entirely to be attributed to the conduct of the military.

Dreadful Shipwreck.—By the Cambria steamer which arrived in the Mersey on Thursday afternoon, intelligence of a distressing nature has come to hand, announcing the appalling shipwreck of the Kalscrona, a Swedish Indiamam, and the loss of no fewer than 115 lives, in a dreadful storm off the coast of Matanzas. From all we have been able to collect, she appears to have been one of the largest class in the Swedish mercantile service. In all, there were 133 persons on board. The last port she touched at was Havannah, where she shipped a valuable cargo. On her departure, the intention of the commander was to proceed direct to Sweden. On the morning of the 1st of May, when the ship was a head of the coast of Matanzas, she encountered one of the fiercest hurricans ever experienced in that quarter, during the height of which she capsized and instantly sank, carrying with her 115 persons, every soul of whom was lost. Seventeen of the crew managed to lay hold of one of the ship's cutters, which, as the vessel went *down, floated over the deck, and saved them*. They endured the greatest privation, being without provisions and water for several days. They were picked up on the sixth day after the deplorable occurrence, in lat. 25, long. 80. In the course of the same storm, or, as it has been termed, tornado, no fewer than 13 vessels were driven ashore on the coast of Cape Canso. Many lives were lost. Amongst the ships wrecked were the Princess Alice Maude, of London, and the St. Martin, from Liverpool. Both were insured to a large amount.

Fatal Accident in a Stone-yard.—Mr. Payne held an inquest on Tuesday, at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, on the body of Timothy Flannagan, aged sixty-six, a stone-mason, in the employ of Mr. Lee, of Chiswell-street. On Thursday last the deceased, with another man, was employed in moving large blocks of stone from a waggon in the street, into his master's yard. He was putting one of those blocks, weighing about 3 cwt. on to the rollers, to wheel it into the yard, when it slipped on one side, and fell upon his foot, crushing it almost flat. He was removed to the above hospital, and died from the effects of the injuries on Monday morning. Verdict, "Accidental Death."

Fatal Accident at a Ship-builder's.—An inquest was held on Wednesday forenoon, before Mr. W. Carter, the Coroner, at the Duke of York, Church-street, Rotherhithe, respecting the death of William Smith, aged 67, a shipwright, lately residing at No. 19, Upper York-street, Rotherhithe, Old Town. The deceased was a sober steady man, and had been in the employ of Mr. Hackwood, the ship-builder, for many years. On the evening of Thursday last, the deceased was at work on a scaffold erected on the larboard side of a large vessel, which was undergoing repairs in a dry dock at the rear of the premises of his employer, when one of the planks by some means was displaced, and when the deceased was stepping from the scaffold the outer plank gave way, and precipitated him about fifteen feet to the bottom of the dock. He was lifted up in a state of great agony, and promptly conveyed home, where he was seen by Mr. Bardock, a surgeon, who ascertained that he had fractured several ribs, and sustained other internal injuries, which caused his death at an early hour on Sunday morning. A verdict of "Accidental Death" was ultimately recorded.

Fatal Accident in Botolph-lane.—On Wednesday, Mr. Payne held an inquest in St. Thomas's Hospital, on the body of Charles Matthews, aged fifteen, a labourer in the employ of Messrs. Pickford of Wood-street. It appeared that on Tuesday last that the deceased was walking up Botolph-lane, City, at the time another of Messrs. Pickford's men was leading a horse and cart through the thoroughfare, when all of a sudden the deceased fell forward into the gutter, and the wheel of the cart pressed his back against the granite kerb. He was taken in an *insensible state to the hospital, where he died*. Verdict—"Accidental death."

Fatal Accident by Earl Fitzwilliam's Carriage.—On Wednesday evening an inquest was held before Mr. Bedford, at St. George's Hospital, on the body of John Allen, aged eighty, a shoemaker. The deceased resided at 7, James-street, Oxford-street, and was in a very feeble state of health. Between ten and eleven o'clock on the night of the 25th ult., the deceased was crossing the carriage-road in Park-lane, opposite to Holderness House, when a carriage and pair of horses, belonging to Earl Fitzwilliam, was passing at the time, driven at a steady pace, and the coachman called to him to get out of the way. The deceased did not hear, and before the horses could be stopped the pole of the carriage struck him over the left eye and knocked him down. He was removed to the above hospital in a state of insensibility, with a severe wound over the left eyebrow. Inflammation of the wound ensued, which caused his death on Saturday last. Verdict—"Accidental death.

Suicide by a Clerk.—Mr. W. Baker, Jun., deputy coroner, held an inquest at the Three Crowns, Newcastle-street, Whitechapel, on the body of John Dark Davis, aged 24, a collecting clerk, residing in Newcastle-street. The deceased was very eccentric, and complained repeatedly of pains in his head. On Thursday evening, he retired to rest very early, and requested a basin of gruel to be sent up to him. When his landlady went to his bedroom, she found the door locked, and could obtain no answer. She became alarmed, and the door was broken open, when the deceased was found suspended from the bed-post, with a handkerchief round his neck, in a state of nudity. He was immediately cut down, and a surgeon sent for, who said the deceased had been dead some time. The Jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death."

TO THE AFFLICTED.

MESSRS. BRUCE AND Co., CONSULTING SURGEONS, No. 19, Cranmer-place, Waterloo-road, London, Sole Proprietors of BRUCE'S SAMARITAN PILLS, which for seventeen years have effectually cured every case brought under their notice during that period, amounting in all to upwards of 50,000 patients, continue to be consulted at their residence, as above.

BRUCE'S SAMARITAN PILLS, price 1s. 3d., 2s. 4d., 4s. 6d., 8s. 6d., and 11s. 6d. per Box, are the most effectual remedy in every form of the Venereal Disease, in either *Sex*, curing in a very short period with ease, secresy, and safety, and without the slightest confinement or injury to business. They are likewise a most efficient remedy for all eruptions of the Skin. Their unrivalled efficacy in Scrofulas and Scorbutic affections, and all impurities of the blood, being well known throughout the United Kingdom.

MESSRS. BRUCE AND Co., through the extent of their practice, having for many years declined giving publicity to their valuable medicines, now come forward, *at the earnest solicitation* of hundreds of patients, who have been led to the brink of the grave by trusting themselves in the hands of *Quacks*,

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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

These invaluable medicines, as a certain cure for what they profess, strike, with irresistible force, a *death blow* to the quackery which has hitherto veiled these diseases; we, therefore, call the attention of the afflicted public to Bruce's invaluable Medicines, believing them to be the most efficacious medicines ever yet discovered.—*Argus.*

Chelmsford, March 7th, 1841.

Gentlemen,—Having heard of your invaluable medicines as being *a certain cure for that most dreadful of all diseases*, I was tempted to purchase a small box of your Pills, together with a pot of your Samaritan Salve, for the cure of some malignant sores, the consequence of a neglected *Syphilis*, resolved to test their efficacy upon a patient who had been under the treatment of some of the most eminent surgeons, but whose advice availed him nothing. The party on whom I tried the effects of your justly named Samaritan Pills was a poor man, and who was dreadfully afflicted with the worst stage of the disease. Having given this patient the box of pills, together with the Samaritan Salve, I told him to call again and report progress, resolving to observe the merits of a medicine so highly popular. A few days passed over without his calling on me, but on the fifth day he presented himself, and before I could utter a word, he fervently thanked *me* for having given him a medicine which had produced such unlooked for benefit. Gentlemen, I will not trouble you with the conversation that transpired between us; suffice it, that after having taken one large box of your *Pills* and applied another box of your truly *Samaritan Salve*, he was perfectly restored, and is now in the enjoyment of that greatest of all blessings—good health! The only way I can account for such a speedy cure, must be from your Pills acting on the vicious humours, and diseased blood as a *Specific*.

I am, Gentlemen, Your admiring servant,

G. EDWARDS.

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BRUCE'S FEMALE TONIC PILLS are especially directed to the cure of all kinds of nervous diseases, and those *derangements* of the system, causing general debility, loss of appetite, giddiness, flatulency, constipation, pains of the head, back, shoulders, sides, &c.

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A MEDICAL WORK on nervous debility and the concealed cause of the decline of physical strength and loss of mental capacity, with remarks on the effects of solitary indulgence, neglected gonorrhœa, syphilis, secondary symptoms, &c., and mode of treatment; followed by observations on marriage, with proper directions for the removal of all disqualifications. Illustrated with engravings, showing the evils arising from the use of mercury, and its influence on the body.

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This medicine should be taken previous to persons entering into the matrimonial state, to prevent the offspring suffering from the past imprudence of its parents, or inheriting any seeds of disease, which is too frequently the case. Sold in bottles, price 4s. 6d. and 11s. each, or the quantity of four in one large bottle, for 33s., by which one 11s. bottle is saved.

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Country patients are requested to be as minute as possible in the detail of their cases. The communication must be accompanied with the usual consultation fee of £1, and in all cases the most inviolable secresy may be relied on. Only one personal interview is required to effect a perfect cure.

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NO Medicine yet offered to the world ever so rapidly attained such distinguished celebrity: it is questionable if there be now any part of the civilised globe where its extraordinary healing virtues have not been exhibited. This signal success is not attributable to any system of advertising, but solely to the strong recommendations of parties cured by their use. The Proprietors of Parr's Life Pill's have now in their possession upwards of fifteen hundred letters, several of them from Clergymen of the Church of England, many from distinguished Dissenting Ministers, from gentlemen connected with the Army and Navy, also from Members of Parliament, Merchants, and last, though not least, from members of the Medical Profession, and a skilful Analytical Chemist; all speaking in the highest terms of the value of this inestimable medicine. This is a mass of evidence in its favour beyond all parallel.

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"Thirdly—They are found after giving them a fair trial for a few weeks to possess the most astonishing and invigorating properties, and they will overcome all obstinate complaints, and restore sound health; there is a return of good appetite shortly from the beginning of their use, whilst their mildness as a purgative is a desideratum greatly required by the weak and delicate, particularly where violent purging is acknowledged to be injurious instead of beneficial.

Fourthly—As a general Family Medicine they are exceedingly valuable, and no family should be without them; they may be used with perfect safety in any disease, for to every disease they are of inestimable value. John Dale, Esq., of Manchester, Lecturer on Chemistry, and Pupil of the late celebrated Dr. Dalton, F.R.S., in a letter addressed to the Proprietors in London, says:—'I beg to state I find them worthy of being recommended to the public for their efficacy and simplicity, and to be really vegetable pills, containing, as they do, nothing but what is of vegetable origin. With this assurance the public need have no fear of giving them a fair trial.

"Fifthly—There is no medicine ever introduced to the public that has become so universally popular with females as Parr's Life Pills. For all complaints peculiar to females they are of most astonishing efficacy; and they are confidently recommended to them for general use. A trial of a box of these pills will at once prove the truth of this assertion.

IMPORTANT TO THE PUBLIC.

"We consider we are performing an act of humanity to the community of Van Dieman's Land in acknowledging that statements have been made to us by several persons who have taken Parr's Life Pills, with the most beneficial effect to them. Accounts of their efficacy have been furnished us by various individuals who have taken them, since the supply furnished by the patentees in England to Mr. Dowling; but they have generally savoured so much of the marvellous, that we have hesitated to make the statements public. However, we are now satisfied from further accounts given to us, that to hesitate longer would be perpetrating an act of criminal omission to our fellow-creatures, and having taken the pills ourselves with the most satisfactory result, we perform an act of duty only in most strongly recommending the use of them to the public at large. This we feel the more confidence in doing, knowing that under any circumstances they cannot do harm; and our conscientious belief is, that they cannot be taken by any person without doing him good." —*Cornwall (Van Dieman's Land) Gazette.* Dec. 23rd, 1844.

The medicine of Old Parr is the most popular of the present day. It has been before the public only a few years; and in this short period has firmly established itself in public favour, and has effected immense benefit to all who have obtained this inestimable medicine genuine. Hence the list of respectable names bearing evidence to the high character of this remedy, and testifying beyond the possibility of doubt the wonderful character of the medicine by the number of extraordinary and decided cures wholly resulting from its use. This medicine, solely by reason of its high character, has extended itself to all parts of the world; and therefore its healing virtues may justly be considered universal. Agents are now established in every town in the United Kingdom, and persons desirous of testing the character of Parr's Life Pills may obtain printed copies of authenticated Testimonials, relating satisfactory particulars of cures effected by this remedy. The following is a list of Wholesale agents: London—Edwards, St. Paul's Churchyard; Barclay and Sons, Farringdon-street; Sutton, Bow Churchyard. Manchester—Mottershead and Co., Market-place. Edinburgh—J. and R. Raimes and Co., Wholesale Druggists. Dublin—Lecky, Wholesale Druggist. Glasgow —Macleod, and Apothecaries' Company. And Retailed by every respectable Medicine Vendor in town and country.

Sold in boxes at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and in family packets, 11s. The Hon. Commissioners of Stamps have ordered the words "PARR'S LIFE PILLS" to be engraved on the Government Stamp, pasted round the sides of each box, in white letters on a red ground. Purchasers are also requested to observe that a fac-simile of the Proprietors' signature, "T. Roberts and Co., Crane Court, Fleet Street, London," is printed on the directions wrapped round each box, without which none are genuine.

☞ Beware of Imitations.

Just Published,

A new and important Edition of the *Silent Friend* on *Human Frailty.*

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

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

By R. and L. PERRY and Co., CONSULTING SURGEONS.

Published by the Authors, and may be had at their Residence, 19, Berners-street, Oxford-street, London; sold by Strange, 21, Paternoster-row; Hannay and Co., 63, Oxford-street; Gordon, 146, Leadenhall-street; Powell, 10, Westmorland-street, Dublin; Lindsay, 11, Elm-row, Edinburgh; D. Campbell, 136, Argyle-street, Glasgow; Ingham, Market-street, Manchester; Newton, Church-street, Liverpool; Guest, Bull-street, Birmingham.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

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

"The Authors of the "Silent Friend" seem to be thoroughly conversant with the treatment of a class of complaints which are, we fear, too prevalent in the present day. The perspicuous style in which this book is written, and the valuable hints it conveys to those who are apprehensive of entering the *marriage state*, cannot fail to recommend it to a careful perusal."—*Era.*

"This work should be read by all who value health and wish to enjoy life, for the truisms therein contained defy all doubt.—*Farmers' Journal.*

THE CORDIAL BALM OF SYRIACUM

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

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

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

THE CONCENTRATED DETERSIVE ESSENCE,

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

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

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

PERRY'S PURIFYING SPECIFIC PILLS,

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

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

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

The above medicines are prepared only by Messrs. R. and L. PERRY and Co., Surgeons, 19, Berners-street, Oxford-street, London.

Messrs. PERRY expect, when consulted by letter, the usual fee of One Pound, without which no notice whatever can be taken of the communication.

Patients are requested to be as minute as possible in the detail of their cases, as to the duration of the complaint, the symptoms, age, habits of living, and general occupation. Medicines can be forwarded to any part of the world; no difficulty can occur, as they will be securely packed, and carefully protected from observation.

Messrs. Perry and Co., Surgeons, may be consulted at 106, Duke-street, Liverpool, every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday; and St. 10, John-street, Deansgate, Manchester, on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Only one personal visit is required from a country patient to enable Messrs. Perry and Co. to give such advice as will be the means of effecting a permanent and effectual cure, after all other means have proved ineffectual.

N.B.—Country Druggists, Booksellers, Patent Medicine Venders, and every other shopkeeper, can be supplied with any quantity of the Cordial Balm of Syriacum, the Concentrated Detersive Essence, and Perry's Purifying Specific Pills, with the usual allowance to the Trade, by most of the principal Wholesale Patent Medicine Houses in London, of whom may be had the "Silent Friend."

TO THE AFFLICTED PUBLIC.

NOTICE.—The following Complaints and Diseases may be radically cured for 5s. by Messrs. BRUCE and Co., Surgeons, 19, Cranmer-place, Waterloo-road. Advice gratis every morning from ten to twelve:—

Ague	*Inflammation of all kinds
Asthma	Jaundice
Bowel Complaints	Liver Complaints
Bilious Disorders	Lumbago and Sciatica
Consumption	*Measles
Costiveness	Purgings and all kinds of Fluxes
Colics	
Coughs	Piles and Fistula
Croup	Rheumatism
Convulsions and all kinds of Fits	Scarletina
	Scrofula, or King's Evil
*Dropsy	Stone and all Affections of the Bladder
Debility from *whatever cause*	
Deafness	Skin Diseases
Dyspepsia	Tic Doloreux
Erysipelas	Tumours of all kinds
*Fevers of all kinds	Thrush
Fluxes	Ulcers, copic, of the Legs
Gout	Worms of all kinds
Hooping Cough	Female Complaints of every kind
Head-aches	
Indigestion	*Cum multis aliis*, too numerous and too delicate to be herein enumerated
Itch and other eruptions of the Skin	
Inflammatory Sore Throats	

N.B.—Messrs. BRUCE and Co., Surgeons, and Sole Proprietors of the well-known *Bruce's Samaritan Pills*, Bruce's Samaritan Salve, Bruce's Tonic Mixture, and Bruce's Female Pills, continue to be consulted as usual in every stage of a *Certain Disease, charge for the Cure of which, with Medicines, 5s. Advice gratis.*

Country Patients corresponded with until CURED, together with Medicines in those complaints not marked thus *, on receipt of 10s. 6d. A minute detail of cases is necessary.

EXTRAORDINARY CURES BY HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT.

A wonderful Cure of dreadful Ulcerous Sores in the Face and Leg, in Prince Edward Island.

The Truth of this Statement was duly attested before a Magistrate.

I, HUGH MACDONALD, of Lot 55, in King's County, do hereby declare, that a most wonderful preservation of my life has been effected by the use of Holloway's Pills and Ointment; and I furthermore declare, that I was very much afflicted with Ulcerous Sores in my Face and Leg; so severe was my complaint, that the greater part of my nose and the roof of my mouth was eaten away, and my leg had three large ulcers on it, and that I applied to several Medical gentlemen who prescribed for me, but I found no relief. My strength was rapidly failing every day and the malady on the increase; when I was induced to try Holloway's Medicines. After taking two or three boxes, I experienced so much relief, and found the progress of the disease was so much arrested that I was enabled to resume my ordinary labours in the field. The sores which were so disagreeable and repulsive to behold are now nearly all healed. Having received such truly beneficial aid, I feel myself bound to express my gratitude to the person by whose means I have thus been restored from the pitiable and miserable state I was in; and for the sake of humanity make known my case, that others similarly situated might be relieved.

(Signed) HUGH MACDONALD.

This declaration made before me, at Bay Fortune, the 3rd day of September, 1845.

JOSEPH COFFIN, Justice of the Peace.

The above case of Hugh Macdonald, of Lot 55, came personally under my observation; and when he first applied to me to get some of the medicines, I thought his case utterly hopeless, and told him that his malady had got such hold that it was only throwing his money away to use them. He, however, persisted in trying them, and to my astonishment, I find what he has aforesaid stated to be perfectly correct, and consider the case to be a most wonderful cure.

(Signed) WILLIAM UNDERHAY, Bay Fortune.

A Cure of Ringworm of Four Years Standing.

Copy of a Letter from Mrs. Grace Moro, 6, Hemlock Court, Carey Street, London, 6th November, 1845.

To Professor Holloway.

SIR,—About four years ago my little girl caught the Ringworm, and although I have *ever since* had advice from many doctors, and tried every means to get rid of it, yet I was unable to do so. About three weeks ago I was induced to try some of your Pills and Ointment, and I am most happy to say the result has been a *perfect cure.*

(Signed) GRACE MORO.

** Skin Diseases, peculiar to any part of the Globe, may be effectually Cured by the use of these celebrated Medicines.

Cure of a Desperate Case of Erysipelas.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Joseph Gildon, Jun., a Farmer, East Keal, near Spilsby, Lincolnshire, 8th April, 1846.

To Professor Holloway,

SIR,—I have the gratification to announce to you a most wonderful cure wrought upon myself, by the use of your Ointment and Pills. I had a severe attack of Erysipelas in my right foot, which extended along my ankle, and was attended with swelling and inflammation to an alarming degree, insomuch that I was unable to move without the aid of *crutches*. I consulted a very eminent Physician, besides other medical men, but to no purpose. At last I tried your Ointment and Pills, when, strange to say, in less than two weeks the swelling and inflammation gradually subsided to such a degree that I was enabled to pursue my daily avocation, to the utter surprise and amazement of those who were acquainted with my case, seeing that I was cured so quickly. I and my family are well known here, as my father holds his farm under the Rev. J. Spence, Rector of our parish.

(Signed) JOSEPH GILDON.

The Testimony of Dr. Bright, of Ely-place, Holborn, as to the extraordinary power of Holloway's Ointment in the cure of ulcerated sores.

Extract of a Letter from the above celebrated Physician.

To Professor Holloway,

SIR,—I think it but an act of justice to inform you that I have tried your Ointment in several old cases of Ulcerated Sore Legs, which for a considerable time had resisted every kind of treatment, but which were afterwards effectually cured by its use. In the treatment of Bad Breasts I have also found your Ointment of the greatest service. Indeed, from my practical knowledge, I conceive it to be a most invaluable remedy.

(Signed) RICHARD BRIGHT, M.D.

Holloway's *Ointment* will cure any cases of Bad Legs, Ulcerous Sores, Bad Breasts, Sore Nipples, Cancers, Tumours, Swellings, Contracted or Stiff Joints, Gout Rheumatism, Lumbago, Burns, Scalds, Chilblains, Chapped Hands and Lips, Bunions, Soft Corns, Piles, the Bite of Moschettoes, Sand-flies, Chiego-foot, Yaws, Cocoa-bay, and all Skin Diseases common to Europe, or to the East and West Indies, or other tropical climes.

Holloway's Pills should be taken in most instances when using the Ointment, in order to purify the blood, and invigorate the system.

Sold at the establishment of Professor Holloway, 244, Strand, near Temple Bar, London, and by most all respectable Druggists and Dealers in Medicines throughout the civilized world, at the following prices:—1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., 11s., 22s., and 33s. each box. There is a considerable saving by taking the larger sizes.

N.B.—Directions for the guidance of patients in every disorder are affixed to each box.

EXTRAORDINARY ECONOMY TO TEA DRINKERS.

THE DESIRE OF ENGLAND.—The PIQUA PLANT now sold at 3s. 6d. per lb. is three times the *strength* of tea, and is also equal in flavour, more delicate in taste, infinitely more healthy, as is proved by physicians and chemists of high standing, also by persons in great numbers with the most delicate lungs and stomachs. It is most pleasant and invigorating, and is recommended to the debilitated for its invaluable qualities, to advanced age for its strengthening properties, and to the public generally for its moderate price and intrinsic excellence.

THE TEST.—The proof of the efficacy and healthful effect of the plant in preference to tea or coffee:—Let a nervous or dyspeptic patient use two or three cups of strong tea upon retiring to rest, and the effect will be night-mare, disturbed sleep, and other violent symptoms of indigestion, &c.

THE PROOF.—Let the most debilitated, dyspeptic, asthmatic, consumptive, and nervous patients use two, three, or more cups of a very strong infusion of the Piqua Plant, and in the morning they will awake refreshed with their repose. It is highly recommended by physicians to invalids and children as a most invigorating and pleasant beverage.

The following are reasons why the Piqua Plant is superior to tea, viz.—

1st. Because it is beneficial to health.
2nd. It does not injure the nerves.
3rd. Children may use it with advantage to health.
4th. It does not prevent sleep.
5th. A quarter of a pound will go as far as three quarters of a pound of the best gunpowder tea.
6th. It is strengthening and nutritious.
7th. It is recommended by physicians, and tea is disapproved of by them.

It greatly improves the voice; it is recommended to singers and public speakers.

TESTIMONIALS.

50, Edgeware-road, July 1st, 1843.

Sir,—The beverage under the name of Piqua Plant I have drank for some time. It was first recommended to my notice as a salutary beverage by a friend who is a great dyspeptic, and I have since recommended it to several patients suffering from chronic affections of the digestive organs, heart, and lungs, with manifest advantage.—I am, sir, yours, &c. JOHN BRYANT, M.D.

To Mr. Wm. Evans.

18, Louther-street, Whitehaven,

Sir,—I am nearly out of the plant again. *My sale has* doubled since I sent the last order; indeed, it is fast finding its way among some of the best families in the town, and is highly approved of. Please send me 50lbs. immediately.—Yours, very respectfully, J. BOUSTEAD.

To Mr. Wm. Evans.

Dover-road, Southwark.

Sir,—I am much pleased with your Piqua Plant; and find that a portion of it mixed in the tea-pot with tea, is a very great improvement to any tea, particularly green tea,—Yours, &c., G. B.

To Mr. Wm. Evans.

Belvidere-place, Borough-road, July 17th, 1845.

Sir,—I have great pleasure, and indeed I consider it an imperative duty, in justice to you, and for the benefit of others, to bear testimony to the excellent qualities of the Piqua Plant. It has wholly removed a constant painful nervous debility with which I was affected, which produced restless nights, and consequently overpowering langour during the day. Since the use of the infusion, the disease has entirely disappeared. I sleep soundly often for six, seven, and eight hours together, and am better in health than I have been for many years; and others, to whom I have recommended it, have experienced the same beneficial results. You are at liberty to use this testimonial, which I am ready to confirm in person any day you think proper.—I am, sir, your obedient servant, G. TAHOURDIN.

To Mr. Wm. Evans.

Sir,—*I have great pleasure in making known to the* public the extraordinary benefits I have received by using the Piqua Plant as a beverage. I have been severely afflicted with oppression of the lungs, and acute pains in the head, caused by retention of urine. For this I have taken many of *the popular medicines of the day*, without receiving any benefit. I hereby declare that I have received more good by taking a strong infusion of the Piqua Plant before going to bed, than from any other thing that I have tried. I can now sleep and eat better than I have done for a long time, caused, I believe, by voiding my urine freely. You are at liberty to make what use you think proper of the above, as I am willing to give any person *doubting this the fullest satisfaction.*—New-road-end, Barker-end, Bradford. WM. OLLEY.

Numerous testimonials from physicians, and others, of undoubted authority, may be seen at Evans's depôt.

The plant is patronised by many of the first families in the land.

The economy derived from the use of the Piqua Plant, compared with tea, is as follows:—1lb. of the plant will go as far as 1lb. of tea.

Sold wholesale and retail, at the proprietor's, Evans's Warehouse, No. 18, Stafford-street, Peckham, in quarter-pound tinfoil packages. None is genuine unless each package bears the signature of Wm. EVANS.

AGENTS FOR LONDON.—Cutter, 114, Strand, near Savoy-street; Johnson, 68, Cornhill; Abott, 115, St. Martin's-lane; Burgess, Milliner, &c., High-street, Camden Town; Bennet, 20, King's-road, Chelsea; Green, oilman, St. John-street-road; Trueman, oilman, Millpond-street, Bermondsey; Holmes, 29, New-road, Lower-road, Deptford; Robertson, oilman, Dover-road, Borough; Griffith, 35, Bell-street, Edgeware-road; Rowles, butcher, Isleworth-square: Evans's Warehouse, 18, Stafford-street, Peckham.

AGENTS FOR THE COUNTRY.—Thornton, chemist, Boar-lane, Leeds; Botterill, near Old Brewery, Burnley, Leeds; Lomax, chemist, Holmfirth, near Huddersfield; Houghton, 47, Westgate, Huddersfield; Frankland, seedsman, Hatton, near Skipton; Cawdell, 68, Queen-street, Hull; Gadsby, Newall-buildings, Manchester; Priestley, chemist, Lord-street, Liverpool; Nott, Nelson-street, Bristol-road, Birmingham; Messrs. Ferres and Score, Chemists to the Queen, Union-street, Bristol; Mr. Noble, bookseller, Boston; C. Brown, Market-place, Grimsby; Mr. Bonstead, 18, Lowther-street, Whitehaven; Mr. Pearse, 24, High-street, Sheffield.

☞ One Agent wanted in each town and village where there is none. Any respectable trade approved of. No licence required.

P. Mc DOUGALL'S DROPS, for GOUT, RHEUMATISM, and all painful Affections of the Joints, which it effectually relieves, in the course of a few hours. Having been already taken in more than 10,000 cases, without one known instance of failure, the following certificates are selected from numerous others, fully demonstrating its beneficial effects:—

MR. J. WEBSTER, OF THE THEATRES ROYAL.

SIR,—I feel much pleasure in expressing my unqualified approbation of your *excellent Gout Medicine. I have* suffered most severely from the gout for upwards of seven years, and have never met with any medicine so speedily efficacious as yours; indeed, I consider it a perfect boon to those who, like myself, suffer from that most painful complaint. J. WEBSTER.

The following ladies and gentlemen also add their grateful testimony in its favour:—

Messrs. T. Rouse, Grecian Saloon, City-road; Campbell, managing director of ditto; Smeeton, salesman, Newgate Market; Sergeant Brennan, G division of Police; Williams, firm of Williams, Boyd & Co. West Smithfield; Phillips, licensed victualler, Old-street; Bray, of Tattersall's, Hyde Park Corner.—Mesdames Delay, Union-street, Southwark; Villiars, Denmark-street, Pentonville; Hobbs, (late of Newgate Market) Bermondsey.

Sold by Patrick Mc Dougall only, in bottles, 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. each, 35, Myddleton-street, Clerkenwell.—Upon the receipt of 1s. 6d. or 3s. 6d. it will be forwarded free into the country.

BLAIR'S GOUT AMD RHEUMATIC PILLS. A severe case of Rheumatism, communicated by Mr. Allen, Proprietor of the *Nottingham Mercury.*

Mercury Office, Nottingham, March 17, 1845.

SIR,—I have the pleasure of forwarding you the particulars of a case in which BLAIR'S GOUT and RHEUMATIC PILLS have proved eminently successful.

A young woman, named Mary Wain, accompanied by her parents, who reside at Watnall, near this town, called upon me on Saturday last, being desirous of making her case known for the benefit of the public.

It appears that Mary Wain had for some years past been a great sufferer from Rheumatism, but that in October last she was more than ordinarily afflicted, so much so that her father fetched her from her place of service, in order that she might have the attention of her mother at home; at that time—to make use of the mother's description, "she could not lift her hand to her mouth, or her foot the height of sixpence from the floor." Having heard of Blair's Pills, the father purchased a box at my shop about the second week in October; the Pills took immediate effect, for I am assured by the parents and the girl herself, that on the following day she could not only lift her hand up to feed herself, but she could also move about on crutches. Since that time she has had five more boxes of the Pills, and, if I may judge from appearances, is as well as she ever was in her life, and has been so for some months past.

You are at liberty to make use of my name if you think it will add to the weight of this testimonial.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

To Mr. Prout, 229, Strand. RICHARD ALLEN.

The never-failing effects of BLAIR'S GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS in curing every description of Gout and Rheumatism, have secured to them a celebrity *unequalled by any medicine of past or present times.* They not only give relief in a few hours, but restore to perfect health in an inconceivably short space of time. They are equally speedy and certain in lumbago, sciatica, pains in the head or face, and indeed of any rheumatic or gouty affection; in fact, such has been the rapidity, perfect ease, and complete safety of this medicine, that it has astonished all who have taken it, and there is scarcely a city, town, or village in the kingdom, but contains many grateful evidences of its benign influence.

Sold by Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London; and by his appointment by Heaton, Hay, Allen, Land, Haigh, Smith, Bell, Townsend, Baines and Newsome, Smeeton, Reinhardt, Tarbottom, and Horner, Leeds; Brooke, Dewsbury; Dennis and Son, Burdekin, Moxon, Little, Hardman, Linney, and Hargrove, York; Brooke and Co., Walker and Co., Stafford, Faulkner, Doncaster; Judson, Harrison, Linney, Ripon; Foggitt, Coates, Thompson, Thirsk; Wiley, Easingwold; England, Fell, Spivey, Huddersfield; Ward, Richmond; Sweeting, Knaresborough; Pease, Oliver, Darlington; Dixon, Metcalfe, Langdale, Northallerton; Rhodes, Snaith; Goldthorpe, Tadcaster; Rogerson, Cooper, Newby, Kay, Bradford; Brice, Priestley, Pontefract; Cordwell, Gill, Lawton, Dawson, Smith, Wakefield; Berry, Denton; Suter, Leyland, Hartley, Parker, Dunn, Halifax; Booth, Rochdale; Lambert, Boroughbridge; Dalby, Wetherby; Waite, Harrogate: Wall, Barnsley; and all respectable medicine venders throughout the kingdom. Price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per box.

Ask for BLAIR'S GOUT and RHEUMATIC PILLS, and observe the name and address of "Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London," impressed upon the Government stamp affixed to each box of the Genuine Medicine.

Market Intelligence.

THE CORN MARKET.

MONDAY.—During the past week the arrival of grain into this market was not large, either of our own growth or of foreign, the principal supply consisting of wheat, the amount being on the whole 17,974 quarters. The aspect the trade wore on every market day was anything but lively, various causes combining to contract business, and also to bring with it its consequent tendency, namely, the depression of prices. The chief feature, however, that must be regarded as influencing the trade is undoubtedly to be attributed to the continued fineness of the weather, there being scarcely any grain or any soil but must, after the late weather, receive immense benefit from the present; the relief of the foreign corn has also a prospective influence, but had the weather been the reverse of what it is, with such moderate supplies our trade must have rallied considerably.

This morning there was a limited supply of wheat and other grain fresh up to the market. The wheat trade opened dull, and, although the rates of this day week have been supported, sales were very slow.

Barley steady. The oat trade has been slow at Friday's prices, Beans and peas of all sorts firm. There has been but little inquiry for other articles at generally steady quotations.

CURRENT PRICES OF GRAIN, FLOUR, NAD SEED IN MARK-LANE.

BRITISH GRAIN.

Shillings per Quarter.

Wheat	Essex & Kent, white, new	49 to 63		57 to 70	
	Ditto, red	47	59	53	65
	Suffolk and Norfolk, red	47	57 white	49	62
	Lincoln and York, red	47	57 white	49	62
	Northumb. and Scotch			47	60
Rye				22	38
Barley	Malting	30	34 extra	37	—
	Distilling			26	29
	Grinding			23	26
Malt	Ship	53	57 Ware	59	61
Oats	Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, feed, 21s 0d to 23s 6d; potato, or short, 22s 6d to 26s 6d; Poland, 22s 6d to 27s 6d; Northumberland and Scotch, Angus, 21s 0d to 25s 0d; potato, 21s 0d to 25s 6d; Irish feed, 20s 6d to 22s 6d; black, 20s 6d to 22s 6d; potato, 21s 6d to 24s 6d; Galway, 19s 6d to 20s 6d.				
Beans	Ticks, new	32	36 old	38	44
	Harrow, small, new	34	38 old	40	46
Peas	White	37	43 boilers	40	44
	Gray and hog			33	36
Flour	Norfolk and Suffolk			44	49
	Town-made (per sack of 280lbs)			46	53
Buckwheat, or Brank					32

ENGLISH SEEDS, &c.

Red clover (per cwt.) .. [illegible]
White clover (per cwt.) .. [illegible]
Rapeseed (per last) .. £26 26
Mustard seed, brown (per bushel) 7s to 11s; white, 7s to 10s.
Tares, (per bushel), spring, 6s.; winter, 5s. to 6s. 6d.
Linseed cakes (per 1000 of 3lb each) £11 to £12

FOREIGN GRAIN.

Shillings per Quarter.

		Free.	In Bond.
Wheat	Dantsic and Konigsberg	63 extra 70	46 — 59
	Ditto ditto	54 — 61	44 — 52
	Pomeranian, &c., Anhalt	56 — 63	44 — 52
	Danish, Holstein, &c.	54 — 61	42 — 48
	Russian, hard	—	
	Ditto, soft	55 — 58	39 — 48
	Spanish, hard	—	
	Ditto, soft	58 — 62	44 — 51
	Odessa & Taganrog, hard	—	
	Ditto, soft	53 — 59	39 — 48
	Canadian, hard	—	
	Ditto fine	58 — 60	
Rye	Russian, Prussian, &c.		
Barley	Grinding	23 — 26	
	Ditto, distilling	26 — 30	18 — 26
Oats	Dutch, feed	22 — 25	
	Ditto, brew and thick	25 — 27	20 — 21
	Russian	24 — 26	19 — 20
	Danish & Mecklenburg	24 — 26	18 — 21
Beans	Ticks, 33 to 38, small	36 — 40	28 — 36
	Egyptian	33 — 35	28 — 30
Peas	White, 32 to 43, gray	33 — 36	
Flour	Dantsic and Hamburgh (per barrel), fine 30 32, superfine	32 — 34	22 — 28
	Canada, 30 to 33, United States	32 — 35	26 — 28
Buckwheat		30 — 32	24 — 28

FOREIGN SEEDS, &c.

Per Quarter.

Linseed	Petersburgh and Riga (free of duty)	42 to 43
	Archangel, 40 to 45, Memel and Konigsberg	39 40
	Mediterranean, 40 to 48, Odessa	42 44
Rapeseed (free of duty) per last		£24 26
Red Clover (16s per cwt. and 5 per cent. on the duty)		42 64
White ditto		47 70
Tares, small spring (free of duty) 40 to 44, large		44 50
Linseed cake (free of duty), Dutch, £6 10s, £7. French, per ton		£7 0, £7 10
Rape cakes (free of duty)		£5 10 £5 15 and 5 per cent. on the duty

AVERAGE PRICES

Of the last six weeks, which regulate the Duties from the 22nd to the 26th of May.

	Wheat s.	d.	Barley s.	d.	Oats. s.	d.	Rye. s.	d.	Beans s.	d.	Peas. s.	d.
Week ending April 11, 1846	56	0	30	9	22	9	33	4	35	1	33	8
Week ending April 18, 1846	55	10	30	5	22	9	35	5	34	9	34	5
Week ending April 25, 1846	55	6	30	1	23	4	33	7	34	10	33	10
Week ending May 2, 1846	56	8	29	8	23	7	32	5	34	11	33	10
Week ending May 9, 1846	56	8	29	7	23	9	33	5	35	8	34	7
Week ending May 16, 1846	57	0	29	4	24	1	33	5	35	11	34	11
Aggregate average of the last six weeks	56	3	29	11	23	4	33	7	35	2	34	3
London averages (ending May 19, 1846)	59	0	30	5	24	0	34	5	34	5	37	6
Duties	16	0	9	0	5	0	9	6	7	6	8	0

SMITHFIELD MARKET.

The arrivals of Cattle from the continent into the port of London during last week have been 109 oxen, 121 cows, two calves, 298 sheep, thirty lambs, and twenty-six pigs.

There was a pleasant trade done to day at Smithfield than on last Monday, but prices were not so firm. The supply was good, but not heavy of every thing, and nearly all was disposed of by the close of the market.

By the quantities of 8lb., sinking the offal.

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Inferior coarse beasts	2	6	2	8
Prime large oxen	3	6	3	8
Prime Scots, &c.	3	10	4	0
Coarse inferior sheep	3	10	4	4
Second quality	4	6	4	8
Prime Southdown	4	2	4	4
Large coarse calves	4	4	4	10
Prime small	6	2	5	6
Suckling calves, each	18	0	31	0
Large hogs	3	8	4	6
Neat small porkers	4	8	5	0
Quarter-old store pigs, each	16	0	19	0

PROVINCIAL MARKETS.

RICHMOND (YORKSHIRE) CORN MARKET, SATURDAY.—We had a good supply of wheat in our market to-day, but the supply of oats was only thin.—Wheat sold from 5s. to 8s. 6d.; oats, 3s. 3d. to 4s. 6d.; barley, 4s. to 4s. 3d.; beans, 5s, to 5s. 6d. per bushel.

WAKEFIELD CORN MARKET, FRIDAY.—We have an extremely limited supply of all grain, with the exception of beans. We had a fair demand for fresh wheat, at fully last week's rates. In other qualities little done. As maltsters have done working, barley is almost nominal. Fine small beans readily sold at former rates; other sorts rather lower. Oats and shelling had a ready sale at former rates.

MANCHESTER CORN MARKET, SATURDAY.—During the week the business done in all articles has been of the most retail character, and, although it is generally admitted that their stocks are reduced to an unusually narrow compass, the dealers and bakers purchase only from an absolute necessity for immediate consumption. Few sales of wheat were reported at our market this morning, and no change in quotations can be made. With a moderate inquiry from the trade, there is no variation to note in the value of choice and superfine qualities of English or Irish flour; but middling and inferior descriptions are exceedingly difficult to dispose of, and prices nominal. Oatmeal is scarce, but the demand for this article is only on a limited scale. Oats and beans met a very slow sale at late rates.

WARRINGTON CORN MARKET, WEDNESDAY.—At the market on Wednesday last but few farmers were present, and the business done was not sufficient to enable us to quote correct prices. Millers and bakers are buying from "hand to mouth;" but, as the Corn Importation Bill is carried, which every one now expects, more business will be done. Of potatoes there was a moderate supply; sales, pink eyes, 12s. to 13s. 6d.; cups, 11s. to 11s. 6d.; blue farmers, 8s.; white apples, 9s. per load of 255lbs.

HULL CORN MARKET, TUESDAY.—We have to report the same dullness and inactivity in the corn trade that we did last week, as we have still no supply of old wheat. At to-day's market there was very little wheat offering, and for that farmers are asking extravagant prices; our millers were, therefore, shy buyers at the rates of last week. In spring corn very little passing at late prices. In linseed or rapeseed nothing doing. Linseed cakes keep dull, In rape cakes some business has been done. In bones a fair business passing. Guano unaltered.

BIRMINGHAM CORN EXCHANGE, WEDNESDAY.—During the present week there has been little disposition to buy wheat; but we do not observe any alteration in prices. Malting barley finds prices at former rates, for good qualities. Oats were sold at a decline of 6d. per qr. on white, and some Welsh black were forced off at a reduction of 1s. per qr. Beans maintained their value; French realised 16s. 9d., Egyptian 15s. 3d. per 196lbs.

STATE OF TRADE.

LEEDS.—The season being far advanced for the purchase of goods for the spring trade, and the fears lest the repeal of the Corn Laws should not pass or be mutilated in the House of Lords, has had the effect of completely stopping speculation. There was scarcely anything done at the Cloth Halls on Saturday or Tuesday, except to orders. Prices are stationary; and by the caution exercised by the manufacturers, the stocks are lower than usual at this season; the same cause has produced the same effect in the warehouses. Few buyers have been in the town, and their purchases have been very trifling.—*Leeds Mercury.*

MANCHESTER.—We have had only a very limited business in cloth this week, but without change in price of any kind. Manufacturers might have made sales at a slight decline, and to a considerable extent, but as many asked a slight advance, little business in consequence was done. The market closes very firm. Yarns are a ready sale at the full rates of last week.

BRADFORD.—There is a good supply of combing wools, and the market is firm. The spinners still buy with great caution, in the hope that the long expected fall will take place in the price of wools. There is a fair demand for yarns at former prices. The spinners, however, find that before they can realise any profits, either the price of wool must fall or yarns rise. There is a good market for pieces fitted for the autumn trade, and a great number of sales have been made. The foreign merchants are not doing the extensive business they were wont to do.

HUDDERSFIELD.—There has been a slight falling off in the demand for goods to-day, but on the whole, considerable business has been done both for the home and continental markets. The prospects of trade generally, in this district, border on the bright side, and there is not the least doubt that. should the great question of the Corn Laws become favourably settled, that commercial affairs will soon flourish.

HALIFAX.—There is very little alteration in this market; both wool and yarn are a shade dearer, while the value of piece goods seem without any change.

RICHMOND FLANNEL MARKET.—We had a better demand for flannels to-day, and more pieces sold, but very little change in prices. The wool market was much the same as on the preceding Monday. with prices firm.

LEICESTER.—The season for manufacturing low cotton hosiery may now be said to be brought to a close; and although the demand has not been so brisk as last year, it has considerably relieved the worsted market. Manufacturers are preparing for the autumn trade, and large purchasers of yarns have been made; the worsted spinners are therefore busy. Wools keep very firm. Some American orders have been received, but are principally confined to fancy goods and gloves, for which a good demand continues.

NOTTINGHAM.—A fair quantity of finished goods have left the market since our last report. But little has been done in sales of rough goods. *Prices remain unaltered*, both of bobbin-nets and yarns.—*Nottingham Mercury.*

GLASGOW.—Cotton Yarn: There has been but a limited business this week, and last week's prices are barely maintained. Cotton Goods: The market still continues flat. For most descriptions there is little inquiry, and prices continue nominal. The depression, we think, has been rather increased since the arrival of the East India mid-mail, the accounts received being very unfavourable for Glasgow manufactures generally. Iron: Prices are as follows:—Pig iron, £3 15s.; bar iron, £9 10s.; nail rods, £10 10s.; boiler plates and sheets, £13 13s. per ton. American produce: Sweet barrel, best Canadian, 30s.; sour barrel flour, best Canadian. 30s. to 31s. per barrel; 1st Montreal pots, 23s. 6d.; 1st Montreal pearls, 23s. 6d.; lard, common, 44s.; lard, refined, 47s. to 48.; cheese, States, 58s. per cwt. The market for American produce continues without change. We do not alter our quotations of prices, as there has been almost nothing doing. The flour market is very dull, and will show no activity till the new measure becomes law. Pots and pearls are nearly out of first hands, and there will be nothing done in them till the new importation. Lard moves slowly at the prices quoted. Cheese is inquired for, but there is little in the market.

Bankrupts &c.,

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

(From the *Gazette* of Tuesday, June 2.)

C. and T. D. Hammond, Kingston upon-Hull, chymists —Ramsbottom and Procter, Lanebridge, Lancashire, spindle makers—Dean and Jackson, Preston, tailors—M. A. Johnson and J. Penfold, Lodsworth, Sussex, farmers —*Ebbern and Miles, Soulbury, Buckinghamshire*, coal merchants—Pilling, Milner, and Hale, Huddersfield, fancy woollen manufacturers; as far as regards A. Pilling —Greenhalghs and Settle, Sharples, Lancashire, cotton spinners; as far as regards J. Settle—W. and H. Joplin, Liverpool, brewers—Price and Crompton, Pots Shrigley, Cheshire, manufacturers of fire bricks—A. E. Reynolds and J. W. Field, Stones-end, Borough, silversmiths—Hudson and Dawson, Leeds, Masons—H. J. Hant and H. J. Harvey, Bath and Box, Wiltshire, attorneys—J. and W. Cotterell, Worcester, plumbers—W. and J. Stevenson, Wirksworth, Derbyshire, bleachers—J. Thompson J., J., and R. Benn, and W. Farrer, Lambrigg, Lowther, Kendal, and Liverpool, dealers in guano—J. Hoyle and Co., Manchester, tea dealers—S. Jones and Co., Preston, ironfounders—J. and E. Marchant, Howbridge, Wiltshire, clothiers—Stolle and Brown, Manchester, cotton manufacturers—L. Binge and Co, Lowther Arcade, Strand, fancy repositors—Whitfield and Co., Thorns, Yorkshire, brewers; as far as regards W. Whitfield—Setterington, Jones, and Co., Bath, linendrapers—W. G. Try and W. J. Edwards—H. and W. Firth, Bradford, Yorkshire, general carriers—J. Donnell and E. Appleby, Liverpool, provision dealers—Smith and Co., Conisbrough, Yorkshire, brick-manufacturers—F. Fisher and T. L. Rlundell, jun., *Brighton and Frith-street, Soho-square, surgeon-dentists* —Mark and Allen, Augustus-street and Edward-street *Regent's-park, slate merchants*—J. Somerville and Sons, Glasgow, cotton-spinners—Maltby, Brook, and Catlow, Bradford Yorkshire, painters.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.

C. Corter, Cloudesley-square, Islington, clerk in the *Admiralty*—div. of 1s. 3d., on Thursday, June 4, and the three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Belcher's King's Arms yard, Moorgate-street.

H. Watton, jun., Crowland, wheelwright—div. of 1. 11d., on Thursday, June 4, and the three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Belcher's, King's Arms-yard, Moorgate-street.

L. Watson, Richmansworth, ironmonger—div. of 2½d., on Thursday, June 4, and the three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Belcher's, King's Arms-yard, Moorgate-street.

E. C. Flowers, Whitchurch, cattle-dealer—div. of 15s. 11d., on Thursday, June 4, and the three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Belcher's, King's Arms-yard Moorgate-street.

G. Olden, Salisbury, grocer—div. of 3½d., on Thursday, June 4, and three subsequent Thursdays, at Mr. Belcher's King's Arms-yard Moorgate-street.

W. Tomlinson, jun.. Natwich, Cheshire, scrivener—div. of 4d., on Thursday, May 28, or any subsequent Thursday, at Mr. Turner's, Liverpool.

BANKRUPTS.

Edward Clark, Mortimer-road, Kingsland-road, builder —Thomas Roberts and John Tidcombe Hazard, College-hill, paper-agents—James Bird, Club-row, Bethnal-green, timber merchant—Henry Shaw, Gerrard-street, Islington, and elsewhere, china-dealer—Charles Airs, Newport, Isle of Wight, innkeeper—Benjamin Finwick, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, linendraper—George Steele, Durham grocer—Charles Harris, Sheffield, tailor—Anthony Birch, Birmingham, grocer—Matthew Chapman, Devonport, painter—Randle Bower, Stalybridge, Lancashire cotton-spinner—John Nield, Manchester, Ashton-under-Lyne, and elsewhere, woollen-praper—John Hayes Manchester, manufacturing chymist—David Thompson, Bury, Lancashire, bleacher.

DIVIDENDS.

June 23. J. Imray, Old Fish street-hill and Minories, stationer—June 23, J Balls, Holloway-road, livery stable keeper—June 23, J. Thompson, Norwich, grocer—June, 23, W. Morphew, Seven Oaks, Kent, linenbraper—June 23, G. Davis, High-street, Borough, saddler—June 25, A. S. Syer, Sudbury, Suffolk, grocer—June 25. J. Whitmore, Strand, proprietor of the "Illustrated Weekly Times"—June 25, H. Ware, Widford-mill and Ludgate-street, paper manufacturer—June 25, H. Fricker, Southampton, innkeeper—June 25, T. Nichols, Dowgate-hill, carman—June 29, W. H. Bond, Bow-lane, Cheapside, ale merchant—June 26, W. Aslett, South Stoneham, Hampshire grocer —June 26, R. More, and B. W. Blake, Norwich, coal merchants—June 26, B. Chandler, Staunmore, Middlesex, ironmonger—June 24, W. Grosvenor, Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, iron founder—June 25, S. Archer, Rochdale, woollen manufacturer—June 25, B. Wood, jun., Leeds, wine merchant—June 25, T. and G. Snaith, Bishop Auckland, Durham, ironmongers.

CERTIFICATES to be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on the day of meeting.

June 26, E. Sankey, Canterbury, surgeon—June 29, J. Nunn, Baker-street, Portman-square, haberdasher—June 23, H. C. Langley, Suffolk-place, Hackney-road apothecary—June 23, T. *Blackman, Beddenden, Kent*, house-agent—June 23, T. Crewdson, Liverpool, stockbroker—June 23, J. E. West and H. Tennant, Leeds, stockbrokers —June 24, W. Grosvenor, Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, ironfounder—June 25, C. Stephenson, Colne, Lancashire, worsted manufacturer.

CERTIFICATES to be granted by the Court of Review, unless cause be shown to the contrary, on or before June 23.

J. Hall, Rochdale, Lancashire, share broker—S. Littler, Liverpool, draper—J. Roberts, Derwen, Denbighshire, farmer—C. H. Waters, Queen's-row Pimlico, dealer in paintings—W. Fordyce, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, bookseller —R. Edwards, Huddersfield woollen draper—J. Littlewood, *New Bond-street, hosier—Riding and J. Fielding*, Leyland, Lancashire, cotton manufacturers—J. C. Chambers, Ipsley, Warwickshire, needle manufacturer—R. G. Spedding, Queen-street, Cheapside, and Bush-lane, Cannon-street, zinc manufacturer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

T. Moncur, Montrose, glass and china merchant—A. Murray, Broughton—A. M'Cullum, Glasgow, merchant.

CHILD MURDER.—Mr. Wakley, M.P., held an inquest at the Doves' public house, Hammersmith, on the body of a newly-born male child, which had been picked up in the river Thames, with marks of injury on its head. It appeared from the evidence adduced that on Thursday last, as a person named Edward Nelson Moore, living in British School House Lane, Chiswick, was walking along the mall, he saw the body of the deceased child lying between the piles on the bank of the river, near the sewer leading from the West Middlesex Water Works. He immediately called the attention of George Earlain, living in George Street, Hammersmith Road, but they did not remove it, and only put a piece of matting over it until the arrival of the Hammersmith beadle, when it was carried to that house. Mr. T. M. C. Perfect, of Hammersmith Terrace, deposed to having examined the body, and gave his decided opinion that it had come to its death from the effects of the violence it had received on its head. It had received no medical attention at its birth. The Jury returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder" against some person or persons unknown.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS, A CERTAIN CURE FOR ASTHMA. Read the following cure:—James Holmes, a cotton-spinner, residing at Ancoates, Manchester, had been asthmatical for these last three years; he was frequently so bad, that when rising from his bed he could scarcely speak or breathe, and would cough and spit for half-an hour together, and often expected he would be choaked. He was much reduced in strength, and after every other means of cure failed, he used these wonderful pills, which have removed every symptom of asthma, and he is now as free from it as when he was a child.

Poetry.

SONGS FOR THE PEOPLE.

NO. XVII.

A CHARTIST CHORUS.

Go! cotton lords and corn lords, go!
Ye live on loom and acre,
But let be seen—some law between
The giver and the taker.

Go! treasure well your miser's store
With crown, and cross, and sabre!
Despite you all—we'll break your thrall,
And have our land and labour.

You forge no more—you fold no more
Your cankering chains about us;
We heed you not—we need you not,
But you can't do without us.

You've lagged too long, the tide has turned,
Your helmsmen all were knavish;
And now we'll be—as bold and free,
As we've been tame and slavish.

Our lives are not your sheaves to glean—
Our rights your bales to barter:
Give all their own—from cot to throne,
But ours shall be The Charter!

Hampstead, May 26th, 1846. Ernest Jones.

NO. XVIII.

GUDESAKE, LET'S AGREE.

(From the *People's Journal*.)

Air—*Miller of Dee*.

Some eighteen hundred years ago,
Man's noblest Teacher said,
"A house divided 'gainst itself
Maun prostrate sune be laid."
Now, frae this text to puir folk a'
Gude counsel I would gie;
Join hands, fling discord to the winds—
And Gudesake let's agree.

The thraldom dire of priest and king
We a' ower lang hae borne;
The meed of a' our care and toil,
Insult and bitter scorn.
But, had my text been borne in mind,
Sic wrangs we wadna dree;
Fell discord breeds us a' our wae—
Then Gudesake let's agree.

We sow, and ithers reap the fruit;
We weave, and ithers wear;
We're scrimpit baith in caup and cog,
That knaves may hae good cheer.
But were we to ilk ither true,
Sic wrangs we wadna see;
'Tis discord fell breeds a' our wae—
Then Gudeske let's agree.

Save in a bated beggar voice,
Our richts we daurna name;
They've bluidhounds lured frae poortith's ranks
Ilk wae-wild heart to tame.
But were we to ourselves a' true,
Sic tools nae king wad see;
Our discord is the tyrant's' power,
Then Gudesake let's agree.

The priest, wrapt in his misty creed,
The chainless mind may bann;
Lordling and king bar Freedom's path,
And mar the weal of man.
But gie's your hand, the day draws near
These nicht-birds sune maun flee;
The puir man yet shall hae his ain—
We're learning fast t'agree.

Hugh M'Donald.

Paisley.

☞ Our usual

FEAST OF THE POETS

will be given in the *Star* of June 27th and will contain one or more contributions from the pen of

Ernest Jones, Esq.,

and a notice of the works of

Robert Nicol,

the Scotch Poet.

All communications intended for insertion must be at the *Star* office by Monday the 15th inst.

Reviews.

TAIT'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE.—Edinburgh: W. Tait, Prince's Street. London: Simpkin and Marshall.

The "English Opium Eater," continues his dissertation, on "Christianity, as an organ of political movements," but we cannot say we have derived much instruction or entertainment from its perusal; it would be easy to pick holes in his arguments, but we are not disposed to indulge in criticism on such a subject. "A Ramble in North America in the Summer of 1844," consists of extracts from a tourist's manuscript journal, and very amusing they are. The conceit of our Yankee friends is very laughable; for instance our tourist says, "One day when I was inhaling a cigar, 'my custom always of an afternoon,' a man with a cheek full of Virginia, who had been attentively regarding me for some time previously, at last abruptly said, 'Well now, stranger, I reckon you're a Britisher.' I admitted the soft impeachment, and observed, 'What a splendid country yours is!' 'Con-siderable,' said he after a prolonged pause, 'It whips you'rn all to smash.' At a public dinner on the 4th of July, the Vice President (of the dinner party) in the course of his speech said, 'Our great-grandmother England, is pretty well used up now, I reckon, and I do calculate some, that although we are descended from the old country, we are an Almighty improvement upon the old stock.' (Tremendous cheering.)" The interesting Romance of "Truth and Falsehood," by Mrs. Col. Thornton is continued. Amongst the reviews are "Grote's History of Greece," and "Marshall on the Condition of Soldiers." This work appears to be one of the most valuable ever written on the Army, from the extracts therefrom, we give the following illustrations of

MILITARY TYRANNY AND CRUELTY.

Private Flanagan, —— regiment, was a fine-looking soldier, about six feet one inch in height. He had excellent natural talents, and had received a tolerably good education. He had acquired a knowledge of Latin, and could speak the French language. When the regiment went to India, he was in a short time able to communicate with the natives, in several of the languages of the country. Although Flanagan was a smart clever soldier, he was liable to commit slight breaches of military discipline, and his name was consequently sometimes entered in the Defaulter Books. Being a man of high spirit and violent temper, he could ill bear the reproaches of the Adjutant, who repeatedly censured him for his irregularities. On one occasion he became so irritated with the rebuke he was receiving, that he impatiently pushed the Adjutant from him with the back of his arm. Flanagan was forthwith tried by a court-martial for offering violence to the Adjutant, and sentenced to suffer death. When the sentence was communicated to him, he simply observed that he thought the award of the court was severe. On the day of the execution he preserved the most remarkable firmness, and conducted himself with the strictest decorum. The square having been formed, he, by permission, addressed the company to which he belonged. Having reached the fatal spot, the Fort-Adjutant commenced to read the proceedings of the court-martial; but having lost self-possession, his tongue faltered, which being observed by Flanagan, he addressed him by saying, "I see, sir, that you are agitated; pray allow me to read the proceedings for you." No notice was, of course, taken of this offer. He then begged that he should not be blindfolded, and that he might be permitted to give the word of command to the execution party; both of which requests were granted. He finally gave the word of command with as firm a voice as a Sergeant-Major is accustomed to do on a drill parade. Flanagan's untimely fate took place in June, 1828, at Trichinopoly—he, having, in all probability, fallen a victim to the unwise, injudicious, and harassing treatment of a superior officer. . . . . . . We learn from Dr. Hamilton, that private Anthony Gregory, of the 10th Foot, was punished with a hundred lashes, for suffering the queue of his hair to drop off when on duty, which, perhaps, he had rather carelessly tied on; and I have as late as 1811, seen an African recruit, who did not know a word of our language, brought to a drum-head court-martial, and flogged, in consequence of some of his appointments being less clean than they ought to have been. Unsteadiness in the ranks, caused, perhaps, by a man brushing a fly from his face, and the disgraceful offence of stealing from a comrade, met with a similar *chastisement, differing, perhaps, a little* in the amount of infliction, but the same in ignominy. By these means the moral judgments of officers were in some measure confounded, as offences which received the same kind of punishment come to be considered as of the same guilt. . . . .

Colonel Dickinson, when he commanded the 42d Regiment, was one day superintending the punishment of an old soldier, who had been sentenced to receive corporal punishment in consequence of his being, as he himself said, a "*wee fou*." The man complained much under the infliction, and begged frequently to be taken down; but the Colonel showed no disposition to remit any of the sentence. He made another appeal to the Colonel's humanity, and exclaimed. "Oh, Colonel take me down! for ye ken I'm just a puir auld drunken bodie like yoursel." The justice of the remark was universally admitted, and military discipline could hardly restrain the risible faculties of the officers and men. The soldier was forthwith taken down. His punishment evidently did much more harm than any benefit which could have been expected from it.

This number concludes with articles on the politics of the month; the first is entitled "The Lords on their trial:" the second is on the subject of our "Colonies and Dependencies." This last is a valuable article, containing suggestions which statesmen would do well to ponder on, if they would maintain that empire on which "the sun never sets."

THE LONDON PIONEER. Part I. London: B. D. Cousins, 18, Duke Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields.

The first part of this "weekly and monthly journal of progression in Science, Literature, and all that tends to instruct and amuse the human race," is before us, and fulfils the expectations we were led to entertain from the appearance of the first number. It is indeed a most interesting and amusing miscellany of knowledge and entertainment. It is quite impossible for us to particularize the numerous and varied contents, but we give the following from the pen of an old and respected friend, Allen Davenport.

SAINT GEORGE.

Most people, I believe, are somewhat acquainted with the order of the garter, instituted by Edward III. from the trivial circumstance of that monarch's picking up Lady Salisbury's garter in a ball-room. His courtiers, who considered the lady to be not one who was over scrupulous in bestowing her charity, set up a laugh; on which the king, with great gallantry, held up the garter, and exclaimed, "*Honi soit qui mal y pense*"—evil be to him who evil thinks. Such was the origin of one of the most illustrious orders of knighthood in the world; and, as King Edward predicted, the greatest monarchs in Europe are proud to fall on their knees and receive, with joy and exultation, the representative of Lady Salisbury's garter. But the origin of St. George, I think, is not so well known. Therefore, as I love to trace every stream to its source, I will endeavour to trace this illustrious knight from his birth to his death; and this I shall do as much as possible in the words of the faithful and admirable Gibbon, in his 'Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire.' In 361, during the reign of the Roman Emperor Julian, there sprang up in Capadocia a man of the name of *George*. He was of obscure origin, having been born in a fuller's shop. This man made his way in the world in a most wonderful manner. His patrons obtained for *him* the office of serving the army with bacon, in which capacity he outraged all honour and honesty, and for his peculation and corruption he was obliged to fly from the pursuit of justice. Some time after this he turned Christian and embraced the doctrine of Arius; and, by some extraordinary contrivance he managed (or the friends of corruption managed for him) to become ultimately the Archbishop of Egypt, where he practised oppression and villany to such a degree, that he was at last massacred, and his body, when dead, was dragged through the streets of Alexandria, and at last thrown into the sea! And, lo! —can it be believed?—this very identical George, this martyr, this saint, this Christian hero is transformed into the renowned St. George, the tutelary saint of England, the patron of arms, chivalry, and the garter, whose precious image, during the reign of his *namesake*, George the Fourth, was exhibited with his long spear in the act of killing the dragon on the gold soverigns!

We again recommend the *London Pioneer*.

THE ALMANACK OF THE MONTH JUNE. London: *Punch* Office, 85, Fleet-street.

This Number completes the first volume of this capital Review of everything and everybody, and a "richt merrie" little volume it will make. No lover of fun should be without it. We again extract from the admirable

POLITICAL MAXIMS.

(*A la Rochefoucauld.*)

It is very difficult to argue with the Protectionists about Free Trade, For they will not admit anything. Natuer's nobility has the advantage over England's; it has no dukes. The revolutions in Spain and Portugal are so frequent, that we begin to believe the world cannot go round without them. Germany is the great European *mart for kings and sausages. The Lord Lieutenant of* Ireland, who receives £20,000 a-year, may be called the largest drawer in the Cabinet. The sovereignty of the people is a poor mockery, when they have scarcely a crown amongst them. The Millenium will be when there is a Happy Family made up of the British Lion, the Gallic Cock, the Russian, Austrian, and American Eagles, all living in the same cage together. Statues are the caricatures of the present day; to make a great man ridiculous, you must run him down in bronze. Nothing in England can be discussed without a dinner; it would seem as if an Englishman's mind had taken its seat in the pit of his stomach. The best berths on board a Vessel of State are generally secured for the Ministers' families. The Press is called the Fourth Estate; how pleased Nicholas, Louis Philippe, and Co., would be, if they could get George Robins to "knock down" this Estate! It takes six horses to carry the Queen's Speech to the House of Lords. The Royal Family will be in want of a catalogue shortly, as badly as the British Museum. Money has been called the sinews of war, but Ministers make small bones of it. The motto of the Puseyites is, "Every road leads to Rome." The greatest gentleman in Europe now sits on horseback in Trafalgar Square without any trowsers! The Agriculturists have been sowing lately nothing but the seeds of dissension. A glorious bit of stuff lasts for a long time in England; look at the British flag, which has been braving for a thousand years the battle and the breeze, and is not worn out yet. But the greatest bit of stuff we know, is the wisdom of our ancestors, which it is time should be pulled to pieces. We consider the wisdom of our ancestors to be the greatest folly of the present day. People only reverence it, because they have so little wisdom of their own.

PUNCH Part LIX. London: *Punch* Office, 85, Fleet-street.

The illustrations this month are superior to those of the preceding Part, but the literary matter exhibits no signs of improvement. Even "The Snobs of England" are but snobbishly pourtrayed in the last two or three numbers, the "Clerical Snobs" being but very gently handled, as though the writer feared to touch the black-coated tribe. The following is not amiss: we copy it for the use of the admirers of the "Liberator," the "Irish Moses," the

"Saviour of the nation not yet saved."

KING DAN.

A NEW VERSION OF "KING DEATH."

King Dan was a rare old fellow,
On cash he was always bent;
He called for the gold so yellow,
And they forked out the Irish rent.
Hurrah for the Irish rent!

There came to him many starving,
Who'd forgotten the word content;
And widows, their last mites halving,
To add to the Irish rent.
Hurrah for the Irish rent!

The workman gave half his earning,
Though his children wanted clothes;
And the peasant, a penny turning,
To the rent-fund a farthing throws.
Hurrah for the Irish rent!

All came to the royal old fellow,
Who laughed to his heart's content—
As he took up the gold so yellow,
And promised Repeal for the rent.
Hurrah! hurrah!
Hurrah for the Irish rent!

In to-day's *Punch*, (not included in the Part under notice,) we find the following:

A MEEK REMONSTRANCE.

To the Editor of the "Liverpool Journal," in the matter of his "London Correspondent."

Mr. Editor,

Some falsehoods may be made as like to truths as toad-stools are like to mushrooms. And folks who really believe they have an excellent eye to choose the healthful from the poisonous fungus, have, nevertheless, gathered and cooked the sham mushroom—and all with the best intentions—to the passing inconvenience of the partakers thereof.

Your London Correspondent, Mr. Editor, has placed me in a like dilemma. He has—I am sure, unwittingly—in his basket of metropolitan gatherings, sent you certain toadstools with his mushrooms. Here is one; a very large toadstool indeed.

"Douglas Jerrold is off Punch!"

Now, Mr. Editor, I can contradict this, on I believe the very best authority—my own. And inasmuch as the erroneous statement has been very generally copied throughout the provincial press, I herewith—though solely in compliance with the wishes of others—formally and triply deny it:

Douglas Jerrold is *not* off *Punch*.
Has not been off *Punch*.
And will not be off *Punch*.

In truth whereof, I subscribe myself,
Mr. Editor,
Your obedient and humble servant,
DOUGLAS JERROLD.

West Lodge, Putney Lower Common.
June 1st.

The statement of Mr. Jerrold being "off *Punch*," having appeared also in this journal (copied from a contemporary), we give Mr. Jerrold and *Punch* the benefit of the above denial. We must confess that we believed the report to be true, for the reason that of late we have seen nothing in *Punch* worthy of Mr. Jerrold's pen. Of late *Punch* has been little better than a mere illustrated copy of the *League*, and just about as witty and interesting as that delectable organ of the millocrats. No journal in the kingdom has so constantly and heartily applauded *Punch* as the *Northern Star* has done, as long as we believed it worthy of that applause, but we can applaud no longer. It is no pleasing task for us to censure a contemporary, who in its time has "done the state some service,"—service which deserves to be remembered, but past excellence cannot excuse present deficiencies. The part of buffoon and caricaturist doing the work of the greedy gang of *League* hypocrites, is a part unworthy of the high character earned by *Punch* in days gone by, and must be abandoned, or the public (who are not all Leaguers) will abandon *Punch*.

THE POLITICAL WORKS OF THOMAS PAINE. Published by the Executive Committee of the National Charter Association. London: T. M. Wheeler, 83, Dean Street, Soho.

The five parts of this edition are now published, containing the whole of Paine's Political Works, and a portrait of the author, together with a copy of the "People's Charter." The portrait is an engraving on steel, and is one of the best, if not the very best of the portraits of this terror of tyrants. We understand that the entire volume may be had neatly bound for 3s. 6d. At this price every one may and ought to possess the works of the great political teacher.

Some weeks ago we noticed the "Dissertation on the First Principles of Government;" in the present edition, following the "Dissertation" is the "Agrarian Justice; opposed to Agrarian Law and Agrarian Monopoly, being a Plan for ameliorating the condition of Man, &c." This plan of amelioration was to create a national fund to pay to every person, when arrived at the age of twenty-one years, the sum of fifteen pounds sterling, to enable him, or her, to begin the world, and to pay all persons of the age of fifty years, and all others when they shall arrive at that age, the sum of ten pounds sterling during life to enable them to live in old age without wretchedness, and go decently out of the world. Our readers who may be curious respecting this plan will do well to refer to the work; we do not think it necessary to inquire into the practicability and utility of the scheme, as we think the day for its adoption has gone by. Men have now clearer ideas of the causes of social wrongs and their remedies than they had in the days of Paine, and hence larger and more comprehensive measures are aimed at as necessary to save the many from the evils of poverty. Independent, however, of the particular scheme advocated by the author, this little tract contains some admirable reasoning in vindication of the natural rights of men; we select the following extracts:—

THE "CIVILISED" STATE.

Whether that state, that is proudly, perhaps erroneously, called civilisation, has most promoted or most injured the general happiness of man, is a question that may be strongly contested. On one side the spectator is dazzled by splendid appearances—on the other, he is shocked by extremes of wretchedness; both of which it has created. The most affluent and the most miserable of the human race are to be found in the countries that are called civilised.

* * * *

The first principle of civilisation ought to have been, and ought still to be, that the condition of every person born into the world after a state of civilisation commences, ought not to be worse than if he had been born before that period. But the fact is that the condition of millions in every country in Europe is far worse than if they had been born before civilisation began, or had been born among the Indians of North America of the present day.

THE LAND THE COMMON PROPERTY OF THE HUMAN RACE.

There could be no such thing as landed property originally. Man did not make the earth, and though he had a natural right to *occupy* it, he had no right to *locate* as *his property*, in perpetuity, any part of it; neither did the Creator of the earth open a land-office, from whence the first title-deeds should issue.

* * * *

It is a position not to be controverted, that the earth in its natural uncultivated state, was, and ever would have continued to be, the COMMON PROPERTY OF THE HUMAN RACE. In that state, every man would have been born to property. He would have been a joint life-proprietor with the rest in the property of the soil, and in all its natural productions, vegetable and animal.

But the earth in its natural state, as before said, is capable of supporting but a small number of inhabitants compared with what it is capable of doing in a cultivated state. And as it is impossible to separate the improvement made by cultivation, from the earth itself upon which that improvement is made, the idea of landed property arose from that inseparable connection; but it is nevertheless true, that it is the value of the improvement only, and not the earth itself, that is individual property. Every proprietor, therefore, of cultivated land, owes to the community a *ground-rent*, for I know no better term to express the idea by, for the land which he holds; and it is from this ground-rent that the fund proposed in this plan it to issue.

SOCIAL REVOLUTIONS NECESSARY TO PERFECT POLITICAL REVOLUTIONS.

A revolution in the state of civilisation is the necessary companion of revolutions in the system of government. If a revolution in any country be from bad to good or from good to bad, the state of what is called civilisation in that country must be made comformable thereto, to give that revolution effect. Despotic government supports itself by abject civilisation, in which debasement of the human mind, and wretchedness in the mass of the people, are the chief criterions. Such governments consider man merely as an animal; that the exercise of the intellectual faculty is not his privilege; *that he has nothing to do with the laws but to obey them*;* and they politically depend more upon breaking the spirit of the people by poverty, than they fear enraging it by desperation.

It is a revolution in a state of civilisation, that will give perfection to the revolution of France. Already the conviction that government by representation is the true system of government, is spreading itself fast into the world. The reasonableness of it can be seen by all. But when a system of civilisation, growing out of that system of government, shall be so organised, that not a man or woman born in the republic but shall inherit some means of beginning the world, and see before them the certainty of escaping miseries that under other governments accompany old age, the revolutions of France will have an advocate and an ally in the hearts of all nations.

In concluding this work, the author says in words that we feel persuaded will be as eternal as time:—

"*An army of principles will penetrate where an army of soldiers cannot. It will succeed where diplomatic management would fail. It is neither the Rhine, the Channel, nor the Ocean that can arrest its progress. It will march on the horizon of the world, and it will conquer.*

"Thomas Paine."

* Expression of Horsley, an English Bishop, in the English Parliament.

SWINDLING AT WINDSOR, SLOUGH AND ETON.

A deep laid scheme of swindling, by evidently a practised hand, has just been successfully played off by a well dressed gentlemanly-looking man upon some of the most respectable innkeepers and tradesmen, of Windsor, Eton, and Slough.

It appears that on Tuesday morning week, a person of highly respectable appearance and gentlemanly manners arrived at Slough, by an early train, from London, where he took up his abode at Mr. Dotesio's, the Royal Hotel, close to the Railway Station. He remained there during that and the following day. On Thursday he told Mr. Dotesio that he was going to town to be present at the close of the debate on the Corn Bill in the House of Lords, having got a ticket of admission from his "friend," the Duke of Beaufort, and that he should not return till the following morning. It appears however, that on that day, previously to proceeding to London, he went to Messrs. Nevile, Reid and Co.'s Bank at Windsor, and paid in a cheque for a large amount, drawn upon a London banker, stating that he was staying at the Royal Hotel, and that as he should have some payments to make when the bankers received advice of the cheque being honoured, it would be extremely convenient to him to be furnished with a blank cheque book. This was, as it has since proved, most incautiously given to him, and has been the means of enabling him to practise his art with the appearance, at least, of a respectable man, having a banker's account open at Windsor. He perfectly well knew that as his cheque was not paid into the Windsor Bank until Thursday, Messrs. Reid and Co. would not be advised of its reception in London before Saturday morning.

On Friday morning, when he returned to the Royal Hotel by the first train from London, he sent for Mr. Dotesio into the coffee-room, to inform him of the result of the division, observing that "he was of the same opinion as his friend a noble Duke, that it was doubtful whether a scrutiny of the proxies would not still cause considerable embarrassment to the government." He also spoke familiarly of several noble Lords his "friends," as he represented them and acquaintances! He then said he had an account at the Windsor Bank, producing his cheque book, and asked Mr. Dotesio, to cash a cheque for £10. The appearance of the cheque book would have so completely disarmed suspicion, even if any had been previously entertained, that the amount was immediately handed over to him, and he went out after breakfast, as he said for a "stroll." It should be mentioned that he signed the cheque "J. H. Wyndham;" and the inference was, from his gentlemanly manners and address, and other circumstances, that he was a member of the Egremont family.

From the Royal Hotel, it appears, he proceeded to Eton, where he called upon Mr. Yarrow, the tailor of the College, and ordered a suit of clothes; stating that as he was going to a wedding the following (Saturday) morning, and as his own dress clothes were upwards of two hundred miles off, he must have them made and sent to the Royal Hotel, at Slough, by seven o'clock that (Friday) evening. Although it was then nearly twelve o'clock, the order was taken and promised to be executed. He then said Mr. Yarrow, "As I am a stranger to you, although I have received high recommendations of your excellent cut and fit, I'll pay you at once. Just make out your bill and give me a receipt." The bill was paid by a cheque on the Windsor Bank. Mr. Yarrow, however, having some suspicion about the matter, paid Mr. Wyndham's cheque, with other moneys, into the bank that afternoon; calling the particular attention of the clerk to the cheque in question, and asking him if it was "*all right*." The clerk having answered in the affirmative, and given credit for it, the suit of clothes were completed and sent to the Royal Hotel punctually at the time agreed to.

The party then paid a visit to Windsor; calling upon Mr. Hanson, watchmaker and jeweller, of the High-street, whom he especially patronised by purchasing a gold watch and chain, a breast pin, and other articles of jewellery, to the amount of between £11 and £12. The production of his cheque book from the Windsor Bank, as in the case of Mr. Dotesio induced Mr. Hanson to imagine it was "a voucher of respectability," and he had no hesitation in parting with his property, which was paid for by a draft on Nevile, Reid and Co.

He intimated to Mr. Dotesio that as he intended to make a lengthened stay at the Royal Hotel, after "a certain event" had taken place (which was construed to refer to his marriage) he would like to look over the hotel, to select a large and airy bed room, and one of the best sitting rooms. On Friday evening he proceeded, with the proprietor, over such portions of the hotel as were then unoccupied, and arranged for the occupancy of two apartments to commence on Monday for a lengthened period. Shortly after the arrival of his new suit of clothes from Mr. Yarrow, he ordered his bill, which was brought him, amounting to £3 3s. 3d., stating that he was going to London by the last train, and that he should return on Monday, to take possession of his sitting and bed room. He also stated that a large quantity of luggage would arrive for him by the train from town yesterday, and requested that the carriage might be paid by the proprietor of the hotel. He then drew a cheque for £5, with which he paid his bill, receiving from Mr. Dotesio the difference. He left Slough by the last up train, for London, and has not been seen or heard of since.

The next morning, soon after the Windsor Bank had opened, the bubble burst, and his unfortunate dupes were made aware of the deception of which they had been made the victims. Other persons similarly victimized in the neighbourhood, are expected to come forward to-morrow. When the different cheques were presented at Nevile, Reid and Co., there were no effects; J. H. Wyndham being unknown to the parties in London upon whom his draft was drawn and deposited in the Windsor Bank.

The Swindler at Oxford.—Previous to Mr. Wyndham's visiting Slough and Windsor, where, as above stated, he patronized a few of the tradesmen there, he favoured Oxford with a call. *He took up his quarters* at the Mitre Hotel, which is much frequented by the University and the leading gentry of the county. Here Mr. Wyndham made himself quite at home, and from his aggreable manners, his conversation, and remarks on passing events, became quite a favourite in the coffee-room, and was listened to with equal interest and pleasure. The landlord, who is tolerably acute, and not easily to be imposed upon, was in this instance thrown off his guard, and believed that he had a guest that would be no discredit to his house, or to the company that frequented it, and this impression was strengthened by Mr. Wyndham's sending letters to the post addressed to Lord Braybrooke and others, with whom he represented himself as connected, or related to. On first visiting the Mitre, he told the landlord that he should come up again shortly to enter a younger brother at Christ-Church, and should stay some time, just to get him well introduced, and the "rust rubbed off before he left him." One of the first calls which Mr. Wyndham made was at Messrs. Wotten's bank, where he tried to get a cheque on a Leamington bank for 5l. cashed, but could not succeed, in consequence of being a stranger and unable to give a reference. In his next attempt, which was at Messrs. Robinson and Parson's Old Bank, he got on better, adopting a different plan, by paying a cheque on a Leamington bank for 100l., stating that he was staying at the Mitre Hotel, and wished to make some payments, when the bankers had received advice of the cheque being honoured. Before leaving the bank, however, he requested a blank cheque book, which he said he could fill up at his leisure, and which was accordingly given him. His next call was on Mr. Parsons, the tailor, opposite the Mitre Hotel, and he favoured him with an order for a suit of clothes, which were to be made of the best materials, and with all possible speed—directions that were complied with to the very letter. The clothes gave great satisfaction, and Mr. Wyndham immediately settled for them by giving a cheque on a Leamington bank for the amount. Mr. Parsons felt as well satisfied with his customer as he did with the clothes, and expressed a hope that Mr. Wyndham would favour him with any future orders, and assured him that he should be happy to wait on him again on the same terms. On Tuesday morning, after staying four days in Oxford, Mr. Wyndham called for his bill at the Mitre, amounting to 4l. and upwards, and gave the waiter a cheque on Robinson and Parsons for 10l. the waiter giving him the difference. Mr. Wyndham left Oxford by the 9 o'clock morning train, having previously arranged with Mr. Venables for rooms for a month, when he should enter his brother at Christ Church. The waiter called at Robinson's bank, and got Mr. Wyndham's cheque for 10l. changed by the junior clerk, who, knowing that he paid in 100l. the day before, considered it was all right. It turned out to be all wrong, for the next communication from Leamington was, that nothing was known of Mr. Wyndham, and that as to effects there were none. Messrs. Robinson and Co. considered themselves fortunate in not being done to a larger amount than 10l.; and though the value of the Leamington cheque was not increased in Mr. Parson's estimation, still he congratulated himself that he had not fitted his customer with more suits than one. It is a singular circumstance, however, that Mr. Wyndham proceeded direct by rail to Slough, and lost not a moment in commencing operations there and at Windsor, in which he succeeded to a greater extent, and more to his satisfaction, than he did during his sojurn here.

Windsor, Tuesday.—Among other parties who have been swindled out of their property in this neighbourhood by the *soi disant* Mr. Wyndham, is Mr. Merrick, watchmaker and jeweller, of this town. He called at the shop of Mr. Merrick, just before dusk on Friday evening, and purchased a gold watch chain, for which he paid £4 5s., by a cheque on the Windsor bank. He stated, as in the case of Dr. Hanson, that he intended it as a present for a young friend, a pupil at Eton College.

It is expected that a clue has been obtained which may be the means of bringing the delinquent to justice, but at present it is deemed prudent not to give publicity to the expected retreat of this hitherto successful swindler:

There appeared to be very little doubt that he is connected with a gang who are carrying on depredations of a similar character in other parts of the country. This morning, Mr. Dotesio received two letters, unpaid, by post, bearing the Manchester post mark of June 1. In the inside of the envelope was written, "Your old St. P. H. Wyndham;" and in the other, "Your old St. Snooks;" both written by the same party, but not in the handwriting of the Mr. "Wyndham," who signed the cheques upon the Windsor Bank. One envelope contained an old blank form of application for shares in the North Cheshire Railway Company, and the other a bundle of patterns of chintz bed furniture. It is expected that some of the gang with whom he is connected posted those letters at Manchester, yesterday, for the purpose of inducing those in pursuit of him to imagine he has proceeded to that town, and of thus causing a "diversion" in his favour.

It is stated that he lately paid Cheltenham a visit, where he was equally successful in his operations.

Mr. Wyndham in Bath.—A man of gentlemanly appearance, a few days since, took up his quarters at the White Hart Hotel, in Bath, and shortly after his arrival requested the landlord to give him change for a check for £50, drawn on Messrs. Heywood and Co., of Liverpool, but which the landlord politely declined. He then went to two joint stock banks, and also to a private bank, producing a letter purporting to been written by Messrs. Martin, Stone, and Co., of London, stating his checks on them would be honoured to the amount of £300. With each of the above banks he opened an account, and received a check book. From one of the joint stock banks he received £5, and from the private bank £15. The following morning he left the city, and it was soon discovered that he was a swindler. Not contented with the amount he had obtained, he had the hardihood to send a messenger from Bristol with another check on the joint stock bank. The messenger was, however, detained, and by that means the residence in Bristol of the "gentleman" was discovered. The manager of the joint stock *bank went to Bristol, accompanied by a person from the* private bank; and, having met with the "gentleman," the manager obtained from him £4 10s. in cash, a silk umbrella, his small wardrobe, and also the forged letter; and then, with a most extraordinary feeling of commiseration, let him depart, to put his plans into operation at some other place.—*Bath Journal*.

Dreadful Steam-boat Explosion and Loss of Life.—Wigtown, Scotland, May 27.—An awful accident took place to-day. The Steamer Finn M'Coull left here at twelve o'clock for Liverpool, and on the passage called at Garliestown for goods, and when just loosing the rope to leave the quay, the boiler burst, and the under-engineer and one fireman were killed, and the head-engineer and two men (we do not know whether they were firemen or not, but they belonged to the vessel), were dreadfully scalded, and not expected to live. None of the passengers were injured. The boiler burst at the bottom; if it had burst at the top, there is no saying what amount of lives might have been lost. The steam had just been shut off about one minute before the accident took place, and the poor fellows had to lie in the engine-room upwards of five minutes before assistance could be got, on account of the great quantity of steam and dust.

Serious Fire.—On Monday morning, shortly after midnight, a most alarming fire broke out upon the premises numbered 25, in Cowcross-street, near Smithfield-bars, in the occupation of a variety of persons, to whom the several rooms were sublet. The fire raged furiously for upwards of an hour, in a densely populated neighbourhood, notwithstanding the efforts of the firemen. It was for some time feared that a widow who occupied the front floor had perished in the flames, but it was subsequently ascertained that she had succeeded before the fire penetrated her room, in getting through the attic window, and by passing along the coping, had made her way into one of the contiguous houses. This must have been a work of considerable difficulty, for the poor creature had been confined to her bed by illness for several months. The infant child of Mrs. Pemberton, in whose apartment the fire originated, was so frightfully burned, that not the slightest hopes can be entertained of its recovery. The legs and arms are completely charred, and the face has a portion of the flesh burned off. The mother, it seems, had not left the room more than five minutes, when the first alarm was given. When she retired down stairs she left a candle burning on a table some distance from the bed-side. There were however, two cats in the rooms, which were in the habit of frequently jumping upon the table, and it is supposed that they must have done the same, and by that means have set themselves on fire, and then rushed under the bedstead and set the clothes in flames. The whole of the numerous persons living in the place have lost every article they possessed, several of them being forced to rush from the blazing building into the street with nothing on more than their night dresses.

General Intelligence.

The Electric Telegraph.—The electric telegraph on the Eastern Counties Railway has been for some time completed as far as Chesterford. On Wednesday last the result of the Derby at Epsom was made known to us in Cambridge by its means as early as half-past four o'clock. A year ago it was thought to be a great achievement to bring down the account by eight o'clock; but time and space are almost annihilated now by this marvellous invention, the benefits and convenience of which have just been extended to us.—*Cambridge Chronicle*.

Death of Thomas Bunbury, Esq., M.P.—We have to record the demise of Mr. Bunbury, M.P. for the county of Carlow, who expired on the 28th inst., at his temporary residence in the neighbourhood of the metropolis. The deceased, who was 71 years of age, was returned at the last election in 1841, on Tory principles, after a sharp struggle with Mr. Daniel O'Connell, jun., and Mr. Yates, of Lancashire.

Warlike.—The Underwriters at Lloyds', in preparation for any contingency arising from the hostile position of affairs on the other side of the Atlantic, have refused to insure American vessels, except at an advanced premium.

Freemasonry.—Lord Worsley, M.P., has been appointed Deputy Grand Master of Freemasons for England.

Mr. Peter Purcell, the well known coach contractor and active public character, died last Friday, at his house in Rutland-square, Dublin.

A Mysterious Prisoner has been for some time confined in the fortress of Konigstein, in Saxony. It is said that he will be exiled to America.

Silesia, May 23.—An event has lately taken place in the circle of Nimpt which resembles what sometimes happens among the Irish peasantry. A land-owner, who is said to be rather strict in asserting his right, has a field of very fine rape-seed: in one night the whole was cut down. The loss is stated to be several thousand pounds.

Representation of Hertfordshire.—Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, Bart., has consented to become a candidate for the representation of this county in Parliament, on the next vacancy.

Mr. Colquhoun has announced to the electors of Newcastle-under-Lyne that he does not intend to come forward again as a candidate to represent them.

Profanity at a Premium.—A few days ago, an auction of birds took place at the Wallace Fens, Perth shire. As the exposer holds a high reputation among ornithologists as a bird-trainer, rather more than the usual number of would-be purchasers appeared upon the spot. Several canaries sold at 5s. each, and parrots from 25s. to 30s. A fine-looking bird of the latter class was put up at 25s. Pretty Poll's organ of self-esteem seemed to be excited by his being offered at such a low price; and before the auctioneer had time to utter any recommendations in her favour, the animal commenced a round of swearing that would have "beat Banagher." The audience seemed electrified by the unlooked for display of the bird's powers. Every oath raised his value a crown, till he was finally knocked down at 3l. 5s.

The Peace Movement in Birmingham.—On Saturday night a public meeting was held in the Town Hall, for the purpose of discussing the general subject of war, and with the view to adopt a petition to Parliament, urging the abandonment of the system *of ballotting for the militia, and the necessity of* inserting an arbitration clause in all future foreign treaties. The Rev. Thomas Swan presided, supported by several other ministers of various denominations; and amongst the laity there were Joseph Sturge, Esq., John Palmer, Esq., Mr. Councillor Field, and many other gentlemen, warm friends of the peace movement. Between two and three thousand persons were present. The petition was adopted, and, after some other gentlemen had addressed the meeting, it broke up at half-past ten, the proceedings throughout having been of a most interesting character.

Burns Festival in Australia.—We learn by the *Melbourne Courier*, an Australian paper, that a festival was about to be held in honour of Robert Burns. The "demonstration" was expected to surpass anything that "has ever taken place in Melbourne. No hall of sufficient extent for the accommodation of the expected company being obtainable, arrangements, says the newspaper we have mentioned, "have been made with the proprietor of the Queen's theatre for the use of that building on the occasion; and it is proposed to have the pit boarded over, and the entire space which will thus be afforded fitted up as a dinner-room." It is calculated there will not be fewer than 300 Scotchmen present.

Remarkable Death of a Tiger.—A magnificent royal tiger, forming part of a travelling menagerie at the fair of Metz, has recently met with its death in a very curious way. In consequence of the blows of a whip or stick received in its youth, it had near the jaw two wens of some size, which no one had ever thought of removing, till a veterinary surgeon of Metz proposed to perform this perilous operation. The offer having been accepted by the proprietor of the menagerie, the tiger was securely fastened down with chains and ropes. The poor animal submitted to this unaccustomed manœuvre with much quietness; but on the operator entering the cage with his knife, and attempting to perform the operation, the tiger was seized with such extreme rage, that being unable to burst the bonds, congestion of the brain ensued, and he expired in a few seconds.

International Addresses. — We some time ago referred to the fact that a correspondence had been opened between merchants, corporations, and other bodies in America, with the view of putting down the warlike spirit, and impressing and fostering the spirit of peace. Among the latest of these international addresses, there is one from the *women* of Exeter to the *women* of Philadelphia, and which received 1,600 signatures.

Dreadful Fire. — Cambridge.—About two hours after midnight on Friday, an awful fire suddenly burst forth near the village of Bottisham, which for hours threw a lurid glare over the surrounding country, and was not extinguished till an immense quantity of buildings and valuable property were destroyed. The scene of destruction was at the extensive homestead of the Trinity College, rented by Mr. Newman, one of the oldest and most respectable inhabitants in that part of the country.

The Wilson Monument Fund. — Mr. Hastie, M.P. has forwarded to the secretary the sum of £5, as his subscription in aid of the funds for erecting a monument to the memory of Wilson, the poet and ornithologist. In his letter transmitting the subscription, Mr. Hastie truly remarks, that "few of Paisley's departed sons reflect greater credit on our country." Let us hope, therefore, that ere long the committee will be enabled to complete the undertaking in a proper manner.

Haymaking has commenced in many parts of Gloucestershire. Both the grass and clover are looking well, and promise an abundant crop.

Haymaking commenced in some of the upper parts of Essex, in the course of last week.

Fatal Fall from Intoxication. — On Tuesday evening an inquest was held before Mr. W. Payne, *at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, on the body of C.* Thomas Hatchwell, aged fifty-six, a commission agent. The deceased resided in Brick-lane, St. Luke's, and was addicted to drinking. On the night of the 20th ult. he was passing through Soho in a *state of intoxication, when his foot slipped from the* kerb stone, and he fell heavily on the back of his head, which was severely cut. The wound was dressed by a chemist, but from that time he kept his bed, and on Friday last he was removed to the above hospital, where he died on the following Sunday. Verdict, "Accidental death."

Frightful Accidents at Stepney Fair. — On Monday evening about ten o'clock, a lad named Ayres, about ten years of age, was in Stepney Fair, assisting to turn one of those machines, called "a merry-go-round," which revolves upon an axis, when his foot got in between the iron work, and before the machine could be stopped his leg was torn off in a frightful manner. The poor little fellow was taken to the London Hospital, where he lies in a precarious state. The medical officers of the institution give very little hopes of his recovery. On Tuesday afternoon another accident occurred in the same fair, to a female, who was thrown out of one of the swings, and broke her leg in several places.

Extensive Robbery. — On Tuesday afternoon, Mrs. Abder, residing in St, Martin's-lane, had her pocket picked of £173, between Lombard-street and her residence. Mrs. Abder got into an omnibus at the Mansion-house, and was set down at St. Martin's Church, but did not discover her loss till she got home.

Poaching in St. James's Park.—At the Bow-street Police Office on Monday, a young man, named George Cookson, was committed for trial, charged with stealing and killing a duck from the enclosure in St. James's Park, the property of the Ornithological Society.

Accident from Furious Driving.—At the Worship-street Police Office on Tuesday, George Clark, a horse breaker, was fined 30s. for furiously driving, whereby James Bennett, another breaker, was injured.

Sad Reverse of Fortune.—At the Lambeth Police Office on Tuesday, a person named Wood, was committed for trial, on the charge of receiving stolen property. Mr. Solomons, who defended Wood, stated that not many years back his unfortunate client was worth 40,000l., though he was at present almost pennyless.

Sudden Deaths.—On Tuesday, Mr. W. Baker, jun., held two inquests at the Captain Cooke, Marmon-street, St. Georges'-in-the-East, on the bodies of Violetta Ann Spence, aged twenty-two years, and Elizabeth Adame, the younger, aged six years. In the first case, it appeared that the deceased was a single woman, but had been living with a young man named John Wooldridge, who had left her and gone to sea. On Thursday evening the deceased complained of pains in her head, and appeared to be very unwell. She continued to get worse, and was found in her bed on Saturday morning quite dead. In the second case it appeared that the deceased was a very sickly child, and the spine of her back was affected. On Saturday morning she was taken with an apoplectic fit, and died shortly afterwards. The Jury in each case returned a verdict of "Natural death."

Descent of the Balloon.—On Monday night the Albion balloon, in which Mr. C. Green ascended with a friend, at Cremorne-gardens, crossed over the Thames on this side of Putney-bridge, when, after returning, it proceeding towards Uxbridge, and about eight o'clock, having been an hour in the air, safely descended in a meadow on the estate of —Way, Esq., of Denham Park, Bucks. The aerial machine was brought to *terra firma* by means of the guide line, which was held by several men, there being no necessity, from the calm state of the atmosphere, to use the grappling iron.

The Cattle Disease.—We regret to learn, that a considerable farmer in the vicinity of Edinburgh has recently lost twenty-seven cows and sixteen calves, by the ravages of the murrain which has been for some time prevalent amongst cattle.

Fatal Fall from a Window.—On Tuesday evening an inquest was held before Mr. Bedford, at the Sun, Long-acre, on the body of Jane Bull, aged four years. The deceased was the daughter of a saddler residing at No. 88, Long-acre. On Saturday evening last, a little girl named Bonner, nine years of age, whose parents reside in the same house, was carrying her on her back down stairs. On reaching the third floor staircase window, which was open, she placed the diseased on the window-sill to rest, when the unfortunate child let go her hold, and fell headlong out of the window into the back yard, a depth of sixty feet. She was picked up by one of the lodgers in an insensible state, and bleeding profusely from the ears and nose. Mr. Brooking, surgeon, was called in immediately, but the diseased expired shortly afterwards, from injury to the brain. Verdict "Accidental death."

The '45 subscriptions for the Monument at Culloden are being paid to the promoters of that Scottish memorial. The Highland Society has been applied to for a contribution, and some of the northern papers speak very energetically as to the duty of every Scot to contribute his mite for the erection of this momento upon the memorable battle field.

Suspected Infanticide.—On Tuesday morning, the neighbourhood of Agar-town, was thrown into a state of great excitement, owing to a report that a female had been seen for a considerable length of time loitering about the Regent's Canal, adjoining Mr. Goodhall's wharf, in the King-road, St. Pancras, and was observed by a woman living nearly opposite, who had watched her movements for some time, to squat under Cambridge-bridge, and consign a bundle to the canal, which instantly sunk. The woman who witnessed the circumstance gave the alarm to some persons on the other side of the canal, who succeeded in apprehending the suspected female, and delivered her into the hands of the police, who conveyed her to the station house of the district. She refused to give her name or her place of abode, and said she merely threw in some bread.

The Coast Defences. — The armament for the defence of the ships of war on the Canadian Lakes being completed, and the advance ships being for the most part equipped, orders have been received to expedite the supply of ordnance for the coast defences. The giant scale on which these defences are to be formed, may be judged of from the annexed details of the supplies of guns, carriages, and ammunition, which are to be forwarded to the following places:—For the additional defences at Sheerness, one 56-pounder, of 97 cwt.; seventeen 8-inch, of 65 cwt. each: twenty-eight 32 pounders, of 56 cwt.; and twelve 24-pounders, of 20 cwt.; total for Sheerness, 58 guns. The 24-pounders are to be mounted on iron carriages, but all the heavier guns on carriages with traversing platforms. For the additional defences at Tilbury Fort, fifty 32-pounders, of 56 cwt, each, on carriages, with dwarf traversing platforms; nineteen 32-pounders, of 33 cwt., on iron carriages; total additional guns for Tilbury Fort, 69. Additional guns for Gravesend, fifteen 32-pounders, of 56 cwt., on carriages with dwarf traversing platforms, Guns, carriages, and traversing platforms for the defences at Portsmouth, Gosport, Portsea, and Priddy's Hard, in addition to the existing armament, two 56-pounders of 97 cwt; 17 8inch guns of 65 cwt. and 15 8-inch of 50 cwt; sixty-one 32 pounders, of 56 cwt.; thirty-nine 64-pounders, of 50 cwt.; thirty-six 8-inch howitzers, and one 24-pounder carronade. On iron-carriages—Seventy-five 24-pounder guns, of 20 cwt. Total for Portsmouth, Gosport, &c., 246 of ordnance; grand total for Sheerness, Tilbury Fort, Gravesend, Portsmouth, &c., 388 pieces of ordnance of various sizes. A small armament of light pieces of ordnance, consisting of six 6-pounder guns, six 3-pounders, eight 4 2-5ths howitzers, and eight 2-5ths mortars are ready for shipment for Quebec. This armament is to be forwarded to the various forts of the Hudson's Bay Company in the North-west territories, to be ready in the event of hostilities occurring in connexion with the Oregon. As guns of this kind will, in the event of war, have to be conveyed over mountain districts, a contrivance has been invented by which the guns can be carried between a given number of men. Several trials of the invention have been made here, and it has been found that it is quite practicable.

Fatal Accidents.—On Monday, Mr. W. Baker, jun., held an inquest at the London Hospital, on the body of John Burke, aged forty-seven, a labourer. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased had been working at Mr. Smith's distillery, Back Row, Whitechapel. On last Saturday week, he was procuring some candles in the steam-engine room, and was descending, when his foot slipped, and he fell upon a piece of iron which was projecting out of the engine. He was immediately picked up, bleeding profusely from a wound in his abdomen. The deceased was speedily conveyed to the Hospital, when it was found his abdomen was severely contused, and he died on Friday morning last. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death." Mr. Baker also held another inquest at the above institution, on the body of Charlotte Ogan, aged five years. The deceased resided with her parents, in Terrace-street, Bethnal Green, and was playing near the fire, when her clothes ignited. Her screams brought her mother to her assistance, who threw the bed-clothes round her, and extinguished the flames. Her chest was burnt in a shocking manner, and the surgeon advised the parents to send the deceased to the Hospital, where she died in a few hours. Verdict "Accidental Death."

Fatal Consequences of Reading in Bed.—On Saturday night an inquest was held before Mr. Higgs, coroner, at the King's Head, Park Road, Clapham, on the body of John Milner, Esq., aged 42, a stockbroker, residing recently at his country house, Atkin's Road. From the evidence of the witnesses it appeared that on the night of the 7th ult. the deceased retired to his dressing room, where he had for some nights slept, his youngest child being ill in his bedroom, which adjoined. Between twelve and one o'clock in the night, Mrs. Milner discerned smoke issuing through the crevices of the dressing room door, and having awakened the servants, the room was entered, and the deceased was found enveloped in flames. The bed and window curtains and other parts of the room were then on fire, but an alarm having brought the neighbours, the flames were speedily extinguished. Deceased was then insensible, and dreadfully burnt all over the body. In a few days, after recovering his senses, he said he was reading in bed, and he thought he must have let the candle fall. This is supposed to be the case, for a book entitled "Martin on the Tonga Islands," was found by the bedside, and the candlestick under bed. The deceased, after suffering great agony, his fingers being almost burnt off, died on Thursday last. The cause of the fire not being established to the satisfaction of the jury, the inquest was adjourned for further evidence.

Fatal Accident from the Spark of a Railway Engine.—During the progress of one of the trains on the York and North Midland line, a few days ago, a very distressing event occurred at the Milford Junction Station, owing to the ejection of a burning piece of coal from the chimney of the engine, which alighted upon an interesting girl, about eight years of age, one of the waiters in the refreshment-rooms, and her clothes being set on fire, she was so dreadfully burned that death terminated her sufferings the same evening. Amidst all the wonderful improvements of the age connected with railway travelling, there appears to be a great defect in the prevention of accidents of this nature.

Extensive Embezzlement by a Parish Officer. —On Monday morning, at the Public Office, Birmingham, a genteely dressed man, named Joseph Piercy Yeomans Welch, late clerk to the guardians of the poor for the parish of Birmingham, and formerly treasurer to the same body, was charged with having embezzled various sums of money, the property of the parochial officers. The amount of the defalcations, as at present ascertained, is about £1,100, and although they have been accumulating for some years past, it is only within the last few months that any suspicion attached to Welch, whose first appointment under the parochial authorities took place in 1822, and who was, after the lapse of ten years, elected treasurer, which office he held until about twelve months since. Welch continued in the office of clerk to the board of guardians till within the last four or five months, when pleading illness, he resigned his situation. Shortly after his resignation, he was called upon to make up his accounts, when his book showed a deficit of £430, and the accused also acknowledged there was a further sum of about £500, which he believed was due to the parish, and which he regretted his inability at once to pay over. Steps were taken to endeavour to ascertain correctly, and recover the amount due to the parish, but while these were pending, Welch left Birmingham, but was accidentally seen entering his apartments in Norton-street, New road. Information having been forwarded to Birmingham, an inspector of police immediately came up to London and apprehended the prisoner on Friday night, and conveyed him to Birmingham.

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12. *Because this paper wages* deadly war against all corruption and monopoly; fears no party; is wedded to no party, but that which will advocate the rights of labour and the emancipation of commercial enterprize throughout the world, with peace on earth and good will towards all mankind; and, for the greatest of all reasons (the most important of the whole TWELVE), because the LONDON PIONEER is the largest, cheapest, and best paper ever offered for a penny. Sixteen large quarto pages, containing forty-eight columns, or twelve columns for a farthing.

The LONDON PIONEER is published every Thursday morning in London, by B. D. COUSINS, Duke-street, Lincoln's-inn; in Numbers at One Penny each; or in Monthly Parts, price Sixpence. May be had of all Booksellers. Part 1, is now ready.

WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

WAKEFIELD ADJOURNED SESSIONS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the SPRING GENERAL QUARTER SESSIONS of the PEACE, for the West Riding of the County of York, will be held by adjournment, in the Committee-Room, at the House of Correction, at Wakefield, on Thursday, the Eleventh day of June, at Twelve o'clock at noon, for the purpose of inspecting the Riding Prison, (the said House of Correction) and for examining the Accounts of the Keeper of the said House of Correction, making Enquiry into the conduct of the Officers and Servants belonging to the same; and also into the behaviour of the Prisoners, and their Earnings.

C. H. ELSLEY,
Clerk of the Peace.

Clerk of the Peace's Office, Wakefield.
28th May, 1846

THE NORTHERN STAR.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 1846.

THE REVOLUTION.

While legislators and working men are enjoying a short respite from their respective labours during the Whitsuntide holidays, it will not be amiss to consider the future work which the new commercial policy of Sir Robert Peel is likely to cut out for the respective classes. The Corn Law question has tended more than any, or all others, to create not only political feuds but angry feelings amongst the working classes, while it has also furnished materials for the respective parties struggling for political power whereon to rest their claim for popular support. The candidate who not long since relied upon his advocacy of the ballot, or some mysterious profession of liberalism or abstract notions of progression, as an ample bid for popular favour, would now find himself a mere laughing stock if he based his claim for support upon no better pretensions.

So long as the question of protection was supposed *settled, so long were the respective parties compelled* to seek some captivating ELECTION CRY as a means of preserving their ascendancy. Not only because the knocking of this crutch from under landed Toryism and exhausted Whiggery has compelled the two parties to assume some defined and intelligible position, but because it will test the wisdom and foresight of politicians do we admire it. Should it fail of giving the anticipated satisfaction, which it assuredly will, its promoters and supporters will be compelled to resort to something more definite, something more intelligible, and something more democratic, as the means of acquiring political power, while those who have opposed it from no other consideration than the damage that it threatens to their order, will gain neither character nor honor, as their prophecies of failure were based upon selfishness, not upon foresight.

It would have been impossible, wholly and entirely *impossible*, to have combined the industrious of all classes into a league against the MACHINE MONOPOLISTS so long as the gaping mouths and watery teeth of the ignorant shopkeepers and aristocratic trades were strained to receive the ripening fruit. "High wages, cheap bread, and plenty to do," inferred more money to be expended with shopkeepers after the support of the working man's family,—it promised something more equable to the labour market than partial seasons of activity and long periods of idleness. The "plenty to do" implied never ceasing toil. "Cheap bread and high wages" meant the ability to spend a large surplus, after living, with the middle classes.

We have laboured assiduously to convince the working classes and the shopkeepers that cheap and dear are relative terms; and that before the labouring man can purchase, at any price, he must first sell his labour to procure the means. We have kept the real object of the League incessantly before the eyes of the middle classes; we have shown that the primary advantage to be derived from free trade was, that by the reduction in the price of bread the master manufacturers may so reduce the rate of wages, as to be enabled to sell the produce of English labour at a lower price in the foreign markets than the speculators in slave labour could afford to sell it in their respective markets. And we have proved that of all the hostile interests existing in this class-divided country, that there were no two interests so really opposed to each other as that of the shopkeepers who thrive by high wages, and that of the manufacturers who have brought competition to so disastrous a pitch, that their profits are wholly made up of wages' parings, without any other reference to the value of the marketable commodity.

By this time it has struck some shopkeepers in many parts of the North of England, that £50,000 a year divided more equitably than it is at present, between the Two Thousand and ONE, who by their combined capital and labour make so much annual profit, would be better for their order than the present system, which allows THE ONE to devour the lion's share, while the Two Thousand, subject to strikes, struggles against reduction, casualties, and uncertainties, subject the shopkeepers to increased poor-rates, increased police rates, increased litigation, increased poverty and increased danger. However, the party was rallied by a cry and supposed to be united by a *principle, and it mattered but little* to the wild expectants whether public opinion had compelled their interested leaders to abandon one or more of their positions; the promise was made, and its fulfilment depended upon their blind devotion.

Did they ever turn their attention to the fact, that the whole commercial policy of Sir Robert Peel aims at fixing some ascertainable standard of value between foreign corn and the produce of *English labour. And* did it never strike them, that this surplus money, to be so profusely expended at their counters, would become more and more valuable in proportion to the reduction of the price of those two articles; and did it never strike them, that the parties who command the wealth, the capital, THE MACHINERY, and the government of the country, were not struggling for a measure the effect of which would be to leave them THE CHAFF FOR THEIR SHARE, and to confer the CORN UPON THE UNREPRESENTED, which would be the result of the realization of free trade promise. And we are now about to show, that the very shopkeepers who have so assiduously struggled for the emancipation of rich customers from the restrictions imposed upon trade, will be among the first sufferers from the new policy.

Perhaps, apart from the consideration of the whole question, the present period is the most favourable for the ministerial experiment. Had the measure passed in spring or autumn, the disastrous effect upon the labour market, and consequently upon the *shopkeepers, would have been immediate, nay, we go* so far as to assert that, but for the propitious season, the agricultural labourers would yet combine *with the farmers and protectionists to overthrow the* measure. The elements are doing more for the minister than the belief of converts in his wisdom. A very wet spring has led, not only to an early, but to an unusually abundant hay time. Last year, the Irish flocked to this country at the usual period of the year for *commencing hay and harvest operations*, while the inclement state of the weather consigned thousands of them *to starvation, in consequence of* the lateness to which those operations were deferred. This year, upon the contrary, has acted as an estoppel to Irish emigration, the hay harvest has TUMBLED in, as if by magic—the market is confined to native industry alone—the crop is in together and must be made at once—a circumstance which gives the agricultural labourers *the command of the market, and* not only weans them from the after thought of free trade, but will actually convey the impression that the increase of wages is a consequence of the measure, an argument which we have no doubt will be fruitfully used by free traders in their future skirmishes.

When the hay time is over, then commences the harvest and hop-picking, and with their close will set the sun of the agricultural labourer's hope. Then will commence the discharge of hands, who must now be employed at the value that the scarcity in the market gives to them, as, no matter what the price of hay, hops, and corn, may be, they are always worth the last and most expensive process of saving. This millenium may last till the middle of August—this spurt will give activity to brewers, shopkeepers, MANUFACTURERS FOR THE HOME TRADE, and to almost every branch of native industry, and will, no doubt, be artfully set down by the supporters of the measure, not to the real cause but to the blessings of the principle.

The agricultural labourers not having the same hope of becoming capitalists, shopkeepers, or traffickers, and not having any market open beyond that of labour, are the least thrifty in the season of prosperity, but become the most suddenly destitute by adversity. They have been always taught to look to parish relief, as a last, though a dishonourable resource. The season invites them to dissipation, whilst the increase of wages enables them to become better customers in the market of manufactures. Here then is dangerous *ground for a minister, who must* look beyond the day. Here is a dangerous rule by which the Chancellor of the Exchequer has not measured his anticipated revenue. The effect of free trade will be a panic in the corn market. The effect of the panic will be a reduction in the price of bread, which cannot, under existing circumstances, be accompanied by a cotemporaneous reduction in the wages of the agricultural labourer; but, nevertheless, those very fascinations which will not only throw protection round, but will add a false lustre to the projector of the measure for the time being, will weave the veil of his future obscurity; while the failure of the experiment will hold COBDEN, BRIGHT, and the League, up to the derision of those whose fortunes were supposed to hang upon the success of the measure, and the disappointed of all classes will look round once more for some resting place from party delusion, and will find but one, a FULL, FREE, AND FAIR REPRESENTATION OF THE WHOLE PEOPLE IN PARLIAMENT—the only means by which the enor*mously increasing national property* can be so distributed, as to purge the land of an excess of disgusting luxury on the one hand, and *heart-breaking penury* upon the other.

THE DISPATCH.

It is a fact that few know the value of a thing possessed until it is lost. We were sometimes refreshed, and not unfrequently charmed, by the rollicking effusions of the DEPARTED Publicola, whose weekly letter gave a zest to the *Dispatch, and* whose keen eyes kept such watchfulness over the editorial department, as to reconcile even rank and rabid nonsense to those who are doomed to its weekly perusal. In those days the *Dispatch* was a national dial, by which public opinion was extensively regulated under poor Publicola's management. It not only indulged in wholesale denunciation of the present system, but he selected the several offshoots for weekly exposure and reprobation. Class legislation was the master evil selected for assault, while the only charge brought against Chartism was, that its professors did not go far enough.

Republicanism was then the avowed principles of the *Dispatch;* but Publicola IS DEAD. The Norwich weaver boy (Fox) supplies his place, and has substituted the most damnable principle of NON-INTERFERENCE WITH THE RIGHTS OF CAPITAL, for the broad principles of Republicanism. Before we analyse Fox's article of last week (which we have printed entire) more critically, we shall first devote a word of comment to a consideration of the consistency of the writer, (a candidate for the support of the liberal constituency of Oldham.) Fox was editor of the *Daily News*, (Hudson's narrow gauge champion,) and which, from his maudlin and trashy articles *he* wrote down from 5d. to 2½d. He was a member and spouter of the Complete Suffrage principle, advocating Chartism, and only boggling at the NAME. He was the hired lecturer of the League, and even condescended to fill the office of teacher at the Sunday School of the National Hall Association, FOR A CONSIDERATION; so that, mayhap, the denunciation of this well paid knob-stick clerical mountebank, of the 30s. a week paid to the Chartist BELLOWS BLOWERS arises from the injurious influence that their underpaid labour is likely to have upon his trade as an agitator.

Having so far glanced at the consistency of the pious bladder of wind, we now turn to a more critical examination of the most unscrupulous, false, and cowardly attack ever made upon the rights of labour; an attack, however, blunted by the blundering ignorance of the writer. After telling us that "apple sauce" is ate AFTER "roast goose" (we always thought they went together), the WEAVER BOY tells us that a Trades Union does not fairly express the thing which the words imply, inasmuch as "it entirely excludes from the LIMITS of its definition the capitalists and masters." We do not understand the meaning of the word LIMITS in the sense which it is intended to convey; however, we cannot help smiling at the folly of the writer, who had not brains to see that Trades Unions were rendered necessary by the tyranny of the very masters and capitalists whose exclusion from the order The Fox so pathetically laments. Did he not understand that the very admission of those masters to an anomalous power already possessed and abused by them was the very thing that led to the necessity of a restrictive body? The writer tells us that the combination is uniformly confined to "THE ONE SOLE BODY OF WORKING OPERATIVES." A pretty large class we imagine; much more extensive than we *were heretofore led to believe*, and the very class for whose protection the writer advocated the charter as the means of counterbalancing the unjust power of the pitied masters and capitalists.

Though a little out of order, we may here consider the numbers constituting THE SOLE BODY OF WORKING OPERATIVES. Fox tells us that there are FOUR MILLIONS OF THE POPULATION PERMANENTLY WITHOUT EMPLOYMENT, AND THAT THEREFORE THERE NEVER CAN BE EITHER OCCASION FOR A PROTECTIVE UNION OF ARTIZANS OR FOR A STRIKE TO REGULATE WAGES. If the word "either" had come after instead of before the word "occasion," it would have been English, but as it is we can understand the writer's meaning. We are told that there are "four millions permanently unemployed," and if we estimate the number employed so low as two millions, we have six millions, and if we estimate those six million families at three instead of five to a family, as infants are included in the census, we have a population of eighteen millions, a pretty considerable SOLE BODY seeking representation; a number exceeding the whole population of the kingdom by five millions, leaving a small margin less than nothing for the landed aristocracy, merchants, bankers, manufacturers, masters, capitalists, shopkeepers, taxeaters, pensioners, army and navy, police, publicans, sinners, and idle editors, and sufficiently large to exclude capitalists and masters from the limits of its definition.

To go back. The Weaver Boy supposes that labour should give up its PROTECTION, because the Peers have been compelled to abandon theirs. A very fascinating argument from a rabid hired free trader, who assured the people of the necessity of leaguing themselves against the monopoly of those very Peers. The ignorant wholesale manner in which the Norwich Weaver Boy now assails the denouncer of class legislation will be met, even by his former friends, with anything but cordiality. It is the shadow of the new policy of which Fox is the hired champion. It verifies our very worst predictions of the designs of the masters and capitalists, but we will, nevertheless, overcome, and finally overthrow, the enemy in their new character.

We cannot resist giving the following passage in full, and we feel convinced that, however the struggle may end, every artisan operative and slave, of all creeds and colour, will cherish it as

THE NORWICH WEAVERS' LEGACY.

This union is a class combination, for class objects, to enforce class legislation by class organization. It is to create a class monopoly in favour of an exclusive class, by that order which was the most vehement in its denunciation of class privileges; and contrary to the advancing spirit of the age, to the impartial and Catholic tendency of modern government and of public opinion, it is not more necessary for the character of the *working classes* themselves than for the safety of the State, and the security of the public against dictation and exaction, that the conspiracy should be exploded and the bubble exposed. It is an Association for practically carrying out an impossible object, and which, were it possible, would be pernicious. We are, indeed, surprised that the intelligent artizans of this country should, in the face of every principle of political economy, and every dictate of experience and common sense, *yet suffer themselves to be magnetised by the* gesticulations of quacks into the day dreams in which they now indulge. They have tried to put down machinery by Act of Parliament, to prevent women and children from earning their own subsistence, and masters from the liberty of making contracts with them; they have struggled to *prohibit the working of factories for a longer* period than ten hours per day, thus confiscating a sixth of the whole income, interest on capital and property of the owner, without remorse or compensation—they have limited the number of apprentices whom masters are to instruct, in order to preserve a monopoly of their trade, and now, at last, they have organised a grand universal National Union, into the joining of which every working man is to be coaxed, persecuted, threatened, and bribed, in order *to lay the nation prostrate at their feet*—to place the consumers, masters, and capitalists, at the mercy of the working classes, and to dictate to every other order of society whatever conditions they please of remuneration for labour, irrespective of the legitimate demand, and the value of the commodity.

Was libel equal to that ever penned by the most bitter and professing enemy of labour? A libel which proves our assertion, that, until the whole sys*tem is altered, the weeds that spring from the labour* bed are the foulest enemies of the order. We have not one single instance upon record of a working man cheating himself, or mouthing himself, into riches, and above his class, that such fellow is not far away the most insolent, overbearing, proud, and intolerant. Indeed, it is by such pranks that the mushrooms seek to recommend themselves to their new associates.

This scum of clerical dung reviles the tailors for striking for a share of the masters' profits, and tells us that 30s. is six times as much as 12s.; and, after lamenting the loss of female work, curiously enough again repines at the increase in this branch. The Weaver boy was tried on the *True Sun*, and wrote it down; he experimentalised upon the *Chronicle*, and damaged it. Lord MELBOURNE asked EASTHOPE why he did not get an editor that could write *English, at all events?* He began with and finished the now departed *Daily News*; he has now got the *Dispatch* into his destroying clutches, and from the ungrammatical style of the experimentalist, we can now see why he was

NOBODY'S CHILD.

The Weaver boy, like the masters, has no objection to local clubs, because the masters can deal with them; and goes on to tell us that there is a "UNIVERSAL CONCURRENCE IN HIS OPINION.' By the POPE, Weaver Boy, but Mrs. MALAPROP was a fool to you for jawcrackers. A UNIVERSAL CONCURRENCE running through a weaver's head it something new. However, he has it there, it is a UNIVERSAL CONCURRENCE in his opinions that the present strike was ILL-TIMED. Now, then, what becomes of all the logician's general reasoning against the principle *of clubs*, when he is compelled to reduce his wrath to a mere objection to time only. Is not this what we have shown to labour, that these serpents will always coil themselves around some limb of the slave. The WIND-BAG goes on blowing about the GUILDS of olden time: would that we had them back? And thus concludes the most insolent, beastly, ignorant, and cowardly attack ever made upon the working classes. He quotes the letter of his comrogue, Mr. HOLME, whose name he cannot even spell; and thus winds up with a panegyric upon HOLME, and a blow at Mr. DUNCOMBE and Mr. ROBERTS:—

This is the language of justice and common sense. The primeval curse sentenced man to a life of labour, and hard labour too—earning his bread only by the sweat of his brow—and every scheme for getting large wages for little work, and all royal roads to leisure, ease, and comfort, and all industrial lubberlands of nothing to do and plenty to eat, are the visions of quacks, and the delusions of imposters. They may find £1,000 a year for Mr. Roberts, a landed estate for Mr. Duncombe, and 30s. a-week for a score or two of Chartist peripatetic bags of wind, to help to blow the bellows of their disinterested and indignant patriotism; but their only effect upon the fortunes of the working man must be to help him out of his money, and into a union of a very different kind from what which he has been asked to join—we mean the Union Workhouse.

There, working men, the language of HOLME, the midnight briber, is the language of JUSTICE and COMMON SENSE. As to the £1,000 a year for Mr. ROBERTS, and an estate of Mr. DUNCOMBE, we ask the *tramping* League bellows, the clerical knobstick, the penny-a-liner, the National Hall £4 a-week Sunday teacher, the free trader, the complete suffragist, the candidate for Oldham and assassin of the *Dispatch*, whether it is more fit that labour should reward its real advocates with honourable distinction, or that it should be fooled with the purchasing of estates for Mr. Thief-catcher Attorney Ex-Alderman HARMER, Proprietor of the *Dispatch*, who has purchased many estates by a fraudulent and TIMELY support of the rights of labour; and now hires a renegade pauper to disprove his title to those estates. Our only consolation is, that, with few exceptions, we have received assurances from our several agents, with the glad tidings that many readers have given orders to discontinue the BEASTLY DISPATCH. Cowards will repeat their boastings until they believe in their own courage, but are humbled at last upon the first appearance, nay by the mere shadow of resistance; so with politicians, they assume a position which they vainly hope to maintain, upon no better title than general ignorance upon the one hand, or a disinclination to controvert their arguments upon the other. HIRED PATRIOTS have a strong inducement TO LIE, and are strengthened in their evil propensity, not only by the interest that those who are benefited by their fabrications have in calculating them, but by the fact they are the most profitable FREE TRADE COMMODITY. We commend the Weaver Boy's last web to the Liberal Electors of Oldham; we will meet him there, and we request *that it, and our reply, may be read from every* Chartist platform in the kingdom. The *Times* is a privileged ruffian, the Fox *is a* deserter from labour's ranks. The *Dispatch* is a professing friend of labour's rights, and yet never was a more deadly blow aimed even at the UNIVERSAL CONCURRENCE in general opinion, than that of

THE NORWICH WEAVER BOY.

The length to which we found it necessary to cut this rampant Fox's tail, has precluded the possibility of commenting upon the Trades Conference until next week, when we shall have the whole proceedings *before us.*

THE TRADES' CONFERENCE.

WE refer, with pride and pleasure, to the proceedings of this body. The Trades are evidently awakening to the true perception of their interests, and rapidly advancing in the path which will lead to a triumphant issue of the struggle, to place labour in its rightful position. The period at which we write precludes anything like lengthened com*ment upon the policy of the measures they have* adopted, which can be more amply done on a future *opportunity, but in the meantime we cannot help* adverting to one great movement made at this *Conference, the admission of women and children to* participate in the struggle, and to share the triumph we anticipate as its consequence. By means of this measure the swarming millions in the great hives of industry; the young tenders of that machinery which ought to be man's blessing and has been perverted into his curse, will be enfolded in the mantle *of the young association, whose gigantic capacities* are rapidly developing themselves. The renewed struggle for the Ten Hours' Bill will be accompanied by an addition of strength, and an organized direction of that strength which must render its advocates irresistible, and its victory secure. It will no longer be in the power of timid friends or open enemies to delay its passing into a law. The enthusiastic reception experienced by the intrepid and noble-minded man who presides over the Association of confederated trades at public meetings, both in Leeds and Manchester, and the bold uncompromising manner in which these meetings declared their determination to have this long-sought measure, are proofs, not only of the sincerity of the working people in demanding it, but also of the powerful support they will give an honest leader and advocate in Parliament.

The large number of trades represented at the Conference, and the intelligence exhibited by their representatives in the discussion of the important questions *to which their attention* has been directed, is another unmistakeable sign of the growing influence of the association and the certainty of its ultimate triumph. One peculiarity in the constitution of the Conference distinguishes it from all its predecessors. For the first time in the history of the working classes, the aristocratic and the poorer sections of the array of industry, have cordially held out the hand of mutual help and friendship to each other. The starved, oppressed and suffering hand-loom weavers, and the still more miserable slave of competition, the frame-work knitter, had sat down side by side with the joiner, the mechanic, and the engraver. England, Scotland, and Ireland, have sent their representatives to this holiest of Parlia*ments*, and in the temper with which the claims of all classes of trades have been considered, the justice and prudence of the adjudication, and the unanimity with which the decision was arrived at, we see the *most cheering prospects of a Union among the work*ing classes themselves, such as never before existed in this country.

The ground is almost cleared for the operation of a new great national party. The work of the NATIONAL Anti-Corn Law League is nearly done. The commercial classes have had their reform; now for the turn of LABOUR. Let us replace the League by a grander one; a League that shall struggle not for freedom of exchange in the inanimate productions of man's skill and industry; but for the freedom of man himself. Let us form a mighty confederation of the good and true of all classes and sections to wage war against an unjust and unequal distribution of the products of labour and skill, to put down the abuses springing from the unrestrained power of individual capitalists; to emancipate labour from thraldom by making it its own employer, and to destroy inequality in laws and institutions, by destroying that on which it rests—class legislation and exclusive political powers vested *in sections of the community.*

The Whigs have long been defunct, the Tories by their own confession, are destroyed as a party—the League has proclaimed its intention of dissolving as soon as *the Corn Laws* are repealed. *Now* then is the time for THE PEOPLE'S PARTY to take the field, and prepare for that contest which must end in a victory over the evil influences which have hitherto placed honest industry at the bottom of the scale of society.

We shall revert to this subject more at length, and *in the meantime* congratulate the Trades and the Conference on the proud position they have assumed. Never was there a better or fitter time for a bold, determined, and forward movement, and led by such a general as THOMAS SLINGSBY DUNCOMBE, the cause of labour and of political freedom will assuredly triumph.

JOHN FROST.

We call the attention of our readers to Mr. COOPER'S letter given below; the subject matter thereof *is of the most distressing character*. JOHN FROST, *is sick and destitute.* The man who sacrificed his property, position, and liberty to serve the people, is homeless and friendless on a penal shore. The man who risked his life, and has *endured suffering* infinitely greater than any the executioner could inflict —the suffering of being wrenched from his country, his home, his family, to bear years of bondage, chains, and insult in a felon land; and who suffered all this for the people, now demands the people's aid. Personally *he* demands nothing, but his cause, his wrongs speak for him. *We* DEMAND that sympathy which he has not solicited, but which unasked for the people should rush to afford. Readers of the *Northern Star*, Brother Chartists, Democratic Friends, Working Men, Friends of the People, Philanthropists of all parties and classes we appeal to you—let not the grievous sin rest upon you of turning a deaf ear to *this cry of our good, generous, noble-hearted martyr*-brother. We perceive that the National Victim Fund Committee hold a Meeting on Sunday afternoon, to take the necessary steps in this matter. Wherever this paper is read, we trust that means will be *immediately* adopted to procure pecuniary aid *forthwith.* Of course we will gladly receive subscriptions at this office. Observe, there must be *no delay*, the money must be gotten *at once.* The case is urgent, therefore *to the rescue!*

TO THE CHARTIST BODY.

MY BRETHREN,—A letter has just been received by Mr. Rogers, from our beloved exile, John Frost, which contains matter demanding the instant and earnest sympathy of us all. After undergoing various probations, Mr. Frost was permitted to engage himself as manager to a large commission-agent in glass and earthen-ware, at a yearly salary of 21*l*., with board and lodging. He fell ill—was necessitated to go into an hospital—and his situation having been entered on by another, when he left the hospital, he was constrained to live on the little savings he had accumulated from his brief managership. His scanty fund is now spent, *he is ill*,—out of employment—and *destitute.* With that noble independence which has ever distinguished his large heart, he asks that his few books in the possession of his family, be raffled, and the proceeds sent him.

He utters no word of request that you subscribe for his relief; but your own hearts will tell you that it is your bounden duty to fly to his assistance. You will not—you cannot—suffer one whose yearning pity for the suffering and oppressed, led him to risk life itself for their rescue—to perish in his necessity; nor will you consent that his few books—(which the poor exile hopes one day again to open, perhaps, the solace of his venerable age)—shall be sold to meet his wants. You *will* strain every nerve to help him. You will not suffer your generous Frost to pine under the thought that you are ungrateful!

A friend quits England for the place of John Frost's exile in the course of one fortnight. There is not a day to be lost. He *must* be relieved. Mr. Rogers gives two pounds, I give one, Mr. Moore gives another; and let every workingman who loves John Frost for his benevolent heart, rather pawn a shirt for a week, than neglect to send his mite for the exile's relief.

You all know my address: Mr. Rogers, tobacconist, 58, High-street, St. Giles's; or Mr. Moore, carver, 25, Hart-street, Bloomsbury,—will also readily receive anything that may be sent: or, if you prefer to send your contributions to any officer connected with the Chartist body,—do so, but do not, I conjure you, neglect to exert yourselves—even for one day,— I am, dear Brethren,

134, Blackfriar's Road, Yours affectionately,
June 4th, 1846. THOMAS COOPER, the Chartist.

BROTHER DEMOCRATS,—I would have preferred to have given my mite silently and without publicity, but for the reason that by taking the opposite course I may aid the good example of *doing* instead of talking. Private and pressing circumstances prevent me at this moment giving more than Ten Shillings towards the fund for the assistance of our noble martyr Frost; but that small sum I give with sincere regret that I cannot give pounds instead of shillings.

Fraternally your's,
G. JULIAN HARNEY.

Northern Star Office, June 5, 1846.

To Readers & Correspondents.

J. S. asks why we did not purchase the Northampton Estate when it was so cheap. A butler once, who had just entered upon his place, attended table in boots, his master said, John you must wear shoes at dinner, why do you wear boots? Why, sir, I could give you twenty reasons. In the first place I have no shoes. *There*, there, that will do, that's as good as twenty. Then we could give twenty reasons for not purchasing the estate. In the first place we had not the money. There, there, that will do, we hope, for our friend.

VETERAN PATRIOTS' AND EXILES' WIDOWS' AND CHILDREN'S FUND.—Received, per Julian Harney, a contribution, from Ruffy Ridley, of 10s.—THOMAS COOPER, Secretary, 134, Blackfriars'-road.

MAUCHLINE.—On Thursday last we received a Post Office order from Mauchline, without any note stating either the name of the sender or the purpose for which it was sent. Will the person who has forwarded it explain.

MR. JULIAN HARNEY returns his thanks to a number of friends from whom copies of the *Star* of May 23rd have been received.

THE GERMAN DEMOCRATS.

In pursuance of a good old German custom, the members of the "German Democratic Society, for the Instruction of the Working Classes," took their annual excursion to Hampstead Heath on Sunday last. The day was beautifully fine, indeed such a summer's day as makes the shade of a green tree, (with a "pot of beer," german sausages and other et ceteraes) the most perfect realization of Elysium, we mortals are competent to conceive. The view from Hampstead Heath, with its noble panorama of London, is, take it for all in all, decidely the finest of any in the neighbourhood of the great metropolis. In a shady knoll the pilgrims pitched their encampment, where they transacted and enjoyed the various duties and pleasures of the day. Immense German sausages, enormous piles of bread, and a jolly-looking butt of beer, almost rivalling the far-famed Heidleburg Tun, were amongst the good things provided for the occasion, and were done ample justice to by the hungry and thirsty souls whose eating and drinking capabilities had been not a little invigorated by their toilsome march from the huge Babel of bricks they had left behind them. *Of course* these grosser delights occupied comparatively but little portion of the time. Speeches were made, and such speeches as would have given Ferdinand, Frederick-William, and the rest of the gang of German tyrants the belly-ache *for twelve months* to come could they have heard them. Amongst the speakers were Messrs. Carl Schapper, Pfaender, Bauer, Holme, and Julian Harney. Then there was singing of German, French, and Italian Liberty-songs, and beautiful the singing was too; the whole concluding with the inspiring *Marseillaise.* The society mustered above two hundred strong, but altogether there must have been between three and four hundred persons present, including besides Germans, English, French, Italians, Scandinavians, &c. A considerable number of the wives and sweethearts of the members were present. All conducted themselves soberly and decorously, and altogether the sight was one to gladden the hearts and strengthen the hopes of all who believe in the fraternity and progress of mankind.

Forthcoming Meetings.

THE CHARTIST CO-OPERATIVE LAND SOCIETY.

Meetings for the purpose of enrolling members, and transacting other business connected therewith are held every week on the following days and places:—

SUNDAY EVENING.

South London Chartist Hall, 115, Blackfriars-road: at half-past six o'clock.—*City Chartist Hall*, 1, Turnagain-lane: at six o'clock.—*Westminster:* at the Parthenium Club Rooms, 72, St. Martin's-lane at half-past seven.—*Somers Town:* at Mr. Duddrege's, Bricklayers' Arms, Tonbridge-street, New-road, at half-past seven.—*Tower Hamlets:* at the Whittington and Cat, Church-row, Bethnal-green, at six o'clock precisely.—*Emmett's Brigade:* at the Rock Tavern, Lisson-grove, at eight o'clock precisely.—*Marylebone:* at the Coach Painters' Arms, Circus-street, at half-past seven.

MONDAY EVENING.

Rochester.—At the Victory Inn, at half-past seven. *Camberwell:* at the Montpelier Tavern, Walworth, at eight o'clock precisely.

Kensington.—At eight o'clock, at the Duke of Sussex.

Limehouse: at the Brunswick Hall, Ropemaker's Fields, at eight o'clock.

TUESDAY EVENING.

Greenwich: at Mr. Paris's, Cold Bath, at eight o'clock.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne: This branch of the Chartist Co-operative Land Society meet in the house of Martin Jude, Sun Inn, Side, every Sunday evening, from seven until nine o'clock, for the purpose of receiving subscriptions and enrolling members.

Leicester: The members and committee of the Co-operative Land Society meet at 87, Church-gate, every Sunday night, at six o'clock.

Armley: The members of the Chartist Co-operative Land Society meet at the house of Mr. William Oates, boot and shoemaker, Armley Town-gate, every Monday evening, at eight o'clock.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

Hammersmith—at the District Office, 2, Little Vale Place.—Shareholders enrolled every day from eight *o'clock in the morning.* The weekly meetings of the Shareholders will be held at the above office every Sunday morning, at ten o'clock precisely.

PROVINCIAL MEETINGS OF THE CHARTIST CO-OPERATIVE LAND SOCIETY.

Leicester, every Monday evening, at No. 17, Archdeden Lane, at seven o'clock.

Chepstow, every Monday evening, at the Temperance, Hotel, Bank Avenue, at eight o'clock.

Aberdeen. The office-bearers meet every Wednesday evening at half-past seven, at No. 1, Flour Mill Lane Hall.

BRUNSWICK HALL, ROPEMAKER'S-FIELDS, LIMEHOUSE.—Mr. Ernest Jones, the elected delegate for this district, will deliver a lecture here on Tuesday, June 9th, chair to be taken at eight o'clock precisely. The men and women, of the TowerHamlets, are particularly requested to attend.

COOPER TESTIMONIAL.—As there are yet a few tickets out, the Committee are very desirous the same should be returned or paid for immediately. Persons holding tickets are, therefore, earnestly requested to, forthwith, communicate with me, or the Treasurer, Mr. Dunn. For the sake of the Veterans, Widows, and Orphans, it is essentially necessary that this notice should at once be attended to. The Committee are respectfully desired to attend at eight o'clock, on Wednesday evening, at Mr. Straughan's, the Old George, Snow-hill, when I trust we shall be enabled to wind up our affairs.

J. SHAW, Sec.

CHARTIST HALL, 1, Turnagain Lane, Farringdon-street.—A meeting of the Shareholders will be held in the Coffee-room, on Sunday morning next, June 7th, at half-past ten o'clock. The adjourned discussion will be resumed in the hall, at half-past ten precisely. In the evening at eight o'clock precisely, Mr. Thomason will lecture.

WESTMINSTER.—A general meeting of the members of this district of the Chartist Co-operative Land Society, (whether paid up or otherwise,) also of the members belonging to this locality of the National Charter Association, will be held at the Parthenium, 72, St. Martin's Lane, on Sunday evening, June 7th, at half-past seven o'clock!

TOWER HAMLETS.—All persons holding Tickets for the Benefit at the City Theatre, are requested to forward all returns on Sunday evening, at the Whittington and Cat, Church-row, Bethnal-green.

SOMERS TOWN.—A Meeting of the Somers Town District of the Chartist Land Society will be held at Mr. Duddridge's, Tonbridge-street, New-road, on Sunday evening next, at 9 o'clock.

THE PATRIOT

"JOHN FROST"

Is now out of employ, in ill health, and in indigent circumstances, at Sydney, New South Wales. THE NATIONAL VICTIM COMMITTEE are therefore requested to meet at the Chartist Co-operative Land Society's Office, 83, Dean-street, Soho, on Sunday afternoon next, June the 7th, at three o'clock precisely, with a view of affording some pecuniary aid to the suffering Welsh Martyr. Also to prepare a balance sheet of their affairs to submit to the ensuing National Chartist Convention.

MARYLEBONE LOCALITY.—A members' meeting will take place on Wednesday evening, June 10, at eight o'clock, at the Coach Painters' Arms, Circus street, New-road.

THE FRATERNAL DEMOCRATS will assemble at their place of meeting, No. 20, Great Windmill-street, on Monday evening, June 8, at seven o'clock.

SHOREDITCH.—Mr. E. Stallwood will deliver a public lecture at Chapman's Assembly and Coffee Rooms, Church-street, on Wednesday evening next, June 10, at eight o'clock precisely. Subject:—"Teetotalism morally, politically, and socially considered."

THE SWELL MOB IN TROUBLE.—APPREHENSION OF FIFTEEN PICKPOCKETS AT CHESTER RACES.—On Monday the police of London and Middlesex received information that the undermentioned individuals had been apprehended near the Grand Stand during the Chester races, and among the number some, no doubt, forming part of London gangs:—Elizabeth Phillips, 25 years of age, dressmaker, of 31, Pitt-street, Bethnal-green; Frederick David James Edwards, 20, of 9, Pitt-street, Bethnal-green; and had in his possession a bag with sovereigns and silver; Alfred Simpson, 19, possessing a large quantity of cash, living at 20, Old Thomas-street, Birmingham; George Thompson, 23, of the Rum Puncheon, Long-alley, Moorfields, London; George Lebow, 22, described as an engineer, of 17, King Edward-street, Mile-end-road, London; James Reed, 19, block-maker, of 33, Chickanne-street, Osborn-street, White-chapel, London; *William Smith, 22, of 64*, Webber-street, Waterloo-road, London; George Hudson, *alias* Jepson, *alias* Stone, *alias* Chumley, *alias* Ginger, 27, described as a gentleman, of 2, Horsley-street, Camberwell-gate, London, and had *in his* possession a bag containing 40 sovereigns; Thomas Johnson, 28, living in Bethnal-green, London, and was seen in the betting-ring, where a gentleman was robbed of 200*l.*, Frederick Mole, 27, of 22, Buckingham-gate, Birmingham, had in his possession a handsome gold watch, gold curb chain, maker's name, "John Dixson, Manchester, 12,428," and a gold breast-pin, with eagle's claw, charged also with robbing a gentleman at Manchester, of 4,500*l.*; James Sutcliffe, 30, of 1, Mill-street, Manchester; John Butterworth, 22, of same place; Richard Powell, 22, of Liverpool; Thomas Hagan, 18, of Dublin John Gannon, 18, of Dublin.

EXTRAORDINARY LONGEVITY.—Died at Red Hill, Reigate, Surrey, on Wednesday last, Elizabeth Denman, in the 107th year of her age. Although she attained so great an age, her sufferings for years in the earlier part of her life, from affection of the liver, were extreme. She ascertained from her medical attendant that one half of her liver was ulcerated, and that she would continue to suffer until the whole part so affected was entirely decayed. *At the turn of 50* she began to recover, and afterwards enjoyed general good health, until within a very recent period of her death. There is an interesting narrative connected with the history of the old lady's life. When very young, it was her misfortune to be seduced by the son of a wealthy farmer, in whose service she was living. The young man, to conceal what he considered his disgrace, had the villainy to hire two ruffians to take her life, and she had a very narrow escape from their hands. Returning home late one dark evening from a neighbouring village, across some lonely fields, she heard some person engaged in a low tone of conversation, near to her on the other side of the hedge. All that she could distinguish was, "Surely she is gone another way." This greatly alarmed her, as she imagined herself to be the object of their conversation, and so it was afterwards found to be, for a short time after a man in the neighbourhood, of a very bad character, was taken ill and died. While on his death bed, being stung with remorse, he made a full confession of the whole murderous design. He confessed that he and another were to have had ten pounds for the poor girl's destruction; and that they intended to have carried their design into execution the very night alluded to, had they have met with her; and that they had a hole dug in a wood just by, wherein to conceal the body. The wood was afterwards searched, and a hole found corresponding with the one described by the dying man.

FATAL SCAFFOLD ACCIDENT.—On Monday evening an inquest was held by Mr. Bedford, at the Crown public-house, Green-street, Leicester-square, on the body of John Morgan, aged forty, who was killed by a fall from a scaffold in Pall-mall, ninety feet high. The Jury strongly deprecated the conduct of the authorities of Charing-cross Hospital, who, having drawn a "screen" in front of deceased bed, positively refused to allow his widow to be present at his dying moments. The Coroner fully concurred in the opinion of dissatisfaction expressed by the Jury, who returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

RECEIPTS OF THE CHARTIST CO-OPERATIVE LAND SOCIETY.

SECTION No. 1.
PER MR. O'CONNOR.

SHARES.	£	s.	d.
Blackburn, per W. Sutcliff	13	4	6
Alva, per John Robertson	1	19	10
Leigh, per John Howarth	4	0	2
Huddersfield, per J. Stead	1	13	6
Borrowash, per W. West	1	10	0
Dorking, per W. Warren	1	2	9
Bury, per W. Ireland	2	7	6
Artichoke Inn Locality, Brighton, per W. Flower	4	1	2
Stockton, per Thos. Patter	1	15	6
Birmingham, per W. Thorn	2	0	0
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, per M. Jude	2	5	6
Nottingham, per J. Sweet	7	0	0
Heywood, per R. Wrigley	4	17	2½
Oldham, per W. Hamer	3	0	0
Dodsworth, near Burnley, per T. Croft	5	0	0
City of London Locality, per J. Dunn	2	6	0
Leicester, per Z. Astell	1	0	5
Ashton-under-Lyne, per E. Hobson	2	8	6
Dundee, per R. Kidd	2	16	4
Tonbridge Wells, per H. Launce	2	3	9
Hamilton, per W. Weir	2	0	0
Stockport, per Thos. Woodhouse	4	0	0
Bradford, per J. Alderson	5	0	0
	£77	12	7½

SECTION No. 2.

	£	s.	d.
Ely, per H. M. Aungier	2	0	0
Alva, per John Robertson	0	1	0
Leigh, per John Howarth	0	3	0
Borrowash, per W. West	0	4	0
Dorking, per W. Warren	0	1	0
Bury, per W. Ireland	0	6	10
Artichoke Inn Locality, Brighton, per W. Flower	1	2	4
Stoke-sub-Hamdon, per C. Rundle	0	9	0
Leicester, per H. Barrow	1	6	0
Cheltenham, per T. Ulett	0	18	6
Nottingham, per J. Sweet	3	0	0
Oldham, per W. Hamer	2	0	0
Leicester, per Z. Astill	2	2	7
Stockport, per J. Woodhouse	1	0	0
Bradford, per J. Alderson	5	0	0
	£19	14	3

PER GENERAL SECRETARY.
SECTION NO. 1.

SHARES.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Hanley	4 18 0	Westminster	
Boulogne	0 16 0	(Wheeler)	2 12 2
Truro	1 19 4	John Boscroft	5 3 2
York	1 0 6	Greenwich	1 5 0
Lambeth	3 0 4	Hull	1 7 6
Westminster	0 6 6	Finneston	1 7 6
W. Hodgkiss	0 0 3	Arbroath	0 1 8
J. Smith	0 2 6	Camberwell	8 0 0
Burnley	1 16 6		
			£33 16 11

SECTION NO. 2.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Mathew Wyse	0 10 0	Westminster	0 2 0
D. Colhurst	0 10 0	F. Caperen	0 1 0
Barnsley	5 0 0	York	0 12 0
Hanley	1 11 0	J. Lock	0 1 0
Boulogne	0 2 0	Bilston	1 17 0
W. Cuin	0 3 0	Burnley	3 3 6
J. Pocock	2 7 0	Denny	0 9 6
Mantes	5 4 4	Patteson J.	0 2 0
St. Germains	0 8 4	Patteson C.	0 1 4
Chelsea, per Bush	0 12 0	John Regan	0 1 0
Do., per Frith	0 6 7	Chelsea	0 12 0
Do., per Vincent	0 4 19	Greenwich	1 5 0
			£25 6 5

	£ s. d.
Mr. O'Connor, Section 1	77 12 7½
Mr. Wheeler ,, ,,	33 16 11
	£111 9 6½
Mr. O'Connor, Section 2	19 14 3
Mr. Wheeler, ,, ,,	25 6 5
	£45 0 8

CARDS AND RULES.
PER MR. O'CONNOR.

	£	s.	d.
Blackburn	0	0	8
Alva	0	0	4
Dorking	0	0	2
Stockton	0	1	4
Stoke-sub-Hamdon	0	1	4
Leicester	0	1	0
City of London Locality	0	0	4
Plymouth	0	3	4
LEVY FOR DIRECTORS.			
Alva	0	1	7½
Carrington, per J. Ley	0	6	1
Stoke-sub-Hamdon	0	0	11
Burnley, per J. Thornber	0	11	0
Basford, per J. Sweet	0	4	1½
Heywood	0	2	9½
Oldham	0	6	2
City of London Locality	0	0	8
Bacup	0	6	8
LEVY FOR CONFERENCE.			
Basford, per J. Sweet	0	0	6
City of London	0	0	9
Bacup	0	0	3

NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION.
PER MR. O'CONNOR.
EXECUTIVE.

	£	s.	d.
Plymouth, per J. Rodgers	0	10	0
NATIONAL ANTI-MILITIA ASSOCIATION.			
Nottingham, per J. Sweet	0	3	0

The sum announced from Nottingham last week should have been £5 0s. 6d., not £5.

Chartist Intelligence.

SOMERS TOWN.

At a full meeting of the members of this locality held on Sunday evening last, at the Bricklayers' Arms, Tonbridge-street, New-road, the following resolution was moved by Mr. John Arnott, seconded by Mr John Hornby:—

"Resolved.—That we, the members of the National Charter Association forming the Somers Town locality, having duly considered the resolution adopted by the Metropolitan Complete Suffrage Association, at the Crown and Anchor meeting, and also the suggestion of our City brethren in favour of calling an aggregate meeting of the Chartists of London to take the same into consideration, do hereby express our conviction that we have invariably, honestly, consistently, and zealously advocated and (according to the best of our abilities) energetically struggled by peaceful, constitutional, and moral means for the enactment of our principles; and while it would afford us the greatest possible satisfaction and pleasure to witness a concentration of the energies of all sincere Chartists, past differences buried in forgetfulness, and an indissoluble union formed, yet we cannot consent to be any party to calling the proposed meeting. But in order to effect this most desirable amalgamation, we advise that the members of the Complete Suffrage Association forthwith elect delegates to the ensuing Chartist Convention, where we are convinced that the spirit of cordiality and brotherhood evinced by them would be reciprocated by our delegates, and there such an union might be formed that would eventuate in causing the People's Charter to be placed on the statute book of this realm."

Carried. On the motion of Messrs. Cockain and Child, it was agreed that a society be now formed to be called the *Somers Town Chartist Philanthropic* Emergency Society, and a committee having been appointed to draw up rules for its guidance the meeting separated. Mr. Buston presided.

At a meeting of the Somers Town district of the Chartist Co-operative Land Society, the following resolutions were passed unanimously:—

"That the members of this locality have every confidence in the discretion of the directors, as regards the district for the purchase of land, and this meeting is of opinion that it would be advisable to take the next ballot upon the estate at Herringsgate."

THE CHARTIST CO-OPERATIVE LAND SOCIETY HAMMERSMITH DISTRICT.

The members of this highly flourishing district met at the Temperance Hall, Bridge-road, on Wednesday evening, June 3rd, when for the better convenience of the members and friends of the socieity. It was resolved—"That a district office be opened at *2, Little Vale Place, Hammersmith Road*—that such office be opened at eight o'clock every morning, and continue open every day during the week, and that all future weekly meetings be held at the above office on Sunday mornings at ten o'clock." Notwithstanding it being holiday week, the sum of twenty-eight shillings was received as instalments on shares, &c.

NORTHAMPTON.

TEA PARTY.—On Whit-Tuesday the members of this branch of the Land Society, held a grand tea party and ball, in one of the largest rooms of the town, which was well attended. *After the good things had* been done ample justice to, Mr. Munday addressed the company, in one of his telling speeches, for one hour and a half; when he sat down, the whole company stood up, and gave three cheers for the Land. Dancing then commenced, and was kept up with great spirit the whole night.

Chartists of Coventry, to be sent to Mr. Hosier, Coach and Horses Yard, Much Park Street, Coventry.

A YOUNG PATRIOT.—Recently, at 72, Harrow-road, Mrs. Packer, wife of Alfred Packer, newsagent, was safely delivered of a son, who has been registered as Andrew Marvel Packer.

HATS CHEAPER AND BETTER THAN EVER.—PERRING has now on sale a new, elegant, and extensive Assortment of VELVET HATS, of superfine qualities, of the most fashionable shapes at 9s. 6d. each; superior Beaver, at 14s. and 16s.; the best that can be made ditto, at 21s.; Gossamer Hats, finished in the first style, 6s. 6d.; Youth's Hats, 5s. 6d.; Velvet ditto, 8s. 6d.; Ladies' Riding Hats, 6s. 6d. to 12s.; Livery Hats, 10s. to 16s.; Youths' Hats and Caps of every description, from 2s. 6d.; Gentlemen's Travelling and other Caps, from 1s.; patent velvet flexible ventilating Hats, 13s.; patent ventilating Beaver Hats, 16s., 18s., and 21s.

85, STRAND, and 251, REGENT-STREET.

6,000 of the Flexible Velvet Hats, 13s., were sold last year, such is the universal call for them.

Trades' Movements.

BOOKBINDERS.—At a general meeting, held at the Assembly Rooms, Theobalds Road, on Friday last. This trade resolved on establishing boot and shoe clubs, in support of the "workman's own shop," also that their general secretary (Mr. Dunning,) do issue circulars to the several sections of the trade, calling on them to adopt the same course.

LONDON PAPER STAINERS.—There are now about two hundred paper stainers idle in the streets of London. And why are these men not at work? Why is the public deprived of the benefit which might result from their labour—the shopkeepers deprived of the profits which might accrue from their earnings—and the wives and children of the men robbed of the comforts which their husbands and fathers ought to be able to provide for them? The simple facts are these: Sir Robert Peel has not yet reduced, but talked of reducing, bye and bye, the import duty upon foreign paper hangings. What may be the actual effect upon the trade of this measure when it shall become law, it is not easy, perhaps, at present, to calculate. Many master paper-hangers are of opinion that it will not affect the trade at all; that it will be no disadvantage, either to masters or men. But nine of the principal London masters have determined that it shall make a great difference both to masters and men; for they have taken advantage of the *expected* reduction of duty to make a *present* and certain reduction of wages to the amount, as the men say, "in some cases two-thirds, and on a general average of the rest, of one half." We have heard of few proceedings calculated to awaken stronger feelings of condemnation than those of the nine master paper-hangers of London. The men have now been out nearly 3 months, and we sincerely trust that other trades will not allow them to be starved.—*Labour's Advocate.*

THE SPITALFIELDS WEAVERS.—On Saturday night, at eight o'clock, a numerous meeting of the Broad Silk Loom Weavers' Union of Spitalfields was held at the Crown and Anchor, Waterloo-town, Bethnal-green, to take into consideration the propriety of petitioning the House of Lords, to allow the weavers to be heard by counsel at the bar of the House, in support of their opposition to the proposed reduction of the duties on foreign wrought silks, as contemplated by the Customs Duties Act, Mr. Gurnell, president of the Union, in the chair, who briefly alluded to the objects that were about to come before the meeting, and urged the necessity of some immediate steps being taken. M. Bradley moved—"That we, the members of the Broad-silk Hand-loom Weavers' Union, do petition the Honourable the House of Lords to allow counsel to be heard at the bar of their Honourable House, in defence of the silk question, feeling that the new tariff will have a ruinous effect on their trade." Mr. Snow observed that he would second the resolution, as he believed it would be their last resource. The chairman put the resolution, which was agreed to unanimously.

OPERATIVE TAILORS' JOINT STOCK COMPANY.—The Certifying Barrister has declined to enrol the rules of this society, as the following letter addressed to the Committee will show:—

"London, 4th of May, 1846.

"SIR,—I am sorry to be obliged to return you the enclosed Rules, Mr. Justice Wightman, in a late case, having decided that the Friendly Societies Act do not apply to a Society established for the purposes mentioned in your Rules. Please to send me the name and address of the party whom I shall return the fee.

"Your's faithfully,
"J. TIDD PRATT."

TURN-OUT OF CARPENTERS IN FRANCE.—The working carpenters of Havre have recently addressed a circular letter to the Mayor, and to the masters and contractors, in which they declare that after the 1st of June they will insist upon their wages being raised from three francs to three francs and a half per day. From this circular we extract the following information, which may be useful, as showing the prices of labour with this description of artisans in various parts of France. The carpenters of Havre are paid three francs per day, and furnish their tools, estimated at twenty-five centimes per day; those of Rouen have three francs per day also, but they have their tools furnished, and have the use of the refuse wood, upon which they work; those of Paris have five francs per day, and furnish no tools. Ship-carpenters gain five to six francs per day, have the refuse wood, work from six to six, every quarter of an hour over is paid at forty centimes, half hour at one franc, an hour and a half at one franc twenty-five centimes. The working day at Rouen is from six to six; that at Havre from five to seven o'clock.

THE LONDON STRONG TRADE OF BOOT AND SHOEMAKERS held another *en masse* meeting on the evening of Wednesday last, when the proposition was again brought forward, as mentioned in our paper a fortnight ago, of leaving the Cordwainers' General Association, and which was now almost unanimously carried. It will be recollected it was stated in a former notice, that a much cheaper and altogether more effective plan of mutual assistance was in a state of preparation by the West-end Society of Men's Men; and although this is not yet completed, the members of the Strong Trade have that confidence in the beneficial tendencies of the proposed alterations, that the present secession from the association has been mainly the result of this confidence.

MANCHESTER CARPENTERS STRIKE.—On Tuesday last, at the Manchester Trades Conference, Mr. Bonell, of London, paid £10 as two week's levy in part from the Pimlico Society of Carpenters; £20 from the London and Westminster ditto, and £3 from the Windsor Castle ditto, second subscription. Mr. John Bush, secretary of the London lodge of the General Union, paid in £75. making upwards of £600 from the carpenters of London to Manchester, besides the other towns that have been on strike.

WIGAN COLLIERS.—On Monday last the miners of Wigan held their anniversary. The members of the various lodges assembled at nine o'clock in the morning, and, preceded by an excellent band of music, walked in procession down Scholes to the railway station, there to await the arrival of W. P. Roberts, Esq. The day was beautifully fine, and the splendid silk banners waving majestically along the whole line of the procession, gave it a most imposing appearance. Mr. Roberts having unfortunately been thrown out of his gig before leaving Manchester, did not arrive in time. The procession then moved on to Amberswood common. On arriving there, Mr. John Berry was called on to preside. After briefly addressing the meeting, he introduced Mr. James Price, who delivered a most excellent speech, which was loudly applauded. Mr. Roberts having been seen approaching the meeting, there was a pause, and then a loud burst of enthusiastic cheering, which made the welkin ring. On his reaching the platform, the cheering was again renewed, and lasted several minutes. Mr. R. addressed the meeting, and spoke nearly three quarters of an hour upon a variety of topics connected with trades unions. The meeting then broke up, and the members of the Miners' Association retired to their respective lodges, where they dined together, spending the evening in the greatest harmony with each other.

The miners of Bolton and its vicinity are still out.

"LABOUR'S ADVOCATE."—This is the title of a new weekly *Trade's Register* (price two-pence), the first number of which was issued last Saturday, and contains a good deal of interesting matter connected with *Trades' Movements. In the Editor's opening* address, he says:—"The laboruers—the working people—have no press at their command. Among the shoals of periodicals which are issuing continually, we do not know of one which is fully and solely devoted to the cause of Labour. Very few public prints profess any direct advocacy of the cause of Labour; and those which do, connect with it some political or other partizanship, which cramps their energies and binds them to a particular course of action." We beg in self-defence to demur to this. We venture to assert that there is at least *one* journal which is "fully and solely devoted to the cause of Labour," and that journal is the *Northern Star.* No other cause but that of Labour is advocated by us, and certainly Labour's rights, both social and political, have ever been advocated by us in no temporising spirit. If this is a political journal it is, nevertheless, open to all sections of the working classes, without regard to their politics. When a strike takes place, or any body of the working men are subjected to oppression, we never ask are the men Chartists before ranging ourselves on their side. It is enough for us that those oppressed are oppressed, we ask no more to induce us to championise their cause. We endeavour to convince the working men of the necessity of acquiring political power as a means to accomplish social changes, but this has never hindered, nor ever will hinder us from aiding all rational attempts made by the *working men to better their* condition by other means. New Advocates of Labour's Rights have plenty of room without depreciating the efforts of those who have struggled in the good cause for years past. We *hope to see many such Advocates* in the field as the one before us; the contest is a severe one, and, hitherto, the advocates of the working men have been but too few.

MANCHESTER—THE CONFERENCE.—The Conference of the National Associated Trades commenced its sittings in the Hall of Science, Manchester, on Mondafi last, T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., the President of the Association in the chair. Against this association the masters have waged the most deadly war. All their former objections have one by one been abandoned, but the requirement that the trades should not belong to this association has been clung to with the utmost pertinacity. The conference, by holding its meetings in Manchester, the centre of that district in which the contest has been going on for upwards of three months, have fairly bearded the lion of *capital in its own den, and thrown down the* gage of battle. It has proclaimed its determination calmly and coolly to measure its strengah against those who make use of capital as an instrument for oppressing the labourer, and defrauding him of his just rights. And it has taught the press and the masters of this district, that there are surely gathering together talent, elements of wealth, intelligence, and numbers, which will in the long run achieve a mighty and beneficial change in the position of industry.

The great, unostentatious, but firm manner in which the meeting has been convened, and the cool manner in which its business has been conducted, are worthy of notice and commendation. Without parade, feasting, or bluster of any kind, it has maintained its own ground, *enunciated* its own principles, explained its own objects, and shown by its whole demeanour that it is determined to carry them.

Great interest has been manifested in its deliberations by the working classes generally; and the tone of the debates has been characterised by the high intelligence, searching investigation into causes, and intimate practical knowledge of details, which peculiarly distinguish assemblies of the people's real representatives. The *Northern Star* denominated the first Conference of the Trades held in London, "THE PEOPLE'S PARLIAMENT;" with even more propriety may the present Conference be so denominated. It has all the bone and sinew of the most manly qualities of the people about it.

UNITED SOCIETIES OF CARPENTERS AND JOINERS.

This truly democratic body held its twenty-fourth anniversary meeting at the White Conduit House Tavern, Pentonville, on Monday, June the 1st. The dinner was served up in Mr. Rouse's best style, and the assembly-room was tastefully ornamented. On one side was arranged the busts of poets, authors, &c., and on the other *naval and military heroes. An excellent band played* many popular tunes during the day.

On the cloth being cleared, MR. BRAILEY was unanimously called to the chair, and said that Thomas Wakley, Esq. M. P., had been invited to attend, and had declared his great approbation of Trades Societies, and stated that he thought that society in general was under great obligation to the working classes, and that he should have much pleasure in attending their festival, and would make it a point to do so, if nothing of an extraordinary nature to prevent happened. He (the chairman) had been connected with the union for a quarter of a century, and had great pleasure in presiding *on this their twenty-fourth* anniversary. He was happy to find that unanimity of feeling pervaded their union. (Cheers.) They lived in stirring times, and it was necessary that they should be ready to display the energy which such times required. He trusted that the younger members of the trade would feel it to be their duty to join the society, for it was only by combined action they could really advance their interests. (Hear.) *He had much* pleasure in giving the first toast—"The Union Societies of Carpenters and Joiners of Great Britain and Ireland—may they obtain a just remuneration for their labour and endeavours to restrict their hours of labour while any members of the trade remain unemployed."

MR. BAMBER responded to the toast, and said they could do nothing from mere individual exertion. It was only by co-operation that any real good was to be effected. The importance of this principle was now well understood *by the working men.* That very day a meeting was to take place in Manchester, which would be of great value as regards the principle to which he had alluded, for it would be a movement not merely of numbers but of intelligence, which was the true representation of labour, by which they all lived. (Hear.) The trades had got that within themselves which, if properly exercised, would quickly relieve them from the thraldom of capital. (Hear.) What was capital but the result of the labour of the working men? And the object was to see how it could be brought into use for the advantage of all. (Hear, hear.) A movement was going forward which could not but be advantageous for the working classes, if these classes were but true to themselves, and the way to be so was to act in unity upon all matters in which their interests were concerned. (Hear.)

THE CHAIRMAN then gave—"*The people—the only* source of legitimate power; and may they speedily obtain their social and political rights."

MR. PROUSE responded to the toast, and said that the people had been used heretofore to advance party purposes. They had begun, however, to feel the value they were in the social scale, and it was not easy now to make tools of them to carry out selfish or interested objects. (Hear.) The speaker then enforced the value of union, and said that they could only insure beneficial legislation in respect to their interests by acting for themselves. (Hear.)

MR. COOPER, the Chartist poet, then sang—"Arise Labour's sons, arise!" and "*Spread the Charter.*" Both were loudly applauded.

THE CHAIRMAN gave—"May the tree of liberty be planted in the centre of the globe, and its branches extend from Pole to Pole."

THE CHAIRMAN next gave—"The Press—may it ever oppose the bands of tyranny and oppression, and support the cause of the working classes generally."

MR. T. COOPER said we are often invited to follow the example of the "League" in propagating our opinions, but it should be remembered that the League was backed by a large fund, which we lacked; but then the trades have hearts, have industry, have talent, and now begin to possess the will to be free, and consequently must and would soon command success. (Loud cheers.) He had said the working men possessed talent, and had they not his friend Thom, the "weaver poet of Inverury;" (Loud cheers;) the "Norwich weaver boy," George Thompson the Leicester joiner, and Henry Vincent the compositor. With such writers and orators continuously springing from their ranks, labour's cause must and would succeed. (Loud cheers.) After some comments on the press, Mr. Cooper concluded by saying that if they only possessed brotherhood they would find that the press would attend to their interests, and advocate their cause. (Loud cheers.)

THE CHAIRMAN gave "The Ladies—may they see the necessity of instilling into the mind of the rising generation, the searching spirit of inquiry."

MR. THOM, the Poet of Inverury (who on his rising was hailed with great applause) responded, and said he understood they were carpenters and joiners, but he did not think they were very good joiners, as if they were, they would have had more ladies with them. (Loud laughter and applause.) Mr. Thom concluded by singing with great taste and exquisite feeling, Robert Burns "Dear Lassie," which was rapturously applauded.

THE CHAIRMAN gave "Health and happiness to our Chartist Poet, Thomas Cooper." Drank with three times three.

MR. COOPER responded, and declared that he esteemed the honour done him much higher than any that could be bestowed from mitred heads or sceptered hands. (Loud cheers.)

The next sentiment was "Health and happiness to our guest William Thom, the Poet of Inverury."

MR. THOM briefly expressed his acknowledgements; in the course of which he said that he was well acquainted with the wants and wishes of the working classes. From the time he was ten years of age, and for 35 additional years, he was an operative in a factory, and well could he speak of the oppression and injuries to which the working classes were exposed. (Hear, hear.) He trusted to be able through the medium of his pen, tod o some good for those with whom his first and warmest wishes were identified. (Hear, hear.)

MR. CHAMBERS proposed in an eulogistic speech, "Our Chairman—and many thanks for the able manner in which he has presided." Drank with three times three, and one cheer more. *The band playing "He's a Jolly Good Fellow."*

MR. BRAILEY, in a neat and appropriate speech, responded. The pleasures of the day were much enhanced by the excellent singing of Messrs. Thompson, Roe, and others. The grounds were thrown open to the visitors, and formed a delightful promenade. In the evening the assembly rooms were opened for the ball, and was crowded with carpenters and their wives and sweethearts, until a late hour.

THE ACCIDENT ON BOARD THE FINN MCCOULL STEAM BOAT has proved more fatal than was at first reported. In addition to the three deaths already recorded, it may be briefly added, that a fourth and fifth sufferer, after enduring excruciating pain, breathed their last, within a few hours of each other, before the close of the day on which the accident occurred. The last, however, lingered until the forenoon of the following *day, when he too died.* At the moment of the explosion, the whole six unfortunates were blown, it appears, with great force to the farther end of the engine room, a distance of several yards.

SUICIDE AND ATTEMPTED MURDER.—The town of Newnham about twelve miles from Gloucester, was thrown into consternation on Wednesday last, by a most extraordinary suicide and attempt to murder committed by Mr. John Knowles, of the above town. On Wednesday afternoon Mr. Knowles went into the shop of Mr. Morse, the postmaster; Mrs. Morse put out her hand for Mr. Knowles to shake, but instead of doing so, he took up a mallet used for breaking sugar, and struck her a blow on the forehead, which felled her to the ground. The shopman seized him by the arms behind, and, while in this position, Knowles contrived to open a razor, which he had concealed *in his breast, and drawing it across* his throat, he fell to the ground, and died shortly afterwards. The deceased was a respectable shopkeeper at Newnham, and no motive is assigned for his extraordinary *conduct. The general opinion* is that he was labouring under insanity. Mrs. Morse is recovering.

GOOD GOVERNMENT.—What is the object of all government? The object of all government is roast *mutton, potatoes*, a stout constable, an honest justice, a clear highway, a free school. What trash to be bawling in the streets about the Green Isle, the Isle of the Ocean! The bold anthem of Erin go Bragh! A better anthem would be Erin go bread and cheese, Erin go cabins that keep out the rain, Erin go pantaloons without holes in them.—*Sydney Smith.*

TO MAKE WATER COLD FOR SUMMER.—The following is a simple mode of rendering water almost as cold as ice:—Let the jar, pitcher, or vessel used for water be surrounded with one or more folds of coarse cotton, to be constantly wet. The evaporation of the water will carry off the heat from the inside, and reduce it to a freezing point. In India, and other tropical regions, where ice cannot be procured, this is common.

HORRIBLE MURDER AND SUICIDE.

The neighbourhood of Widegate-street, Bishopsgate-street, was thrown into a state of great consternation on Wednesday evening, by the rumour that a man named Towny residing at No. 13, in the above street, had committed suicide, having first murdered his wife. It appeared that the deceased and his wretched partner were the parents of three children, the eldest of whom, a girl about 13 years of age, went to the lodgings occupied by her parents, a second pair back in the house in question, about 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. She knocked at the door, but receiving no answer, the girl looked through the keyhole and saw her father in a position which led her to believe he was in a fit. Having given the alarm, the door, which was locked, was burst open, and Towny was found quite dead, suspended from the bedstead. A paper was found pinned to his coat, which contained a statement of the motives that induced the unhappy man to commit the rash act, viz., *the dread of approaching starvation.* Towny carried on the business of a jobbing tailor, or "slobberer," as it is technically called, and *had been out of work for a considerable period.* About three quarters of an hour after the discovery of his dead body, in pushing the bedstead nearer the wall the body of his wife was discovered on the floor under the bed. The poor woman was also quite dead, and from the appearances presented it was quite evident she had been inhumanly strangled. Her hands were tied together, and were tightly and convulsively clasped. It is said she was given to drinking, and it is supposed that her husband on going home about 2 o'clock, found her lying on the bed intoxicated, and he thereupon proceeded to tie her hands. The act of strangling her was not accomplished *without* a scuffling noise, which excited the notice of the neighbours. They called out, supposing them to be fighting, and the noise ceased, the woman being unable to offer much resistance, either from the effects of the liquor she had drunk, or, as is conjectured, from the operation of some drug which had been administered, with or without her own consent, by her husband. The ill-fated woman was at the time of her death in daily expectation of her accouchment, and it is considered remarkable that the manner of her untimely death did not bring on the pains of premature parturition. It is rumoured that Towny or his wife made application to *the parochial authorities for temporary relief during* the period of her confinement, and that relief was refused them unless they went into the workhouse, with which condition Towny could not bring himself to comply. The truth of this, and the various other rumours in connection with this most lamentable affair, will undergo full investigation *at the inquest, which is expected to be held this day* (Thursday). According to some reports, the wretched husband took the life of his wife with her own consent, but this is scarcely consistent with another statement which appears entitled to credit—that he has repeatedly been heard to threaten her life, and that he has on *previous occasions proceeded to* various acts of ill-usage. Three children are made orphans by this lamentable occurrence, which, from the circumstance of the woman's condition, the *alleged refusal* to give her temporary relief, and the misery which they were known to have endured during the period of the husband being out of work, has created the greatest sympathy in the neighbourhood.

On Friday evening Mr. W. Payne held an inquest in the board-room of the East London Union, Devonshire-street, Bishopsgate-street, for the purpose of inquiring into the circumstances connected *with the death of John Toomey, aged thirty-seven*, and Mary, his wife, aged thirty-six, who were discovered on the afternoon of Wednesday last, the former hanging to the bedstead, and the latter under the bed quite dead.

The Jury returned a verdict, "that John Toomey destroyed the life of his wife, and afterwards his own, he being *at the time in a state of temporary insanity.*"

THE MURDERS BY POISONING IN NORFOLK.

(*Continued from our 6th page.*)

HAPPISBURGH, WEDNESDAY MORNING.—The inquiry was resumed yesterday morning at the Harbro' Hill House of this village, before the same coroner and jury.

According to the instructions of the coroner the remains of Maria Lacey were exhumed, but the body *was quite decayed.* The body of the child, Hannah Peggs, was disinterred on the previous evening at Hingham. The skeleton only remained. The jury being duly impannelled to inquire into the cause of the death of Maria Lacey and Hannah Peggs, the following evidence was taken:—

Elizabeth Peggs, daughter of the late Jonathan Balls, deposed, that she had seen the coffins and knew one to be her diseased sister's and the other her child's. The latter had been buried about seven years. It was first taken ill at her house. It was in the habit of going to its grandfather's house all day long, while she was out at work. On Saturday the 7th of June, 1839, the child came home unwell and died on the following Friday. It was sick just before it died. The old man (Balls) only came to witness's house once before the child died, at least, after being attacked, and that was on the day it died. It expired about five minutes after he arrived. Witness was with him all the time. She had no *reason to suppose it died from any other than natural* causes. She thought it had the small-pox. An inquest was held on the body. Mr. Clowes, the surgeon, attended, and witness considered it died of the small-pox.

The investigation was adjourned with a view of hearing the result of the medical examination of the remains of the deceased.

THE COLLISION ON THE MERSEY.

(*Continued from our 6th page.*)

On Tuesday the inquest was commenced at the Magazines, before Mr. Churton, the Chester coroner, upon the thirteen persons killed by the late collision between the Sea Nymph and Rambler, and whose bodies lie buried in Liscard Chapel-yard. Only six of the bodies were identified—namely, James Lally, an old man seventy years of age: Bridget Fury, and her infant son, Owen Fury; Martin Ford, and his daughter, Bridget Ford; and *Patrick Charles O'Malley*, a lad. The seven other bodies were so dreadfully mangled that identification was rendered impossible. After the six had been identified, the coroner adjourned the court until ten o'clock on Tuesday next, to afford *time for the inquest now holding at* Liverpool to be concluded, and to enable the witnesses and medical gentlemen there engaged to attend before him at the Magazines.—*Liverpool Paper* of Wednesday.

BANKRUPTS.

[*From the Gazette of Friday, June 5.*]

Edward Clark, Mortimer-road, Kingsland-road, builder—Charles Gorden Matthew John Hopkins, Portman-street, Portman-square, tailor—William Mitchall, Finsbury-place South, and Upper Fitzroy-street, Fitzroy-square, and Kent-street, Southwark, furniture dealer—Willoughby Marshall Smithson, Canterbury, printer—John Bobbington, Manchester, corn dealer—Robert Sheel, *Wilsted-street, Somers-town*, grocer—John Davis Paine, Hatcham, Surrey, publisher—Paul Shawson and Thomas Beeston Young, Louth, Lincolnshire, chymists—Hodgson Stelling, Well, Yorkshire, woolcomber—William Nortcliffe, Halifax and Manchester, dyer and stuff-merchant—John Beetham, Richmond, Yorkshire, gunmaker—Robert Bleakley, Liverpool, bricklayer—James Conlen, Cheltenham, Woolendraper—John Solomon, Exeter, outfitter.

Police Intelligence.

MARYLEBONE.

EXTRAORDINARY OUTRAGE BY A MILITARY RUFFIAN.—Lieutenant Gun Mahon, of the Royal Marines, who resides at No. 31, Cambridge-place, Edgware-road, was charged with having assaulted John Bushley Simmons, under the following extraordinary circumstances.—Complainant stated that he was shopman to his brother, 29, Upper York-street, and that on the previous Monday morning, agreeably to orders, he was taking home a pair of boots for defendant to try on, when he (defendant) met him on the road, and having ascertained from him that the boots were his, desired him to carry them to his dwelling, at the same telling him that upon his calling for the money in the evening he would be paid. Not liking to leave the boots without the sanction of his employer, he returned with them to the shop, and at seven in the evening again repaired with them to the house, when the servant by whom he was admitted told him he must wait a little while as defendant was then with another gentleman. In the course of five minutes he was sent for by defendant, and, on going into the apartment in which the two gentlemen were, he (defendant) told him, that, for his master's insolence, he should neither have money nor boots. The bell was rung, and on a carving-knife being brought in by direction of defendant, he cut the leg part of the boots into several pieces, having done which, he threw the feet or slippers towards complainant, whom he threatened to kick out of the place in the event of his not leaving speedily. Complainant added, that he at length quitted the house, but not before defendant had rushed upon him and knocked him down upon the sofa, threatening that he would give him a d—d good licking, if it cost him £5.—Defendant's answer to the charge was, that complainant impudently walked into the room while he was at dinner with his friend, Captain Tringham, and seating himself, expressed *his intention of remaining in* the comfortable position he was occupying, as he felt very tired, and refused to leave on being told to call in the morning. He (defendant) admitted having cut off the top parts of the boots, but denied having laid hands upon complainant at all.—Lieut. Mahon was ordered to enter into his own recognizance for his appearance to answer the charge at the sessions, in the event of an indictment being preferred against him.—Mr. Wontner: What am I to do, your Worship, about getting paid for the boots which have been destroyed?—I can't get the money for you; I think you have been used very badly, and you know the course which I have left open to you.

GUILDHALL.

THE MARRYING SHAM.—Joseph Mortimer, the pretended American Merchant, who obtained nearly £70 from Eliza Loyer, under the pretence that he was a widower and intended to marry her, was on Saturday again brought up, when the following additional evidence was given:—A blind man named Benjamin France, stated that the prisoner had written to a woman at Liverpool, who advertised for a situation, and had succeeded in inducing her to come up to London, when after marrying her and getting possession of her property, he deserted her. Mr. Alderman Musgrove then read a letter which he had received from Mr. Hart, of 81, Lord-street, Liverpool. He there got acquainted with a young lady who kept a respectable seminary for young ladies, and he told the same story of being a great man at New York, and expecting a remittance in *flour.* He induced her to become his wife. They were married by license, which Mr. Hart saw, and he sold them the wedding ring. The consequence was, she broke up her establishment, and went with him to America. Believing the prisoner to be a very dangerous fellow, Mr. Hart thought it his duty to state the matters within his knowledge. Mr. Musgrove then read another letter he had received from Mr. Dawson, a solicitor, in Bloomsbury-street, Bedford-square. It stated that Mortimer became acquainted with a Mrs. Langhorne, in June, 1829, and proposed to marry her, agreeing that she should settle her property (about £1,200) upon her two children by her former marriage. With his concurrence the deed of settlement was engrossed, but at the last moment he refused to sign it, and ultimately he married the lady, and got hold of her property. It was subsequently discovered that he had a wife living in Ireland, and one or two wives in America, and a clerk of Mr. Dawson followed the prisoner to Liverpool, and made him give up some merchandise purchased with Mrs. Langhorne's money. Notwithstanding the exposure, the poor woman accompanied him to New York. There he treated her in the most cruel manner, even beating her, and finally deserted her. She is now supported there by his mother and brother. The writer concluded "The prisoner will remember my name and address, and also the name of my client's mother, Mrs. Colonel Hind." Mrs. Brown, of Westmoreland-place, City-road, also sent a letter stating that in answer to an advertisement for a housekeeper's place, she received a call from the prisoner, and she also received the following letter:—

"Birmingham, August 14, 1845.

"My dear Madam—I read your advertisement, and if you have any thouts of changing your life into a maved state agane, I raly am the chap. I du want a wife. I am a notif of Inglan, and I have lived over twenty years in America, I have been a merchant at New York, and D bisness at 191 Chatim square. I eam over to purchis goods. I have brought over chees and sold them in leverpool. I have been mared to an English lady, the only dotor a neris. She has deyed in the States laying me with wone child 8 years old. I am, iff spered, dermind on bringing a nother wife out with me. You may be the looky won. Meriges is made in haven, so sade. Your and mene may be fixt. Ho nos, and iff you Grant an interview I shall be abell to ceep a wife, and I will make her hapey and comfordabell, I will have to go to Manchester in a few days to purchas satin goods. I rayley am with some thousands and I made it myself. I will be abell to sho you dockments to satisfy you of the fackes. Yours by return of post to the post offece Birmingham to pe cold for. I remain yours truly, and it will be your folt iff I du not for life. Ho nose but I am the right won and if so you will not want for hapenes for life.

"J. WATERMAN."

The prisoner was remanded for a week.

THAMES.

ASSAULT BY AN AMERICAN WITH A BOWIE KNIFE.—On Monday, a man of gigantic proportions, named John Webster, *alias* Crowther, *an American seaman*, was brought before Mr. Broderip, charged with committing a murderous assault on Edward Connor, a lame man, and attempting to stab him with a knife. The American seamen, in the port of London, are in the habit of wearing large knives in a sheath, and they have, on many occasions, used them. This practice is attended with very great danger, and in this case it will be seen that the prosecutor had a very narrow escape of his life.—The complainant stated that he was at the Phoenix public-house in Upper East Smithfield, near the St. Katherine Dock. The prisoner was there swaggering and bullying, and said he weighed 9st. 4lb., and would fight anybody of that weight. Witness observed that the prisoner was the biggest man he had seen for a long time, and he must weigh a good deal more than he had stated. The prisoner then struck an old man in the tap room, and wanted to quarrel with him. Witness remonstrated with the prisoner, who asked him to take up the quarrel and fight. He told him he was a cripple, and had lost the use of both legs, and could not fight. The prisoner said he would take the shine out of any one—that he was going to spar at one of the booths in Stepney fair, and wanted to get his hand in. At last the brother of witness agreed to fight the prisoner, and they went out and had one round outside the public-house door. The prisoner got the worst of it, and came into the tap-room again, and called for some beer. After the prisoner had drunk it he threatened to do for him. After some further abuse from the prisoner he left the room. The prisoner was absent about an hour, and on entering the room he advanced directly towards witness, and drew a knife from his sheath, which was made fast to his waist, and made a most determined and deliberate attempt to plunge it into his body. Witness parried the blow, and the point of the knife grazed his jacket, which was loose, just under the arm-pits, on the left side, cutting the jacket as it slid along. The prisoner was about to make another attempt to stab him, when the people in the room pinioned his arms, and secured him until a policeman arrived. The witness added, that if the stab made at him had taken effect, he should have been a dead man.—Gray, a police-constable, No. 264 H, produced the knife, a weapon of formidable description, with a very sharp point, and said the prisoner threw it away opposite Butler's buildings, on his way to the station house.—The prisoner said he was very drunk on *Saturday night*, and his head had been affected by a wound.—Mr. Broderip committed the prisoner in default of bail for trial.

CHARGE OF MURDER.—On Tuesday, Benjamin Gibbins, a mild-looking man, a labourer, was brought before Mr. Broderip, charged with the wilful murder of a woman named Jane Sloman, otherwise Gibbins, with whom he has lived for some time. The case excited great interest, from a rumour that was spread that the life of deceased was sacrificed by some parties engaged in carrying on illicit distillation in the house where *she met with her* death, in consequence of her having threatened to give information to the Excise. It appears there was a still at work in the building for some time, and that it was hastily removed on Monday night about the time the woman met with her death.—Edward Wanderer Townson, police-sergeant, No. 8 K, stated, that at half-past eight that morning, he was sent for to the house, No. 6, Labour-in-Vain-street, Shadwell-market, the residence of the prisoner. On arriving there he went up stairs, and found a woman in the front room a corpse, and Dr. Ross examining the body. Dr. Ross called his attention to a wound on the back part of the head, and also to three wounds on the right side of the face. Shortly afterwards the prisoner came in. He asked him, in presence of Dr. Ross, what time he came home. The prisoner replied that he returned to his home about seven o'clock, and found the deceased lying dead in the passage at the foot of the stairs, with her head towards the door. Witness then observed a mat folded up in the form of a pillow, which Dr. Ross said, in the presence of the prisoner, was in the same state, and under the deceased's head, when he was called into the house. There was a large stain of blood on it. Dr. Ross also called the attention of witness to some blood spattered upon the wall in the passage. There were also scratches on the wall as if the nails of some human hand had been scratching the wall. Witness also observed a spot of blood on the second stair from the passage in the form of a semi-colon, which appeared to have been smeared with the finger. Witness asked the prisoner if he had touched the body, and he replied that he had merely lifted the feet. Witness then observed some marks of blood on the prisoner's hands, and asked him how he accounted for it? The prisoner said he had cut his hand on Monday, and it bled a good deal. I observed large spots of blood on the left arm of his jacket, and I asked him how he accounted for that. He said, he did not know. I also observed several other marks of blood about the inside of the jacket, near the pocket, and also several spots of blood on his waistcoat. I afterwards told him I should take him to the *station-house*, and he said the blood on his clothes was caused by his lifting the head of the deceased. I searched the house, but did not find any instrument likely to have caused the wound on the back part of the head. I should say there was a large spot of blood on the thigh of the trousers the man now has on.

Mr. Daniel Ross, Surgeon, of High-street, Shadwell, was called to the deceased a little after seven o'clock that morning. He found her lying in the passage of her dwelling, with her head supported by a roll of matting converted into a sort of pillow. The head was towards the street door, and the feet at the foot at the stairs. About two or three feet above the body there were some patches of congulated blood on the wall facing the staircase. After describing some other marks, which was merely a repetition of Townson's evidence, he said he had the body very carefully removed up stairs into the front room. His attention was first called to a wound at the back of the head, and afterwards to the five marks or discolouration of the skin on the right side of the face. The wound was inflicted by a blunt instrument or by her falling against some blunt instrument or projecting surface. The bone was laid bare, and I could pass my finger above the upper part of it about an inch. I carefully examined the skirting board in the passage to ascertain if there was any blood or hair there, but was unable to detect either. I subsequently examined the room up stairs, where the body is now lying. There had evidently been some one vomiting there on the floor, and the affluvia of rum was very powerful. I then entered a small room on the ground floor, the door of which opened close to the head of the deceased, where she was first seen. The effluvia from liquor was very powerful there. He should say it was whiskey, and the floor of the apartment was flooded with it. He then passed through a small back room where he discovered the remains of a still, and the floor of that apartment was also flooded with strong spirits like whiskey. The still was gone, but a quantity of strong wash in tubs, and the utensils were lying about the brickwork in which the still had been imbedded was quite hot. He had no doubt the still had been hastily removed, and the liquor allowed to be wasted over the floor. The window of the still-room was down but unfastened. It might very easily have been thrown up from the outside. He had been ordered by the coroner, Mr. Baker, to make a *post-mortem* examination of the body, and until he had done so, he could not state positively the cause of death.

The prisoner, on being called on for his defence, made a very long statement, and said he left home at six o'clock on Monday morning, and did not enter his dwelling again till six o'clock next morning, when he effected an entrance by means of a ladder raised against the back of his house, and obtained admission by the first floor window. He was engaged during the whole of Monday in fitting out an up-and-down near Wombwell's menagerie, in Stepney fair, and turning the crank. The deceased and her mother visited the fair during the day, and he put them into one of the boats of the up-and-down he was attending. At five o'clock the same afternoon, he saw Jane Sloman in the fair again, and she was then the worse for liquor. He begged her to go home, and not distract his attention from the work he was upon, as he was fearful of receiving an injury from the crank he was turning. The prisoner then went on to state very circumstantially that he finished his work at twelve o'clock on Monday night, and that, after obtaining some refreshments, he went home and knocked at the door, and no one answered. He made several ineffectual attempts to enter the house, and the neighbours saw him and heard him knocking at the door. The first time he knocked at the door was between one and two o'clock, and the neighbours said "Who's there?" He told them he was very tired, and should obtain a lodging elsewhere, and as he was leaving the spot, the neighbours exclaimed, "My God, she has fallen down stairs." After visiting several coffee-shops and public-houses, he finally got in at the window by means of a ladder. He went down stairs, and saw the body lying at the foot of staircase. He opened the door, and the neighbours entered. At the desire of the neighbours he raised her head, and rested it in his lap, and the bystanders said she was dead. He immediately proceeded to the deceased's mother, and informed her that her daughter was dead. The prisoner, although very minute and circumstantial in detailing the places he had called at, and the refreshments he had swallowed, did not account very satisfactorily for his time, between twelve and half-past one, the time he first reached home, nor did he give any explanation of the circumstances he mentioned, that the neighbours told him that the woman had fallen down stairs, of which according to his own showing, he took no notice.

Mr. Broderip, on the conclusion of the prisoner's statement, said it was his duty to remand him till Thursday, and he was forthwith sent away in the van to Westminster Bridewell.

THE MURDERS BY POISONING IN NORFOLK.

Awful Disclosures.—As the investigation instituted by the Secretary of State concerning the late murders by poisoning in this village progresses, the horrors seem to thicken. To what extent deaths have been occasioned by poison it is impossible to say; it is, however, determined upon to exhume seven other bodies, and Coroners' inquests are to be held upon them. They will undergo a strict examination by a most experienced chemist, and a rigid and searching inquiry will take place into all the circumstances connected with these extraordinary and suspicious deaths. The seven bodies are not as yet exhumed, consequently the Coroner has been unable to fix the day for the inquests. Amongst the bodies that are to be exhumed is that of a man named Nurse, who was a neighbour of the deceased Balls; and with reference to this man the girl Sarah Kerrison, of Yarmouth, who it will be remembered, lived with old Balls as servant, and gave very important testimony at the recent Coroners' inquests, says that a short time before she left Ball's house, she heard Balls' and Nurse have a quarrel about the death of Balls' grandchildren, in which quarrel Nurse accused Balls of being the cause of their deaths. After a time this quarrel subsided, and the parties agreed to make it up by going to a neighbouring public-house and having some beer. They accordingly went and had something to drink, and in three hours afterwards Nurse was a corpse, yet there was no suspicion. The body was interred and the occurrence soon forgotten. From that moment, however, the girl suspected some foul play, and determined on *leaving the house*, which she did shortly afterwards, and obtained a situation at Yarmouth. As it was, she nearly fell a victim to the murderous traffic. A few days prior to the death of Balls's wife, while partaking of breakfast with old Balls and one of his daughters, Mrs. Green, she was suddenly seized with a violent sickness. Mrs. Green was attacked in a similar way, almost immediately afterwards, no doubt the effect of some poisonous drug; but, happily, they had not taken sufficient to act fatally. Balls's parents, who were poor people living at Bemistead, an adjacent village, appear to have died in a sudden and mysterious way, and their bodies, we understand, are amongst those to be taken up; the remainder are the grandchildren of Balls, who perished very young. Since Sir James Graham's communication to the county magistracy, there has been implicated in these dreadful acts with old Balls, though there are different opinions on the subject. We have heard nothing that would lead to its being even probable that such was the case. The coming inquiry will embrace the question as to whether blame attaches to any one for not holding inquests before.

THE CORONER'S INQUIRY RESUMED,

Happisburgh, Monday morning.

In consequence of the disclosures that have been made in the course of the private inquiry instituted by Sir James Graham, J. Pilgrim, Esq., one of the Coroners for the County of Norfolk, opened another investigation this morning, at East Ruston, a village three miles distant, on the bodies of other persons, related to the deceased Jonathan Balls, who are supposed to have died from the effects of poison administered by him.

The empannelling of another Jury to inquire into this appalling affair is understood to be the result of very important communications from the Government officers to the Coroner. It will be remembered that at the previous inquest, held at the Hasborough-hill House, of this village, it was clearly ascertained that four of the bodies exhumed at the parish church-yard, including the deceased Jonathan Balls had died from arsenic, and although an open verdict was returned, little doubt was entertained that the poison was wilfully administered by old Balls, who was supported by parochial relief, and had made himself very disreputable in the neighbourhood by two or more suspected acts of arson, and others of an abandoned character. As previously mentioned, owing to the suspicious nature of the deaths, Sir James Graham, at the instance of Mr. Wakley, M.P., despatched officers to the district, with a view not only of strictly clearing up the mystery attending this awful transaction, but to ascertain the unaccountable cause, and upon whom the blame rested for the neglect that such suspicious deaths should occur in one family within so short a period, and no official inquiry be instituted respecting them. The result of the officers' inquiries went to attach considerable suspicion as to other deaths in the family, and it was at length arranged that their bodies should be exhumed for the purpose of having them minutely examined. By the list that has been handed to the Coroner by the officers, of the victims, we find, in addition to the bodies of Jonathan Balls, the supposed murderer, his wife Elizabeth, Samuel, Ann Elizabeth, and Elizabeth Ann Pestle, his grandchildren, whose deaths were inquired into at the former inquest; that of Ann Peggs, a grandchild, who died on the 7th of June, 1839, in her eighth year, and was buried at Igham Chapel. From some unexplained circumstance it was exhumed about three weeks after it had been interred. Mr. Pilgrim held an inquest on the body, but the surgeon considering that it had died from fever, and not deeming a *post mortem* examination necessary, a verdict of natural death was returned. This child, like the rest, appears to have been taken ill immediately after a visit to its aged relative; and what is more remarkable, had no medical advice. The next on the list is Maria Green, daughter of Mrs. Green, (another daughter of Jonathan Balls)—this victim was 15 months old, and died on the 25th December, 1836, and was buried at East Rushton. The infant had been to the grandfather's house, and while there was attacked with illness, and shortly after expired, no surgeon being called to it. Next the body of William Green, also a grandchild, aged two years, died on the 31st of October, 1841, and interred at East Rushton. He had, also, been to his grandfather's, and was seized with illness on his return home; and lastly, Martha Green, of the same family. She died when 15 months old, after visiting old Balls' house, and was buried with the others in the same church-yard.

One of the daughters of Jonathan Balls, Mrs. Green, and mother of the three children, the subject of inquiry this day, is in the greatest distress of mind; and having taken a portion of the poison given to her by her father, she is still suffering from its pernicious effects.

DISCOVERY OF FURTHER MURDERS.

Happisburgh, Tuesday morning.

At the re-opened inquest—Mary Green, a daughter of the deceased Jonathan Balls, was first called. She said she had already told all she knew. She had seen the coffins taken out of the graves that morning, and knew them to be those of her three children, Maria, William, and Martha. Maria died first, at Happisburgh, nine or ten years ago, and was buried at Ruston on the 25th of December, 1836. Her mother (the deceased, wife of Jonathan Balls) took the child home in a donkey cart. Some blotches had come out about its head and face before it went, but it was still very well. It remained there nine days. She had not heard that it was unwell, but on going for it, as she heard her mother was going out, she found it dead. She was told that it had been dead two or three hours. She felt hurt, and cried, and her father told her that it had been sick. She thought it very strange, and was astounded, but she did not say much about it, as her suspicion was not excited. An inquest was held upon it, and Mr. Clowes, the surgeon, attended and examined it. He did not make a *post-mortem* examination, and said the cause of death was the spotted fever. She was informed that on the morning of its death her father had given it some bread and butter, and it could not get it down its throat. The deceased boy William was five years old when he died. He had been staying at her father's house a year and a half. About a month before he died she saw him there well. Her father then sent for her to attend the boy, as he had been taken ill. She sent another of her sons for him, and, assisted by the girl, Sarah Kerrison. He was brought home. She had three children then at home ill with fever. Mr. Clowes attended him until he died, three weeks afterwards. Her father came to see the child two or three times, and he visited him on the Sunday morning. He died in the evening. He did not appear to be sick, but the saliva kept running from his mouth. He could not talk much, but was a very sensible child. She could not tell if her father gave anything to the child when he came. Her father, Balls, was in the habit of bringing cakes to the child. He brought some on the morning of its death. The cakes were home made, but cannot say who made them. Martha died about the same time. Before she died she was not in good health, and was scarcely ever well. She was thirteen months old. Witness heard that her father gave the child bread and butter and other things. She had been ill about three weeks when she died. Her father used to come and see her on Sunday morning, and would say, "poor little thing, how bad it is." She had two great knots in her throat, and the ears, eyes, and nose would discharge. The witness here detailed a visit to her father's house in 1845 when her mother was ill. She stopped all night. Was up in the morning with the young girl, Sarah Kirrison, and her father wished her to have some breakfast. Kirrison made the tea, and her father asked her to have a herring, saying, "There are two for you and Kerrison." They were cooked, and they had one each, but neither her father nor her mother partook of any. Before she had finished her breakfast she was seized with sickness, threw up her meal, and in half an hour went home. She continued sick till ten or eleven o'clock at night, and was ill for two or three days, not knowing whether she would live or not. She told her father and mother how ill she had been. Her father said nothing, but her mother seemed moved. Kerrison was also very ill, throwing up for two days in a similar manner. Kerrison always behaved well to her mother and her children.

The witness was here seized with strong hysterics, and was carried out of the inquest room: She shortly recovered, but seemed in a dreadfully dejected state.

Robert Green, the father of the children, was next examined. Had no suspicion that his children came by their deaths unfairly. Maria was taken ill and died in two hours. His father-in-law was always very fond of the children, and never seemed easy but when they were with him. He also detailed as much as he knew of the two others, but he knew very little about the symptoms. Fever was in the house three weeks, and five children were ill at the same time.

Rosanna Peggs, wife of Bartholomew Peggs, of Happisburgh, deposed that she recollected the deceased child Maria Green being at her grandfather's house for more than a week. She saw the child the Sunday before it died. Balls came and asked her if she would go to his house, for he thought the child was dying. She went directly, and it had almost expired. She took it up in her arms, and, after a struggle, it died. Balls says it had got a hearty breakfast. She thought it strange that a child in good health should die so suddenly, and she told him so. He made no remark, but when Mrs. Green came he seemed rather confused. The death was not talked of in the village particularly, at least she did not recollect any one saying anything about it, nor did she know who was the means of calling the inquest. She attended the inquest at the Swan Inn, Happisburgh. The child had no fever.

By the Coroner—She knew Balls' daughter that died. She was very ill, but did not know if she died suddenly. She was married. The child died in two or three days, and the daughter in nine weeks. Witness had heard that she was hurt by kicks from her husband, and that she was most grossly ill-treated by him.

One of the officers sent down by Sir James Graham, named Smith, who was present watching the proceedings, informed the Coroner that he had learned that the child was much injured from these kicks, its arm was broken and had withered. No inquest was held on it. Her name was Lacey. The circumstance occurred thirteen years ago.

Mrs. Green was re-called, and spoke to the ill-treatment her sister experienced before she died—her mother never liked Lacey, her sister's husband, and once remarked to her, "if you get married never let me hear you complain." Before she died she wished to say a few words, but she had not strength. There were a number of black marks on her body. Her father and Lacey were friendly: the latter was still living.

The Coroner observed that it was a most extraordinary thing, that although there was so much talk about this poor woman's death, no inquiry should have taken place. He would have the body disinterred in the course of the following morning and ascertain what state it was in. The more they went into the inquiry the worse it became.

The Jury now adjourned for half an hour, and on reassembling it was announced that the surgeons had only examined the body of Maria Green, the child that had been buried ten years, and they had discovered the *presence of poison. This is the body of the child on which* an inquest was held at the time of death, but on which there was no internal examination. The surgeons had not proceeded with the other two, and the Coroner determined on adjourning the inquiry until to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

The Coroner afterwards proceeded to Ingham, where he gave orders for the child Peggs to be disinterred.

THE LATE FATAL COLLISION ON THE MERSEY.

INQUEST ON THREE OF THE BODIES.

Liverpool, Saturday.

This morning, at ten o'clock, an inquest was held at the Sessions-house, Chapel-street, on the bodies of John Roach, aged forty-five, John M'Glone, aged three months, and Patrick Geoghan, aged forty-five years, before Philip Finey Curry, Esq., borough Coroner.

Ellen Maclean, widow, left Sligo on Sunday last by the Rambler. She belonged to a party who were about to emigrate to America. Knew the deceased, Pat Geoghan. He belonged also to the party. They were deck passengers, of whom there were a great number. On Monday night, witness was sitting in the steerage with the rest of her party about her, when there came another steamer against them, and it smashed the vessel witness was in. There were a great number of persons badly hurt, and among them Pat Geoghan. The broken parts of the iron and wood fell about in all directions. A boat came and took witness to Liverpool. Witness saw Geoghan twice alive at the hospital, and he died yesterday (Friday) morning. After the collision, the captain and mate did all they could to save us.

Bryan Kelly, provision dealer, was a passenger in the Rambler. He knew John Roach; he was a passenger also. When they came inside of the rock, at the mouth of the Mersey, witness was standing near to the cabin-door, against the bulwarks on the Cheshire side. It was twilight. Witness suddenly heard the captain giving "great commands." He told one of the hands to run down the gangway to the helmsman; but witness did not understand the instruction he gave, nor remember the words. The man ran back again, and the captain called out, "Stop her." In about two minutes after they were struck by the other boat. The whole ship was then alarmed; and the other boat turned off from them very quick. The carpenter told the captain that the vessel was making water; and he called out loudly to the engineer, "full speed;" and witness shortly afterwards ascertained that there was no further danger, as they were aground. *Many of the passengers were much hurt.* Witness did not see Roach during the voyage, but saw him for the first time after he was dead at the hospital. Had known him for fourteen years. Witness did not see the other steam-boat until they had struck. The night was rather dark, and witness could not say whether the other steamer had lights about her rigging. The Rambler had two lights, one on the chimney, and another in one of the rooms adjoining the paddle-box, facing the bows.

Bernard Gallagher, butcher, of Sligo, a passenger in the Rambler, knew John Roach, and saw him on board. Between ten and eleven on Monday, when the Rambler had passed the Rock Light, she was run into by another steamer. Many people were hurt, and witness did not see Roach until he was landed at the pierhead. Witness had seen him since his death. When they were near the Rock Light witness was in the cabin, and did not hear any directions about steering. Was coming up at the time the collison took place.

Mr. Gildersleeves, surgeon at the Northern Hospital, said Roach was sensible when he was brought to the hospital, but in a very cold and collapsed state. He died shortly afterwards. There were contusions all over the body, and both bones of the right leg were fractured; but the patient died from collapse. Geoghan was brought to the hospital at the same time as Roach. His spine was fracture, which caused his death yesterday (Friday) morning.

Peter Macfarlane, second mate of the Rambler—She was commanded by Captain Wm. Macallister. Her engines were 250-horse power. There were six firemen, two coal-trimmers, two engineers, and eight seamen. They had on board, on Sunday, when they sailed from Sligo, 300 deck passengers, one or two cabin passengers, and 600 pigs and 14 black cattle. Had a good passage, and they arrived at the Bell Buoy, off the mouth of the Mersey, at half-past nine on Monday night. The tide was about an hour from high water, and the wind was westerly. On leaving the Bell Buoy, the course of the Rambler was about S.E., which was continued until they were about half-way in, and then the course was altered to E.S.E. Witness was standing by the man at the helm. They had a light at the funnel head, a red light on the larboard, and a white one on the starboard, in front of each paddle-box. That was the usual number and arrangement of lights when coming into Liverpool. They had a watch forward, consisting of the mate and two men. The captain was on the gangway between the paddle-boxes; he had the speaking trumpet in his hand. They came up the Rock Channel and continued their course E.S.E., until they came to the Rock Light; and they passed two steamers a little below the Rock Light. As they rounded the Rock Light they passed within a breadth and half of the small buoy opposite; they then steered due south for about a minute, or not quite so long; they then steered south-half-west. Witness then heard the mate report a steamer a-head; and witness observed to the man at the wheel that he saw her smoke, but no lights; and just a moment afterwards witness saw her starboard light and funnel light off our larboard side. Witness was looking over the larboard quarter. Directly afterwards witness saw her red light on the larboard side. She appeared to be about two points off our larboard bow. Witness then said to the man at the wheel, "She is coming towards us." He replied, "We are pretty close on the Cheshire shore," implying that he could not go much closer. Witness then lost sight of the larboard light of the approaching steamer. Witness then heard the captain sing out "Port," and witness sang it out himself after the captain, and the helmsman ported. The next word from the gangway was "Port" again. Witness stood close to the helmsman and he obeyed the order. At this time witness began to be frightened, and in a moment or less it was "Hard a port." Witness laid hold of the wheel himself, and called another man, and there were three of them holding the wheel "hard a port," when the other steamer ran aboard of us on our larboard bow, cutting us down below the water's edge, capsizing the windlass, and tearing up the deck, or cutting through it. There were a great number of persons hurt, and some killed on the spot. The other steamer backed away and got clear of the Rambler, which was run on shore. Witness did not hear any order given to stop the engines, but it might have been, as there was so much noise among the passengers.

John Hunter, chief mate of the Rambler, said they took the pilot on board at *twenty minutes past nine on Monday* night, a little to the westward of the N. W. lightship; his name was Wm. Daniels. He took charge of the ship at once, and stood on the bridge alongside the captain. The pilot, from the time he came on board, directed the steering of the vessel. Directly after passing the Ripraff Buoy at the Rock Light, witness saw a light two points on the larboard bow. Witness called to the master and pilot to port the helm. Witness heard the captain call "port," and then "hard-a-port," which was done. Witness saw all the lights of the vessel which was approaching, after the helm was ported, and shortly after she ran in on the larboard bow. Witness told the passengers to go over to the other side of the deck, when he saw that a collision was inevitable, but they had not time. Vessels coming into Liverpool with a flood tide keep in close to the Cheshire shore, and vessels going out take either side of the river, but there is no rule. The lights of the Sea Nymph might have been half a mile off when witness first saw her. If both vessels had pursued the course they were in when witness first saw the light, they would have passed clear of each other.

By Mr. Duncan—When the vessels struck, witness got on board the Sea Nymph. Witness went to the captain on the gangway and asked him for God's sake to stand by the other vessel, lest she should sink; and all the answer witness received was, "Stand out of the way, Sir."

By Mr. Arden—There would have been no collision if they had held their courses; but the Sea Nymph appeared to be coming in, and witness called out at once to port the helm. Witness did not report "steamer a-head, which was the usual course. Witness heard the captain eagerly call to the engineer, "Stop her," and the engines were stoped not more than half a minute before the collision. There was no time to order the engines to be reversed. About five minutes elapsed from the time witness first saw the light to the collision. Witness did not know how he got on to the Sea Nymph; two of the crew and two passengers did the same. The Sea Nymph backed right away, and returned to the dock without standing by to help the Rambler. He did not stay to see if he could render any assistance. Had seen the Sea Nymph since, and she was much injured.

The Court then adjourned until Monday morning at half-past nine o'clock.

Monday.—The inquest on the bodies of John Roach and Patrick Geoghan, was resumed before the Borough Coroner at half-past nine o'clock this morning. Mr. Harden and Mr. Myers attended, as before, on behalf of the captain, mate, and owners of the Sea Nymph; and Mr. Duncan and Mr. Hassell, for the captain and owners of the Rambler. Fourteen of the jury answered to their names: the fifteenth had met with an accident, and was unable to attend.

William Daniels, the pilot, was the first witness called. He said—I am a licensed pilot belonging to the port of Liverpool. I was taken on board the Rambler at twenty minutes after nine o'clock on Monday night last. I was then three miles distant from the North-west Light-ship. I took charge of the Rambler for the purpose of bringing her into port. The winds were light from the W.N.W. The night was very fine and clear. As soon as I got on board, I went to the man at the wheel and directed him what course to steer. Then I took my position on the gangway between the two paddle boxes. This is the best position I could take for observation. As we proceeded towards the Rock Light, three steamers passed us on the larboard side. They ported their helms and we ported ours. They passed us by the Wharf Buoy, a long way at this side of the Spencer Buoy. We rounded the Rock Light about a quarter past ten. We passed within a ship's length of the light. We ported our helm, steered for the Ripraps Buoy, and kept close in to the Cheshire shore, in two fathoms of water. We kept still porting our helm, and passed so closely to the New Brighton stage that you might have gone ashore there. Then we saw three lights on our larboard bow, bearing about S.E. in a minute or so afterwards we lost her larboard light, but still saw her starboard light and the light at the mast-head. I then called out to the helmsman to port, and at the same time I ordered the engines to be stopped. I called out twice to the helmsman to port, and the "captain called "hard-a-port." Our head was then S.E. We kept the lead constantly going. The engines were stopped. They were not reversed. The other steamer struck us on our larboard bow in less than a minute after we had stopped the engines. She came stem on our larboard bow, cutting us down to the water's edge. When I first observed the three lights, the head of the Sea Nymph was about N.W. and by N. If she had continued that course she would have gone ashore. Had she continued the course she was on when she struck us she would have gone ashore in half a minute. If she had ported her helm she would have avoided us. She was not upon the right course; her course to the Rock Light was N.W.

William Jones—I am one of the sailors belonging to the Rambler, and took the helm at the North-west Lightship. The pilot was taken on board soon after, and took charge of the steering of the vessel at once. Whilst steering for the Rock, two steamers passed us on the larboard side. We passed so near to the Rock Light that the vessel could hardly get clear off. As we neared the light, two steamers passed us, and I was ordered by the pilot to port, in order to make room for those steamers to pass. That was my reason for going so near the Rock Light. We steamed very close to the New Brighton stage; and after we rounded the Riprap buoy we kept close in to the Cheshire shore. I did not observe that the lead was going. I saw two bow lights a-head after I had passed the New Brighton stage. They were two points clear of our larboard paddle-box. Word was immediately passed to me to port the helm. The order was obeyed. A second time I was ordered to port, which I did. Hard-a-port was the next order; and then two other sailors assisted me, and we put the helm hard-a-port. I could not, from the place where I was, and the noise of the passengers and pigs, hear any order given to stop the engines. The Sea Nymph then came right aboard of us. She came stem on, on our larboard bow, and then she reversed, got clear of us, and came up again towards our stern. I hailed her, and asked what she was going to do—whether she was going to run us down a second time or not? I got no answer, and she went away into the river.

John Walker—I am a fireman on board the Rambler. I was standing on the crank hatches immediately before the collision took place. My particular duty was to pass the word from the captain to the engineer. I heard the mate sing out to the captain that there was a steamer *coming out of the docks*; and I then observed the steamer's mast-head light bearing on our larboard bow. I did not observe either her starboard or larboard lights. The captain ordered the helm to be ported, and he repeated the order afterwards. Both the captain and pilot gave the order to port, both at the same time. They called out, "Port—hard-a-port; and shortly after the engines were ordered to be stopped. I passed the order down to the engine-room. The engines were stopped. I saw them stopped; and then, in about a minute and a half after, the Sea Nymph struck us on our larboard bow.

John Brodie—I am a seaman on board the Rambler, and recollect making the North-west Light-ship on Monday night last. We took a pilot in there, and he took charge of the vessel then. I was stationed on the forecastle head, keeping a look-out, and was on the gangway afterwards. After rounding the Rock, I had to pass the word from the mate, who was on the forecastle-head, to the captain who was on the bridge. We kept close in to the Cheshire shore. I saw a light and smoke a-head upon our larboard bow. The mate reported at the same time, and gave the order for me to port. I called out "port" to the captain and pilot, who, in turn, gave similar orders to the man (Campbell) who was stationed between them and the helmsman. The captain ordered to port twice, and then he called out "hard a port," and ordered the engines to be stopped. The engines were stopped almost immediately: and, in about half a minute or so after, the collision took place. The force of it knocked me down by the gangway plank, and when I came to my senses I found myself on board the Sea Nymph. I then found the bowsprit of the Sea Nymph right across the foredeck of the Rambler. I cannot tell how I got on board the Sea Nymph. I did not see the captain of the latter. I was landed in the Sea Nymph at the Clarence pier-head.

Mr. Hassell said the captain of the Rambler would be present to give evidence, but that he was confined to his bed, and labouring under injuries received at the time of the collision.

The Coroner, in reply to an observation from Mr. Duncan, thought it better not to examine the captains.

This closed the evidence on the part of the captain and owners of the Rambler.

Samuel Easter was then called—I am chief mate to the Sea Nymph. She is of 350 horse power. She sailed from the Clarence Dock at twenty minutes past ten o'clock on Monday night. I looked at my watch, passing through the gates. We were bound for Warrenpoint Newry. We had a general cargo on board, and from eighty to one hundred passengers. Captain Joseph Thompson is our commander. The night was fine and clear. The wind was moderate, and from the N.W. It was about a three-quarters flood-tide when we started from the dock. We advertised to sail at half-past nine, but we were fifty minutes past our time. The tide carried us up the river, and the helm was put hard a-port to bring her head on. We took our course down the river, outside the vessels at anchor, on the Cheshire shore, and we steered North and a little East. We passed a ship's length and-a-half outside the coal hulk, which is stationed off the Magazines, and from which the New Brighton vessels are supplied with coals. We then made for the Rock Light, which was about a-half or three quarters of a point on our starboard bow. I was on the forecastle head; and, shortly after passing the coal hulk, I saw a light round the Rock Light house. It proved to be the Rambler's masthead light. I reported the light to the captain, and asked him if he saw it. He said "I do—all right." The light shot across from the Lighthouse at a tremendous rate. I did not hear the captain speak, for he was one hundred feet from me. The next thing I heard was the blowing off of the steam. The captain was on the bridge between the paddle-boxes. In about a minute and a half after I had spoken to the captain, I observed the Rambler's starboard bow white light, and then I knew that it was a steamer. I then called out to the captain again, and told him that it was best to keep the helm hard a-port. I did not hear him make any answer, nor do I know whether he heard me or not. I rather think he did not, the steam was making such a noise. I then saw the Rambler's red light on her larboard bow. I could then see the full length of the Rambler's hull, and that she was flying up to the westward, with her helm hard a-port. I could also notice our vessel's head, by the Rock light, going off to the eastward, but we had lost a great deal of her way by this time. We were only going at the rate of three or four knots an hour. I sung out to the captain again that it was impossible for the vessels to clear in the way they were going, for with both helms a-port, they were running fairly into each other. The captain never answered, and in half a minute afterwards, the collision took place. We struck her nearly stem-on, on her larboard bow. We were entangled together about half a minute, I went down, after we got clear of her, to see if we were making water any where. I found the stem, the cutwater, and both bows gone. I came up again and told the captain he had better run her ashore or into dock, but he would not do that, but ran his bowsprit into the rigging of the Rambler aft.

At this hour, ten minutes to six o'clock, the Court adjourned to twelve o'clock to-day.

The Self-Accused Thief and Murderer.—Since the committal to Newgate of William Henry Norman, who accused himself of robbing his employer, Mr. Hoof, of Madeley House, Kensington, it has been satisfactorily ascertained that he has been in no way concerned in the murder of Mr. Westwood, the watchmaker, in Princes-street, Soho, as was at first believed, he having been absent from England, from September, 1838, until 1841, in the customs in Jamaica, and the murder having been committed on the night of the 3rd of June, 1839. There is no doubt, however, that Norman's statement relating to the extensive robbery committed by him at New York, is true. It is a singular fact, that in consequence of a belief expressed in the reports that Norman was concerned in the murder of Mr. Westwood, circumstances have been communicated to the police which lead to a hope of an elucidation of the mystery in which that dreadful crime has been so long enveloped.

THE STRIKE IN THE BUILDING TRADES.

(From the *Times*.)

Liverpool, May 29.

On Thursday morning this town was gratified to find that the strike in the building trades had ended, and that work would be immediately resumed. It appears that a deputation of workmen waited upon Mr. Rushton, our excellent stipendiary magistrate, and stated that the only impediment to the settlement of the dispute was the desire of themselves and their fellow-workmen that the masters should withdraw the "declaration" which they required the workmen to sign, and of which we stated the nature last week. Mr. Rushton, with his usual benevolence of character, promised to bring about, if possible, a meeting of the masters and workmen, and use his best endeavours to reconcile the unhappy differences that existed. He immediately opened a communication with some of the most eminent of the builders; and at an appointed hour the various parties met in the magistrates' room at the Sessions House. Mr. Rushton desired the workmen to keep nothing in the back-ground; and in a few pithy words, stating the distress and inconvenience which had resulted from the strike, advised all parties to enter into the conference with friendly feelings, and to make such arrangements as would be conclusive, so that the trade of the town might again resume its usual and natural course. Mr. Holme, the builder, asked whether the persons then present were duly authorized by their respective societies to enter into such negotiations as would be final, and would be agreed to by the great body of the workmen. The deputations of workmen, comprising members from the masons', bricklayers', joiners', plasterers', and plumbers' associations, respectively rose and declared that they were duly authorized, and were prepared, on behalf of their fellow workmen, to enter into negotiations which should be conclusive. On this assurance the negotiation proceeded. After some conversation, in which the masters argued that no club or society had a right to dictate to any man, or to compel him to join such a society against his will, and that labour, like other commodities, should be perfectly free, and that they could not enter into contracts with security to themselves, or with advantage to the public, unless such a principle as the freedom of labour was fully recognized, it was unanimously agreed as a base for subsequent negotiation—

That a full and free disclaimer be made of the rights of any man, or body of men, to interfere with the freedom of labour; and that all men may work for whomsoever they please, and on whatsoever terms they may think right.

The masters then proposed—

That the connexion with the National and General Trades' Union should be dissolved, they offering no opposition whatever to local associations, if the operatives deemed such to be necessary for the preservation of their own privileges.

The workmen present all declared, with the exception of the labourers (here generally known, we believe, as hod carriers), that their respective trades did not belong to the National Trades' Union; and, as this disclaimer was strongly made in the presence of Mr. Rushton, of the magistrate's clerk, and of the reporter, Mr. Rushton recommended the masters to withdraw the proposition, which they immediately agreed to, on the distinct disclaimer of the delegates, one of the masters observing that the word of the representatives of the workmen was considered sufficient.

It was then agreed to on the part of the operatives

That no molestation be offered to those workmen who are now employed and have signed the declaration (in number, we believe, nearly 1,000), and that the deputation of workmen here present agree most earnestly to impress upon the minds of their fellow workmen the propriety of abstaining from the use of any terms of reproach to those men who have already agreed to the masters' terms, and who are now employed.

The masters then proposed that, as some of the branches of the building trade commenced work at 6 o'clock on the Monday morning, and left off at half-past 3 o'clock on a Saturday afternoon, while others commenced at 7 o'clock on Monday morning, and worked until 4 o'clock on the Saturday, a practice which had been found most inconvenient, an uniformity of commencing and leaving off should take place, and that the whole of the trades should commence at 6 o'clock on the Monday, and leave off at 4 on the Saturday, which would be more convenient to all parties. To this the masons strongly objected; and, after a long discussion, it was agreed that the hours of labour should remain the same as heretofore; but that the distribution of the time should be arranged between the various trades and their employers, and should form no part of the present negotiation.

The masters then agreed to withdraw the "declaration," and Mr. Rushton congratulated all parties on the termination of the differences. To prevent any mistake, Mr. Rushton reduced it to writing, and added it to the foregoing. It was as follows:—

That the above conditions being acceded to, the declaration shall be withdrawn.

The whole of the resolutions were then read over *seriatim*; and, after a vote of thanks had passed to Mr. Rushton, all the parties left the conference under the impression that the affair was ended.

Combinations and strikes have previously and frequently been heard of in this town. The shipwrights used to be the grand disturbers; and we recollect that on one occasion the Duke of Lancaster, a large East India ship, belonging to Mr. Gladstone, the father of the present Colonial Secretary, was repaired and caulked by the master shipwrights, because no journeyman shipwright would work without an exorbitant rate of wages. The natural result has been, that shipbuilding has departed from the shores of the Mersey, except to a small extent. Vessels are built at Worthington, Maryport, Whitehaven, and also at various small ports on the eastern coast of England; and through the folly and combination of the ship-carpenters little of consequence is done in the Mersey except the repair of vessels; and even where an extensive repair is necessary, vessels are frequently sent to other places, on account of the exorbitant charges made for repairs in Liverpool. But no strike in any trade, within our memory, has caused a greater sensation than this amongst the builders, because it affects so many classes beyond their own sphere. Not only have the timber, lead, and glass dealers felt it, but it has affected the carriers—persons who obtain their livelihood by carting for hire, shopkeepers, spirit merchants, limeburners, and others; all of whom are more or less dependent upon the demand for materials used in the building department, or on the expenditure of the weekly wages, which to such a great extent are disbursed in this town. Your readers will therefore be pained to hear, that on the very evening of the day on which the arrangements were amicably come to between the master builders and workmen, the clubs of the various trades met, and threw overboard all the resolutions which had been agreed upon, principally instigated, it is said, by the stonemasons. The resolutions were consequently not acted upon, and the next morning not one man returned to his work. An instruction was forwarded to Mr. Tomkinson, one of the oldest and most eminent of the master masons, and a gentleman who has been for many years engaged as a contractor for public works, that a diminution of working hours and an increase of wages were required on the part of the masons, and that unless he acceded to the demand the men would not resume their work. Mr. Tomkinson, naturally indignant at such a breach of faith, refused to entertain the demand, and desired the workmen to meet him again in the presence of the stipendiary magistrate, Mr. Rushton. They did so; and finally lowered their demand for increased wages to 1s. per week additional, but stipulated that they should have half an hour at four o'clock every afternoon for "recreation." Mr. Tomkinson promised an answer at six o'clock the same evening; and in the meantime summoned a meeting of masters to consult as to the most advisable steps to be pursued in this new and unlooked-for emergency.

After Mr. Tomkinson, and the other masters who had been present at the conference, had stated the concessions made by the masters before Mr. Rushton to put an end to the turn out, and the solemn obligation into which the delegates had entered, followed by such new demands, so contrary to the stipulations agreed upon, it was unanimously resolved that concession had been carried to its utmost limits, that no faith could be kept with the clubs, and that, as the masters had agreed to withdraw "the declaration," it should be religiously observed on their part; but that no further concession, either on the score of wages, or a reduction in the hours of labour should be made, as it was then perfectly clear that every concession was only followed by an increased demand. Thus, instead of a termination of the strike, matters seemed as far as ever removed from a settlement. The bricklayers and plasterers seem to follow in the wake of the masons; the joiners, plumbers, and some others, with more wisdom, seem anxious for a settlement, and some of them have left the clubs and resumed their work. But the masons are in demand for the various railway contracts, especially on the Holyhead, Carlisle, and East Lancashire lines, and many of them have found employment on those railways. The Liverpool Dock Trustees, the Birkenhead Dock Company, and the Liverpool and Bury and Grand Junction Railway Companies, also have been proceeding with their works, which are principally masonry; and, so long as there was no demand for increased wages, those four large companies did not think it necessary to suspend their works. The course now pursued, however, by the masons, has altered the complexion of the whole strike; and the clubs must now soon come to issue with these large and formidable companies. The press, with one exception, has condemned the unwise proceedings of the unions; and, as the masters have withdrawn the declaration, which by some was considered oppressive, notwithstanding that it was originally suggested by some of the mechanics themselves, to give them a feasible excuse for seceding from the unions, which they found to be both tyrannical and oppressive, the struggle has narrowed itself into one for advanced wages and diminished time; and, instead of its being a question between masters and workmen, as to who shall be the rulers, it has really become a question between the workmen and the public, as to what the former shall receive and the latter shall pay. The workmen do not appear to see that the masters have really little to do with the question of wages, especially in such departments as building. It is a question between the mechanic and the man who invests his money in building, instead of investing it in cotton, corn, British or foreign railways, English or foreign securities, lands, or other investments; and master builders have, in reality, just as much to do with the rate of wages, as the broker, who is the medium of sale between the merchant and consumer, has to do with the price of cotton, sugar, or indigo.

The effects of this strike are becoming apparent. The masons are the most difficult body to deal with, and they are, it is said, under the control of a secretary, to whom they allow a handsome salary for managing their affairs. One of our first architects has resolved to abandon the use of stone in building as much as possible; and at this time we are credibly informed that several piles of building are proceeding where iron has been substituted for stone. We perceive by one of our local prints that a gentleman from Wales has waited on some of the principal Builders, and offered to supply a substitute for stone in the shape of door and window heads, cornices, and other things, made out of the Welch fire clay, and which can be produced at about half the cost of stone; and we doubt not, in this age of mechanical skill, that various expedients will be devised to abolish masonry, if the masons themselves shall render the stone too expensive. There is one passage in the conference between the masters and workmen that struck us as peculiarly significant. Carter, the union secretary, boasted that the masons' union was strong and powerful. Mr. S. Holme replied, "that union might give strength for a time; but union could not give employment or create work, but the reverse; and that if by the strength of the masons' union they imposed terms which the public refused to pay, a diminution of their peculiar work would be the consequence, and they themselves would eventually be the sufferers." This really is the case, and whatever may be the result of the strike,—and after the attempt at arrangement which has been made, and has so signally failed through the insincerity and treacherous dealing of the workmen, of that result there can be no doubt—the consequence must fall upon the workmen who have been duped by their leaders—for those leaders will, unquestionably, take care of themselves. That many men and their families are much distressed there can be no doubt, and several letters from the various secretaries have been shown to us, imploring aid from other trades, one of which, signed by "Francis Bradbury, of Birkenhead," states that they are "in great want of assistance;" and implores that "money may be immediately forwarded to him at the Manchester Arms, Birkenhead." We are at a loss to understand how respectable and skilful workmen can place themselves in such a humiliating position, or of what benefit trades' unions can be, if every trade is called on to assist others with which it is not connected; for the letter which we have alluded to was written to some glass-manufacturers at St. Helen's, who are addressed as "brother-unionists!"

We hope that next week we may have to announce the termination of these insane proceedings, destructive alike to the best interests of individuals as well as to the community, and condemned by every man of penetration or common sense.

Since the above was written, the masons have had a general meeting, and have come to the resolution that they will only work nine hours a day, instead of ten hours and a half, as heretofore. This is, of course, declined on the part of the masters, and is considered as a further infraction of the contract entered into before Mr. Rushton, and no one can now pretend to tell the ultimate effect of this new demand.

THE NATIONAL TRADES UNION.

(From the *Weekly Dispatch*.)

We are all familiar with the cry of "class legislation." Vehemently it has been denounced, often has the nation heard its vices magnified in all the figures of speech which pie-ball the patched eloquence of travelling oratory. It has been, from the beginning, the chief argument for the adoption of the People's Charter; Physical Force and Moral Force Constitution tinkers have alike made it the premise of their great political corollary; and both Complete Suffrage and Universal Suffrage apostles have claimed its existence as the foundation of their principles, and the common root of their deductions. Indeed, since corporation privileges, and the exclusive prerogatives of guild brethren, have been destroyed—since the manufacturing capitalists have themselves demanded the abolition of all peculiar advantages to home production, and the very Peers themselves are about to resign the dishonest perquisites of agricultural protection, there is left manifestly every day narrower ground, and a more splendid apology for saying the same thing over again on this exciting theme. Although, however, the *name* is dropped out of common utterance, we are not sure that the *thing* is less vital than ever it was; and if the

"Lips are now forbid to speak
That once familiar word."

to which it came as naturally as "apple sauce" after "roast goose," we suspect it simply arises from the circumstance that after the offence which it expresses has been abandoned by every body else, it has become the "pleasant vice," and the besetting sin of the very men by whom it was most violently denounced. The term "Trades Union," does not fairly express the thing which the words imply. It means neither an association of handicrafts, nor a combination of all the various human elements of which any single trade consists. It entirely excludes from the limits of its definition, the capitalists and masters, the heads, inventors, directors, and moving power of all industrial art; generally it does not even embrace the order of apprentices, but uniformly it is entirely confined to the one sole body of working operatives, and is, in truth, neither more nor less than a self-elected industrial legislature, associated to make laws, less for its own regulation than for its own profit, at the expense of the public in general, and to the prejudice of master capitalists in particular. When these trades unions are local and denominational, they wear that snug, close Corporation aspect to which even employers seem to have no great objection, since they, in effect, simply operate to compel masters all to do business on one uniform scale—to adhere to one common list of prices, and to avoid competition and underselling, as injurious to themselves and beneficial only to their common customers (we should not say their common prey) the general public of consumers. But a new trades gospel is now revealed. A general and national trades union has been silently, but universally organized, not confined to particular handicraft, but extending to the whole circle of industrial arts of skilled labour, and having for its distinctive object the array of the whole labouring order of the nation against its masters and capitalists. Under the specious name of Protection, of which even Lords have become ashamed, this great conclave of artizans proposed to become forestallers and regraters of the labour market, for the mutual profit of their body, at the common expense of the public. By means of a perfect and universal organization, a vast revenue, an iron discipline, and the assumption of absolute power over all artizans whatsoever, they expect to be enabled to suspend the entire labour of the kingdom for any length of time they think fit, to throw, if necessary, the whole country into panic and confusion by an universal stagnation of industry—to dictate any terms and any wages they please to their customers and masters; and to exact from the necessities of the Legislature any laws which they may consider conducive to the profit or social influence of their order. The presiding genius, who is "to ride this whirlwind and direct this storm," is the Hon. Member for Finsbury. The puller of the wires is the disinterested patriot whom the colliers "remember in their prayers." This union is a class combination, for class objects, to enforce class legislation by class organization. It is to create a class monopoly in favour of an exclusive class, by that order which was the most vehement in its denunciations of class privileges; and contrary to the advancing spirit of the age, to the impartial and Catholic tendency of modern government and of public opinion, it is not more necessary for the character of the working classes themselves than for the safety of the State, and the security of the public against dictation and exaction, that the *conspiracy* should be exploded, and the bubble exposed. It is an Association for practically carrying out an impossible object, and which, were it possible, would be pernicious. We are, indeed, surprised that the intelligent artizans of this country should, in the face of every principle of political economy, and every dictate of experience and common sense, yet suffer themselves to be magnetised by the gesticulations of quacks, into the day dreams in which they now indulge. They have tried to put down machinery by Act of Parliament,—to prevent *women and children* from earning their own subsistence, and masters from the liberty of making contracts with them,—they *have struggled to prohibit the working of factories for a longer period than ten hours per day*, thus confiscating a sixth of the whole income, interest on capital and property of the owner, without remorse or compensation,—they have limited the number of apprentices whom masters are to instruct, in order to preserve a monopoly of their trade, and now, at last, they have organized a grand universal National Union, into the joining of which every working man is to be coaxed, persecuted, threatened, and bribed, in order to lay the nation prostrate at their feet,—to place the consumers, masters, and capitalists, at the mercy of the working classes, and to dictate to every other order of society whatever conditions they please of remuneration for labour, irrespective of the legitimate demand, and the value of the commodity. Although their own denomination are the great consumers of all their own productions, and have enormously benefitted by the cheap clothing, and housing, and literature, and transport by land and water which machinery has effected, they still cannot be convinced of the injury which would be inflicted on their class by raising the cost of production, or see that if the price of the first and secondary necessaries and luxuries of life is raised by raising wages, they ruin their foreign market, while they make the money value of higher wages diminish by the enhanced value of the commodities to be given in exchange. Have they not long ago, and under the powerful stimulus of political and democratic passions, tried over the whole kingdom to enforce the observance of a "sacred month," which was to put an end to the entire labour of the kingdom, and compel the rest of society to sue for mercy? What did it end in but in making the working classes ridiculous in the eyes of the whole nation? Did not the tailors, discontented with 30s. or even 40s. a week, (six times the wages of their agricultural brethren), seize the occasion of a fashionable season to turn out for a rise? What was the effect of this, but to lose many a job by customers making the crisis an apology for contenting themselves with wearing out their old clothes, and to call so many women into the field of trade—that what with Moses, and Doudney, and other large establishments, the trade is threatened with such an inundation of tailoresses, that the union will too late, and to the last, repent a strike which the actual redundancy of labour rendered totally without apology. *In a country where the wages of the peasantry range from 6d. to 1s. 6d. per day, and four millions of the population are permanently without employment*, THERE NEVER CAN BE EITHER OCCASION FOR A PROTECTIVE UNION OF ARTIZANS or for a strike to regulate wages. *Capital is so abundant* that it is sure to be embarked wherever it is profitable; and *the competition of capitalists for profits, and for labourers*, will always keep *wages* at the *level* determined by the infallible principles of political economy. Since the publication of our former observations on this subject, they have been strikingly corroborated by the actual facts of the case, as detailed in an elaborate article in the *Times*. It is stated that the chief complaint of masters is, that not only will the unionists not work themselves, but that they forcibly prevent those who are perfectly willing to do so, that they keep every trade in the hands of a few monopolist workmen by restricting the number of apprentices, and also the choice of them to their own families, and that they compel the mass of the young to grow up without acquiring any craft whatever, depriving thousands of the means of earning their bread. As we predicted, "Some of the large employers have now a great many men at work who have left the Unions, and numbers of strangers, notwithstanding the vigilance of the pickets, have sought and obtained work; and the masters most determinedly refuse to discharge one of them. The club men have threatened that they will not work with these men, and some of them have gone so far as to go to buildings where they were at work, and succeeded in frightening the men away." For the reasons which we formerly assigned, there is a universal concurrence in our opinion, that the present strike "has been most ill-timed," that it has not only stopped employment in the building trade, but thrown all out of work who were engaged in its auxiliary departments—that it has roused all the capitalists and employers to a most determined and permanent resistance, and the adoption of measures which will certainly leave the Unionists in a worse and more humble state than ever they were before," and that it will take many months of industry and prosperity to remedy the mischiefs which have been entailed upon a large portion of the community by the unwise acts of men who, in these days, were at*tempting to establish monopolies of trade* more in accordance with the spirit of the guilds in the days of Elizabeth than with the freedom of trade peculiar to the days of Victoria." The statement of Mr. Hulme, a large employer, *proves that the declaration so much complained of* was suggested by workmen smarting under the intolerable tyranny of clubs. "They told me," he observes, "that our premises were so well watched until late in the evening, that they had come at that untimely hour to avoid being seen by any of the other turn-outs; that they were in great distress; that the tyranny of the club was beyond all endurance; and that many of our men, as well as themselves, were determined to go to work, if they could get any excuse for quitting the club. They added, that if they could sign any document which could be binding upon them, it would give them the opportunity they wanted. During a long conversation, one of them admitted that both himself and his family were in actual want, when another replied that they might as well be killed as starved, and he strongly urged upon me the necessity of devising, some mode by which he might escape from the clubs." Almost in our very words he continues—"Our town will be filled by strangers, who will have acquired a footing here; and I seriously ask, what will be the consequences to many of the Liverpool workmen. I wish that some of the leaders of these combinations could know the risks and feel the anxieties of those who have to undertake large contracts; and if they would consider well the ultimate results of all strikes, they would soon confess that the best friends of the operative classes are those who, by intelligence, economy, and enterprise, succeed in inducing capitalists to invest their money in building; and that their worst enemies are those who drive capital into other channels (not a difficult thing), by inducing measures which would render building anything but a profitable investment. I think that neither Mr. T. S. Duncombe, nor a committee without responsibility, sitting in London or elsewhere, had any right to interfere between my workmen and myself; nor has any man a right to insult or abuse another because he chooses to be independent and stand aloof from a club." This is the language of justice and common sense. The *primeval curse* sentenced *man* to a life of labour, and *hard labour too*—earning his bread only by the sweat of his brow—and *every scheme for getting large wages for little work*, and all royal roads to leisure, ease, and comfort, and all industrial lubberlands of nothing to do and plenty to eat, *are the visions of quacks, and the delusions of impostors*. They may find £1,000 a-year for Mr. Roberts, a landed estate for Mr. Duncombe, and 30s. a week for a score or two of Chartist peripatetic bags of wind, to help to blow the bellows of their disinterested and indignant patriotism; but their only effect upon the fortunes of the working man must be to help him out of his money, and into a union of a very different kind from that which he has been asked to join—we mean the Union Workhouse.

THE TEN HOURS' BILL.

A general meeting of the Central Short Time Committee of the West Riding, was held at Bradford by adjournment on Saturday night, for the purpose of receiving the report of the division of the House of Commons on the Factory Bill, and as a majority for the second reading was confidently expected, on the announcement that the bill was lost by a majority of 10, the greatest indignation and disappointment, was manifested by all present, and after reading over some of the speeches of the opponents of the bill, the greatest disgust was felt by the Committee at the sophistry which had been put forth by them, and after a long conversation, it was resolved—

That this meeting be adjourned to the Wednesday following, in order to afford every member an opportunity to read over the report of the whole debate, so that they may be better prepared to express their opinion thereon at our next meeting.

Agreeably to the above resolution, a numerous meeting of the Committee was held on Wednesday last, Mr. John Rawson in the chair. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

1st. That this committee having learnt the decision of the House of Commons, on the 2nd reading of the Factories Regulation Bill, feel the most pungent sorrow and disgust to learn that a small majority of the British House of Commons, have again decreed that young persons and children, most of whom are females under 18 years of age, shall be subjected to work in factories for 12 hours in each day, exclusive of time for meals, which must average from 14 to 15 hours a day occupation, thereby leaving only about 9 hours for sleep, recreation, and moral and intellectual culture. That by this decision the expectations of many hundreds of thousands of factory workers are disappointed in their hope that at this time an abatement of their protracted labour would be afforded, and that this committee having carefully read over the three days debate on this question, are further of opinion, backed by long practical experience, that the sentiments expressed by our opponents (enemies), are as totally at variance with facts as their principles are groundless and false, and are more and more fully convinced that no sound argument either commercial, political, or economical, has been urged against the adoption of the Ten Hours' Bill, but on the contrary, are convinced that this measure is on every consideration entitled to the universal support of every humane and enlightened individual.

2nd. That notwithstanding the defeat of last Friday night—a defeat brought about by the official influence of the Government, backed as we regret to find it, by the influence of the leading members of a party from whom the working classes might have expected better things—we are nevertheless resolved never to relax in our exertions until this measure has passed through Parliament. Relying on the zeal and ability of our Parliamentary friends, we believe that the time is not far distant, when, spite of any government backed by whatever party they may be, it will be impossible to resist the passing of the Ten Hours' Bill; being, as we believe it is, a measure alike demanded by justice, humanity, and sound commercial policy.

3rd. That the grateful thanks of the operatives of the manufacturing districts are due to Lord Ashley and Mr. John Fielden, for their uncompromising zeal and perseverance in conducting our measure, as well as to Lord John Russell, Lord George Bentinck, Lord John Manners, Hon. Mr. Cowper, Sir George Grey, Sir Robert Inglis, Sir George Strickland, Right Hon. T. B. Macaulay, Messrs. E. B Denison, Banks, Colquhoun, Brotherton, Newdigate, Crawford, Wakley, Wodehouse, J. O'Connell, Muntz, Ainsworth, and all other members who have voted for the second reading of the Factory Bill.

4th. That this meeting cannot separate without expressing their deepest sense of the cruelty exhibited by those members who spoke and voted against the improvement of the condition of the factory children, and especially are they grieved at the course pursued by the noble lord the lately elected member for the West Riding, as well as the members for Halifax and Huddersfield.

Foreign Movements.

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

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

EASTERN EUROPE AND THE EMPEROR NICHOLAS.

NO. V.

A very interesting episode is contained in the third chapter of this work detailing the fortunes of the celebrated Russian Commander, Admiral Tchitchagoff. This veteran, almost the only Russian Commander, who exhibited anything like military talent when that talent was so much needed to cope with Napoleon, is no longer a Russian, or at least no longer a subject of the Autocrat's, he having some years ago renounced his nationality, and transformed himself into an Englishman. The treatment this eminent man experienced at the hands of the Russian despots, Paul and Nicholas, graphically illustrates the character of the Russian tyranny. Admiral Tchitchagoff's story deserves to be made widely known, but as it is not our place to re-print these volumes, to the work itself we must refer our readers for the particulars of the gallant Admiral's history

The fourth chapter is devoted to a brief review of the present state of the Slavonic races, and an inquiry into the probabilities of their emancipation. The author shows how erroneous is the opinion generally, or, at least, very widely entertained, that the Slavonic race is either irrecoverably gathered beneath the sceptres of the Russian, Austrian, Prussian, and Turkish despotism, or, worse still, as doomed to become generally Russianised. He enumerates the various nations belonging to this race, numbering, in all, from eighty to one hundred millions, and shows that, of this immense multitude, only the Muscovite portion (from thirty-three to thirty-six millions) are the passive slaves of the existing tyrannies while their quiescence is based upon the idea they entertain of the omnipotence of their tyrant. If once that idea was dispelled by the successful uprisings of any portion of the Slavonic family, the passive obedience of the Muscovite would cease, and the last prop of the Russian government would fail it. We have before shown the insecure state of the Austrian and Prussian despotisms, it is, therefore, unnecessary to reiterate the statements of the author concerning those governments. "Far from the battle being won, the strife is only impending," and as regards numbers, energy, and an awakened and soul-animating desire for liberty, all the chances are on the side of the oppressed.

Of all the branches of the Slavonic race, the Poles are entitled to take the first rank, not only because they have made the greatest progress in civilisation, but because on the one hand they form the connecting link, which, by mingling the spirit of both, unites the west of Europe with the east; whilst on the other they stand the military antagonists of the Russian despotism, and of necessity are the champions and leaders of their brethren. To the Poles, therefore, or at least the thirteen out of the twenty millions, belonging to what is called "Russian Poland," the greater part of the next chapter (V.) is devoted under the head of

THE POLES IN THEIR RELATION TO RUSSIA.

"Whilst in disposition the Poles bear a stronger resemblance to almost every other branch of the Slavonic family than to the Muscovites, they differ from the whole of it in one important particular, which assimilates them more nearly with ourselves, and peculiarly fits them to lead the civilization of their race." "All the rest of the Slavonians derived their ideas and their religion from that corrupt source the Eastern capital of the Christian world; Poland, on the contrary, owed its civilization and religion to Rome, and to the West." "All the lore and wisdom of antiquity—all those ideas of freedom and of justice which survived wherever Latinity was transmitted, together with a large share of that chivalric element which the Norsemen spread so widely when they took possession of the thrones and lordships of so many lands,—mixed up though both might be with Monkish rubbish and with feudal barbarism, have operated on the character of the Polish nation, and have given it a deep and indelible analogy with that of Western people."

The Poles have ever been remarkable for their patriotism. The provinces torn from the ancient Republic by Austria and Prussia, are still regarded by their inhabitants as indissolubly part of Poland. In the provinces subjected to Russian violence resistance is continuous and indomitable. The Russian authorities avow their belief that nothing but extermination will permanently tranquillize the country. "And, in fact, what else remains to secure a conquest over a race which no severity will reduce to resignation? Where the women alone, as long as they propagate the population, will irreconcilably instil a deadly hatred of the oppressors into the minds of their lisping children,—where the first lesson of the mother is to point out to the infant where its grandfather, or its father, or its uncle, fought and bled, or was punished or imprisoned;—where, in 1845, intermarriage between a Polish female and the most powerful and wealthy Servitor of the Emperor is considered in the same light as religious apostacy?"

But how exterminate a people whose number at the lowest computation amounts to thirteen millions? "For though the territory of the 'kingdom of Poland' has been cut down till only five millions of inhabitants are left, the annexation, by Ukase, of Vilna, Grodno, Vitepsk, Mohilef, Minsk, Volyhnia, Podolia, and Bialystok to the Russian empire, has not sufficed to Russianise them in anything but name."

In answer to those who attribute to the Poles turbulence of disposition, and a proneness to violence, the author of this work shows what has been and is the condition of Poland since the first partition; and deduces therefrom the right and duty of the Poles to do as they have done, and will do, until they succeed in relieving themselves from the monstrous tyranny under which they groan. From this part of chapter V. we give the following extracts:—

ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY CATHERINE.

The Empress Catherine, the least tyrannic sovereign who ever ruled in Russia, wrote fifty-one years ago to Repnin, her ambassador at Warsaw:—

"This is why I must impress on you to cause the armies now at your disposal in Poland, to act, setting aside all illusions of humanity, (*abstraction faite de toutes les illusions de l'humanité*) with the energy necessary to deprive its inhabitants of all means, and of all hope of revolting. You must not spare any of the inhabitants of this district, even if they should allege the quiet and retired lives they have been leading, excepting always such as may be taken in arms, after giving proofs of their valour. These you had better incorporate in my armies, as they may prove useful in the war which, as you know, we intend to carry into the south, after the pacification of Poland."

A few days after, Warsaw was stormed; and Suwarrow, one of the great captains of his age, and by no means the most inhuman of the Russian generals, put to the sword twenty-five thousand of the inhabitants of the suburb of Praga, inclusive of its defenders, women, and children.

This unscrupulous woman made energetic and cruel efforts to secure her conquests. She prosecuted vigorously the task (which experience had then not yet shown to be hopeless) of extinguishing Polish nationality. She shut up the schools, caused the public libraries to be transported into Russia, and those whom she suspected of being political opponents into Siberia. Although she cared nothing for religion and dispised all creeds, yet as a matter of state policy she ordered the commission of the most abominable atrocities to compel the Roman Catholics and the United Greeks to embrace the Russian religion. On this subject our author quotes Colonel Szyrma, a Polish Protestant, from which quotation we give the following extract:—

From the returns prepared at the close of Catherine's reign it may be seen that not less than 3,160,000 Roman Catholics were then forced to go over to the dominant church. Missions for converting Roman Catholics used to be accompanied by a military escort. Placed under such safeguard, they traversed the country, forced the doors of Catholic churches and chapels in towns and villages, and consecrated them anew as if they had been profaned. Priests who would not change their religion were expelled their parishes, and were replaced by Russian popes. Intimidation and rewards were in turn employed with the Catholic clergy, and when these failed to effect their object, many were thrown into prisons and flogged; and the infliction of corporal punishment was jocularly called '*the anointing of the dis-united brethren.*'

Such, in brief outline, were the infernal acts of the "philosophic Catherine," to which, however, should be added, that she employed emissaries to excite the peasantry of Humagn, in the Ukraine, to massacre the nobles, thus anticipating the infamy recently earned by the diabolical Austrian government. To complete the horrid work, as soon as the assassinations were over she hung the leaders of the assassins under a show of justice, while she in reality had instigated them to their criminality. Was ever there a more horrible command issued by a despot than that addressed by her to Repnin to show no mercy, to *set aside the illusions of humanity*, and spare none, even the peaceable and helpless? Did ever fiend exist in human form more worthy of eternal execration? Yet this Catherine was, we are told, the *best* sovereign that ever ruled in Russia! If this she-devil was the best, what language can do justice to one of the worst—Victoria's pet, the darling Nicholas?

Paul, though considered a tyrant by the Russians, was regarded by the Poles as a mild and merciful ruler compared with his mother. He put a stop to religious persecution, re-opened the colleges and schools, and set at liberty many victims of his mother's tyranny; but in return for the sufferers he liberated, he sent other and numerous victims to Siberia, or otherwise punished them—the victims of his capricious temper.

We now come to the doings of that very Christian, very pious, very "liberal" hypocrite, Alexander, "whose ideas appear always to have been liberal till he was called upon to put them into practice, at the expense of the slightest shadow of his own authority." Who was according to Byron—

————The cox-comb Tsar,
The autocrat of waltzes and of war!
A Calmuck beauty with a Cossack wit,
And generous spirit, when 't is not frost-bit;
Now half dissolving to a liberal thaw,
But hardened back when'er the morning's raw;
With no objection to true liberty,
Except that it would make the nations free!

The author of this work enters at some length into the state of Poland, under the "Calmuck beauty." The acts of cruelty and rapacity to which the Poles were continually subjected under his reign, sufficiently illustrate the value of his hypocritical professions. The "constitution" conferred on the "kingdom of Poland" he violated, and as good as annihilated within six years after conferring it. When the nobility of Lithuania in 1818, solicited him for permission to emancipate their serfs, he refused, and commanded them to proceed no further in the matter. We must refer our readers to the work itself for most of the author's illustrations of Alexander's rule, confining ourselves to the following extracts:—

CRIMES OF ALEXANDER.

It will be remembered that about this period Russia itself was still full of secret societies, many of which had formerly looked forward to Alexander as their warmest friend. In Germany, previous to the fall of Napoleon, these associations had been encouraged by the Austrian and Prussian despotisms, as having an anti-French tendency; and in Poland, Alexander had been anxious to encourage them, when still hopeful of uniting the whole Polish nation beneath his rule. The fermentation of secret societies in Poland had not, therefore, the same rebellious or dangerous signification as might be reasonably attributed to them at the present day; as their existence had never been forbidden, it was not concealed; the secret only extending, like that of freemasonry, to their institutions. The Polish youth then congregating in great numbers at the university of Wilna, had established many of these, amongst which the public society of the "Illuminati," and the two secret orders of the Philaretes and Philomates.

Though these three societies were dissolved as soon as strictly prohibited by ukase, the mania of forming secret associations spread amongst the juvenile members of the community, and school-boys of twelve and fourteen years of age entered into conspiracies to uphold the threatened nationality of Poland by their literary efforts.

Alexander, who had encouraged secret societies, who had used his best endeavours to keep alive the nationality of Poland, and who had spontaneously declared, on the first establishment of the constitution, in the midst of the Polish diet, that he would unite the Polish provinces of Russia to the kingdom, and that he hoped to extend the benefits of a free government to every portion of the vast dominions he had been called to govern, now allowed Novosiltzoff to enter on a career of persecution which, amidst all the Polish people has since suffered, is still indelible in its recollection.

Not only did Novosiltzoff hunt out and punish all those who had formerly belonged to these associations before they were forbidden, but he adopted the Russian mode of political investigation, by torturing the accused to elicit the truth; whilst Alexander confirmed their sentences of banishment. Novosiltzoff filled ten monasteries in the city of Vilna alone with youthful students. In every other part of Poland, the prisons were crowded with mere schoolboys. They were tried by courtsmartial, and condemned to Siberia or to the mines, to confinement in the casemates of fortresses, or to do duty in regiments in distant parts of the empire; and these mere children were sent off in irons by hundreds, amidst the heart-rending lamentations of their relatives. Though since that period such scenes have become common-place, the effect of this persecution has never been forgotten, and is frequently alluded to by the Polish poets.

All the normal schools were abolished. The Emperor Alexander declared by ukase, dated the 14th of August, 1824, that the condemned students had been guilty of high treason, in associating to perpetuate, by means of literature, the nationality of Poland.

Long imprisonment, hunger, cold, and the infliction of the lash, were used with so much severity to elicit confessions of guilt from the hapless students who were merely "suspected," that hundreds sunk under this cruel usage. But we have to add something still more devilish, a refinement of villainy on the part of the pious Alexander's government, unparalalled in the history of imperial atrocities.

To the maxim of "divide and rule," was added that of "corrupt and rule."

The former professors and teachers were gradually removed from the universities and schools, and replaced by men who appeared to have been chosen to give the Polish youth the example of every kind of dissipation and debauchery. Not only Novosiltzoff himself, but all the authorities to whom the superintendence of instruction was confided, seemed boastful of their crapulous orgies, anxious to propagate their degrading vices. There were no excesses, however morally and physically ruinous, to which the Polish youth were not encouraged to resort, by example, indulgence, and approbation; whilst all who resisted the pernicious influence, or who sought, however unobtrusively, to pursue their studies, were marked out as objects of persecution.

It would be impossible to believe in the premeditation and cold-blooded execution of such a scheme, if the evidence of its existence reposed only on the character of Novosiltzoff, and of a few of his agents; but from the time of his being dispatched to Vilna, this policy became general, and was too openly avowed, too long continued, and too widely attested to admit of a doubt.

Like an over-dose of poison, it failed in the effects it was intended to produce. The odium which attached to the character of these agents, on account of their cruelty, and the sudden deaths and loathsome diseases to which several of them fell victims, made their example serve as a warning instead of inducing imitation.

We will not attempt to comment on this infernal scheme to poison the source of the moral life of an entire people, we leave our readers to form their own conclusions, and express, if they can, the thoughts which, almost too big for utterance, must rise from the protesting heart of every being worthy of the form and name of man. O! Englishmen, brother Britons, is it not time

————to teach the very stones,
To rise against earth's tyrants?

In 1825 Alexander died,—but Nicholas, the 'beloved,' demands a column or two to himself, and for this week we pause.

The Oregon Question.—We have reason to believe that the object of General Armstrong, the United States Consul at this port, in proceeding to America by the Great Western, was to take out a proposal for the settlement of the Oregon question on the part of the British Government. General Armstrong is a veteran soldier, a companion in arms of General Jackson, and an intimate friend of President Polk, and yet a firm friend to the preservation of peace between the two countries. The terms which he is authorised to propose are said to be such as the Governments of both countries can agree to with honour. We think it necessary to mention what we have stated above, as we have seen it stated in some of the papers that General Armstrong has been recalled by his own Government to act in a military capacity. He has not been recalled, and we have reason to believe that he will return to Liverpool in five or six weeks from the present time, we trust with a treaty for the partition the Oregon territory.—*Liverpool Times.* (Fudge.)

An Irishism.—"I was going," said an Irishman, "over Westminster-bridge, the other day, and I met Pat Hewins. "Hewins," says I, "how are you?" "Pretty well, I thank you, Donelly," said he. "Donelly!" says I, "that's not MY name!" "Faith! no more is mine Hewins," said he. So we looked at each other again, and sure it turned out to be neither of us.

CONFERENCE OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNITED TRADES.

Manchester.—The first annual conference of this body commenced its sittings on Monday, in the Hall of Science, Campfield, under the presidency of T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P. The extensive and protracted strike among the building trades which has now lasted upwards of thirteen weeks in this district; the facts that the principal point of difference between the masters and the men of late has been the requirement of the former that the operatives sign a document pledging themselves not to belong to any *general* union, and that the employers have considered the association to be of so formidable a character as to call for the formation of an equally extensive counter-combination,—have given rise to much interest in its proceedings. The large number of delegates and the variety of trades represented by them, also testify that the association had some influence over the working classes.

Ten o'clock in the morning was the hour announced for commencing proceedings, but the forenoon was occupied by the Central Committee in receiving the credentials of delegates and other routine business, and it was not until nearly three o'clock that Mr. Duncombe entered the Hall; at which time there were about 120 delegates present, and a considerable number of spectators in the galleries.

Mr. Duncombe experienced a most enthusiastic reception, and order being restored, he addressed the meeting as representatives of the working classes, and said that in pursuance of the resolution of last year appointing the Conference to be held in Manchester this year, he and his colleagues had the honour and pleasure to appear before them, and to give an account of their stewardship for the last year. He was proud on that occasion to meet so large an assembly, especially when he knew the immense amount of intelligence that meeting represented. He was also desirous of stating that their doors were open to the press of all shades of party. One of the representatives of the press was present, whom he was informed had been sent down expressly to attend that meeting by the conductors of a newspaper which had always honestly and ably advocated the interests of the working classes. (Cheers.) But he repeated, their meeting was open to the press of all parties, and they invited criticism, because they sought for nothing but what was perfectly legal as well as just. (Cheers.) Before proceeding to other points, he would notice some of the publications issued by their opponents. The honourable gentleman then referred to a pamphlet issued by the masters, in which reference was made to the Association as open to great objections and liable to gross abuse, on account of its giving power to the directors to promote all meetings having for their object the educational, political, and social improvement of the people. He did not see anything objectionable in such objects, and he left them to judge of the animus of those who did; but the writer proceeds to say that the laws were of such a nature, that though they had the name of a Member of Parliament appended to them, it was to be hoped it was merely nominal. Now, he felt it his duty to state, in this centre of industry, this mighty hive of the laborious, that not a single document had issued from the directors which had not his cordial approval, and *bona-fide* signature. (Great cheering.) Nor had they taken a step which was not characterised by justice and reason. (Hear, hear.) The writer then accused the Association of imitating the general union of 1833, in dictating tyrannical terms to masters, and issuing mandates, which they were required to obey, without any responsible signature. Now, in the first place, he had signed all the documents issued by the Association, and was fully prepared to take all the responsibility of these documents upon himself; and, in the next place, the complaint came with a bad grace from the masters, who were now using the most illegal and tyrannical measures to each other. The hon. gentleman then proceeded to adduce several instances in which the Masters' Association had used threats and intimidation to small masters, for the purpose of inducing them to discharge their men who would not sign the document pledging themselves to withdraw from the union. He would next briefly advert to the circumstances out of which the Association originated. A correspondence heretofore took place between himself and Mr. Drury of Sheffield, which led to the convening of a national conference in Easter week last year. That Conference appointed a Provisional Committee, with instructions to frame a code of laws, to present the same to another Conference in the following July. The Committee did so, and issued an address, in which they thus stated the reasons which induced them to call upon the working classes to join this Association:—

"In the history of man never did there exist a nation richer than Great Britain at the present moment—either as to the real property it possesses in comparison with its population, or the scientific mechanical, and industrial powers at its command.

"Yet with this unexampled amount of accumulated wealth, and of powers for producing more, poverty is the lot of the working man through life.

"Numerous have been the attempts to amend this lamentable state of things, but in vain.

"Political agitations, Trades' Unions, and Strikes have hitherto failed to remove this anomaly, or to arrest the downward career of the producing classes. Is the evil, therefore, irremediable, or have the means heretofore adopted been inadequate for the object in view?

"We believe the latter to be the true solution of the difficulty. New and more comprehensive measures are imperatively required, based on sound principles on a full understanding of the evils to be removed and the causes which generate them."

After briefly describing the leading objects of the Association to be the adoption of means "by which the surplus labour shall be absorbed, or kept out of the market, and an equality be maintained between the work to be done, and the number of those required to do it," he said, these objects were proposed to be carried out by the labouring classes expending "their funds in the erection of machines that will work for and not against them, and in the purchase or rental of land, whereon they can set to profitable employment the redundant hands, who, if suffered to remain in the labour market, would reduce the wages of the whole trade to which they belong. These measures are proposed not to supersede, but to aid those already adopted by organised Trades." It is proposed to render them more effective by extending their sphere and operation. A General Union of Trades, for the purpose of regulating trades' *matters and trades' strikes, for collecting information* and funds to one common centre, and thence distributing them effectively, was also resolved upon by the Conference. By means of this union the united strength of the whole Association would be enjoyed by every individual trade in any case of strike or dispute with employers. An organisation so general and powerful would, not only in the majority of cases, prevent the commission of injustice, and the occurrence of strikes, but when they did unavoidably take place, would bring them to a speedy and successful termination. We desire to create no invidious or antagonistic spirit in society; but simply to pursue, by fair, open, and peaceable means, a course which shall give to the operative classes a fair participation in the wealth they assist to create. With politics, as party politics, we do not meddle. The social and industrial position of the labourer, and the means by which it may be improved, are the great objects at which we aim; and we invite the co-operation of good men and true, not only among the working, but all other classes of society." Now, to show that the views expressed in this address were correct, and fully borne out by subsequent facts, he would refer to a document issued by Mr. Jones, secretary to the Central Committee of the Building Trades, reporting the result of an interview between the masters and men of Liverpool, before Mr. Rushton, the magistrate of that town, for the purpose of adjusting differences, in which it was stated on the part of the masters, as a reason for declining to withdraw the document they required the men to sign, that "This strike was not for either wages or time; but that the only point at issue was the General Trades' Union; and that they (the employers) were unanimously determined that all men must sign the declaration on their resuming work—assigning for their reason that the protection afforded by General Trades' Unions to the working men of any locality, is irresistible, inasmuch as the power of the whole union could be brought to bear on any one locality, if required." Why, this was his very case—the very position he had taken last year at this time, and the admission of the masters showed that this association was already striking terror into those who had hitherto looked upon the working classes as mere machines, out of which they could create wealth for themselves. (Cheers.) It required some time in the formation of such an association before they could judge of what were likely to be its results, and it involved great care on the part of the Directors to guide the Association in its infancy. So far as they had gone their progress had been of the most satisfactory character, and if there was anything defective, anything that could be amended, that meeting had the power of applying a remedy, either by fresh instructions to the present directing body, or by appointing an entirely new directory. (Applause.) For himself, so long as he continued to have any share in the management of its affairs, he would, to the utmost of his powers, direct all its energies to the great and paramount object of securing for the honest, industrious, wealth-producing classes of the country, that participation in the fruits of their labours to which they were so justly entitled, and of which they were at present deprived. (Cheers.) He trusted that the reports which would be submitted to them by the Secretary would give them satisfaction, and was certain that the points which the Executive had before them for consideration would meet with that calm, orderly, and intelligent revision, which his experience of assemblies of working men hitherto had taught him to expect. (Cheers.) He would not detain them farther, but simply repeat his gratification at so large a gathering of the representatives of labour, under such auspicious circumstances, and his confident hope that by judicious, prudent, constitutional, but, at the same time, bold and determined measures, they would ultimately succeed in achieving the most extensive and permanent benefits for the industrious classes of the community. They had no desire unduly or improperly to interfere with other classes, but simply to maintain those rights, and achieve that position in society which reason and justice alike point out as the proper position of those who are the very lifeblood of society. (Cheers.) With these observations, he would call upon the Secretary to bring forward the business in the order in which it had been laid down by the Committee. (The hon. gentleman sat down amid loud cheering.)

The standing orders were then put and agreed to, and the sittings of the Conference were fixed to be from nine in the morning till one o'clock, and from half-past two till six in the evening.

Mr. T. Barratt, the secretary, then read the following report:—

In presenting their report, the Committee beg leave to state, that in the whole of their proceedings throughout the year, in which they have had the honour to direct the affairs of the Association, they have been guided by a desire to ensure through gradual and cautious progress, its future stability. Experience has shown, in previous attempts to form a National Union of the Working Classes, that ruin has always ensued, by attempting more than the organisation could bear;—they, therefore, have been more intent upon perfecting the organisation of the Association, than of bringing it to bear upon its legitimate objects.

With this view they postponed, as premature, making any levy for the support of strikes, conveying such intention to the trades who applied for assistance to the following effect:—

That in the opinion of this Committee, the Association is not sufficiently matured to justify giving support to strikes. They are of this opinion because previous attempts to form an aggregate union of trades have failed, entirely through entering upon strikes prematurely. They, therefore, have not felt it necessary to determine upon the allowance which the Association should give to those who they may support during strikes.

The following questions suggest themselves to your Committee, in relation to this subject, upon each of which they beg the decision of the Conference.

1. How long a trade ought to belong to the Association before eligible to receive its support?

Your Committee propose six months; they think a shorter period would be inadequate to insure the immunity of the Association, from an accession of numbers, solely for their immediate support.

2. The allowance in cases where it may be necessary to cease from labour.

Your Committee suggest that the allowance should not exceed eight shillings per week for each individual receiving support. This amount, of course, to be raised by a levy on the different trades belonging to the Association, and transmitted to the Society whose trade requires support, for distribution.

In case of the dispute being of magnitude, an agent from the Central Committee to attend and observe its progress.

That the conduct of the dispute be carried on by the disputing trade, subject to the mediation of the Central Committee.

The Committee here beg the attention of the Conference as to the duration of time such support shall be given.

3. Whether it be advisable for a time to limit Strikes supported by this Association, to the defensive?

4. What number shall receive support at the same time?

Circumstances, of course, must mainly determine this. Your Committee however submit, that unless the number to receive support bear some practical relation to the number contributing, efficient support cannot be given.

It appears to your Committee, that as at present constituted, the numbers of the Association do not indicate that a very large number from any one trade would be upon its Funds. The Society highest in number is 2,528, and it is reasonable to suppose, that the whole of any given trade would very seldom be engaged in a dispute at the same time.

Supposing the number of the Association to be 30,000 1d. per week from each will give 8s. to 312 members—2d. to 624—3d. to 936—4d. to 1,248—5d. to 1560—6d. to 1872. This is supposing all, whether receiving or not, to contribute their quota to the levy.

The Committee submit that, as it would not, in their opinion, be advisable to impose a higher levy than 6d. for each member of the Association, that the relative numbers, receiving and paying, should be as 1,800 is to 30,000; that is to say, while the whole number of the Association is 30,000, 1,800 might be supported, and so on.

Cases have arisen during the past year which suggest the consideration whether females and children shall be admitted upon a less contribution to the funds of the Association, or otherwise.

This seems to be of importance, in certain trades, viz., frame-work knitters, lace makers, hand-loom weavers, &c. Indeed it appears difficult to give effectual support to those trades, unless some support is also given to the women and children employed therein.

This question, however, is so environed with difficulty that the Committee do not feel competent to offer any suggestion thereon.

It appears to your Committee highly desirable that the Association should have a fund to meet any sudden emergency. They suggest that this fund should not be less in amount than 6d. for each member of the Association.

Your Committee now call attention to the following alteration of the Rules of the Association, alterations suggested by their practical working during the past year.

1. To that section of the rule entitled duties of Conference, which state that no fundamental or important law shall be repealed or altered, nor any addition made to the rules without at least six months' notice being given thereof, and that such addition or alteration must have the concurrence of at least two-thirds of the Conference. In reference to this rule, your Committee beg to state that it was impossible, in the first year of the Association's existence, for them to know by practical experience what rule required alteration, the time for the six months' notice having more than elapsed before they could gain practical knowledge of the adaptation of the rules to the wants of the society.

They have, therefore, proceeded with the utmost caution, and are only desirous of such alterations as may appear to them necessary to its well-being.

In the rule entitled Elections, they propose to change the words, within one month, to, not less than one month, which the Committee believe to have been the original intention of the Conference.

Your Committee now propose an alteration in the constitution of the Committee. They suggest that the number of the Committee shall be seven instead of eleven, *and that they shall be elected from the London Trades*; it having been found impracticable to consult the country members of the Committee, on any subject without greatly embarrassing the movements of the Association.

Your Committee do not so much urge the delay and enormous expence attending such proceeding, though these would in themselves be a powerful reason, as the utter impossibility of giving to members at a distance, an accurate knowledge of the position of the society; knowledge of which can only be gained from its voluminous correspondence from all parts of the country, from time to time, in the diversified circumstances both of fact and opinion, as they continually arise, and which is only valuable as fused into coherence, by continued and unremitting personal observation and assiduity. Such knowledge they need not say cannot be transmitted by post. And they submit that legislation upon imperfect knowledge is an evil, fraught with danger so eminent to the very existence of the Association, as to justify the alteration they have proposed.

Your Committee suggest, that the moneys of the association be vested at a banker's in the name of the President and Vice-President of the association; the cheque, drawing out the whole or any part of such moneys to be signed by both of these officers.

In the rule entitled Powers and Duties it is proposed to alter the two last lines, from 'shall elect another of the Conference Delegates to fill the vacancy,' to 'shall elect another from among the members of those trade societies that form the Association to fill the vacancy.'

In the rule entitled Levies, your Committee propose, that it shall be imperative on the various societies to send the levies, week by week, as required; it being impossible to convey the necessary support, unless such levies be sent in proper time. This is a question of considerable difficulty; your Committee, therefore, will have much pleasure in consulting the Conference, as to the *best means of preventing embarrassment and delay in* this most important point.

Your Committee now give some account of their proceedings during the past year.

They commenced by issuing an address, explanatory of their views, setting forth the capabilities of your Association, and of the sister Institution for the employment of labour in agriculture and manufactures.

Your Committee then organised a plan for visiting the various metropolitan trades; this proceeding, though only partially successful in adding to the numbers of the Association, was of the greatest consequence as a means of disarming prejudice.

Your Committee next engaged a lecturer, who, in various parts of the metropolis and in Manchester, delivered lectures with the same end in view. The expenses of the lectures was defrayed, jointly by your Association and the Association for the employment of labour in agriculture and manufactures. These lectures, upon the whole, were not attended with success. This want of success, which cannot in any way be attributable to the want of zeal or of talent in the lecturer, nor the want of indefatigable exertion on part of your committee, caused lecturing to be superseded by organised visits to the various trades at their own places of meeting, a plan which, as far as it has proceeded, has been attended with success.

Your Committee, in exercise of the discretion given to them in the rule entitled "Expenses of Management," have reduced the monthly payments from one penny to half-penny per month. They hope this measure, which has contributed to increase the members of the Association, will met the approbation of the Conference.

Your Committee have already alluded to a resolution delaying as premature and inconsistent with the stability of the Association, the imposing of levies for the support of strikes until after the Conference of 1846. This resolution, which was the result of much anxious deliberation, your committee are gratified to find has met with the approval of various trade societies in the Association.

Your Committee, however, anxious to render all the assistance in their power, at the request of the Mansfield framework-knitters, sent your Vice-President as agent to that body. Their case was one of great oppression, presenting the anomaly of legislation in their favour which none of the magistrates would carry out. The reason assigned was, that, from its obscurity, they could not understand the Framework-knitters Act. Your Committee, of course do not impute any but the purest motives to these magisterial manufacturers, but they cannot help regarding it as a remarkable circumstance, that, while the working classes are often defeated in their appeals for redress to legal tribunals on account of the obscurity of the law;—they never find the same obscurity when the law is appealed to against them;—the law is always precise, and the mental vision of its administrators unclouded!

Your Committee now advert to the proceedings of the master builders in Liverpool, Birkenhead, Manchester, and other places. In reply to the extraordinary and unjust pretensions set forth by them to the public, your Committee have issued an address, which it is hoped will have the effect of silencing the calumnies of these employers and of proving to the public, that the often repeated charges against working men are not only without foundation, but belong in reality to their opponents.

This contest proves the absolute necessity of working men joining this association. Your Committee cannot but contemplate the different aspect that would be presented if this association had been formed some years ago and supported—as they confidently trust it will be—by the majority of working men in the United Kingdom. They do not urge that under such a state of things, the anxiety and extreme difficulty of finding support for the men resisting this oppression, would not exist, but they are confident if the working classes had been thus organized, this contest would never have taken place.

In furtherance of the exertions of the Building Trades, your committe have united with the agents from those trades in visiting the various other trades in Manchester, its vicinity, and in London, to obtain assistance in resisting this tyranny.

Your Committee cannot conclude their report without paying a just tribute to the indefatigable exertions, the exalted talent, and the high moral courage of your hon. Chairman. These qualities, known and acknowledged by his political opponents, your committee have had the opportunity of personally witnessing, in full exercise, in behalf of the working classes; away from the public gaze, apart from any circumstance or motive but that of contributing to their well being. When your committee state, that on more than one occasion, your hon. Chairman has sat presiding over their liberations, and those of the Board of Directors of the Sister Association, for upwards of seven hours, without intermission, they are sure that such attention to their interests will be met by corresponding devotedness on the part of the working classes.

In conclusion, your committee have no doubt in delivering up the trust reposed in them, that the wisest and most beneficial measures will be proposed by you in Conference, to be carried out by their successors.

The allusion to Mr. Duncombe's conduct as chairman of the committee was loudly cheered.

The motion that the report be received was then put, and carried unanimously.

The cash balance-sheet for the year was then read, which exhibited a balance of £90 in hand. This document was also received.

The Chairman said that before entering upon the discussion of the measure recommended by the Central Committee for their consideration, it was necessary to mention that the laws of the Association precluded them from altering any fundamental *law or principle without at least six months' notice.* As no such notice had been given, it was competent for any member of Conference, if he thought that these alterations were of that character, to object to their being made.

A Delegate suggested that as that course would probably be productive of inconvenience, he should propose that the conference should be at liberty to discuss not only the propositions of the committee, but any others that might be brought forward.

The Chairman said the experience of the House of Commons and of other public assemblies, showed the absolute necessity of adhering to some general rules, and he doubted that much inconvenience, if not danger, would result from the adoption of the course proposed.

The motion not being seconded, fell to the ground.

The Conference then took up the question of the time a trade should belong to the Association before it was eligible to receive support from the funds.

Mr. Felkin, of Mansfield, delegate from the framework knitters, moved that the recommendation of the Committee, namely, six months, be adopted. This motion gave rise to a long discussion, in which several delegates took part. Various terms were proposed—four months, nine months, and twelve months, were respectively advocated as most likely *to conduce to the prosperity of the Association.* In favour of the shortest term it was urged that the last returns showed that some of the trades had withdrawn in the absence of any immediate support from the Association.

The Secretary explained that the omission of the names of those trades from the quarterly balance-sheet was owing not to their withdrawal, but to the fact that their remittances had not reached the office in time to be included in the quarterly account.

The original motion, that a trade shall be six months in union *before receiving any relief*, was ultimately carried, with only eight dissentients.

The Conference then took up the question of the amount to be allowed per week from the funds of the association. The Committee recommended 8s.

A long discussion on this resolution ensued, and an amendment was moved, that the sum be 6s.

The question was not settled when the Conference adjourned at six o'clock till nine next morning.

Tuesday.

The Chairman took his place at nine o'clock. The list of delegates was read, from which it appeared that credentials had been received from 126 delegates, representing in the aggregate 40,000 paying members.

Mr. Blyth, of Leeds, moved as an amendment, that all members on strike receive 12s. per week, and be set to work for the same: in support of this resolution, the speaker said, some time since they had a strike in Leeds, and being allowed 10s. a week for single men, and 15s. a week for married men, he proposed that instead of expending the money in supporting men in idleness, it should be applied to setting them to work with it, as he believed that, by adding their labour to 10s. worth of material, they could at least increase its value 10s. or 15s. He did this because he felt that all previous strikes which had been carried on upon the principle of supporting the men in idleness had not only been failures in reality but deservedly so, because based upon a false principle. (Loud cheers.) The trades of Leeds had expended 199,000*l.* in support of strikes, and he did not see that they had reaped any benefit from the expenditure of that immense sum. At the time he made this proposition it was not received with that cordiality he anticipated. He was appointed the manager of the business agreed to be established, and though they commenced with *only* a small sum—a very few shillings, in fact—they had prospered very much, having had several houses to build.—(Loud cheers.) If he had had but a portion of the money which had been expended on the strike in Manchester this season, he would *long since have had the means* of employing large numbers of his fellow workmen on independent terms. When the body he represented joined the National Association, it was with the belief that it was going to abandon the old vicious principle of strikes. What he, and those he represented, wished, was to see that the men who received support should earn the money awarded by the Association. This was not only necessary in a pecuniary, but a moral point of view, and could alone enable them efficiently to attain the objects they had in view.—(Cheers.)

Mr. Dunning objected to the resolution, as pledging the association to set men to work at less prices than paid when in regular work.

Mr. Robson, shoemaker of London, suggested that the motion should be withdrawn at present, as he intended to bring forward the whole question at a future period. He fully concurred in every sentiment uttered by the delegate from Leeds, from a deep conviction that it was the only means by which their class could be elevated in the scale of society.

Mr. Jacobs, cabinet-maker, Bristol, while concurring in the principle of the amendment, could not support it, inasmuch as it would tie up the Committee to a certain course of action which might not be practicable in all circumstances. Again, it would be seen, that to give 12s. a week to men who were only able when at work to earn 6s., would lead to great abuses. He thought that these low-paid trades should be improved, but this was not the way to do so. It could only be done on a large scale by the association itself, and it was not at present prepared to enter upon arrangements for that purpose.

Mr. Roberts, of Manchester, said that the only way to improve the condition of the low-paid trades, was to set the example themselves. Twelve shillings was little enough, but to give that money to keep men idle was a fruitful source of demoralisation and debasement. Let them make a liberal allowance, but not to be spent in idleness. (Cheers.)

A question of order having been raised, in consequence of Mr. Evans, from the Potteries, desiring to address the Conference.

The Chairman said he understood Mr. Evans, though a director of the association for the employment of labour in Manufactures and Agriculture, was not a delegate to that Conference, which was composed of delegates of the association for the protection of industry. With respect to the proposition of the delegate from Leeds, he suggested its withdrawal at present, on the ground that it was premature. They might afterwards go into its consideration. He believed that they were all of one mind as to the improper and erroneous manner in which past strikes had been conducted; and it was one of the peculiar features of the association that it contemplated the abrogation of the system of enabling men to walk about the streets, living upon the money contributed by those who were in work.

So long as the trades resorted to that system, they would inevitably be beaten. Capital had such a tremendous power, that it was impossible labour could effectively meet it by such means.—(Cheers.) The only course was for them to employ their own labour and capital reproductively, as was proposed at the outset of this movement. He was convinced, that by this plan alone, they could be enabled to command and maintain a fair day's wages for a fair day's labour.—(Cheers.)

Mr. Blyth withdrew his amendment on this suggestion, with the understanding that the question would again be brought forward.

Mr. Robson then moved that the levies of this Association be contributed in the following ratio:—For a levy of 2d., the trade to receive 5s. weekly; for 4d., 7s.; and for 6d., 10s. weekly; leaving to the different trades to join these sections at their own option. In proposing this resolution, he must state that he had no faith in strikes as the means of improving the condition of the working classes. There was a time when strikes could do much, but it had now gone by; science and machinery had altered the position of the labourer, had introduced a totally different order of social relations. They had marched past the old system, and if the labourer was to participate in the benefits of the new order of things, they must march with it. How could this be done but by becoming their own capitalists? (Cheers.) There was no law against that. (Cheers.) He understood that it was now desired that this Association, instead of being of a positive character, an active instrument for improving the condition of the artisan, should be simply of a negative and defensive character. Why, if so, of what value would it be to the low paid trades—to the men with five shillings a week? Such a sum was not worth *defending.* If they limited their efforts to such objects, they would give no encouragement or hope to the low-paid trades of any benefit from this association. (Hear, hear.) With respect, however, to the proposition he submitted to the conference, he thought that to fix an equal sum to be paid to all classes of tradesmen, and to impose equal levies on the handloom weaver with five shillings, and the bricklayer with thirty shillings a week, was a self-evident absurdity, and would be utterly impracticable as a working measure. Even were it practicable, it would be injudicious: to give a larger sum to men on strike than they received while at work, would be in fact a premium on idleness. (Cheers.) By the plan he proposed, the trades would have an opportunity of joining any class whatever, and would receive benefits in proportion to their payments. (Hear, hear.)

The motion having been seconded, a long discussion followed. Several delegates from the low-paid trades urged that a large levy would be utterly beyond the power of their trades.

Mr. Dean, delegate from the frame-work knitters of Loughborough, said that he considered himself well paid if he took home 8s. on a Saturday night, and a large levy upon him and his fellow-sufferers would practically exclude them. The only way he could see to the improvement of their condition was by independent employment being provided by the Association, as he understood it originally contemplated.

Mr. Lenagan, from the Wigan hand-loom weavers, thought the scale proposed by Mr. Robson was not an equitable one, as from calculations he had made he thought a larger sum could be given in return for a twopenny levy. Though his trade were ground to the dust in their struggle with machinery, and their permanent lot was and had been one of misery, they were still desirous of becoming members of that great confederation upon honourable terms. (Hear, hear.) His trade disclaimed all idea of becoming dependent on the generosity of their higher paid brethren, and in order that they might co-operate with what he might call the aristocratic trades on independent terms, and such as were suited to their limited means, he would recommend they should commence at one penny. Having been chairman of a committee to inquire into the condition of the handloom weavers of Wigan some time ago, he was enabled to state that many families did not earn more than 6s. weekly, out of which they had to pay 10d. a week for bobbin mending, leaving 4s. 2d. to support the family, out of which many had to pay 1s. 6d. and 2s. for rent alone. (Hear, hear.) He would ask, therefore, if people in so miserably depressed a condition could do more than give the merest fraction to support a body like the present?

Several other propositions, modifying the orignal motion, having been sent up to the chairman, he suggested that it would be better to confine the attention of the Conference to the propriety of adopting the principle of a sliding scale of contributions and relief, and having settled that in the affirmative, to remit the whole of these propositions to a committee, to be digested and reported upon at a subsequent stage of these proceedings. The motion was then withdrawn, and

Mr. Young, carpenter, of London, moved that a committee of nine be appointed to draw out a plan of levy and support on the principle of a graduated scale.

This proposition was resisted by several of the delegates friendly to a fixed amount being paid to all trades alike.

Mr. Gow, lithographer, contended, in answer to those objections, that the natural and inevitable result of the present system was to generate a feeling of isolation and exclusiveness among the trades; and he did not believe that the high paid trades would be satisfied with a fixed levy. At the same time he was convinced that the only way to improve the wages of such low-paid trades as the handloom weavers was not by means of levies and weekly payments, but by the Association purchasing looms, which he understood cost 5*l.* each, and setting the weavers to work upon them. He was informed that larger profits were realised from the productions of these looms; and, if so, it was better that these large profits should be applied to improve the condition and raise the wages of the labourer, rather than suffer them to add to the already too large heaps of the capitalist.

Mr. Winters, framework-knitter, of Leicester, in supporting the proposition to refer to a committee the principle of a graduated scale, said that his trade was subject to peculiar evils. There had been great fluctuations in their wages. In 1811, the price of 24-gauge women's stockings was 10s. per dozen: in 1816, 6s.; 1817, 10s.; 1819, 7s. 6d.; 1825, 8s. 6d.; and in the present year they were paid only 3s. 9d. to 5s. for the same description of work. While such was the depressed condition of the operative, the capitalist was realising large profits from these very goods. The cost of production was 9s. 6d. per dozen; the market price was from 13s. to 14s. The net average wages were not more than 5s. weekly; the gross average wages 8s.; but from this 3s. weekly rent of loom, was deducted on all occasions, whatever the amount of earnings might be; and they had numerous instances in which the whole of the earnings in certain branches were absorbed by frame rent, when the work was short, and the weaver not able to get a full week's work. Sometimes they were even in debt, and such debt was deducted from their first earnings.

Mr. Williamson, tin-plate-worker, London, said that many of the most powerful trades had hitherto stood aloof from this Association, from the fear that they would be continually called upon to pay to the support of the trades with small wages, who were not only most immediately in need of improvement, but were also the most numerous. The adoption of a sliding-scale was the only way of meeting these prejudices, and show that the benefits to be realised by joining the Association were in proportion to the sums contributed. It was useless to talk of benevolence and generosity; they must act upon general principles, applicable to the actual state of the trades, and their feelings with respect to it. If not, himself and others who were present, more for the purpose of watching the proceedings, with a view to guide their future conduct, than anything else—would be compelled to make such a report as would still prevent these trades from giving their adhesion to the Association.

Mr. Main, representative of the General Carpenters' Association of London, said that his constituents were of opinion that local associations were useless, and that by means of a graduated scale of payments, the separate energies of each trade could be united under proper arrangements, and made powerfully effective for lifting up the working class from the dependent position they at present occupied.

Several other Delegates having spoken in favour of the graduated scale,

Mr. James (of London), on the part of the Central Committee, explained that the Committee were not pledged to the proposal of a fixed levy, but had merely thrown it out for discussion. His experience had shown him, that the adoption of a sliding scale would cause a large and influential section of the trade to join the Association. He considered this question as one of the most important that they could discuss—one which, in fact, involved the very existence of the Association itself. He hoped and believed, that if the Association was conducted with prudence and honesty, it would ultimately absorb all local unions, but, as a preliminary to that desirable consummation, it was essential to give the present unions confidence in the moderation and practical wisdom of the measures.

The motion for the appointment of a Committee was then put, and carried unanimously, and the following delegates were elected, representing the high and low paid trades—Messrs. Robson, of London; Winters, Leicester; Gow, Manchester; Jacobs, Bristol; Lenagan, Wigan; King, Manchester; Williamson, London; Birkett, Liverpool; and Forrest, of Cradley, Worcestershire. It was then resolved that the conference, at its rising at one o'clock, adjourn till to-morrow morning at nine o'clock, in order to afford the Committee time to consider the subject, with the understanding that the delegates should attend to give any information the Committee might require. Report to be presented to-morrow morning.

The next resolution put by the Chairman was, that children and females be admitted at a less contribution to the funds than that paid by adult males, and that the amount of that contribution be fixed by the Committee.—Unanimously adopted.

Mr. Dunning, on the part of the Central Committee, brought forward the question of the monthly contribution to be paid by each member, to defray the expenses of management.

A short discussion followed on this question, and it was proposed that it be one halfpenny a month. The discussion was, however, closed upon a point of order by the Chairman, who stated that the case was already provided for by one of their rules, which enacted that if any surplus funds accrue from the present payment of one penny a month, the Central Committee shall have the option of reducing the subscription, or applying such surplus in payment of the expenses of the annual conference. As no notice had been given of any alteration in the rule, the question could not be entertained. The subject then dropped.

The Conference passed to the next question on the business paper, "Whether it be advisable for a time to limit the strikes supported by this Association to the defensive, and for what period shall such limitation continue?"

Mr. Jacobs (of Bristol) advocated the propriety of the Association acting upon offensive as well as the defensive. Much had been said against strikes, which was no doubt very just in itself: but it had somewhat confused the Conference. Strikes were not always successful, nor were they always to be avoided. They were frequently forced on the workmen, and became absolutely necessary to maintain their position. They had had a successful strike in Bristol, and it was an instance of the fallacy of the argument that strikes were not beneficial; because, when they referred to the money that had been sunk in strikes, it must not be supposed that it was all lost. If, as in the case of Bristol, they expended £100 in two weeks, and gained from 40 to 50 per cent. on good wages at the end of the time, he thought it was a very good investment for their money. He thought it would be better to leave a discretionary power to the Committee. If they limited it merely to the defensive, he feared it would give rise to another association prepared to take better ground, and thus introduce division, instead of uniting the trades. He concluded by moving that the Committee have a discretionary power of sanctioning offensive strikes.

The motion having been seconded,

The Chairman said, on referring to the laws he found that the case supposed was fully provided for in the rules of the Association, under the head of "Powers and Duties of the Central Committee," which provided that the Committee were to receive all applications for advice and assistance, and to act thereon as they might deem requisite. The Conference must give the most unlimited confidence to the Committee intrusted with the discharge of the difficult and delicate duties appertaining to their office. As the law provided for the contingency alluded to, the question now put must also fall to the ground on a point of order.

Mr. Dunning explained that the object of the Central Committee in bringing forward the question was simply to ascertain the feelings of the Conference upon it. As, however, he was happy to see that they were quite prepared to give the requisite confidence to the Committee, he was satisfied that the object had been attained.

The subject then dropped, and the Conference passed to the next question, namely:—"What number shall receive support at the same period?"

This question was ultimately referred to the Committee appointed to consider the details of previous questions.

The Conference then adjourned till Wednesday morning at nine o'clock.

WEDNESDAY.

T. S. Duncombe, Esq., took the chair at 9 o'clock.

The report of the committee appointed at the previous day, was brought up by Mr. Jacobs, the chairman, by a majority of four to three, the Committee recommended the adoption of the following system:—That the trades be divided into five sections. 1st section to pay one halfpenny per week, and receive 3s. weekly support. 2nd section 1d., weekly allowance 6s. 3rd section 1½d., allowance 9s. 4th section 2d., weekly support 12s. 5th section 2½d., and to receive 15s. per week. The Committee did not consider that there was any necessity for mentioning the case of women and children, as it was thought they would fall under one or other of the sections. The report was accompanied with some statistics as to the earnings of various trades, to show the necessity for a great variety of levies to meet the diversity of wages. The report having been received,

Mr. Lenagan said, having proposed the plan embodied in the report, he was desirous to show the reasons for his doing so. It was absolutely necessary to make the contributions low to meet the necessities of the low-paid trades. He had made a calculation, based on the assumed number of 40,000 members, as to what would be produced by the proposed scale. At 15s. it would support 333 persons weekly. At 12s. it would support 426. The men who received 9s. would have to pay 1½d. levy, and it would support 555. At 6s. 842 would be supported weekly. At 3s. 1,666 persons could be maintained. If the Committee exercised caution in the sanctioning of strikes, and did not permit too many to be on the funds at once, he thought the scale proposed would be found sufficient to meet the objects in view.

Mr. Birkett wished to know whether they could control the number who might be turned out? They might have the power of limiting and regulating the number on strike, but they could not do so in the case of turnouts which depended on causes beyond their control.

The Chairman said the best course would be to leave all such matters to the Central Committee.

Mr. Roberts moved as an amendment that the scale should be, ½d., 2s. weekly; 1d., 4s.; 2d., 6s.; 4d., 8s.; 6d., 10s.; 8d., 12s. He thought that if they sanctioned a strike at all, it should be on such a magnitude and supported in such a way as to convince the employers at once of their power and determination.

Mr. Dunning opposed the system of a graduated scale altogether. It was complex and fallacious, and could only end in disappointment. The very diversity of opinion which evidently existed amongst its advocates was a proof that it was not a correct one. Let them take the calculation itself. Those who paid 2½d. were only to receive support for 333 weekly, whilst those who paid one halfpenny were to be supported to the number of 1,666. Why, this was absurd; much more so than anything urged against fixed and equal contributions from and support all trades alike. This was a fatal objection to it, even if there were not the farther objection that the numbers in each class, according to his calculations, would be much lower than those estimated by the Committee. He must, therefore, adhere to the original proposition of the Central Committee, that a sum not exceeding 8s. weekly be allowed.

The speaker was here called to order, on the ground that the Conference had already decided that a graduated scale should be the plan adopted.

Mr. Bush, London, did not concur in the scale proposed by the Committee. It would be better, in his opinion, to levy contributions at so much per pound on the average earnings of the trades, and to pay them at the same ratio. The plan proposed was liable to objection that trades just previous to a strike or turn out, might for a short time only pay the higher sum, in order to entitle them to the larger sum allowed for support.

Mr. Jacobs (Chairman of the committee) defended the report, which he considered to be not only based upon equitable principles, but perfectly practicable. The principal question for the Conference to decide was, when they would commence their subscriptions, and the amount they would permit to accumulate in the hands of the Central Committee before coming upon the fund. In his opinion, the probability of strikes or turn-outs would be much diminished if the Association had a large fund, say 50,000l. or 100,000l. at its disposal, that would be a "great fact" which would cause the masters to pause before they committed any infringement upon the rights and interests of the associated trades.—(Hear, hear.) In addition to this he would again urge that the funds should be employment funds, not strike funds, for all sums hitherto expended in strikes had been entirely sunk.

Mr Hayes, Liverpool, regretted that during the time he had attended this conference he had heard nothing but strikes talked of. He understood that this association was formed for preventing strikes, instead of encouraging them. But if they were still inclined to believe that it was necessary to continue temporarily the old system, he thought the best way would be by a small continuous payment. The trade he represented had 20,000l. in hand, which was solely the result of such contributions. It was the accumulation of large funds, and the power of commanding them when required, which had enabled the Anti-Corn-Law League to carry its objects. Let four other trades follow the example of the trade he represented, and there would be 100,000l. to begin with. If they were once in that position, they would exercise an irresistible influence not only over their employers, but also public opinion.

Mr. Evans concurred in these views. The original intention of the association was to render strikes unnecessary by giving employment on land and in manufactures. The body with which he was connected (the Staffordshire potters) had collected funds, purchased lands in America, and since they had obtained several advances of price. In addition to the land they had in their possession, then had one of the best printing offices in the potteries, employed several compositors and pressmen, and a proscribed man in the trade, at a liberal salary, as clerk over the establishment. What the potter had done sectionally, the association should do nationally.—(Cheers.) He could show the conference that, with the means at its disposal, they might immediately establish a weekly newspaper at a low price, and realise a large profit, thus securing a double advantage, namely, pecuniary profit, and influence over the public mind.

The Chairman said that if Mr. Evans would look at the objects of the association now in conference, he would see that it was for the "protection of labour." There was another association of which he had also the honour to be president, the express object of which was to give employment in the manner stated by Mr. Evans. The object of that conference was not to promote strikes, but to prevent them; but when the men were subjected to injustice and oppression, that association held itself bound to step in and throw the shield of its protection over them.—(Hear, hear.) But then it was urged that this relief should be given by employment. Well, that could be done by the sister association, whose especial object it was to give employment, and thus the two associations would work together and mutually assist each other. With respect to the question now before the conference, it was one in his opinion which there was no real necessity for mooting at that meeting. By one of the rules the power of making the requisite levies was vested in the Committee. But the only steady and continuous levy the Committee were empowered to make was one penny per month for current expenses. He thought, however, that there was much force in the observations of the delegate from Liverpool, as to the value and influence of a small continuous payment being made to create capital, for it was only by meeting capital by capital that success could be achieved. By that means also they would do away with any necessity for a sliding scale, and avoid all the evils of making a sudden levy. Let them create a large fund, and then they would by the moral influence of such a position prevent encroachments, or when attempted meet them energetically and effectively. (Cheers.)

After numerous other delegates had expressed their opinions, the amendment of Mr. Roberts was put and lost.

In putting the original motion again before the Conference, the Chairman said that there was very great difficulty in coming to a conclusion on this important question. The discussion of that morning had thrown fresh light upon the subject, and had very much altered his opinions upon it. He feared that, even if they adopted the scale of the committee, they would not escape the difficulty. He was strongly inclined to believe that the best way would be to accumulate a large fund by continuous small payments, and thus be prepared for any contigency that might arise. By the plan of the committee they would not be placed in that position. For instance, suppose the masters should require at once some 10,000 men to sign such a degrading document as that presented to the builders; these 10,000 men could not, of course, pay to the levy, and thus they would at once have greater demands upon them, with less means to meet them. The course he felt, upon the whole, disposed to recommend was, that the whole question should be recommitted, with a request that the committee, after hearing the discussion of that morning, would again consider the matter, prepare a proper table of estimates, upon some definite basis, either fixing a per centage on wages, creating an accumulating fund by continuous payments, or leaving the matter as it now stood by the law, in the hands of the central committee. (Cheers.)

A long discussion ensued, in which several delegates expressed their opinion on the general question, and various suggestions were made for the purpose of giving effect to the recommendation of the Chairman.

Ultimately the several proposition were digested into the following:—"That all trades belonging to this Association shall contribute to the creation of a fund of at least £20,000, in proportion to their average weekly earnings, such contributions to be a per centage of 2d. in the pound per week on earnings, and when support is afforded, the amount so afforded to be calculated on the like principle."

In laying this proposition before the Conference, the Chairman said that another would, he believed be submitted, by which the capital proposed to be created by this resolution might be used to set those on strike to work, and thus reimburse the fund. (Loud cheers.) The great difficulty the working-classes had always to struggle against was want of capital. The employers knew this, and were hence encouraged to oppress them, calculating securely on their ultimate submission. (Hear.) But as the matter was of so much importance, involving, as he thought, the very existence and usefulness of the Association, and the hour of adjournment was near, he would advise that the conference should then separate, and come calmly to the consideration of the question in the afternoon.

The Conference acted upon this suggestion, and adjourned till half-past two o'clock.

On re-assembling,

The Chairman stated, that the original question before the Conference was the graduated scale proposed by the Committee. Since that time, the motion he had read, previous to adjournment, had been moved as an amendment; and it was now the duty of the Conference to say which of these propositions they would adopt.

The Report of the Committee was then put to the vote and negatived, the numbers being—

For 23
Against 61
Majority ... ... — 38

The resolution for the creation of a fund of £20,000 was then entered upon. The creation of the £20,000 fund was then unanimously agreed to; and the next question was the per centage upon the wages to be contributed by the trades.

An amendment, to the effect that one penny per pound be the per centage, instead of twopence a week, was, after a short discussion, put and negatived, the numbers being—

For 32
Against 50
Majority ... ... — 18

Another amendment, to the effect that three halfpence be the per centage was then proposed. In support of this amendment it was urged that the trades had local unions, and sick and burial societies to support, and if they kept the subscription low, they would hold out an inducement to a greater number of trades joining them. The very fact of the name and influence of an Association presided over by their Hon. Chairman, would do more than all the money they could raise, and of course the more the numbers increased the greater its influence would become. On the contrary side it was argued that in thus attempting to cut down the amount, they were taking the most effectual means of preventing the realisation of the object in view. The sooner the fund was raised, the more speedily they would be enabled to wield the power its possession would confer upon them. As to one argument that it would bear heavily upon the low-paid trades, it would be found in practice to be most favourable to these trades. Many of the delegates from these trades expressed their readiness to support the contribution of 2d. on each 20s. earned. The discussion, which was of an interesting and instructive character as to the real state and opinions of the trades, was continued for a considerable period—delegates from all parts of England and Scotland, as well as from different districts in Ireland, taking part in it. On division the largest sum (twopence) was carried by a majority of at least one hundred.

The question of the rate of support to be allowed from the funds of the Association was next discussed at considerable length. It was proposed, in the first instance, that the allowance should be one-half of the average earnings of the parties when in full employment. Several of the delegates from the low-paid trades expressed their conviction that such a motion would drive their trades from the Association, among others,

Mr. Wear, from Sheepshead, Leicestershire, framework-knitter, gave a graphic account of the misery endured by the trade to which he belonged, and to which the attenuated frame and general appearance of the speaker bore strong testimony. He said that he had visited the houses of more than twenty families, in which he found that five persons and upwards slept in one bed. He himself had five of a family, and they rarely, if ever, tasted animal food, and had often subsisted for a whole week on a stone of barleymeal; and so short had they been run, that he had often gone to bed on a Thursday afternoon in the vain hope of appeasing, by a recumbent posture and a little more warmth, the gnawings of hunger. His trade was driven to the very lowest verge of existence, and to give them the half of their earnings would, in fact, consign them to utter destitution. The plan proposed would not do for them.

Mr. Benett, of London, said, the more he heard of the difficulties surrounding the question of strikes, as heretofore conducted, he was the more convinced that they must avoid that system altogether; and, instead of attempting to keep men idle, they must set them to work. (Loud cheers.) If the framework-knitters and other trades said they could not live upon the sums proposed to be given, of what use would the Association be to them and similar trades? The best way would be, to set them to work by means of the capital of the Association. (Cheers.) If they did not, he could not see of what use the Association would be to them.

It was moved as an amendment to the original proposition of one-half of the average wages, that the allowance be five-sixths.

After a long discussion, the whole subject was ultimately remitted to the select committee appointed the previous day. Report to be brought up to-morrow, at ten o'clock.

The conference then adjourned.

THURSDAY.

T. S. Duncombe, Esq., took the chair at ten o'clock, and some preliminary business having been transacted, the committee brought up their report, which recommended the following scale, and which had been calculated on the data of 2d. per centage on the average wages of the trades comprised in the association:—

Wages. s.	Support. s. d.	Wages s.	Support. s. d.
3	2 6	16	10 8
6	5 0	18	11 4
8	6 0	20	12 6
10	7 6	24 and above	14 0
12	8 0		

The Committee farther recommended that the Central Committee should apply these sums by employing the men when out of work, wherever practicable.

After a short conversation, this scale was unanimously adopted.

It was then resolved, that all moneys belonging to the association be invested at a banker's, in the name and to the account of the National Association of United Trades, and that any cheque drawing out such moneys, or any portion of them, be signed by the President and Vice-President of the Association.

Mr. Young said that in proposing the following resolution he was desirous of bearing testimony to the highly honourable manner in which the gentleman referred to had discharged his duties during the past year. As a member of the Central Committee he had had opportunities of knowing the facts, and he, on that account, cordially submitted the resolution:—"That the thanks of this Conference are due, and are hereby given, to George Bird. Esq., for his kindness in taking care of the funds of the Association, and for the courtesy shown by him, and that the Secretary transmit a copy of this resolution to that gentleman."

The Conference then proceeded to the election of the officers and committee for the ensuing year. A ballot was taken, which resulted in the appointment of the following as the Central Committee:—

Metropolitan Members.—Mr. Williamson, tin-plate worker; Mr. Bond, carpenter; Mr. Allen, tin-plate worker; Mr. Robson, ladies' shoemaker; Mr. Green, Morocco leather finisher.

Provincial Members.—Mr. Claugham, miner, Holytown; Mr. Blythe, carpenter, Leeds; Mr. Lynn, carpenter, Belfast; Mr. Lenegan, handloom-weaver, Wigan; Mr. Jacobs, cabinet-maker, Bristol; Mr. Gouldin, maker-up, Manchester.

T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M. P., was unanimously elected President of the Association for the year ensuing, and in reply said, that the continued confidence of the Association gave him much pleasure, and so long as he continued to be so honoured, he would promise them his cordial assistance and support to the utmost of the means in his power. (Great cheering.)

Mr. Bush, joiner, London, was elected vice-president, and Mr. Barratt, secretary; Messrs. Gimblett and Snellhouse, auditors.

A short discussion arose on the propriety of suspending the law which requires six months' notice of amendments on the laws, before these could be entertained.

The Chairman stated that though, perhaps, the notice now required might be too long, it was absolutely necessary for the stability, prosperity, and satisfaction of the Association that some notice of any intended alterations should be previously made known and considered. For these reasons he had throughout the conference been somewhat peremptory in rejecting all questions which would interfere with this necessary and essential regulation. He trusted that the Conference would see the advantage of the Association would be most materially and substantially promoted. (Cheers.)

Several suggestions were then made as to various improvements, which the chairman said had better be referred to the central committee in writing.

The towns of Birmingham and Liverpool were respectively moved as places for holding the next conference. On a division, it was decided that it should be held at Birmingham.

The Chairman then said that they had now gone through the routine business, which the Conference could take up in accordance with the rules. It was, however, still open for the delegates to take into consideration any measures which might tend to promote the elevation of the working classes.

Mr. Robson said that he regretted the rigid adherence to the rules had prevented them from fully discussing the most important question which could be brought before them. Much time had been occupied in discussing the machinery and regulation of strikes and turn-outs. They were, he was certain, all agreed upon the necessity of substituting employment for idleness, reproduction of wealth for unprofitable consumption of capital. Mr. Robson then gave the details of an experiment of this kind, which they had instituted in London. The workmen in the employ of a large shoemaker's establishment were put on strike. The Association, of which their hon. chairman was also president, for the employment of labour, had taken the matter up—had opened a shop in Drury-lane—set the men to work at full wages, and though only a few weeks at work, they had already realized profits at the rate of 240 per cent. per annum on the capital expended.—(Cheers.) If they could effect this in one trade, or one town, why not in all.

Mr. Robson explained at some length the machinery of the association, which was a joint-stock company, with a definite amount of capital, shares of a prescribed amount, and properly constituted directors. To such a body no objection could be made, whatever doubts might be entertained of the constitution of the other association. Not that he had any doubts on that point, but he did doubt that any permanent or real benefit could be realized without employing their own capital and labour reproductively—(Great cheering.)

The subject was very warmly taken up by several delegates, and discussed at great length. The feeling was in favour of the mode of procedure recommended by Mr. Robson, and seemed to carry with it the entire sympathy and concurrence of the Conference.

Mr. Duncombe being compelled, by parliamentary business, to leave for London, bade farewell to the Conference, and

Mr. Jacobs, of Bristol, moved "That the thanks of this Conference are due, and hereby given to our Honourable Chairman, Thomas Slingsby Duncombe, Esq., M.P., for his able, impartial, and praiseworthy conduct in the chair.

The motion was carried by acclamation, and the Conference gave three times three hearty cheers, and one cheer more.

The Hon. Gentleman briefly returned thanks, and left the hall amidst loud applause.

FRIDAY.

The chair was taken at nine o'clock, by Mr Bush, and the Conference took up the question of the propriety of recommending to the Central Committee to make a levy on the members of the Association to support the building trade on strike in this district.

The speakers in support of this course argued that it was absolutely necessary, if the association was to secure the confidence or support of the trades, that it should show itself ready to assist the trades in an emergency like the present. Other speakers recommended a voluntary subscription among the associated trades as the best means of assisting the building trades.

It was ultimately resolved, that the Conference recommend to the Central Committee the immediate collection of a levy on the scale agreed to by the Conference for the support of the trades who are out in consequence of resisting the masters' document. It was stated, that nearly 1,000 men, of various building trades, were at the present moment on strike in this district.

The next resolution was unanimously passed without any discussion:—'That the Central Committee be instructed to take, from time to time, such a number of shares in the United Trades Association for the employment of labour in agriculture and manufactures, as they may deem advisable, on condition that the said Association shall provide employment for hands dependent on this Association in proportion to the sum so invested.

The necessity for making known the objects of the Association to the trades generally having been mooted, the following resolution was proposed:—"That this Conference recommend to the Central Committee immediately after the close of the Conference, to commence an active agitation with the view of bringing in all working men who do not belong to this Association, throughout Great Britain and Ireland."

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

A vote of thanks to the Central Committee for the last year was unanimously agreed to, and acknowledged by Messrs. Jones and Green.

Mr. Robson moved the thanks of the Conference to the editor of the *Morning Advertiser*, and to the reporter of that paper for their able and accurate report of the proceedings of the Conference, which have appeared in that paper. (Great cheering.)

The motion was put and carried unanimously.

Thanks were then voted to the *Northern Star* and several other weekly papers for their advocacy of the rights of labour, and of condemnation upon these portions of the press which misrepresented the proceedings of the Trades' Union.

After the transaction of some other business of a routine nature, a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Bush, for his conduct in the chair, and the Conference then separated after a sitting of five days.

SOIREE TO T. S. DUNCOMBE, ESQ., M.P., AT LEEDS.

Tuesday Evening.—The Chartists of Leeds availed themselves of the opportunity afforded by the visit of Mr. Duncombe to the manufacturing districts, to testify their gratitude for the manner in which he has advocated their cause in Parliament, by giving him a public soiree on Tuesday evening, in the Music Hall, Albion-street. A very numerous company of both sexes partook of tea, &c., previous to the arrival of the hon. gentleman from Manchester. The hall was tastefully decorated, and its walls were covered with numerous mottoes and banners, among which we noticed "T. S. Duncombe, the unflinching advocate of the people's rights;" "The People's Charter," and similar sentiments.

Mr. W. Brook occupied the chair, and shortly after eight o'clock opened the proceedings, by proposing the toast of "The People;" to which

Mr. J. Shaw responded. He said, that the axiom "the people are the legitimate source of all power, was a somewhat hackneied one in words, but little acted upon in practice. It was, no doubt, proper that the Government should be supported, but it was still more necessary that the people should enjoy those comforts to which their industry entitled them. This country was said to be the envy of surrounding nations. Was it so because of the superior condition of its labouring population? No. It was, he supposed, on account of their having reared palaces and mansions, which were enjoyed by the wealthy and powerful few, but from which they themselves were excluded. The people were acknowledged by all parties to be the actual source of all political power, but they had a house of Commons which did not represent them, and it was to this exclusion from political power, that he traced all the miseries endured by the toiling millions.—(Cheers.) Yet, in the face of this fact, all parties in the House boasted of their desire to serve the people. This was a mere pretence, for while the millions were excluded from participation in political rights, they were virtually slaves.—(Cheers.) (Mr. Duncombe, here entered the hall amidst enthusiastic and prolonged plaudits.) Order having been restored Mr. Shaw said they would no doubt be impatient to hear one who had been justly styled "Labour's Champion," and he would therefore detain the meeting by a very few additional remarks. After insisting upon the necessity of the people being endowed with political power in order to put a stop to public abuses, and achieve popular benefits, the speaker concluded by saying, that he cordially supported the sentiment.

The Chairman then briefly proposed "The health of our esteemed guest, T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., the bold and determined advocate of the people's rights," and glanced at the conduct of the Hon. Member in the Post-office inquiry, and the Masters and Servants' Bill, as proofs among many others of Mr. Duncombe's public usefulness as a Member of Parliament and of his sympathy for the working classes. Mr. Duncombe was a Yorkshireman, and he knew they would give a truly Yorkshire welcome,—(The toast was received with enthusiastic and repeated cheers, which were renewed upon the hon. gentleman coming forward to address the meeting.

Mr. Duncombe said this was not the first time he had had the pleasure of meeting them in that hall, and receiving marks of their approbation, and the kindness with which he was now received shewed he had not lost their confidence. (Cheers.) The Chairman had alluded to many changes which had taken place in the opinions of public men, and to many measures in which he (Mr. Duncombe) had taken part in the House of Commons. It was true that great changes had taken place in the views of all parties, and of the Government themselves, on many most important questions. The Chairman had referred to the Masters and Servants Bill. He had opposed that Bill, because he believed that if it had passed it would have been a most iniquitous law, and that the liberty of no working man would have been worth twenty-four hours' purchase after its enactment. But it was one of the advantages of its being brought forward, that it had given rise to one of the best and most righteous movements of the day. Out of it originated the Conference in London last year, which gave birth to the National Association of United Trades, and he had now the honour of presiding over a Conference of 126 delegates, representing the intelligence and the industry of every part of this country. (Loud cheers.) He felt that it was necessary that this great movement should be conducted peacefully, legally, and constitutionally, because so long as they kept within the law, which he was certain they would do, he believed they would carry the object for which they originally united—"a fair day's wages for a fair day's labour." (Loud applause.) That Conference was not sitting in Manchester to cause a division between masters and men—they were not there to stir up bad feelings; they were there to promote conciliation, if conciliation was possible; they were there to mediate and arbitrate between contending parties on honourable terms and upright principles, but they could not recommend the trades to sign that degrading and debasing document which the masters has put forward. (Loud cheers.) The masters, in their published documents, said that capital and labour should be free. So he (Mr. Duncombe) and the Conference said. But if the men of Leeds, after having honestly earned their week's wages, chose to devote a portion of them to the support of their brethren in Birkenhead or Liverpool, and the masters stepped in to prevent them, he would ask if that was not an infringement of the principle they themselves had laid down. (Great applause.) It was said that the National Union employed intimidation and coercion for the purpose of carrying out its objects. It was not true. There was no compulsion. The trade might join or not, as they thought proper, though he believed that if the trades were fully aware of their own interests, they would all be found ready to join the only body which promised to raise an effective barrier against the encroachments of capital. (Hear, hear.) Still, however, they repudiated the charge of intimidation. He wished the masters could say as much. He had been made acquainted with numerous instances of intimidation practised by the masters towards each other, and when they talked of the intimidation of the working classes, they should not forget what he would not hesitate to call the illegal intimidation practised among themselves. Since he was last in this district great changes had taken place. In 1842 great distress prevailed. It had been proved in the House of Commons that at that period the people were living on carrion and other substances, which it was a disgrace to human nature to see used as food. They were at present better off, and he hoped that the measures proposed by the government, and now carried by the House of Commons, would tend to maintain that improvement in their condition. (Hear, hear.) He had voted for these measures because he was an enemy to all monopolies; and for the same reason he supported the People's Charter, as an enemy to the monopoly of political power by a section of the community. (Great applause.) He believed that when that measure was urged in the same determined and zealous manner as the question of the repeal of the Corn Laws had been they would not long be without a Minister bold enough to propose it to Parliament. (Loud cheers.) There was another measure of great importance now before Parliament, and which was to be discussed on Friday next, the Poor Removal Bill. Perhaps most of them were aware that he had moved for a return of the number of removals from the manufacturing districts in the years 1841, 1842, and 1843; and of all the public documents ever presented to Parliament, that most truly showed the state of slavery which existed in the manufacturing districts. (Hear, hear.) The men who had for years been engaged in creating fortunes for the master manufacturers were turned adrift when the period of distress came, to shift as they best could. (Sensation and cries of Shame.) People who had resided thirty-three years in the factory districts, who had come from Dublin, Edinburgh, and other distant parts of the country, when able to work no longer in the factories, were sent to their place of settlement, old and worn out, leaving behind them those they assisted to enrich. He asked, was this fair? (Hear, hear.) Ought not those who had reaped so many benefits form their labours, to give relief on the spot when it was needed? (Applause.) They had no doubt seen what was called a poor removal. A poor man, carried like a felon to the parish in which he was born long years ago. But the parish knew him not, and he was consigned like a felon to a bastile union workhouse. (Great applause.) The measure now before the House of Commons would be a benefit if properly amended. The term of five years required for a settlement was too long. It should be altered, and the principle laid down, that where the labour had been given and the benefit received, there the relief should be given. (Hear, hear, hear.) He would only add, that in his opinion, this was a measure which deserved support, although not without requiring amendment. (Cheers.) They had no doubt heard much of commercial measures of reform, and if any one wished to learn the science of political abuse they had only to go to the House of Commons. (Hear, and laughter.) Abuse had been unsparingly thrown upon Sir Robert Peel because he had changed his policy, not by the people, but by those who wished to fill his place. But, whatever benefit might hereafter ensue from his measures, there was one immediate benefit resulting from them—they had completely broken up parties. It was impossible now to tell to what party a man belonged. (Laughter.) All of them now pretended, however, to be the friends of the working classes. Even the manufacturers, who opposed the Ten Hours' Bill, did it for the sake of the people. (Laughter.) They said that Bill would ruin our manufactures. Why, they might as well say that the mills all standing still this week throughout this great district would ruin the manufacturing interest, and yet when they asked for two hours less labour daily for women and children it was refused, upon what he (Mr. Duncombe) thought very insufficient grounds. The gentlemen of the League had formerly said, support us in getting rid of the Corn Laws, and then when we are by that means enabled to compete on equal terms with foreigners we will support you in the effort to obtain a Ten Hours' Bill. (Hear, hear.) Well, now, the Corn Bill was about to pass, and the manufacturers turned round and said, "We are going to be exposed to increased foreign competition, and a reduction of hours will ruin us. So that, in fact, the repeal of the Corn Laws was to be paid for by increased labour to meet the foreign competition; which that repeal alone was formerly advocated as an effective measure to prevent. (Great applause.) He would ask, was this fair or just? No, it was only necessary for the advocates of a Ten Hours' Bill to be firm in order to convert the small minority by which they were lately defeated into a majority. (Loud cheers.) He thanked them heartily for this proof of their confidence and approval of his conduct in Parliament, and would only add, that the principles by which he had been actuated, and the conduct he had pursued in the past, should continue to mark his career for the future. The hon. gentleman sat down amidst great applause, and, on the call of the Chairman, three hearty cheers, and one cheer more, were given with genuine Yorkshire spirit and gusto. The hon. gentleman immediately afterwards bade the meeting farewell.

The tables and seats on the floor of the spacious Hall were then cleared away, and the company commenced certain saltatory exercises, in keeping with Whitsun-week, to the music of an excellent band. At what time they separated "deponent saith not."

MR. DUNCOMBE AND THE WORKING CLASSES OF MANCHESTER.

On Wednesday evening a public meeting of the working classes of Manchester, was held in the Carpenters' Hall, for the purpose of expressing their gratitude to T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., for his advocacy of their cause in Parliament, and of hearing the opinions of that gentleman on the present aspect of political affairs.

Mr. John Murray was called to the chair, and passed a high eulogium upon Mr. Duncombe, for his disinterested and valuable services to the labouring classes, both in and out of Parliament. The speaker then read a paragraph from the *Manchester Guardian* of that day, stating that Mr. Duncombe had not made his appearance at the important Conference of the Trades now sitting in Manchester, and consequently the *eclat* of the meeting had vanished. This was like many other things in that journal respecting the proceedings of the Trades, grossly untrue, though no doubt the writer did not pen it without calculating upon producing certain results from the falsehood. If the public and the trades generally could be led to believe that Mr. Duncombe had abandoned his post at the head of the trades, a fatal blow might be inflicted on the hopes, and a great stumbling-block placed in the progress of the organisation which was now struggling for the rights of labour. Unfortunately, the untruth would pass current in many quarters to which the newspapers which advocated labour's cause could not gain access. (The meeting seemed highly indignant at the conduct of the editors of the print in question, and the copy from which the obnoxious paragraph was read, was unanimously committed to the flames amidst loud cheers and laughter.) The Chairman concluded by calling upon

Mr. Dixon to propose the first resolution. It was to the effect that the meeting sympathised with the building trades on strike, and pledged itself to support them in their attempt to obtain their just rights. The speaker said that he knew the Trades Unions looked with very great suspicion on Chartist sympathy, but he hoped they would at length learn the important lesson that by their present machinery of strikes, and innumerable divisions with unions of different trades, and even subdivisions of the same trade, each having its separate staff of officers, and being altogether a separate body; it was impossible that they could succeed in making the condition of the industrious classes what it ought to be. That object could only be attained by the general improvement of all our institutions, which again depended upon the possession of knowledge, political power, and a general good understanding amongst the different sections of the producing classes. (Cheers.) [During the address of the speaker, Mr. Duncombe entered the Hall, and was greeted with a warmth and enthusiasm we have rarely witnessed in any public assembly.] Silence being restored, Mr. Dixon adverted to a variety of other topics, and concluded by proposing the resolution, which, on being seconded by Mr. Blyth, of Leeds, was passed unanimously.

The next resolution, affirming the principles of the People's Charter, was moved by Mr. Donavan.

The motion having been seconded by Mr. Rankine, was also agreed to.

T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., then presented himself at the front of the platform amidst long continued and repeated cheering, waving of hats, handkerchiefs, and similar demonstrations of popular enthusiasm. The hon. gentleman said they had denounced, what he joined with them in thinking, one of the most deadly foes to the prosperity of the country. That enemy was class legislation. It was true that the House of Commons differed from them on that subject, but that was not to be wondered at, seeing it was the offspring of that very system they condemned. In their sentiments on that point he most heartily concurred, and should at all times use his utmost powers in endeavouring to put an end to that system. Since he last met them in that Hall times had changed. Their leaders were then suffering persecution. They discussed on that occasion the judicial character of Lord Abinger, and it would be remembered that it had been afterwards pretty well shown up in the House of Commons. (Cheers.) He (Mr. Duncombe) would not on that occasion refer farther to that person; he was gone before another tribunal, and he (Mr. Duncombe) hoped he had received more mercy there than he showed to his fellow creatures here. (Hear, hear.) They were then suffering from severe distress, but improved trade had since that time improved their condition. But if so, it was their duty to lay by in the season of prosperity a sum to meet that rainy day, which was sure to come. (Cheers.) With the view of assisting them to do this, he had accepted the office of President of a peaceful and legal association, for the general purpose of improving the condition of the industrious classes. It was as yet in its infancy, but if it increased as it had done, it was, he believed, destined to effect the most extensive and beneficial changes in the position of that portion of the community. (Cheers.) He did not come to Manchester on Monday last to sow dissention, or to cause divisions between employers and employed, but the contrary. He came to raise honest labour, to put the labourer in such a position that he could fairly and equitable meet his employer. Such was the object of the general union. He felt it to be an honour to be at its head, and he would not relinquish it until, please God, he had established its influence in every town of the country. (Prolonged applause.) The Conference now sitting comprised Delegates from all parts of the country, and though they now numbered only some 40,000 or 50,000, he hoped and believed that the time was not far distant when they would number hundreds of thousands. It had been said that day by one who was well acquainted with these matters, that the strike of 2,000 women could stop all the mills in Manchester. If so, don't tell him that the Ten-hours Bill was in danger. Its fate was in the hands of the working classes themselves. But it was said by the opponents of that measure, that it would be fatal to the trade of this country. The experience of Sheffield and other places contradicted the assertion, and he had been told by the delegates of the Short Time Committee, this very session, in London, that, paradoxical as the statement might appear, less work gave more wages. It was stated that previous to 1844 the children who were employed in the mill for eight hours received 2s. 3d. a week. Since that time they had been by law limited to six hours, and they were now paid 2s. 4d. Was that true? (Cheers, and cries of Yes.) Well, then, if they had been successful in the case of women and children, why not extend the principle to adults? (Cheers.) It was said that it would cause a reduction of 1-6th of our production. He believed that to be a fallacy; for if an average were struck of the time actually ran by the mills, it would, he believed, be found that very few of them run ten hours every working day of the year. It was therefore a fallacy to say that the Ten Hours Bill would reduce the quantity of goods produced. If they joined this Association they would secure that Bill, and, on the other hand, bring the power of the millions to bear upon the ruling classes. It had already brought the master builders to their senses, and caused them to negotiate with their workmen. (Cheers.) They did not dread local unions, but they knew that when the working classes were united in one general body, they would become irresistable. (Great applause.) The hon. gentleman then proceeded to show the importance of the Poor Removal Bill, using similar arguments to those at the Leeds meeting reported in yesterday's *Morning Advertiser*, and which it is unnecessary to repeat. Alluding to the threat of the League for the purpose of frightening the country gentlemen that they would send back to their parishes all the immigrants from the agricultural districts, the hon. member indignantly asked if such a state of things could be suffered to exist, as that the people should be driven about like shuttlecocks, at the mercy of any party whatever? (Loud applause.) [Mr. Roberts, Solicitor to the Miners' Association, here entered the hall, and was heartily received.] Mr. Duncombe continued. He was glad to see the people's Attorney-General among them, and was sure that if he had been present to hear his (Mr. Duncombe's) remarks on the Poor Removal Bill, though he might have disagreed as to the correctness of the law, he would not have objected to their equity. He was happy to say that they had not been entirely idle in Parliament. There was an Act, called the Corresponding Society and Lecturers Act; it was originally passed to put down those horrible beings the Jacobins of Paris, and those who corresponded with them in this country; for there was nothing tyrannical governments dreaded so much as the people being intelligent. It imposed a fine of 20l. on persons who lectured in unlicensed buildings, and though long obsolete, still remained on the Statute Book. He had brought forward the question in Parliament, and now he had the pleasure of saying they would be free from the common informer in future, at all events. The power of prosecution was now lodged in the law officers of the Crown. It would therefore be exercised more carefully. They would not dare to outrage the public feeling by such a prosecution as that at Hull.—(Cheers.) So long as he had a seat in the House, they might depend upon his pursuing the same course he had done heretofore.—(The Hon. Gentleman sat down in the midst of the most enthusiastic cheering.)

It was then moved that the conduct of T. S. Duncombe, Esq., in and out of Parliament, is laudable, and deserving of the commendation of the people. His energetic defence of the trades is at once manly, determined, disinterested, impartial, and straightforward, and is, therefore, deserving of the best thanks of this meeting.

The resolution was carried by acclamation, with three cheers for Mr. Duncombe.

Mr. Roberts being called for, made a short address after which the meeting broke up at nearly 11 o'clock.

The Great Light.—The papers speak of a "Great Light" being observable in the North for the last three or four weeks past. This must be a clear proof to any man of sane mind, that the *Northern Star* is greatly circulated in that quarter.

Death from Drowning.—An inquest was held on Tuesday afternoon, at the Angel and Crown Public-house, Datchet Bridge, before William Maclin, Esq., coroner for the borough of Windsor, upon the body of a young man, named William Howes, in the employ of Messrs. Meux and Co., the brewers of Tottenham-court-road, who was drowned that morning in the Thames between Windsor and Datchet Bridge. The deceased and another man, named Louch, also in the employ of Messrs. Meux and Co., left the brewery at a very early hour on Monday morning, in charge of two drays, laden with beer for the Canteen, at the Infantry barracks, Windsor. On their return to London, between ten and eleven o'clock, after delivering the beer, as they proceeded from Windsor to Datchett, they determined to bathe, at a retired spot, in the Thames, known as Swan Bridge. The deceased had no sooner plunged into the river than he cried out for help, and almost immediately sunk. It appeared that a large hole, upwards of fifteen feet deep, had been excavated in that part of the river for the purpose of raising ballast. This was unknown to the unfortunate man, who was but a poor swimmer, and who in consequence perished. The Jury returned a verdict of "Accidentally Drowned."

Fire at the Freemasons' Tavern.—Shortly before eleven o'clock on Wednesday, while the masons were assembled in Quarterly Court at their chief Lodge, Freemasons'-hall, Great Queen-street, the Grand Master, the Earl of Zetland in the chair, the utmost excitement was caused throughout the numerous assembly by the discovery of a most suffocating smoke, accompanied by an intense heat, which very much incommoded all present. Shortly afterwards, the spacious room used by the masons for their meetings and for public assemblies, became filled with smoke, and immediately over the statue of the late Duke of Sussex, directly below the orchestral gallery, fire was observed by the noble chairman. Upon this discovery the gentlemen of the craft present hastily dissolved their meeting, and the assistants employed on the establishment commenced, as far as in them lay, to pour water from pails and buckets upon the fire, which appeared to have seized with considerable power upon the joisting of the gallery. For a little time it was hoped that the fire was extinguished, but upon the arrival of the firemen from Holborn and other stations of the brigade, with Mr. Braidwood, the superintendant of the London Fire-engine Establishment, and the foremen from the several stations nearest the spot, it was found upon tearing up the boarding, that the fire was still silently progressing, the stop effected by the inmates being insufficient to stay the further encroachment of the flames between the ceiling and the skirting boards. From inquiries instituted on the spot, it appears, as far as can be gleaned, that the fire originated either from the overheating of the warming flues, or from the gas, a considerable body of which is used for illuminating the marble statue of the late illustrious Grand Master, the Duke of Sussex. The whole of the supporters of the gallery are very seriously burned, and the statue, which cost £4,000, though not injured by fire, will require considerable cleansing.

Effects of Reading the "Juif Errant."—We read the following in the *Osservatore Trestino*:—Inspired by the perusal of the *Juif Errant* (the *Wandering Jew*), an inhabitant of Hermannstadt has deposited in the savings bank the sum of 100 florins, of which he has disposed by will as follows:—When the compound interest of that sum, joined to the capital, shall have produced 12,000,000 florins (which will happen at the expiration of 300 years), 1,000,000 florins will be employed in raising at Hermannstadt a church for the service of the reformed religion; 1,000,000 florins in founding a normal school for the primary instructors and notaries of the town; 1,000,000 florins in the establishment of a hospital; and 2,000,000 florins in the creation of a model farm and a school of agriculture. The remainder will be appropriated to the paving of the streets, and the construction of a railroad leading to the best quarries in the neighbourhood of Hermannstadt, in the amelioration of the labourers of the commune, and of the master workmen of German origin. 1,000,000 florins will be appropriated to the embellishment of the town, 2,000,000 florins will be distributed in works of charity, according to the spirit of the age, and finally, the descendants of the founder will be summoned to divide the last million, on condition that they establish their relationship by legal proofs. Here is a man who gives importance to the science of the genealogists. It is to be hoped that the legacy will not, as in M. Eugene Sue's romance, provoke the crimes and mischievous machinations of the artful and designing Jesuits.

Ripping open Negroes.—Senor Geronimo Paez, director of a Brazillian diamond mine, having reason to suspect a negro of stealing diamonds, ordered him to be ripped open, when a magnificent rose diamond was found in his intestines. Encouraged by the success of this first experiment, he ordered it to be tried on the second, third, and fourth suspected negro, but in each case the victims were innocent, no diamonds were found. This result, however, did not check Senor Paez, who repeated this atrocious act upon two more negroes, but unsuccessfully. His conduct at last reached the ears of the proprietors of the mine, by whom he was summoned before the tribunal of Villa Bella. By the judgment delivered on the 25th Feb last, we learn that Paez was ordered to pay Senores Cifuentes and Co., the lessees of the mines of Brassala, a sum of 2,500 piastres as the value of the five negroes of whom he had deprived the company by putting them to death, without any utility. No order was made for the first negro, as his death was for the *benefit of the owners!* For the *crime*, no proceedings had been taken.

Fatal Accident at the Auction Mart Tavern.—Mr. William Payne, city Coroner, held an inquest on Wednesday afternoon, in Guy's Hospital, on the body of Patrick Harley, aged fifty. The deceased, on Tuesday last, was employed removing some lead from the roof of the Auction Mart Tavern, in Bartholomew-lane, when in endeavouring to throw a piece into the street, he missed his hold of the lead, and losing his equilibrium, he fell head foremost off the tavern into Bartholomew-lane. He was removed to the above hospital, where he died yesterday morning, from compression of the brain. Verdict, "Accidental Death."

Fatal Accident on the River.—On Tuesday an inquest was held before Mr. W. Baker, jun., at the Shakspere's Head, Shakespere's-walk, Shadwell, on the body of James Dyer, aged twelve years. The deceased, with several other boys of his own age, were amusing themselves on Saturday evening in a skiff off Pelican Stairs, Lower Shadwell. The deceased was stepping out of the boat on to a barge lying alongside the stairs, when he overbalanced himself and fell into the water between two boats. A waterman named Hughes immediately put off and succeeded in picking the body up in a few minutes afterwards, and conveyed it ashore. Mr. Henry, a surgeon, in Wapping-wall, attended, and applied the usual remedies to restore animation, but without effect. Verdict, "Accidental death."

Dreadful Accident.—A serious accident occurred on Wednesday near Howick-terrace, Westminster, attended with loss of life. There is a large sewer nearly opposite this house—a public thoroughfare—which runs through Messrs. Elliott's brewery, and at this point it is quite exposed—no covering or rail whatever. It appears that three young children, belonging to a poor man named Whitehouse, a coal-heaver, were amusing themselves on the banks by catching corks that came from the brewery, when they all fell in. A lad, only eight years of age, immediately plunged in and brought one on shore, but life was extinct, the water being only about two feet deep. Another of the sufferers was got out in an exhausted state, and taken to the hospital, but has since died. The body of the third has not yet been found.

Fatal Accident on board Her Majesty's Ship Caledonia.—Plymouth, June 2.—On Sunday, the 31st ult., at sunset, when lowering the maintopgallantmast on board Her Majesty's ship Caledonia, 120, Captain Sir Manly H. Dixon, lying in Hamoaze, the lizard unfortunately gave way, and the mast fell on the deck and killed three persons. At the time of the accident, Captain Dixon, the three lieutenants (including Lieutenant Jones, the officer of the watch,) and most of the crew, were on deck. The lizard, unfortunately, was not securely stopped, and when the man at the mast head found it slipping from the mast rope, he sung out, as usual, "Stand from under." There were from forty to fifty hands underneath, who rushed forward out of danger. The sufferers, who were more aft, and not in a dangerous position, unhappily followed the others, and thus came right under the mast. In falling from the mast-head, the topgallantmast caught in the rigging, canted, and fell horizontally across the deck. Three persons were killed on the spot, viz., Mr. C. P. Lamb, assistant clerk; William Slaney, a marine, leaving a widow and five children; and Thomas B. Herbert, first class boy. Charles Pomeroy, a boy, had his shoulder dislocated, and was otherwise severely injured.

Birmingham to be Erected into a Great Central Military Depot.—It has been stated in Birmingham this week in quarters likely to be well-informed, that government intend to erect the military station there into a grand central depot, and to remove to it the greater part of the troops now stationed at Weedon. The central position of Birmingham, communicating as it now does by railway with all the principal ports in England, has, it is thought, suggested the propriety and advantage of making it the seat of a central depot, inasmuch as at a moment's notice troops might thence be dispatched and landed in a few hours in any part of Scotland, England, or Ireland.

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Saturday, June 6, 1846.