The Northern Star,
AND NATIONAL TRADES' JOURNAL.

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TO THE TRADES.

GENTLEMEN,

I have read the account of your Wednesday's meeting, held in the Hall of Commerce, Threadneedle-street, with surpassing pleasure, because from it I gather the fact that you are now about to take a step in the right direction; while the question of Free Trade, in its several phases, is being agitated according to the several interests of different parties, you have taken it up as a whole, by combining land, manufactures and education.

The landlord agitates the question solely as one of rent; while leaning upon his oligarchical crutch, he will not condescend to establish his own altered position upon just as good and more sound and firm basis as before Free Trade was established. If he consented to the reduction of our navy and military establishments, the sweeping away of the Civil List, to making religion voluntary—or rather, the payment for spiritual service voluntary—the entire disbandment of a police establishment, only rendered necessary to preserve his ascendancy by force, the reduction of the salaries of all officials to that standard established by altered circumstances, which would enable them to maintain their social position, and to live just as luxuriously, the prices of all the produce of Labour being reduced; and to the reduction of the interest upon the National Debt to that standard which would enable the fundholder to procure as much of the necessaries and luxuries of life, according to the reduced standard of prices, as he could formerly procure for the larger amount; and be it remembered, that when the National Debt was contracted, that the amount of interest stipulated to be paid to him would not procure for him the same amount of produce, of either land or manufactured goods than one-half that amount would procure for him now. Under these circumstances do you hold it to be national faith that a Reformed Parliament should pay sixty shillings in the pound upon a debt contracted by a Parliament that voted itself profligate, unthrifty, and corrupt, in 1832, and the more especially when that debt is paid wholly by the labourers of the country?

Let me show you the altered position of a fundholder, say in 1812, '13, '14, or '15, deriving £100 a-year, or any amount, from the funds, at that time, as compared with his present positon. His flour, a principal ingredient of life, he will get for a third of the price that he paid then; his stockings, shirts, drawers, pocket-handkerchiefs, for less than a fourth of the price; his woollen clothing at the slop-shops which compete against the labourer, at a third of the price; his meat at half the price; his butter and cheese at less than half the price; his boots, shoes, and hats at about half the price; his furniture at less than half the price; his wines, spirits, and luxuries—which he may or may not use—at a considerably reduced price; his rent, in consequence of the competition in the building trade—all affecting every branch of your trade—at a considerably reduced rate. He can travel three miles by an omnibus for threepence, instead of having three shillings for an old hackney coach; he can buy his newspaper for fivepence, instead of sevenpence. Now that alone, if he is a politician, would save him £2 12s. 2d. a year, or nearly the interest upon £100; and then, instead of paying in fare, coachman and guards, over £6 for going to Manchester in twenty-four hours, he can now go there more comfortably, and in better company, in a third class train, in less than ten hours, for one-seventh of the money; so that in that alone he will save over £5, and fourteen hours' time. Then if he received even one letter in the week, it would amount to £2 12s. a year, as the average rate of postage would be about a shilling; whereas he could now receive an equal number for 4s. 4d.

Well, then, if the interest upon the funded debt was reduced even by one-third, leaving the fundholder in a better position, it would amount to as much as the whole of Mr. COBDEN's proposed reduction. And I tell you now, that the Government is precisely in the same situation as any other trader, and the fundholder is in precisely the same situation as any other creditor of a trader, and that now it is all humbug to talk of preserving intact that national faith which was based upon the faith of Protection, which was the keystone of the arch.

Gentlemen, I have very frequently shown you that prices in the retail market are not always measured by those in the wholesale market, and, without travelling back to the war times, let me measure my assertion by a period within every man's knowledge. Wheat now averages about forty-five shillings the quarter, and during the summer of 1847 it was one hundred and twenty shillings a quarter. Well, the price of the quartern loaf now I put down lowly at 6d., while at no time during the summer of 1847, while wheat was nearly three-times the price, did the quartern loaf reach 1s. 1d., so that measuring the retail article by the present wholesale price, the quartern loaf should not be more than 4½d.; thus I show you that the baker cheats you out of twenty-five per cent. in the article of bread alone.

Now this would not be the case if, according to the proposition of Mr. WALTON, a large number of consumers were their own producers. You must observe that, although I acquiesce in the principle propounded by Mr. WALTON, I do not adopt his numerical scale of 1,000 families, nor shall I assume that he means to stop there; but what I wish to bring your mind to bear especially upon is this, that if you have Free Trade in everything else, you must have Free Trade in Land as the only possible means of employing the otherwise surplus population, whose wages are measured by the destitution of honest millions, constituting an idle competitive reserve.

Gentlemen, let me now call your attention,

Firstly, to the justice of Free Trade in Land.

Secondly, to the reason why Free Trade in Land is resisted. And,

Thirdly, the effect that Free Trade in Land would have upon all classes of society.

Firstly.—As to its Justice. Suppose Protection to have enhanced the value of Land, and repeal of that protection to diminish its value, can we not furnish precedent from State necessity, national requirement, and from what proprietors of other properties have been compelled to submit to?

Suppose, then, a large ship-owner to have invested thousands, or hundreds of thousands, in ships, upon the faith of the Navigation Laws, as framed when he embarked in the speculation. His property, by the alteration of the Navigation Laws, will be incalculably reduced in value.

Suppose a large sugar, tea, coffee, or spirit importer to have a large capital invested in those articles, and a large reduction in duty, which would reduce the price of the article, to take place; what, in such case, is the justification? Why, that individual interests must give way to national requirements. But why is it not so with the Land? Simply because, notwithstanding the Reform Bill, Land is still governed by the old feudal system: the landlords have contracted debts, entered into engagements and contracts, made marriage settlements and provision for younger children, upon national faith, based upon Protection, while traders were not exactly in the same situation. While possessing the reins of government, they quartered their younger children upon the industry of the country—227 Peers have the presentation to nearly 3,000 livings; the Army, Navy, Ordnance, Civil List, Church, Police, Customs, Excise, Legal Jobbings, Commissionerships, and Colonial offices are all at their disposal, and, therefore, they have the fat and the lean. Between the two horns of the dilemma, the abolition of Protection reduces the value of their estates and makes their liabilities more oppressive, while the adherence to patronage furnishes a means of family support; and this is the reason why, while submitting sulkily to Free Trade, they adhere pertinaciously to that extravagance, the abolition of which would level the waters.

Secondly.—The reasons why Free Trade in Land is resisted are, because the landlords are, in a great measure, the mere nominees of large farmers, who dread the subdivision, lest the value in the retail market should enhance the value in the wholesale market; that is the landlords' reason; the manufacturers' reason is, lest free labour, in the free labour market, should establish the standard of wages in the artificial market: and the working man's objection—or rather his want of energy—arises from the fact that, in too many instances, his wife—an artificial creature—has been trained to an artificial life, and prefers the buzz, the clatter, and the news, the glittering shop window, and the gin palace, to a comfortable home surrounded by her family, and supported by the free labour of her husband. In proof of this I can assure you, that some of the best occupants upon the several estates belonging to the Land Company have been dispirited, disheartened, and banished, by the continuous tormenting and dissatisfaction of the artificially-trained wife. But, nevertheless, all will adopt it at last.

Thirdly.—The effect that Free Trade in Land would have upon all classes of society would be—notwithstanding Free Trade—to increase the value of Land, and thereby to increase the value of every other property in the kingdom; but, above all, the greatest and most valuable property—Labour, when the Land was thrown open to the competition of that large and influential class.

Now, let me place the situation of an operative clearly before you. Would not the operatives of England be too happy if their masters entered into a contract to allow them four days' work in every week throughout the year and measure the wages at two shillings and sixpence a day, or fifteen shillings a week? Surely, then, if the labour of the hired labourer is worth two shillings and sixpence a day to the employer, it is worth as much to himself; and see what the denial of work for two days in the week entails upon him. Five shillings a week—the amount of wages he loses for the two days—amounts to £13 a year, which would pay the rent of the best cottage and four acres of the best land purchased by the Land Company. It would pay the rent of eight acres of land, purchased at £40 an acre, at four per cent. upon the outlay.

Gentlemen, succeed to-morrow in getting a million, or half a million acres of Land—and mind, scores of millions have been stolen from you—and you may give the Government a guarantee that there will not be an unemployed labourer in England. What surplus belonging to the building trade and to agriculture, could you not employ? while I have frequently shown you that their employment would give vitality to every branch of Labour, trade, and commerce—and to this you must come at last.

I have shown you the difference between the wholesale price of flour and the retail price of bread; and I will now show you the difference between the wholesale and retail rent of land. Take a thousand acres of land, let to a farmer at a pound an acre, and subdivide it into farms of five, ten, fifteen, or twenty acres, and in twenty-four hours you will have it tenanted by free labourers, and industrious tenants, at thirty shillings an acre—not a defaulter during the whole of life—and at the end of seven years not an occupant would take £3 an acre for it; and then, instead of grumbling at a splendid cottage—the like of which he never lived in, or expected to live in—he would live underground in a cave—take lodgings two, three, four, or five miles off—until, out of his own industry, he erected himself a house.

You may ask, why do landlords object to receiving £1,500 a-year instead of £1,000 a-year for that estate? My answer is—because they fear that the increased rent might lead to the abolition of power which secures patronage. Again, you may ask why the farmers object to pay 1,000*l*. a-year for a farm worth 1,500? The answer is—because they cultivate it in a slovenly manner, because they do not employ a sufficient amount of labour to produce the largest amount of profit. And again I remind you, that if a large farmer pays five shillings an acre more than the value of a thousand acres of land, it increases his rent by 250*l*. a-year, or, at four per cent., would pay the interest upon 6,250*l*. capital; while it would not signify a straw, at the end of ten years, whether a small tenant paid 2*l*. or 2*l*. 5*s*. an acre for four acres of land. The more he had to pay, the more industrious he would be. I could enlarge to an almost unlimited extent upon this subject. I rejoice that you have adopted the principle, and that you have sent your petition to Sir ROBERT PEEL. But, mind, although the folly of to-day is the wisdom of to-morrow, the Honourable Baronet must not rob me of my laurels, as next week I will supply you with an extract from a letter addressed to the Irish landlords upon the subject of Free Trade, and published in the "*Star*" of the 17th of July, 1841, recommending the identical policy now adopted by Sir ROBERT PEEL.

Gentlemen, as the House of Commons is almost exclusively governed by precedent, let me now call your attention to the manner in which the landlords, both English and Irish, dealt with the highest description of property—I mean Church Property. Formerly, tithes were paid in kind—that is, the parson took the tenth sheaf of corn, the tenth cock of hay, and the tenth rod of potatoes, as his share of the produce; thus partaking of all casualties and calamities to which the crop was liable. Now that was the ancient system of paying the Church; but since those good old times, tithes have been commuted into a rent-charge, and now the parson receives his tithes according to an average price of seven years. According to the first mode, he took his share in all chances, his tenth rod of sound potatoes, or his tenth rod of rotten potatoes—now he is benefitted by a calamity, as the loss from damage or failure increases the price of the remaining produce; however, it is still a corn rent, payable upon the average price of corn for seven years; and again I ask you, what can be more fair, just, equitable, or proper, than that the landlords' demand should be regulated by the same standard that established the claim of the Church, that is, by a corn rent? that is, that he should receive his due proportion of the produce of the land, being co-partner with the tenant, but upon very unequal terms, as the rent of the landlord does not amount to a fifth of the expenditure and liabilities of the tenant; yet, according to the present system, the tenant is obliged to vote for the landlord or surrender his farm, while the landlord represents himself. Thus the tenant, representing five-sixths of the property, is not represented, while the landlord representing one-sixth, is represented.

Gentlemen, it is very easy to boast of prophecies that never were made; but now allow me to call your attention to propositions of mine, which stand upon the journals of the House of Commons since 1833. Here they are:—

"To move for leave to bring in a Bill to compel Irish landlords to give leases for ever at a corn rent; and in all cases where lands are now held upon lease or accepted proposal, and are considered too dear, to give to the tenants of such lands the right of appealing to a jury, who shall establish the value in like manner as the value of private property is now ascertained, when required by the Crown, or legally authorised corporations, or individuals, for national or private purposes."

"For leave to bring in a bill to make legal provision for the poor of Ireland."

"For leave to bring in a Bill to consolidate the several Stamp Acts now in force in Ireland."

"For leave to bring in a Bill for the better regulation of Quarter Sessions Courts in Ireland, with a view of making those courts cheap courts of equity, as well as courts of law, whereby cheap justice might be brought home to the door of every poor man."

"To move a resolution of the House, that it is desirable, as well for the ends of justice as for the tranquillity of Ireland, that all clergymen, being magistrates, should be deprived of the Commission of the Peace."

Now those are the measures that I contended for in 1833 and '34, and I shall conclude this letter with three extracts from my letters to the Irish landlords, the one published on the 10th of July, 1841, was as follows:—

"You can be all robbed in less than six weeks, though you had the Court, the Lords, and the Commons with you; and then you would be thrown into revolution with the fundholder, the parson, the mortgagee, the simple contract creditor, your mothers, your brothers, your sisters, and your dependents, who will be as loth to give up their grasp upon their monopoly, as you have been to surrender yours. Judge, then, in which situation you can best arbitrate—whether before or after transfer."

The next is from the paper of the same date, and is as follows:—

"I mention these things to warn you of your danger—to alarm you of the thief's approach—to rouse you to action, in order that, profiting by the pourtrayal of your own folly and the folly of others, you may take the means of doing, gratuitously for yourselves, that which if left undone by you will be done by rougher hands; for done, believe me, it will be, and that right speedily. My Lords and Gentlemen, pray, pray, pray keep that one feature full in view—THAT DONE IT MUST BE, and, therefore, the question is, WHO SHALL DO IT?"

The last is from the "*Star*" of the 17th of July, 1841, and is as follows:—

"My Lords and Gentlemen,—"Political Economy" has a "reality," and, believe me, that the political economists will never rest satisfied till they make you tenants in your own houses, stewards to your own estates, and beggars from the Pole, the Turk, the Russian, the Prussian, and the American, upon your own land. They wish to place you upon the shop-board, making breeches and coats, which the foreigner may or may not purchase according to convenience; while they would make you dependents upon the foreigner for that which you must have three times a day, or starve, or do that *which, I am quite sure, you never could bring yourselves to, as you have transported thousands upon thousands for the same*—STEAL."

Now my letters to the Irish landlords were written from York Castle in 1841, all upon the subject of Free Trade and its consequences, so you have my warning voice to them, and my propositions submitted to the House of Commons in 1833, while you will recollect that at the close of last Session I gave notice of a motion, the object of which was to attach to each workhouse a sufficient quantity of land to employ the Labour of the unwilling idlers, and to divide the profits amongst them.

Gentlemen, I always looked upon the Trades of England as the great stumbling-block in the way of national improvement; I now look upon them as pioneers in the march of Progress. Do not mind the potato rot, the corn blight, the love of women for gin palaces, and the love of some drones for idleness. Open the market for industry, and then appoint me FLOGGER GENERAL of the willing idler, and you may depend upon it that I will not spare the whip and spoil the child, but that I will administer a sufficient amount of counter-irritation to the back to give vitality and spring to the legs and arms, and a well-stocked larder for the stomach, as the result. Go on, then—do not stop short of the mark; and if trade should get brisk, and your leaders should desert you, let the volunteers carry on the war of Right against Might—of Justice against Injustice—of Knowledge against Bigotry and Intolerance—of Profitable Industry against Unprofitable Idleness. Your cheerful co-operator and obedient servant,

FEARGUS O'CONNOR.

MR. KYDD'S TOUR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

DEAR SIR,—Since I last wrote, I have attended meetings continuously, almost night after night. During my visit to Liverpool last week, at the close of my first lecture on Financial Reform, Mr. Broderip, a leading member of the Council of the Liverpool Financial Reform Association, offered a series of remarks on the character of the body whose interests he represented. He said the Association was not at all political in its nature, although, no doubt, important political results would follow from its existence. The members of the society, with whom he was personally acquainted, were to a man in favour of extending the suffrage. The propriety of linking the suffrage and a reduction of taxation together, and making such a junction the basis of their propagandism, had been seriously and deliberately discussed by the council—the suffrage portion had, after mature consideration, been abandoned, although—judging from the debate on Mr. Cobden's motion—he was of the opinion that widening the basis of the House of Commons would, after all, have to be the preliminary towards any important curtailment of financial extravagance. As for Mr. Cobden's measure, viewed by itself, WAS NOT WORTH AN EFFORT. Mr. Cobden was not the representative of the Liverpool Financial Reform Association. He (Mr. Cobden) had declared his approval of a reduction of taxation of some £10,000,000, and they (the Council of the Financial Reform Association) took advantage of such declaration to popularise the principles they advocated. This was a full explanation of the connexion between the member for the West Riding and the Liverpool Financial Reformers. A conversation of some length, between myself and Mr. Broderip, was continued, the nature of which the reader will easily surmise from the foregoing remarks. I never wish to meet a more honourable political friend or opponent than Mr. Broderip; and I hope the mere surface Reformers, who are at present braying, like a well-known quadruped when his ears are tickled with a straw, will profit by the emphatic and sensible declaration, "Mr. Cobden's measure, by itself, is not worth an effort."

One feature in the composition of the Chartist body is worthy of notice. It is the great accession of youths, from eighteen to twenty-five years of age. These young men, full of energy and courage, have grown to manhood within a few years. They are the pupils of the agitation of 1839, and of 1842, uniting buoyancy and hope. What may not those young men accomplish if they continue to devote their minds to the study of questions of social, political, and literary interest? The old will die out, but the young, like the sapling, will grow sturdy with years. Never had youth such opportunities as the young men of this time. Europe full of revolution and change, the industrial mismanagement of their own country increasing perplexity, and proving the incapacity of her present rulers, are all fields for lessons fraught with importance and interest. Let me ask our young men to go on in this good work, and endeavour to get others to aid them. Countrymen, forsake now and for ever the allurements of dissipation, trifling, and what is miscalled pleasure, for the nobler ambition of saving your country, for on you rests the future fate of millions.

The audiences attending my lectures in Manchester increase rapidly. On Sunday evening last, the People's Institute was filled at one penny admission. This is a great change in a few weeks, and is attributable to no excitement of a political kind. It is the calm and steady march of mind that never retrogades, and a tribute of respect to the great principles of which I am the humble advocate.

I hope all the districts in North and South Lancashire and Yorkshire will send delegates to Todmorden on Sunday, the 18th, so that we may be enabled to reflect on the past, and, if possible, do something for the better time coming.

I am, as ever, your obedient servant,

SAMUEL KYDD.

P.S.—All parties desirous of my services must write to Mr. T. Ormesher, 52, Little Bridgewater-street, Deansgate, Manchester. S. K.

Chartist Intelligence.

THE EMMETT BRIGADE TO THE CHARTISTS AND DEMOCRATS OF MARYLEBONE AND PADDINGTON.

"Awake, arise, or be for ever fallen!"

BRETHREN—We, who have adopted that martyred noble of nature, Robert Emmett, as our "patron saint" again invoke your aid—again, in the name of injured humanity—again, in the name of that justice on which the base oppressor has dared to stamp his iron heel, call on you to rally to the glorious cry of "The People's Charter," and to convince the base, treacherous Whigs that their system of espionage is bootless—that their employment of the Powells and Barratts has gained them nought but ignominy—that, dauntless as ever, you will rally round our peaceful banner, raising high the glorious watchwords: "Liberty, Equality, Fraternity!" Remember, that without the franchise—without political equality—we are slaves; remember, too, that there are many victims to Whig espionage, whose wives and children, without your aid, will pine and suffer in want, misery, and wretchedness. Shall such things be? No! a thousand times—No! Let your unity, philanthropy, and love of justice forbid it, ye admirers of the dauntless Robert Emmett! Then, once again, and enrol yourselves under the banner that still waves proudly unfurled, "The National Charter Association." Remember your oft-repeated vow to "the Charter and No Surrender," Small aid from each unit, banded together in countless myriads, must achieve a great, a glorious victory over the combined forces of tyranny, injustice, and oppression.

Up, then, with spirit, you men of Marylebone and Paddington! Show that ye possess Fraternity—that ye are determined on Liberty—that political Equality shall prevail; that you, at least, will "bid the world go free;" that you are determined to run a race of emulation, and, if possible, furnish forth the man who, duly appreciating the motives of Robert Emmett, shall, with his free hand—amid the shouts of enfranchised millions—inscribe the epitaph on his now uninscribed tomb.

Signed, on behalf of the Emmett Brigade,
SAMUEL MUNDEN, Chairman.
JOHN ALLEN, Secretary.
Cricketers' Arms, Bell-street, Marylebone,
March, 1849.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the National Charter Association met at their rooms, 144, High Holborn, on Friday evening last, March the 2d. Mr. Thomas Clark in the chair. A communication was read from Glasgow, signed by Duncan Sherrington, approving of the proposed Chartist petition.—Mr Fusson attended as a deputation from Finsbury, to request the Committee to call into existence the Metropolitan Delegate Council, and, on the motion of Mr. M'Grath, the subject was ordered to be taken into consideration at the next meeting.—Application was made from Ashford, Kent, for the missionaries' services, to propagate Chartism in that district; to which the assistant-secretary was instructed to reply.—The list of council submitted by Mr. John Jackson, of Manchester, was ordered to be added to the list. The assistant-secretary was instructed to inquire relative to a place for holding public meetings in the borough of Finsbury, and the Committee adjourned.

WEST-RIDING DELEGATE MEETING.—A special West-Riding delegate meeting was held at Dewsbury, on Sunday last, for the purpose of devising measures to more effectually organise and agitate the West Riding. Mr. Alderson of Bradford, in the chair.—Delegates from the following places were present: Leeds, Bradford, Dewsbury, Heckmondwike, Huddersfield, Honley, Holmfirth, and Battley. The following resolutions were agreed to: "That in order the more effectually to arouse public attention to the importance of our principles, it is expedient that a local lecturers' plan be drawn up; the expense to be borne by a general fund raised for that purpose."—"That the secretary correspond with the various localities not represented at this meeting, and get a list of the persons able and willing to assist in this work."—"That this meeting stand adjourned to Sunday, the 18th instant, at Mr. Alderson's Room, Butterworth's Buildings, Bradford, in order that those districts which have not taken the matter up may have time to do so.

NATIONAL REGISTRATION AND GENERAL ELECTION COMMITTEE.—A meeting of the above body was held at the "Two Chairmen," Wardour-street, Soho, on Monday evening last. Mr. John Simpson in the chair. The address to the Chartists of Great Britain was brought up, read, recommitted, and ordered to be brought up again at the next meeting, on Monday next.—Mr. Allnutt attended as a deputation from Finsbury, to request that the committee should be extended, whereupon it was resolved,—"That this committee recommend to the various localities in and around the metropolis to nominate some of their most active members, at their next meeting, from which nominations the vacancies, from various causes, shall be filled up." The committee then adjourned to Monday evening, March 12th, at eight o'clock.

NOTTINGHAM.—At meetings held at the "Newton's Head," the "Seven Stars," the "Colonel Hutchinson," and the "Byron Ward" localities, votes of thanks were given to F. O'Connor, Esq., M.P. for the borough of Nottingham, for his admirable speech in opposition to the Habeas Corpus Act Suspension Bill.

HALIFAX.—A general meeting was held on Monday evening last, in the Working Man's Hall, to examine the last quarter's account and elect a new council. Messrs. Edwards, Burrows, and Binns audited the accounts, which were passed unanimously, and a vote of thanks given to the late council for their services during the past quarter. The following persons were unanimously elected as the council for the next three months:—J. Edwards, B. Wilson, E. B. Burrows, Alex. Stradlin, W. Maud, Wm. Lancaster, E. Hooson, J. Clissett, president; J. Crossland, vice-president and corresponding secretary; J. Binns, financial secretary; and M. Hirst, treasurer. The minutes of the preliminary meeting of Lancashire and Yorkshire, held in the Heyrod-street Institution, Manchester, were read and discussed. The following resolution was unanimously agreed to:—"That we call a delegate meeting of this district to be holden at Nichols's Temperance Hotel, Broad-street, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon of Sunday, the 11th inst., to take into consideration the propriety of electing a delegate or delegates to represent this district in the forthcoming delegate meeting of Yorkshire and Lancashire, to be holden at Todmorden, on Sunday, the 18th of March, and that the following places be requested to send delegates, viz.:—Halifax, Sowerby Helm, Sowerby Longroyd, Queenshead, Lordship, Mixenden, Wheatley, Warley, Warley Edge, Kingcross, Elland, Stainland, and Midgley.—J. CROSSLAND, Secretary.

CARLISLE.—A district delegate meeting of the Chartists of Cumberland, was held here on Sunday, March 4th, at No. 6, John-street, Caldewgate. Delegates were present from Dalston, Cummersdale, and Kingston. The workmen at the manufactory of Messrs. Chambers and Co., and others, were represented by members of the council. On the motion of Mr. Lowry, James Heaton was called to the chair; John Gilbertson acted as secretary, and stated that he had written to the various places in the district, wishing them to instruct their delegates how to advise, should a Convention be finally determined upon by the Executive Committee, and a delegate be called from this district, and also what amount of money was likely to be subscribed for the support of the same.—A letter was read from Cockermouth, giving no very cheering account of Chartism in that place, owing to the poverty consequent upon depression of trade, and ascribing much of it to the effects of Free Trade. One was also read from Penrith, stating that they could not conveniently send a delegate to the district meeting, but they would abide by the decision of that meeting, and if a Convention was called, they would subscribe their share of the expense. The delegates present then gave in the reports of the opinions of those whom they represented, after which Mr. Lowerby moved the following resolution:—"That a delegate be sent provided the means be procured, and that the money be collected and brought in this day month, to which time this meeting be adjourned."—Mr. Gilbertson moved, and James Montgomery seconded:—"That, after hearing the report of the different persons present upon the subject of a delegation to London, the delegates and members of the council endeavour to ascertain the mind of the Chartists fully upon it, and when the Executive call them together, that another district delegate meeting be called to make final arrangements," which was carried. Mr. Lowerby moved, and Mr. Lowry seconded:—"That an extraordinary collection be made for the Defence Fund, with a view to liquidate the debt chargeable to Mr. O'Connor, through the late prosecutions of the Chartists." Carried unanimously.

At the Democratic Committee meeting on Monday night, Mr. Milne in the chair, after the business, connected with the late festival, had been disposed of, a sub-committee was appointed to draw up an answer to Mr. O'Connor's letter of the 3rd inst. The meeting then adjourned to Monday eve, March 12th, at half-past eight o'clock, at the Two Chairmen, Wardour-street, Soho.

NOTTINGHAM.—MR. O'CONNOR'S LETTER "TO THE CHARTISTS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

SIR,—We should be exceedingly obliged if you would allow us to say a few words in friendship to Mr. O'Connor. We have no ill-feeling towards him, neither have we any desire to sow disunion in the Chartist ranks. We have advocated the principles of the Charter through evil and through good report, some of us at the cost of our personal liberty; but we assure Mr. O'Connor the opinions we hold on political questions, we held long before the name of Mr. O'Connor or the Charter was known to us; opinions which have been held and promulgated by the democrats of every age and of every country in the world. Many of us are as old as Mr. O'Connor, and we trust equally as capable of thinking, notwithstanding his gratuitous assertion, that those who call themselves Republicans "know nothing of the meaning of the term." We have not gathered our opinions from him, and will not, therefore, hold ourselves responsible to him. We tell him we do sympathise with the democrats of France, and, indeed, with suffering humanity everywhere. THE WORLD IS OUR COUNTRY AND TO DO GOOD OUR RELIGION. It appears to us rather strange that any man professing the opinions Mr. O'Connor professes, should have taken offence because we and others have thought right to celebrate the revolution of February, and do honour to the democrats of France and other countries.

Mr. O'Connor says in his letter that we have no right to compare Republican governments with monarchies, and proceeds to say that in America there is as much "Class-distinction and popular discontent as in any monarchy in the world." Now we frequently read American papers, but cannot perceive that such is the fact; there may be a little noise with the free soil party, but still the Americans are wedded to their institutions, and believe them to be the most perfect in the world; however, if they are not, they have the power to make them the perfection of human wisdom. One thing is certain, there is no landed aristocracy in America, and the Americans are blessed with a cheap government; land is cheap, and the people of America have in greater abundance the necessaries of life than the people of any other country. But what is the use of Mr. O'Connor blaming us for holding ultra-democratic opinions and promulgating them, when he tells us there is not a "particle of difference between a Republic and a Monarchy with the Charter? If he really thinks so, his letter of last week is a mere string of words without meaning, a flight of the imagination which conjured up a sort of bugbear in the shape of Republicanism. But he seems to be afraid of offending the middle classes; we beg to remind him that the middle classes are always behind on the march for reform. When we have advanced a little further they will become Chartists, and will carry the Charter as they recently carried Corn-law repeal. If France is not all we could wish, we have no doubt she will be before many years elapse, when democracy is firmly established and fully developed there.

There is no evidence in Mr. O'Connor's letter to prove that in Switzerland there is one law for the rich, and another for the poor, because one man knocked another man down. We fancy that in every country of the civilised world (Switzerland not excepted,) there is a law to protect the weak against the strong.

Mr. O'Connor tells us that in Belgium the people have got all but the Charter, and cheerfully pay from £5 to £18 per acre rent, for land. We are not aware what this "all but" means; but if "all but" the Charter would raise the rent of the land in this country from £1 an acre, to £5 or £18 an acre, we say, emphatically, from such an "all but" as this, "Good Lord, deliver us!"

It is of no use talking about the "Pope, Pretender, President, or the Devil;" only that if a President were under "popular control," he would have no will of his own, whether he were elected for life, or for four years: so that Mr. O'Connor's arguments on that score go for nothing. If the time intervening between the election in America of one President and another, be "one continuous period of turmoil," what turmoil would there not be in this country, with annual elections for Members of Parliament? In conclusion, we really are astonished that Mr. O'Connor should have written such a letter as that addressed to the Chartists in last week's *Star*; in fact, we cannot perceive the use of a President under any circumstances; the office, in our opinions, is a relic of monarchy—of barbarism, and will ultimately be dispensed with; a President for life we consider not only useless, but a positive evil.

On behalf of the Republicans of Nottingham,
J. SAUTER, W. O. DEXTER,
A. MALTBY, J. PROCTOR,
G. RODGERS, J. BARBER.
Temperance House, Lowe Pavement,
March 6th.

TO MESSRS. SAUTER, DEXTER, MALTBY, PROCTOR, RODGERS, AND BARBER.

GENTLEMEN,

It is now just twelve o'clock on Friday, and I have seen your comment upon my letter which appeared in last week's paper. I was at the "*Northern Star*" Office at half-past twelve o'clock last night, when the editor should have shown it to me, that my rejoinder might have accompanied your reply. It was his duty to have sent it to me in manuscript, but, as has been the practice with all former editors of the "*Northern Star*," the persons employed by me look upon themselves as proprietors, and upon me as their servant. The "*Star*"—as I always told you—has been open to comments upon myself. I have not time to say more this week. I am in doubt whether this much will be in time for the second edition; and next week, dull as I am, and sagacious as you profess to be, I will undertake to prove to you that you have misconceived, misunderstood, or intentionally mystified, every proposition contained in my letter.

The "*Northern Star*" has recently been too much of a foreign organ, to the exclusion of much valuable domestic intelligence; it shall be so no longer; and there is only one sentence in your letter that I shall now refer to. It is this:—You say, "but he seems to be afraid of offending the middle classes. We beg to remind him that the middle classes are always behind in the march of Reform." Now, my answer is, that your truculency (when I say *your*, I mean that of your order,) to the middle classes has been my greatest difficulty; that I never acquiesced in the policy or joined in a single move of that class, with the exception of that which had for its object the destruction of patronage through reduction of expenditure. Of all men living I have been most opposed to the middle classes, and for the reasons that I have a thousand times stated, because upon your subserviency and disunion is based their ascendancy and power. Next week you shall have a complete answer to your letter.

Your faithful Servant,
FEARGUS O'CONNOR.

THE VICTIMS.

AN ADDRESS OF THE WEST RIDING RELIEF COMMITTEE TO THE CHARTISTS OF THE WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE.

WE, the Relief Committee, who are appointed to look after the families of our friends now suffering in Wakefield House of Correction, call upon you, as men, to come forward and assist us in the hour of need. You will remember that we have Lightowler, Smyth and Son, Frith, Angus, Wat Tyler, and many others, with large families, who are suffering through the loss of their natural protectors. We appeal to the Chartists of the West Riding of Yorkshire to arouse themselves to a sense of their duty. It is incumbent upon them to enable us to relieve the families of our friends, who are suffering in the cause of Democracy. Chartists, we have eighteen families, consisting of upwards of eighty souls, made widows and orphans by the accursed laws of our law makers, and if you have a spark of humanity or feeling in your bosoms, come forward and assist us. All donations, however small, will be thankfully received by the committee, who meet every Saturday evening in the Democratic School Room, Croft-street, Wakefield-road, from half-past seven to half-past nine o'clock, and on Sunday evening, from six to nine. Post-Office orders must be made payable to Thomas Wilcock, and letters directed to Robert Ambler, 64, Bower-street, Bradford.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,
J. STEEL, President,
T. WILCOCK, Treasurer,
R. AMBLER, Secretary.

Bradford, March 4th, 1849.

LATEST NEWS.

CORONER'S INQUEST.—The inquest on the body of a man (name unknown), who died of cholera occasioned by starvation, at a lodging-house in the Mint, the particulars of whose death will be found in our sixth page, was resumed yesterday (Friday), when the jury returned a verdict, "That the deceased died a natural death, accelerated from want of food."

TRIAL ON A CHARGE OF MURDER.—At the Chelmsford Assizes, on Thursday, Hannah Southgate, 29, a married woman, was indicted for the wilful murder of Thomas Ham, at the parish of Wix, by feloniously administering to him a large quantity of a certain deadly poison called white arsenic. The counsel for the prosecution explained to the jury that the prisoner was charged with the murder of her former husband (Thomas Ham), and that since that period she had again married a person named Southgate. After a very lengthy investigation, which elicited only a repetition of the particulars which have already appeared at length in our columns, the jury returned a verdict of "Not Guilty."

MURDER.—At the Worcester assizes on Thursday, Robert Pully, aged 49, labourer, was indicted for the wilful murder of Mary Ann Staight, at Boughton, in the hamlet of Walcot, near Pershore, in this county. Deceased was an orphan, only fifteen years of age, to whom the prisoner appeared to have taken a strange dislike. She was sent on an errand on the afternoon of the murder, which must have been committed before five o'clock in the evening. The evidence as to the prisoner's possession of the stick with which the crime was effected, and there being stains of blood on his clothes, was very direct. For two or three years past, the prisoner would appear to have exhibited symptons of a disordered intellect. The jury returned a verdict of "Guilty." Sentence of death was then passed upon the prisoner with the usual formalities.

LATEST FROM IRELAND.—THE RATE IN AID.—On Thursday the South Dublin Union passed a resolution strongly condemnatory of the Rate in Aid.

MURDER OF A LADY AT BRISTOL.

BRISTOL, March 8.—The city has this morning been startled with the intelligence of the discovery of a murder of the most brutal and revolting character, the victim having been a maiden lady of between sixty and seventy years of age, possessed of considerable property in houses, &c., valued at the very least at £10,000 or £11,000. The excitement consequent upon such a discovery has also been materially increased by the fact of the murder having been perpetrated in one of the most densely populated portions of the city, probably as long as Friday night last, without any discovery having been made before five or six o'clock last evening. The circumstances of the case, as far as they have yet transpired, are as follow. The deceased, Miss Elizabeth Jefferies, resided at No. 6, Trenchard-street, in the parish of St. Michael, the house in which she lived, as well as nearly the whole of the houses on that side of the street, being her property. Miss Jefferies resided alone in the house, and was supposed always to keep a large sum of money in gold at her residence, besides other valuable property. On Friday last the old lady was seen by her neighbours about the premises as usual, and in the evening the shutters were closed at dusk. On Saturday morning it was observed that the shutters remained closed, but, from her well-known eccentric habits, no suspicion whatever of anything being wrong arose in the minds of any of the neighbours. Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, however, passed over, and the shutters still remained closed, the subject became matter of comment and suspicion, which did not, however, extend beyond the immediate neighbourhood until yesterday (Wednesday) afternoon, when some of the inhabitants waited upon the unfortunate lady's brother, a retired surgeon residing in Somerset-street, Kingsdown, to whom they communicated the fact of the house having been closed for several days, and of their suspicions that there was something wrong. Mr. Jefferies immediately communicated with the authorities, and Inspector Bell directed a police-sergeant to go to the premises, and endeavour to gain admission. The sergeant, accompanied by some policemen, found the front entrance fastened, but having got over the wall of the back court of Miss Jefferies' house, they found the back door open, but with no marks of its having been burglariously broken. They then examined the lower rooms, where nothing appeared to have been disturbed, nor any marks of the house having been robbed; upon proceeding up-stairs, however, to the bed-room, on the first-floor, they found the body of Miss Jefferies in the bed, with blood upon the head and face. Having communicated with the superintendent and inspector, they then made a minute examination of the premises, and upon entering the bed-room, they were first struck upon opening the door, by perceiving a pool of blood extending from the bed upon which lay the murdered lady, with marks of considerable violence upon the temple and nostrils, as if from blows inflicted by a poker, or some similar instrument. They then found that the closet in the room had been ransacked, papers, deeds, &c., being strewn about as if the boxes in the closet had been hastily turned out and searched; the rooms up-stairs, also, had been ransacked. Inquiries were then made as to the female servant of deceased, and they received such information as induced the police to trace a girl, of about nineteen or twenty years of age, named Sarah Thomas, who had been recommended to Miss Jefferies from a servant's office, in the usual way, on the 5th of February last. After considerable trouble, about two o'clock this (Thursday) morning the police hit on the house of the girl's mother in a lane leading to Ashley Down, at Horfield, and demanded admission. Upon being refused, they threatened to force the door open, upon which some confusion and a rustling as of paper or shavings was heard inside. On being admitted, and searching the lower part of the premises, they found the young woman, Sarah Thomas, concealed in the coal-house under some shavings. In the coal-house a silver gravy spoon and five sil

Foreign Intelligence.

INDIA.

THE WAR IN THE PUNJAUB.

SURRENDER OF MOOLTAN TO THE BRITISH—FALL OF ATTOCK INTO THE HANDS OF THE AFFGHANS.

SANGUINARY ENGAGEMENT WITH THE SIKHS ON THE JHELUM—A VICTORY VERY LIKE A DEFEAT!—FRIGHTFUL SLAUGHTER!

ALLIANCE OF THE MAHOMEDAN POWERS OF CENTRAL ASIA AGAINST THE BRITISH!!!

The siege of Mooltan is at an end. On the morning of the 22nd January, when practicable breaches having been effected the troops were about to storm the citadel, the Dewan Mookaj surrendered himself with his whole garrison unconditionally to the British government. We subjoin some additional particulars.

A writer describing the state of Mooltan after the capture of the town, but previous to the surrender of the citadel, says:—'The frightful spectacles presented by the piles of dead scattered about through the town—the shivered limbs and mangled bodies which our shells had occasioned, and the ghastly wounds of some still surviving—were awful to behold. It was now found, moreover, that the capture of the city had in no way improved our prospects of getting into the fort, which was nowhere stronger that on the side next the town.

Siege operations, therefore, required to be recommenced, and parallels were immediately begun to be constructed within 500 yards of the walls. Moolraj plied his artillery as briskly, and offered as stout a resistance, as ever. Our batteries were once more opened with as much vigour and as little success as ever—when it seemed as if the mud walls were incapable of being breached by any ordinary species of practice. Even should a breach be established, a ditch surrounded the fort forty feet in width, and twenty-five feet deep, the height of the wall from the bottom of the ditch being well nigh fifty feet. Mining was now determined to be attempted, and three shafts were accordingly begun to be run in the direction of the counterscarp, running from the bastion to near the Dowlut gate of the town. It was believed that the whole would be so shaken by the explosion that the establishment of a breach would be comparatively easy. The first thing, however, was, as far as practicable, to have the ditch filled up; and the mines were exploded on the 18th under the crest of the glacis, by which the counterscarp was completely blown in. Our heavy guns and howitzer batteries fired eight inch shells, which buried themselves in the works and then exploded, doing the work of mines. The sap had by the morning of the 19th reached the edge of the ditch, and the shaft was commenced the same evening. The walls and bastions now began to look sorely shattered everywhere,—and no wonder, considering what they had undergone. Ambassadors from the fort had two or three times visited our camp, on the part of Moolraj, with proposals for a conditional surrender; on every occasion they were told that no terms would be granted, and that nothing but an unconditional surrender would be accepted of. The 22nd was the day named as that on which the fort would be stormed in case our demend was not complied with. The battering guns were meanwhile kept in full operation, and tremendous salvos of artillery were continued at intervals. Two breaches were reported practicable on the 21st, and on the morning of the 22nd our troops were formed for the assault, when Moolraj would seem to have been at length terrified at the preparations made for his destruction, and surrendered himself, and the citadel, with its garrison of from 3,000 to 4000 men, unconditionally into our hands.

Thus terminated the siege of Mooltan, which had been commenced by General Whish in the beginning of September, and cost us the lives of eleven officers, and not fewer, perhaps, than from 250 to 300 men; with 47 officers and some hundreds of men wounded.

There has been an unpleasant little affair in the Baree Doub, where a British force has suffered somewhat severe loss in attempting to storm and take a strong stockaded position, occupied by Ram Singh and a large body of Sikhs.

SURRENDER OF ATTOCK TO THE AFFGHANS.

Attock has at length fallen into the hands of the enemy. The fidelity of the Affghans had been tried too far. When they found (says the *Bombay Times*) a British army of 24,000 men afraid apparently to move beyond its lines, while their own countrymen were approaching from the western capital, and treason was gaining strength on every side, they threw open the gates and admitted the men of Cabool. The Affghans, it is said, plundered the town and violated the women. Lieut. Herbert made an endeavour to escape down the Indus, but fell into the hands of Chutter Singh. Capt. Abbott it still at large, but there are no recent tidings of his whereabouts. Major and Mrs. Lawrence, and their children, are in the power of the rebel chief. It is said Sir H. Lawrence is very anxious to prevent Dost Mahomed obtaining possession of his brother, as he has an 'ancient grudge' against him, which he would not fail to 'feed fat' were he to secure his person. The Dost himself is said to be on the banks of the Indus, watching the progress of events.

SANGUINARY BATTLE WITH THE SIKHS.

The following is extracted from the *Bombay Telegraph* and *Courier*:—'The intelligence which the present mail will convey is probably more important than any we have had to send home since the time when all eyes used to be directed with such breathless anxiety towards Cabul.—Another of those murderous conflicts which have rendered our hostilities with the Sikhs so conspicuous, has occurred on the left bank of the river Jhelum, near, or, as some say, on, the identical spot which two thousand years ago formed the battle field of Alexander and Porus. That scene, rich in classic associations, has been the arena of a fierce and protracted struggle between the army of the Punjaub, under Lord Gough, and the Sikh forces under Rajah Shere Singh—a struggle in which the British have had to deplore the loss of at least ninety-three officers and 2,500 men killed and wounded, four guns captured, and four five or six regimental colours taken by the enemy—a struggle which terminated in victory, but which was disgraced by the flight of a Bengal cavalry regiment, and the retreat—as yet scarcely satisfactorily explained—of two British corps of Dragoons—a struggle, finally, which left both the contending hosts so weak and shattered that it was doubtful which had sustained the greater injury from the conflict, and which yielded so few of the badges of triumph for the victors, that their opponents took up a new position, and fired a salute in honour of its termination. Though masters of the field, our laurels are drenched with blood, and it is the universal opinion that two more such victories would be virtual ruin.

'At the date of our last summary, Lord Gough, with his army, was encamped at Janiki, waiting in the expectation of hearing of the fall or surrender of Mooltan, the receipt of which tidings, it was generally believed, would be the signal for an onward movement. The siege operations, however, proceeding more slowly than was anticipated, and circumstances appearing to render further delay inadvisable, the Commander-in-Chief seems to have altered his intention, and to have determined on attacking Shere Singh's position before obtaining news of the success of General Whish.

'The British troops moved from their position on the 9th inst. (January), and took up new ground a place called Lusooree, about five miles to the right, and two miles to the front, of their former camp.

A communication, dated Camp Chillcanwala, the 14th inst., says:—

'The army marched yesterday at half-past seven o'clock in order of battle. The army moved about three miles to the north-west across the country, which was pretty well furnished with scattered bushes, passing a village whose name I have forgotten, and Burra Umra to Chota Umra. Here a halt of an hour and a quarter took place, and the baggage was ordered to remain at this village for the present. From this spot could be seen part of the Sikh camp near Russoolpore, about three or four miles in front, on a low wooded ridge. At a quarter to ten o'clock the army advanced again, and moved for an hour, passing over perhaps about three miles of ground, taking a more westerly direction than before, and leaving the ridge just mentioned on the right hand.'

The following account of the battle is taken from the *Delhi Gazette*:—

'About eleven a.m. the force came upon one of the outposts of the enemy, and were fired upon from a slight eminence ('a low bare hill') above the rest of the jungle, which, though there in dense small patches, admitted of an easy passage between the masses. The heavy guns (ten in number we believe), with three horse batteries, were ordered to the front to clear the ground, an operation that did not take more than five or ten minutes, the enemy retreating with their guns, but leaving their tents standing. The column again advanced, and marched over the ground on which the Sikh picket had been posted; but, instead of continuing the march in the direction of Russool, as originally intended and arranged, the Commander-in-Chief suddenly changed the plan of operations, brought up the right, and deployed his infantry line in front generally of the position at Moong, thus showing the Sikhs that their strong post at Russool was no longer threatened. No enemy being at the time in sight, though their camp was in full view, and distant only between two or three miles on a rising ground with the jungle between, the order was given for the marking out of the British camp for the day, and the colour-men were actually engaged in this duty, when about two p.m. a round shot or two from the enemy, which flew over the line of demarcation of the camp, and fell close to the Commander-in-Chief, showed that the place was by no means eligible for a halt. Observing this, Lord Gough determined at once on attacking, without, however, having taken the previous usual and necessary precaution of ascertaining by a reconnoissance in that direction where the strength of the enemy actually lay, and without making the smallest preliminary arrangements for the advance. After a cannonade, which is variously estimated to have lasted between one and two hours, the left or Brigadier-General Campbell's division were directed to make a flank movement, and in obeying the order exposed their own flank to a dreadful cross fire from Sikh batteries on their left, which had not been observed, and on the 3rd and 4th brigades, the latter being considerably in advance on the occasion, ultimately reaching the guns, they were met by such a tremendous fire that they were obliged to retire with a loss, in her Majesty's 24th Foot, more severe than any it has ever fallen to the lot of a regiment in India to suffer in the field (we do not, of course, include the Cabul massacre.) As soon as it was known that these two brigades were engaged, the 5th was sent against the centre of what was supposed to be the enemy's line, and advanced, under their gallant leader, Brigadier Mountain, in the most undaunted manner, through the jungle in the face of a fire (a storm), first of round shot, then grape, and lastly musketry, which mowed down the officers and men by dozens. Still they advanced, and on reaching the guns spiked every one in front, and two others on the left, which had subsequently opened a flank fire on them; but the Sikhs no sooner saw they were deprived of the use of their guns than they renewed such a fire with musketry, not only on the flank, but in the rear of the brigade, that common prudence dictated a retreat, and it was effected with the same determination that had distinguished the three brigades on the left throughout. The conduct of the European and Native Infantry, who were, it appears, not supported as they should have been, by artillery or cavalry, for want of due and proper arrangements, was, to use the emphatic word of several correspondents, 'magnificent.' The loss of the several regiments engaged—Her Majesty's 24th, 29th, and 61st Foot; the 25th, 30th, 46th, and 56th Regiments of Native Infantry, detailed at the close of this article—will show how they fought. In the meantime Brigadier Godby, with Major-General Sir W. Gilbert as a leader, who was on the extreme right of the Infantry line, moved forward, and, after marching through dense jungle for some minutes, came upon the enemy's infantry; the brigade opened their fire, but the enemy were in such numbers that they easily outflanked them. Two companies of the 2nd European Regiment were wheeled up, showed front, and the whole charged, but had not gone far when they found they were surrounded. They immediately faced right-about, kept up some file-firing, and charged, rear rank in front. At this juncture Dawes' battery came to the rescue, and, having beaten of the enemy, their guns were taken. While the Infantry were thus highly distinguishing themselves, and earning imperishable laurels, the Cavalry on the extreme left, under Brigadier White, had made a dashing charge, and contributed much to the defeat of the enemy, while the Cavalry on the extreme right, consisting of Brigadier Pope's force, with the 14th Light Dragoons temporarily attached, having been taken in advance of their Horse Artillery (Lane's, Christie's, and Huish's troops), were directed to charge a body of the enemy's cavalry, variously estimated at from 1,000 to 5,000. Instead of obeying the orders given them, they faced about, and, in spite of the energetic endeavours of their own and other officers, left the field (with the exception of a body of the 9th Lancers, who were rallied), and made direct for the Artillery; on coming up to which, instead of pulling up, they dashed through Huish's and Christie's troops, upsetting a waggon and some horses, and directing their course to the field hospital. The enemy, seeing the advantage they had thus unaccountably ensured, followed our cavalry, got amongst the horse artillery, cut down no less than seventy-three gunners, who had, by the flight of the cavalry through their ranks, been deprived of the means of defending themselves, and carried off six of the guns, two of which were subsequently recovered, and would have done much more harm had not Colonel Lane been fortunately enabled to draw his troop out of the *melee*, and pour in grape so energetically that the Goorchurras thought they had done enough, and fled.

It is stated that in the opening cannonade the Sikhs were so effectually concealed behind the thick jungle that the only guide to the British Artillerymen in taking aim was the smoke of the enemy's guns. The dreadful slaughter in Her Majesty's 24th Regiment is attributed in some measure to the exhausted state in which the men reached the battery against which they were sent. Almost as soon as they had got to the Sikh guns and commenced spiking them, a regiment of the enemies infantry suddenly opened a volley on them. The 24th then, with their native companions of the 22nd and 25th Bengal Native Infantry (forming Pennycuick's Brigade), commenced a retreat, and great havoc was made amongst them, the Brigadier falling along with many of his men. Thirteen officers of the 24th were killed and wounded, and some 500 men of the same regiment likewise bit the dust. An excuse has been put forth for the flight of the 14th Dragoons; it is said they mistook an order given to them to move to the right or left for an order to retire.

AFTER THE BATTLE.

During the night of the 13th the British force bivouacked a little in rear of the battlefield. Next morning their camp was formed. Rain now came no and lasted without intermission till the evening of the 15th, adding to the gloom of the scene, and exercising anything but a comforting influence on the spirits of our troops. During these two wet and dreary days the wounded were brought in and the dead interred; the latter is said to have been a peculiarly solemn and affecting ceremony. By the last accounts Lord Gough continued to occupy the same position, though it was an unfavourable place for supplies as well as in other respects. The enemy were seen encamped at Russool (they had abandoned Moong), on a low range of hills, on the right flank and to the front of the British force. The river was behind the hills, and the Sikhs had a bridge over it. The Commander-in-Chief, had thrown up slight entrenchments to protect weak points. The force having been so terribly crippled by the action of the 13th, his lordship had deemed it expedient to direct Brigadier Wheeler's force to join him, as well as to order up the 53rd Regiment from Lahore. It was not thought there would be any renewal of hostilities until reinforcements arrived for Lord Gough's army.

(*From another account.*)

The Sikhs were beaten from their positions before dusk, with frightful carnage, and with the loss of twelve guns, besides others which were spiked; but they soon rallied, and took up another position on the left bank of the river, firing a salute in the evening, as though claiming the victory!

A letter from the camp, dated the 19th, says:—'Two of the 9th Lancers who were taken prisoners by the Sikhs have to-day been sent back to us with a letter from the Shere to Lord Gough, saying that he was not the aggressor in the present war. Lord Gough returned a letter of thanks to the Shere for his kind treatment of the prisoners, and here the matter ends.'

OFFICIAL LIST OF CASUALTIES.

RETURN OF KILLED, WOUNDED, AND MISSING

Of the Army of the Punjaub, under the personal command of the Right Hon. Lord Gough, G.C.B., in the action with the Sikh forces, under Rajah Shere Singh, at Chillianwallah, on the 13th of January, 1849.

GENERAL STAFF.—1 European officer, 1 horse, killed; 2 European officers wounded.

ARTILLERY DIVISION.—Horse Artillery Brigade.—1st Troop 2nd Brigade—5 rank and file, 1 lascar, killed; 1 rank and file, 4 lascars, 2 horses, wounded; 1 rank and file, 22 horses, missing. 2nd Troop 2nd Brigade—4 rank and file, 1 lascar, wounded; 2 horses missing. 3rd Troop 2nd Brigade—1 sergeant, 6 rank and file, killed; 1 European officer, 2 rank and file, 3 lascars, 1 syce, wounded; 1 rank and file, 6 syces, 31 horses, missing. 4th Troop 2nd Brigade—1 European officer, 1 syce, 6 horses, killed; 2 rank and file, 2 horses, wounded; 4 horses, missing. 1st Troop 3rd Brigade—1 rank and file, 1 horse, killed; 1 rank and file, 1 horse, wounded. 2nd Troop 3rd Brigade—1 rank and file, wounded. Foot Artillery Brigade. 1st Company 1st Bat., No. 10 Battery—1 horse, wounded. 3rd Company, 1st Bat., No. 17 Battery—3 horses, killed; 2 European officers, 1 drummer, 2 rank and file, wounded; 1 horse, missing. 1st Company 4th Bat.—1 rank and file, killed; 7 rank and file, 1 horse, wounded. 2nd Company 4th Bat.—1 rank and file, killed; 1 sergeant, 2 rank and file, wounded. 4th Company 4th Bat.—1 rank and file, wounded. 6th Company 7th Bat., No. 5 Battery—1 horse, killed; 5 rank and file, 1 horse, wounded; 1 horse, missing. Park Establishment—1 sergeant, killed. Total—1 European officer, 2 sergeants, 14 rank and file, 1 lascar, 1 syce, 11 horses, killed; 3 European officers, 1 sergeant, 1 drummer, 21 rank and file, 8 lascars, 1 syce, 7 horses, wounded; 2 rank and file, 6 syces, and 61 horses, missing.

ENGINEER DEPARTMENT.—6th Company of Pioneers—rank and file wounded.

CAVALRY DIVISION.—1st Brigade.—H.M.'s 3rd Light Dragoons—1 sergeant, 23 rank and file, 26 horses, killed; 2 European officers, 14 rank and file, 14 horses, wounded. H.M.'s 14th Light Dragoons—1 European officer, 1 rank and file, 2 horses killed; 1 European officer, 2 sergeants, 12 rank and file, 2 horses, wounded; 2 rank and file, 4 horses, missing. 5th Regt. of Light Cavalry—2 havildars, 1 trumpeter, 3 rank and file, 7 horses killed; 2 European officers, 1 native officer, 2 havildars, 11 rank and file, 7 horses wounded. 8th Regt. of Light Cavalry—1 rank and file killed; 2 rank and file, 1 horse, wounded; 2 horses missing.—2nd Brigade: Brigade Staff—1 European officer, wounded, H.M.'s 9th Lancers—4 rank and file killed; 8 rank and file, 5 horses, wounded; 4 horses missing.—1st Regt. of Light Cavalry—3 rank and file, 1 syce, 1 horse, killed; 1 native officer, 1 havildar, 2 rank and file, 1 syce, 7 horses, wounded; 3 horses missing. 6th Regt. Light Cavalry—1 European officer, 2 native officers, 4 rank and file, 2 horses, killed; 2 European officers, 1 warrant officer, 1 havildar, 6 rank and file, wounded; 6 horses missing. Total—2 European officers, 2 native officers, 3 sergeants or havildars, 1 trumpeter, 39 rank and file, 1 syce, 38 horses, killed; 8 European officers, 2 native officers, 1 warrant officer, 6 sergeants or havildars, 55 rank and file, 1 syce, 36 horses wounded; 2 rank and file, 19 horses missing.

2ND INFANTRY DIVISION.—3RD BRIGADE.—2nd European Reg.—6 rank and file killed; 2 European officers, 5 sergeants, 54 rank and file wounded. 31st Reg. of N.I.—1 havildar, 2 rank and file killed; 1 European officer, 2 havildars, 12 rank and file wounded. 45th Reg. of N.I.—4 havildars, 13 rank and file killed; 4 European officers, 1 native officer, 1 havildar, 53 rank and file wounded; 3 rank and file missing.—70th Reg. of N.I.—2 native officers, 3 rank and file killed; 20 rank and file wounded. 4th Brigade. H.M. 29th Foot.—2 sergeants, 29 rank and file killed; 4 European officers, 5 sergeants, 4 drummers, 194 rank and file wounded; 3 rank and file missing. 30th Reg. of N.I.—2 European officers, 1 native officer, 10 havildars, 1 drummer, 53 rank and file killed; 9 European officers, 9 native officers, 12 havildars, 1 drummer, 187 rank and file wounded. 56th Reg. of N.I.—2 European officers, 4 native officers, 7 havildars, 32 rank and file killed; 6 European officers, 6 native officers, 18 havildars, 4 drummers, 205 rank and file wounded; 2 havildars, 36 rank and file missing. Total.—4 European officers, 7 native officers, 24 sergeants or havildars, 1 drummer, 138 rank and file killed; 26 European officers, 16 native officers, 43 sergeants or havildars, 9 drummers, 725 rank and file wounded; 2 havildars, 42 rank and file missing.

3RD INFANTRY DIVISION.—Divisional Staff—1 European officer, wounded. 5th Brigade.—Brigade Staff—2 European officers, killed. H.M. 24th Foot—11 European officers, 4 sergeants, 1 drummer, 188 rank and file, 2 horses killed; 10 European officers, 8 sergeants, 2 drummers, 256 rank and file, wounded; 38 rank and file, missing. 25th Regt. of N.I.—1 European officer, 6 native officers, 13 havildars, 2 drummers, 78 rank and file, killed; 2 European officers, 3 native officers, 3 havildars, 2 drummers, 82 rank and file, 1 horse, wounded; 2 havildars, 10 rank and file, missing. 6th Brigade—Brigade Staff—1 European officer, wounded. 15th Regt. of N.I.—4 havildars, 4 rank and file, killed; 3 European officers; 1 native officer, 7 havildars, 37 rank and file, wounded. 69th Regt. of N.I.—1 havildar, 3 rank and file, killed; 2 European officers, 8 havildars, 2 drummers, 51 rank and file, wounded 7th Brigade.—H.M.'s 61st Foot—11 rank and file, killed; 3 European officers, 7 sergeants, 93 rank and file, wounded. 36th Regt. of N.I.—1 native officer, 2 havildars, 25 rank and file, killed; 6 European officers, 2 native officers, 3 havildars, 66 rank and file, wounded. 46th Regt. of N.I.—3 rank and file, killed; 3 native officers, 4 havildars, 1 drummer, 43 rank and file, wounded. Total.—14 European officers, 7 native officers, 24 sergeants or havildars, 3 drummers, 312 rank and file, 2 horses, killed; 28 European officers, 9 native officers, 40 sergeants or havildars, 7 drummers, 628 rank and file, 1 horse, wounded; 2 havildars, 48 rank and file, missing.

Total of all Arms.—22 European officers, 16 native officers, 53 sergeants or havildars, 5 drummers, 503 rank and file, 1 Lascar, 2 Syces, 52 horses, killed; 67 European, 27 native officers, 1 warrant officer, 90 sergeants or havildars, 17 drummers, 1,439 rank and file, 8 Lascars, 2 Syces, 44 horses, wounded; 4 havildars, 94 rank and file, 6 Syces, 80 horses, missing.

Total.—602 men, 52 horses, killed; 1,651 men, 44 horses, wounded; 104 men, 80 horses, missing.

Grand total.—2,357 men, and 176 horses.

NOMINAL ROLL OF EUROPEAN OFFICERS KILLED WOUNDED, OR MISSING.—Adjutant-General's Office, Head-quarters, Camp, Chillianwallah, Jan. 17, 1849.—General Staff.—Brevet Major C. Ekins, Deputy Adjutant-General of the Army, killed; Brevet Major H. T. Tucker, Assistant Adjutant-General of the Army, contusion; Lieutenant J. S. Paton, Deputy Assistant Quartermaster-General, wounded severely.

4th Troop 2nd Brigade, Horse Artillery.—Lieut. J. A. Manson, killed.

3rd Troop 2nd Brigade, Horse Artillery.—Brevet Major E. Christie, wounded, very dangerously, since dead.

3rd Company 1st Batt. Artillery.—Captain M. Dawer, wounded, slightly; First Lieut. C. S. Dundas, wounded, severely.

H.M.'s 3rd Light Dragoons.—Captain W. Unett, wounded, severely; Lieut. T. H. Stisted, wounded.

5th Regt. Light Cavalry—Lieut. R. Christie, wounded, dangerously; Lieut. A. P. C. Elliot, wounded, severely.

2nd Cavalry Brigade Staff—Brigadier A. Pope, C. B., wounded severely.

H.M.'s 14th Light Dragoons—Lieut. A. J. Cureton, killed; Major C. Steuart, wounded.

6th Regt. Light Cavalry—Lieut. A. M. Shepherd, killed; Captain W. J. E. Boys, wounded; Lieut. H. R. Grindlay, wounded.

2nd European Regt.—Lieut. M. R. Nightingale, wounded, very severely; Lieut. J. Bleaymire, wounded, slightly.

31st Regt. N. I.—Captain W. R. Dunmore, wounded slightly.

H. M's. 29th foot.—Major M. Smith, slight contusion; Lieut. the Hon. H. M. Moncton, wounded, severely; Lieut. H. T. Metge, wounded, very severely; Ensign G. H. Nevill, wounded, slightly.

30th Regt. N. I.—Captain W. H. Ross, killed; Ensign A. C. de Morel, killed; Bt. Major M. E. Loftie, wounded, severely; Captain W. C. Campbell, wounded, slightly; Captain R. S. Ewart, wounded, slightly; Captain C. F. Fenwick, wounded, very severely; Captain J. Morricson, wounded, slightly; Lieut. H. Swinhoe, wounded, severely; Ensign T. Pierce, wounded, slightly; Ensign J. C. Wood, wounded, very severely; Ensign W. F. Leicester, wounded, very severely.

56th Regt. N. I.—Lieut. W. W. Warde, killed; Ensign F. W. Robinson, killed; Major D. Bamfield, wounded, very severely, since dead; Lieut. W. C. Gott, wounded, slightly; Lieut. L. B. Jones, wounded, severely; Lieut. F. V. R. Jervis, wounded, severely; Lieut. J. H. Bacon, wounded, slightly; Lieut. J. W. Delamain, wounded, severely, arm since amputated.

45th Regt., N. I.—Captain R. Haldane, wounded, severely; Lieut. J. Palmer, wounded, severely; Ensign M. H. Combe, wounded, slightly; Ensign W. L. Trotter, wounded, badly.

Staff, 3rd Infantry Division.—Brigadier General C. Campbell, C. B., wounded slightly.

Staff, 5th Infantry Brigade.—Briggadier J. Pennycuick, C.B. and K.H., killed; Captain C. R. Harris, Major of Brigade, killed.

H. M.'s 24th Foot.—Lieut.-Colonel R. Brookes, killed; Major H. W. Harris, killed; Captain C. Lee, killed; Captain J. S. Shore, killed; Captain R. W. Travers, killed; Lieut. G. Phillips, killed; Lieut. O. B. Payne, killed; Lieut. J. A. Woodgate, killed; Lieut. W. Phillips, killed; Ensign H. C. B. Collis, killed; Ensign A. Pennycuick, killed; Major H. Paynter, wounded, dangerously; Capt. W. G. Brown, wounded, slightly; Capt. L. H. Bazalgette, wounded, severely; Lieut. G. E. L. Williams, wounded, dangerously; Lieut. R. A. Croker, wounded, severely; Lieut. G. F. Berry, wounded, slightly; Lieut. J. B. Thelwall, wounded, severely; Lieut. and Adjutant W. Hartshorn, wounded, slightly; Lieut. A. J. Macpherson, wounded, severely; Lieut. J. H. Archer, H. M.'s 90th Regt., wounded, slightly.

25th Regt. N. I.—Lieut. A. Money, killed; Lieut. A. G. C. Sutherland, wounded, slightly; Lieut. F. A. Jeune, wounded, slightly.

Staff, 6th Infantry Brigade.—Brevet-Captain, A. B. Morris, officiating brigade-major, wounded, slightly.

15th Regt. N.I.—Lieut. and Adjutant G. G. Anderson, wounded, severely; Lieut. H. R. Shawe, wounded, slightly; Lieut. W. G. Ellice, wounded, slightly.

69th Regt. N.I.—Capt. J. A. James, wounded, severely; Lieut. J. Nisbett, wounded, severely.

H.M.'s 61st Foot—Capt. J. Massey, wounded, severely; Ensign J. Nagle, wounded, severely; Ensign J. H. Parks, wounded, slightly.

36th Regt. N.I.—Capt. F. A. Carleton, wounded, severely; Lieut. Interpreter and Quartermaster A. N. Thompson, wounded, since dead; Lieut. and Adjutant C. S. Weston, wounded, severely; Lieut. J. D. Magney, wounded, slightly; Ensign F. J. S. Bagshaw, wounded, severely; Ensign C. J. Godby, wounded, dangerously.

PAT. GRANT,
Lieut.-Col. Adjutant-General of the Army.

REPORTED ALLIANCE OF THE AFFGHANS, SIKHS, AND OTHER NATIONS AGAINST THE BRITISH.

All accounts agree that the Affghans are in close league with the Sikhs, in the design to overthrow the 'Feringhees,' and drive them out of the Punjaub. One communication from the far north acquaints us with the rather important fact that Dost Mahomed Khan, of Cabul, has received, at the hands of a general assembly of Mahomedan Chiefs at Peshawur, the title of *Ameer il Momen enn*, signifying Chief of the Mahomedans, or Defender of the Mahomedan Faith. On this occasion, it is said, the Dost took a solemn oath that he would remain staunch to the cause with which he had linked his fortunes, namely, that of the Sikhs. If the statement now given be true, there will be little chance of the British coming to a friendly understanding, or negotiating a treaty of alliance, with the wily old Ameer. It is added that the Pathan Chiefs are extremely averse to any nearer neighbourhood than at present with the English—the power they most dread—and that they are most anxious to prevent the downfall of the Sikh kingdom.

FRANCE.

THE ASSEMBLY.—On Saturday a very stormy scene took place in the National Assembly, in consequence of some interpellations put to the Government by M. Martin Bernard, on the subject of a Socialist banquet which was broken up a few days ago by the police.

The circumstances which gave rise to the interpellations were these:—A banquet took place on Thursday last, at the Barriere du Maine, to celebrate the anniversary of the foundation of the Republic. M. Pierre Leroux, the well-known Socialist representative, presided at the banquet, and M. Martin Bernard, one of the occupants of the Mountain, was also present. The rest of the company was composed principally of students. In the midst of the dinner a commissary of police made his appearance, and, in the name of law claimed his right to be present during the proceedings. The president refused to admit him, stating that the banquet was a monthly one, and that the law relative to clubs did not refer to it. Upon this the commissary retired, but shortly afterwards he returned, accompanied by a strong body of police, and turned the whole party out of doors. According to M. Bernard, this proceeding on the part of the commissary was not only illegal and unconstitutional in itself, but it was executed with a degree of violence which was wholly uncalled for. The persons present were struck with sticks, several of them were knocked down, the tables were overturned, and parties in other parts of the house, but having nothing to do with the banquet itself, were turned out and ill-treated.

M. Leon Faucher, in his reply to this charge, stated that the fact of the meeting being a periodical one, brought it within the operation of the law of 1790, that it was consequently under the surveillance of the police, and that consequently the commissary was entitled to act as he had done; and that, as regarded the alleged violence, the persons who had refused admission to the commissary had violated the law, and it was therefore necessary to employ force, but no violence had been committed which was not absolutely necessary.

A very violent debate ensued, in which M. Pierre Leroux made a fierce attack on the government. M. Victor Grandin followed, and complained loudly of the clubs, and so far from accusing the government of violence, he accused it of too much tolerance in not putting them down long ago.

M. Ledru-Rollin then rosé and drew a very striking contrast between the conduct of M. Odillon Barrot at the present time and his conduct when the question was with respect to the banquet of the 12th arrondissement, which led to the revolution of February. He declared that the language of the Ministers of the present day was precisely that used by M. Guizot in reference to the banquets, and that the Opposition of the present day was doing nothing but protesting in favour of liberty, as the Opposition of 1848 had protested in favour of liberty against the last ministers of Louis-Philippe. M. Ledru-Rollin produced an immense sensation by reading from the *Moniteur* the account of the debate in February, 1848, on the subject of the banquets, and the cheering of the Republicans was immense when he read the words applied on that occasion to M. Odillon Barrot—'If you were sitting on the same bench as we are, you would do precisely what we are doing.'

To this M. Odillon Barrot made one of his usual replies, vainly attempting to cover his falsehood and treason. Ultimately the Assembly passed to the order of the day, which was, in other words, stamping the conduct of the government with its approbation.

WEDNESDAY.—The following appears in the *Patrie* of last night. One Madrid correspondent, in his letter of the 29th, confirms the fact of the preparations making by Spain for an armed intervention in Italy:—'We are assured that letters have been received by express, announcing that Spain is actively preparing for an intervention in favour of the Pope. Already an army of 10,000 men was ready to set out.' The same journal says:—'A letter from London informs us that a division, detached from the fleet commanded by Admiral Parker, will soon cruise off Civita Vecchia. Its object is to support the movements of the troop sent by the Powers which, on the express demand of the Pope, have resolved on an intervention.'

MORE PERSECUTION OF THE REPUBLICANS.—The National Guard of the town of Clermont, in the department of the Herault, has been disbanded by a decree of the President of the Republic. The Mayor of the town has been likewise dismissed.

M. Mie, Mayor of Perigueux, has been superseded in his functions by order of the Prefect of the Dordogne.

Two clubs have been closed at Lyons.

Further disturbances have occurred at Narbonne, in consequence of the arrest of two leaders of the Montagnards.

THE REPUBLICAN PRISONERS.—The twelve State prisoners of Vincennes left this morning at five o'clock for Bourges. They were placed in a *voiture cellulaire*, and escorted to the Orleans Railload station by a strong force of cavalry. There they were given in charge to two companies of Gendarmerie Mobile (the former municipal guard of Paris), 200 in number, and to forty gardiens de Paris, who appeared in the uniform of the former Sergens de Ville disbanded by M. Caussidiere. Some operatives of the Ateliers Nationaux, mostly belonging to the 12th arrondissement, have been employed since June in cutting drains through a barren district of the department of the Loire-et-Cher, called La Sologne, through which the Bourges Railroad passes. The police received information that these men intended making an attempt to rescue the prisoners. A supply of ball cartridge was accordingly served out to the escort before they marched. Their orders were to prevent, at any cost, the prisoners from falling into the hands of the rioters. Barbes persists in the declaration that he has made that he would neither defend himself nor be defended. Raspail will plead his own cause. Blanqui will have the assistance of M. Maublanc, advocate, but will himself deliver his defence. Sobrier has chosen as counsel M. Baud; General Courtais, M. Bethmont; Albert, M. Henry Celliez Degre, called the Pompeir, M. Picard Borne, M. Harnmel, advocate of Grasse.

Barbes, Blanqui, and the other prisoners arrived at Bourges at 12 o'clock on Sunday, and were lodged in the apartments prepared for them. The authorities have several thousand troops in that town, as if there were some fear of an outbreak.

Vilain, late President of the Society of the Rights of Man, surrendered on Monday to take his trial at Bourges with Barbes and his accomplices.

Caussidiere and Louis Blanc have written from London, explaining their reasons for refusing to surrender for trial before the High Court of Justice at Bourges.—*Times.*

THE RED REPUBLIC.—The Socialist journals publish an address to the 'Democratic Socialist Republican electors,' announcing a fusion of the different shades of Socialists with the democratic Republicans, for the purpose of the election. A grand Socialist banquet for the inauguration of the Salle de la Fraternite, in the Rue de Martel, was given on Sunday; admission 1f. 25c. each person. Seven hundred persons, including women, sat down to table; the galleries contained about 500 strangers. Invitations were addressed to the members of the Mountain, but M. Bac alone attended. The toasts were 'the right to live by labour;' 'abolition of the conscription;' 'the emancipation of the clergy.' Several other toasts of the same harmless kind were given, and the meeting separated.

A grand banquet for the inauguration of the Salle de la Fraternite, in the Rue Martel, was given on Sunday by the founders and the corporations of workmen. M. T. Bac, representative of the people, presided over about 700 guests, male and female. The tickets were at 1f. 25c. per head. When the toasts were commenced, 400 or 500 of the public were admitted to the tribunes. A commissary of police was present. Among the toasts first given were the following: 'To the right of existence by labour,' 'To order,' 'To the abolition of the conscription and the *droits réunis*,' 'To the enfranchisement of the clergy,' and 'To the happy results of reaction'—the last by a priest. M. T. Bac proposed 'The right of meeting,' in a speech in which he complained of the attempt to limit that right, which he said had been solemnly proclaimed by the revolution of February. M. Bernard sent a toast to 'The Workmen,' with a letter, in which he said that he preferred taking to flight to being sent to Ste. Pelagie to undergo the periods of imprisonment to which he has been sentenced for offences against the law on clubs. A bouquet was placed on the tribune to mark his place, and after the banquet it was sent to him. A Madame Brasier gave a toast to 'Our young republic and humanity, the only harmony;' and a Madame Duclos to 'The *Montagné*.' During the banquet patriotic and revolutionary songs were sung; and a collection, amounting to 101f. 10c., was made towards the expenses of the room. When the banquet and speeches were concluded, a basket was placed at the door to receive further subscriptions.

A new Socialist Club is to be opened in the Rue St. Antoine on the 7th inst.

Citizens Joly and Olivier Demosthenes, two representatives of the *Montagne*, have addressed a letter to the *Peuple*, declaring in reply to the denial of the *Moniteur*, that they had been invited by a *great number of bona fide* non-commissioned officers of the army to a banquet, commemorative of the revolution of February, and that the journals had published an accurate report of the speeches delivered by those brave young men.'

A democratic banquet took place at Lyons on the 1st instant, which was attended by above 3,000 persons.

Letters from Toulouse state, that the anniversary of the 24th of February was celebrated in that city by the Republicans, who paraded the streets wearing the *bonnet rouge*, and shouting 'Vive la Republique Sociale!' 'Vive Barbes!' 'Vive la Montagne!' 'Vive 1793!'

GERMANY.

BERLIN, MARCH 3.—The police has, it is said, obtained knowledge of a real or pretended conspiracy and outbreak, in which the Poles were to be the actors. In apparent corroboration of this report, many Poles, from the Duchy and from other parts of Germany, had arrived at Berlin within the last forty-eight hours. In consequence of this, constables were sent to all the hotels and many private lodgings this morning, with orders to expel all non-domiciled Poles within twenty-four hours. This measure was carried into effect during the day.

THE WAR IN HUNGARY.

General Schlick has joined the main Austrian army. On the other hand, the insurgent general, Gorgey, has effected a junction with General Dembinsky, who has arrived at Hatvan, about thirty English miles from Pesth. The troops under Gorgey are 9,000 strong, with thirty pieces of cannon and twelve howitzers. The insurgents are now stronger than ever, and are flushed with their recent successes in Siebenburgen—successes which compelled the Austrian generals to invoke the aid of the Russians.

On the 11th ult., General Bem defeated the Austrian General Puchner with great slaughter. The Austrians fled in confusion. 'If,' says the *Times* correspondent, 'assistance is not speedily given to Puchner, it is impossible that he can resist the overpowering force of his opponent, increasing as it is from day to day by the arrival of large bodies of Szeklers Indeed, it is clear that the only thing that the Austrian Commander can at present do, is to keep his troops within the walls of the large towns, as the whole of the open country is in the hands of the enemy.'

ITALY.

ROME, FEB. 24.—The freshest intelligence here tells of two Swiss regiments, one hussar regiment, and several other detachments of Lazzaroni troops, in all, 17,000 men, with some twenty guns, being at or about Fondi, a dozen miles from our frontier town of Terracina. Reports says that the hero (butcher of Messina) Filangieri is to command this horde of invaders who promise themselves snug quarters shortly in Rome. I have strong reasons to think that most of them will lay their

Poetry.

THE ACRES AND THE HANDS.

BY DUGANNE.

"The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof,"
Says God's most holy word:
The water hath fish, and the land hath flesh,
And the air hath many a bird;
And the soil is teeming o'er the earth,
And the earth hath numberless hands;
Yet millions of hands want acres,
While millions of acres want hands.

Sunlight and breeze, and gladsome flowers,
Are o'er the earth spread wide;
And the good God gave these gifts to men—
To men who on earth abide;
Yet thousands are toiling in poisonous gloom,
And shackled with iron bands,
While millions of hands want acres,
And millions of acres want hands.

Never a rood hath a poor man here,
To plant with a grain of corn,
And never a plot where his child may cull
Fresh flowers in dewy morn;
The soil lies fallow, the weeds grow rank,
Yet idle the poor man stands!
Ah! millions of hands want acres,
And millions of acres want hands.

—*Mark Lane Express.*

KINGS AND THRONES ARE FALLING.

BY THE REV. J. C. LORD, D.D.

(From an American Agrarian Reform Journal, entitled *The National Reformer and Pittsburgh* (Pennsylvania) *Saturday Mercury.)*

Kings and Thrones are falling,
The sound comes o'er the sea,
"Deep unto deep is calling,"
To the conflict of the free,
At the voices of the nations, like the roaring of a flood,
The "sun is changed to darkness, the moon is changed to blood."

The word of power is spoken
In accents loud and long,
The iron chain is broken
From the ancles of the strong.
The blind and beaten giant is staggering up at length,
And the pillars of his prison house begin to feel his strength.

To exile goes the King,
The Throne is in the street,
The royal floors are echoing
The sounds of plebeian feet.
O'er gilded rooms and halls of state the common people throng,
Half fearful of the spectre yet, that haunted them so long.

The purple robe is riven,
Ay, crushed beneath the tread
Of masses hunger driven,
Demanding work and bread.
And death is riding grimly forth and terror by his side,
With blood-stained war and pestilence and famine hollow-eyed.

The Powers of Earth are shaken
From the Danube to the Rhine,
Old Germany is waking,
Like a Cyclop from his wine.
And dark his brow with hatred, and red his eyes with wrath,
While he scatters his tormentors, like pigmies, from his path.

The famished Celt is crying,
"Arm, brethren, one and all;"
The Saxon Lord is flying,
To castle, keep and wall.
Unhappy Ireland grasps again the old detested bands,
And lifts towards the indignant heavens her bruised and bleeding hands.

The Seine is running red
Through the capital of France,
Over ramparts of the dead
The cry is still advance!
With pike and gun and paving stone and red flag flying high,
The sons of Labour take their stand to conquer or to die!

Reviews.

THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF FRANCOIS-RENE, VISCOUNT DE CHATEAUBRIAND. *London*: Simms and M'Intyre, Paternoster-row.

THE publishers of the "Parlour Library" encouraged by the success of that popular series, have been induced to commence a new venture, which they entitle "The Parlour Library of Instruction." The first volume has just appeared, and contains the whole of the first, and the commencement of the second "book" of the Autobiography of CHATEAUBRIAND.

The High-Priest of Legitimacy—CHATEAUBRIAND's name is known even where his works are unknown, or at least unread. Thousands, therefore, to whom his name is familiar, must naturally be desirous of knowing something of his history—a history strangely chequered by prosperity and misfortune, renown and suffering.

Of the order of the aristocracy, and belonging to one of the most ancient families of Brittany, CHATEAUBRIAND, the last of ten children, was born at St. Malo, on the 4th of September, 1768. An affectionate nurse dedicated him to "our Lady of Nazareth," and made a vow that he should wear in her (the said "Lady's") honour blue and white, until he was seven years of age. CHATEAUBRIAND's father—who was eaten up by one passion, the pride of ancestry—is represented by his son in a most unamiable light. His mother—with many "admirable qualities"—appears to have been very like a fool in the management of her household affairs, connecting therewith a strong infusion of the scold; humbled by her morose husband, she appears to have made her inferiors pay for her humiliation, CHATEAUBRIAND says: "My father was the terror of the servants—my mother their scourge."

The son of "the high and mighty Lord, RENE DE CHATEAUBRIAND, Chevalier, Count of Combourg, Lord of Gaugres, Plessis L'Epine, Boulet, Malestroit in Dol, and other places," was brought up in this way:

I grew up in the midst of my family without study of any kind. We no longer inhabited the house where I was born. My mother occupied an hotel in the Place St. Vincent, almost opposite the gate of the town which communicates with the Sillon. The blackguards of the town became my most intimate friends: I thronged the court-yard and the stairs of our house with them. I resembled them in every respect. I spoke their language; I had their appearance and manners; I was clad like them—with coat unbuttoned and bare to the breeze. My shirts were falling into rags; I never had a pair of stockings which were not full of holes; I dragged after me tattered slippers, down in the heels, and which dropped from my feet at every step. I frequently lost my hat, and sometimes my coat. My face was daubed, scratched, and bruised, and my hands were black with soot. My appearance altogether was so odd, that my mother, in the midst of her anger, could not refrain from laughing and exclaiming, "How ugly he is!"

Notwithstanding this picture of wretchedness, the history of CHATEAUBRIAND'S boyhood is very interesting. Here is a precious specimen of the family pride and arrogance of the Chateaubriands:—

One morning I was eagerly pursuing a game of prison-bars in the great court-yard of the college, when a message was brought me that some one wished to see me; I followed the domestic to the outer gate. There I found a stout man, with a red face, a brusque and impatient manner, a stern voice, carrying a stick in his hand, and wearing a black peruke badly curled, a torn cassock tucked up through his pockets, dirty shoes, and stockings with holes in the heels.

"You little scamp," said he, "are you not the Chevalier de Chateaubriand of Combourg?"

"Yes, sir," replied I, rather stunned by his address.

"And I," replied he, almost foaming, "am the last of the eldest branch of your family. I am the Abbe de Chateaubriand, of La Guerande. Look at me well."

The proud abbé put his hand in the pocket of an old pair of plush breeches, took out a mouldy crown of six francs, wrapped in a piece of filthy paper, threw it in my face, and proceeded on his way on foot, muttering his matins with a furious air. I learned subsequently that the Prince de Condé had caused an offer to be made to this clownish vicar of the office of preceptor to the Duke de Bourbon. The arrogant priest replied that the prince, the possessor of the barony of Chateaubriand, ought to know that the heirs of the barony might have preceptors themselves, but were not the preceptors of others.

Those haughty aristocrats then little thought how soon the conceit was to be taken out of them. A few years afterwards, that on which they had prided themselves, they were glad to conceal. Their aristocratic disdain was a poor defence against the unloosed wrath of the multitude.

Originally intended for the navy, then for the church, CHATEAUBRIAND would be neither sailor nor priest, and at last—somewhat reluctantly—entered the army, in which he did *not* see service. When the old government was broken up, his soldiership—never more than a sort of boy's play—came to an end. At Paris, where, notwithstanding his youth, he led the life of a solitary, he was regarded as a simpleton by his dashing elder brother. At Versailles he was presented to the King, and, for the first time, saw the Queen.

LOUIS XVI, AND MARIE ANTOINETTE.

When it was announced that the king had risen, those who were not presented withdrew. I felt an emotion of vanity; not that I was proud of remaining, but I should have been humiliated to be obliged to retire. The door of the sleeping apartment of the king was thrown open, and I saw the king, according to the usual custom, complete his toilet—that is to say, take his hat from the hand of the first nobleman in waiting. The king advanced, on his way to mass; I bowed; the Marquis de Duras mentioned my name:—

"Sire, the Chevalier de Chateaubriand."

The king looked at me, returned my salute, hesitated, and seemed about to stop and speak to me. I should have replied with confidence; my timidity had vanished. To address the general of the army, the head of the State, appeared to me a very simple matter, without my being able to account for this feeling. The king, more embarrassed than I, and finding nothing to say, passed on. Oh, vanity of human destinies! This sovereign, whom I saw for the first time—this monarch so great and powerful—was Louis XVI. within six years of his scaffold! And this new courtier whom he scarcely glanced at, was commissioned to search for, and separate his remains from amidst the surrounding bones; and after having been, on proofs of nobility, presented to the descendant of St. Louis in his earthly greatness, was destined, upon proof of fidelity, one day to be presented to his dust. Double tribute of respect to the twofold royalty of the sceptre and the palm. Louis XVI. might have replied to his judges in the words of scripture—"I have done many good works among you, for which of these do you stone me?"

We now hastened to the gallery, to be in the queen's way when she returned from chapel. She soon appeared, surrounded by a numerous and glittering retinue. She made us a most queenly reverence; she seemed as if enchanted with life; and those fair hands, which then supported with so much grace the sceptre of so many kings, were fated, before being bound by the executioner, to have to patch the rags of her widow's weeds as a prisoner in the Conciergerie.

Here is a striking picture of—

FRENCH SOCIETY AT THE BEGINNING OF THE REVOLUTION.

At this period everything which related to mind or morals was deranged—the inevitable symptom of an approaching revolution. Magistrates blushed to have to wear the robe, and turned into ridicule the gravity of their fathers. The Lamoignons, the Molés, the Seguiers, the D'Aguesseaus, wished to combat and refused to judge. The presidents' wives, ceasing to play the part of venerable mothers of families, glided from their gloomy hotels to seek for brilliant adventures. The priest from the pulpit avoided using the name of Jesus Christ, and spoke only of the *legislator of Christians;* one ministry fell after another; power slipped from every hand. The highest *bon ton* was to be American in town, English at court, Prussian in the army—to be everything, except French. Everything that was said, everything that was done, was only one series of inconsistencies. People affected to retain the existence of secular abbés, and yet renounced religion; no one could be an officer unless he were noble, and yet nobility was scouted; equality was introduced into the drawing-room, and blows of the cane into the camp.

* * *

I cannot better paint the society of 1789 and 1790 than by comparing it to the architecture of the times of Louis XII. and of Francis I., when the Grecian orders began to blend with the Gothic style; or, rather, by assimilating it to a collection of the ruins of all nations, heaped up pell-mell, after the Reign of Terror, in the cloisters of the convent of the little Augustins. Only the remains of which I speak were living and ever-changing. In every corner of Paris there were literary re-unions, political societies, and theatres. The future celebrities wandered through the crowd without being known, like souls on the borders of Lethe before having enjoyed the light. I saw the son of Marshal Gouvion-St. Cyr, perform a character on the theatre of the Marais, in "The Culpable Mother" of Beaumarchais. People rushed from the club of the Feuillants to the club of the Jacobins, from balls and gaming-houses to the groups of the Palais Royal, from the tribunes of the National Assembly to the tribunes held in the open air. Deputations of the people, cavalry piquets, and patrols of infantry, passed and repassed in the streets. Beside a man dressed as a Frenchman, with powdered hair, sword at his side, hat held under his arm, pumps and silk stockings, walked a man with short-cut hair, without powder, wearing the English frock-coat, and the American cravat. At the theatre, the actors published the news, and the pit thundered out patriotic couplets. Pieces adapted to the times attracted crowds. An abbé would appear on the stage; the people would shout "coxcomb!" and the abbé would reply, "Gentlemen, long live the nation!" People hastened to hear Mandini and his wife, Viganoni and Rovedino, sing at the *Opera Buffa;* after having heard *Ca ira* shouted with stentor lungs; and went to admire Madame Dugazon, Madame St. Aubin, Carline, the little Oliver, Mademoiselle Contat, Molé, Fleury, and Talma, who was then making his *début*, after having seen Favras hung.

The promenades of the Boulevard du Temple, and of that of the Italians, surnamed *of Coblentz*, and the alleys of the garden of the Tuileries, were crowded with gaily-dressed women. Three young daughters of Gretry's were particularly conspicuous—white and red as their dresses. All three died soon after. "She fell asleep for ever," said Gretry, when speaking of his eldest daughter, "seated on my knees, as lovely as during her life." A crowd of carriages swept along the thoroughfares or splashed the *sans culottes*, and the lovely Madame de Buffon might be seen seated alone in a phaeton of the Duke of Orleans, which was drawn up opposite the door of some club.

The taste and elegance of the aristocratic portion of society were to be met with at the hotel of La Rochefoucault, at the evening parties of Mesdames de Poix, d'Henin, de Simiane, de Vaudreuil, in several drawing-rooms of the higher magistracy which had remained open. At the houses of Monsieur Necker, M. le Comte de Montmorin, and those of the several ministers, were to be met (along with Madame de Staël) the Duchess d'Aiguillon, Mesdames de Beaumont and de Serilly; all the new celebrities of France, and all the liberty of the new manners. A shoemaker, in the uniform of an officer of the National Guard, took the measure of your foot on his knees; the monk, who, on Friday, was clad in his white or black robe, wore on Sunday a round hat and the habit of a citizen; the capuchin, shaved, read the newspapers in the taverns; and in a circle of mad-cap women appeared a nun gravely seated. She was some aunt or sister who had been driven from her monastery. The crowd visited the convents, which were open to the world, as travellers wander through the abandoned halls of the Alhambra at Grenada, or pause beneath the columns of the temple of the Sibyl at Tibur.

For the rest, plenty of duels and amours, prison acquaintances, and political fraternities; mysterious rendezvous amidst the ruins, beneath a cloudless sky, in the midst of the calm and the poetry of nature; solitary, silent, and secluded walks, mingled with oaths of eternal friendship and undying tenderness pledged amid the low deep murmur of a flying world, to the distant sound of the crumbling fabric of society, which threatened in its fall these happy ties thus placed at the mercy of events. When any one disappeared for twenty-four hours, their friends were not certain whether they should ever see them more. Some plunged into the path of revolution; others meditated civil war; others set out for the Ohio, to which they had despatched before them plans of princely chateaux, which they meant to build amongst the savages; and others again proceeded to join the princes. And all this was done in joyous mood, often without the adventurers having a sou in their pockets; the royalists affirming that the affair would end, one of those fine mornings, by a decree of parliament; the patriots, quite as buoyant in their hopes, announcing a reign of peace and of happiness along with liberty. They sung—

"The holy candle of Arras,
And flambeau of Provence,
Their light, though boasting small *eclat*,
Are kindling round us France.
And since their flame we dare not touch,
We'll snuff it yet, or hope as much."

And this was the way they judged of Robespierre and Mirabeau!

We shall return to this volume in next Saturday's *Star*. In the meantime we earnestly advise all who have a shilling to spare to make themselves acquainted with this portion of *Chateaubriand's Autobiography*. All who read the first volume will be anxious for the speedy appearance of its successors.

CHARTIST TRACTS FOR THE TIMES.

No. I. *Why are we Poor? What do the Chartists want?* By the Kirkdale Chartist Prisoners. London: J. Watson, 3, Queen's Head-passage, Paternoster-row. Manchester: A. Heywood. Leeds: Joseph Barker, Wortley. Nottingham: Sweet; and all Booksellers.

WE recently informed our readers that Messrs. WEST, WHITE, and LEACH (the talented and incorruptible Chartist leaders, at present suffering in Kirkdale prison for the "crime" of advocating the rights of the people), were about to commence the publication of a series of "Tracts for the Times." Our announcement is fulfilled. No. I. of the projected series is before us, and a careful perusal thereof enables us to declare it worthy of the talents and reputation of its authors, who thus intimate their intentions:—

In the series of tracts which we intend to publish, we shall endeavour to lay bare the various causes that have led to the social inequality which inflicts so much misery on the mass of mankind. The authors of these tracts, having to endure the same privations as their brethren, and being at present the inmates of a gaol, for the prominent position they occupied among their fellow sufferers, have resolved to devote the leisure which this circumstance affords them, to vindicate their principles, and defend themselves from the calumnies which the hireling press of the Whig and Tory faction have so unscrupulously heaped upon them, as well as to give an exposition of the feelings, wants, and wishes of that numerous body of intelligent artisans termed CHARTISTS, as an answer to the oft-repeated queries of the wealthier classes—What do the Chartists want? and of the operative—Why are we Poor?

Our friends truly observe that the fruitless insurrections of, and revolutions effected by, the working classes, too lamentably prove "the ignorance of the people in the science of Government," seeing that after pouring out their blood, and winning victory through fearful pains and perils, they have contented themselves with "getting rid of one set of evil governors to make way for others equally vicious, leaving the same causes in operation which they had previously hazarded their lives to uproot." To assist in dispelling this fatal ignorance, is the object of the Kirkdale prisoners. We add a few additional extracts:—

A PEOPLE CANNOT REBEL.

The democracy of Europe, notwithstanding the abuse heaped on them, are not accountable for the bloodshed and deplorable scenes of violence which have lately occurred, to the disgrace of those who promoted it. The people of those countries have been termed rebellious, but a people cannot rebel. It is those despots who set up their own will against the wants and wishes of a nation that truly merit the term rebel, and should be treated as such.

THE MIDDLE-CLASS REFORMERS.

These facts ought to arouse the people to concentrate their energies for a thorough reformation of the system; not the paltry and all but useless tamperings of Hume, Cobden, and Co.: not the clippings and cheese-parings of Free Trade, Financial Reform, and the remission of a few taxes for the substitution of others;—but a mighty national effort for the total annihilation of aristocratic and monied predominance, root and branch. This alone is worthy the intelligence of a great and enlightened nation; all the attempted patch-work of our parliamentary reformers being merely a tub to the whale.

THE PARLIAMENT.

Our parliament, which should represent the wisdom of the nation, and should be occupied in devising the best means of applying the national wealth to the welfare of all, is merely a committee which sits to concoct arbitrary rules for the supposed aggrandisement of their order, and, we have reason to suppose, have neither inclination nor intelligence to discharge their proper functions. It is useless to expect any amelioration so long as it is composed of such materials, and it is therefore necessary that such an alteration shall take place in its composition as shall make it the index of the national will and the exponent of its wants and wishes, instead of being, as at present, the most formidable obstacle of all improvement.

"We wish," say our friends, "it to be plainly understood, that our chief object is to direct the attention of the working classes to the subject of social reform, so that on the attainment of political power, they may know how to use it for their advancement in the scale of progression." And we wish them success. Let the local Chartist Committees order—*and pay for when ordered*—a quantity of this tract, and ensure the sale thereof. There ought to be no difficulty in organising (remember, Carnot "organised victory"), a sale of twenty thousand copies within the next fourteen days. We have reason to believe that the succeeding tracts will well repay the encouragement which the working men will, we hope, give the authors, by their patronage of No. 1.

The Speech of Daniel Whittle Harvey, Esq., when M.P. for Colchester, on moving for a Select Committee, to inquire into the Crown Lands, delivered in the House of Commons, March 30th, 1830. London: Ridgway, Piccadilly; and E. Wilson, Royal Exchange.

JUDGING by the newly-written "Introduction," we conclude that his speech has been printed for the twofold purpose of, first, reminding the public that Mr. DANIEL WHITTLE HARVEY is still open to an engagement on the popular side, provided the terms are liberal; and, second, adding to the stock of information on the subject of the management, or, rather, infamous mismanagement, of the Crown Lands. As regards Financial Reform, Mr. HARVEY might do the state some service were he in Parliament at this moment, but we should not anticipate great things from him when more important questions come before the Legislature, as come they must. Mere tax-reducing Reformers will, ere long, find their level, and then certain characters, who are at present more popular than ever Mr. HARVEY was, will be seen in all their littleness. We fancy, however, that the ex-Member for Colchester has small chance of getting into Parliament after his extraordinary treatment of the Radicals of Marylebone. At any rate, he must no more try his hand in that borough. As regards the "Speech" before us, we can very cordially recommend it to our readers, and the friends of Financial Reform generally; throwing, as it does, light upon a mass of abuses which, "to be hated need but to be seen." Mr. HARVEY, on making his motion, was defeated, but in the minority there voted with him, Lord Althorpe (afterwards Earl Spencer, (since deceased), Lord G. Bentinck (deceased), Sir F. Burdett (deceased), two of the Dundases, Lord Ebrington, (now Earl Fortescue), Sir James Graham (!), Lord Howick! (now Earl Grey), Cam Hobhouse (!), Lord Morpeth! (now Earl of Carlisle), C. Wood (!), and Lord John Russell (!!!). The Whigs were then out of place, when they acquired power they took up the investigation which had been demanded by Mr. HARVEY. The Whig inquiry resulted in——nothing; and from that time to the present the abuses laid bare in the speech under notice, have gone on multiplying, until now the subject is again referred to a Committee, to be burked as before, unless the public determine otherwise.

An Unsophisticated Genealogy of Her Majesty, Queen Victoria, with singular and remarkable Anecdotes of her Ancestors. York: H. Roberts, 31, High Peter-gate. London: S. Y. Collins, 39, Holywell-street, Strand.

THIS fourpennyworth of really useful knowledge is a vast improvement on the slobbering stuff vomited by the "regular" chroniclers and compilers of royal histories. The "sovereign people" will do well to consult the pages of this pamphlet. We recommend it not the less heartily to all those who take delight in tracing the stream of regal virtue to its source!

RECEIPT STAMPS.—The commercial community is cautioned against continuing the almost universal practice of giving unstamped receipts, as that department (Stamps) is now in the hands of the Excise, the officers of which are likely to enforce the penalties, particularly as they get half the profits.

WRECK OF AN EMIGRANT SHIP OFF THE ESSEX COAST.—NEARLY TWO HUNDRED LIVES LOST.

HARWICH, Sunday, Three p.m.—We have to record one of the most frightful catastrophes that probably ever occurred on this part of the English coast, viz., the total loss of a large emigrant ship on the Long Sands, with nearly 200 souls on board, during the tempestuous and fearful weather on Wednesday last. The gale commenced in the early part of Wednesday morning, the wind blowing from the south-west, and as the day advanced the violence of the storm increased, and continued till between six and seven o'clock in the evening. A heavy snow storm followed and lasted till midnight.

During Thursday news reached this harbour of several vessels having been wrecked on the Long Sands. The first tidings communicated the loss of a Dutch Indiaman, named the Dyle, Captain Laws, bound from Antwerp to Havannah, the crew of which (with the exception of one poor fellow), were picked up by her Majesty's revenue cutter Scout, and landed here. A large schooner shared a similar fate on the same sands, with the loss of every soul of her crew. Seven or eight total losses were also reported as having happened on the adjacent shoals, and it was hoped that these formed the extent of the disasters. Late on Friday night, however, her Majesty's revenue cutter Petrel brought the melancholy intelligence of the appalling loss of an emigrant ship on the same sands, and that nearly 200 beings had perished with her. Only four of the many on board survived, whom the Petrel had rescued.

Owing to the exhausted condition of the poor fellows, who had been exposed to the storm in the rigging for forty-eight hours, it was not till yesterday that the correct details could be elicited from them by Mr. Billingsley, the agent to Lloyds at this port, and the assistant-agent, Mr. Oppenheim, to whom the reporter is indebted for the subjoined details:—

The ill-fated vessel was the bark Floridian, 500 tons burden, Mr. E. D. Whitmore, master, from Antwerp. She was the property of Mr. E. D. Hulbert, of New York, and had been chartered by a German company for the conveyance of emigrants to the United States. She was announced to sail from Antwerp last Thursday week, but for some reason she was delayed till the following Sunday, when she left that port and proceeded down the river. She, however, did not finally take her departure from the coast until Tuesday last. The number of emigrants that had taken a passage by her at Antwerp, and had gone on board before she weighed anchor, is stated to have been from 176 to 200. They comprised young, respectable German agricultural labourers, with their wives and families and many mechanics. Amongst the number on board were from fifty to sixty women and between twenty and thirty children. The ship was worked by a crew of nearly twenty, part of whom were Englishmen, commanded by a Captain Whitmore, a surgeon being on board to attend the emigrants. It was late on Tuesday evening when the Floridian put out to sea. The weather was exceedingly fine, and the wind being fair all bade well for a pleasant run through the Channel. The course taken after clearing the Flemish banks (so say the surviving seamen), was westward for the Straits of Dover. The weather continued favourable up to twelve o'clock, when the wind shifted round to the south-west, blowing very hard, with a fall of hail and snow, which was so heavy that it became impossible to see the length of the vessel. They tacked ship and bore to the north-westward, until four o'clock on Wednesday morning, and then altered their course. Captain Whitmore had charge of the watch up to four o'clock, when he went below, the chief mate succeeding him in charge of the next watch. Daybreak brought fearful weather; the wind had sprung up terrifically, with a great fall of snow, and a heavy rolling sea. The ship kept on her course, the intention being to make for the South Foreland light, running under reefed foresail, foretopmast staysail, and the main spencer. Although the storm increased in fury almost every hour, no alarm was manifested for the safety of the ship until about three o'clock, when (according to the statement of one of the seamen saved) the chief mate expressed some misgivings as to the course they were then pursuing, and, calling to the second officer, requested him to take charge of the watch while he went below to "look into his coast pilot directory." Scarcely had he quitted his post before the ship struck with terrific force; so great, indeed, that her planks and false keel immediately rushed up alongside. A scene of horror instantly presented itself on deck; the emigrants hastened on the deck in frantic dismay. Within a few moments of the vessel striking the sea broke into her hull, blowing up the hatchways, and sweeping many of the poor creatures overboard, while others were drowned in their berths, being unable to rise from the effects of sea sickness. Captain Whitmore, perceiving the inevitable destruction of his ship, gave orders to his men to launch the boats. The first boat broke adrift the moment it was launched, and, it is said, capsized directly with two men who were in it. The moment the second boat was lowered the captain jumped into it with Mrs. Whitmore (his wife). This led to a desperate rush towards the craft. Some twenty or thirty poor creatures, men and women, leaped from the quarter-deck of the foundering ship into the boat; the result was, that it also instantly capsized, and the whole party were precipitated overboard and lost. The crew took to the rigging, to which they lashed themselves, and upwards of 100 of the emigrants congregated on the quarter-deck. Here they had not been more than an hour before the ship broke in two, amidships. The mainmast fell over the side with a fearful crash, and a tremendous sea carried away the whole of the quarter-deck with the mass of human beings on it. A frightful shriek filled the air, and the next moment the unfortunate creatures were struggling in the deep. By great efforts eight or ten were rescued by the men who had secured themselves in the rigging. The moment the ship broke in two, her cargo, mostly merchandise, floated out and intermingled with the drowning sufferers. For some time men, women, and children were to be seen floating about on the packages. Ere night had set in, however, all had disappeared. The then survivors, about twelve in number, continued in the rigging of the foremast, which, with the fore part of the vessel, was all that remained of the wreck, the whole of the night enduring the greatest suffering. The sea kept breaking over them, and the cold being most intense rendered their condition most painful. When Thursday morning broke it was discovered that six had died in the course of the night; they had been frozen to death, and their bodies were dangling in the rigging. All that day the same fearful weather existed, and not the least aid could be rendered those who still existed in the rigging. They could see vessels passing at a distance, but they were too far off for the crews to observe their situation. Thursday night and the greater portion of Friday passed away, yet no help came. Only four now remained, three sailors and one passenger; the other two were frozen to death in the course of the preceding day and night. About seven o'clock great was their joy at perceiving the approach of a vessel, which proved to be her Majesty's revenue-cutter Petrel. The crew belonging to her, by direction of the commanding officer, lowered their boat and pushed off to the spot, the heavy surf beating round the wreck in such a manner as to render the running of the cutter alongside the wreck exceedingly dangerous. After considerable difficulty the poor fellows were got off and taken on board the revenue-cutter, where everything was done for their comfort. They were in a deplorable state of exhaustion and partly bereft of their senses. Their hands and feet were severely frostbitten, and how they escaped with their lives appears most remarkable. The Petrel made for this port with all sail, and arrived about eleven o'clock at night. Mr. Billingsley, Lloyd's agent and Vice-Consul for the Belgian government, afforded the poor fellows every attention that was possible by placing them in comfortable quarters. The names of the seamen saved are Henry Hill, William Harry, and a Swede, name unknown. The fourth is one of the emigrants, apparently a mechanic. He has been deranged ever since he has been landed.

From accounts received from Brightlingsea, a small fishing village near Wivenhoe, we hear that a Colchester vessel lost five hands in an attempt to rescue some of the sufferers. The noble fellows saw the quarter deck carried away with the emigrants on it. They immediately pushed off in their boat with a view of saving some of them, but had scarcely got a few strokes when a heavy sea caught their craft, upset it, and the whole of them met with a watery grave.

The Long Sands form a very extensive shoal some distance outside the well-known channel known as the Swin. In length they are between nine and ten miles, and their breadth averages from half a mile to a mile and a half. They are about twenty miles from this port, and their other extremity about the same distance from the North Foreland. It is a matter of some surprise that the ill-fated vessel should have made such a course as to touch these sands. It is affirmed that she must have been a number of points out of her track in making for the Channel, for, even boisterous as the wind was, it was not in a direction likely to hasten the striking of the ship on these shoals. The opinion here given by competent parties is that the melancholy catastrophe is entirely attributable to a want of judgment on the part of the commander. At this port he was well known, and was generally considered an experienced mariner. It is worthy of remark, however, that American commanders in coming from foreign northern ports generally steer a course nearer the English coast than the more proper and safe channel.

Upwards of 200 vessels started on Saturday morning for the spot where the wreck lies, with a view of picking up what portion of her cargo might be floating about. Several revenue cutters also proceeded to the scene to protect it from the ravages of the wreckers.

A report had been received by the Preventive Service, that fifty bodies had been found along the coast towards Southend, but we have had no means of ascertaining its correctness.

HARWICH, MONDAY.—Incessant have been the inquiries here as to whether any more of the unfortunate creatures had been preserved; with the exception, however, of the four poor fellows taken from the rigging by the Petrel revenue cutter, every human being on board perished, numbering in all 171 souls.

The depositions of the surviving seamen of the Floridian have been taken by the authorities of the port, and from them we gather an authentic detail of the circumstances attending the ship's loss. It may here be stated that their names are Henry Hill, Ephraim Stockbridge, a man of colour, and William Hary.

The crew, with Captain Whitmore, (who had his wife on board,) amounted to fourteen, the names of whom were Wm. Viley, chief officer, of New London; a Swede, name not known, second officer; James Williamson, steward; Richard Ferdinand, cook; Charles Barrett, John Tillman, Peter Davis, John Dutch, Edward Woody, Charles Thomas Balwith, and the above mentioned survivors.

After the ship struck, the terrified emigrants rushed on deck, and a scene of heart-rending character ensued. The poor creatures ran about in almost frantic confusion. The ship continued striking the shoal, and Captain Whitmore finding, by sounding the pumps, that she had bilged, signalled a barque (which afterwards proved to be the Dyle) about three miles off for assistance. The captain finding, by the broken fragments that were coming up each side, that the vessel was breaking up, directed the boats to be launched. His intention was to take the passengers to the barque. Two, named Charles Barrett and John Tillman, got into the first boat lowered, to bale out the water she had shipped. The passengers, however, got hold of her, and were hauling the boat alongside to jump in; but Barrett, apprehensive of her being stove in, cut away the painter, and the boat drifted astern. The life-boat, capable of containing about twenty persons, was then launched, Captain Whitmore directing the men to stand by, so as to prevent too many getting into her. He was the first to enter, with the intention of assisting his wife into the boat. The emigrants, however, conceiving that it was his intention to abandon them and the vessel, rushed headlong over the quarter-deck into the boat. It was instantly filled, and the next moment she was capsised, and all were drowned—the captain and the chief mate, who had gone to assist the passengers into the boat, disappearing with the rest. Mrs. Whitmore, who had been unable from the pressure to get in, was on the quarter-deck, and witnessed the fate of her husband. To the remainder of the ship's company it was evident that most of those on board, about 150, would perish, as they felt and saw the vessel fast breaking up. The sea was lashing the ship on all sides, the water had burst up her hatches, and her cargo of boxes, cases, &c., were washing about her decks in all directions, breaking many of the passengers' legs, who as they fell were by the next sea washed overboard and lost. As a last recourse it was resolved to cut away the main and mizen mast. She had heeled over on one side, and it was hoped it would be the means of saving her, but no axes could be found. The rigging was separated with an idea that the masts, not having the necessary stay, would go over, but they held on for half-an-hour afterwards, when the ship went in two, and the main and mizen mast, yielding by the board, fell with a loud crash. Many of the emigrants were crushed to death by their fall, and others were knocked overboard. Hill, Hary, Stockbridge, with another seaman, named Davis, and four or five passengers, had taken to the fore-rigging. Previously they had placed several women and children under the forecastle and in the cook-house, so as to prevent their being crushed to death by the heavy floating masses on deck. The emigrants huddled together on the poop. Those in the forecastle, cook, and round-house were speedily drowned by the sea tearing them away, and sweeping them overboard. For some time Mrs. Whitmore was observed in the centre of the group of unfortunate creatures on the poop. She had her hands crossed on her bosom, and, with her head raised to heaven, appeared to be in deep prayer. Some were in a kneeling position, while others were shouting for help from the barque at a distance. Their fate was speedily sealed. Within a short time a terrific sea rolled on to the wreck, and, at one swoop, carried the entire poop overboard. At least from eighty to a hundred and twenty unhappy creatures were upon it, and for a moment or so it floated like a raft. The next sea or so, however, turned it over, and the living mass were struggling in the agonies of death. Some thirty or forty, among whom were several females, could be observed clinging to the floating packages of the cargo. As they rolled over, so the poor creatures struggled for a firmer hold. At length, from exhaustion, they sank and were drowned. Before night had set in, the wreck had broken in two, and the part which remained was the bow and the foremast, to which the survivors and others clung.

The Floridian struck on the outside of the Long Sands. The revenue cutters which have since arrived, report that not a vestige of the wreck remains the whole having been swallowed up in the sands. As yet none of the bodies have been brought ashore. A great number have been seen floating, but the fact of most of them being naked, leads to the presumption that they had been previously picked up and stripped of their clothing. Many of the passengers were known to have sums of money about their persons, some to the extent of £300 and £400. A large number of wreckers were seen in the vicinity of the wreck, after the survivors had been taken off by the Petrel cutter, and, with the exception of some of the cargo that has been landed at Ramsgate and Margate, no other portion has been reported to the customs.

The only emigrant saved, Wilhelm Nicro, having partly recovered his senses—the mind of the poor fellow being deranged, when rescued, by the horrible suffering he endured with three others in the rigging of the wreck—was enabled to make the following statement to Mr. Oppenheim, the interpreter to Lloyd's agent of the port, who handed it to the reporter:—"As far as I can recollect I sailed with about 160 of my countrymen, all emigrants from Antwerp, on the 25th of February, in the Floridan, for New York; and stood out to sea from Flushing Roads on the 27th. We had very rough weather, a succession of severe gales, and the greater part of the emigrants were down below, sick. Suddenly on the evening of the 28th, about five o'clock, we experienced a tremendous shock, and a general cry was heard, 'The ship is on shore—we are all lost!' I, and almost every one of the passengers rushed upon deck, when a scene of the greatest terror and confusion ensued. The ship continued to strike on the sand very heavily for a short time, when she broke up in three pieces. A terrible and heartrending cry, which I shall never forget, was uttered by all, and the distress and screams of the women and children who were on board nearly overpowered me, in my efforts to effect my own preservation. I was quite bewildered, and indeed I can scarcely remember what then took place, for my senses were almost gone. I can recollect that the greater part of the unfortunate victims were crowded on the after-deck, whence, unhappily, I had the misfortune to see them washed away. They all met with a watery grave. The sea that broke over us was terrible. I was left with eight others on the forepart of the ship with a piece of mast standing. We got up in the rigging, where I kept as well as I could. My sufferings were very severe from the intense cold, and a sail which was continually blowing about my head seriously bruised me. I managed to get higher in the rigging, and I saw four of my fellow-creatures fall on the following morning. I supposed that they had died from the cold. There were now only four of us left, and we continued in the rigging. All Thursday night and Friday we had given up our lives as lost, when about five o'clock on Friday evening we saw a boat making towards us. It had put off from the Petrel revenue cutter, and by the humane and praiseworthy efforts of the crew we were miraculously preserved. We were taken on board the Petrel, which landed us in Harwich harbour. I have since been lodged and fed by the kind interference of Mr. Billingsley, Lloyds' agent and the Prussian Consul; but I am still suffering much from the exposure to cold, and from not having tasted any food nor had any rest for three days and three nights."

The poor fellow continues under the protection of the Vice-Consul, and has received every medical and other necessary attention.

But one opinion appears to be entertained as to the error which led to the lamentable event, that it is alone to be attributed to a false reckoning of the ship's course. Strange to say, the same remarks are applicable to the loss of the large Dutch vessel, the Dyle, wrecked on the same sands two hours after the Floridian had gone on. She left Flushing in company with the Floridian for the Downs, and was the vessel which Captain Whitmore saw at a distance when his ill-fated vessel struck, and supposed that their perilous situation was seen, and that she had hove to for their assistance. Such, however, was not the case. Mr. Laws, the captain of the Dyle, was unconscious of everything but his own danger. His vessel struck on the sands about five o'clock, and he, with his crew, remained in the tops of the rigging nearly the same time as the poor fellows on the foremast of the Floridian, three days and nights; but, although their sufferings were considerable, they managed to procure provisions, whereas the others never tasted food or water the whole time. The storm, it will be recollected, blew from the south-west, directly off this coast, and consequently would tend to keep vessels from the land than otherwise. A very strong current, however, set in on the sands, and it is inferred that the Floridian was carried by the current on to the spot.

Varieties.

A FRENCHMAN AT HIS ENGLISH STUDIES.—Frenchman: Ha, my good friend, I have met with one difficulty—one very strange word. How you call h-o-u-g-h? Tutor: Huff. Fr.: *Très bien, huff:* and snuff you spell s-n-o-u-g-h, ha!—Tutor: O, no, *snuff* is s-n-u double f. The fact is, words ending in *ough* are a little irregular.—Fr.: Ah, very good; 'tis beautiful language. H-o-u-g-h is *huff*, I will remember; and c-o-u-g-h *cuff*. I have one bad *cuff*, ha!—Tutor: No, that is wrong. We say *kauff*, not *cuff*.—Fr.: *Kauff, eh bien. Huff* and *kauff*, and *pardonnez moi*, how you call d-o-u-g-h? *Duff*, ha—Tutor: No, not *duff*.—Fr.: Not *duff*; ah! oui; I understand—is *dauf*, hey?—Tutor: No d-o-u-g-h spells *doe*.—Fr.: *Doe!* It is very fine; wonderful language, it is *doe:* and t-o-u-g-h is *toe*, certainement. My beefsteak was very *toe*.—Tutor: O, no, no; you should say *tuff*.—Fr.: *Tuff?* And the thing farmer uses;

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34, CLERKENWELL-GREEN.
SUNDAY EVENING LECTURES.
March 11th.
Mr. LEST.—Subject:—"Myths of the Ancients."
March 18th.
Mr. M'GRATH.—Subject:—"Upon the Science of Astronomy and its progress."
March 25th,
Mr. M'GRATH.—Subject:—"The Impolitic, Unjust, and Anti-Christian Character of Death Punishments."

A Parliamentary Debating Society meet every Wednesday Evening.

TOWER HAMLETS.
A MEETING of the Chartist Councils of the various Localities will be held on TUESDAY EVENING NEXT, at the CROWN AND ANCHOR, Chester-street, Waterloo-town, to consider the propriety of calling a Public Meeting to adopt a Petition to Parliament in favour of the People's Charter.

TO BE DISPOSED OF, in consequence of the party going abroad, a FOUR-ACRE SHARE in the National Land Company.
Application to be made to Mr. WM. SIMPSON, 6, Thornhill Bridge-place, Caledonian-row, Islington.

TO BE SOLD,
A TWO-ACRE ALLOTMENT at MINSTER LOVEL, partly cropped; soil of first-rate quality, and well situated.
For further particulars apply to T. GILBERT, 34, Brize-norton-road, Charterville, Witney, Oxon; if by letter pre-paid, and stamp for reply.

FOR SALE,
ONE FOUR-ACRE SCRIP, balloted in August, 1847—stands the first chance of location.
Also, TWO FOUR-ACRE SCRIPS—paid-up.
The whole must, unavoidably, be sold; either separate or together. The first reasonable offer will be taken.
Address in care of THOS. ORMESHER, 52, Bridgwater-street, Manchester.

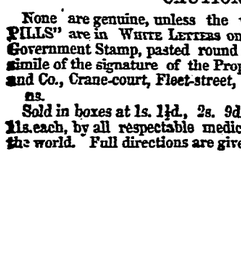
TO BE SOLD,
A PAID-UP FOUR-ACRE SHARE in the NATIONAL LAND COMPANY. Price £3 5s., eligible for the ballot. The party wishing to dispose of it residing some distance from town requests all communications to be addressed (pre-paid) to N. H., care of William Rider, 5, Macclesfield-street, Soho, London.

MARKET-GARDEN LAND.
TO BOOT AND SHOE MAKERS and Others. To let, in a populous town, seven miles from London, Three Acres of Land, with a Six-roomed House, Washhouse and Dairy, Pigsties for Fifty Pigs, with inclosed Manure-yard, Cow-sheds, Stabling, Lofts, and Out-houses—a portion of which are let for nearly half the rent. The Land is inclosed with wall, and stocked with all kinds of Fruit-Trees, cropped with Vegetables and Flowers. The whole of the produce can be sold, retail, on the premises. The Boot trade is all bespoke and of the first respectability. The fittings and utensils in trade can be had together or separate. It will be parted with on very low terms to any person taking possession directly.
All letters to be post-paid, inclosing a stamp for reply, to L. M., at Mr. Parks, 32, Little Windmill-street, Golden-square, London.
Also FIVE FOUR-ACRE SHARES in the National Land Company, two of which are paid up. Price Eight Guineas.

NEWCASTLE BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL LAND COMPANY. The following resolutions were agreed to at the last Sunday meeting, March 4th:—
First. "That a full meeting of the members take place on Sunday afternoon, the 11th inst., at five o'clock precisely, to hear the quarterly report, and to consider and fix the future expenses of the Branch. Members not present will incur the usual penalty."
Second. "That it be decided also, whether any further time be allowed to those members in arrears of shares, or whether the time fixed by Conference be stood by."
THOS. FORREST, Secretary.
P.S.—Mr. Nesbit having declined the secretaryship, all correspondence to be sent to T. Forrest, care of M. Jude, Cock Inn, Newcastle.

VICTIM FUND.
TO THE DEMOCRATS OF GREAT BRITAIN.
THERE will be DISPOSED OF, by SUBSCRIPTION, on the principle of the Art-Unions, TWO BEAUTIFUL PLAIDS, OF O'CONNOR AND DUNCOMBE TARTANS.
They are of the finest quality, are suited for the wear of either Lady or Gentleman; and will lie, for inspection, at the shop of Mr. RICHARD BURKETT, stationer, 177, Fountain Bridge, Edinburgh. They will be forwarded to the successful subscriber by such conveyance as he may desire.
The Subscription Sale will take place in Ross's University Temperance Hotel, 59, South Bridge, on the 21st of March, at Seven o'clock in the Evening.
Proceeds to be given to the Victim Funds of England and Scotland.
SUBSCRIPTIONS:—SIXPENCE each, to be paid or remitted in Postage Stamps or Post-office Orders, to Mr. Burkett, as above.

THE BEST APERIENT AND ANTI-BILIOUS Medicine for General Use is Frampton's Pill of Health, which effectually relieves the stomach and bowels by gentle relaxation, without griping or prostration of strength. They remove head-ache, sickness, dizziness, pains in the chest, &c., are highly grateful to the stomach, promote digestion, create appetite, relieve languor and depression of spirits; while to those of a full habit and free livers, who are continually suffering from drowsiness, heaviness, and singing in the head and ears, they offer advantages that will not fail to be appreciated.
This medicine has for many years received the approval of the most respectable classes of society: and in confirmation of its efficacy, the following letter has been kindly forwarded to Mr. Prout, with permission to publish it, and, if requisite, to refer any respectable person to its author:—
"To Mr. Prout, 229, Strand, London.—Sir,—I feel pleasure in being able to bear my strong and unsolicited testimony to the excellence of your 'Frampton's Pill of Health,' which I consider a most safe, efficacious, and very superior general medicine. The widow of an officer, an elderly lady, and near relative of mine, has used them—very rarely having recourse to other medicine for a long period of years. She has recommended them extensively, and in one instance in which she induced a person to adopt them, and supplied the first box herself, they have proved of extraordinary efficacy. I think that, perhaps, there is scarcely any other of the many patent medicines before the public of equal value as a friend in need; certainly none possessed of superior claims. I shall be happy on all occasions to give them my individual recommendation; and am, Sir, your obedient servant, * * *.—Heavitree, Exeter, April 24, 1844."
Sold by T. Prout, 229, Strand, London, Price, 1s. 1½d, and 2s. 9d. per box. Also by
Heaton, Land, Hay, Haigh, Baines and Newsome, Smeeton, Reinhardt, Horner, Rushworth, Stavelly, and Brown, Leeds; Brooke, Dewsbury; Bolton and Co., Walker and Co., Hartley and Dunhill, Doncaster; Judson, Ripon; Foggitt, Coates, and Thompson, Thirsk; Wiley, Easingwold; Spivey, Huddersfield; Ward, Richmond; Sweeting, Knaresborough; Harson and Wilson, Darlington; Dixon, Metcalfe, and Langdale, Northallerton; Rhodes, Snaith; Spinks and Pannett, Tadcaster; Rogerson, Hicks, Sharp, and Stick, Bradford; Arnall and Co., Wainwright, Brice, and Priestly, Pontefract; Cardwell and Smith, Wakefield; Sutter, Leyland, Hartley, Denton, Dyer, and Lofthouse, Halifax; Booth, Rochdale; Lambert, Boroughbridge; Dalby and Swales, Wetherby; Waite, Harrogate; Wall, Barnsley, Atkinson, Brighouse; and all respectable Medicine Venders throughout the United Kingdm.
Ask for FRAMPTON'S PILL OF HEALTH, and observe the name and address of "Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London," on the Government Stamp.



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"First—They increase the strength, whilst most other medicines have a weakening effect upon the system. Let any one take from three to four or six pills every twenty-four hours, and, instead of having weakened, they will be found to have revived the animal spirits, and to have imparted a lasting strength to the body.
"Secondly—In their operation they go direct to the disease. After you have taken six or twelve pills you will experience their effect; the disease upon you will become less and less by every dose you take; and if you will persevere in regularly taking from three to six pills every day, your disease will speedily be entirely removed from the system.
"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.
TO PERSONS GOING ABROAD.
These pills are particularly recommended to all persons going abroad, and subjecting themselves to a great change of climate. OFFICERS OF THE ARMY AND NAVY, MISSIONARIES, EMIGRANTS, &c., will find them an invaluable appendage to their medicine chests, as a preventative of the attacks of those diseases so prevalent in our Colonies, especially in the West Indies, where a small box recently sold for 10s. In America also its fame is getting known and its virtue duly appreciated, causing an immense demand for it; and there is no country or port in the world where it will not speedily become an article of extensive traffic and general utility, as it may be had recourse to in all cases of sickness, with confidence in its simplicity, and in its power to produce relief.
TO LADIES.
PARR'S LIFE PILLS are especially efficacious in all the variety of ailments incident to the fair sex. Ladies even of the most delicate constitutions will find them beneficial, both before and after confinement; and for general use in schools, they cannot be too strongly recommended. They mildly and speedily remove all Skin Eruptions, Sallowness of Complexion, Nervous Irritability, Sick Headache and Depression of Spirits, Irregularity, or General Derangement of the System.
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None are genuine, unless the words "PARR'S LIFE PILLS" are in WHITE LETTERS on a RED GROUND, on the Government Stamp, pasted round each box; also, the fac-simile of the signature of the Proprietors, "T. ROBERTS and Co., Crane-court, Fleet-street, London," on the Direc ns.
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To Correspondents.

J. SWEET acknowledges the receipt of the following sums for the DEFENCE FUND (sent herewith).—Mr. Knott, 3d.; Goulder, 3d.; Chipindale, 6d.; Smith, 6d.

Mr. ORMESHER, Manchester, has received 6s. from the Middleton Council, for the support of the prisoners in Kirkdale.

Mr. J. EVANS, Trowbridge.—If the agent will call at our office he can obtain them. We charge 2d., in addition to which the agent has carriage to pay.

Mr. HOLLIS, Cheltenham.—We have not got any of the numbers you require.

THOMAS SOWERBY, Dalston, Cumberland, who sends 3s. to the Defence Fund, offers the following proposition for the consideration of the Chartist body:—"Supposing the circulation of the *Star* to be 12,000 copies weekly, and instead of sending them to newsvenders, if each locality formed a committee to distribute them, you would save one penny on each copy, which would amount to £50 per week. Supposing seventy-five per cent. of that be given to the Defence Fund, which would be £37 10s. weekly, and twenty-five per cent. to defray expenses incurred, which would be £12 10s: this could be carried on until the debts incurred for the defence of Chartism were wholly liquidated, and afterwards be appropriated to the advancement of the cause. The gross sum of £50 per week would be £2,600 a year."

W. H. Smith.—No room. We have more poetry than we know what to do with.

B. REARDON, Soho,—We have no room.

JOHN OXFORD, Saddleworth, had better send the name of the testator, and the date when the will was proved, together with twelve postage stamps, to the Registrar, at Doctors' Commons, requesting him to search for the will, and asking him the charge for a copy.

BENJAMIN PILLING, Saddleworth.—Read the Chartist "Tracts for the Times." We cannot answer your second question.

W. G. WARD, Halifax.—The non-acknowledgment of your letter was an accidental omission. We had not room for its publication.

THE NORTHERN STAR.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 1849.

LANDLORDS' LOYALTY.

JUSTICES' JUSTICE.

'Foregad! we live in funny times. MACBETH's cauldron was but an egg-saucepan compared to our bubbling pot of necromancy, and the witches were dull drones compared to our necromancers. "We live in new times," say all, "and we must suit the altered circumstances to the interests of all." "But," says the Minister, "there must be a perfect concord as to the change before we can adopt it." The Government of old used to be the designers, but in these days of novelty the Government are but the arbitrators. "We want this," say the Free Traders; "We want that," say the Protectionists; and "We want t'other thing," say the people; and "That's all right," say the Government; "but as our tenure of office depends upon your antagonism and difference of opinion, you must agree among yourselves before we can decide."

Now, this is a remarkably agreeable position for the English Government; but when those several contending parties do agree among themselves upon any point—which is not only doubtful, but next to an impossibility—but should they agree, we doubt that they would constitute the Whig Government the court of arbitration. We live in new times, and we require—if not new men, at least, men with new ideas, adapted to the circumstances of the times, to govern us. People, Protectionists, and Free Traders, never will agree; and for the simple reason—because Protectionists and Free Traders, respectively, live, thrive, and prosper upon the disunion of the people: but the moment that the people are united, the Protectionists, Free Traders, and the Whig Government must surrender their necromancy to the sound and commanding wisdom of an all-powerful and justice-loving Democracy, whose natural ascendancy would make a pitiful minority subject to the laws of an overwhelming majority—make the rich richer, and the poor rich—make the now disloyal, obedient to the laws of their own creation—make the ignorant wise—the thief honest—the prostitute virtuous—the labourer's chief pride to consist in the modest comforts of his condition—and England the envy and admiration of surrounding nations. And to this conclusion we must come at last; and at it we can only arrive by allowing those who bear the burthens to share the honours of the State, and that we can only accomplish by bringing all within the pale of the constitution by the enfranchisement of the millions; and then the flood of knowledge will break down the barriers of ignorance. We shall hear no more of the corruption of the few, who, as trustees, barter the rights of the many for base lucre, and the proud Englishman will be relieved from the disgrace of hearing Ministerial justification of electioneering bribery and corruption.

With so much of a preface, we now turn to our *text*—

LANDLORDS' LOYALTY—JUSTICES' JUSTICE.

We remember during the last Session of Parliament, how the Honourable Member for Nottingham was scoffed at when he measured the loyalty of bishops, parsons, landlords, merchants, traders, and manufacturers, by the standard of self-interest; and how the great gentlemen of England bristled up when he said: "Take away the rents or the privileges of the landlords to-day, and their loyalty will follow them to-morrow." Is there a reader of the "*Northern Star*" who does not remember the "Oh, oh's" and groans with which the honourable gentleman was assailed? But what will the same readers or the same growlers say, when they read the announcement of the Honourable Member for Downpatrick, "That every Justice of the Peace in the county would resign his trust if the Six-penny Rate in Aid was passed by the House of Commons?" And what will they say when they find the pious representative of the Protestant University of Dublin, basing the religion, the loyalty, and the industry, of the Protestants of Ireland, upon exemption from taxation to aid in the support of their Catholic countrymen?

Do they forget, that in the good old days of *corruption*, the Protestants of Ireland were quartered upon Catholic industry—when the few lorded it over the many—when no Catholic was eligible to office—when no Catholic was eligible to wear a silk gown, and to be admitted inside the Protestant bar—when a premium for disobedience was held out to the Catholic child—when no Catholic could hold land except under severe restrictions—when any Protestant might compel any Catholic to dismount from his horse, no matter what its value, and transfer it to the privileged conqueror for £5? In those good old times, the Catholics of Ireland bore the burthens both of England and Ireland, while the Protestants of Ireland, not only shared, but monopolised, patronage, emolument, and profit. And now their Protestant dignity and loyal ascendancy rebels against the foul impost of a Sixpenny Rate in Aid!

Those of the North have become the proprietors of the confiscated estates of the legitimate Catholic owners; they have fattened upon Catholic bondage, and now, when called upon to disgorge a portion of the plunder, they threaten the abandonment of religion, the renunciation of loyalty, and relinquishment of industry. Not, however, to be outdone in the House, the apostles abroad are determined to be foremost in the crusade against English legislation, when it militates, not against Protestant ascendancy, but in favour of the preservation of Catholic life. We almost fear to publish the treason of Mr. DOLLING, Justice of the Peace, lest the ATTORNEY-GENERAL should subject us to the tender mercies of Whig clemency. However, as we do so, not as an example worthy of imitation, but for the purpose of reproach and reprobation, perhaps we may escape the grasp of the official. Here it is, copied from the "*Morning Chronicle*," who, if we are guilty in the eye of the law, is *particeps criminis*, and we shall have no objection to be coupled in the indictment with our contemporary, provided always that we should be tried by THE SAME JURY. This is an important reservation, as the Jury who would acquit the mouthpiece of PEELISM, would be certain, upon the same evidence, to convict the MOUTH-PIECE OF CHARTISM. Here goes, then, Mr. DOLLING'S standard of loyalty:—

MOVEMENT AGAINST THE RATE IN AID.

Accounts of further meetings held yesterday, and of requisitions for others, have been received in the course of this day. Every available opportunity is taken to denounce the rate in aid, and the language uttered by the usually cool and calculating northerns, under the excitement produced by the Ministerial project, resembles the vehement harangues of the southern monster meetings in 1843. As a sample, I take the following passages from a speech delivered by Mr. R. Dolling, J.P., at a dinner given in Banbridge, on Thursday, to the agent of the Downshire estates, by the tenantry:—

"There are few counties in Ireland which could present such a bright spectacle as I see before me this evening; but, on the contrary, too many where the landlord is looked on as a tyrant—the agent as a petty tyrant. (Hear, hear.) I hope this state of things amongst us here will long continue. We are industrious before God, our Queen, and our country; we are able to meet our engagements and pay our debts; but we will never allow ourselves to be robbed. (Tremendous cheers.) I say and act on the principle, that property has its duties as well as its rights. Live and let live is our motto here. Let the landlords in the South and West do as we do, reside among and encourage our industrious, truth-telling tenants, asking only a fair rate for their land; let them do this, and not spend their time in hunting, horse-racing, and cock-fighting. (Tremendous cheers.) Before the Queen and country we say this, that to tax the people here to make up for the improvidence of the landlords in other parts of the country is the most monstrous — most unjust — most iniquitous — most damnable measure that ever was heard or thought of. (Enthusiastic and prolonged cheering.) I'll ask you one question. The owner of a bill may be not worth a straw; if he get a good man to endorse it, it is all right. I may be worthless; but if you endorse my question with your cheers, it will pass. The question I am about to ask is this—and I hope the Fourth Estate will record this fact—I hope the *Times*, the slanderer of Ireland on this occasion—(loud cheers)—will notice it—a crusade must be raised—a crusade against this most iniquitous measure; *and will you endorse this*, that, with the assistance of Almighty God, we'll oppose this measure to the last—and we'll never pay the tax? [The enthusiasm that prevailed here is perfectly indescribable. The cheering and applause lasted several minutes.] There's not the slightest mistake in that answer. (Renewed cheers.) Another thing: the government have been used to play with agitation in the South and West; it has been a kind of plaything for them, that they could put in their pocket, or throw over their shoulders, when they wanted to get rid of it. (Laughter.) But tell Lord John Russell, we'll give him an agitation in another quarter and of another kind. (Great cheering.) Let me tell him it will be a different thing when the sturdy, solid, sound, sensible men of Down are roused. (Great cheers.) Not a few paltry places, not cajolery, or "soft sawder," no insignificant measure about the franchise, which satisfies the south, will turn us from our object. We tell Lord John Russell this, that the spirit of '82—(enthusiastic burst of applause)—the spirit that animated the volunteers of Dungannon—still lives; and will men submit to be robbed of the fruits of their industry for the support of the South and West? (Renewed applause.) We'll preach a crusade against it, and I'm happy to say I'm one of the first apostles. (Laughter and cheers.)"

The *Monaghan Standard* thus describes the excitement in that part of Ulster:—

"They who always supported law now talk openly of resistance; and those who have for years administered law look ominously grave as they foresee the consequences of the measures. We predict that this impost will never be levied except at the bayonet's point. To be sure, England may garrison Ulster with 40,000 troops, and harry the cottages of the yeomanry and the houses of the gentry. But it will be a sorry sight to see!"

Now, then, what think you of that, you loyal Protestants of England? A Protestant crusade is proclaimed against Catholic life by a Justice of the Peace, indorsed by his audience, and backed by the assistance of Almighty God; not, according to commercial practice, to pay, but by the declaration never to pay a tax imposed by the Imperial Parliament. What will the Protestant say to the agitation of the sturdy, solid, sound, sensible, well-fed Protestants of the North, as compared with the paltry cajolery and "soft sawder" of the men of the South? what will they say to the revival of "that spirit that animated the volunteers of Dungannon in '82, when their cannon had a most significant motto under its touch-hole?" And what will they say to the first apostle in this crusade of resistance being a Justice of the Peace! and administrator of English law in Ireland? What will they say to the bursting, the overflowing, the enthusiastic loyalty of Protestant Ulster, rejoicing in the declaration of the Protestants of that province, that "They will offer open resistance to the law?" "To be sure," says the scribbler, "England may garrison Ulster with 40,000 troops;" and to this we answer, "Serve them right, as turn about is fair play;" as when Protestant patronage depended upon Catholic subjugation, then Protestant Ulster was ready to garrison Catholic Munster and Connaught, not with 40,000 troops of the line, but with unlimited battalions of bloodhounds, to wade knee deep in Catholic blood.

We hail this Ministerial measure as the means of consolidating and wedding Protestant and Catholic interests. The Protestants have had the fat, now they must take their share of the lean; while, though the very announcement of a sixpenny rate arouses them to madness, they have not the "*nouse*" to see or understand that the Ministerial proposition, so revolting and distasteful to Protestant Ulster, is but a sprat to catch a mackerel. They have not the power of divination to understand that the sixpenny Rate in Aid will be advanced from the Imperial Exchequer; that at the commencement of the next Session, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER will announce that the necessity for the advance was urgent, pressing, and indispensable, to save life; that the Government had not calculated upon the difficulties attending the collection of the Tax, and that it now stands in the balance sheet as a debt of £300,000 due by Ireland, in addition to the £1,200,000 advanced for the erection of workhouses; and he was sure that no honourable gentleman in that House would object to this paltry addition to the Irish debt, when the timely advance was the means of saving thousands—nay, hundreds of thousands of lives during those months preceding the harvest, which are always the most disastrous, and during which no employment could be procured.

Then the Orange Protestant howl will be converted into a royal loyal cheer, and JOHN BULL will say, "Well, if it was necessary to preserve Irish connexion we will pay it, but it MUST BE THE LAST." But we assure JOHN, in perfect good faith, that it is neither the last nor the second last; we admire his generosity, but as long as the connexion is to be continued there will be a perpetual and incessant draw upon his humanity, philanthropy, and charity, until he shall have discovered that he has quite enough to do at home, and that Ireland, if the relationship were severed, would have less claim upon his generosity. It is hard to see a sister want, while we may allow a neighbour to struggle, although we are told to love him as ourself. JOHN, though very religious, knows, however, that there is a difference between professed love to our neighbour and compulsory aid to a sister. The one he may measure by whim, the other must be obeyed by compulsion. And it is for the effect that these, and such like just and necessary appeals, are likely to produce on JOHN'S mind, that PADDY should hail all such propositions with pleasure and delight, as they must inevitably lead to that severance of an unholy connexion, which has impoverished both countries, and to the establishment of a union which will aggrandise and enrich both, making them independent relatives instead of begging slaves and unwilling donors.

In conclusion we must observe, that during the four nights' most prosy debate upon this sixpenny Rate in Aid, and while much Protestant enthusiasm, landlord devotion, and tenant interest, was spouted, the name of the Labourer was never even hinted at; but, as the question of the resolutions has only been disposed of, perhaps we may hear something of the most valuable party to the contract—THE LABOURER.

DR. M'DOUALL.

We are now in a position to set at rest all doubts respecting the intentions of Dr. M'DOUALL and his legal advisers, with regard to the "Writ of Error."

Notwithstanding anything that may have appeared in this paper to the contrary, it is Dr. M'DOUALL'S final determination to sue for a Writ of Error, with the view of setting aside the judgment under which he is at present suffering.

A re-consideration of all the material facts on which an application for a Writ of Error will be founded, has inspired Dr. M'DOUALL and his legal advisers, with sanguine hopes of the happiest results.

Mr. RICHARD B. B. COBBETT, of —, Marsden-street, Manchester, will conduct the case. Dr. M'DOUALL'S imperative instructions are, that all monies collected for him, be forthwith sent to Mr. COBBETT, who is only waiting for the necessary funds to proceed in this business, so important to our persecuted friend, and his bereaved family.

[☞ Mr. COBBETT is requested to furnish his name in full, with the number of his residence, to Mr. RIDER, *Northern Star* Office, 16, Great Windmill-street, London.]

Mr. COBBETT requires a sum—£20—which might be collected with ease in the course of a few hours, provided Dr. M'DOUALL'S professed friends would bestir themselves, and make an earnest effort to obtain the money.

Is Dr. M'DOUALL to remain in prison for the want of 20*l.*? Shall he continue to suffer a felon's fate—a felon's fare? Shall his family continue to suffer under the affliction of his loss to them? Shall Chartism be dishonoured for lack of so paltry a sum? When a few shillings collected in each locality will make up the required amount, surely the working classes will not inflict upon themselves the disgrace of neglecting to respond to this appeal,

We believe that the sum already collected is about 6*l.* We look forward with confidence to seeing the remainder—and we hope something more—collected within a week from the present time.

No one need hesitate to give, or collect the contributions of others, under the impression that too much money may be collected. Even supposing that a larger sum should be collected than the lawyers will require (and that does not often happen), Dr. M'DOUALL'S family would be none the worse for the surplus being applied to their aid. We understand that Mrs. M'DOUALL has commenced business in Liverpool in the general news and book-selling line. Of course, her success, and the consequent support of herself and children, will principally depend on the support afforded her by the news and book-reading public of Liverpool. We say "principally depend," for it will be all the better if assistance is rendered from other places. Some amount of capital—little or much—is necessary to enable Mrs. M'DOUALL to make a fair start. Credit is not always obtainable, and never desirable. A Committee of the Liverpool friends was formed some time ago to collect subscriptions to establish Mrs. M'DOUALL in business. All monies (for that purpose) must be sent to the Treasurer of the Committee, Mr. ANDREW WATT, 5, George's-buildings, Dryden-street, Scotland-road, Liverpool.

The friends of Dr. M'DOUALL will shortly have afforded them another opportunity of serving their incarcerated advocate and his family. A poetical work, and a work on "Agricultural Chemistry," both from the pen of Dr. M'DOUALL, are now in the press, and will very shortly be published. If Dr. M'DOUALL'S active friends in the several localities form themselves into Committees to promote the sale of the works as soon as published, each Committee appointing trustworthy canvassers, and a Treasurer and Secretary, a large sale will be ensured, and some considerable benefit derived therefrom by the family of the imprisoned patriot. Mrs. M'DOUALL has four infant children. What more need we write? Not one word to those who believe, with the poet, that

"The drying up one tear has more
Of honest fame, than shedding seas of gore."

PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW.

After a protracted debate, the House of Commons affirmed the principle of the Government plan for meeting the present difficulties and distresses in Ireland. That plan is simply that, for the next two years, *every union* in Ireland shall pay a rate equal to sixpence in the pound on each electoral division in such union, towards a *general fund* for the relief of the poor, and that the amount so collected shall be distributed in such manner as the *Imperial Parliament* may direct.

Now, apart from the obvious political injustice of such a plan, and the plain and incontestible right of the Irish people to appropriate and apply funds which they exclusively contribute, there are many other weighty objections to it, and we do not wonder at the gallant and protracted resistance of the Irish members, of all political creeds, to such a scheme. It has still many stages to go through; and the manner in which the people of Ulster especially, on whom the burden will fall most heavily, are bestirring themselves, threatens a more determined and prolonged opposition. The people in the North of Ireland, who have been so often complimented upon their loyalty, their industry, and their peaceableness, ask very naturally why these qualities should cause them to be singled out for the imposition of this exceptional tax? They say, and truly, "You tell us that the Imperial dominion of Great Britain must be maintained; we have supported you in that, and it is too bad now to throw upon our shoulders what ought to be an Imperial burden. Why should not Lancashire and Lanarkshire be taxed for such a purpose as well as we? 'Equal burdens break no backs,' and that which may be ruinous and oppressive when confined to us, would scarcely be felt, if equitably apportioned to the tax-paying powers of the Empire."

Besides this objection, however, the whole scheme is tainted with the usual disease of Whig policy. It cures nothing—it effects no real amendment of the evils it is professedly meant to remedy. After the lapse of two years, and the expenditure of perhaps a couple of millions sterling, Ireland will be—so far as this scheme is concerned, or anything that may be expected from the present Ministry—in precisely the same position as she now is. The only hope which Lord JOHN RUSSELL himself holds out of a cessation or diminution of the destitution which calls for these extraordinary advances, is of a truly melancholy character. He thinks that within the next two years one of two things will happen; either the potato will become plentiful again, and the Irish peasants return to their old half-starved mode of existence—or they will be thinned off by death and emigration, so that there will no longer be need to support them by rates of any kind! *This is the utmost stretch* to which his Lordship's mind can go in speaking of the evils of Ireland or in imagining how they are to be got rid of!

In the one case, Ireland would continue to be inhabited by a population whose poverty and destitution, in the best of times, has been a standing disgrace to this country for centuries; to which all travellers have pointed as the great blot upon modern civilisation. The half-employed, half-fed peasantry, dependent upon their potato patches for subsistence, would, in case of a recurrence of the potato disease, be again thrown upon the resources of this country for support, and another ten or twelve millions would have to be raised for that purpose. In the other case, Ireland would generally become a waste and uncultivated desert—as it is now in many places. Landlordism and Whig incapacity conjoined, would have consummated their work by depopulating one of the most fertile and favourably situated countries in the world.

For the first two nights of the debate, no indication whatever of power to grapple comprehensively and earnestly with the vast and difficult problem of the future of Ireland, was manifested. The same bald, disjointed, petty, and selfish propositions, which have been heard of for the last ten or fifteen years, were reproduced, as if they had been novelties. The Government plan—ill-digested, futile, and effervescent as it was—seemed, after all, the only thing that could be done, simply because *nobody was prepared with a better.* On the last, however, appearances altered. Mr. OSBORNE made a speech which touched effectually on the real causes of the evils of Ireland, and made some suggestions of a really remedial character. He was followed at the early hour of six o'clock by Sir R. PEEL, who made a speech which certainly took by surprise all who heard it, and which, whatever may be its defects, contrasts singularly with the barrenness of Ministerial invention—the purblind nature of Whig policy—and the feebleness with which the reins of Government are held by them. Sir ROBERT must have deeply pondered on the question before he screwed his courage sufficiently high to venture upon making so revolutionary a proposal as he did on Tuesday night. Had it come from any one else it would have been denounced as emanating from the Socialists and Anarchists, and received with a stormy outburst of landlord indignation. This proposal is nothing less than that Government should buy up all the pauperised and bankrupt Unions in Ireland, and "plant" the territory thus acquired with a young and fresh colony in something like the way as Ulster was "planted" by JAMES I., with this difference—that, in the new plantation, he would make no religious distinction. This is, in effect, a *social revolution* on a large scale. He suggests a Government Commission, authorised to buy with national funds these now beggared, unsaleable, and uncultivated districts; that, having purchased them, the Commissioners shall employ the population, if necessary, in opening up and improving the territory which has thus become national property, and that they should be empowered, at their discretion, to sell the land with a *Government title* to fresh colonists, with a limitation of liability for poor rates.

The sources from whence the ideas on which this plan is founded are derived, will be manifest to our readers. It is essentially and virtually an adoption of the *principle* of those plans for the regeneration of Ireland, which have been scouted and denounced by the Political Economists, and the Landlords, as the height of ignorance on the one hand, and the most audacious wholesale robbery on the other. "The sacred rights of private property," about which so much has been said, are no more respected by this plan of Sir R. PEEL'S, than they have been in all the plans of social reform propounded by those who have, for years, urged plans similar to it in principle upon the attention of the public. The *only* difference between Sir ROBERT and those from whom he has borrowed his ideas, is, that instead of using the territory thus acquired to create a new race of landlords, tenant-farmers, and agricultural labourers—after the model of Hants, Wilts, or Dorset—they would have created a small yeomanry, and have ensured all the social benefits of a peasant-proprietary. It is, perhaps, natural that the ex-PREMIER—from his habits, and association of ideas—should, at first, have shrunk from going the full length to which his newly-adopted principles and convictions would lead him. But, we venture to say, that subsequent and deeper consideration of the subject will show him, that in order to meet well, and wisely, and effectually that fearful "future," which has already driven him into the proposal of such a plan, he must go farther. Even if Connaught and Munster were colonised by new "planters," in the fashion he proposes, there would still be a large number of persons for whom the modern system of agriculture would not find work. What is to be done with them? They must either be shipped off to the Colonies wholesale, or allowed to provide a sustenance for themselves at home. The other alternative—that of supporting them in idleness—belongs to the Political Economists, and the Whig Government; we repudiate it altogether, and of the first two we infinitely prefer the latter.

Sir R. PEEL confines his attention exclusively to the lands which have been cultivated, but are now altogether or partially abandoned, and lying, as described by a Government official, as completely waste as if they had been devastated by an enemy. To this we have no objection, while, at the same time, it must be recollected that a wide expanse of waste but cultivable land also exists in Ireland, which may be made available if needful. In the meantime, however, the formerly cultivated lands will be sufficient, if in addition to the 2,000, 1,500, and 1,000 acre estates, proposed by Sir R. PEEL, the Commissioners were empowered to sell, or lease with a power to purchase, small estates of from five to twenty acres, with a Government title. The contract or leases might prohibit subdivision of these small holdings to an extent likely to be injurious, and might also lay down a certain rotation of crops. This addition to the plan would, we are persuaded, be hailed with delight by the people of Ireland, for it is utter nonsense to say, that men who cross the Atlantic or Pacific for distant lands, lured by the hope that there they may secure "a labour field" of their own—and who, when they do, exhibit untiring industry in its cultivation—would not exhibit the same qualities if allowed to live and work on their own estate in their native land.

Meanwhile, the enunciation of a plan recognising such principles by a man possessing the immense political influence and the foresight of the ex-PRIME MINISTER, is an indication of better times. The great mass of people are content to take their opinions on credit. They require to have them, however, first stamped by some recognised authority before they can pass current. Now that Sir ROBERT PEEL has issued such notions from *his* mint, we may expect that they will rapidly come into common use. If so, it will herald the downfall of the present abortion of a Cabinet. In the midst of the dreary aridity of invention and idea, which, for the last two years or more, has characterised the occupants of the Treasury bench, it was positively startling and refreshing to hear something like practical statemanship, even though the plan did not come up to our own mark. RUSSELL and GREY felt that the bell, announcing their dismissal from office, struck when PEEL ventured to grapple in that way with the "chief difficulty," and their convictions manifested themselves by the even unusual obsequiousness of their manner towards the man to whose support they mainly owe the retention of office so long.

Mr. DRUMMOND has succeeded in defeating, if not the Government, at least the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, SOLICITOR-GENERAL, and LORD ADVOCATE, on his Transfer of Real Property Bill. We have given a pretty full abstract of his speech in moving the second reading, which contains an interesting digest of the mode in which the feudal tenures were originally acquired, and the mode in which the present monstrous and oppressive system has grown up, for the benefit of the lawyers, and the injury of every other class of the community. The HOME SECRETARY tried to persuade Mr. DRUMMOND into the withdrawal of his Bill, on the complimentary ground that if he wished merely to have an expression of opinion from the House in favour of the principle, he had got it; and that the Government would take the hint, and as soon as possible do what they could with so difficult question. But possibly Mr. DRUMMOND has the same faith in Whig promises and Whig ability that we have; he had no notion of wasting the time of Parliament by merely talking about a Bill, and then withdrawing it, so he persisted on going to a division, whereupon Sir JOHN JERVIS got snappish, and moved the second reading that day six months. He was beaten on the division by a majority of ten, and showed his mortification and ill-temper at the defeat, by the angry and bitter tone of his reply to an attack upon his legal w

LETTERS
TO THE WORKING CLASSES.
XXXVII.

"Words are things, and a small drop of ink
Falling—like dew—upon a thought, produces
That which makes thousands, perhaps millions
think."
BYRON.

CHARTISM AND REPUBLICANISM.
THE FRATERNITY OF NATIONS.

BROTHER PROLETARIANS,

The cause which too sufficiently excused the non-appearance of my usual letter in last Saturday's *Star* still operating, though in a mitigated form, would have induced me to abstain from writing—at least, until next week—had I not felt it my duty to offer some observations on the letter addressed "To the Chartists," by Mr. O'CONNOR, in last Saturday's paper.

If I clearly understand Mr. O'CONNOR, I perfectly agree with the sentiment he has expressed in the first paragraph of his letter—that a right understanding between a party and its recognised representative, is most essential to ensure the onward march of the said party, and the success of its principles.

If in the ranks of a party, differences of opinion arise, such differences may be reconciled, provided those who dissent from each other candidly state their sentiments, and conduct any discussion that may ensue thereon in a spirit of fraternity. As long as human nature shall remain what it is, it will be unreasonable to expect all men to think alike. For enemies—whether political or personal, public or private—*to disagree and to wage* war against each other, is a thing of course. But the best of friends will sometimes differ upon questions both speculative and practical; such differences would, however, never be productive of evil consequences, if the parties disputing would act fairly by each other. It is well understood that I am no advocate for the "*mealy-mouthed*" system of dealing with an enemy. I am in the habit of calling a spade, a spade. But when dealing with friends—*true* friends, I mean—I would always wish to express my dissent, when compelled to disagree, in the language of courtesy and good feeling. My rule is well expressed in the good old convivial toast:—"*Grape* shot to our friends, and chain shot to our foes."

Mr. O'CONNOR'S expressed anxiety for a "thorough understanding" between himself and all other true Democrats, is for me sufficient assurance that I may freely comment on his letter; applaud where I can, and dissent where I must.

I fear Mr. O'CONNOR has been misled by some fool or designing knave, otherwise he would hardly have written a letter for the purpose of warning the Chartists against an alleged attempt to form a Republican party, or create a Republican agitation. I am well acquainted with the several sections of the Democratic movement; I am well-informed of the sentiments of all who impart shape and tone to the popular feeling; I have correspondence with many of the Chartist leaders at present suffering the miseries of incarceration; and I "speak by the card" when I say, that the idea of superseding the movement for the Charter by a Republican agitation has no existence, save in the fertile imagination of those who appear to have misled Mr. O'CONNOR. Certainly, Republicans abound; but they are not the men to throw "the apple of discord" amongst the Chartists. If that charge applies to any persons, it applies to those who have supplied Mr. O'CONNOR with false information.

The true Republicans of this country, whilst very properly expressing their sympathy for their Republican brethren of the Continent, quite as properly keep their mouths shut as regards this nation. They know that "the pear is not ripe," and "they bide their time." That is not all. The *true* Republicans value *forms of Government only so far as those forms* are calculated to arm the people with *power*—the power necessary to enable the masses to work out their social emancipation. They know that the mock power of a gilded puppet—whether in pantaloons or petticoats—is a matter of very small importance compared with the veritable, the gigantic, the (at present) omnipotent power of the "kings of gold"—the usurers in human labour—the bloodsuckers of the children of toil. Considering, therefore, that the question of "king, or no king," is a matter of—to say the least—secondary importance, and one, moreover, the agitation of which would, at the present time, be premature, and consequently impolitic, no true Republican would have thought of raising that question at *this time*, had Mr. O'CONNOR'S letter not appeared. That letter containing sentiments which I am *sure* a large number of my brother Chartists dissent from, I think, as one of that number, that I am bound, as an honest man, to show wherein and why I differ from Mr. O'CONNOR.

I have already corrected one error into which Mr. O'CONNOR has been misled, expressed in the assertion that some attempt is being made, or about to be made, to create a Republican agitation at the expense of the Chartist Movement. I shall now proceed to notice—1st, Mr. O'CONNOR'S idea of the manner in which the agitation for the Charter should be conducted; 2nd, his version of Republicanism; and, 3rd, his advice to the Chartists respecting their attitude towards the people of the Continent.

I agree with Mr. O'CONNOR, that it would be folly for any man to pretend to predict the political and social consequences of the enactment of the Charter. But I am not prepared to censure those who believe that the shortest road to the establishment of the Charter is through the enlightenment of the people as to the *social* value of that measure. The events of last year proclaimed, trumpet-tongued, the necessity of imparting knowledge to the masses, if possible, *before* their acquirement of political power. The blunders of the "Provisional Government" and the intrigues of the rich would, both combined, have failed to damage the glorious victory of February, provided the people had been sufficiently enlightened to have elected an *honest Assembly. Unhappily, common sense* had not preceded common Suffrage. Still the French Revolution of 1848 has been fruitful of good as well as evil. I am sorry that Mr. O'CONNOR should speak of the French Constitution as "a bag of moonshine." That Constitution, with all its faults—which are neither few nor trivial—is, nevertheless, *the Charter*, and something more—something more in the way of good, I mean. If Mr. O'CONNOR means that the first general election, under the provisions of that Constitution, is likely to give birth to an Assembly no better than the present, I share his anticipations; but even that will not prove the Constitution "a bag of moonshine." I am not at all confident that a first, or even second election, under the provisions of the Charter, would produce a House of Commons containing a majority of real Reformers. But even though, with Universal Suffrage, the people should elect a Parliament of PEELS and COBDENS, RUSSELLS and SIBTHORPS, such an exhibition of popular madness would not stamp the Charter "a bag of moonshine;" *it would only* prove that the people's heads were filled with an incomprehensible substitute for brains. Still the legal existence of the Charter would be "a great fact." The people would possess the *power* to save themselves, and, perhaps, time would supply them with the necessary sense. So with the French, thanks to the Revolution of February, they possess the suffrage. Their blood be upon their own heads, if, under their Republican Constitution, they allow themselves to be driven as sheep to the slaughter, when, if they would, they might be free!

Mr. O'CONNOR says that "in America there is as much class-distinction, national suffering, and popular discontent, as in any monarchy in the world." There *is* "class distinction," there *is* "suffering," and there *is* discontent" in America, but certainly not so much, nor anything near so much, as in *many* monarchies. I believe *Ireland* is a monarchy! The alleged state of society in America, used by Mr. O'CONNOR as an argument against Republicanism, is also made use of, by our opponents, as an argument against the Charter. Their cry is "Look at America! Behold *the results of Universal Suffrage*:—slavery, 'class-distinction,' 'suffering,' and 'discontent.'" But neither Chartism nor Republicanism are to be damaged by such arguments. The existence of slavery, class-distinction, suffering, and discontent in America, testify to the wickedness *of the few and the ignorance of the many*; but the principles of Eternal Justice proclaimed in the Declaration of Independence, are true and glorious, nevertheless.

The examples of popular folly cited by Mr. O'CONNOR, such as the French pouring out their blood for Napoleon, only illustrate the fatal consequences of popular ignorance. It should, therefore, be the first duty of a democratic teacher to labour for the extirpation of that ignorance.

So believing, I should be very sorry to see the agitation for the Charter confined to the discussion, illustration, and vindication of the "six points." Even though it were possible for such an agitation to win the Charter, it would not prepare the people to make a good use of their power when obtained. More than that: I am impressed with the conviction that the Charter never will be won until the masses are made to comprehend all that its possession would enable them to accomplish for themselves—socially and politically. A Trades Union, a Benefit Club, a Land Society, holding out certain tangible and immediate advantages, is each more popular than an association that has the obtainment of the Charter for its object. Why? Because the masses do not understand the vast and *veritable benefits they might derive from the Char*ter, were it law. In my opinion the free discussion of all social and political questions which would, or should occupy the attention of a Parliament elected by Universal Suffrage, will be the best means of stimulating the millions to struggle for the Charter, and the best means also of preparing them to make a wise use of that Charter when made the law of the land.

I cannot but express my astonishment at the views Mr. O'CONNOR seems to entertain concerning Republicanism. Mr. O'CONNOR says:—"If a speaker gets upon the platform and says: 'I am a Republican,' he may be cheered, but neither he nor his audience know the meaning of the term." If this is true, the more need is there that Republicanism should be discussed, in order that the people may understand the good or evil of that system of government. But I venture to believe that the Chartists, at any rate, are much better informed of the meaning of Republicanism than Mr. O'CONNOR imagines; and, furthermore, I venture to assert that they entertain views thereon widely differing from those *entertained by Mr. O'CONNOR.* I may add, that the earnest, sober-minded Republicans, are not in the habit of advocating Republicanism on public platforms. Any man who comes before the people, a candidate for their confidence on the strength of a Republican cry, should be questioned by his hearers as to what he means by a Republic. If an impostor, his answer will reveal his ignorance or his knavery.

Mr. O'CONNOR is in error in asserting that America never was a Monarchy, and that, therefore, Republicans were not arrayed against Monarchists, and Monarchists against Republicans. America *was* a part of the British Monarchy, and at the commencement of the revolution there *was* a strong party for continuing the connexion of the colonies with England. *Fortunately, that party was in the minority*, and naturally and justly suffered confiscation and proscription for their hostility to the rights and liberties of their countrymen. Until within a few years past, a large sum of money was annually voted by the British Parliament to compensate the "American Loyalists" for their sacrifices in the blessed cause of the British Monarchy. At this moment I am unable to say whether that annual vote has been continued to the present time. Those who can refer to the "Miscellaneous Estimates" of 1848, may satisfy themselves on this head; at all events I am confident that, until very recently, *the American Monarchists figured amongst the de*vourers of the taxes wrung from the plundered labourers of this country.

Certainly no man, in the possession of his senses, will think of condemning the Swiss Confederation on the strength of Mr. O'CONNOR'S *striking* anecdote of a lusty innkeeper cuffing a peasant who, I suppose, was not quite so lusty. Mr. O'CONNOR, *to* have given his story the slightest weight, should have shown that there was no law in the canton to punish a man for assaulting another; or that there was a law positively permitting a landlord (*i.e.*, innkeeper) to cuff a peasant; moreover, he should have shown *that if Switzerland had been under Austrian rule*, "landlords" would not have been allowed to cuff peasants. Otherwise, this cuffing story goes for nothing. Were I to "cross the frontier" I could supply Mr. O'CONNOR with no lack of anecdotes of cuffings, and far worse than cuffings, suffered by peasants and others, under the blessed rule of the Austrian Monarchy.

Let those who admire Monarchy remember the massacres of Galicia; reflect on the hellish cruelties committed by the Austrians in Lombardy; picture to themselves the storming of Vienna, the bombardment of Cracow, Lemberg, Prague, &c., &c.; and last, not least, imagine, if they can, the present state of Hungary—drenched with blood, desolated by fire, and afflicted by horrors to which I will not give a name—*all the work of Monarchies—all this more than all produced by tyrants who but execute the commands of a still worse monster, a Monarch.*'—*Emperor by the "Grace of God!"*

Mr. O'CONNOR has been in Belgium—I have not; nevertheless I take exception to the very charming picture he has drawn of the loyalty of the Belgians, and their social happiness. I can assure Mr. O'CONNOR that a very numerous Republican party exists in Belgium; indeed, in Ghent—the Manchester of Belgium—the working men are, to say the least, quite as much Republicans as the working men of Manchester are Chartists. I have reason to believe that the peasantry are not in favour of Republicanism. Why? Because, with the exception of the peasantry of one other nation, they are more priest-ridden than any other portion of the Catholic population of Europe. The priests keep LEOPOLD on his throne. Mr. O'CONNOR says, the Belgians "have all but the Charter." But if they are to be admired on that account I think the French, who possess the Charter entire, and something more, are still more entitled to our admiration. As regards the happy condition of the Belgians, I believe that all that Mr. O'CONNOR asserts is warranted by all that he saw. But how much and how far did he see? I very well remember that in the time of the potato-famine, the newspapers represented the peasantry of Belgic Flanders as suffering scarcely less than the people of Ireland. They were represented as being utterly destitute, and roving through the country in large bands, taking food by force wherever they could find it.

Mr. O'CONNOR, addressing the Chartists, says: "The difference between a Monarchy, as you understand it, and a Republic, is simply this—that in the one case the head is called King, and derives his title from descent; while, in the other case, the head is called President, and owes his title to election," &c. Mr. O'CONNOR proceeds to argue on the evils of the American system of electing a President every four years; and, in opposition thereto, gives his reasons for preferring a King, or at least the election of a President for life. Here I may observe, that the principle of Elective Monarchy was not found to work well in Poland; and all the objections to the system formerly in use amongst the Poles, as regards the appointment of their kings, apply to the election of life-Presidents. God forbid! that Mr. *O'CONNOR should ever be placed in the fatal position* of being called upon to give his casting-vote on the question of a Presidency.

I cannot agree with Mr. O'CONNOR that, even with the Charter, it would be a matter of no importance whether the Pope, the Devil, or the Pretender sat on the throne. I believe, notwithstanding that the Devil has many friends, that a majority would be averse to his rule. The Romans—sensible people that they are—seem to be in opposition to Mr. O'CONNOR as regards *the Pope, and when Rome* kicks out the Pope, it would be a shabby nation indeed that would accept his Holiness for King. For my part, I should be as little disposed to accept the Pretender—such a Pretender as LOUIS-NAPOLEON, I mean—as either of his rivals. Every one to his fancy, as the man said when he kissed the cow; but, with all deference to the tastes of others, I have no inclination for either Pope, Devil, or Pretender.

Mr. O'CONNOR says: "There would be no difference—not a particle—between Monarchy and a Republic, provided the power behind the throne was greater than the throne itself." Of what use, then, the "barbaric splendour of a throne at all?" Or why have a President for life, or for four years? Mr. O'CONNOR seems to be unaware of the fact, that his version of Republicanism is out of date. It was correct, perhaps, sixty years since, but the true Republicans of the present day—*the men of the future*—reject President as well as King, and will no more vote for one than the other. All Mr. O'CONNOR'S reasoning, therefore, against Presidential elections every four years, falls to the ground. A principal object of the Republicans, henceforth, will be to prevent the possibility of the people committing such a blunder as the French peasantry committed in December last, when they elected that *thing*, LOUIS-NAPOLEON, to the President's chair. With no such chair, there will be no fear of having it badly filled, or of seeing it transformed into a throne.

The length to which this letter has already extended, compels me to offer the shortest possible comment on Mr. O'CONNOR'S advice to the Chartists, as regards the attitude they should assume towards the people of other *nations*. If I understand Mr. O'CONNOR, he advises that that attitude should be one of selfish neutrality. If it be true that "no other people on the face of the earth care three straws for you," you may thank yourselves for that. You have done nothing worthy of a people for your own freedom, whilst, on the other hand, your fathers were the willing accomplices and tools of the oppressors of Europe, and yourselves, though repenting of your fathers' follies, have not shown a hearty sympathy for those who are struggling to redeem themselves from the tyranny imposed by continental tyrants, who were aided and sustained by English force and English gold.

Had your fathers paid some attention to foreign politics they would not have poured out their blood, *nor have imposed burdens on their* posterity, to put down freedom in France. Bear in mind, too, that your rulers will not follow Mr. *O'CONNOR'S* advice. They will either interfere or prompt others to interfere to put down the friends of Freedom. If they abstain from plunging a dagger into the heart of Liberty, they will at least, like Judas, betray her into the hands of her enemies. If you "wean your minds from the consideration of foreign questions," and quietly allow your rulers to unite with the league of tyrants, now re-forming for the purpose of reducing the nations to their old state of slavery, the people of the Continent will justly hold you responsible, and regard you as participators in the criminality of your rulers, and "the curses of hate and the hisses of scorn" will accompany the name of "Englishman" throughout the globe.

It has been by some one observed, that that man is not to be envied who could stand upon the field of Marathon and not feel his pulse beat quicker, nor his blood flow with greater warmth than when treading any common spot of earth unsanctified by the blood of the brave and free. But that man is still to be less envied who can behold unmoved the struggles and sufferings of his contemporaries, those *struggles and sufferings being for the self-same ob*ject as that for which the Greeks, fought, died, and conquered—FREEDOM. When I behold a nation bursting the shackles of ages, releasing herself by one great effort from foreign thrall and domestic oppression; asserting the freedom of the mind as well as of the body, by casting off the tyranny of priestcraft along with the fetters forged by kings;—when I behold that nation, betrayed by its treacherous chiefs, and pretended friends, and abandoned by its ancient ally, determined, notwithstanding, to defend its new-born liberty at any cost, and then, when I turn my eyes homeward, I am lost in wonder, sunk in shame, at the apathy, the selfishness, the *slavish spirit of my own countrymen, who have* neither the virtue to imitate the Italians, nor the generosity to fly to their help—no, nor even utter a prayer for their victory!

Mr. O'CONNOR would encourage—I would dispel—your fatal indifference to "foreign questions." That Mr. O'CONNOR *means* well, I am sure; but in my heart and soul I dissent from his doctrine—I proclaim a doctrine the reverse. I tell you that a blow struck at the liberties of one people is intended to strike down the liberties of all; that "he who oppresses one nation is the declared enemy of all," and that "Men of all countries are brothers, and ought to yield one another mutual aid, according to their ability, like citizens of the same state."

L'AMI DU PEUPLE.

March 8th, 1849.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

THE METROPOLITAN FINANCIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY REFORM ASSOCIATION.

THE following address to the people of London has been issued by the council of the above association:—

Unrivalled in population, wealth, and intelligence—its individual sympathies always enlisted on the side of progress—London, the first to suffer from the evils of misgovernment, has usually, and with a few brilliant exceptions, been the last to unite for their extinction. To remove this reproach—to collect and combine the scattered and slumbering elements of political power which abound in the metropolis, in aid of the gathering force of public opinion in the provinces—to create, for the achievement of Financial and Parliamentary Reform, a legal, powerful, and comprehensive organisation—constitute the end and aim of this association. Strictly constitutional in its objects, the agencies employed will be such only as are recognised and permitted by the law. Its first efforts will be directed to strengthen the hands of the people's party in the House of Commons, and array public opinion in aid of the removal of obstacles which stand at the very threshold of progress. Its practical character will be found in the assistance it will be enabled to afford to the existing machinery, established for watching over and conducting the registration of liberal voters resident in the metropolitan counties, cities, and boroughs, combined with the adoption of an efficient plan by which its members may become freeholders and voters. Although deeply impressed with the conviction that no great change tending to lessen or destroy the exclusive immunities enjoyed by the privileged classes will be permitted, until the portals of the constitution are sufficiently widened to admit that large portion of our fellow subjects who are not more unwisely than unjustly excluded; yet, feeling that the burdens under which the industry of the country is daily groaning, and the mischievous effects produced upon all classes by the present unequal and viciously contrived system of taxation, are evils which require prompt attention and immediate remedy, the agitation in favour of Financial Reform will receive at the hands of the Association its willing and vigorous co-operation. While, however, cordially uniting our exertions with those of our fellow-reformers for the attainment of financial ameliorations, the great questions of Parliamentary Reform will not be suffered to remain in abeyance. The wisdom of conceding modifications in the political system, to meet the altered circumstances by the increasing number, wealth, and intelligence of the people, has been singularly instanced by the fact that while Europe has been convulsed with the throes of revolution, the storm which has swept away dynasties and governments, ruined commerce, and destroyed credit, has passed over this country, leaving its institutions, its property, and its great interests, comparatively unscathed. It cannot be doubted that the enlightened policy which conceded the two great measures, the Reform Act and Free Trade, has reaped its rich fruits in the general tranquillity of the country, the stability of its credit, and the extent of its resources. The necessity of adopting a similar policy at this moment will be urged upon the Legislature with great earnestness. Such a measure of Parliamentary Reform will be asked for as will fairly entitle the people to look for its fruits in a large extension of the franchise and the complete independence *of its exercise—the means of education placed within the* reach of all—the extinction of monopolies, unlimited freedom of commerce, and the total abolition of exclusive privileges—an untaxed and unfettered press—the removal of all undue influences from the House of Commons—public appointments thrown open to talent, integrity, and fitness, instead of, as now, the price which the government of the day pays for active support or hostility forborne—and the reformation of all those abuses in our political and social system which have been too long upheld. The machinery which the association will put in motion will be of the simplest character; a president and a council selected from the members will constitute the governing body. The efficiency and power of the association can alone be found in the number and the earnestness of its members. The nucleus of a powerful political organisation is now formed; it remains with the reformers of the metropolis to vindicate themselves from the charge of indifference to the great interests which are involved in the ascendancy of cheap and responsible government, by giving to the people's cause the inestimable advantages which result from the combined power of union and numbers.

By order of the Council,
JOSHUA WALMSLEY, *President.*

FINANCIAL REFORM.

On Monday evening a public meeting of the inhabitants of Bayswater and Notting-hill, convened by *the Committee of the Metropolitan Financial Re*form Association, was held at the Prince Albert Tavern, Notting-hill. Mr. Dunford was voted to the chair.

The CHAIRMAN said, in reference to the majority against Mr. Cobden's motion for financial reform, that no less than 356 of the members were directly or indirectly interested in the maintenance of our war establishments, and the remaining 300 interested in the continuance of the plunder which was carried on in the name of the church. (Hear.) In the list of those members who voted with the majority against Mr. Cobden's motion, were the names of Sir De Lacy Evans and Mr. Wakley. (Laughter.) Now these gentlemen, and many more who were in the majority, and whom he could name, were hitherto believed to be the friends of the people and friends of reform; but now they had proved themselves the contrary, it was to be hoped that their constituents would bring them to an account for their conduct, and insist upon their resigning into better hands the trust that had been placed in theirs. (Cheers.) He then submitted to the meeting the *following resolution*:—"That the thanks of the Notting-hill Financial Reform Association are justly due, and are hereby given, to Mr. Cobden, and the seventy-eight members of the House of Commons who supported him in his endeavours to rescue the country from the ruin into which it is being forced by successive augmentations of our warlike and police establishments, and the enormous increase of taxes and place-holders."

W. MACFARLANE, Esq. seconded this resolution.

Mr. SERLE observed on the necessity for an entire and absolute parliamentary as well as financial reform. There were many men engaged in commerce who would rise and clamour for financial reform because they would derive personal benefit from it: but financial reform, unaccompanied by a reform in the parliamentary representation of the people, was not exactly what true reformers wanted. The people of England were politically educated, and why, he would ask, were they denied that which had been accorded to the people of France? Votes there could not be bought. Mr. Hume said that the only means of putting an end to bribery was the extension of the franchise, and all right-thinking men would say that doctrine was a true one. (Cheers.) The chief characteristics of our system of representation were degrading, and was this to exist in England whilst the rest of Europe was bravely and manfully rising into moral existence? (Cheers.) Give them the ballot—they would ask no more. What else they wanted they could then get without asking. The ballot would be the wicket gate by which they would enter, and then they would open the mighty portals themselves. The speaker then urged the benefits that would accrue from a kind of "Anti-Bribery Society," the object of which should be to prosecute electors who were proved to have sold their votes. The suggestion gave great satisfaction.

Several other gentlemen addressed the meeting. The motion was unanimously carried, and a petition to Parliament for Financial Reform, to be presented by Mr. B. Osborne, was unanimously adopted. The meeting then adjourned.

NATIONAL ORGANISATION OF TRADES FOR THE INDUSTRIAL, SOCIAL, AND POLITICAL EMANCIPATION OF LABOUR.

A public meeting of journeymen tailors, *comprised of those who* work in shops, and those who work at home, was held at the Coach and Horses, Silver-street, Golden-square, on Monday evening, to take into consideration the propriety of joining the above body. The large room was densely crowded.

Mr. C. F. GOODFELLOW, a home worker, was unanimously called to the chair, and said he accepted the honour of presiding over so numerous and intelligent a meeting, because he was one of the home workers and had found an aristocracy in the trade, which he thought the "National Organisation of Trades," was calculated to break up, and because he was desirous of seeing a bond of love and unity exist amongst the wealth producers; and whilst they had not the least desire to destroy property, they were animated, he trusted, with a spirit of determination to protect labour. (Loud cheers.) We must remember, that it was circumstances over which we have hitherto had no control, that have made us at once the slaves of capital and the victims of a vicious competition; our legislature had made the workhouse the test, and consequently the operative was reduced to the lowest ebb of misery and degradation. He had much pleasure in introducing Mr. A. Walton, missionary from the parent society, to address them on the objects of the proposed Organisation. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. WALTON said, after the Trades petition, which it would be remembered was presented to the House of Commons by Lord Ashley, had been laid before that assembly, the necessity was discovered that a constitution embracing their fundamental rules should be framed; the several Trades delegates had set about the matter in earnest—the fruits of their deliberation he held in his hand, and with their kind indulgence, would endeavour to explain its principles to them, although when he told them it embraced those two great principles, *Home Colonisation, and Universal Suffrage*, sure he was, that they would agree with him, when he said a clever man would be well employed in expatiating on them in a course of lectures. (Hear, hear.) In the language of their first rule, they held the land to be "the gift of the Almighty to the people," and consequently did not admit of the right of sale of it, but simply that it should be held in trust for the benefit of the people, producing a rental sufficient for governmental purposes. (Hear, hear.) Many of the trades had already taken up this question, and they wished the public land to be dealt with in the same manner as land was now dealt with that was required for railroads or other public purposes, namely—that an Act of Parliament should be obtained sanctioning its use, for the purpose of self-supporting Home Colonies. Their second rule contained that great and all essential principle, Universal Suffrage; and surely no intelligent, right-minded man, would deny to his fellow creatures who was non-convicted of crime, and who had arrived at twenty-one years of age, the right to vote, and who, he boldly asked, was better calculated to exercise that privilege wisely and well, than *the intelligent mechanics of the United Kingdom?* Their third principle was national education, by which he meant a good secular and scientific education principle. Their fourth embraced "a representative currency," which should be forthwith issued by the government, and be equal in amount to the wealth offered in exchange. The legitimate use of currency was to enable a man when he had made a coat to go to the bank, obtain its symbol or representative, which should enable him to go to the store and get what he required in exchange; let this be once effected, and from that moment they might date the emancipation of labour. Their next principle was that "Great Britain and Ireland contain a superabundance of land, skill, and capital, to profitably employ, and comfortably support more than double its population. The government should introduce a bill establishing self-supporting Home Colonies, and this he (Mr. Walton) held to be the best way of finding employment for the unemployed, combining as it did the primitive elements of wealth, land, skilled labour, and capital. The next principle was, that the application of machinery should be made available to the interest of the whole community. Another of their principles declared the necessity of forming local boards of trade, under the superintendence of a Minister of Labour, who would act as an impartial arbitrator between the employer and the employed. (Hear, hear,) The eighth article declared that most excellent principle—that taxation should be equalised, by substituting for all other taxes a graduated Property Tax." He was happy to tell them, then, organisation was progressing; since he attended their preliminary meeting a body of shoemakers, numbering upwards of seven hundred, had sent in their adhesion; and he trusted they would have the co-operation of the tailors. He trusted to see the trades act with a spirit which would carry the conviction home to the powers that be—that the working classes were not to be trifled with when they were in earnest. Mr. Walton resumed his seat amidst great cheering.

Mr. REARDON then moved the first resolution:—"That the journeymen tailors present do hereby form a branch or lodge of the National Organisation of Trades, for the industrial, social, and political emancipation of labour."

After a few words from Mr. BARKER, the resolution was put and carried unanimously; after which, Mr. C. F. Goodfellow, was elected delegate; Mr. Williams elected secretary; and after votes of thanks to Mr. Walton and the chairman, the meeting adjourned till Monday evening next, at six o'clock.

EMPLOYMENT OF THE POOR.
HOME COLONIES.

A great meeting of the Trades of London, at which more than two thousand operatives were present, was held at the Hall of Commerce, Threadneedle-street, on Wednesday evening, "to take into consideration the distressed condition of the trades of the metropolis, and the working classes generally, with a view to petition parliament to sanction the establishment of Home Colonies, as the best and most efficient mode of giving immediate employment to the numerous, but compulsory unemployed of our population; also to consider the propriety of petitioning parliament for the establishment of local boards of trade."

Mr. L. J. HANSARD took the chair, and expatiated upon the objects for which the meeting had been convened.

Mr. A. WALTON moved the first resolution, which was as follows:—"That as Great Britain and Ireland contain sufficient land and capital to employ and support, under associational arrangements and skilful directions, several times the number of their present population, the government supported by the legislature, should be called upon to pass an act for the establishment of self-supporting home colonies, combining agricultural, manufacturing, and educational arrangements, for employing the present unemployed of the industrious classes, and thereby prevent the increase of pauperism and crime which now threatens to overturn the whole institutions of society." It was the desire of the association that this question of employment should not be made a question of party politics, but that they should receive the support and co-operation of persons of all political creeds, who thought it desirable that a more extended field of employment should be afforded to the working classes. The trades' delegates in Manchester were commissioned to ascertain the correct condition of the trades of that district, and they showed that it was worse than it had been in former times. It appeared that the number of artisans and mechanics in London was 200,000, and one-third was employed at wages totally inadequate to obtain for themselves and their families a sufficient supply of the necessaries of life. One-third was half employed, and the remaining third was obliged to accept relief at the workhouse. Benefit and trades societies had been compelled to withdraw their funds from the savings banks, and apply them to the keeping their members from starvation. Many trades had expressed a wish that some means of employment might be found; amongst such trades might be enumerated the several building branches, carvers, gilders, tailors, shoemakers, &c., &c., &c. While recently at a meeting of weavers, he had heard one of their members most truthfully declare, that body to be one living mass of starvation. (Hear, hear.) The problem as to how the people might be profitably employed, might be easily solved, for its immediate application was at once within the power of the legislature. All that was required was simply the combination of the three primary elements of wealth, viz., land, skilled labour, and capital. Let them examine how far they had these valuable elements of human happiness. They had the authority of M'Culloch, Sir John Sinclair, Sheriff Alison, and other eminent statists, that if the land of Great Britain and Ireland was properly cultivated, it was capable of sustaining from 120,000,000 to 130,000,000 of a population. If that were true, how came is to pass that such large masses of the people were in a state of destitution? An answer to this question must be sought from the lips of the minister, and the legislature must be made to solve the question of labour. (Loud cheers.) The cause was that the land was locked up against the people. They had twenty-two million acres of waste lands, a considerable portion of which might be made available to give immediate employment. Moreover, they had the statement of the most accredited authorities that if the crown lands were sold they would fetch upwards of twenty millions. They might be made a more profitable source of revenue to the crown by allowing them to be let at a fair rental. Sir John Sinclair had said our land was not two-thirds cultivated. Ay, but it was asked, will you interfere with private property? Did not Parliament interfere with private property for railway purposes, for the improvement of towns, and when it brought in an Irish Encumbered Estates Bill? (Loud cheers.) Then let us not be met with this senseless cry of interference with private property. Then with respect to the second element, that of skilled labour. The tens of thousands who now thronged our streets were a sufficient proof of our having a superabundance of that element. With respect to capital, they proposed to raise that by way of loan from the imperial treasury. The higher classes by Exchequer bills do this to support their own interests, and surely it is more justifiable when it would save millions from starvation. (Great cheering.) He thought the millions given to Ireland should have been spent in setting her population to work at self-supporting employment, and if the government had so employed it, sure he was instead of their now requiring £50,000, they would be in a position to return that amount. (Much cheering.) Government found money for the blacks, and surely they could not object to find one million, five hundred thousand, to permanently employ the whole British population. (Repeated cheers.) He would show how they proposed to continue these elements. Let them, then, suppose, as the basis of a plan, that 1,000 families of five each be taken from 10 of our principal towns, and let each individual have one acre; that would be 50,000 acres; and all practical men agreed that it required £10 per acre to commence their practical operations. That would amount to £500,000. It would require £750,000 to erect the necessary dwellings and sluices, and then it would require, say £120,000 to purchase the necessary machinery requisite to combine manufactures with agriculture; and as the men would require to subsist during the time they were employed at the early state of their proceedings, if 10s. per week were allowed to each family for six months (and they ought not to have less) there would be a further sum of £130,000, making, in all, £1,500,000. Thus, by applying these three constituent elements of wealth, immediate employment might be given to large masses of the unemployed. (Loud cheers.) There were many schemes before the people for bettering their condition, and amongst others the Cobden one, for curtailing our expenditure, and reducing our armaments; to this he had no objection, as he thought a man was much more useful with a spade in his hand than a musket, but at the same time let it not be forgotten, that every man discharged from the army, was an addition to the supply in the unemployed labour market. It was fallacious on the part of any government to expect a people to be loyal, whilst that government stood between the people and the means of existence—(tremendous cheering)—if employment and the means of existence were not found, we must expect to hear of convulsions. The question was not now, whether this King or that Pope should rule, but how can the people be best employed, and obtain the greatest reward for their labour? Mr. Walton resumed his seat amidst loud and long continued applause.

Mr. A. CAMPBELL seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. KALTHOENER moved the adoption of a petition to the House of Commons to the following effect:—

"That your petitioners belong to the industrious working classes, whose only means of subsistence depends upon the demand for their labour; and that considerable numbers of your petitioners are suffering the greatest privations for the want of useful employment, while the other portion are obliged to levy heavy contributions on themselves to support those who are compelled to go idle, to save them from starvation or the workhouse; that the demand for their labour, and the wages they receive are becoming daily scarce and uncertain, which deprives your petitioners of obtaining the means of subsistence. That your petitioners, as well as the working classes generally, are, under the present management of society, compelled to be idle, and suffer all its direful consequences. That society is deprived of the benefits of their labour, and the revenue of her Majesty's government considerably diminished. That your petitioners are the friends of order, the protectors of property; that for the preservation of the one and the protection of the other, your petitioners respectfully implore your honourable House to consider a remedy for the evils under which your petitioners now suffer as the best and surest means of preventing those convulsions which must inevitably follow from excessive poverty arising from compulsory idleness. Your petitioners are fully satisfied that the remedy is simple and effective, and its immediate application within the power of your Hon. House. That it consists of a well-devised system of home colonisation, uniting in due proportions, land, labour, and capital, for agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial purposes: the whole to be under the direction of those who have most experience in their respective branches. Your petitioners, therefore, pray that that your Hon. House will introduce a bill sanctioning the establishment of home colonies, and that sufficient capital be supplied, by way of loan, from the Imperial Treasury for that purpose, being the best and most profitable means of giving productive employment to our numerous but compulsorily unemployed population."

Mr. WINTON seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. J. WILSON moved the second resolution:—"That, for the just protection of labour and the fair profits of trade, a labouring protecting board should be established for the purpose of regulating, from time to time the prices of labour, and thereby prevent the ruinous competition among employers, and the demoralising and destructive effects on the working classes."

Mr. BRISCK seconded the resolution.

Mr. C. GOODFELLOW, in supporting the resolution, showed the competition prevailing in the manufacture of army clothing. Here, said he, are the inmates of workhouses, prisons, penitentiaries, &c., &c., brought to bear against the independent labourer. (Hear, hear.) Ay, he blushed to own it, in this land of Bibles and Prayer-books, the so-called independent labourer was made to compete with the pauper and felon. The actions of our very religious rules strangely belied their preaching. (Immense cheering.) He asked not charity but justice. Charity was for slaves, justice for freemen. (Tremendous cheering.)

Mr. DELAFORCE moved:—"That the petition be engrossed, signed by the chairman, and presented to both Houses of Parliament."

Mr. HAMNEL seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. THOMAS COOPER having been loudly called for, said, he was thinking that as no particular member of the House of Commons had been named to present the petition, the renegade of Tamworth would do, seeing that he had recommended that a transfer of property should take place, that the wilds of Connemara, under commissioners, taking "an enlarged view of the matter," should be appointed to transfer them with justice and equity. (Laughter.) Well all we require is that the wilds of England shall be "transferred with justice and equity," taking an "enlarged view of the matter" of course,—(laughter)—and there were twenty-two million acres of them. (Hear, hear.) He agreed with the last speaker, but could not agree with the first, who was desirous of excluding politics altogether. (Here Mr. Walton rose to deny this, and disclaimed party politics.) Mr. Cooper did not wish to quarrel with him; he was a Chartist, as well as he was—sure they all were. (Tremendous cheering.) True he did not now handle the awl, draw the thread, or bend over the last now, but he worked hard with his head, but still he never could forget his origin, or the condition of the operatives of Leicester, the town in which he was born. (Cheers.) A baronet had called on him to ask him what they wanted the Charter for. He had told him as a means of obtaining and cultivating the land in order to live. (Loud cheers.) He trusted they would couple the Charter with their movement. (Loud cheers.) He moved that Sir R. Peel present the petition to the House of Commons.

Mr. WALTER COOPER seconded the motion. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

On the motion of Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Walton, a vote of thanks was given by acclamation to the chairman, who, in acknowledging the compliment, gave fifty pounds to the funds of "The National Organisation of Trades, for the Industrial, Social, and Political Emancipation of Labour." This test of his sincerity was greeted with prolonged applause. The meeting then quietly dissolved.

TO THE COAL AND IRONSTONE MINERS OF LANARKSHIRE.

(From the *North British Express.*)

FELLOW-WORKMEN,—Considering the improved state of the iron trade, and the great advance on the price of iron, I am more than astonished to think that no portion of our trade seems as yet inclined to move for a rise of wages. We have had now eighteen months of keen adversity, and really it is time we were beginning to inquire whether or no we have learned anything from the admonitions of that stern teacher, that may be of service to us in future. We have formerly experienced the benefits resulting from association. We have likewise felt the manifold grievances which our abandonment of union has entailed on us; and as the last eighteen months have afforded us sufficient time for reflection, we might now be prepared to decide which is the best for us to adhere to. Are we to attempt a reorganisation of our body? or are we to remain as we are? That is the question. Are we, I would ask, to continue the poor passive and crouching slaves of our taskmasters? Are we patiently to submit to toil for them for a pittance far from being adequate to procure the bare necessaries, to say nothing of the comforts of life? Are we weekly to bear with every species of insult, scorn, and *contumely, lest* our murmurings might give offence to those lords of iron, who regard us as mere mechanical automatons that were sent here for the sole purpose of raising them up to the dignity and splendour of princes, and upholding them in such a state? No, God forbid. Let us once more unfold the banner of union, for bear in mind (notwithstanding the failures of past struggles), it is the only means by which we can

The Metropolis.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS IN LONDON.—The registrar's report for the week ending Saturday last, March 3, shows the number of deaths to have been 1,138, and the number of births, 1,547. The 1,138 deaths are 31 below the winter average, and show a decline on the previous week of 53. The return, therefore, renders on the whole a favourable account of the public health, but it will be observed that scarlatina, though it has declined, continues considerably above the amount of previous years, and hooping-cough has become unusually fatal. The former disease carried off 57, while the average is 32; the latter 89, while the average is 42. The deaths from diarrhœa and dysentery, which seem to have been on the increase at this season during the last three or four years were 23, the average being 14; those from cholera were 35, of which, with a case registered as "diarrhœa and collapse," 5 occurred in Warburton's Lunatic Asylum, Bethnal-green; 2 occurred in the Refuge for the Destitute, Hackney-road. The mortality from small-pox and measles is unusually low; that from typhus has fallen to the average, and is less than has been observed for a long period. The mortality from bronchitis is near the average, while pneumonia was fatal only to 81, which is 22 below the average. The greatest mean height of the barometer in the week was on Saturday, when the reading was 30·288. The highest temperature was also on Saturday, and was 55 deg. 5 min. The mean of the week was 42 deg. 4 min. Two men died of intemperance; one man of exposure; and a child of 21 months was certified by medical attendant to have died of "extreme cold and inflammation of the chest." At Kensington, a girl of 6 years died of hydrocephalus, a case in which the coroner's jury considered that the deceased had not received food and proper attention, owing to the wilful neglect of some of her relatives. An infant of 5 days died in 16 hours from the effects of Dover's powder, prescribed for the mother of deceased, but given under a misunderstanding of verbal instructions from the medical attendant, the paper containing the medicine not having inscribed on it the name of the person for whom it was intended. In Hackney, South, a girl of 2 years died, according to verdict, from the fœtid vapours of a sewer; and in the same sub-district a gravedigger was suffocated by the earth falling in when engaged in his occupation. A child of 4 years died of "cynanche parotidæa," a disease which is rarely fatal.

ATTEMPTED MURDER.—On Saturday last, some excitement was created in the city in consequence of a report being spread abroad that Mr. John Southgate, packer and calenderer, of 23, Old Change, Cheapside, had been shot. It appeared that on Friday morning Mr. Southgate, who is about fifty years of age, was walking in a copse or plantation near his house at Walton-on-hill, close to Reigate, when he encountered a man about five feet six inches high, dressed in a coatee jacket, and trousers made of the same material. The man asked him what business he had there, and he replied by asking the man what right he had on his property? and, seeing that he was about to be attacked, he held up his stick in self-defence, when the man snatched it from him, and struck him a violent blow over the head. He attempted to close with the ruffian, but suddenly felt something enter his left ear, and immediately blood began to trickle down his face and neck. He was stunned, and lay senseless on the ground for some time, but, on recovering, he walked in a very weak state towards his residence, when a messenger was despatched for surgical assistance. In a very short time Mr. Chaldicott, from Dorking, arrived, and, having examined Mr. Southgate, gave it as his opinion that the ball, or whatever it might be that had entered the ear, must remain there, in consequence of its being amongst the ligaments, and beyond the reach of any instrument. Mr. Southgate then proceeded to London, and had the assistance of Drs. Ashton Key and Lever, who perfectly coincided with Mr. Chaldicott's view of the case; and, finding that there was more danger than was at first expected, he told Mr. Southgates' family that it was expedient to have the wounded man's depositions taken. Accordingly, an application was made at Guildhall Police-court to that effect, when Mr. Alderman Wilson and the chief clerk went and took down his statement. The depositions were taken in private, but the above facts may be relied on. It appears the man immediately ran away, and the blow was so instantaneous that Mr. Southgate had not time to see his face so as to be enabled to identify him again. Mr. Southgate lies in a very dangerous state.

CHOLERA, OTHERWISE STARVATION, AT A CHEAP LODGING-HOUSE.—An inquest was held on Tuesday, before Mr. Payne, at St. George's Workhouse, Southwark, on the body of a man, who died in one of the lodging-houses in Mint-street.—W. Barnes, a labourer, said that he lodged at the Red House, in Mint-street, for which he paid 3d. per night. He had seen the deceased, who appeared to have had scarcely anything to eat. During the storm on Wednesday last, he said he should go to the workhouse and try to get something to eat. He went out, but returned soon afterwards wet to the skin, when he said he had been unable to get to the relieving officers, and had in consequence obtained no relief. Witness saw him several times during the day, when he was chewing and eating paper. The next day witness saw him dead.—T. Downs said, as deceased slept in the same room, he had seen him devour the paper as spoken of by the last witness, and after one of the lodgers had drunk his coffee, the deceased took the coffee-pot, and, having poured some water upon the grouts, he drank the same, and appeared very thankful to get it. About half-past two on Thursday morning, the deceased called him up, and asked him to look at his legs, as they were cramped, and he was unable to move them. Witness did as he was requested, and rubbed his limbs, which gave him some relief. He then asked for a draught of cold water, but witness gave him some warm. At seven o'clock, witness found him so ill that he went for a surgeon, whose assistant attended, and gave him some brandy. He died soon afterwards.—Mr. W. Randle, surgeon of the district, residing in Newington-causeway, said that he saw the body of deceased after death. It was exceedingly emaciated, and the features sunken. The hands and feet were contracted, and, from the history of the case, it appeared that the deceased was in a very low condition, and that the cholera had attacked him, and destroyed his life almost at once, simply because he had so little power. In the same house a man was attacked on Monday, the 26th ult., with cholera, and died in forty-eight hours. On Tuesday another was attacked, and on Friday last, the deputy of the house (a woman) was also attacked. The house is very dirty, and the bed clothes are used so long, that the stench is exceedingly bad. In the room where deceased slept were nineteen beds all close together. He had reported the state of his district of the parish to the Board of Health some three or four months ago, and had pointed out particularly these cheap lodging-houses as being ill-drained and badly ventilated. He was constantly called to cases of fever in these three-penny lodging-houses, in some parts of his district in which it is necessary for a person to grope his way, on account of the deficiency of light, and, consequently, ventilation.—By the coroner: The receipt of the report was merely acknowledged, and since then I have heard of nothing having been done.—The coroner said, he thought the present an important case, and it would be better to adjourn, and he would write to the Board of Health, and he would be able to tell the jury when they met again whether any steps were likely to be taken relative to the improvement of this district. It was no use having a Board of Health unless such districts as these were noticed when attention was drawn to them by the surgeon practising in the locality, which evidently required great improvement.—Mr. Randle said, that many of the houses in and about the Mint, besides being in that filthy state already described, were almost in danger of falling.—Several of the jurors corroborated the statement of the surgeon, and the inquest was adjourned.

A casket of jewels, of great value, and a service of plate, of a lady of fashion, were publicly exhibited on Monday at the auction rooms in Conduit-street, preparatory to the sale by Messrs. Robins. Railway speculations are said to be the cause of so many beautiful ornaments being submitted to the hammer, which compel a peremptory sale. Many of the jewels are considered of matchless quality, and curiosity is much excited to discover the fair owner. It is a rare occurrence for so many elegant ornaments for the person to be congregated in one sale. The public view was very attractive.

The Provinces.

ESSEX.—BURGLARY AT STREATHALL AND DEATH OF ONE OF THE ROBBERS, on Thursday morning, the 1st of March. The premises (Streatham Hall) upon which the burglary was committed constitute the residence and farm-house of Mr. Nehemiah Perry, an opulent landowner and occupier. They are situated in the parish of Streathall, about two miles from Chesterford, the whole of which parish is occupied by Mr. Perry, part of it belonging to himself, and part to the Archdeaconry of Durham. The house is an old-fashioned building, placed in a lonely position upon a hill near the church, and at some distance from any other houses or cottages. Indeed, the whole population of the village does not exceed twenty persons; so that Mr. Perry's premises may well have been thought to favour the designs of midnight desperadoes, who abound in this neighbourhood, especially as it was known that the only individuals in the house were Mr. Nehemiah Perry (an old man above sixty years old), his brother, Mr. Thomas Perry, and one female domestic. On Wednesday night these three parties retired to rest between ten and eleven o'clock, leaving the doors and windows perfectly secure. A little before one in the morning they were roused by a noise below stairs; and the servant, fancying the cat had upset something, was about to go and see what mischief had been done, when she was met by Mr. Perry on the landing who told her there was some one in the house, and by whose direction she returned into her bed-room. Mr. Perry is a man of great coolness and courage; he has been in the habit, in consequence of the loneliness of his residence, and the frequency of robberies of late, of keeping three double-barrelled guns ready loaded in his bed-room, and has frequently expressed his determination to give any thieves a warm reception, if they should have the audacity to attack him. Upon this occasion he took his stand at the top of the stairs, armed with a loaded gun; and scarcely had he done so when a man appeared at the bottom of the staircase with a lanthorn in one hand and a bludgeon or pistol in the other, and a piece of coarse cloth over his head and face, with two apertures cut for the eyes. Mr. Perry was nothing daunted either by the appearance of the robber, or the instigation of two companions behind, who urged him with the words, "Go on, you are all right." But not so, for upon the robber attempting to ascend the broad, old-fashioned staircase, Mr. Perry levelled his gun at him and fired; the man fell, and as it afterwards appeared was shot through the heart. One of the robbers, seeing his companion fall, cried out, "Where are my pistols?" "Come on with your pistols," responded Mr. Perry; "I am ready for you." And calling to his brother, who was now on the scene of action, he added, "I've snuffed his candle for him. You keep ready while I load again." Disregarding a renewed request, to "come on," the robbers, cowed by the vigorous measures taken against them, removed their dead companion to the kitchen, and finding that no breath of life remained, they decamped, leaving the corpse there. The Messrs. Perry, not knowing what might await them down stairs, kept their post till the horsekeeper came, about four in the morning, when the alarm was given, and the premises were searched. Upon the kitchen floor, quite dead, was found the body of the luckless wretch who was for leading the way up-stairs. He had on, as already stated, a coarse bag drawn over his face, and tied with his handkerchief, with two eye-holes in it; a blue shirt, such as railway labourers wear, was drawn over his dress; and over his shoes were a pair of worsted stockings, so that he might go more noiselessly about. By his side lay an ash stick. It was now seen that an entrance had been effected by the removal of part of a scullery window, immediately under which stood a moveable plate-rack, which the robbers appear to have knocked over, and the fall of which awoke the inmates, and led to the fatal occurrence which we have described. It seems probable that the robbers assembled first in a barn about two fields distant from the house, and that their number was five or six, for the footsteps of at least four were distinctly traceable from the barn to the house. Various officers and others have seen the body of the dead man, and on Thursday and Friday hundreds of persons visited the place; but no one has been able to identify him, although some assert that he has been in the neighbourhood during the past year with a nut-stall and target. Some false keys were found in his pocket. He appears to be about thirty years of age. An inquest was held upon the body on Saturday last, when a verdict of "Justifiable Homicide" was returned. The body has been identified by an officer who held a warrant against him for breaking the arm of the game-keeper of Col Pemberton, of Trumpington (Camb.), about three years ago. The name of the deceased was Abraham Green, *alias* Woods, *alias* "Little Abel." He was a notorious and skilful poacher, and one who has been several times "in trouble." He was identified by peculiar marks on his person, described in the gaol books. Two men, who give the names of William Palmer, of Ashby-de-la-Zouche, hawker, and William Gooddy, of Chelmsford, labourer, have been apprehended at Newport under suspicious circumstances. One of these had in his bundle a pair of worsted stockings tallying exactly with those pulled over the shoes of the dead man, and like these had barley hales still adhering to them, suggesting presence with the deceased in Mr. Perry's barn. They were brought before the Hon. C. C. Neville, on Monday, and were remanded. The second prisoner has a round patch of blood on the knee of his galligaskins, about the size of the wound on the deceased, as though he had either fallen over him in his haste to escape, or had knelt in his blood while searching to ascertain where deceased was hurt.

SHROPSHIRE.—The jury empanelled to inquire into the case of alleged murder at Bridgnorth have been discharged without agreeing upon a verdict. The accused is detained by the magistrates, and will be tried at the assizes.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT ORIEL COLLEGE, OXFORD.—At an early hour on Saturday morning last, the members of Oriel College were thrown into the greatest consternation, from the circumstance of the dead body of Mr. John Key, a commoner of that college, aged nineteen, having been found in the front quadrangle between six and seven o'clock. The spot where the body was found is at the south-east corner of the quadrangle, near the chapel door, and close to the hall staircase, and within a few feet from the wall. From this circumstance, together with the nature of the injuries the body exhibited, it appeared quite clear that deceased had fallen from the top of the college, a height of about forty feet. An inquest was held in the afternoon in the hall of Oriel College, before George Valentine Cox, Esq., M.A., of New College, the University coroner, and a jury composed of matriculated citizens, who, after having been sworn, went to view the body of deceased, which lay in his own rooms. The wrist of the deceased's right hand was fractured, the left shoulder was dislocated, and one side of the face was a complete mass of blood, to which adhered a quantity of gravel. It appeared from the evidence that deceased had been spending the evening at the rooms of a commoner of his own college, where he had become so much intoxicated as to be unable to take care of himself; and that, on being conveyed to his own room, he became furious, and his friends were obliged to fasten him in by barricading the door with the sofa. The deceased afterwards, having got through his window, attempted to get into the rooms of another fellow-student, who heard him say something about getting out upon the leads by the window. Nothing more was known of him till he was found lying dead in the quadrangle in the morning. The verdict returned was, "That the said John Key having, as it appears to the jury, got out on the roof, did accidentally fall over the parapet, and was killed by the fall."

SOUTH DERBYSHIRE ELECTION,—The death of Mr. Munday having caused a vacancy in the representation of South Derbyshire, a number of the Tory squirearchy assembled at the King's Head, and nominated Mr. Mundy of Markeaton Hall, near Derby, a relative of the late member, Mr. Munday accepted, and has just issued an address to the voters. The Liberals have not yet, it appears, met to decide upon the course they may think well to pursue. During the past and present year the Liberals have had active agents working the registration.

LANCASHIRE.—EMIGRATION FROM LIVERPOOL.—The following facts are interesting, as indications of what the amount of emigration from this kingdom is likely to be during the present year. From the 1st of January to the 2d of March (inclusive), of 1848, the number of emigrants, of all classes, who embarked at Liverpool, was 11,295—that is, under the Emigration Act—and to these a few may be added (say fifty or sixty), who found means of expatriation, individually or in small groups, in vessels that do not fall within the regulations of the act, they taking only a small number of passengers. During the same period of the present year the number that emigrated, under the act, was 21,598, or nearly double that of 1848, exclusively also of 110 or 120 stray passengers, of which the returns are only made periodically at the Custom House. The number of ships that took out nearly the whole of the 21,598 persons was 64 up to Saturday week, and a few have sailed since that date. Nearly the whole mass proceeded to the United States, not more than perhaps 100 or 120 being for South Australia, Canada, and California. As the season is yet, however, young, it may be expected that the tide of emigration will increase rather than diminish during the present and the next month. Several ships are advertised for California with passengers, and parties are being made up, including Welsh miners, artificers, workmen, and speculators (both of wealth and of humble means), to try their fortunes in the gold regions of that country.

FRIGHTFUL RAILWAY ACCIDENT.—On Tuesday afternoon, about two o'clock, a frightful accident, attended with loss of life, occurred on the Brighton and Portsmouth Railway, to the driver of the passenger train which left the Brighton terminus for Portsmouth at ten minutes past two. When near the Arundel station, the driver, Jonathan Surtees, was suddenly thrown from his post, from some cause unknown. The guard and firemen instantly stopped the train and alighted, as did many of the passengers, and walked to the spot, when they found the lifeless trunk of the driver mutilated most horribly, one of his legs being cut off, his head cut and swollen, his arms lacerated, and altogether presenting a most sickening appearance. The whole train had gone over him. The body was conveyed to the station at Arundel, and thence to the hotel adjacent to that station. The deceased was one of the best engine-drivers on the line, and has left a widow and two children unprovided for, the widow *enceinte* and near her confinement.

WARWICKSHIRE.—REFUSAL OF A VICAR TO BURY THE SON OF THE CHURCHWARDEN. — Mr. John Franklin, one of the churchwardens of Radford, near Leamington, had a son named James, a veterinary surgeon, at Kidderminster, who died in December, and his last request was that he should be buried at Radford, where the other members of his family had been for two or three generations. The father, to comply with the last wishes of his son, had the body removed from Kidderminster. Mr. Franklin applied to the Rev. Thomas Chapman, the vicar, to bury his son in the churchyard, but he was refused, under the pretence that, as he did not die in the parish, he could not suffer him to be buried there. In vain did the distrested father beseech the vicar, telling him it was the last dying wish of his child to be buried where his relations lay, and it would be the death of his mother if he refused the request. The clergyman was not to be turned, and the afflicted family had to seek some kinder Christian minister, and buried their son in the churchyard at Ufton, the adjoining parish. The inhabitants of Radford feel strongly on this subject, as Mr. Franklin is universally respected, having been churchwarden for the last three years, and a large farmer in the parish, occupying the same land his forefathers have done. What makes the matter more strange, is the custom of the vicar (for a fee), to bury bodies who have died in Leamington, an adjoining parish, and more than half the large churchyard has not been used.

ANOTHER COLLIERY EXPLOSION. — TWELVE LIVES LOST. — On Tuesday morning a fatal explosion of fire-damp took place at the Middle Patricroft Colliery, situate on the road from Wigan to Hindley, and about a mile and a half from each place. The usual number of hands, about twenty-five, had descended to their work at or soon after six o'clock in the morning, and from the appearance of several of those taken out dead, who had the whole of their clothes on, it would seem that many of them had not commenced working when the explosion occurred. The result of the accident, as far as has been learned, was the death of twelve persons, and the serious injury of two others. Of the twelve said to be dead, one of them was missing and supposed to be dead in the mine, another died in a short time after being brought to the surface, and ten were dead when discovered. The accident occurred about 300 yards from the shaft, in one of the up drifts from a working, termed a 'dig-brow;" but how or by whom caused was said to be a mystery. Ellison the underlooker, and the fireman who attends the furnace, had, it is said, previously to the men entering the workings, examined the whole of them, and reported all safe; and several of the hands taken out uninjured, report also that where they were engaged the air was strong and pure, and the mine in every respect, as far as they could judge, in good workable order. From every information that can be obtained from the survivors, and from every indication that can at present be seen, it has been caused by one of the workmen going with a naked candle into a portion of the works contrary to the express orders of the fireman, who had a short time previously been through the workings, and fixed up a fire-damp board, which the men should not pass when they see it fixed in any part of the mine.

NORTHUMBERLAND. — ACCIDENT BY FIRE ARMS.—Mr. Jolly, one of the coast-guard, returned from night duty early in the morning of Monday last, and entered the station-house in Moorgate-street, Sunderland, having a loaded pistol in his jacket pocket. While in the act of stooping at the fireside, the pistol fell out of his pocket, the hammer striking against the fender; it exploded, and the ball passed through the lower part of his leg, and through the ceiling, lodging in the flooring of the room above.

LANCASHIRE.—SIGNS OF THE TIMES.—On Monday evening last the mill and machinery belonging to the estate of Mr. W. Eccles, situate at Cureden, near this town, was put up for sale by Mr. Fisher, at the Bull Inn. There was a good attendance, and the competition spirited. The property was ultimately sold to Mr. Orrell, of Belmont, for £30,600. This sum is, we believe, about £10,000 more than the same property could have been sold for a short time ago, and shows very plainly that the staple trade of the county is in a much better state than at that time. We are glad to find that the mill will be started very shortly, for the hands in that locality have suffered many and great privations since that and the other mill belonging to the same proprietor were closed.

EMIGRATION.—PLYMOUTH, March 6.—The Sound is now looking remarkably gay with a large number of emigrant and other vessels, the former of which are preparing to leave for their several destinations. The Florentia, Captain Fitzgerald, has a large number of emigrants on board for Sydney. A few more will be taken to fill the ship, and she will probably leave on Friday. The Hope, for Port Philip, will take in all her passengers from here, and will leave to-morrow. The Emigrant, for Sydney, is to be stocked with Dorsetshire labourers, a large body of whom have been brought down here by the Hon. and Rev. S. G. Osborne, who takes a great interest in their welfare. She will probably leave on the 10th. The Lady Peel, Captain Frazer, for Sydney, will be filled with about 230 Irish girls. She will leave about the 9th instant. All the above ships are chartered by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners. The Lalla Rookh, a private passenger ship, is also taking her passengers on board for Port Natal.

Scotland.

BANK ROBBERY.—On Thursday week a most serious system of robbery connected with the branch of the British Linen Company's Bank in Glasgow was discovered. The parties implicated in the transaction are, we believe, an accountant, three tellers, and a check-clerk. One of the number died in September last, and another a few days since. It is rumoured that the discovery of the fraud arose in consequence of some disclosures made by the latter on his death-bed. There can be no doubt that the system has gone on for several years—we believe since 1845—undetected, in consequence of all the persons by whom it should have been checked being compromised and interested in its continuance. The amount of money involved is variously stated at from £20,000 to £30,000. This sum had been originally used in railway speculations, and the immediate loss will be reduced by property belonging to the unhappy individuals by whom the fraud has been committed. They had adopted several modes of falsifying the accounts; but one of the plans was to make up parcels of notes, and to mark upon them a larger number than they contained, using the deficits for their private ends. The managers of the bank had not the slightest idea of the injury they were sustaining, because the parties being engaged in different departments, and working together, always made the accounts apparently square. We need scarcely say that the party occupied a very respectable sphere in society. One of them, we hear, has been an elder in one of the churches in this city for a considerable period, and was very much respected. The extent of the railway speculation in 1845—the sums of money rapidly gained, and anxiety to share in these transactions,—were undoubtedly the causes which induced, originally, this systematic breach of faith. It may be even supposed that the temporary use of the money was alone contemplated in the first instance, and that the confusion and reduction which rapidly occurred in the market rendered its return impossible.

Ireland.

DUBLIN, SATURDAY.—ROSCOMMON ASSIZES.—Mich. Gardner and Martin Brennon, two of the parties implicated in the murder of Major Mahon, were yesterday allowed to withdraw their plea of "Not guilty" to the charge of conspiracy to murder; and, on the Crown consenting not to press for capital punishment, they pleaded "Guilty." James Cummins has been found guilty of the murder. The chief evidence against him was the servant boy, who was sent for the pistols and ammunition.

THE RATE IN AID.—Several influential meetings have been held in Ulster in opposition to this measure. The guardians of the North Dublin union on Friday week passed resolutions against the rate in aid, and were addressed at much length by several gentlemen in opposition to the government plan.

THE POPE.—The fund for the Pope is under active process of collection, and considerable exertions are made to procure subscriptions.

LIBERATION OF MR. M'R. LEYNE.—Mr. Maurice Richard Leyne, one of the actors in the late rebellion, who was arrested on the same night by the same party of police who captured Mr. T. Meagher, and Mr. O'Donohue, was brought up on Friday morning before the Mayor of Clonmel and set at large, after being bound in the sum of £100 to appear to answer any charge which Her Majesty's Attorney-General may prefer against him at the next assizes. His sureties were bound in the sum of £50 each.

MONDAY.—MR. DUFFY.—This gentleman (the last of the State prisoners) has been removed from Newgate to the healthy prison of Richmond, where Messrs. Smith O'Brien, Meagher, M'Manus, and O'Donohue, are confined."

THE POTATO.—The *Limerick Chronicle* says:—"We are happy to hear that more potatoes are at present sowing in the county Limerick than for three years past."

THE CHOLERA.—The *Cork Constitution* announces the appearance of the epidemic in that city.

In the case of the conspiracy to murder the Rev. John Lloyd, Michael Berner was put upon his trial, but the leading witness for the Crown having completely broken down in his evidence, the prisoner was acquitted.

DESTITUTION AND EMIGRATION.—There are further most deplorable accounts of distress and deaths from starvation in the west and south, and upon the other hand, emigration is rapidly increasing as the spring advances—an emigration, however, like that of the past year, consisting almost exclusively of the better class of peasants, with a sprinkling of the small gentry. It is stated that there has been a further flight of tenantry from the estate of the Earl of Glengall, in Tipperary, and that the lands unoccupied are considerably augmented. From Limerick a vessel is to sail for America towards the end of the month, with some families of the lesser gentry, and those who had been substantial farmers.

THE CLEARANCE SYSTEM.—The Limerick and other southern journals contain heart-rending accounts of the progress of the clearance system. The *Cork Reporter* gives a letter from Dungarvan, with details of the eviction of 130 human beings, and the levelling of twenty-four houses. The neighbouring farmers refused shelter to the unhappy outcasts, who had to seek refuge within the mud walls of the ruined cabins.

At the meeting of the Limerick board of guardians, on Saturday last, Mr. Cullen declared that "a system was now going on in the country, of tearing down houses, and hunting down their inmates, which was a disgrace to humanity and civilisation, and was so hideous and revolting that the perpetrators could hardly expect to escape the vengeance of heaven for their villany and hard-heartedness."

TUESDAY.—THE MOVEMENT AGAINST THE RATE-IN-AID. — In Wexford, one of the eastern counties, there is a vigorous and general opposition to the rate-in-aid, and upon grounds almost identical with those so repeatedly urged at the many meetings in the northern province. The county grand jury have forwarded a petition against the rate; and the high sheriff has convened a county meeting at Enniscorthy, on Thursday next, to adopt a similar petition.

The guardians of the western union of Ballinasloe, under the presidency of the Earl of Clancarty, have "pronounced" against the rate-in-aid, whether as regards the two shillings union-rate or the sixpenny national-rate.

The formidable character of the movement in Ulster is thus described by the *Enniskillen Chronicle*:—"The agitation in Ulster, in opposition to the iniquitous rate-in-aid, headed by the brave men of Fermanagh, is opened in right earnest. Scarcely a county in our province, or a single poor law union, that is not already up in arms to resist the hated and unjust impost, and all, without exception, are buckling on their armour. The peaceable, and industrious, and religious men of the north have shown themselves unanimous in a resolve to come to close quarters with those who would rob them, in the face of day, by taking from them the hard-earned fruits of their labour to bestow them upon those who not only do not thank them, but who, as was justly expressed at the meeting on Friday, would, if they had the power, exterminate them from the face of the earth. We rejoice to know that the people—that is, the farming population—will not be allowed to fight the battle alone. The aristocracy of the country have nobly come forward—indeed, we may say the resident gentry and landowners have taken the initiative, and shown themselves what, indeed — notwithstanding the large amount of gratuitous abuse that has been heaped upon them — what we always considered them—the real friends of their country in a case of need."

DEFENCE OF MR. DUFFY.—The committee of the fund for the defence of Mr. Duffy, who is to be tried again at the commission on the 7th of April, have issued an address to the Irish people, calling on them to sustain against unparalleled persecution an Irishman who has rendered Ireland many and great services, and to enable him to prepare against coming difficulties.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE. — A flax-dressing establishment was destroyed by fire last night, in Thomas-street, and other houses were injured. Prince George of Cambridge was present, and rendered effectual aid in checking the devastating element.

The Lord and Lady Lieutenant went in state last night to the Theatre Royal, where they were favourably received by a numerous audience. The "gods" cheered loudly for Mitchel and the Sikhs.

WEDNESDAY.—COLLECTION OF PETER'S PENCE.—The last drag at the pockets of a people steeped to the lips in poverty, namely, the tribute now in course of collecting for relieving the alleged pecuniary wants of the dethroned Pontiff, has not been generally successful, at least in more than one diocese in Ireland. The peasantry, as well as the better class of farmers, in Kildare and the Queen's County have all but openly "pronounced" against the impost, declaring that while so much distress exists at home, it is "too bad" to cripple their scanty resources by any fresh tax upon the fruits of their industry. To such an extent had this feeling prevailed "out of doors," that the subject formed part of an altar discourse on Sunday last, the officiating clergyman soundly rating his grumbling flock for their worse than lack of enthusiasm in the cause of the accredited head of the Roman Catholic Church.

THE WAR IN INDIA.—The subjoined announcement appears in the *Cork Reporter*:—"On Wednesday morning an order was received from the Horse Guards, by the General commanding this district, countermanding the orders previously issued respecting the reduction of the forces here, by the discharge of a large proportion of the soldiers. The recent news from India has occasioned this countermand." A similar statement is thus given by a Nenagh paper:—"Directions were on Wednesday received by the Commanding Officer of the 72nd Highlanders, stationed at Nenagh, not to discharge the men selected for dismissal under the recent regulation of the Horse Guards. Similar orders have been sent to other regiments."

THE ARMY RATIONS.—The contract for supplying the troops in the Cork district, for the next seven months, is singularly low, namely, fresh meat at 3d. per lb., and 5½. for the 4lb. loaf of bread. Such a contract shows the gloomy prospect before the Irish agriculturist.

Central Criminal Court.

SATURDAY.—ROBBERY WITH VIOLENCE.—John Plovin was indicted for stealing, with violence, from William Leonard, the sum of 10s. 6d., his monies. It appeared that the prisoner had watched the prosecutor from a public-house in Whitechapel, until he came to a lonely part of the road, when he knocked him down and rifled his pockets. The affair was witnessed by a little boy, who, giving information to the police, they subsequently apprehended the prisoner; and the prosecutor, who was much injured, was taken to the hospital where he remained for a week. The jury found the prisoner guilty.—Some of the police said the prisoner was a most notorious character, and was captain of a band of regular young thieves.—The Common Sergeant sentenced him to fifteen years' transportation.—The prisoner, upon hearing his sentence, seemed completely staggered, and appeared as if about to faint, but suddenly recovering himself, he made a hideous face at the Common Sergeant, and opening his mouth very wide, gave his cheek a smart slap as if in defiance. Having finished this bit of pantomime, which was evidently intended to express his indifference as to the sentence passed on him, he swaggered out of the dock.

BURGLARY WITH VIOLENCE.—W. Cullum, 24, G. Digby, 20, and F. Pike, 18, were charged with burglary in the house of Mr. J. Waller, the indictment also alleging that, at the time of the offence, they cut and wounded the prosecutor. The facts of the case have appeared within the last few days in the police reports. The prosecutor is a gentleman of fortune, residing at Stamford Villas, Fulham; and between two and three o'clock on the morning of the 10th ult. was awoke by his lady, and he heard footsteps upon the staircase leading to his bed-room. He got out of bed, asked who was there, and, receiving no answer, opened the door, and saw a man standing in the landing. He asked what he wanted, and the made answer with an oath, "There he is—there is the dog," and a lanthorn was flashed in his face, and at the same instant he was struck a tremendous blow on the head with a life preserver, the effect of which was to cut a vein, and he was in an instant covered with blood. He contrived to close the bed-room door upon his assailant, and by this time Mrs. Waller had gone to the window and raised an alarm, which caused the ruffians to decamp with such haste that they were only able to take away with them two or three tea spoons.—Mr. Justice Cresswell summed up, and the jury almost immediately returned a verdict of "Guilty" against all the prisoners. His lordship, taking into consideration the violent character of the offence they had committed, felt bound to inform them that they must expect to leave this country for the remainder of their lives.

POST-OFFICE ROBBERIES.—E. Broome and J. Witham, the two Post-office letter-carriers who were convicted in the early part of the session of stealing letters, were brought up for judgment, and Broome, who has been fourteen years in the Post-office, and who received a very good character and was recommended to mercy by the jury, was sentenced to be transported for seven, and the other for ten years.

MONDAY.—DARING BURGLARY. — John Phillips, *alias* Neal, 16; George Phillips, *alias* Johnson, his brother, 19; Thomas Jackson, 19; Mary Anne Allen, 17; and Eliza Brown, 17, were indicted for a burglary in the dwelling-house of Henry Raven, and stealing a work-box, some silver money, and other articles, his property. Mr. Cooper prosecuted, Mr. O'Brien defended the two girls, and the other prisoners had no counsel. The prosecutor in this case is a surgeon in Compton-street, St. Pancras, and the prisoner, John Phillips, was in his service as errand-boy, and although evidence did not clearly make out the fact, there was every reason to believe that the robbery was "put up," or projected by him. The burglary was committed on the night of the 27th of January, and the offence was clearly made out against the prisoners George Phillips and Jackson; and it seemed that directly afterwards they proceeded to a brothel in Gray's-inn-lane, where the booty was shared with the two girls, who were prostitutes with whom they cohabited. The jury acquitted John Phillips and the two girls, and returned a verdict of "Guilty" against George Phillips and Jackson. Evidence was then adduced to show that Phillips had been twice before convicted. The officers likewise stated that the prisoners were two of the most notorious and daring thieves that infest the metropolis.—The Common Sergeant said there was not a single mitigating circumstance in the case, and he therefore felt that it was impossible they could be permitted to remain in this country.—The prisoner Phillips here interposed, and said they would not send them abroad.—The Common Sergeant told him he was mistaken, and that the government had at length come to the determination of enforcing the sentence of transportation, and that they would not only be sent out of the country, but that they would also be compelled to work. He then sentenced both prisoners to be transported for ten years.—The prisoner Phillips, who had been laughing all the time the Common Sergeant was passing sentence, when he had concluded, said—"Thank you, my lord, I've got the sentence wrote down before you passed it."

CHARGE OF MURDER.—Anne Mallandine, 28, an unmarried woman, was indicted for feloniously casting her son, Mason Mallandine, into the Regent's Canal, with intent to kill and murder him. The prisoner, who appeared very much affected, and wept bitterly during the proceedings, was defended by Mr. Cooper, through the humane instrumentality of the sheriffs.—John Stodart deposed that about four o'clock on the afternoon of February 6th, he was near the Regent's Canal, at Haggerstone, when he observed the prisoner leading a little boy, between six and seven years old, and saw her lift this boy from the ground and cast him into the water, and she was about to jump in after him, when he seized her and prevented her doing so, and then jumped into the water and rescued the child. Before prisoner threw the child into the canal he heard him say, "Oh mother, don't, don't." The water was about five feet deep at the place where the occurrence happened. The prisoner said she was starving, and had nothing to eat, nor her child either, since the previous day, and she was crying, and appeared to be in great distress.—In answer to questions put by Mr. Cooper, the witness said that the prisoner appeared very wild and excited, but he did not hear her say anything about her husband or the father of her child. After the boy had been taken out of the water, the prisoner took no notice of him.—Mr. Cooper then addressed the jury on behalf of the prisoner, urging upon them that the evidence established the fact that she had committed the act imputed to her in a moment of desperation, brought on by wretchedness and starvation, and that without imputing actual insanity to her, they would be justified in coming to the conclusion that she was in such a state of mind as not to be aware of the effect of the act she was about to commit. The Common Sergeant summed up, and the jury, after deliberating for a short time, returned a verdict of "Not Guilty."

TUESDAY. — CUTTING AND WOUNDING. — Thomas Roberts, 25, a gardener, was indicted for cutting and wounding George Hester with intent to do him grievous bodily harm.—The prosecutor, who was dreadfully mutilated in the face, stated that he keeps a beershop at Fulham, and the prisoner being in the place, and the prosecutor wishing to get rid of him, had occasion several times to put him out, and in so doing the prisoner fell down, and his clothes becoming soiled he took out his knife to scrape the mud off, and while so doing attempted to enter the house, and the prosecutor trying to prevent him he turned the edge of the knife towards him and inflicted a fearful wound across the nose.—The jury found him "Guilty of cutting, with intent," recommending him to mercy.—The Common Serjeant said, the point in his favour was that the knife was in his hand and open at the time. The sentence would, therefore, be comparatively light. It was that he be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for nine months.

CUTTING AND WOUNDING.—Sarah Crosby, 18, spinster, was indicted for cutting and wounding John Smith, with intent to do him bodily harm.—The prosecutor, a police-constable, was about eight in the evening of the 31st of January on duty near the Refuge for the Houseless Poor in Whitecross-street, and having occasion to "move on" the prisoner, who was one of the applicants for admission, she took out a penknife, and having abused and threatened him stabbed him several times in the arm, the effects of which prevented him from doing duty for ten days.—The jury found her "Guilty," and she was sentenced to be transported for seven years.

SENTENCES.—Henry Albert the porter in the employ of Messrs. Wood who was on Saturday sentenced to seven years' transportation, was this day brought up to receive sentence upon the conviction against him at the previous session.—The Common-Serjeant sentenced him to seven years' transportation, to take precedence of the sentence passed on Saturday.—Howard, another porter in the same employ, and who was convicted last session for robbing his masters, was also sentenced to seven years' transportation.

A great number of petty larcenies were tried before the Commissioner in the New Court during the day, but none of them presented any feature of public interest.—With the last trial at this court concluded the business of the session; and the courts stand adjourned until Monday, the 9th of April.

Assize Intelligence.

SWANSEA, MARCH, 1.

CHARGE OF MURDER.—John Conners, an Irishman, aged 25, described in the calendar as a railway labourer, was indicted for the murder of one Thomas Lewis, at Cardiff, on the 11th November last. Wm. Williams examined:—I was in Bridge-street, Cardiff, on the night of the 11th of November. I there met the deceased, with his wife and child. I asked him if he was going home? We went together to the top of Mary Ann-street, when we heard a row, and we then proceeded to where the noise came from. We saw the prisoner standing by the Dowlais Inn. Deceased asked him "What's the row?" to which the prisoner replied "What's that to you—you had better go on." The deceased then said "Don't be saucy; you had better go home." Deceased then went towards home. The Irishman drew a knife and came towards me. I ran and picked up a stone. He did the same. I thought it best to let the matter alone, so I went away. Directly afterwards the prisoner threw a stone, which struck the deceased on his knee. The Irishman ran away up Stanley-street, and deceased followed him. I ran also. As I was running I saw prisoner using his knife. It was a moonlight night, but rather dark at that part of the street where prisoner and deceased came together. I was fifteen yards distant from them. I saw the Irishman place his left arm round deceased's shoulder, and with his right hand he struck him repeatedly.—Matthew Stuart, mariner, examined:—I saw the deceased with his wife and infant, and the witnesses Williams and Richards standing by the Catholic chapel. The prisoner was at the top of Stanley-street; he threw a stone at Lewis's party, which struck Mrs. Lewis as she was stooping to pick up her child. He threw another stone, and then ran away, followed by the deceased. The deceased overtook him, and they struggled for a few moments together. The Irishman turned right round towards deceased and struck him several times with his right hand; he then ran away. Lewis staggered, and I caught him in my arms. I asked him if he was hurt, but he made no answer. As I picked him off the

Imperial Parliament.

MONDAY, MARCH 5.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—SCOTCH MARRIAGES AND REGISTRATION BILLS.—On the question of the third reading of these bills,

The Earl of ABERDEEN repeated his objections to the Marriage Bill, at the same time admitting that while the Registration Bill on the one hand would remedy some existing defects, on the other it would entail great inconvenience. There was but one feeling in Scotland on the subject of these bills, and that was a determined hostility to their becoming law. Measures of this description deserved much more caution, and he never availed himself of the privilege of parliament with greater pleasure than in entering his protest against the Marriage Bill, which he considered both impolitic and unjust.

Lord CAMPBELL defended the measures, which had been under consideration in three sessions, and contended that in no civilised country in the world could marriages be effected as in Scotland under the existing law. The bills were then read a third time and passed.

The Vice-Guardians of Unions (Ireland) Bill, on the motion of the Marquis of LANSDOWNE, was read a second time.

After a few words from Lord STANLEY, the Earl of WICKLOW, the Bishop of CASHEL, and the Earl of LUCAN, the second reading of the Relief of Distress (Ireland) Bill having also been moved,

Lord BROUGHAM urged that the grant of £50,000 was too little to be of permanent use, and too much, because it ought not to be given at all. A national polity must be in a most diseased state when other supplies were looked to than those which arose out of the industry of the people; and this the people of Ireland ought to be made to understand. The bill was then read a second time, as also was the Buckingham Assizes Bill, and their lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Among the questions put to ministers previous to the commencement of public business, was one relating to

THE WAR IN THE PUNJAUB.—Mr. HUME said: Seeing the noble lord at the head of the government in his place, I wish to ask him a question, but I feel considerable difficulty in shaping it in such a way as to obtain sufficient information. But, sir, after the statements which we have seen in the *Gazette* of Saturday last, and in the *Gazette* prior to that, relative to the affairs of India, the state of that country can no longer be a matter of indifference to every man who looks to the future. (Hear, hear.) I should be sorry to prejudge any man, and particularly one who is not present to answer any statements that might be made, but certain facts which are developed in the despatches which were received three or four weeks ago, without any relation to the late melancholy transactions that have taken place, authorise me in inquiring whether her Majesty's ministers have taken any measures to place the army in India under such command as shall obtain the confidence of the men, and secure all those advantages of art and science which we, as a civilised nation, possess for the purposes of warfare? It appears from the despatches that in recent events those advantages were not used, and I do hope, therefore, that her Majesty's government will state what measures they have taken to ensure better success for the future. (Hear, hear.)

Lord J. RUSSELL (whose statement was received with the most profound silence) said: There can be no doubt that the state of our military operations in India must be a matter not certainly of indifference but of the deepest interest, to every member of this House. (Cheers.) I can, however, only state at present, that her Majesty's government, after considering the intelligence which has been received, have offered to her Majesty that advice which they think best calculated to meet the emergency which at present exists in that part of her dominions. But I have not as yet received her Majesty's reply to the advice which I have humbly tendered to her Majesty; but as soon as that answer is received, and can be with propriety communicated to this House, I will lose no time in laying it before it.

THE IRISH RATE IN AID.—The House having again gone into committee on the rate in aid resolution of the committee on Irish Poor Law,

Mr. OSBORNE opened the debate by stating that whatever differences might exist in that House as to the resolutions which had been brought forward by the noble lord, there could be no dispute that the case had been fairly put, which amounted to this, that the poor law had entirely broken down in the western districts of Ireland, and that the House was called upon to levy a contribution on the north and south of the country to support the poverty of the west. After the reasons they had heard in favour of the proposition, that no one could resist the conclusion that her Majesty's ministers were not able to grapple with the tremendous difficulties by which they were surrounded, for they were now only administering a palliative, instead of attempting a cure, and it behoved the House to pause before it entered on a course of policy which would destroy the vitality of the eastern and northern unions without communicating any permanent benefit to the western. It was all very well to suppose that the rate in aid would amount to £250,000, and that it would all come out of Irish pockets; but what security was there that the money to be drawn from the consolidated fund would be hereafter paid from the rate in aid? There was only one precedent for the course taken by the noble lord, which would be found in "Gil Blas." It was the treatment of Sangrado, for here was Ireland complaining, and the political Sangrado of the day was suggesting the necessity of a little more blood letting. He was prepared to vote for any motion which would make the rateable property of Ireland available for the sustenance of the poor, but the House ought to have some guarantee that the rate to be levied should not be spent in eleemosynary grants. It was the duty of the government rather to assist in introducing some system of home colonisation and of emigration to other parts. Political economists might object to such measures; but the great master of that school, Mr. Mill, had expressed a contrary opinion, having put the case in which the western unions could only be relieved from the pressure to which they were subjected, "by emigration or starvation." If the noble lord was worthy of his place at the head of the government, he was bound to come forward with a definite plan, which had not simply for its object the support of this population by eleemosynary relief. It seemed a fashionable doctrine that, because a poor law had been granted, parliament had done its duty to Ireland. A poor law did not add to the capital or revenue of the country, but rather diminished them. He had himself found it necessary, from the increase of rates, to discharge labourers. He had to thank the government for having made him last year pay £1,000. But he had to discharge labourers in consequence. Yet it was said government had given a poor law to Ireland, and the property of Ireland should support its poverty. That was a most dangerous doctrine. They might speak of Louis Blanc-ism—and, in justice to Louis Blanc, it ought to be stated that he had not set the *ateliers nationaux*, on foot, as had been alleged; they might speak of Poulett-Scropeism, but the system now proposed, if it were to be carried out, was nothing but a system of legalised Communism. Government went a begging and asked every one "What do you propose?" (A Voice.—"What do you propose?") He would volunteer his opinion to the noble lord, though the noble lord had not asked him to take a seat in the Cabinet, and before he sat down the noble lord would probably obtain a greater knowledge of Ireland than before. He would suggest for the noble lord's adoption three measures—first, a bill to enforce the sale of lands which had not contributed their share to the poor rates; secondly, a bill to remodel the whole system of estates in the hands of receivers in Chancery; and lastly, a measure which would free the land from all restrictions, and make it an article of easy sale by simplifying transfer and tithes. These measures might be too bold for the noble lord, who might rather be disposed to content himself with coming to Parliament for an occasional dole; but it was for the House to adopt measures which would be adequate to meet the circumstances of the case. He knew not what effect the noble lord's dream of the future might have on the minds of hon. gentleman. The noble lord said he had no doubt that Ireland was in a state of transition; and that at no distant period she would be prosperous. The noble lord told the House that, when the starving people would crawl like famished rats on the barren soil, other modes of cultivation would be introduced, and spontaneous harvests would follow.

Lord J. RUSSELL.—I said nothing like it.

Mr. OSBORNE continued.—He had come to the peerless conviction that, so long as the destinies of the empire were swayed by the present combination of parties, so long would Ireland have no hope in looking to the root which had caused her present destitution, and England would have no protection from the painful effects of that union which fixed the infection of pauperism into her more healthy and lest corrupted frame. He should vote against the proposition on the present occasion, though, if the noble lord had come forward with a plan suited to the urgency of the occasion, no one would have been more ready to give it his support.

Mr. R. PEEL, without one word of preface, addressed himself to the consideration of the two questions before the House—first, whether, in the present state of Ireland, they should leave the case of certain districts to be supported exclusively by the unions or electoral divisions in which they lived; and secondly, if they were of opinion that extrinsic aid was necessary, from what source that aid to be derived? He could not, in the present state of Ireland, consent to throw the support of the poor exclusively upon the individual unions. If they now refused extrinsic aid, the consequences would be great loss of life, first by famine, and then by disease, as its consequence. He could not believe that the House would adopt so painful an alternative. The system of indiscriminate aid might have an injurious tendency, but what answer had they now to make to the individual sufferers themselves—those who had been taught by them to rely more upon charity than upon their own exertions? Such a policy might be wrong, but it was not now upon its victims that its consequences were to be visited. In the late unparalleled state of Ireland courses might have been adopted which, had there been better opportunities for foresight, might have been avoided. But there the people were menaced with starvation, and he could not now consent to let them starve, no matter from what source the aid might be derived. He gave his support, therefore, under all the circumstances of the case, to the proposal now made to provide some extrinsic aid to the suffering unions. As to the source whence aid was to be provided them, he thought that the other parts of the empire had every right to demand from Ireland a strenuous effort to support her own poor. He did not rest his demand for such an effort on the ground that there was no equality of taxation between the two countries. Ireland should make the effort on different grounds. The vicinage in England supported the poor when the parish was unable to do so. But this principle would be defective in its application to Ireland, a consideration which led him to prefer a general rate to the plan of making a neighbouring union contribute to make up the deficiency of a suffering one. There was another ground on which they were entitled to call for such a rate in the present juncture. On what principle did Ireland refuse to repay the advances of £1,200,000 made for the erection of union workhouses? The amount of this sum repaid did not exceed £36,000. If Ireland would immediately repay it he would relieve her from the proposed rate in aid. But finding more than a million sterling due on this account, not likely soon to be repaid, and that the principle of vicinage would be defective in Ireland, he had no alternative but to vote for the proposed rate. He would, therefore, vote for the rate, although he believed it to be an incomplete and ineffectual remedy for the real difficulties of the case. The right hon. gentleman then drew the attention of the House to the most important question before them—that connected with the future prospects of Ireland. A mere temporary advance did not relieve them from the obligation of considering it. What would be the condition of several of the Irish unions after this relief was exhausted? It was now incumbent on them to do something in earnest for the purpose of laying the foundation of a better system for Ireland. It would be unwise any longer to rely upon the potato. Not only was that root liable to disease, but its cultivation was being rapidly diminished. This was the case in the union of Ballina, which might be taken as a type of several of the Irish unions. That union was at one time well supplied with fish; but it appeared that this source of subsistence was also failing it. This being so, what were its prospects? and, if it were to be taken as a specimen of other unions, what were the prospects of a large section of Ireland, unless something were immediately done for its rescue—something tending to the improvement of the physical and moral condition of the people. There was but one remedy which he thought could be successfully applied. On that remedy they might, in his opinion, place reliance, although it might be somewhat slow in its operation. The remedy which he proposed was the introduction of new proprietors, who would enter with capital upon the cultivation of the land, with new feelings, and inspiring new confidence into society in Ireland. He would not propose to gain such an advantage by any violation of the rights of property. But he thought that it would be possible for the government, with the sanction of the House, to devise the means whereby new capital might be introduced into Ireland for the cultivation of the land, which seemed to him to be the only feasible course which lay before them, if they would brighten the prospects of that country. They had precedent for what he now proposed. By the aid of the government, extensive settlements were made in Ulster in the time of James I. — settlements afterwards extended to Leinster, and from which the happiest results followed. He trusted that, by the adoption of some similar course, equally beneficial results might be now secured. But unless they applied, to some degree, the principle of settlement then acted upon, he could anticipate no permanent improvement in the condition of Ireland. If the application of it were now to be attempted, he trusted that it would be done without doing that which was the chief blot in the scheme carried out in James the First's time—the establishing of distinctions on account of religious belief. Let them do something like this, with a careful regard to all the existing rights of property, and they might have some ground for hope that a better system would ere long arise in Ireland. He was quite aware that an act had been passed, last session, to facilitate the transfer of real property. But he feared, considering the provisions of that act, and the alterations which it underwent at a late period of the session, in its passage through the House of Lords, that it would not be found effectual for its purpose unless some additional aid and stimulus were given to the transfer of property. If they relied exclusively upon that act, they would not secure that infusion of new blood into the west of Ireland which was absolutely essential for its physical and moral regeneration. They would make but little progress towards their object if they relied simply upon individual purchases. It was with deference that he made any suggestion on this matter to the House and government, but he did think that it would be prudent to appoint some commission which would, after examination, pass its deliberate judgment upon the proposed scheme, and consider the possibility of effecting that change in the possession of property, without doing violence to existing rights, which he regarded as indispensable to any permanent improvement in the condition of Ireland. To carry out this purpose it might be necessary to have some intermediate agent by means of which they could get possession of the property on equitable terms, and afterwards arrange and manage its re-distribution. He would repeat, that in carrying out this proposal for the introduction of new blood and new capital into Ireland, by working a change in the possession of property, no violence must be done to the just rights of the present proprietors. He would purchase no advantage at such a price. But if they took a comprehensive view of the present state of several of the unions in Ireland, the conviction would be forced upon them that such a change of possession was necessary. How to effect it was the difficulty. To do so not only was the intervention of the government necessary, in his opinion, or that of some commission or other authority, acting in concert with the government, but they must also extend to such parties as might be ready to invest their capital in Irish property a guarantee that they should not be overwhelmed by the poor-rates, and that tithes should be made secure. They should, for instance, be guaranteed that for ten, twelve, or fourteen years, the poor-rates should not exceed a certain maximum amount. But, whatever they might do in this respect, the main hope for Ireland was now in the transfer of property—a transfer to be effected with every attention to the rights of property, and to be effected through the intervention of the government, or of some commission acting in concert with it. Whatever means they resorted to for the permanent improvement of Ireland, they could be better applied after getting the proposed rate in aid, wherewith to meet the present emergency. The right hon. baronet thus concluded his speech, and was listened to throughout with the deepest attention:—I am most unwilling to assume the functions of the government, to propose anything in lieu of the present plan—all I can say is, that if the representatives of Ireland should be favourable to an equitable commutation of a tax upon personal property as well as upon land, I shall be most willing, after having obtained the vote for a rate in aid, to listen to the proposal which was made by an hon. gentleman, whose suggestions are entitled to the utmost respect from his personal character, his knowledge of Ireland, and his attachment to her best interests—I allude to the hon. gentleman the member for the county of Limerick (Mr. Monsell.) I shall then be most willing to listen to his proposal, and substitute a Property Tax payable upon personal property as well as upon land. I am not sure, if I had a Property Tax so levied in Ireland, that I would not consent to appropriate its proceeds to relieve her from her most painful position. If I had a Property Tax in Ireland, I hope it would be for a period sufficient to afford a prospect of extricating her from her difficulties. If it were levied on the principle of the English Property Tax, varying the details according to the circumstances of the country, I should not object to apply the proceeds of it to that purpose. I think that that would be a most useful appropriation. I look to the west of Ireland with perfect despair, if the present state of things is to continue. (Hear, hear.) I care not whether you get £300,000 or £400,000 this year, and the same sum next year; I am deeply convinced, that unless you make some more vigorous effort to rescue the country from the calamity under which she is now suffering, and the evils now impending over it, her condition at the expiration of the two years will be worse than it is now—her habits of self-dependence destroyed, her people overwhelmed with hopelessness and despair, and property will be more uncultivated and perfectly unsaleable and valueless. The west of Ireland affords opportunities for improvement which, speaking comparatively, no other part of the world appears to give. I see a great world grown up on the other side of the Atlantic; I see the facilities of communication by railways and by steam. I see every reason why Ireland, if her position in respect to tenure could be improved, should be most prosperous. I recollect some lines in one of the ballads that were published at the time of the unfortunate rebellion in 1798—when men of talent were directing their ability and efforts to propagate treason and disaffection—which appear to me to be most applicable to Ireland—

"When Erin first rose from the dark heaving flood,
God blessed the green island, and saw it was good;
In sun, and in soil, and in station twice bless'd—
Her back turn'd to Britain—her face to the west."

Her face will still continue to be turned to the west; but I think, now, you have an opportunity of conciliating her affections and binding her to this country. If you leave her as she lies she is overwhelmed with poverty and despair. But now, by a vigorous effort, in which every part of the empire shall join, it appears to me that there are opportunities, by a new constitution of property, by inviting with the aid of the government new capital to be invested in the cultivation of the soil—it appears to me that you have opportunities of materially improving her condition, and, if you succeed, of extracting from her present state of calamity and wretchedness the means of future prosperity and happiness for herself and of strength to this united empire. (Cheers.)

Major BLACKALL moved as an amendment, "That an auxiliary fund, for the relief of the extraordinary distress in Ireland, be raised by a rate not exceeding 6d. in the pound, to be levied on all property and incomes in Ireland above the annual value of £150."

Mr. W. BROWN considered that if Sir Robert Peel's plan was carried out, it would afford the best guarantee for the future prosperity of Ireland. Having kept a debtor and creditor account against that country he was prepared to show that Ireland owed England £300,000,000; and he thought it but just, therefore, that the Irish should put their hands in their own pockets instead of applying to the industrious inhabitants of Yorkshire, Lancashire, and other English counties for assistance. He should vote for the rate in aid.

Sir E. MACNAGHTEN, Mr. SCULLY, Sir W. VERNER, Mr. BOURKE, and Sir A. BROOKE, addressed the House against the rate.

Mr. CLEMENTS urged the imposition of an income-tax rather than a rate in aid.

Mr. B. ROCHE supported the resolution because it proposed a temporary relief for a temporary want, because he thought it was due to the English people who had such sacrifices for the relief of Irish distress, but he did hope the rate would not be levied until after harvest. Referring to the speech of Sir R. Peel, the hon. member said nobody could say that it was not a most important speech; but at the same time, he must say that there was a great deal in that speech from which he dissented. In the first place, he was rather inclined to question his historical conclusions. He did not agree with him that the plantation of Ulster was a great boon conferred by England on Ireland. He thought, on the contrary, that it was a great blot and stain on the English character that that plantation had been effected in the way it had been. (Hear.) The right hon. gentleman had quoted an Irish ballad of '98. He (Mr. Roche), with reference to this point, would quote a stanza from an Irish ballad made by those who planted Ulster two centuries after the plantation. (Shouts of laughter.) He found he had made a slip of the tongue. It was a propensity of his countrymen to do so, and he would not deny his countrymen. (Continued laughter.) Well, here was a song. (Renewed laughter, and loud cries of "Sing, sing.") He was afraid he could not sing amidst so many interruptions, but here were the words—

"The battle of the Diamond—
"(Far let the watchword fly)—
"Where craven Papist rebels crouched
"Upon the earth to die;
"Slain by devoted men and true,
"Who fought with heart and blade,
"And slaughtered in their ambush vile
"By swords they had betrayed."

(Laughter.) He confessed that he did not anticipate much benefit to Ireland from such plantations, but the right hon. gentleman also proposed that the government, by means of a commission should purchase some of the estates of Connaught, and sell them to new proprietors. If the object were to create an independent yeomanry in Ireland he believed that some good would be done; but if they merely bought the estates from the present proprietors, who had manifestly neglected their duty hitherto, and put in their place another set without taking some security that they would not follow exactly the same course as their predecessors, he feared that evil would be done in place of good. The right hon. gentleman also said that he saw no reason why they should not purchase the Connemara property. He (Mr. Roche) had no particular objection to their doing so, but he feared they would not find it a very profitable concern. He did not think that King Williamstown, in the county which he represented, had turned out a very profitable speculation. (Hear, hear.) But if the right hon. gentleman really wished to regenerate Ireland, let him face the question of tenure of land; let him bring in a bold, practical measure to enable the money of the farmers and yeomen, which was at present lying idle in the savings-banks, to come into connexion with the land which was lying untilled, and he would not only benefit the country at large, but do great credit and honour to himself.

Sir A. BROOKE opposed the rate as impolitic and unjust.

Sir G. GREY, after adverting to the inability of the distressed unions, if left to their own resources, to support their poor, observed that he saw no alternative but to procure, from some source or other, extraneous aid by which to supply for the time being the deficiency of means in these unions. This seemed, indeed, to have been admitted on all hands. It had also been admitted, but by no means so generally, that the time had at length come when a stop must be put to the system of repeated applications to parliament for grants for the support of the Irish poor. If the Imperial Exchequer was no longer to be called upon for such grants, and the aid now required was to come from some resource in Ireland itself, the question was, whether the proposal made by government for a general rate in aid, was not the least objectionable mode in which that aid could be secured. He then proceeded to consider and refute the objections urged against the proposal by Mr. Osborne, Mr. Stafford, Mr. Monsell, and others. The government was charged with introducing a new principle, but that which it introduced in connexion with this proposal was not so novel as would be that of extending the income-tax to Ireland and applying its proceeds to local purposes. Yet this was the substitute which was proposed by those who accused the government of abandoning beaten tracks and introducing new principles. He then met the objections to the rate which those who spoke on behalf of Ulster urged against it. Objection had been taken to the proposed rate, because the valuations were different in the different unions and electoral divisions in Ireland. It might be possible partially to correct the inequality of valuation, if not entirely to remove it, but its correction or removal would be a comparatively slow process; and was there a single member of the House who would take upon himself the responsibility, in the present state of Ireland, to postpone the imposition of the rate until valuation was equalised? The government proposed the rate simply as a temporary measure, and in proposing it as such it would but ill acquit itself of its responsibility if it did not contemplate some other measures designed for the permanent improvement of Ireland. The right hon. baronet the member for Tamworth had expressed an opinion that the government was bound not only to provide the means of relieving the destitution at present existing in the west of Ireland, but to look forward and adopt measures by which that part of the country might be placed in a condition of independence, so as to render unnecessary these continual calls for extraneous assistance. He entirely concurred in the opinion expressed by the right hon. baronet, that the remedy for the disastrous state of things existing in the unions of the west of Ireland was the transfer of the great bulk of the property from the hands of those who had inherited it overwhelmed with burdens, with incomes insufficient to enable them to discharge the duties of proprietors, to others possesssd of capital sufficient to furnish employment to people on their estates and to insure the proper cultivation of the soil. The right hon. baronet said that he would do nothing which was inconsistent with the rights of property; but experience showed how strongly the influence of education and of long cherished habits inclined common law and Chancery lawyers to consider all the forms employed in their profession essential to the maintenance of the rights of property. Much benefit would be experienced if purchasers were relieved from the dread of competing for the purchase of estates encumbered with an accumulation of arrears of poor-rate, and one of the propositions which his noble friend intended to submit to the committee up stairs would be directed to that object. If, in accordance with the right hon. baronet's suggestion, a commission should be appointed to decide upon all questions of property, the members of it must be lawyers, and in that case the same delay would be experienced as was now complained of with reference to the Court of Chancery. These were some of the observations which it occurred to him to make with reference to the right hon. baronet's proposition, but any suggestion arising from that quarter must necessarily carry great weight with it, and was entitled to the fullest consideration.

Lord CASTLEREAGH having moved that the chairman report progress, to which Lord J. RUSSELL objected, the Committee divided upon that motion, which was negatived by 251 to 104. The motion for adjourning the debate being, however, renewed, Lord J. RUSSELL yielded, and the chairman reported progress, obtained leave to sit again on Tuesday.

In disposing of the remaining business, a division took place upon the appointment of the Select Committee on the Bribery at Elections Bill, when there being only thirty-four members present, the House adjourned at one o'clock.

TUESDAY, MARCH 6.

HOUSE OF LORDS. — AFFAIRS OF SICILY. — After several petitions against a rate in aid for Ireland had been presented by various Irish Peers,

Lord STANLEY asked whether a contractor who was in the habit of supplying arms to the British government, had been allowed to withdraw such arms from the government stores for the purpose of supplying them to the insurgents in Sicily.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE was glad of an opportunity of explaining the real state of the case. A gentleman who had been a contractor for arms to the British government did, in the course of last autumn, before the armistice in Sicily was concluded, or at any rate before it was known to be concluded in this country, make an application to the Board of Ordnance for permission to take back from the stores some guns which he had manufactured for her Majesty's service, and that, too, for the avowed purpose of fulfilling another contract, made with the Sicilian government at that time, for whose use those guns were wanted. The Board of Ordnance refused their assent to that application, until an application was made in another quarter, namely, to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. That application was made, and then the Board of Ordnance received permission to give the contractor the facilities which he desired, and they consequently allowed him to take the arms out of store. This permission was afterwards regretted, and our government was fully authorised, if called upon, to explain the matter, and to state that it had occurred through inadvertence, and that measures would be taken to prevent its recurrence in future.

Lord BROUGHAM said the noble marquis had spoken of the insurgents as the Sicilian government; he supposed he meant the insurgent government.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE replied he meant the government *de facto*, the insurgent government.

Lord BROUGHAM retorted that he should as soon call Smith O'Brien's committee "the English committee," as call the insurgent government in Sicily "the Sicilian government."

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH, in reply to Lord Brougham, said it was true the people of Sicily had risen against the government of their King, but they had previously to that a constitution *de jure*, if not *de facto*, and stood pretty much in the same position as the people of England did before King William the Third ascended the throne. They desired the re-establishment of a constitution, to which they were as much entitled as the people of England were to have their rights secured to them by Magna Charta and by the Revolution.

The Earl of ABERDEEN thought, if this country had given to Sicily a guarantee to maintain her rights, it was their duty to assist her, but if no such guarantee had been given, it was most dishonest and disgraceful to affect a neutrality which was not honestly observed. As the noble marquis, however, had stated that the government was fully aware of every step that had been taken, he would make no further observation on the subject.

The Duke of WELLINGTON said: the King of the Two Sicilies, commonly called the King of Naples, assumed the former title when he signed the act of accession to the treaty of Vienna, and he inserted in that act a certain condition, on which he accepted the sovereignty, and specified the manner in which the government of the island of Sicily should be carried on. It was true that the English government were not bound to enforce the execution of that article of the treaty, or of any other, on other powers; but England was bound not to commit a breach of that article, which unquestionably would be done by supplying arms to the present insurgents in Sicily, England being bound to remain neutral. He hoped it would be found, when the general question was discussed, that no step had been taken which would be construed into a breach of any part of the treaty.

The Earl of MINTO had been most anxious in executing his mission to maintain the union of the two crowns; but he could never consent to treat the people as being in unlawful rebellion against their sovereign. On the contrary, they were asserting a right which they had a reasonable prospect of obtaining. He had been most desirous in his interference to induce them to accept the conditions which were offered to them by the King of the Two Sicilies in 1812.

Lord BROUGHAM suggested to his noble friend that he should read the treaty of Vienna at least three times, and then state whether the King of the Two Sicilies, was the King of only one or both.

The Earl of MINTO said the treaty of Vienna only provided for the restoration of the king to his Neapolitan dominions, but recognised him as King of the Two Sicilies, in addition to which he was King of Jerusalem.

Lord BROUGHAM.—But you did not go to Jerusalem.

The Earl of MINTO already knew the treaty of Vienna pretty well by heart, but he thought there were circumstances connected with the history of the period which were unknown even to the noble and learned lord.

CRIMINAL RETURNS (IRELAND).—Lord MONTEAGLE in an explanatory speech moved for returns showing the amount of crime in Ireland and the amount of mortality in the prisons of Ireland for the last five years.

Earl GREY had no objection to the motion, but denied that the mortality or overcrowding in the Irish prisons had arisen from any alteration in the law of transportation, but in consequence of the greatly increased number of persons who had been sentenced to that punishment during the last two years.

The Duke of RICHMOND complained of the difficulty there was in obtaining accurate returns from Ireland, and was loth to take for granted any statement that came from thence. He also complained that the number of Irish labourers wandering about the country was a great source of alarm, and trusted some means would be taken to put an end to such a deplorable state of things.

The motion was then agreed to.

The Relief of Distress (Ireland) Bill; the Vice-Guardians of Unions (Ireland) Bill; and the Buckinghamshire Summer Assizes Bill, were respectively read a third time and passed.

Their lordships then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Mr. JOHN MITCHEL.—Mr. ROBINSON said, that seeing the First Lord of the Admiralty in his place, he begged to put a question to him of which he had given notice. The right hon. gentleman not having held any official situation last year, he begged to inform him that he inquired last year whether there was any foundation for the rumour which was then circulated, that Mitchel, the convict, on his way to Bermuda in the ship Scourge, had messed with the officers, and had been treated in a manner by Commander Wingrove, which, if true, was greatly derogatory to him. He now begged to ask whether the Admiralty, having, as he presumed they had, made inquiry into the subject, had received any report from the commander on the North American station on the subject, or whether Commander Wingrove had made any attempt to vindicate his character from the aspersion which had been cast upon it by the rumour in question.

Sir F. BARING said that the rumour referred to was quite correct in so far as that Mitchel did dine at the captain's table on board the Scourge; but it was not true that he messed with the officers in any shape. He dined at the captain's table that he might be separated from the other officers, who the captain considered ought not to be brought into contact with him. The captain's sole object in so doing was to keep the prisoner in safe custody in a manner consistent with humanity and the state of the prisoner's health. (Hear, hear.) The Admiralty had made full inquiry into the subject, and they were quite satisfied that the captain had not been actuated by the motives which had been imputed to him, but that he had been merely anxious for the prisoner's safe custody and his separation from the officers and crew. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. ROBINSON begged to remind the right hon. gentleman that the Secretary of the Admiralty had stated that orders had been given to Commander Wingrove that Mitchel should be confined in a separate cabin, with a sentry over it, and that he should take his meals in a separate cabin. From the explanations now given, however, it appeared that these orders had been deviated from. He wished to ask whether the Admiralty proposed to take any notice of Commander Wingrove's disobedience of the Admiralty orders?

THE ARMY IN INDIA.—Lord J. RUSSELL then rose and said: The hon. member for Montrose having asked me a question yesterday with respect to India, I stated that her Majesty's ministers had given advice to her Majesty on the subject, but that until I received a reply from her Majesty I could not answer the question of the right hon. gentleman. I have now to state that the advice which I humbly tendered to her Majesty was that Sir Charles Napier should be appointed Commander-in-Chief of the army in India. (Loud cheers.) Her Majesty has been pleased most graciously and fully to approve of that appointment. (Continued cheers.) Both the Duke of Wellington, the Commander-in-Chief, and I have seen Sir Charles Napier to-day, and I have the satisfaction to state that he is ready to obey her Majesty's wish that he should proceed to India in the capacity in which her Majesty has appointed him. (Renewed cheers.) The Court of Directors have not yet met—I believe they will meet to-morrow; but from what I know of their patriotism, I fully expect that they will receive with joy and satisfaction the appointment which her Majesty has been pleased to make. (Prolonged applause.)

PERSONAL EXPLANATION.—Sir H. W. BARRON made an attempt to explain the circumstances under which his unfortunate Trial of Offences (Ireland) Bill, rejected last week, was drawn up, but only made the matter worse. He attributed it in the first instance, to Mr. Beswick, the assistant barrister, who repudiated its authorship in a letter addressed to the papers and also to the House, but he allowed that Mr. Beswick was by no means complimentary to him.

THE RATE IN AID.—The House again went into committee on the Poor Laws (Ireland), the debate being resumed by Mr. GROGAN, who opposed the rate in aid and was followed by a number of Irish members who all took the same view of the subject. Mr. D. CALLAGHAN, Mr. M. J. O'CONNELL, Captain JONES, Mr. F. FRENCH, Mr. CONOLLY (a new member) Lord CASTLEREAGH, Colonel DUNNE, and Mr. St. GEORGE, all opposed the government proposition on various grounds and in lengthened speeches. Lord LINCOLN also threw his weight against the government by expressing his determination to support the amendment, because he considered it, although defective, to be a step in the direction of the only sound principle, the principle of equal taxation, and if that amendment should be carried he should then be prepared to vote for assimilating the Income Tax between the two countries, making Ireland pay 7½d. and not 6d. in the pound.

Mr. MUNTZ wanted to know what was the reason why countless loads of produce came from other countries and not from Ireland. It was not bad land that was out of cultivation, but good land. Capital, it was said, was wanted; but capital would not go there without remuneration. With respect to the proposition of the government, he thought it was a bad one; but as he considered that all poor rates should be national rates, he should vote for the amendment, as he thought it more just.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL then rose to reply to what had fallen from Lord Lincoln. The House generally seemed agreed upon the two propositions, that assistance was necessary for some of the western unions, and that that assistance should be received from Ireland herself. The question, then, which remained was, in which of two ways was the required aid to be drawn from Ireland—whether by raising the taxation of Ireland towards an equality with that of this country, or by having recourse to a special rate or tax for the purpose. He did not propose this rate as an equivalent for the unequal taxation between the two countries. He then proceeded to consider Lord Lincoln's objection to the rate founded upon the defective valuation which prevailed in Ireland. As to the proposal to substitute an income-tax for this rate, he reminded the noble lord that to collect that tax a new machinery must be instituted, which would not be necessary to collect the rate. But if the House, at the suggestion of an Irish member, preferred an income-tax, he would bow to its decision, although he warned the Irish members that, whilst some of them objected to the rate because it might extend beyond the two years, the income-tax would certainly do so. It was from no want of consideration that he then omitted particular allusion to Sir R. Peel's suggestion. He would say, however, that in his opinion it would be difficult now to pursue a similar policy to that pursued in James the First's time, with a hope of attaining the same results. He then left the question in the hands of the committee. If it granted the rate in aid the destitution of the western unions would be relieved, but if it preferred the amendment, those Irish members who were clamorous for an income-tax would succeed in their object.

The committee then divided, and the numbers were—

For the amendment	...	...	164
Against it	...	...	237
Majority against	...	...	—73

Mr. REYNOLDS proposed that the rate in aid of sixpence in the pound should be charged on all salaries of government officers of not less than £150 a year, and of all incomes derived from the public funds, on mortgages, and on all incomes derived from property in Ireland.

After a short discussion, the committee divided, when the proposition was negatived by a majority of 161, the numbers 51 to 212. A division then took place on the main question, when the rate in aid was carried by a majority of 172, the numbers 206 to 34.

The House then resumed, leave was given to bring in the bill, and the adjournment followed at a quarter to two o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. — REAL PROPERTY TRANSFER BILL. — Mr. DRUMMOND, in moving the second reading of this bill, said, that he had better state at the outset what he was not going to say. He was not now going to allude in any way to the lawyers in this matter. He did not think that in the present state of the question it was a matter which concerned the lawyers at all. He should endeavour to show that it was the landholders alone who were interested in it. If the lawyers should come forward and help them out of their troubles they would of course be much obliged to them, but the lawyers as a body had no reason to be dissatisfied with things as they were; whereas with the landowners it was quite the reverse. Before he attempted to show how the landed proprietors must get out of their difficulties, it would be necessary to call the attention of the House to the manner in which they got into them. The difficulties in which the landed property of the kingdom was involved were as old as any institution of the country whatever. Their origin was simply this—the king took possession of the land of the country, and divided it into about 720 parts, under the name of baronies, &c. These lands were given to certain persons upon condition that they should furnish a certain number of men when required for the defence of the country. In other words, the landlords defrayed the whole expense of a standing army. They subdivided the lands among other persons, who held them by a similar tenure to that by which they themselves held them of the King. But the landlords of those days ran into debt very much as landlords did now. (A laugh.) Their creditors wanted to seize the land, but the King said, "You shall not seize it, because I want military service, and unless you are a fit person for that purpose you shall not have the land." Besides, he might mention the King derived a great revenue from fines of inheritance, marriage of wards, and the like. Well, the creditors went to the judges, and asked what they were to do in these circumstances. The judges said, "It is true you can't touch the land, but you can prevent the owners from having a bit of anything that grows upon it." And so it came to pass, that there were persons then, as there were now, who were content to be called the nominal owners of land over which they had no control. But then they wanted to provide for various persons, and, being unable to part with the land, individuals were appointed into whose possession the land was nominally placed, with full power to receive the profits arising from it, and to apply them to the required purposes, they paying over whatever remained to the real owners. Hence came the system of trusteeships. This tenure of land began to die away under the Tudors, and was finally put an end to under the Stuarts. Then came the system of complicated settlements, under which, with a view of indulging the vanity of founding families and perpetuating their names, parties made provision for every possible contingency that might happen to every child they had, or should, or might have, and their descendants after them. The consequence was the establishment of the power now exercised by the Court of Chancery, by which that court had first of all to guess when and how certain contingencies had arisen, then what the devisor intended by his different devises, and next what were the means for carrying it into effect. So that really and truly all that the people complained of with regard to the lawyers, under the present system, came out of their own follies. (Hear, hear.) The expense of sales was immense, owing to these causes. Before making a sale it was necessary to prove that with respect to your father, your grandfather, your great-grandfather—and he did not know how much farther back—all the settlements that had been made were exhausted, and that every single person who could by possibility become entitled to the property was either dead or disposed of somehow. (A laugh.) He held in his hand a list showing the heavy costs which had arisen in nine cases of sale of small property, but would trouble the House with reading only one or two of them. There was, first, the case of a property which sold for £12,000, on which the costs of sale amounted to £200, or about seventeen per cent.; another, which sold for £500, on which the costs amounted to £124, or twenty-five per cent.; a third, in which the property sold for £150, and the costs were £50, or thirty-three per cent.; and a fourth, in which the property sold for £620, and the costs of sale amounted to £200, being about thirty-three per cent. also. (Hear, hear.) Every attempt which had been made to diminish the expense of sales under the present system had been futile. People talked of long recitals being the cause of the expense of preparing deeds; but he would be glad to know how they were to predetermine the length of a recital without knowing the nature of the deed. The length of the recital must depend upon the matter to be recited. (Hear, hear.) They could not expect a boy to recite the whole of *Homer's Iliad* in twenty minutes. (Laughter.) Under the present system, therefore, it was hopeless to expect to derive any benefit from shortening recitals. But that was not the worst of it. The owners of property were completely in the hands of solicitors. They knew no more about their lands than they did about what was going on in China. They knew that there was a box of parchments belonging to them, and that some of those parchments had a bit of red wax tied to them; but that was all they knew. Their solicitor brought them a paper to sign, and they signed it; and after putting a seal upon it they delivered it as their act and deed; but what it contained they knew no more than a blushing bride of the marriage settlement to which she was led forward, covered with a veil, to put her name. (Laughter.) Now, he contended that unless they cut up the whole system by the roots they would do nothing. What he wanted to make the country gentlemen understand was this, — that it was their business to deliver themselves out of the hands of the solicitors. They were a solicitor-ridden people. (Hear.) It was possible to have the expenses of a court of law taxed; but how on earth could they tax any attorney's bill? It was impossible. (Hear, hear.) The only means, in his opinion, by which an effectual alteration could be made in the present system was by having a register in the first place, and by making the transfer of property by a register in that book, just as at present they made sales of stock. In framing this bill he had to consider, first of all, that House, and, second, his own position in it. He had to find out to what extent the House was prepared to go along with him in this object, because it was impossible to bore a hole with a saw, or to divide a t

the hon. gentleman states—asked him—(Lord Palmerston) whether there would be any objection to such an accommodation. His reply was at once that he did not see any; and the guns were accordingly delivered. On further consideration it appeared to him that perhaps the Neapolitan government might take a different view of the transaction, and accordingly the British minister at Naples was told if the matter became the subject of remonstrance, or even observation, to explain how the thing really happened—that the permission to take the guns had been given inadvertently.

Sir J. Walsh charged the noble lord with assuming an independent line of action, which had been repudiated by the majority of his colleagues.

Mr. M'Gregor applauded the conduct of the Sicilians, and passed a high eulogium on the noble lord for the manner in which he managed the foreign affairs of the country.

Mr. J. O'Connell was delighted to hear the full recognition, on the part of the noble lord, of the right of nations, when desirous to manage their own affairs. After this recognition he should ask the noble lord for his vote for legislative freedom for Ireland.

Mr. Hume expressed his delight to hear that the moral power of England was now so great that she could operate upon the rest of Europe by peaceable influences, because it would afford him the opportunity of claiming the noble lord's vote when he (Mr. Hume) should propose a reduction in the army estimates.

Lord J. Russell denied that any difference of opinion had existed between the noble lord and his colleagues, on the subject of the supply of arms, for so far from the explanation suggested having originated with them, it had emanated from the noble lord himself. As regarded anything being analogous as between the cases of Ireland and Sicily, as suggested by the member for Limerick, the only resemblance was, that Ireland was an island and so was Sicily.

Mr. Bankes would consent to modify the return thus: "Account, &c., for the purpose of being sent to the Sicilians in arms against her Majesty's faithful ally, with the consent of her Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs."

This proposition being declined a division followed, when the motion was negatived by a majority of 95—the numbers being 39 to 134.

The House then adjourned at six o'clock.

THURSDAY, March 8.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Transportation and Discipline of Convicts.—Lord Mahon, pursuant to notice, called the attention of the House to the instructions issued in 1846, 1847, and 1848, with respect to the transportation and discipline of convicts. He concluded with a motion for certain returns.

Mr. Herbert gave some distressing details respecting the increase of crime and the crowded state of the prisons in Ireland.

Sir G. Grey defended Lord Grey, or rather the government, from the charge of inconsistency. He explained the intentions of the government with regard to the introduction of a new system of penal discipline, and noticed the erroneous impression which prevailed, that government had abandoned the separate system of imprisonment; on the contrary, every year's experience had added to their conviction of its salutary effects. In justifying the continuance of penal labour on public works in this country and near home, as a second stage, he considered the hulks as only a temporary expedient. In the third stage, the removal of convicts from this country, he showed that the system now adopted effected that object more completely than the old. He admitted the evil of the crowded state of the Irish gaols; the increase of crime was connected with the recent state of that country, and the convicts were mostly of a class unfit for transportation. Sir George then considered the rather meagre practical suggestions of Lord Mahon, showing the inexpediency of carrying out the scheme of a settlement in New Australia, and of a return to the assignment system, which, in any shape, would be one of slavery. Subject to modification, transportation, as a punishment, would be continued by the Government, which must, however, be allowed a certain degree of discretion.

Mr. Hume complained of the ever-varying plans of convict discipline. The present system of endeavouring to reform criminals at home would fail, and labour was wanted, in the colonies, where the assignment system should be reintroduced.

Sir J. Pakington recommended the adoption of the principle of Captain Maconochie's plan.

Mr. Gladstone defended the principle of the probation system, the horrors of which in Van Diemen's Land resulted from the defective instrumentality whereby it was carried out. *He thought Lord Grey* had been guilty of precipitancy—first, with regard to the breaking up of the settlement of Norfolk Island, and carrying the convicts to Van Diemen's Land; and secondly, in sending the convicts of New South Wales to Van Diemen's Land, after a pledge given that transportation would not be renewed.

Mr. Ewart, Mr. Alderman Sidney, and Mr. P. Scrope spoke shortly upon some of the topics in the question, and Sir G. Grey gave replies to inquiries put to him.

The motion was agreed to.

Agricultural Burthens and Grievances.—Mr. Disraeli then rose to move certain resolutions declaratory of the unequal burdens cast upon real property and the agricultural interests of the country, and pledging the House to take measures which may establish a more equitable apportionment of the public burdens. He said he hoped to induce the House to consent to a great measure of conciliation, of justice, and of policy. Assuming the admission of great agricultural distress in the country, he declined discussing the cause of it, as unnecessary for his argument, or to enter upon a controversy as to the policy of the changes by which, according to Mr. Cobden, the agricultural class had not been fairly treated. He still thought that our new commercial system was founded upon erroneous principles, and he shortly enumerated some of the reasons upon which he founded that opinion; but he looked not to a sudden retrogression, but to legitimate means, for remedying the evils of this new system. The question before the House was extremely simple. No less than £10,000,000 was levied last year by direct local taxation upon real property, independently of £2,000,000 land-tax; that is, a direct taxation of £12,000,000, from which other property was exempt, was levied upon a rental of £67,000,000. The whole income of the country was £249,000,000; on what principle of justice could £12,000,000 of local taxation be cast upon little more than one-fourth of that income? Who would suppose that this burden was cast, in the teeth of the law, upon the proud and rapacious aristocracy, who always made laws for their own advantage? He exposed the confusion of terms which annexed the idea of locality to these taxes, whereas they were of a much wider and more comprehensive character; and he illustrated this argument by an ingenious exposition of the nature and objects of these so-called local rates; and the local causes of some of our general national taxation. The grievance and anomaly of these two forms of taxation had been long felt, and, as a remedy, a system of national rating had been recommended; but to this he objected. He would not resist an inquiry into the subject of the probate and legacy duties; for the result would show that a large proportion was paid by the land, on the property of the farmer; but this was beside the question as to the justice of throwing £12,000,000 of taxes upon one-fourth of the property of the country; and if the House would go into committee, he would offer a plan, which was founded in justice, to remedy this inequality. In a spirit of compromise and conciliation, he should propose, the present system of local administration remaining, the present levy of rates continuing, that the local districts should be responsible for one moiety, and that the other should be paid by the Consolidated Fund. Mr. Disraeli then described, in forcible terms, the treacherous manner in which the agricultural interest had been treated on the subject of the malt-tax, the repeal of which he, nevertheless, persuaded them not to press for, but to be content with the measure he proposed—a measure founded in justice; and he concluded with an eloquent picture of the claims and wrongs of that interest, of the insults they had received, and the forbearance they had displayed, warning the House, however, that the blood which had refused ship-money was not to be trifled with.

Mr. Hume said, the remedy proposed by Mr. Disraeli would impose upon the tenant-farmers (of whom he had said nothing) an additional income-tax of £6,000,000. He then showed that these rates were properly laid upon the land, which had been purchased subject to them. He then entered at some length upon the general reduction of taxation, and concluded by moving an amendment to Mr. Disraeli's motion to the effect that, if there be any inequality in the local taxation bearing upon real property, it ought to be removed; but the public expenditure should be reduced so as to permit the repeal of the duties on malt and hops.

On the motion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the debate was adjourned until Wednesday next.

Mr. Aglionby obtained leave to bring in a bill to effect the compulsory enfranchisement of lands of copyhold and customary tenure.

On the nomination of the Select Committeee on the Bribery at Elections Bill, some rather sharp words were exchanged between Colonel Sibthorp and the Attorney-General.

The House adjourned at one o'clock.

FRIDAY, March 9.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—The members of this House having disposed of some unimportant business adjourned at an early hour.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Navigation Laws.—Mr. Herries moved that the bill introduced by the Ministry be read a second time that day six months. The interval since last session had afforded time for considering this measure, and the result had been a vast body of opinions and of evidence adverse to its policy. As regarded foreign powers, France, Belgium, and Germany, those countries still remained hostile to the propositions made to them, on contravention of the attempts to convince them that it would be to their interest to follow the example this government was desirous to set them. After referring to the evidence of officers as to whether a mercantile marine was or was not necessary for the support of a great naval marine, the right hon. gentleman quoted some observations of Mr. Cobden's as *bonâ fide* evidence of the first proposition, and urged that the existing navigation laws secured to this country the exclusive possession of a vast international and colonial traffic, as also the traffic with the large non-maritime powers of Europe. The shipping interest employed capital to the extent of near sixty millions; paid in wages not less than £5,000,000 annually, employed 80,000 artificers and workmen, had ships, the whole amount of tonnage of which was 3,900,000 tons, the vessels being manned by 250,000 seamen, and yet it was this vast interest the government were about to destroy, dealing now with the sea as they had previously done with the land. It was however to be hoped that public opinion would induce them to pause in the destructive and ill-judged career they were pursuing. The question at issue, he observed, was this: On one hand, the navigation laws had secured to this country a large commercial marine; on the other hand, it was contended that they presented obstructions to the free scope of commerce, and that a large mercantile marine was not necessary or auxiliary to a great naval power. After exposing the fallacy of the proposition, he adduced evidence to prove that in spite of its restrictions, which were not onerous, the balance of advantages clearly preponderated in favour of a system which was the nursery of our flourishing mercantile marine, the foundation of a naval supremacy, and which, if once abandoned for the sake of a rash experiment, could never be restored.

Mr. J. Wilson followed. With regard to the answers from various foreign powers in reference to the applications made to them, all they did was to remind the British government that the treaties with them would expire in such a year, and that a more liberal policy would be expected; while Austria replied she was surprised at being asked whether she could reciprocate *with this country, because* she had already given all she could, and was disappointed when she asked for reciprocity in return. The hon. member then took a review of the various relaxations in protective duties which had taken place since 1841, in which year the first reduction of the commercial tariff took place, and proceeded to say that if no better reason existed for the repeal of the navigation laws than the invitation of the United States and the threat of Russia, no ground would be laid for the bill under consideration, but the more the effect of those laws upon the shipping interest and commerce of the country were inquired into, the more abundantly would reasons appear, both for their repeal. With regard to the number of men employed in the commercial marine, in 1842, it was 118,000; in 1847, 242,000; a proof that as free trade had progressed the number of seamen had increased. There was no evidence to show that there was a decline in the shipping trade of this country, and if she could stand the test of a comparison with America in the increase of her foreign shipping, there was little danger to be apprehended; on the contrary, it would appear that the more the British shipowner was brought into competition with the foreigner the better it would be for him.

The Marquis of Granby quoted Mr. Mackay's "Western World" with the view of showing the country the resurces of America and the rapid progress her commercial marine was making, though *he did not agree with Mr. M. in his deduction* that therefore England must succumb to America, for there was a skill, energy, and industry in British seamen, that nothing but the misconduct of the Legislature could destroy. The introduction of foreign shipping into the colonies abroad and into the harbours and ports at home strongly reminded him of the introduction of the wooden horse into Troy.

Mr. Henley expressed his wish to know what, in the event of a war, and this measure having passed, government intended to do on the subject of impressment; for, when they were introducing a better class of men into the mercantile marine, some provision must be made in this respect. He, for one, was not prepared to run the risk which he apprehended would be run if the present measure were carried.

Mr. Kerr offered a few observations amidst much laughter, and having suddenly resumed his seat, the debate was adjourned to Monday at twelve o'clock.

THE TOOTING CASE.

JUDGE'S CHAMBERS.—Monday.

The Queen on the Prosecution of the Guardians of the Holborn and Chelsea Union *v.* Drouet.

In this case an order *nisi* had been obtained by Mr. Ballantine, on the part of the defendant, to remove the indictment found herein, the coroner's inquisitions, as also the depositions and all proceedings had thereon, by writ of *certiorari*, from the Central Criminal Court into the Queen's Bench, on the ground that an unfair prejudice had been created in the minds of the public by inflammatory and unjust newspaper articles and reports, and also that from the state of the defendant's health, he labouring under a disease (inflammation of the heart and lungs), death might be produced from the excitement arising by being placed at the bar of the Old Bailey to take his trial; and further, that the depositions upon which he was indicted showed no case to go to a jury; and a trial in the Court of Queen's Bench would be less influenced by public prejudice than a trial at the Central Criminal Court.

Mr. Petersdorff, with Mr. Duncombe, on the part of the Holborn Union, now showed cause against the order being made absolute for the issuing of the writ of *certiorari*.

Mr. Ballantine having replied,

Mr. Justice Patteson said, in giving judgment, he was not called upon to say whether the indictments were sustainable or not; and he ought to be careful before he hazarded even an opinion, and he would wish it to be understood, and that it should go abroad, that he expressed no opinion on the point either one way or the other. The indictments were found, and they must be tried before a Middlesex common jury; and it was the same thing whether they were tried at the Old Bailey or the Queen's Bench; the only difference being, that in the one case the defendant must stand before the bar, and in the other on the floor of the court, except that a new trial might be applied for. If the present application was granted, he saw no reason why it should not be granted in case of murder. With the condition in life of the parties he had nothing to do; and, therefore, under all the circumstances, he was of opinion that there was no ground for the removal, and that the writ ought not to issue. The order must be refused. Order discharged accordingly.

A Judicial Tiger in his Lair.—Capture of Judge Jeffreys.—A scrivener, who lived at Wapping, and whose trade it was to furnish the seafaring men there with money at high interests, had some time before lost a sum on bottomry. The debtor applied to equity for relief against his own bond; and the cause came before Jeffreys. The counsel for the borrower, having little else to say, said that the lender was a trimmer. The Chancellor instantly fired. "A trimmer! where is he? Let me see him. I have heard of that kind of monster—what is it made like?" The unfortunate creditor was obliged to stand forth. The Chancellor glared fiercely on him, stormed at him, and sent him away half dead with fright. "While I live," the poor man said, as he tottered out of the court, "I shall never forget that terrible countenance." And now the day of retribution had arrived. The trimmer was walking through Wapping, when he saw a well-known face looking out of a window of an ale-house. He could not be deceived. The eyebrows indeed had been shaved away. The dress was that of a common sailor from Newcastle, and was black with coal-dust, but there was no mistaking the savage eye and mouth of Jeffreys. The alarm was given. In a moment the house was surrounded by hundreds of people shaking bludgeons and bellowing curses. The fugitive's life was saved by a company of trainbands, and he was carried before the Lord Mayor (Sir John Chapman). . . . When the great man, at whose frown, a few days before, the whole kingdom had trembled, was dragged into the justice-room, begrimed with ashes, half dead with fright, and followed by a raging multitude, the agitations of the unfortunate mayor rose to a height. He fell into fits, and was carried to his bed, whence he never rose. Meanwhile, the throng without was constantly becoming more numerous and more savage. Jeffreys begged to be sent to prison. An order to that effect was procured from the lords who were sitting at Whitehall; and he was conveyed in a carriage to the Tower. Two regiments of militia were drawn out to escort him, and found this duty a difficult one. It was repeatedly necessary for them to form, as if for the purpose of repelling a charge of cavalry, and to present a forest of pikes to the mob. The thousands who were disappointed of their revenge pursued the coach, with howls of rage, to the gate of the Tower, brandishing cudgels, and holding up halters full in the prisoner's view. The wretched man, meantime, was in convulsions of terror. He wrung his hands; he looked wildly out, sometimes at one window sometimes at the other, and was heard even above the tumult crying, "Keep them off, gentlemen; For God's sake keep them off;" At length, having suffered far more than the bitterness of death, he was safely lodged in the fortress where some of his most illustrious victims had passed their best days, and where his own life was destined to close in unspeakable *ignominy* and *horror*.—*Macaulay's History of England.*

Police.

LAMBETH.—Alleged Cruelty to a Child.—H. Martin, the governess of the National Infant School, in Dorset-street, South Lambeth, was charged with having placed a child, three years old, named Hughes, upon a heated stove, whereby it was severely injured. Three children were examined; two of them of eight and the other six years of age, and one of them, an intelligent little boy, deposed to having seen the governess, Miss Martin, take up little Hughes and place him sitting on the top of the stove. The child cried a good deal.—Mr. Evans, the medical gentleman, who had been called in to examine the child, deposed to the injuries inflicted, and said, that having examined the stove in the school-room, he was certain the child had been placed on it. The life of the child was at present in great danger.—Mr. Games, on behalf of the child's parents, applied for a remand to a future day.—Mr. Humphries did not object to the application. It was the wish of the guardians of the schools by whom he was instructed to appear, though he could only do so as the advocate of Miss Martin, that the most searching investigation should take place.—Mr. Norton complied with Mr. Games's request; but said, that as the case had assumed a much more serious aspect, he must *have bail for the appearance* of Miss Martin—herself in £100 and two sureties in £50 each. The required sureties were entered into, and the accused was liberated.—*On Tuesday*, Mr. Humphreys, who attended for the accused, said that, having received the authority of Miss Martin to do so, he felt it to be his duty to make a statement of the facts as they really occurred. The child entered the school wet and crying, and Miss Martin thoughtlessly took him up and placed him on the top of the stove, regardless at the moment whether it was a stove or a seat. The child did not cry at the moment; but, when he did, Miss Martin, seeing the nature and extent of the injuries, and fearing also that the circumstance might affect the interests of the school, or that she might lose her situation, foolishly denied her guilt in the first instance, and persisted in her statement. In conclusion, Mr. Humphreys said he had the pleasing duty to add, that by a certificate which he would read, it would be found that the life of the child was out of danger, and Miss Martin would be in attendance on the day appointed to meet the charge.—Mr. Games said, he wished he could join Mr. Humphreys in the belief that the child was out of danger; on the contrary, he was sorry to say that Mr. Evans had seen him the day before, and considered him in great danger.—Mr. Norton remarked, that he did not think Miss Martin had put herself in a worse position by making the acknowledgment she had, and here the matter dropped.

BOW-STREET.—Alleged Attempt to Murder.—Mary Anne Milley, wife of a man who keeps a small shop in Great Wild-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, was placed at the bar before Mr. Henry, charged with stabbing her husband in the neck with a large case knife, from the effects of which his life is in danger.—Charles Lane, a labouring man, stated that on Saturday night he was standing at the prisoner's door, about eight o'clock, at which time her husband was sitting at a fire in the room at the rear of the shop. They both appeared to be under the influence of liquor, and the prisoner having taken the large knife produced from the rack, went into her husband, and, with a backhanded blow, stabbed him in the neck, which instantly caused the blood to flow profusely. Her husband, after rising from his chair, came to the shop door and told witness that he had been wounded by the prisoner. Witness immediately conveyed him to the shop of Mr. Gray, in Drury-lane, while the prisoner followed, with the knife in her hand, without making any observation until she entered the doctor's shop, and then she said, "I did it, and I had just cause for doing it." He had known them both for about four years, and that they were of drunken habits, but he could not ascertain the cause of their quarrel.—Mr. Gray's assistant said that the wound was in a horizontal direction, about half an inch deep, such as might be inflicted with the instrument produced, dividing a main artery, and had it been a quarter of an inch further it must have touched the jugular vein, which must have caused instant death. The prisoner followed her husband into the shop, shaking the knife in a threatening manner, and saying, "I have done it, as he has abused me." She had a black eye, and appeared very much excited, and while the man was having his wounds dressed he expressed a wish that she should be taken into custody.—Mr. Henry inquired if any one was in attendance from the hospital?—The officer replied that the house-surgeon was at present unable to attend, but he told him that it was impossible as yet to form any opinion of the wounded man's condition.—The prisoner, having received the usual caution from the magistrate, said that contrary to her wishes her husband had become a dog fancier, and about two years back he broke her jaw, because he did not approve of the manner she attended to a dog. Her husband was in the habit of spending the money at public-houses which she received in the shop, and although she had thrown the knife at him during his drunkeness, it was because he assaulted her, and blackened her eye, as it appeared.—Mr. Henry said he should have the evidence of some persons from the hospital, and ordered the prisoner to be remanded for that purpose.

SOUTHWARK.—Attempted Escape from Horsemonger-Lane Gaol.—George Lord and Jane Mrrgan were brought up for re-examination, charged on suspicion of an attempt to aid and assist in the escape of some of the prisoners from the county gaol,—A few nights ago, at a late hour, the prisoners were discovered in an enclosed piece of ground under the walls of the above gaol, from which they tried to make their escape, but were pursued and taken into custody. Upon the return of the policeman to the spot where the prisoners had first been observed, he found several articles constructed for the purpose of communicating with the inmates of the prison, and amongst them two bags attached to an article like a fishing rod, capable of being put over the walls. In the bags were some letters written by the inmates, and, from this and other circumstances it was strongly suspected that the prisoners were there for the purpose of assisting in the escape of some of them, and it was strengthened from the fact of the woman Morgan having a son in prison for being engaged in the late Chartist riots.—The prisoners, who denied that they knew anything about the articles discovered under the walls of the gaol, were held to bail.

WORSHIP-STREET.—An Innocent Victim.—T. Johnson, an elderly man of sedate and imposing appearance, who stated himself to be in independent circumstances, was placed at the bar for final examination, charged with having feloniously appropriated various articles, the property of numerous tradesmen in all parts of the metropolis. In consequence of the proceedings on the first examination having obtained publicity, a host of tradesmen now presented themselves, and complained that they had also been victimised by the prisoner, and were prepared to substantiate fresh charges against him. The first additional charge was brought forward by Mr. John Watson, an ironmonger in Judd-street, Brunswick-square, who stated that in the early part of last month the prisoner called at his shop, and representing that he held a lucrative appointment at Somerset-House, selected a variety of articles, which he requested might be sent with him at once to his residence, 24, Tonbridge-street. Witness himself accompanied his lad with a portion of the order, but as they were proceeding in the direction indicated, the prisoner insisted upon relieving him of part of his load, and took possession of a coffee biggin, but had only carried it a short distance, when he intimated that he had occasion to turn for a moment down a dark entry, and that he would overtake them before they reached their destination. The prisoner, however, failed to rejoin them, and having ascertained at his pretended address that nothing was known of such a person, he hastened back in search of his customer, but saw nothing more of him until he saw him in custody at this court. The next charge was preferred by Mr. Richard Smith, an ironmonger, in the Queen's-road, Chelsea, who was favoured with a visit from the prisoner about a month since, under the same circumstances. Another case was proved against him by Mr. E. Lawrence, a china-dealer, in Goswell-road, to whom he had given his address at 25, Myddleton-square; and that prosecutor was succeeded by Mr. Henry Monger, a hardware dealer in the Borough, and Mr. John Piper, of Beech-street, Barbican, each of whom positively identified the prisoner as having obtained various goods by means of a similar stratagem, the last offence having been committed only a few hours after he had been liberated upon bail from this court.—While each successive witness was under examination, the gesticulations of the prisoner, expressive of mingled indignation and astonishment, were most amusing; and after several cases had been established, he, at length, exclaimed, "Well, really this is most remarkable. I could not help thinking, at the outset, that the first two or three witnesses were indulging in the most wicked and wilful fabrications, for some purposes of their own; but as it does not seem very likely that all the others would join the conspiracy, I can only conclude that the whole of these good people have really been scandalously swindled by some unprincipled rogue, bearing a personal resemblance to myself, and whom they actually believe to be me." Having thus delivered himself, the prisoner assumed an attitude of lofty composure and listened to the relation of his subsequent delinquencies with the air of an immaculate martyr, who had resigned himself to endure in silence the unmerited obloquy and persecution of an injurious world.—Several other tradesmen pressed forward to give evidence, but the magistrates considered that there was amply sufficient to secure the ends of justice, and five conclusive cases having been reduced to depositions the prisoner was committed for trial, protesting his innocence to the last, and declaring himself to be one of the many ill-used victims among the countless cases of mistaken identity.

MARYLEBONE.—The City of London Trade Protection Society and the "Towzery Gang."—G. Hall was charged with having caused an obstruction to foot passengers.—Mr. T. A. Sidders deposed that on the same morning he opened a shop at 15, Vere-street, Cavendish-square, for the sale of shawls, silks, and other goods, and that between eleven and twelve o'clock he saw prisoner just off the kerb directly facing the premises, and he continued to walk to and fro for a considerable period. He had two immense placards, one in front and the other behind him; and in his hand a number of bills, which he distributed to ladies. One of the said bills was here handed to the magistrate; it ran thus:—'Towzery Gang.—Caution.—The public are respectfully cautioned against the attempts of a gang of strolling drapers, known as the Towzery gang, who are getting up fraudulent sales for the purpose of imposing on the public.—By order of the Committee of the City of London Trade Protection Society.—(Signed) H. Owen, Secretary.'—A constable stated that the prisoner had followed Mr. Sidders about to various places in and around town, where he (Mr. Sidders) had been selling.—Mr. Rutter contended that no offence had been proved against the prisoner under the Police Act. The society for which he appeared had considered it necessary to adopt such steps as might have the effect of putting the public upon their guard, as it was well known that a set of men were going about selling goods which were not what they purported to be, and thereby injuring the fair and honest trader. The man charged had received express orders not to go on the pavement but to stand in the road to deliver the bills; and it had been shown that he had not disobeyed the instructions given to him.—A printed bill issued by the complaining party was put in, and the premises were described as the Oriental Rooms, for the sale of satin dresses, shawls, &c., the proprietors being Messrs. Moody and Co. It was set forth that they had the largest srock of any firm in London, and they had no connexion with any other sale.—Mr. Broughton expressed his decided opinion that the society had acted wrongly, and that their handbill, which he had read, was a libel. There was nothing before him to show that complainant was a fraudulent dealer, and the course which had been pursued, with the view of preventing parties from going to the shop, was of such a nature as to be calculated to cause a breach of the peace: it was in the power of complainant to prefer an indictment for a libel. The magistrate then ordered the prisoner to find surety for keeping the peace towards complainant for three months. The bail required was given, and the prisoner was liberated.

CHOLERA.

The following fresh cases were reported to the Board of Health on Saturday:—Shepherd's-bush, Hammersmith, 5, 1 fatal; Edinburgh, 4, 2 fatal; Glasgow, 5, 4 fatal; Riccarton, 7, 1 fatal; Hamilton, 4 fatal; Greenock, 3, 2 fatal; Alloa, 2; Stow, 1.—Total, 29 new cases; 14 deaths.

On Sunday and Monday the following fresh cases were reported to the Board of Health:—St. George-in-the-East—new cases, 1; death 1. Mint-street, Southwark—new cases, 4; deaths, 2. Shadwell—new case, 1. Hoxton—new case, 1; death, 1. Warren's-green, Hitchen Union—new case, 1; death, 1. Glasgow (for 3rd inst)—new cases, 9; deaths, 2. Glasgow (for 4th inst.)—new cases, 10; death, 1: Paisley (from the 25th ult.)—new cases, 26; deaths, 18. Stirling (from the 1st inst.)—new cases, 8; deaths, 4. Greenock—new case, 1; death, 1. Riccarton—new case, 1. Galashiels—new cases, 3; Wishawton—new cases, 5; deaths, 3. Cambuslang (from the 9th ult.)—new cases, 12; deaths, 5. Anderston—new cases, 4; deaths, 1.

Tuesday.—The following fresh cases were reported to the Board of Health:—Bethnal-green Lunatic Asylum, 1; Shepherd's-bush, Hammersmith, 5, 1 fatal; Sunderland, 1 fatal; Edinburgh, 6, 2 fatal; Glasgow, 3 fatal; Stow, 1 fatal; Riecarton, 6, 1 fatal; Kilbirnie, from Jan. 21 to March 3, 241, 69 fatal; Linton by Kelso, 1 fatal.—Total, 265 new cases; 79 deaths.

On Wednesday there were 26 new cases, and 15 deaths. On Thursday, 44 new cases, and 19 deaths. On Friday, 36 new cases, 15 deaths.

REINFORCEMENTS FOR INDIA.

WHAT WILL THE FINANCIAL REFORMERS SAY?

On Monday orders were despatched from the Horse-Guards to the various district Generals, to suspend the recent orders for the discharge of men from the army. This is owing to the indecisive nature of the last Indian news, as most probably more troops will go to Bengal from this country, and thus this service will absorb a portion of the contemplated reduction of 7,000 rank and file.—*Daily News.*

Appointment of General Napier to the Command of the Indian Forces.—On Wednesday a Court of Directors was held at the East India House, when Lieut. General Sir Charles James Napier, G.C.B., was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Company's forces in India, and an Extraordinary Member of the *Council of India.*

Melancholy Catastrophe on the Shannon.—Wednesday last a sail-boat left Williamstown quay, at the opposite side of the river, for Dromineer, at the Nenagh side. There were nine passengers on board and three boatmen. The boat was also laden with sheep and cows, purchased at the fair of Mountshannon, county of Galway, and the property of some of the men on board. The day was cold and stormy, and about half-way across there arose a sudden squall, which immediately swept away the sails. The boat then became unmanageable, and the passengers confused; one of them struck a cow with a stick, when she made a plunge, and with her hoof started one of the boards in the bottom of the boat, which instantly filled with water. The unhappy passengers were seized with horror—they lost all presence of mind—and they sank, without a struggle, to rise no more. The boy at the helm saved himself by clinging to an oar. The passengers were "jobbers," four of them inhabitants of Nenagh, and named Edward Moore, Patrick Cleary, John Flynn, and Thomas Egan, all of whom have left wives. Two other men were buyers of Mr. James Adams, of Cork, and had £400 in their possession.

Wonders of the White Nile.—It is, perhaps, hardly necessary to remind the reader, that the river Nile is formed of two confluent streams, the Blue and the White, whose junction is in South Nubia, between 15 deg. and 16 deg. of north latitude. The source of the Blue Nile was ascertained by Bruce, and by subsequent travellers, to be in the mountains of Abyssinia; but the course of the other branch, which is by far the longest, had been followed, until very lately, only as far south as 10 deg. or 11 deg. north latitude. Even now the river has not been traced to its origin, although Mr. Werne and his companions penetrated to 4 deg. north latitude. Further they could not go, owing to the rapid subsidence of the waters. The expedition had been delayed six weeks by the culpable dilatoriness of one of its members; and this was fatal to the realisation of its object. We can conceive few things more exciting than such a voyage as Mr. Werne has accomplished and recorded. Starting from the outposts of civilisation, he sailed into the very heart of Africa, up a stream whose upper waters were then, for the first time, furrowed by vessels larger than a savage's canoe—a stream of such gigantic proportions, that its width, at a thousand miles from the sea, gave it the aspect of a lake rather than of a river. The brute creation were in proportion with the magnitude of the water-course. The hippopotamus reared his huge snout above the surface, and wallowed in the gullies that on either hand run down to the stream; enormous crocodiles gaped along the shore; elephants played in herds upon the pastures; the tall giraffe stalked amongst the lofty palms; large snakes lay coiled in slimy swamps; and ant-hills, ten feet high, towered above rushes. Along the thickly-peopled banks hordes of savages showed themselves, gazing in wonder at the strange ships, and making ambiguous gestures, variously construed by the adventurers as signs of friendship or hostility. Alternately sailing and towing, as the wind served or not; constantly in sight of natives, but rarely communicating with them; often cut off for days from land by interminable fields of tangled weeds; the expedition pursued its course through innumerable perils, guaranteed from most of them by the liquid rampart on which it floated. Lions looked hungry, and savages shook their spears, but neither showed a disposition to swim off and board the flotilla.—*Blackwood.*

Malta, February 25.—An artillery soldier shot himself on Friday last: he put his musket under his chin, but it is supposed to have slipped on touching the trigger, as the ball and fire blew off his chin, *mouth, and nose. He lies in a horrible state.* Last night, at half-past eight, a soldier of the 69th shot himself whilst on sentry at the palace. He is said to be dead.

FOR SALE,

AN ALLOTMENT at LOWBANDS, near the public road, consisting of Four Acres of Land, together with a cottage, having therein a Yorkshire oven, ash grate, boiler, and a large copper set in the kitchen, with an excellent dairy; also a cellar under the parlour, and cow-house fitted up for two cows, with a large yard, piggeries, and fowl-house; two large stacks of straw, several tons of manure; a tank, two swill-tubs, and a quantity of stones for a barn; one acre and a quarter of wheat, a quantity of black barley, a quarter of an acre of ash-leaf potatoes, and seed to plant another half-acre; also a quantity of peas, beans, and cabbages, all planted; and one acre of land laid down with rye grass and clover, with farming implements.

Ill health is the reason why the allottee wishes to dispose of the above. All parties desirous of purchasing must apply (pre-paid) to W. Bentley, Lowbands, Redmarley, Worcestershire, and inclose a stamp for reply. Company expenses all paid.

The Drama.

ASTLEY'S AMPHITHEATRE.

A very important addition has been made to the amusements in the circle of this theatre by the engagement of a young American equestrian, named Hernandez, who appeared for the first time on Monday night. Even the feats which he achieves in common with other performers gained a novelty by the perfect ease and finish with which he executed them. Generally the very best artists of the class make a hitch or two in the course of an evening though they always repeat their attempts till every proposed difficulty is solved. This young Hernandez, on the contrary, never so much as approached a failure; while the most daring leaps were taken without a show of effort, and with a cheerful smiling countenance. Judging from his appearance, we should say he was under fourteeen years of age; but, young as he is, he has brought an elegance and a 'poetry of motion' into the art of equitation which has for a long time been unknown at Astley's. He was twice called, amid raptures of applause, by a crowded audience.

STANDARD.

A new grand spectacle, entitled *The Normans and Saxons*, in which one hundred female warriors appear and perform many effective evolutions, is being played at this theatre every night. At the commencement of the piece, England has been subjugated by the Norman Bastard, and the spectacle is founded on the tyranny of his brigand chiefs to the conquered Saxons. The plot is full of interest; the scenery, dresses, and appointments excellent; and we never saw a spectacle of such magnitude so well got up upon so small a stage. *Plot and Counter Plot* followed, and the evening's amusements concluded with a new domestic drama, called *The Fatal Ship*; or, *the Rake, the Wife, and the Mother.* This piece abounds with extraordinary nautical effects, and romantic adventures. The excellent acting of Mr. John Douglass (the lessee), and of Messrs. Rayner, Gates, R. Honnor, and Silvain, and also of Mrs. Honnor, elicited well-merited applause. In the last scene, where the spectator is presented with a view of both the main and middle deck of a pirate vessel during engagement, the effect is truly grand. We are glad to hear that the exertions of the manager are nightly rewarded with crowded houses.

The Irish Insurgent Dillon.—A letter from New York states that Mr. Dillon arrived there from Galway, disguised in the character of a Catholic priest, and his first act was an interview with the brother of the convict, Mr. John Mitchel, who was at the time in company with Mr. M'Gee, proprietor of the American *Nation*. The captain of the emigrant vessel in which Mr. Dillon escaped did not discover who his passenger was until he reached New York. The same letter says:—"Confederate clubs are fast organising in New York—the members are all armed and regularly drilled."

VICTORIA THEATRE.

Boxes 1s., Half-price 6d. Pit 6d. Gallery 3d.

THE "HAND AND HEART" WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND will take a BENEFIT at the above splendid theatre, on

Wednesday, March 21st, 1849.

The Entertainment will commence with an original and powerfully written

DRAMA!

Supported by the following Talented Artists:—

Miss Richardson, Mrs. G. Lee, Miss Barrowcliffe, Mr. J. T. Johnson, Mr. Forman, Mr. Dale, Mr. T. H. Higgie, Mr. Bradshaw, Mr. J. Howard, Mr. Henderson, Miss Vincent, and Mr. Osbaldiston.

With a Variety of other Entertainments.

Tickets to be had of Mr. J. Grassby, 8, Noah's-ark-court, Stangate, Lambeth; Mr. J. Simpson, Elm Cottage, Waterloo-street, Camberwell; Mr. W. H. Nicholson, 3, Garden-row, Kennington-road; Mr. C. Keen, 7, Poplar-place, New Kent-road; Mr. Side, 5, Pepper-street, Union-street, Southwark; Mr. Edwards, jeweller, Weston-street, Bermondsey; Mr. Pearcy, Church-street, Rotherhithe; Mr. Petterson, 58, Cardigan-street, Vauxhall; Mr. Collins, 44, Vine-street, Westminster; Mr. Milne, 1, Union-street, Berkeley-square; Mr. Stallwood, Hammersmith; Colliver's Coffee-house, 266½, Strand; Mr. M'Veigh, Two Chairmen, Wardour-street, Soho; Mr. Murray, Coach and Horses, Silver-street, Golden-square; Mr. Parkes, 32, Little Windmill-street, Soho; Clark's Coffee-house, Edgware-road; Mr. Duddridge, Bricklayer's Arms, Tonbridge-street, New-road; Mr. Simms, 11, Tothill-street, Little Gray's-inn-lane; Mr. Allnutt, Deadman's Coffee-house, Clerkenwell-green; Parry's Coffee-house, 42½, Church-street, Shoreditch; Mr. Newley, Crown and Anchor, Cheshire-street, Waterlootown; Mr. Knowles, Globe and Friends, Morgan-street, Commercial-road, East; and John Arnott, Middlesex-place, Somers-town.

In announcing the above Benefit to the Philanthropic public, the Committee beg to state that Thirty Widows, and nearly One Hundred Orphans are supported by the Fund, and they trust that those who have hearts to feel for suffering humanity, will rally around them on this occasion.

John Arnott, Secretary.

NO MORE PILLS, nor any other Medicine for Indigestion, Irregularity of the Intestines, Flatulency, Palpitation of the Heart, Torpidity of the Liver, persisting Headaches, Nervousness, Biliousness, General Debility, Despondency, Spleen, &c. Price 6d., or 8d. post-free, royal, gilt, 2s; or free by post, 2s. 6d. (in stamps), Fifth Edition of

DU BARRY'S POPULAR TREATISE ON INDIGESTION and CONSTIPATION; the main causes of Nervousness, Biliousness, Scrofula, Liver Complaints, Spleen, &c., and their Radical Removal, entitled the "Natural Regenerator of the Digestive Organs," without pills, purgatives, or medicines of any kind, by a simple, pleasant, economical, and infallible means; adapted to the general reader.

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PERFECT FREEDOM FROM COUGH,

In Ten Minutes after use, and a rapid Cure of Asthma and Consumption, and all Disorders of the Breath and Lungs, is insured by

DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS.

The truly wonderful powers of this remedy have called forth testimonials from all ranks of society, in all quarters of the world