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AND NATIONAL TRADES' JOURNAL.

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TO THE FUSTIAN JACKETS, THE BLISTERED HANDS, AND THE UNSHORN CHINS.

"DAMN THE FACTORY BELL."

MY CHILDREN,

Although Lord BARRYMORE has truly stated, that one man can do you more harm than a thousand can do you good, yet the injury that interested ruffians seek to inflict upon me is more than counterbalanced by the numerous kind letters that I have received this week from all parts of the kingdom. And however tyrants may seek to oppress, and the law to overpower me, I will nevertheless persevere, against all obstacles and obstructions, in the plain road of progress; and I will so unite the mind of this country, and of my own unfortunate conquered province, as to shake tyranny *till it crumbles* in the dust. And oh! how I long for that day. The day when I shall see Labour represented by the labourer, instead of by the griping capitalist.

My children, can you point out one single plan that has been devised for the benefit of your order, that has not been reviled by the opponents of your order?—and can you point out a single propounder of any such plan, who has not been persecuted with as much acrimony as the perpetrator of the most atrocious murder? And can you collect from the history of bygone times, or from the period within your own recollection, any instance of any man being persecuted as I have been? And why? Because *neither threat, bribe, nor intimidation* ever has been able—or ever shall be able—to turn me from my course. You will see by this week's *Star*, that I was called to an account in the House of Commons, on Tuesday night, for having taken a petition, presented to the House of Commons from the occupants at Minster Lovel, for the purpose of giving my revilers an opportunity of publishing their slander; and upon Friday night the noted FRIEND of the Land Company, the member for Marylebone—Sir BENJAMIN HALL—is to present another petition from HIS friends at Snig's End. And perhaps you will look anxiously for my reply to his charges, and I am sure you will read it with as much pleasure as *I shall make it*. But if you are in any doubt as to the capability of man living by his own labour on the soil, let me draw your strictest attention to the minute description given of the value of land when cultivated by Spade Husbandry, appended to the able and admirable letter of DUNCAN SHERRINGTON, and extracted from the *Perthshire Advertiser*, and then you will discern the value that capitalists set upon land, when it is to be cultivated to that extent which will reduce the amount of their poor rates; and the value that they set upon it when it is to be cultivated to that extent which will INCREASE YOUR WAGES. And now hear my oft-repeated tale—that you never will possess the Land to that extent, until you first possess the Charter; and the Charter you never will possess until your order is thoroughly united; and with a view of creating that thorough union, it is my intention to attend the first great Democratic meeting that has ever been held in Ireland, on Tuesday next; and there I hope, without fury, folly or violence, to be able to destroy that disunion and antagonism which has so long enabled your rulers to oppress both countries, and a report of which you will read in next week's *Northern Star*.

My children, if Poland, or Hungary, or the Italian States of Austria, or if the people of any conquered province attached to any conquering kingdom, had been oppressed, famished, starved, and persecuted as the Irish people have been, the House of Commons, and every newspaper, would have denounced the barbarism of the oppressor; but as the subjugation of Ireland has been the prime object of the British ministry, and as that ministry has for thirty years based its power upon Irish deception, you hear only of the weeping, the wailing, and gnashing of teeth, of those who, through their own tyranny, have been the founders of Irish misery. But however a presumptious ministry may base its hope upon temporary good trade, and upon Irish subserviency, you may rest assured that the Irish landlords—whom the shoe is now beginning to pinch—will be compelled to join the Irish people for the establishment of such a representative system, as will enable them to legislate for their own country, and that that legislation must be based upon the will of the people of that country.

My children, the columns of the *Star* are so much occupied this week, that I have not space to address you at greater length; and I shall conclude, by merely apologising for the non-publication of the Lord CHIEF BARON'S summing up, upon the very substantial grounds, that the short-hand writer has not yet furnished me with it. And again assuring you that neither poverty, slander, nor persecution, shall ever induce or compel me, to abandon your cause, because it is the cause of justice, and the cause of justice is the cause of God,

I remain,
Your Faithful and Unchangeable Friend.
FEARGUS O'CONNOR.

TO THE READERS OF THE "NORTHERN STAR."

I have read with astonishment and disgust the late Trial for Libel. A more foul desecration of the functions and office of a Judge was never perpetrated. There are some men who ever act from perverse motives; and the remembrance of Mr. O'CONNOR'S generous and self-denying devotion to FROST, WILLIAMS, and JONES, to which I can bear ample witness from *my own personal knowledge*, a course hardly conceivable, and not palatable to the hired advocate, has much to do with this hideous perversion of justice.

It is not, however, to waste time in speculating upon the motives of an old lawyer that I now address you.

I am satisfied that no man in our time has been the means of disseminating so many valuable truths, of awaking in the public mind glimpses of better, purer, and higher *practical* modes of life; and I, for one, am not content that this great and good man—for he is both—should be overborne, and crushed, for his one great crime in the eyes of our common oppressors—his *constant, undeviating*, and *unceasing* advocacy of the rights of the poor and oppressed.

If Mr. O'Connor had been content, like so many others, to fatten upon the wants and vices of the poor; had he been mercenary or corrupt, his talents and energy would, *must* have secured him a very high rank at the Bar, or in any wordly pursuit.

And should this man, so constituted, so endowed, for having devoted his great powers to the advocacy of our rights—the redress of our wrongs—and for showing us the means of redemption from the moral and physical slough in which we are engulphed, be crushed, without our aid, sympathy, and PROTECTION—ay, *our protection*; for, apart from all other motives, the most common and wordly principle of self, must show us, that if we suffer our great advocate to be crushed, we may neither expect nor deserve help in our own straits. "Ruin him with Expenses," was the hellish advice of Lord Melbourne, to those who complained of a local agitator; and well have the enemies of Mr. O'Connor—enemies, mind you, through his advocacy of your claims—bettered this instruction. Not content with twice ascribing to Mr. O'Connor the most degrading motives—not satisfied with having twice signally failed in their purposes, and with having *twice* elicited the admission of the disinterestedness of his conduct from *two* inimical tribunals, after protracted examination, the creatures are at their dirty work again, and in the present case, they have enlisted in their service the congenial Benjamin Hall, who has perpetrated the very act with which Mr. O'Connor has been charged, and from which he has so triumphantly defended himself.

If any proof were, or could be wanting, of the sincerity, of the devotion of Mr. O'Connor, or his value to our cause, it must be found in this inveterate persecution.

Thank GOD, however, they have signally failed; and, by your aid, will ever fail. They have, aided by personal enemies, thrown much mud; but, contrary to the proverb, it has not stuck. Still they are at their dirty work, warmed by the knowledge that, if they can ruin him with expenses, your cause will be injured, if not destroyed.

Let then, each reader of the *Northern Star* bear in mind, that the great benefactor—the public enlightener—is now suffering most grieviously in their cause, and they will, as one man, eagerly rush on to the rescue. This is no time for sloth—for one man waiting for another, who may never come—for objecting to this or that mode of expressing that sympathy in act for Mr. O'Connor, which he has shown by every deed—by the devotion of every moment of his life to their service.

Every man must act for himself, and at once. This is a great emergency; it will not do at this crisis, to stand with folded arms, and to see the event—it must be averted. If the hundreds of thousands who yearn with *cheap* benevolence, and who will but say and feel, when the blow has fallen, that, had they known, and thought the danger had been so near, they would have sacrificed half their means to avert it, will now repay some portion of the vast debt they owe to their benefactor. Let, then, contributions be quick and incessant. Let us—the thinking, the labouring portion of the people—show to our oppressors that they, at least, shall never crush our friend, our advocate, whilst we can protect him; and that his devotion to us merits at least this return at such a moment.

As a proof that this is not idle profession, I, though a poor man, send £5 to the Fund; and I promise, as soon as £990 is subscribed, to send £10 more: and if £4,950 is subscribed, I promise to contribute £50 more, even if I sell my two cows to make up the money.

I look upon this cause as my own, seeing that my advocate is, in this case, my other self; and that a man who allows his friend and advocate to suffer loss and foul wrong, solely on account of his generous aid, is not worthy of service.

T. HARDING.

Ullathorne, Feb. 25th.

THE HONESTY FUND.

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

DEAR AND HONOURED SIR—I am just returned from a visit to my four acre allotment at Minster Lovel.

"Where every prospect pleases,
"And only man is vile."

I was a successful member in the ballot which took place at Birmingham, in Dec. 1846, and as I have now been in possession of my allotment nearly two years, I think I am in a position to speak positively as to the capabilities of the soil. I care not what any of your enemies—whether amongst ungrateful allottees, or others—may say; for myself, I am perfectly satisfied, and beg most heartily to return you my grateful thanks for the almost superhuman exertions you have made in the face of slander and persecution of the most revolting and disgraceful kind, on behalf of the working classes.

Believing, also, with Mr. Reynolds, "That the time has now really and truly come when the *working classes* of these islands should testify their sense of the great obligation which they owe to yourself, and of the abhorrence which they entertain for the persecution to which you have been subjected." I enclose my mite towards the expenses of the late trial, in the shape of a Post-Office order for £1, payable to yourself at the General Post-Office, London. I wish it was in my power to do more; and sincerely hoping that those for whom you have suffered so much injustice and indignity will "Rally around you again, and again" at the present crisis, and manifest their sympathy for you, not only in words but deeds, is the sincere desire of

Your grateful and obedient servant,
JAMES PRICE,
A contented occupant of a four-acre farm, on one of the National Land Company's estates, at Minster Lovel, Oxfordshire.

Pershore, Feb. 27th, 1850.

P. S. I have a quarter of an acre of my allotment laid out in asparagus beds, which now look very promising for a good crop; and as I hope to cut some of the best and earliest in the county this season, I shall make bold to send you a specimen of my first fruits. J. P.

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

MOST HONOURED AND PERSECUTED FRIEND,—Having seen, through the medium of the newspapers, an account of your trial with the proprietor of the *Nottingham Journal*, for libel, we, a few Chartists of Pudsey, feel, after a long time of lethargy, that it is our duty to arouse ourselves when we see men like you, who have, all your life, laboured, not for yourself, but for the good of the public, branded by the corrupt press, and then by your own friends, as a juggler, and impostor, as one wishing to defraud the public and the operatives. We feel it a blow aimed at you for the purpose of destroying the cause you advocate, but we are confident that their efforts will be in vain. Sir, we have known you, and read from you for a number of years, and we can say, without fear of opposition, that we never knew you deviate from your principles, or charge one penny for the advocacy of those principles, and no one has had yet the hardihood to charge you, in your private dealings, with dishonesty. We hope that the time has come when the people will be able to discern betwixt real and designing men—when the men of Sheffield will learn to know that there is very little veracity to be placed in such men—holding the profession that Mr. Roebuck does—they should be rarely or ever trusted to represent them in Parliament; for, as Mr. Cobbett said of a certain professional gentlemen, "That he would prostitute himself to any dirty business." We, the Chartists of Pudsey, however, have no desire to be governed by such men as Mr. Roebuck. We have formed a Charter Association in this town, and are issuing cards of membership to as many as will join us. We have more hope for the Charter than we ever had at any time previous; there is a greater thirst for knowledge; there are more political pamphlets read in the town than at any time previous. We now tender you our heartfelt sympathy, and hope you may live down your persecutors, and see in operation the Charter as a means, and the labouring men upon the land as the end. We have made a subscription, which amounts to £1 3s., which we cheerfully hand over to you, as a small mite for the obligations we owe you, hoping that every town and village in the country will do their duty. We feel that your weakness arises from our apathy; and we hope that, for the future, we shall not only be Chartists in name, but in deed. We shall continue to subscribe to the Defence Fund. We have enrolled thirty members in the Association, and a deal of the money is paid already. We are now waiting for more cards.

WILLIAM BOOTH,
For the Charter Association, Pudsey.

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

HONOURABLE SIR,—Having seen an account of the action brought by you, against Bradshaw of the *Nottingham Journal*, for libel, in the *Express* as well as per *Star*, we are not at all surprised at the result, excepting the latter part of the verdict, where your *personal honour* stands unimpeached; this, however, somewhat surprises us, knowing as we do the amount of slander and vituperation which is continually hurled at you, by that class of beings from which the twelve immaculate men, called a jury, were selected. Such a verdict, we should suppose, is nowhere to be found—so contradictory in itself, that no man (or set of men) with an unbiassed mind, would return it for a moment. But enough. You, noble sir, have lost the trial; but have won a far greater prize—a prize, we trust, which will cause your name and actions to stand forth as resplendent as the noonday sun. You have struggled, long and vigorously, for the down trodden sons of toil, and what has been your reward?—abuse, slander, and ingratitude. Abuse and slander from your own order, and base ingratitude from those whom you strove to elevate in the social scale of society. Sorry are we to see such a spirit manifested by some of the allottees towards you; but we trust they will see the error of their ways, and once more resume their duties as men determined to overcome all obstacles, whether placed in their way by professing friends, or open and avowed enemies. We say, let them unite as one man, and go on harmoniously together, then will their difficulties vanish; and then they will be enabled to look back with pleasure upon their labours, and exclaim, thank God we have done our duty to ourselves and fellow men; and may *the time soon arive* when, *as the immortal poet* Burn says—

"Man to man the warl'd o'er
"Shall brithers be, an a' that."

Enclosed you will find a Post Office Order for five shillings, made payable to Feargus O'Connor, at the Branch Post-Office, 180, Strand, London. The Order was drawn by W. H. Jago, Woolcomber. It is to help to defray the expense of the late action against that maligner Bradshaw; and we trust you will accept this, not as a present, but as a debt, due by us to you on account of the manifold services rendered by you to us. Trusting that all will act in accordance with the spirit of Mr. G. W. M. Reynolds's letter, in the *Star* of the 23rd ult., we beg to subscribe ourselves your very humble servants, and well-wishers,

E. BROWN, JOHN PERRY, G. HOWARD, woolcombers, and members of the National Land Company; W. H. JAGO, woolcomber; and A FRIEND. Camelford,

TO FEARGUS O'CONNOR, ESQ.

DEAR AND ESTEEMED FATHER.—I take the opportunity of addressing you, hoping you will accept the small mite which a few friends have contributed towards defraying the expenses which your and our enemies have unnecessarily thrown upon you at the late trial, or mock examination, for defaming your character. I have been a class made victim, having been under locks, bolts, and bars, for twelve months and three weeks; but still I continue to keep to the good old principles of Democracy, and Republicanism. They made me a Republican by sending me to prison, for under the silent system I had time for thought and reflection. We shall use our utmost endeavours towards defraying the expenses needlessly thrown upon you.

I remain, your affectionate child,
and co-partner in persecution,
NATHANIEL FRITH.

Broomfields, Bradford.

P. S.—The sum is (eight subscribers)—3s. 10d.

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

DEAR SIR,—A few friends having read your letter of the 23rd ult., have subscribed five shillings, towards defraying the expenses of the action brought by you against the proprietor of the *Nottingham Journal*, on account of the unjust and shameful *termination of the proceedings*. Keep heart, brave general! you shall beat them yet, despite the unjust administrators of the law, and the calumnies of Bradshaw—the would-be stabber of democracy. Keep heart, brave oak! you will be more than a match for that little, uncomfortable, waspish fellow, Roebuck. Yours truly,

in the cause of democracy,
Stalybridge, Feb. 25th. JOHN ZITZKA.

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

DEAR SIR,—I am impelled to write this by feelings of indignation and disgust, at the baseness and ingratitude of one of the allottees of the Minster Lovel estate, whose name (B. Jackson) was appended to the infamous petition presented to the House of Commons a short time ago. B. Jackson has been in this part of the country, from whence he was balloted, (and where upwards of £7 was raised for him to assist him to commence with.) I was present when he stated that he was doing very well; that had he capital he could certainly do better; but he was sure, that by perseverance and industry he could do well, and be soon independent, which he had no chance of doing here; and *that no amount of money would induce him to* return to the state he was previously placed in, and forego the advantages he then possessed. He said that he had left in his cottage plenty of good provisions, and he was sure if any man choose to strive he could do well. He has sent letters in the same strain since, and I think it the height of baseness and ingratitude for any individual to sign such an infamous document as the petition above alluded to. I defy him to contradict these statements, as I can bring forward a dozen or more witnesses, (friends of his,) who heard him speak the same words. It is disgusting to contemplate such villany and ingratitude; and I am sorry that your generous nature should be so frequently subject to such cruel stabs from one of the class for whose benefit you are striving so arduously. My hope is, that you will, if possible, drive such scorpions forth from the homes you have made them; and make them return to the toil and slavery they so richly merit. Hoping you will find space in the next week's *Star* for this letter,

I remain, &c.,
JAMES COOPER.

Yorkshire-street, Oldham, Feb. 24th, 1850.

P.S.—Enclosed you will receive 5s. 6d. in postage stamps, which you will acknowledge as follows:—From T. Tristram, 4s.; James Cooper, 1s.; John Milhench, 6d. Send me a collecting book for the Nottingham libel case, for which the enclosed stamps are to go towards paying expenses. J. C.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

SIR,—Enclosed I send ten shillings worth of stamps, and hope you will be kind enough to hand it over to the proper party, for the Honesty Fund—as Mr. Reynolds suggests it should be called. The amount is but small, but I hope to have some more to send, as the few who have given this, have promised to use their best endeavours to obtain more from their friends. We think the time has come, when all true democrats should show by their actions, whether or not they are worthy of such a noble, brave, and good man; for if they wish to keep him, they must begin to bear a little of the burthen themselves. We used to sing, "We'll rally round him again and again." Then let us do it, not in empty words, but in coin, if ever so small. The work to be done must be done by all—let us then, in the name of justice, set about the good work at once. The debt is ours, the cause is ours, and Mr. O'Connor is ours. Let every man do his duty.

I remain, sir, yours in the cause of
Right against Might,
Mottram. JOHN CAMPBELL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

SIR,—Will you be kind enough to find room in next Saturday's *Star*, for the following suggestion. As the case of libel is decided against Mr. O'Connor, I would propose that a public meeting be called, at which delegates should be elected to form a committee in London, which committee shall be chosen from the Chartists and land members, or trades favourable to the cause, each locality or body to send one or more delegates. The object of the committee would be to raise funds to pay the law expenses; and, I think to save expense, the committee might be chosen after the meeting next Tuesday evening, at the John-street Institution. By such a public proceeding we should give stability to the said committee which no self-elected body can expect.

I remain, dear sir, yours sincerely,
A FRATERNAL DEMOCRAT.

TO MR. W. RIDER.

SIR,—Enclosed you will receive 5s. 6d. worth of postage stamps, the subscriptions of five Land members, at 1s. each, and 6d. for my wife's subscription, towards the expenses of the *Nottingham Journal* action; and if Mr. O'Connor gets a new trial, we will subscribe the same again.

Yours truly, H. FINK.
No. 1, Oakhampton-terrace, Exeter.

TO WILLIAM RIDER.

DEAR SIR,—I expect that the Chartists will rally to the rescue of the noble and unflinching advocate of the right of labour. The sum of £1 3s. 10d., which I previously sent, must be handed over to the Honesty Fund, being half of the remittance I sent to Mr. Clark, and I likewise send you an order for the amount of £1 7s. to the said fund, as a further proof of confidence in Mr. Feargus O'Connor; I forbear giving the names of the parties who subscribed, with the exception of two paid-up shareholders, viz., George Brown, and John Grey, who, as a proof that they hold that gentleman's honesty unimpeachable, have each subscribed 2s. 6d. towards the sum I here send you, the remaining sum we got in at a shilling, and sixpence each. We, the Chartists of Wingate, expect that the manner in which the jury delivered their verdict will not be lost sight of by the Land Members, and Chartists; and we also think differently from that renegade Roebuck, and contend that all the evidence has gone to prove a plain and simple fact, namely, that the government officials were, and are determined not to legalise the Land Scheme. We do think that if the Sheffield blade had got his finger into the bank, his honesty might have flown away as his patriotism did, when he entered the base oppressor's house, miscalled the House of Commons; and we also think that all the facts of the case have simply gone to prove Mr. O'Connor what we always took him to be—an honest disinterested advocate of the rights of the "fustian jackets, the unshorn chins, and blistered hands." Once more we request that gentleman to use his endeavours to arouse the country, and soon may we hear the cry reverberate through the land, striking terror into the hearts of his and our enemies.

Hurrah for O'Connor and the Charter.

Yours &c.,
292, Wingate Grange. WILLIAM NORMAN.

P.S.—Perhaps you could forward a few collecting books to us, as we intend to raise further subscriptions.

TO MR. W. RIDER.

SIR,—I have much pleasure in forwarding you an order for 14s., towards defraying Mr. O'Connor's law expenses. The following persons subscribed the amount sent:—G. Hellings 1s., Richard Hellings 1s., Cyrus Brooks 1s., John Blight 1s., John Rogers 1s., Peter Nicol 6d., Simon Colwell 1s., Elizabeth Carne 1s., Thomas Earl 6d., Kenneth Petrie 6d., John Cumming 6d., E. Bolitho 1s. S. Tucker 1s., T. Step 6d., Jacob 1s., J. Catford 1s., J. Newton 6d.—Total 14s. Now those are about the numbers who have supported the Democratic cause in this town, and they feel annoyed, and justly too, by Mr. T. Clark's sneer about the limited number. It is certainly no fault of those who meet and support the cause, that the many cannot be brought to do their duty.

Yours respectfully,
30, Bilbury-street, Plymouth. J. ROGERS.

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

RESPECTED SIR,—I read in the *Star* of Saturday last the evidence of Alexander Cleland, in the libel case between you and the proprietor of the *Nottingham Journal*, with astonishment, and was certainly sorry to see that he endeavoured to make it appear to the jury that his circumstances, when in Scotland, were so much superior to what they had been at Snig's End; and from that evidence I have been led to the conclusion of making known, not only his circumstances here, but also how his Aid Money was expended, which, in my opinion, will in a great measure account for his present circumstances. It must be evident to every man that unless the money be applied to the purposes for which it was intended that no one could succeed. You will see from an account, which I here give, that out of the whole of his Aid Money not more than £2 7s. 6d. was put into the soil, and if any persons calculate that the above sum will return sufficient to place them in comfortable and independent circumstances, it is no wonder they have been deceived.

	£	s.	d.
Passage from Glasgow and carriage of luggage	3	18	0
Potatoes, turnip, cabbage, carrot, and onion seeds, and cabbage plants	2	7	6
Implements of labour and repairing the same	0	12	6
When my son came he was almost barefoot; shoes for him, and pinafores for the other children	0	10	6
Kitchen utensils	0	14	10½
Reaping hook, tread saw, plane, and extra labour	0	13	6
Subscription	0	0	6
Left to live upon for nine weeks	6	7	7½
Total	15	5	0

From the above it will be seen whether his circumstances were of that comfortable nature, previous to his going to Snig's End, which he endeavoured to make appear on the trial; and also, in my opinion, it will at once account for the entire failure. Now, sir, all that I have yet seen does not convince me that the people cannot live upon the land. Indeed, the allottees of some of the estates would have the world to believe that they are the first experimenters to develope the principle of whether the people could subsist upon the land or not. But it is a blessing to mankind that they were not, or we might give up the idea of remaining in this world at all; because, from their showing, no man can get a livelihood from his labour, far less raise a surplus to assist in maintaining the other portions of the community who may be engaged in producing the other necessaries that man requires.

I here insert a paragraph from the *Perthshire Advertiser* which ought to put them to the blush.

WHAT CAN BE GOT OUT OF LAND.

Our readers will doubtless recollect that, at the annual meeting of the friends of the House of Refuge, a remit was made to Mr. Maiben, the secretary to the Refuge, to ascertain the practicability of adding to the institution a school farm for boys similar to that of Quatt, alluded to in the report. Since that time, Mr. Maiben has received a letter from Mr. Cook, the master of the Deaf and Dumb Institution, in answer to one from him, giving a detailed account of the experiment he has made in cultivating a piece of ground by means of the labour of the boys under his charge. This experiment, Mr. Cook mentions, has been attended with a very remarkable degree of success. The ground brought under cultivation consisted principally of a bank so very steep that it was a favourite amusement of the boys to slide down from the top of it to the bottom, seated upon a piece of board. This barren piece of ground was broken up by means of picks and spades, and the bank was cut into terraces, having walls of turf or stone in front, and these planted with potatoes and other vegetables. One-third of the bank was composed of good ground and the remainder of bad gravel, and the whole extent of the place was only about an acre and a-half; and yet within these narrow limits Mr. Cook has managed to raise a sufficient quantity of vegetables to supply the whole of his pupils—sixty-five in number—besides a large quantity of potatoes, and food sufficient for two cows and nine pigs. The saving thus effected to the institution has been very considerable. In speaking upon this subject, Mr. Cook says—"It is difficult to state the annual value of our produce, though some items which have actually been saved I can mention. First, formerly our vegetables for the house exclusive of potatoes, cost 4s. 6d. a-week, which, since 1st May, 1848, has been quite saved. Since Sept., 1847, we have also saved 1s. 4d. a-day for milk—as butter, which we have had, and milk sold, would fully pay for what we have had to lay out for the cows. During the year 1848 we had potatoes two months (eight pecks daily), and during 1849 do. four months. This makes—

	£	s.	d.
Vegetables—1st May, 1848, to 1st Jan. 1850, at 4s. 6d. a week	19	12	0
Milk—1st Sept., 1847, to 1st Jan., 1850, at 9s. 4d. a week	56	16	
Potatoes—1848—nine weeks, at 6d. a peck—28s	12	12	0
Ditto — 1849—eighteen weeks, at ditto	25	4	0
	114	4	0

In this estimate I make no allowance for the much more abundant supply of vegetables which we had, in the summer time frequently enabling us to give the children cabbages when we could not have potatoes; nor have I reckoned anything for the refuse vegetables we have had for the pigs, and a still more important item to be taken into the account is the value of the land now, which before was valueless." It will be seen from the above extracts, and from the case of Quatt, to which we formerly referred, that there can be no doubt of the possibility of a similar farm being cultivated successfully by means of boys. In the Deaf and Dumb Institution they are now effecting an annual saving of 50*l.* or 60*l.* by cultivating an acre and a half of very indifferent ground; and at Quatt they not only succeeded in supporting forty-nine children, by causing them to cultivate four-and-a-half acres, but were able, after paying a rent of 19*l.*, to realise a profit of 60*l.* or 70*l.* towards defraying salaries, &c. We trust, therefore, that the managers and friends of the Refuge will succeed in getting agoing a similar scheme amongst ourselves. If it succeeds, which, under proper management it is sure to do, we will not only be enabled to maintain and educate our juvenile vagrants at a small expense, but, by setting another example of a self-supporting institution for paupers, it may eventually induce the public to multiply such institutions, and thus effect a diminution of our poor-rates—a consummation devoutedly to be wished.—*Perthshire Advertiser*.

If Feargus O'Connor had put forth the above to the world, the press would have raised an outcry, and declared him fit for a madhouse; but, respected sir, take courage. However much you may be decried by the enemies of the working men, and they assisted by those who pretend to be your friends, to denounce and put you down, you have lived long enough to see those glorious principles, which you are the propounder of, taking root, and spreading in quarters you least expected to see them in, and which, in my opinion, is the only resource that this country has to fall back upon to prevent desolation, bankruptcy, and ruin. Then, sir, will your name be revered as the saviour of your country, when necessity compels them to adopt what you have developed to them.

I am, respected sir, yours truly,
DUNCAN SHERRINGTON.

Glasgow, February 25th.

P.S.—I have repeatedly heard Alexander Cleland state that he did not average the sum of 8s. per week, per year, in Scotland. How does this square with his statement of from £1 1s. to 10s. and 12s. per week? The condition of his family, when they arrived at Snig's End, is a decided proof of what I here state to be correct, as will be seen in the way his Aid Money was expended after their arrival.—D. S.

THE LAND PLAN.

The science of agriculture is only in its infancy.—PEEL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

DEAR SIR,—It is the desire of every good man to endeavour to "leave the world better than he found it." Upon this maxim Feargus O'Connor, Esq., M.P., started his glorious Land Plan. I look upon anything, brought forward for the elevation of mankind as glorious. The Land Plan was started for the sole object of elevating the condition of the working classes. It has been stated to the world, that the scheme is a failure; I, for one, deny it. It has not had a sufficient trial. I have resided at O'Connorville for some months, and during that time I have found out that great difficulties have to be overcome: and that several of the allottees have had to undergo great hardships, owing to their want of experience in agricultural pursuits, and likewise to the failure of the potato crop. But, I think that the object of the allottees should be to overcome their difficulties, and to struggle on for the purpose of showing to the world that the system of Small Farms, as propounded by Mr. O'Connor, is a glorious system, and ought to be adopted throughout Great Britain and Ireland. I think it would prove a sovereign remedy for the distress now existing in the British dominions. It would speedily abolish poverty from the land. Emigration sinks into utter insignificance when compared with this God-like Plan of Mr. O'Connor's.

A YOUNG BACHELOR.
O'Connorville.

MR. O'CONNOR'S LAND COMPANY.

[We have been favoured with a copy of the following letter, which will appear in the forthcoming number of *Reynolds's Political Instructor*.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "INSTRUCTOR."

MY DEAR SIR,—The trial of the case in the Court of Exchequer, "O'Connor against Bradshaw," induces me to make a few remarks on the Land Society generally.

It occurs to me that the ability of a family to insure a comfortable maintenance on two, three, or four acres of land does not rest on the opinion of John Arthur Roebuck, Judge Pollock, or any allottee of Snig's End, or elsewhere. The Eastbourne experiment of Mrs. Gilbert puts that point beyond discussion. The late William Cobbett, a better authority than any witness brought into court, has given his opinion to the world, which opinion is favourable to small farms—Robert Chambers, in his tour through Switzerland, assures us of the advantages to be derived from a state of society in which agriculture and manufactures are conjoint interests of the same families.

Mr. O'Connor's Land Scheme is neither utopian nor foolish; it is sound in principle, and, if carried fully out, would be sound in practice. Carried out—ay, there's the rub; and whose fault is it that it is not carried out? I say chiefly the fault of those who became members of the society, and promised to pay up their shares, and have failed in their contract. We are assured that Mr. O'Connor has made extravagant statements: it may be so; but have not others had extravagant hopes? And now, when these hopes are not realised, Mr. O'Connor must be held up as the scape-goat for the ignorance of others. If a man came into my house, and said the moon was made of green cheese, what would be thought of me if I entered the witness-box to give evidence to the effect that I believed the statement to be true? It might be proved that the statement was made; but my ignorance in believing such a statement, would be a fact patent to the world. Now, admitting that Mr. O'Connor may have made extravagant statements, it is not at all to be reasoned therefrom that such statements were made with a criminal intention. How happens it that if Mr. O'Connor's object was fortune-making, that he did not at once become land-broker? If he had done so, he might have bought land, and by his influence, and the confidence the working classes had in his integrity and ability, he might have enriched himself without difficulty.

The fact is, that Mr. O'Connor propounded a plan, which was eagerly adopted; and a society of obscure birth grew to giant dimensions. The press and the law opposed its success. Mr. O'Connor, although beloved by thousands of one order, is hated by thousands of others. Those hating him look to all his actions with a jaundiced eye; and they are the parties who were the first and the most bitter enimies of the National Land Company; not that they understood the objects of the society, or had even, in many cases, read the rules of the society: they opposed the O'Connor Land Plan because Mr. O'Connor was its propounder. They did not like Mr. O'Connor, and they, for that reason, opposed his plans. Why they did not like Mr. O'Connor was another question, and one they could not so easily answer.

"We do not like thee, Dr. Fell,
The reason why, we cannot tell;
But this much we know full well,
We do not like thee, Dr. Fell."

I have said that Mr. O'Connor may have made extravagant statements, but he never said that man could live without labour. "Earn thy bread by the sweat of thy brow," is an old law of nature, older than the Land Plan of Mr. O'Connor, and it was for those who joined the Land Society to remember it. As to pictures of rural bliss, and a kind of paradise happiness, those extravagancies are common to many men who have the misfortune to mistake the meaning of happiness, and mistake words for things. A fact or two, however, may be of value, illustrative of life and death; and if it be proved that those who live in agricultural districts are, on the average, longer lived than those who live in manufacturing districts, the inference is not illogical, if we say that those who live longest are, on the average, happiest. Now for the figures.

	Manchester.		Rutlandsh.
	Average age at death.		
Gentry and their families	31	—	52
Tradesmen and their families	20	—	41
Mechanics, labourers, and their families	17	—	38

Those figures do not prove that if a labourer sows tares he will reap wheat; that if his land lay waste he will be rich; but they do prove that, on the average, those who live a rural life do enjoy better health and more physical happiness than those who live in crowded manufacturing districts. Mr. O'Connor was justified in speaking in even glowing language in favour of a rural life. But if I remember rightly, Mr. O'Connor's letters were not particularly poetical, but were rather prosaic, and filled with statistics about pigs, potatoes, manure, and cattle; and it was for those interested in the Land Society, to carefully examine the statements made, and compare such statements with other authorities, and test all of them by their practical experience. It is not unusual for men who know but little of the Land Society, and less of land, to speak of Mr. O'Connor as a cheat, a deceiver, an impostor, and a demagogue. On whom has he imposed? What has he gained by his imposition? I think facts tell a different tale. If he has cheated, he has himself been the loser; and as to his being a demagogue, he is beyond a doubt a leader of the people, and will probably continue to influence the minds of some portion of the working classes for years to come. Mr. O'Connor is not perfection; and pray tell me who is? but his faults have been magnified as with a powerful magnifying glass, and his virtues have been hidden as under a bushel. One thing he has done, and that alone is of no easy accomplishment; he has cast his shadow over this country, and his Land Society has influenced the minds of thousands. Travel in England, north and south, (but more in the north than the south) and in every parish you will hear of local land societies, sometimes originating with trades' unions, at other times with land associations. Trace all of these societies to their fountain head, and you will find in them the impress of the mind of Mr. O'Connor. This is a work, great and useful, and its acknowledgement at this time will help to take the sting out of even the venom of the learned member for Sheffield. Add to that fact, the admitted personal honesty of Mr. O'Connor, and say, if you can, if he really deserves this hatred, this malice, this insult. I think differently, and I have watched him narrowly, and have from a very early period been a paid-up shareholder of the National Land Company, and am

AN UNLOCATED MEMBER.

National Land Company.

BATH.—On Monday evening last a meeting of the Land members of the Bath branch of the National Land Company took place at Mr. Chappel's, Corn-street, in this city, which was, considering the great distance at which many of the members reside, and the shortness of the notice, well attended; and after a very animated conversation on the state of the Company's affairs, and the disgraceful conduct of many of the allottees, Mr. Coombs was, on the motion of Mr. Bolwell, called to the chair.—Mr. Hillier rose, and after a speech of some length in defence of the Land Scheme and the character of Mr. O'Connor, its projector, concluded by moving the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this meeting the general conduct of Mr. O'Connor, in reference to the Land Company, has been of a character to call forth the gratitude of every honest member of that Company; and further, that this meeting has the most unbounded confidence in the ability and integrity of that gentleman."—The resolution was seconded in a few appropriate remarks, by Mr. Cornish, and carried unanimously.—Mr. Bolwell then rose, and in a speech of considerable length entered into the subject of the Land Scheme from its commencement, pointing out to those present the difficulties to which the scheme and its propounder had been subjected: first, by a corrupt and hireling press; second, by the government; and last, though not least, by the ingratitude and apathy of that class for whose benefit the master mind of Mr. O'Connor ushered it into existence. Mr. B. then animadverted upon the disgraceful conduct of many of the allottees, and also the partial conduct of the court in reference to the late trial for libel, in the case of O'Connor *v.* Bradshaw, and his triumphant victory, and concluded by moving the following resolution: "That this meeting sincerely sympathises with Mr. O'Connor in the persecution to which he has from time to time been subjected, in his endeavour to improve the condition of the working classes, and more particularly with regard to the late trial, O'Connor *v.* Bradshaw, for libel; and that we pledge ourselves individually to subscribe and procure funds towards defraying the expenses of that trial."—The resolution was seconded by Mr. Cottle, and carried unanimously.—A committee of five persons was then chosen to collect funds for the above object; Mr. Coombs, of Corn-street, to act as secretary; and Mr. Bolwell, of Galloway's-buildings, as treasurer—to whom sums may be forwarded. A collection was then made in the meeting, when the sum of twenty shillings was collected. A vote of thanks was given to the chairman, and the meeting separated.

ASHTON.—At the weekly meeting of the members, held in the Company's room, corner of York-street, Charlestown, on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 24th. Mr. Price having been appointed chairman, the following resolution was passed unanimously; "That we, the Land members of the Ashton branch, assembled this day, deem it our duty, and the duty of every Land member and Chartist in the country, to come forward and rescue our cause from ruin and disgrace, and also to show our enemies that we will not allow our noble chief to be sacrificed to the vindictive malice of a hostile government, who vainly seek to ruin him, in the hope of being able to prevent the people from carrying out the Land Plan, or gaining their political independence: we therefore call on the members of the Ashton branch, and all others, to come forward at once, and commence paying the sum of threepence per week, until the whole of the expenses are paid off, and thus show to our enemies that we are determined not to be crushed, nor will we allow our noble benefactor to be so." A committee was then appointed to carry out the above resolution; after which every member present gave one shilling towards the fund, in the hope that all their brother members will attend next Sunday and do likewise, which they will, if they are not enemies to themselves and their order. Let shame rest upon the heads of those who refuse to defend the founder of our much reviled Land Plan, when even his enemies have been compelled to acknowledge his honesty, and to declare his character to be unimpeachable.

HULL.—At the weekly meeting of the Land Company, at their rooms, Malt Shovel, North Church-side, the case of O'Connor *v.* Bradshaw was discussed, and the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "That we, the members of the Land Company, having implicit confidence in the honesty and honour of Mr. Feargus O'Connor, do recommend a subscription to be set on foot towards defraying the expenses incurred by that gentleman in defending his character against the attack of the vile *Nottingham Journal*." Seven shillings and sixpence was collected, and one member informed the meeting that he should forward a sovereign, and repeat it if necessary again and again, rather than that gentleman should be allowed to be ruined with expenses.—It was also resolved to adjourn the meeting to next Monday evening, to allow every member an opportunity of contributing his mite.

NORWICH.—At a meeting of members on Monday the 25th of February, the following resolution was adopted unanimously:—"That this meeting is of opinion that the honesty and integrity of Mr. O'Connor is unimpeachable. This meeting is also of opinion that the cost for the action belongs to the members of the Company, and we pledge ourselves individually and collectively to do our part towards paying it. Furthermore, we tell Bradshaw and Co., notwithstanding their lies, and the villanous conduct of the base press-gang, that it is not in their power to damage that gentleman's character in the eyes of the public. We have the same confidence in him we always had, and trust the members and the working classes generally, will show their gratitude by discharging all the pecuniary liabilities to which he has subjected himself, by taking up the cause of the people."

LIMEHOUSE, BRUNSWICK HALL.—At a meeting of members of this branch of the Land Company, held on Monday February 25th—Mr. Lamb in the chair—the following resolution was unanimously agreed to:—"That in the opinion of this meeting, seeing the determination of government not to legalise the Company, and the powerful influence of the Press in support of the government, we consider it absolutely necessary that the affairs of the Company be immediately wound up, seeing the impossibility of prosecuting it further with any hope of success. We, therefore, call on the members throughout the country, to express their opinions firmly, but, at the same time with temperance and moderation. We also call on Mr. O'Connor to dispense, as soon as possible, with the services of the following gentlemen, namely: Messrs. Clark, M'Grath, Doyle, and Dixon, as we cannot see in what way they can longer be beneficially employed."—The meeting was then adjourned, after expressing great dissatisfaction on account of the secretary not having received a balance sheet of the Company since January, 1848.

MANCHESTER.—At a meeting of the Committee of the Land members, holden on Sunday evening last, in the People's Institute, it was resolved to form a Committee for collecting subscriptions in aid of the Honesty Fund. The meeting was adjourned to Sunday morning, March 3rd, for the purpose of carrying out the above named object.

THE LAND SCHEME.

Mr. Feargus O'Connor has for many years past devoted his energies to a project to enable the industrious humbler classes to obtain such a portion of land as would enable them, by their labour, to support themselves and families out of its produce. That it would be desirable for many of our citizens to support themselves in this way will not, we imagine, be denied by any, though great difference of opinion may exist as to the mode by which it is to be accomplished. Upon Mr. Feargus O'Connor's plan we shall offer no opinion, but wait till its practical operation is more fully developed than at present. But we may observe that for many years a system has been in operation, the effect of which has been to drive the poorer portion of the population out of the rural parishes into the towns, and this, among other causes, is one reason why all our towns have so rapidly increased in size and population. We shall not discuss the question of large farms *v.* small farms, as that, we think, is more a question as to the amount of capital a cultivator possesses than a national one; but this is certain, that, for the last century at least, thousands of small farms have been thrown together, or been added to some previously existing large farm. The consequence has been, that little farmers became first labourers, and then, as times grew worse throughout the American and French wars, paupers, most labourers being paid at least partly out of the poor-rates, under the old

(Concluded in the eighth page.)

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

Paris, Saturday.—The Approaching Elections.—The delegates of the Socialists had a formal meeting last night to consider the question of the choice of the candidates on the Republican and Socialist interests at the approaching elections for the department of the Seine. The meeting was engaged in hearing the opinions of the different candidates, and deliberating on the choice till ten o'clock this morning, when they came to a resolution, by a large majority, that the candidates chosen by the majority of the meeting should have the support of the whole of the united parties. M. Emile de Girardin attended the meeting *for the purpose of explaining* his principles. Ultimately a ballot was taken, when the vote was declared to be in favour of the following names, who may be considered the Socialist candidates:—

1. M. François Vidal, ex-delegate of the Luxembourg.
2. M. de Flotte, ex-officer of the French army. It will be remembered that he was deeply implicated in the affair of the 15th of May.
3. Carnot, Minister of Public Instruction under the Provisional Government.

The Citizen de Flotte must not be confounded with the *Cuisinier* Flotte, the friend of Blanqui. He is a Republican and Montagnard. After serving for many years as a lieutenant in the French army he was obliged to leave it on account of his republicanism, and has since been frequently imprisoned for his political opinions.

M. François Vidal is a well known Socialist writer.

As to M. Carnot, he is best known as the son of the great Carnot, who was Minister of War during the first revolution. His own principal political act was the famous circular which, as Minister of Public Instruction, he addressed to the primary teachers of France.

A number of merchants, operatives, and others, had previously voted the following address to the delegates chosen by the Democratic Socialist Electoral Committee:—'Citizen Delegates,—We must be either Royalist or Republican. At present every Royalist is a conspirator. The duty of each of us is to support the Republic. In order to sustain it we must be united. Union is force. The operative and the merchant are united by their feelings and their interests, which are common. They must therefore remain united, particularly for the elections. The success of the Democrats in the elections for Paris will have an immense effect throughout France. The impulse from Paris will be decisive, for Paris is at once the head and the heart of France. The merchants, consequently, comprehending all the importance of the situation of affairs, and in order to secure the triumph of the Republic, declare that they will adhere to the list, whatever it may be, that shall be selected by the Democratic Socialist Committee.'

The 'Siecle,' the 'National,' the 'Presse,' and several other Moderate papers, as well as the 'Republique' and 'Voix du Peuple,' accept the Socialist list as the definitive one, and call on all their friends to support *it.* The 'Presse,' in giving the list says:—'However significant the names of Leflotte, Vidal, and Carnot may be, there is reason for astonishment that they are not still more extreme. They signify a protest, in the name of violated justice, against transportation without trial; a protest, in the name of enlightened Socialism, against the pretended infallibility of the police; and a protest, in the name of suppressed liberty, against the prosecution of the schoolmasters. It is enough that these names should have this signification to induce us to rally round them without hesitation, and without our remembering that the name of the former Minister of Public Instruction was preferred to that of the chief editor of the 'Presse.' We more than ever persist in thinking that, if there is still time to stop the government and the majority in their progress towards the fatal precipice which is leading them to their doom, it will only be arrived at by voting deliberately on the 10th of March for the list adopted this morning by the central committee of the Republican delegates. Perhaps other names might have had a better chance of success, but these names have been chosen. We must think no more of it. Let there be no tardiness, and no sterile recriminations. We must now look but to one end and one means.'

The Conservatives are far from being so united in the choice of their candidates of the Socialists. The partisans of the Elysee call upon the electors to support no one but Gen. de la Hitte, M. Bonjean, and M. Arrighi de Padone. The 'Debats' and other moderate papers insist upon it that the electors should be allowed freely to select from among the eleven names put forward by the Electoral Union. The committee of the 'Dix Decembre,' composed of pure Buonapartists, but not approving of the present Ministry, has selected three candidates of its own.

Besides this serious diversity of opinion, the 'Union,' the organ of the Legitimists, is very reserved, and declares that it will not blindly accept the candidates the Electoral Union may choose to present. It gives no list of its own; but it complains that among the eleven names contained in the list of the Electoral Union, there is not one who is known as an undoubted Legitimist. All this shows that the party of Order is not by any means so united as could be wished; and that the heterogeneous masses of which it is composed do not appear prepared for 'a pull, a long pull, and a pull altogether.'

Scene in the Assembly.—On Saturday, Thiers having attacked the men who governed France in the first days of the Republic, General Cavaignac replied with energy, and did his best to conceal, but could not, the effect produced on him by these censures. After a scene of recrimination of a violent kind, and after repeated calls to order, M. Emanuel Arago addressed the house, but still the storm raged in the Mountain. The authority of the President (General Bedeau) was repeatedly set at defiance. MM. Arago and Jules Favre replied to M. Thiers in the most personal manner. M. Thiers again spoke but his explanations did more mischief than his original speech. Having spoken of the days of February as 'fatal,' his voice was completely drowned by the furious shouts of the Left.

M. Lamartine stood forth as the champion of the 'glorious Revolution of February,' and his words were applauded with frenzy by the Mountain. The sitting lasted to an unusually late hour (past eight o'clock.) and the adjournment took place amidst great agitation.

On Monday great confusion ensued in consequence of M. Jules Leroux persisting in reading a long historical sketch of the first revolution though he had been repeatedly called to order by the President. The Assembly was consulted by the President as to whether M. Leroux should not be compelled to quit the tribune. The Assembly assented, and M. Leroux retired to his place.

The reader will understand that the following is from the journal of an enemy:—The election of Messrs. Schœlcher and Perrinon for Guadaloupe is confirmed! they have been named by a very large majority. Their opponents were M. Cherbonneau, the cure of Pointe-a-Pitre, and M. Alexandre Dumas. The result of the ballot was made known on the 18th ult., and the victorious party manifested its joy in the most turbulent manner. Disorderly dances took place in the streets, and bands of negroes went through the streets, crying 'Vive Schœlcher! vive Perrinon!' They stopped before the houses of the white inhabitants or men of colour who were not Socialists, crying 'A bas les aristocrats!' 'A bas les blancs!' 'Vive la Montagne!'

The Procureur de la Republique has ordered the seizure of a pamphlet by Ledru Rollin, entitled 'The 24th Fevrier,' as containing—first, excitement to hatred and contempt against the government of the Republic; secondly, exciting citizens one against the other; and, thirdly, insults against the person of the President of the Republic.

Proceedings are also instituted against the printers of placards relating to the elections, who have acted contrary to the laws on that subject, and have ordered such placards to be torn down.

The 'Patrie' having stated that Ledru Rollin had had an interview with Lord Palmerston, the proscribed champion of Freedom has addressed the following letter to the editor of that paper:—'Sir,—I am not in the habit of contradicting all the inventions that are propagated about me, but that which is contained in your number of the 22nd February carries with it such an affirmative character, that I feel myself obliged to contradict it. I have never had a conference with Lord Palmerston; I need not add I have never demanded one. Notwithstanding, then, the exactitude of your informations, your account is thus an invention, from beginning to end. Yours, &c., Ledru Rollin.—London, Feb. 23rd, 1850.'

The other Republican papers are equally earnest in calling on their friends to vote for the three selected candidates. They tell them that the question is now fairly put of 'Monarchy or Republic,' and that on the 10th of March that question will be settled.

The Procureur of the Republic of the Seine has given orders for the strict execution of the law of the 10th December, 1830, which interdicts the posting up of any bills treating of political matters. This is the more extraordinary, considering that an election is about to take place in the capital. The consequence of it is that the police can stop even the addresses of the Socialist candidates.

Anniversary of the Revolution, Feb. 24.—To-day is the anniversary of the proclamation of the republic, and it is ushered in by beautiful weather. There is little fear of any demonstration, as the democrats are determined *to be quiet*, and, as their organs say, are not to be provoked by any stratagem to make a manifestation.

The democratic journals publish a manifesto, saying that they will have no feast—no demonstration. The manifesto runs thus:—

'Anniversary of Feb. 24.—We shall not sit down to-day to our fraternal feast. We shall not adorn our houses with garlands and torches. No banquets, no illuminations. We shall content ourselves with hanging crowns on the bronze that covers our deceased brethren. We shall separate, in order to give no pretext for provocation. In 1850, as in 1849, the anniversary of the revolution is not a day of joy but of mourning. The present, instead of belonging to liberty, belongs to despotism. Listen to the voices that rise; they do not bear to heaven the hymn of independence, of glory, and happiness! They are but the leave-taking of prisoners, which are carried away by the wind towards the land of exile; they are the curses of soldiers, to whom stupid absolutism has given the part of executioners; they are the groans of citizens and poor men, who die in bankruptcy and misery. The dead will pardon us for not drinking the cup to the gratitude we owe them. Our hearts can only find room for the regrets which their loss inspires. And then, what toast could we drink? Not a toast to liberty, for it is dead; not to equality, which no one will have; and not to fraternity. We leave our joy as a legacy to future generations.

'To the citizens who died for liberty on the 24th of February, 1848, the grateful future! Vive la Republique!'

The steamer in which the insurgents of June, detained at Belle-Isle, were embarked, sailed from Brest for Algeria on the 19 ult.

Paris, Monday.—The anniversary of the revolution, yesterday, passed off with perfect calm. The weather being beautifully fine, there were vast crowds of promenaders on the Boulevards, in the public gardens, the Champs Elysees, and other places of resort; in the Champs Elysees, in particular, the gathering of pedestrians and the display of equipages were larger and more brilliant than had been seen for the last two years. During the day there was a crowd of workmen, nearly all attired in their Sunday clothes, around the Column on the Place de la Bastille, and the railing of the Column was decked with crowns of *immortelles.*

A religious ceremony was performed in all the churches of Paris, on the occasion of the anniversary of the 24th of Feb., and a *Te Deum* was sung. The Archbishop of Paris officiated at Notre Dame.

Additional telegraphic despatches have been received to-day from the departments. Everywhere the greatest calm reigned on the 24th of Feb., excepting at Carcassone, where there was some agitation in honour of Barbes (who is a native of that place,) but it was easily kept down.

Paris Tuesday.—In the Legislative Assembly to-day the second reading of the Public Instruction Bill was carried by a large majority, and the Assembly determined, by a majority of 436 to 205, that it should pass to the third reading.

To-day we have been threatened with some disturbances in consequence of a piece of overzeal on the part of the police. I yesterday informed you that a considerable number of the friends of the victims of the revolution of July, 1830, and February, 1848, had gone to deposit crowns of everlasting at the foot of the Column of July, on the Place de la Bastille, where the victims are interred. This morning it was discovered that during the night the whole of these tokens of grief and affection (for they very rarely have any political meaning) had disappeared, and it was soon discovered that this very wanton act had been committed by the police. A more gratuitous insult could not have been offered to the people, nor one more likely to exasperate the inhabitants of the Faubourg St. Antoine, which is in the close neighbourhood. At an early hour this morning crowds began to assemble around the column, and in the course of the morning a procession of about 1,200 persons arrived, carrying wreaths and crowns, to replace those which had been carried away. This demonstration was quite peaceable, but there were a good many cries of 'Vive la Republique' and others not quite so agreeable to the powers that be. The procession was dispersed, and from time to time strong parties of *sergens de ville* cleared the the Place de Bastille. Ultimately the crowds dispersed, happily without any collision, but certainly it is not the fault of the police that the affair has passed off quietly.

Two bales of Socialist pamphlets, weighing 160lbs., printed in Belgium and smuggled into France, were seized near Lille by the Custom-house officers on Thursday last.

Accounts from Cahors of the 23d ult., state that a seditious movement had taken place on the preceding night amongst the Socialists of that town and Vigan. The Prefect, however, being on his guard, the movement was suppressed and several of the leaders were arrested.

M. Dubain, the editor of the 'Paysan,' of Rennes, who was prosecuted for having published a seditious libel, has been acquitted by a jury of that town.

M. Suquet, responsible editor of the 'Temps,' was yesterday condemned by default to three years' imprisonment and 6,000f. fine for an article in that journal containing attacks against the government, and vindicating facts considered as misdemeanours by the law.

SWITZERLAND.

The following is from the Paris correspondence of the 'Times':—'Letters from Geneva of the 10th ult., state that affairs in Switzerland are becoming every day more complicated and the fermentation of the public mind greater. The political refugees of all nations congregated there feel that the critical moment has arrived, and that something must be done now or never. Rumours of approaching insurrections in France, Germany, and Italy were rife; and for the last 15 days an incessant movement of the chief conspirators has been remarked both at Lausanne and Geneva, and correspondence exchanged with London and Paris. The secret committees are in permanence, and agents have set out in various directions. The activity of the propaganda has increased a hundredfold, and incendiary publications issued daily from the Lausanne press. Ten thousand copies of Eugene Sue's work, 'Les Mysteres du Peuple,' have been printed there, and distributed all over the country. The journal 'La Suisse,' of the 19th ult, confirms the information I gave you several days since, that no official note had been communicated to the Federal Council on the part of the Powers, and that the question of Neufchatel had bean the subject of diplomatic negotiations. That statement, as well as others in the letter of the same day, touching the determination of the Federal Government in case of invasion, are also fully confirmed in the following 'Circular,' addressed by the Council to the Governments of all the cantons, but particularly to those of the frontier:—

'Berne, Feb. 15.'

'Faithful and dear Confederates,—Several journals have announced that some powers, among other Austria and Prussia, are concentrating troops destined to march against Switzerland, and even to invade it, in order to wrest from it certain concessions incompatible with its dignity and independence. Although up to the present time there has been addressed to us, on the part of those Powers, no note, written or verbal, no demand, direct or indirect, of the nature of those referred to in the public papers—notes or demands relative to the refugees, and which would tend to euroach on the institutions and the rights of Switzerland; although these Powers have no grievances against the Confederation, which has spontaneously fulfilled its obligations, and will continue to fulfil them; although we are consequently very far from admitting or even from supposing the projects ascribed to those powers—notwithstanding that, we say, our duty being to watch over the saftey of Switzerland and the maintenance of its independence as well as its neutrality, we beg of you to make known what you may know or learn touching the concentrations or movements of foreign troops, which might be directed against Switzerland, in order that if, contrary to all expectation, the rumours which are spread be well founded, we may be able to take in good part all the measures required for the defence of the country. You know, dear and faithful confederates, if, on the one hand, Switzerland does not mean to allow her soil to serve as the centre of a propaganda, and of schemes which may cause disquietude to neighbouring states, as the Federal Council has proved by its decree of the 15th of July, 1849, and its oth measures relative to the sending into the interior of the refugees, and the expulsion of their chiefs—measures which are not concessions, but the free and voluntary accomplishment of our free and international duties; on the other hand, strong in this position, Switzerland will know how to resist, with the energy which the sentiment of a good cause gives, any demand which may exceed the limits of its duties, any attack on its rights; such is the firm resolution of the nation, and of its authorities, both cantonal and federal. It is consequently our resolution also, certain as we are that, if Switzerland does not provoke, she will not shrink before, menaces. But we repeat, that the hostilities with which certain journals menace Switzerland are so devoid of foundation, they would be so contrary to reason and to justice, so to oppose to the maintenance of general tranquillity, that we should consider it an insult to the powers to suppose that they would allow themselves to be misled by a party which does not cease to calumniate Switzerland, in the hope that, deceiving the European governments by its continual falsehoods, it will succeed in making them serve as instruments to its perilous designs. Do not either believe this party when it states that the Federal Council has complied with the injunctions of diplomacy, or has anticipated its exigencies. That is as contrary to the truth as when it pretends that the Federal Council has not the power to cause its orders to be respected, or that Switzerland is a permanent cause of perturbation to the neighbouring states. These inventions are, like so many others, part of the schemes of the reactionary party, on which it is necessary to have the eye open. We seize this occasion to recommend you, dear and faithful confederates, and ourselves, to the Divine protection.—In the name of the Swiss Federal Council,

'H. Druey, President of the Confederation.
'N. Von Moos, Substitute of the Chancellor of the Confederation.'

GERMANY.

PRUSSIA.—The 'Kolner Zeitung' has two electric despatches from Berlin of the 21st ult.—one stating that his Majesty the King of Prussia is confined to his apartments in consequence of an accident he met with in walking; and the other containing the announcement that the Lower House of the Prussian Parliament has voted an extraordinary supply of 18 000,000 thalers for the War-office.

Another despatch from Berlin of the 20th ult., states that the President of the Cabinet has communicated to the members of the two houses a Royal message, from which it appears that the prorogation of the Prussian Parliament came off on the 26th ult.

The 'Cologne Gazette' of Saturday publishes a telegraphic message from Berlin, dated the 22nd ult., stating that at midnight the jury had returned a verdict of 'Not guilty,' in the case of thirty-six of the members of the National Assembly accused of exciting the people not to pay the taxes, but had found Bucher and three others guilty. The court on the following morning pronounced its sentence upon the convicted prisoners. Bucher and Plath were sentenced to fifteen months' imprisonment and loss of their respective offices (the former held a judicial office, and the latter that of a Burgermaster.) The others were sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

The German question has come under discussion in the Upper Chamber of Saxony. Some of the speeches were violent denunciations of the Prussian policy, and its Bund its motives and means, and indicated a strong opposition to any accession to or countenance of the Erfurt plan. Its object, it was asserted, is not a strong Germany, but a strong Prussia; under the hypocritical mask of a popular constitution it was attempting to bring back the most absolute despotism. This is about the mildest specimen of the language used. M. Mammen declared he should prefer a revival of the old confederation, with all its 'shame and disgrace' to Germany, to the establishment of what was called the 'Three Kings' Bund.' There are three motions before the house. The third, made by M. Von Carlowitz, is only 'eventual,' or to be proposed if either of the other two are accepted. The first is for the production of the correspondence upon the accession of Bavaria and Wirtemberg to the treaty of the 26th of May, adding the expectation that the Saxon government will not form any union that does not fulfil the just expectations of the German people—namely, a central power surrounded by constitutional guarantees, a Parliamentary government, and representation. M. Joseph, the mover of the second resolution, protests in it against any union that does not include the whole German race, and all the rights of the German *grundrecht,* as published by the Frankfort Assembly on the 2nd of March, 1849. If either of these resolutions be carried M. Carlowitz is ready to pledge the Chamber to a declaration that the laying before it the negotiations on the German question for its mere information is a slight to the constitutional functions of those bodies. M. Carlowitz thinks if Germany waits for either Bavaria or Austria, it may wait a very indefinite time; he is therefore prepared to go 'through and by Prussia to Germany,' being nearly the only advocate the Bund found in the Chamber.

AUSTRIA AND HUNGARY.

VIENNA, Feb. 17.—The 'Weiner Zeitung,' of this day, contains a semi-official article, in which the introduction of a new stamp-tax is announced. M. Kraus expects to get a revenue of three millions sterling from this new fiscal expedient.

The 'Gratz Gazette' announces that General d'Aspre has received orders to march on Rome, and set up the double eagle again over the Austrian embassy, while the Pope makes his entry into the Eternal City.

On the 12th the prefect of police at Agram notified to the editor of the 'Slavenski Jug,' that the Ban Jellachich had given orders for the suppression of that paper, and proceeded to seize the number of the day.

Forty-one Honveds, belonging to a regiment stationed at Ebersdorf have made their escape from the barracks with their arms and their accoutrements. Desertions of this kind have lately been very numerous, and in most cases the deserters have been successful in escaping with their arms. Three of the political offenders confined in Presburg have likewise succeeded in making their escape, notwithstanding the extraordinarily strict watch kept over them.

The Minister of War has recently sent orders to Haynau to raise a new levy of 24,000 Honveds. General Haynau has on this occasion called out the members of the former Mobile National Guards of the large towns like Presburg, Pesth, &c., to the great consternation and irritation of all the principal families. Many of the parties knowing they were likely to be called upon have escaped by flight.

ITALY.

ROMAN STATES.—The 'Nazionale' publishes a letter from Rome of the 13th ult., stating that upwards of 500 persons had been arrested since the preceding day. Most of them are shopkeepers, functionaries, and persons in easy circumstances. Even ladies had not been spared. On the 12th three or four Frenchmen more had been stabbed, and from forty to fifty persons arrested on that account. The advanced sentinel of the Campo Vaccino had been stabbed immediately after the publication of General Baraguay d'Hillier's proclamation. Two trasteverins were to be shot on the 13th ult. for having knives about them. The French and Roman police were actively engaged in stopping and searching people in the streets.

Letters from Rome of the 18th ult., state that the assassin of the French soldier of the 53d Regiment was shot on the day previous on the Piazza del Popolo, pursuant to sentence of court-martial. There were upwards of 10,000 persons present to witness the execution. The man who had attempted to murder Lieutenant Vessigny has made disclosures, and, in addition to those already implicated, five others have been arrested.

TUSCANY.—The 'Piedmontese Gazette' states from Florence, 18th ult., that a person publicly received forty strokes of the bastinado at Leghorn on the 16th ult., for having insulted the authorities. On the 17th ult. M. Zappoli and Cenni (the latter was aide-de-camp to Garibaldi) were suddenly arrested at Bologna. At Pesaro the Gonfaloniere was arrested on the 12th ult., for having 250 loaded military muskets, 80 swords, and five drums in his possession.

SCHLESWIG HOLSTEIN.

Berlin, Feb 23.—Prussia has refused to renew the armistice with Denmark for six months, on the ground that she cannot countenance the continuance of a provisional government in the duchy of Schleswig, which is entirely paralysed by the universal resistance of the people, whose acts are in direct opposition with the reasonable wishes of the people, and whose administration cannot be defended by any principle of political or moral right.

RUSSIA.

The Czar's way of treating the guests whom he invites to dinner is put in a characteristic light by a decree which has just been promulgated by the head prefect of police, menacing with the most rigorous punishments the owners as well as servants of equipages which act disorderly upon such occasions.

The 'St. Petersburgh Gazette' contains an imperial ordinance of police, in which, after animadverting upon the frequent insults inflicted on gendarmes at the doors of theatres, and other places of public resort, by coachmen, outriders, and lacqueys, it is mentioned that a law was enacted in 1839, that a gendarme was to be considered in future as inviolable as a sentinel, and that any persons of the categories mentioned caught insulting a gendarme would be seized on the spot and made recruits of 'Notwithstanding this,' says the ordinance, 'the equipages which drove away on the 3rd of February from the Winter Palace, after dinner, were disorderly in consequence of not observing the established sequence, and the coachmen nearly disregarded altogether the prohibition of the gendarmes. His Majesty the Emperor observed this disorder, and has been pleased to command that all such breaches of order in future the law of 1839 will be carried out with rigour; and, moreover, that the owners of such equipages, in case they knowingly connive at such misdemeanours of their people, will be subjected to responsibility, and punished with the full rigour of the laws.'

THE GREEK QUESTION.

We have received, through our Malta correspondent, dates from Athens to the 29th January. The capture and detention of Greek merchant vessels by British Cruisers continued, and up to the date mentioned amounted to forty-one, chiefly grain-laden, taken at the Piræus, Poros, Spezzia, and Syra, and carried into Salamis. Other five or six were taken at Patras, and sent into Corfu in charge of prize crews. The number of Greek ships of war detained amount to five, the largest of which is the Ottone steamer.

King Otho and his ministers have expressed their determination not to accede to the demands of Great Britain, unless the other two protecting Powers (Russia and France) counsel such a measure.

The exchange of diplomatic notes had ceased for some days, partly by reason of the instructions which the Ministers of France and Russia were awaiting, from their respective governments, and partly from the boisterous weather prevailing, which rendered communications with the bay of Salamis, where Mr. Wyse and Admiral Sir Wm. Parker, with all his fleet except the Odin, were at anchor. The merchants of Greece had protested against the capture and detention of merchant vessels, and though the people seemed at first to side with the Ministry, there were at the latest date signs of an opposite feeling, which might become serious. The only ships of war at the Piræus were the Odin, British steam frigate; the Diana corvette, the Marianna steamer (Austrian,) the Vedette French steamer, and a Russian corvette. An English war-steamer is said to have run on shore, by being decoyed on to a dangerous shallow by a small Greek merchant craft which she was in the act of chasing.

Athens, Feb. 4.—M. Thouvenal has contradicted the report that Gen. Aupick was privy to the desine of the British admiral on sailing from the Dardanelles to Salamis. The country is very quiet; the people wait with composure the solution of the question by the protecting powers. The following facts seem to betoken a not unfriendly disposition towards the blockaders.—A boat, with a dozen English sailors, and an officer on board, was upset lately in the Piræus. The Greek sailors immediately exerted themselves with the best means and alacrity to assist the capsized, who were all safely brought to shore. Two, benumbed with cold, were taken into a private house, where they received every assistance and attention till they recovered. On the beach of St. Andrew, near Patras, the English steamer Antelope, with troops and despatches on board, ran aground. Two Greek war-schooners came immediately to her assistance.

We extract the following from Malta correspondence, dated Feb. 18:—

'The merchants at Athens were getting weary of the check on their commerce, and in some few instances had remonstrated with the Hellenic government.

'At Athens, the people were by no means disaffected towards the English; at Patras the feeling was more hostile; and the fact of two war-boats having been seized by the Rosamond, and towed to Corfu, had contributed not a little to keep up the angry feeling which already existed.

'The Consul had plainly intimated to the English who were desirous to land for the purpose of sporting that he could not guarantee their safety from insult.

'A very melancholy accident occurred on the 7th ult., by which twelve lives were lost. From the very imperfect accounts which have reached this island, the following account may be accepted as nearly as possible to the truth:—Lieutenant Michael Breen, a young man who had but recently received his lieutenancy, and at the same time an appointment to the Ganges, 84, Capt. Smith, had been sent with the pinnace, containing nineteen hands, from the bay of Salamis, to the Piræus for water. Having accomplished his duty, he set sail on his return, and when near Pigeon Island, the wind blowing strong, the pinnace was capsized. By this accident six men were drowned. The lieutenant, with the remainder of the crew, struck manfully out, and succeeded in reaching Pigeon Island, but here, owing to the intense cold, he, with others, was frozen to death, before assistance was sent! I regret not being in possession of the names of the sufferers.

'Pigeon Island is remarkable, as containing several monuments erected to the memory of officers and men who have been drowned near the spot. The wind often blows with frightful violence between the Bay of Salamis and the Piræus.'

NATIONAL REFORM LEAGUE.

The usual Friday evening lecture in advocacy of the principles and objects of this association was, on the 22nd ult. delivered by Mr. Hart, in consequence of the absence of the president (Mr. O'Brien,) who was still in Scotland. Previous to commencing his lecture, Mr. Hart read an extract of a letter from Mr. O'Brien, stating that he had, on the 18th, addressed a large audience in the City Hall, at Glasgow, on the principles of "National Reform;" and that they received his exposition with much approbation. The letter also stated that branches of the League were about to be formed at Glasgow, Edinburgh, and other towns in the north.

Mr. Hart's lecture was principally devoted to the elucidation of one of the main propositions of the League, and the nationalisation of the land of the kingdom. He remarked that the time was coming when it would not do to refer to a bit of parchment as the basis of a right, especially a right to possess individual property in the soil. A right must be based on immutable principles, either natural or scriptural. He expressed a great regard for the political economy of scripture; and said that if Christianity were really the *law*, as it is ostensibly the religion of this country, there would be no need of his standing there that evening to advocate human rights. He then referred to the Mosaic code which did not admit of the private possession of land in such a way that a man could dispose of the fee-simples of it, as is done now. At stated periods, all lands reverted to the original families to whom it had first been given. He thought that if anything could prove the wisdom and justice of the laws of Moses it was this ordination, because it recognised the primary right of humanity to a free soil. Man had a right to the produce of his toil on the land, but not to the land itself, which was the Lord's; and not man's. Custom had sanctioned the usurpation of the soil; but when the evil consequences of that custom became fully discerned by society, common sense would universally protest against it, and insist on its becoming state-property, for the benefit of the whole people. The lecturer then detailed the process by which it was proposed gradually to change the present system of land tenure; and showed how that change could be brought about, not only without injury to any class, but with obvious advantages to all classes. Mr. Hart concluded his able and instructive discourse by some forcible illustrations of the working of our present monetary system; and shewed the necessity which had in our days arisen for a free money as well as a free soil; a guing that both were indispensable to secure the just rights of man.

THE STRONG SHOEMAKERS' CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

Sir,—In the name of the society to which I have the honour to belong, I have to thank "L'Ami du Peuple" for the favourable notice of the strong shoe men's movement, which appeared in the *Star* of Feb. 9th. I now take the liberty of stating that we have hitherto been very much distressed for funds. Those who are employed at the light branches of our business, who have upon former occasions nobly assisted us, are engaged in a struggle them selves, and so far from asking relief from them, we would gladly have given our mite, according to our ability, to assist those gallant fellows in the up-hill war they have to wage against capital, had it not been that just at the critical time we were hurried into the same position. At last, however, prospects seem to brighten with us. A gentleman, well known in the literary and political world, has kindly promised to lend us that pecuniary assistance which will give us a chance of testing our system, and, without which, I much fear, that the difficulties of our position would have proved too much for us.

We are in treaty for a shop in High Holborn, which we hope to open very soon, for the manufacture and sale of every description of boots and shoes, required by whoever shall please to deal with us, all being the manufacture of our members. Our object shall be to produce every article ordered, first rate in its kind, both as regards fit, material, and workmanship. As we shall pay our members employed in the shop, far better wages than are paid at other shops in the same branch, and as the business will belong to the men employed in it, we may confidently expect, and as confidently promise, that our productions will be superior in every respect to those got up by those individual employers with whom we shall have to compete.

So soon as we are enabled to open our establishment, we confidently hope for support in our undertaking from all the friends of progress. It is not for ourselves only that we are working. The "strong trade," sunk in the lowest depths of degradation and distress,* call aloud for some amelioration of their condition, and which, we hope to commence. We think we know the disease, and hope to apply a more efficient remedy than has hitherto been brought to bear upon it.

Although a series of encroachments, recently made upon the wages of the men, has compelled us to assume the position we have taken, co-operative labour is by no means a new idea with us. Years ago the principle would have been tried had we had the means. Now, we are about to make a commencement; and once begun we shall not lightly recede from our position. Our minds are fully made up to endure any privation, rather than fall back into the hopeless state in which so many of our shopmates are living, and in which we should now find ourselves, were it not for the faith we have in the co-operative principle.

To the customers of the shop, belonging to the late National Association of United Trades, we more particularly appeal for support; it was on the supposition that the men were benefited by the trade of the shop, that the great majority of the customers were induced to patronise it. Unfortunately, circumstances we need not particularise, caused the failure of that attempt. This time it will be our own fault if we fail. We are our own masters, and the remedy of any evil will lie in our own hands. We can promise superior articles in exchange for the money paid for them, as we shall be able to bring superior judgment to bear upon the purchase of the material employed.

I remain, sir, yours, respectfully,
T. Hawson,
President of the Strong Men's Society.

*See the *Morning Chronicle* of the 11th, 14th, and 18th, February.

Read this, and judge for yourselves.

GOOD HEALTH, GOOD SPIRITS, AND LONG LIFE, SECURED BY THAT HIGHLY ESTEEMED POPULAR REMEDY,

PARR'S LIFE PILLS.

THOMAS PARR.



PARR SHOOTING WITH THE CROSS BOW.

See his Life, to be had gratis of all Agents.

ECONOMY.—Economy should be practised in all things, but more particularly in matters of medicine. The restoration to health has generally been purchased at a costly price; but where is the wisdom, where is the economy in spending vast sums on a physician's attendance, when sound health and long life may be ensured by the cheap, safe, and simple remedy of Parr's Life Pills?

Hundreds who have kept their beds for years have been so speedily re-invigorated with an infusion of new blood, and consequently of new life and strength, by the use of PARR'S LIFE PILLS, that their re-appearance amongst their fellow beings who had long given them up as incurable, is looked upon as the greatest of the many great wonders of this miraculous age. 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.'

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 Directions.

Sold in boxes at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and family packets at 11s. each, by all respectable medicine vendors throughout the world. Full directions are given with each box.

ALSO

A Certain and Speedy Cure for Influenza, Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Incipient Consumptions, and All Disorders of the Chest and Lungs.

SPENCER'S PULMONIC ELIXIR, carefully prepared from the recipe of the late C Spencer, surgeon, &c., Salford, Manchester; deservedly celebrated as the most successful practitioner in all Pulmonary Affections.

Persons desirous of testing the efficacy of this medicine, must observe that on each bottle are the words "SPENCER'S PULMONIC ELIXIR," and that each wrapper has a fac-simile of the Proprietor's signature. "T. ROBERTS and Co."

Prepared only by T. Roberts and Co., Crane-court, Fleet-street, London; and sold Wholesale by Edwards, 67, St. Paul's Church-yard; Barclay and Sons, Farringdon-street; Sutton and Co., Bow Church-yard; Sangar and Co., Oxford-street, London; Mottershead and Roberts, Manchester; Raimes and Co., Edinburgh; and Noble, Boston; and Retail by all respectable Medicine Vendors in the Kingdom. In Bottles, at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. each.

⁂ *The Bottles at 2s. 9d. contain nearly three small.*

If Mankind are liable to one disease more than another, or if there are any particular affections of the human body we require to have a knowledge of over the rest, it is certainly that class of disorders treated of in the new and improved edition of the "Silent Friend." The authors, in thus sending forth to the world another edition of their medical work, cannot refrain from expressing their gratification at the continual success attending their efforts, which, combined with the assistance of medicines, exclusively of their own preparation, have been the happy cause of mitigating and averting the mental and physical miseries attendant on those peculiar disorders; thus proving the fact, that suffering humanity must always derive the greatest advantage from duly qualified members of the medical profession adopting a particular class of disorders for their exclusive study, in preference to a superficial knowledge of all the diseases that afflict mankind. Messrs. R. and L. Perry can with confidence offer hope, energy, and vigour, to those whose constitutions have become debilitated from generative diseases, nervous and mental irritability, local constitutional weakness, &c., and beg to acquaint those so suffering that one of the firm may be personally consulted daily at No. 19, Berner's-street, Oxford-street, London, from eleven till two, and from five till eight in the evening; and on Sundays from eleven till one.

ON PHYSICAL DISQUALIFICATIONS, GENERATIVE INCAPACITY, AND IMPEDIMENTS TO MARRIAGE.

Thirty-first edition, illustrated with Twenty-Six Anatomical Engravings on Steel, enlarged to 196 pages, price 2s. 6d; by post, direct from the Establishment, 3s. 6d. in postage stamps.

THE SILENT FRIEND; a medical work on the exhaustion and physical decay of the system, produced by excessive indulgence, the consequences of infection, or the abuse of mercury, with observations on the marrried state, and the disqualifications which prevent it; illustrated by twenty-six coloured engravings, and by the detail of cases. By R. and L. PERRY and Co., 19, Berners-street, Oxford-street London.

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Part the First

Is dedicated to the consideration of the anatomy and physiology of the organs which are directly or indirectly engaged in the process of reproduction. It is illustrated by six coloured engravings.

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Treats of the infirmities and decay of the system, produced by over indulgence of the passions, and by the practice of solitary gratification. It shows clearly the manner in which the baneful consequences of this indulgence operate on the economy in the impairment and destruction of the social and vital powers. The existence of nervous and sexual debility and incapacity, with their accompanying train of symptoms and disorders, are traced by the chain of connecting results to their cause. This selection concluded with an explicit detail of the means by which these effects may be remedied, and full and ample directions for their use. It is illustrated by three coloured engravings, which fully display the effects of physical decay.

Part the Third

Contains an accurate description of the diseases caused by infection, and by the abuse of mercury; primary and secondary symptoms, eruptions of the skin, sore throat, inflammation of the eyes, disease of the bones, gonorrhœa, gleet, stricture, &c., are shown to depend on this cause. Their treatment is fully described in this section. The effects of neglect, either in the recognition of disease or in the treatment, are shown to be the prevalence of the virus in the system, which sooner or later will show itself in one of the forms already mentioned, and entail disease in its most frightful shape, not only on the individual himself, but also on the offspring. Advice for the treatment of all these diseases and their consequences is tendered in this sections which, if duly followed up, cannot fail in effecting a cure. This part is illustrated by seventeen coloured engravings.

Part the Fourth.

Treats of the prevention of disease by a simple application, by which the danger of infection is obviated. Its action is simple, but sure. It acts with the virus chemically, and destroys its power on the system. This important part of the work should be read by every young man entering into life.

Part the Fifth

Is devoted to the consideration of the Duties and Obligations of the Married State, and of the causes which lead to the happiness or misery of those who have entered into the bonds of matrimony. Disquietudes and jars between married couples are traced to depend, in the majority of instances, on causes resulting from physical imperfections and errors, and the means for their removal shown to be within reach and effectual. The operation of certain disqualifications is fully examined, and infelicitous and unproductive unions shown to be the necessary consequence. The causes and remedies for this state form an important consideration in this section of the work.

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Is expressly employed to renovate the impaired powers of life, when exhausted by the influence exerted by solitary indulgence on the system. Its action is purely balsamic; its power in re-invigorating the frame in all cases of nervous and sexual debility, obstinate gleets, impotency, barrenness, and debilities arising from venereal excesses, has been demonstrated by its unvarying success in thousands of cases. To those persons who are prevented entering the married state by the consequences of early errors, it is invaluable. Price 11s. per bottle, or four quantities in one for 33s.

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An anti-syphilitic remedy for purifying the system from venereal contamination, and is recommended for any of the varied forms of secondary symptoms, such as eruptions on the skin, blotches on the head and face, enlargement of the throat, tonsils, and uvula; threatened destruction of the nose, palate, &c. Its action is purely detersive, and its beneficial influence on the system is undeniable. Price 11s, and 33s. per bottle.

The £5 case of Syriacum or Concentrated Detersive Essence, can only be had at 19, Berners-street, Oxford-street, London, whereby there is a saving of £1 12s., and the patient is entitled to receive advice without a fee, which advantage is applicable only to those who remit £5, for a packet.

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TRY ERE YOU DESPAIR.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

Cure of Asthma.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Benjamin Mackie, a respectable Quaker, dated Creenagh, near Loughall, Ireland, dated September 11th, 1848.

Respected Friend,—Thy excellent pills have effectually cured me of an asthma which afflicted me for three years to such an extent that I was obliged to walk my room at night for air, afraid of being suffocated if I went to bed by cough and phlegm. Besides taking the pills I rubbed plenty of thy Ointment into my chest night and morning.—(Signed) Benjamin Mackie.—To Professor Holloway.

Cure of Typhus Fever when supposed to be at the Point of Death.

A respectable female in the neighbourhood of Loughall was attacked with typhus fever, and lay for five days without having tasted any description of food. She was given over by the surgeon, and preparations were made for her demise. Mr. Benjamin Mackie the Quaker, whose case is referred to above, heard of the circumstance, and knowing the immense benefit that he himself had derived from Holloway's Pills, recommended an immediate trial, and eight were given to her, and the same number was continued night and morning for three days, and in a very short time she was completely cured.

N.B.—From advice just received, it appears that Colonel Dear, who is with his regiment in India, the 21st Fusileers cured himself of a very bad attack of fever by these celebrated Pills. There is no doubt that any fever, however malignant, may be cured by taking, night and morning, copious doses of this medicine. The patient should be induced to drink plentifully of warm linseed tea or barley water.

Cure of Dropsy in the Chest.

Extract of a Letter from J. S. Mundy, Esq., dated Kennington, near Oxford, December 2nd, 1848.

Sir,—My shepherd for some time was afflicted with water on the chest, when I heard of it I immediately advised him to try your pills, which he did, and was perfectly cured, and is now as well as ever he was in his life. As I myself received so astonishing a cure last year from your pills and Ointment, it has ever since been my most earnest endeavour to make known their excellent qualities.—(Signed)—S. Mundy.—To Professor Holloway.

Cure of a Debilitated Constitution.

Mr. Mate, a storekeeper, of Gundagai, New South Wales, had been for some time in a most delicate state of health, his constitution was so debilitated that his death was shortly looked upon by himself and friends as certain; but as a forlorn hope, he was induced to try Holloway's pills, which had an immediate and surprising effect upon his system, and the result was to restore him in a few weeks to perfect health and strength, to the surprise of all who knew him. He considered his case so extraordinary that he, in gratitude, sent it for publication, to the *Sydney Morning Herald*, in which paper it appeared on the 2nd January, 1848. A few doses of the pills will quickly rally the energies of both body and mind, when other medicines have failed.

The Earl of Aldborough cured of a Liver and Stomach Complaint.

Extract of a letter from his Lordship, dated Villa Messina Leghorn, 21st February, 1845.

Sir,—Various circumstances prevented the possibility of my thanking you before this time for your politeness in sending me your pills as you did. I now take this opportunity of sending you an order for the amount, and at the same time to add that your pills have effected a cure of a disorder in my liver and stomach, which all the most eminent of the faculty at home, and all over the continent, had not been able to effect; nay, not even the waters of Carlsbad and Marienbad. I wish to have another box and a pot of the Ointment, in case any of my family should ever require either.—Your most obedient servant (signed), Aldborough.—To Professor Holloway.

These celebrated pills are wonderfully efficacious in the following complaints:—

Ague	Female Irregularities	Scrofula, or King's Evil
Asthma	Fevers of all kinds	Stone and Gravel
Bilious Complaints	Gout	Secondary Symptoms
Blotches on the Skin	Head-ache	Tic-Douloureux
Bowel Complaints	Indigestion	Tumours
Colics	Inflammation	Ulcers
Constipation of the Bowels	Jaundice	Venereal Affections
Consumption	Liver Complaints	Worms of all kinds
Debility	Lumbago	Weakness, from whatever cause
Dropsy	Piles	&c., &c.
Dysentery	Rheumatism	
Erysipelas	Retention of Urine	
Fits	Sore Throats	

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

IMMENSE SUCCESS OF THE NEW REMEDY,

Which has never yet failed.—A cure effected or the money returned.

DR. WALTER DE ROOS, 1, Ely-place, Holborn-hill, London, from many years experience at the various Hospitals in London and on the continent, is enabled to treat, with the utmost certainty cure, every variety of disease arising from solitary habits, delusive, &c., &c., excesses, infection, such a gonorrhœa, gleet, stricture, syphilis, in all their varieties and stages, which, owing to neglect or improper treatment, invariably end in gravel, rheumatism, indigestion, sextual debility, skin diseases, pains in the kidneys, back and loins, deficiency of natural strength, and finally an agonising death. The lamentable neglect of these diseases by medical men in general is well known, and their attempts to cure by the use of those dangerous medicines — mercury, copaiba, cubebs, &c.—have produced the most distressing results. All sufferers are earnestly invited to apply at once to Dr. De Roos, who guarantees a speedy and perfect cure, and the eradication of every symptom, whether primary or secondary, without using the above dangerous medicines—thus preventing the possibility of any after symptoms. This truth has been established in many thousands of cases, and, as a further guarantee, he undertakes to cure the most inveterate case in A FEW DAYS, without hindrance from business, change of diet, &c., or return the money. It will ever be found that lasting benefit can only be obtained from the duly qualified practitioner, who, departing from the routine of general practice, devotes the whole of his duties to this neglected class of diseases.

Country patients will be minute in the detail of their cases, as that will render a personal visit unnecessary.—Advice with medicines, £1. Patients corresponded with till cured.

Females on all occasions attended to with the most honourable secrecy and delicacy.—At home for consultation daily, from 10 til 1, and 4 till 8, (Sundays excepted.) Post Office-orders payable at the Holborn Office, to Walter De Roos, M.D., 1, Ely-place, Holborn-hill, London.

READ DR. DE ROOS'S CELEBRATED WORK—THE MEDICAL ADVISER.—The 64th thousand of which is just published, containing 144 pages, illustrated with numerous beautifully coloured engravings, descriptive of the Anatomy and Physiology of the Generative Organs in both sexes, also Chapters on the Obligations and Philosophy of Marriage; Diseases of the Male and Female parts of Generation; the only safe mode of treatment and cure of all those secret diseases arising from youthful and infection excesses; with plain directions for the speedy removal of every disqualification, easily, safely, and secretly. May be obtained in a sealed envelope through all booksellers, or of the Author, price 2s., or free by post for thirty-two postage stamps.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

Extract from the *Medical Gazette* and *Times*:—'Fortunately for our country, a remedy for these deplorable complaints is at last found, and we hail the time as not far distant, when such diseases shall be comparatively unheard of; we hope all persons so afflicted will lose no time in availing themselves of Dr. De Roos's skill.'

'This work is indeed a boon to the public, as it has the two-fold advantage of plainness, and being written by a skilful and duly qualified man, who evidently well understands his subject.'—*Daily Times.*

'This is a work of superlative excellence, and one which we should recommend to the perusal of all, in fact it is quite essential to those who contemplate marriage.'—*Record.*

Address Walter De Roos, M.D., 1, Ely-place, Holborn-hill, London.

N.B.—All these deemed incurable are particularly invited.

Poetry.

THE KINGLIEST CROWN.

Ho! ye who in a noble work
Win scorn, as flames draw air,—
Who, in the way where lions lurk,
God's image bravely bear,
Though trouble-tried and torture-torn—
The kingliest crown's a crown of thorn!

Life's glory, like the bow in heaven,
Still springeth from the cloud;
And soul ne'er soared the starry seven,
But pain's fire-chariot rode:
They've battled best who've boldliest borne:
The kingliest crown's a crown of thorn!

As beauty in Death's cerement sleeps,
And stars bejewel darkness,
God's splendour lies in dim heart-deeps;
And strength in suffering's starkness:
The murkiest hour is mother of morn:
The kingliest crown's a crown of thorn!

GERALD MASSEY.

A LAY FOR LORD GREY.

An antiquated proverb,
We all have heard declare,
Our dinners sent from Heaven,
Our cooks from—all know where.
Thus reasoning,—our country
May very truly say,
One power sends her colonies,
Another sends her—Grey!
As on fair England's conquests,
(A fact some folks forget,)
So on her suffering children,
The sun can never set;
And should the cause be questioned,
When comes the settling day,
"Humanity" will surely
"Arise, and thunder—*Grey!*"
The "liberal" politician,
Who talks of Russia's wiles,
Yet sends the butcher, Ward, to blast
The fair Ionian isles;
Who loves Italian liberty,
With O'Ferrall in his pay,
And teaches, too, Australia
To curse the name of Grey.
Who winks at Dyak massacres,
And Torrington's misrule;
Now blusters like a knave, and
Now blunders like a fool;
Who talks about good government,
While Elliotts have their sway,
And answers calls for justice
By sending out a Grey!
No wonder, then, in Canada,
That loyal men should grieve;
No wonder that the Cape declined
The convicts to receive;
No wonder in Australia
We find the de'il to pay,
For we know who gave us colonies—
We guess who gave us Grey!

—*Pasquin.*

Reviews.

THE DEMOCRATIC REVIEW OF BRITISH AND FOREIGN POLITICS, HISTORY AND LITERATURE. Edited by G. JULIAN HARNEY. No. X. March. London: J. Watson, 3, Queen's-head Passage, Paternoster-row.

HAVING described, and exposed the injustice and evil effects of the taxes on paper and advertisements in the February No. of the *Review*, the Editor this month takes up the most important of the Taxes on Knowledge—the Penny Stamp on Newspapers; and traces the history of that tax from the time of its first imposition in the reign of Queen Anne, down to the passing of the law of 1836, by which the exaction was reduced from fourpence to one penny. The next article exposes the wholesale robbery perpetrated by our irresponsible rulers, under cover of what is called "Indirect Taxation." "The Ten Hours Question" is the title of an article which is sure to excite great interest, and, possibly, some discussion. We venture to predict that, while it will not greatly please those who are purely and simply Ten Hours Bill men, it will meet with more than the approval of those who are "Ten Hours Bill men, *and something more.*" It is an article which all classes may read with advantage, although, most likely, it will call down on its author's head the hot indignation of those who live by speculating in the labour, and making profit of the blood and sinews of the wealth-producers. "A Glance at History," part 2, is chiefly occupied with an examination of Cicero's version of Catiline's *conspiracy*. The author of the "Glance" eloquently and justly lays bare the vices of Cicero's character; at the same time denouncing the corruption and mendacity which have distinguished by far the great majority of public orators, political writers, and historians in all countries, at all times. "Fourier's Theory" presents an outline of the principles and new social arrangements so laboriously developed by the founder of the Phalansterians. "Anniversary of the French Revolution," is followed by an article exposing the atrocities committed by "The Bloodthirsty Order-mongers." The "Past and the Present" is a capital specimen of American poetry. The Letters from France and Germany, and "Political Postcript," conclude the contents of this number.

We extract the following from the article headed

LEGAL PLUNDER.
Otherwise, and according to Act of Parliament, termed
"INDIRECT TAXATION."

The total amount of the taxes is above fifty-seven millions annually. When to this amount we add local rates, tithes, dues, and other payments for the support of the church, the law establishments, &c., the total of taxation in all shapes, and under all names, cannot fall short of *one hundred millions!* Yet from the time of Lord North to the present, servile writers, and venal apologists of public abuses, have affected to wonder at, and condemn, what they have been pleased to term "an ignorant impatience of taxation." Ignorant impatience, indeed! The ignorance has been allied to the too great patience usually manifested by the people under the weight of their grievous burdens. Their impatience is the best proof of their *growing* intelligence. Were the taxes levied directly instead of indirectly, the impatience of the tax-ridden people would soon induce a kind of popular action anything but agreeable to, or safe for, the tax-eaters.

Not for one year would the plundered people of this country submit to the rule of their plunderers if the fifty-seven millions were exacted by any other means than indirect taxation. From the day when Wat Tyler (that glorious hero of the proletarians) knocked out the tax-gatherer's brains, to the time when Lord John Russell threatened the middle classes with an addition to the income-tax, the rulers of the land have found it a dangerous experiment to dip their hands openly and undisguisedly into the pockets of the people. Hence the cunning and fraudulent invention and perpetuation of the system of indirect taxation.

Imagine a working man and his wife making their Saturday night's marketing—imagine the woman laying down *three halfpence* for a *quarter of a pound* of (the cheapest) tea, and the man laying down *three farthings* for *a quarter of a pound* of tobacco—imagine, further, that on re-crossing the threshhold of the tea-dealer's and tobacconist's they encountered a fellow with red gills and an aldermanic paunch, with a pen behind his ear and a book in his fist, calling on them in the name of "our sovereign lady the Queen" to "stand and deliver,"—the woman *sixpence halfpenny* on her three-halfpenny-worth of tea, and the man *ninepence-halfpenny* (or threabouts) on his three-farthings' worth of tobacco! "What for?" would be the very natural demand. And when the tax-gatherer rejoined, "For the maintenance of our glorious institutions;" the equally natural response would be, "To the devil with the glorious institutions, and you, and all who live by them!" A hundred to one that these words would be accompanied by the significant performance of rolling the tax-collector in the gutter. An attempt to collect taxes after any such fashion would infallibly raise up a Wat Tyler in every town; a Jack Cade in every village; and, very probably, a Washington to lead the whole, and work a wondrous change in our "glorious institutions."

A word to the wise. When once the people see through the villany of indirect taxation, the days of our "glorious institutions" will be numbered. When once the masses understand that they pay a tax on their tea equal to four times its value; a tax on their tobacco equal to twelve times its value; and taxes more or less iniquitous on nearly all other articles; when, too, their eyes are opened to the monstrous fact that the rich pay no more on first-rate articles of consumption than the poor pay on the commonest articles, and that in many taxes the rich are even still more unjustly favoured; when, too, the proletarians begin to reflect on the still more important fact, that in reality the wealth-producer pays the rich man's taxes as well as his own, inasmuch as rents and profits are directly or indirectly furnished from the wealth produced by the toilers; when a cheap and honest press shall have fully enlightened the millions as to these matters, it will be time for those who fatten on the public spoil to set their houses in order, and retire decently while they may yet do so with impunity as regards past crimes. *John Bull* is a patient animal, and notwithstanding all that has been said of his "ignorant impatience of taxation," has hitherto done nothing more terrible than *grumble*. But he may not—he will not—always content himself with so harmless a protest against misgovernment and robbery. Byron has written—

> I've seen some nations, like o'erloaded asses,
> Kick off their burthens—meaning the high classes.

It is true that hitherto those classes have contrived to regain their burdensome position, but there will yet, and ere long, too, be another kicking off. In that day will the "high classes" of this country who have so long rode rough-shod over the people, be able to maintain themselves in the saddle? Not if the people have the sense to comprehend their wrongs, and the courage to assert their rights. To prepare them for both, the friends of progress will do well to lend their efforts to the promotion of an *enlightened* "impatience of taxation," and the creation of a national demand for a radical reform of the government through the enactment of *the Charter—and something more!*

We should add that the Letters from France and Germany contain important revelations of the designs of the Holy Alliance, and their tool, President Buonaparte. These letters form, perhaps, the most valuable feature of the DEMOCRATIC REVIEW. Every man should read them—at least, every man who desires to be informed of the truth with regard to the peoples and the tyrants of the Continent. The Letters in the present number show that great events are at hand.

Reynolds's Political Instructor. Edited by G. W. M. REYNOLDS. Part IV. London: J. Dicks, 7, Wellington-street North, Strand.

THIS part contains portraits of Mr. W. P. Roberts, the "Miners' Attorney-General"—G. Julian Harney—Mr. Williams, *ex*-M.P., and Armand Barbes. In addition to the usual articles on the "Aristocracy," "Slavery," "English History," the "Letters of Gracchus," &c., we notice some ably-written contributions from the pen of Mr. W. J. Vernon, on "Prison Discipline;" in which the author reveals his experience of the miseries under the operation of which Ernest Jones and Fussell are still suffering, and to which Williams and Sharp fell martyrs. We extract the following from the

MEMOIR OF BARBES.

Armand Barbes was born at Guadaloupe in the year 1809: his father was a medical practitioner in that island. The person of Barbes is remarkable for its natural beauty and gracefulness: his stature is tall and formed with singular elegance and perfection; his features are pure and regular, combining an expression of great mildness and generosity with one of determined energy; his gait and attitudes are alike noble and prepossessing. The education of Barbes was perfected at the college of Sorreze, and upon his arrival in Paris; during the year 1833, for the purpose of pursuing the study of the law, he went and presented himself to Etienne Arago, then a perfect stranger to him, with the exception of having been formerly a student at the college of Sorreze. He thus addressed M. Arago, —Sir, I have not the honour of being personally known to you: my name is Barbes; I have finished my studies at the same college as yourself; I am rich, and am now come to offer you my fortune in service of the republican cause, as likewise my arm and my life!" All the world is acquainted in what a noble manner Barbes has kept his word.

In 1835, Barbes, being himself free, assisted with all the natural ardour of his character to favour the escape of his friends imprisoned by the Court of Peers in St. Pelagie. Condemned in 1836 for the clandestine manufacture of gunpowder, he was restored to liberty the following year by the general amnesty granted upon the Duke of Orleans' marriage. In 1839, on the evening of the 13th of May, he was arrested, wounded and bleeding, and handed over to the tender mercies of the Chamber of Peers, charged with having killed a lieutenant whilst in the execution of his duty, suppressing the insurrection promoted by Barbes.

When upon his trial he boldly assumed the whole responsibility of the movement, nobly exerting himself to save his associates. "It is I," he exclaimed, "who placed arms in their hands; a species of moral violence calculated to induce them to follow me and take a share in the fight. I, therefore, am the only guilty one, and upon me alone should your revengeful hatred justly fall." When President Pasquier, the Judge Jeffries of Louis Philippe, asked Barbes what he could say in his defence, "Nothing,') replied he. "When the Indian, a native of the country in which I was born, falls into his adversary's power, he disdains to defend himself, but simply offers his head to the scalping-knife of his enemy: I imitate the Indian's example, and offer you my head."—"You are right," brutally replied the president, "in comparing yourself to a savage." — "The greater savage," answered Barbes, "is not the one who presents his head to the knife, but he who cuts it off." Barbes was condemned to death; notwithstanding it was proven that by the nature and situation of the wounds on Lieutenant Drouineau's body, that from the position of the accused it was utterly impossible his hand could have been the cause of death to that officer. "If," replied Barbes, to a remark of the president's, "I had wished to fight with Drouineau, I would have done so loyally, and as becomes a man of honourable sentiments, in offering him a fair field and an equal combat."

The government, fearful of carrying the sentence into effect, and alarmed by the energetic demonstrations made by the circles, and by the workmen of Paris, commuted the judgment, after two days' deliberation, into one of transportation, with hard labour, for life. The glorious Revolution of February kicked Louis Philippe from his throne, and drove the servile, sycophantic, miserable old peers from their den of tyranny at the Luxembourg, into a merited insignificance, from which not one of them should ever after have been permitted to escape. Barbes was restored to liberty, and upon his arrival in Paris, was named Governor of that very Luxembourg Palace, within the walls of which he had a short time previously been sentenced to death; but he refused the offered post. The twelfth legion of the National Guard afterwards named him its colonel, and he was likewise selected to sit in the Constituent Assembly as a representative for his own department. On the 15th of May, eighty days after obtaining his liberation, Barbes, who had used his utmost efforts to oppose that popular manifestation which had invaded the palace occupied by a National Assembly, and witnessing the cowardly abdication of their places by the royalists when the order for dissolving the Assembly was pronounced by Huber. Barbes, believing in the extinction of all authorised power, devoting himself to save the Republic from royalist machinations, and other insidious proceedings of its enemies, repaired to the Hotel de Ville for that generous purpose. There also he was destined as in 1839, to become a sacrifice to his disinterested patriotism, and the Supreme Court of Bourges, a tribunal which sentenced him to transportation for life, could not forbear commenting upon the nobleness and grandeur of his character. Barbes is now a prisoner in the dungeons of Doullens, waiting for the deliverance of his country from the oppressive yoke of those ambitious men that are daily, hourly, and momentarily, trampling upon the liberties of France.

Armand Barbes is the possessor of a very handsome forture, and likewise of a country seat in the department represented by him in the Constituent Assembly. It is almost needless to state that in the neighbourhood of his residence he was beloved by the humble for the nobleness of his sentiments and the generosity of his soul, whilst by the rich he was detested as an enemy and as a traitor to their order. Sympathy with the poor is in France the same as in England, incompatible with the favour of the wealthy. The best years of Barbes' life have been passed in political dungeons; the beauty of his person has faded within the walls of prisons. When tyranny was overthrown and a Republic proclaimed in France, brighter days seemed in store for the former victim of royal oppression; but, alas! the poison of monarchy had not been entirely eradicated from his country, and he again became a martyr when struggling in the cause of freedom.

From an eloquently written letter by the Editor, we give the following extracts:—

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE.

Surely the true character of the Whig government must now be known to the nation? Did ever a statesman condescend to more paltry, beggarly, despicable subterfuges than those which are greedily caught up and adopted by Lord John Russell? I will suppose that a deputation of working men visits him at the Treasury, to represent the condition of the industrious population and point out the necessity for reform. According to the present tactics of the government, the following would be the sum and total of the Prime Minister's reply:—"I cannot listen to you as a mere quiet and peaceable deputation. Such a low murmuring cannot possibly produce any effect upon my official ears. The comparative silence of the nation is a Proof of satisfaction with regard to existing institutions. If you really wish me to believe that there is a desire in the national breast for reform, you must agitate until the present murmuring shall have swollen into a deafening clamour."—"Very good, my lord," answers the deputation: "we will go away and commence our agitation at once."—"Yes, but take care what you are about," instantaneously exclaims Lord John Russell: "for if you do go and agitate with energy, I shall set the Attorney General at you."—"Then how are we to get reform, my lord?" demands the deputation, quite aghast at this most unexpected announcement: "you will not believe that we need reform, because we are too quiet; and you threaten to punish us if we become noisy." But instead of vouchsafing any rejoinder, Lord John shrugs his shoulders, rings the bell, and bows out the deputation. Such are Whig tactics.

But in spite of that shuffling system beneath which so much treachery lurks,—in spite of that double-faced dealing which says, "Agitate to show your sincerity," and then immolates the agitators,—in spite of the marvellous tenacity with which an arrogant Aristocracy, a bloated Church, a dishonest Legislature, and a tyrannical Ministry, cling to old-established feudalisms and long-standing abuses, —in spite of all this, the people *shall* and *will*, and *must* continue to agitate for the Charter! They will agitate, because they have undertaken a struggle of truth and justice against falsehood and despotism,—and they have become not only interested as mere workers and tailors, but their honour is compromised as patriots, in establishing the triumph of the former upon the ruins of the latter!

My Chartist friends, ye must now address yourselves with a renewed energy and a more fervid enthusiasm to the great moral struggle which is at hand. Europe stands upon the verge of a crisis: its condition will shortly be such, that the English Minister, alarmed by the something more than "low murmurings" from across the sea, will not dare refuse timely cencessions to your demands. For on the notions of the Continent such a storm is about to burst as the world never saw before,—a storm that will sweep away the relics of feudalism and the elements of serfdom, like chaff upon the wing of the hurricane. And, oh! will it not be a glorious—a blessed—and a thrilling spectacle, to behold the People triumphant at last, and their accursed tyrants all stripped of their gaud and grandeur, and writhing in the chains which thenceforth must be their doom? God grant that when the nations shall rise again, the true Social and Democratic Republic may be proclaimed from the Seine to the Danube—from the Baltic to the Mediterranean;—and then—and *then* only—will there be hope for the Proletarians of the European Continent!

From one of the letters of Gracchus, devoted to a consideration of Mr. Baron Parke's decision as to the intended meaning of the Ten Hours Bill, we give the following extract:—

THE FACTORY QUESTION.

Men of all parties should unite on this question. We have seen before, and shall see again, Chartists, Socialists, Dissenters, and Church of England Clergymen fighting the battle of humanity against Mammon. Richard Oastler, the venerable and vigorous advocate of what Sir Charles Wood once called "an extravagant humanity," is still able to lead the people, and by perseverance and the aid of good men he will lead and conquer. There must be no delay in this movement, no waiting until we have a return of dull trade, and the factory masters, closing their factory doors, turn round to the operatives and say ironically, "Now you have time short enough," while they, the factory owners, will be prepared on the first return of activity,—or, as Mr. Maudley, of Manchester, calls it, "the ascension of the wheel,"—to use them up with fifteen hours' out of the twenty-four. There must be no mistake about the next movement: it is for ten hours' work per day for all hands — the moving power to begin and cease at the hour named in the act of parliament.

It will be observed that we have ventured freely to express our opinions on the decisions of the judges, as pronounced by Mr. Baron Parke. We have done so in no haughty or overbearing spirit; and if our boldness meet with criticism we express a hope that our reasonings shall be met with argument. Lord Bacon, in his admirable Essay on Judicature, says, wisely, "Cursed (saith the law) is he that removeth the land-mark." The mislayer of a mere stone is to blame; but it is the unjust judge that is the capital remover of land-marks, when he defineth amiss land and property. One foul sentence does more hurt than many foul ex amples, for these do but corrupt the stream, the other corrupteth the fountain. So saith Solomon: "*Fous turbatus, et vena corrupta est justus cadens in causa, sua coram adversario*"—The just man failing in his cause before his adversary, is like a troubled fountain and a corrupted vein. We do not for a moment hint that Baron Parke and his colleagues are corrupt; but we unquestionably think that when they consulted they forgot that "the safety of the people is the highest law;" and to know that law, except they be in order to that end, are but things captious and oracles not well inspired.

The decision of the judges on the factory question, will at this time do more to raise a spirit of turbulence and discontent in the minds of tens of thousands of her Majesty's subjects than could possibly have been brought about by any other means.

We have before witnessed, and may again witness, the Attorney-General pleading in person at Lancaster, York, and Liverpool against riotous proceedings in the factory districts, and talking about the security of property, the danger of communism, and the fears to be entertained from the fiery speeches of Chartist orators and political demagogues; pious Wesleyans, and timid shopkeepers will convict, of course, and say those proceedings must be put down; and, perhaps, Baron Parke himself may interpret the law and sentence offending criminals in all the dignity of office. Poor Attorney-General, do not blame the criminals alone, blame also the tendency of those laws that make men criminals. Cast your mind's eye back to the judgment on which we have so freely commented, and you will remember one of the chief causes of the riots you wish to quell, of the communism of which you speak, but do not understand, of the mad schemes of physical force revolt you so freely denounce but fail to prevent.

There is but one course open, one path to be followed: another appeal to parliament for a veritable "Ten Hours Bill," about which there can be no mistake. Such a bill will do more to put down discontent, than any other step that could be adopted. And if such a bill be not passed, and the principle on which such a measure is based, more generally adopted, those who now talk and write so much about the rights of capital, will, one day, have to listen not to the rights of labour, but to the cry of vengeance, and, as we have seen elsewhere, tremble with fear, and listen to the fatal words. "too late!" Never were words more profoundly true than those of Canning, with which we, for the present, close our remarks: "For those who have checked improvement, because it is innovation, will, one day or other, be compelled to accept innovation when it has ceased to be improvement."

THE LORDS AND COMMONS. WHAT DO THEY DO?

[Suggested by Samuel Lover's popular 'What would you do?']

What do they do, when wants distressing,
And wrongs oppressing,
Have rent the land?
What do they do, when ills betide us,
And feuds divide us,
On every hand?
Though clouds be low'ring,
Stern want devouring,
And wrongs o'erpowering,
The country through,
Still they waste their time, all conscience stifling,
In petty trifling;—
That's what they do.

What do they do, when hearts high burning,
With bright hopes yearning,
Would overthrow
Some ancient stronghold of wrong and sorrow,
To glad the morrow
With freemen's glow?
Though scorn and blame
Attach their name,
The blackest shame
They'll struggle through,
To crush and blight each new bud unclosing,
All good opposing;—
That's what they do.

What will they do, when men, disgusted
At having trusted
Their native land
To guides so blind—can their feeble dotings,
And senseless votings,
No longer stand?
Their foul reign ending,
They'll fall descending,
No voice defending
The abject crew.
And in hist'ry's meanest and darkest places
They'll hide their faces;—
That's what they'll do.

CONVICTS IN AUSTRALIA.—It is in contemplation to form a separate convict establishment in Western Australia, under the superintendence of Commander Henderson, R.N.

HONESTY.—Though an honest discharge of one's duty may, for the time, offend those it opposes; yet it will, at last, be justified and admired even by the very men who suffer from it.—*Pliny's Epistles.*

THE CONDITION OF ENGLAND QUESTION.

(Condensed from the *Morning Chronicle.*)

WRETCHED CONDITION OF THE MAKERS OF CLOTHES FOR THE ARMY, NAVY, POLICE, CONVICTS &c.

From the slop-workers of the eastern parts of London I now come to consider the condition of the male and female operatives employed in making the clothes of the army, navy, police, railway, customs, and post-office servants, convicts, and such other articles of wearing apparel as are made either by contract or in large quantities. Small as are the earnings of those who depend for their living upon the manufacture of the ready-made clothes for the wholesale warehouses of the Minories and the adjoining places, still the incomings of those who manufacture the clothes of our soldiers and sailors, Government, railway-police, and custom-house officers, are even less calculated to support life, briefly as possible the manner in which the clothing for the army is regulated. I deal with the army in particular, because it may be taken as a fair type of all the other classes of Government or contract work that appear to be considerably underpaid. For this purpose, I cannot do better than avail myself of the Government Report from the Select Committee on Army and Navy Appointments:—

"In the army estimates of this year (1833,)" said the Select Committee in their examination of one of the Government officers, "the sum required for clothing, exclusive of the amount required for clothing in the East Indies, is £255,010.

"In what manner is that divided or assigned to the different colonels of regiments! begin first with the Life Guards and Horse Guards: state the rates generally assigned to each?—The clothing allowances" (the answer was) "are fixed annual rates, by king's warrants of the 22nd and 30th of July, 1830, for infantry and cavalry. For the Life Guards they were fixed in 1800 at the present rate; for the Blues they were fixed in September, 1830, at the present rate; and for the Foot Guards the exact off-reckoning is taken. I believe I have already stated that the act of 1783 did not apply to the Foot Guards, and their pay used to be voted in gross, down to the estimate of 1831. At that time, by an office arrangement, sanctioned by the Secretary at war, we took the off-reckoning, the part of the pay off-reckoned for clothing, and put it down as the charge for clothing the regiment, taking the exact sum off-reckoned as the allowance for each rank. In the Cavalry: for the serjeant, £5 19s.; corporal, £6 10s. 3d.; private, £4 0s. 3d.; drummer, or trumpeter, £6 10s. 3d.; non-effective man, £6 10s. 3d.: warrant and contingent man, £4 0s. 3d. In the Infantry: serjeant, £7 9s. 2d.; corporal, £4 19s. 6d.; private, £2 6s.; drummer or trumpeter, £4 19s. 6d. Life Guards; serjeant, £9 17. 8½d.; corporal, £9 17s. 8½d.; private. £9 17s. 8½d.; drummer or trumpeter, £9 17s. 8½d. Horse Guards: serjeant, £5 19s.! corporal, £5 19s.; private, £5 19s.; drummer or trumpeter, £5 19s, Foot Guards: serjeant, £7 9s. 0¼d.; corporal, £4 1s. 11 13-14d.; private, £3 17s. 0 19-18d.; drummer or trumpeter £4 1s. 11 13-14.; warrant and contingent man, £3 17s. 0 19-84d.

"State in what manner the different sums voted by parliament for the clothing of the respective regiments are assigned to the colonels.—The colonel is required to make an assignment of the whole clothing allowance to some person, either his agent, or it may be a person empowered by that agent, or to the clothier himself, as a security to the clothier. After the estimates are voted by parliament, the Board of General Officers are apprised by the Secretary at War of the number on the establishment of the regiments of Cavalry, Infantry, and Foot Guards, for which the colonel has the right to assign. The Life Guards and Horse Guards are not so notified. The notification authorises the Clothing Board to pass the assignment. The assignment is presented to the Secretary at War afterwards, and a warrant is granted by him twice a year, in April and July, for one-half the clothing allowance each time."

Sir R. Donkin, in his examination, made the following observations:—"We have 105 battalions of infantry; the clothing of these costs £255,000 a-year by the army estimates, of which £63,000 a-year go to the colonels as their emoluments; that is to say, the public pay these 105 colonels £63,000 a-year more than the clothing costs, for purposes which are perfectly understood and admitted; that is, to increase the colonel's income; it amounts to £600 a-year each. that is the £63,000 gives £600 a-year for each of the 105 colonels; I am taking the greatest amount."

It appears, then, that the army clothing in the year above alluded to cost, for 105 battalions of infantry, £255,000. The supply of this was intrusted to 105 colonels, and they paid £192,000 for the goods, taking to themselves £63,000 profit out of the transaction. The evidence of Mr. Pearce, one of the army clothiers, before the same committee, was as follows:—"In what manner are your contracts made with the colonels of the regiments you clothe?—In point of fact we make no contract with them, it being well known that amongst the variety of clothiers there prevails a competition amongst them to provide clothing as cheap as it is possible to be effectually done; this competition brings the prices to a point at which all the respectable clothiers from time to time make their charges to the colonels. I request to observe, that if the competition was not so very severe, and no competition prevailed, a higher price would be assuredly charged than at present, as, in point of fact, the price which the clothiers charge is not adequate as compared to the profits of other branches of business, but there is no risk or adventure in it; therefore I am the more satisfied that the profit may not exceed the ordinary interest of money, 5 per cent., or from 5 to 8 per cent. for commercial profit; it is to be observed, that this is a transaction which returns capital only in about sixteen months, as shown by statements delivered."

Of the evils of this competitive system, the following extract from the same gentleman's evidence may be taken as an apt illustration. Its influence upon the workpeople will be afterwards exposed:—"When the contract was opened, Mr. Maberly took it at the same price in December, 1808; this statement shows the effect of wild competition. In February following, Esdailes' house, who were accoutrement makers, and not clothiers, got knowledge of what was Mr. Maberly's price, and they tendered at 12s. 6½d. a month afterwards; it was evidently then a struggle for the price, and how the quality the least good (if we may use such a term) could pass. Mr. Maberly did not like to be outbidden by Esdailes; Esdailes stopped subsequently, and Mr. Maberly bid 12s. 6d. three months after, and Mr. Dixon bid again, and got the contract for 11s. 3d. in October, and in December of that year another public tender took place, and Messrs. A. and D. Cock took it at 11s. 5½d., and they subsequently broke. It went on in this sort of way of changing hands every two or every three months, by bidding against each other. Presently, though it was calculated that the great coat was to wear four years, it was found that those great coats were so inferior in quality, that they wore only two years, and representations were accordingly made to the Commander-in-Chief, when it was found necessary that great care should be taken to go back to the original good quality that had been established by the Duke of York, by which the colonels of regiments were governed, and which, when supplied by the colonels' clothiers, was very strictly attended to."

I wish the reader to understand that the following are the ordinary cases of the trade; they have, most assuredly, *not* been selected for the purpose.

The first person whom I visited was a male hand, and on entering his house I certainly found more comforts about it than I had been led to expect. He lived in a back room built over a yard. It was nicely carpetted, and on one side, to my astonishment, stood a grand piano. There were several pictures hanging against the walls, and a glass full of dahlias on the mantelpiece. I could tell, however, by the "wells" beneath the two large sofas that they were occasionally used as bedsteads, and the easy-chair in which I was requested to take a seat was of so extravagant a size that it was evident it was occasionally put to the same purpose. I had been given to understand that the man was in the habit of taking lodgers, and this in a measure accounted for the double duty assigned to the different articles of furniture in the room.

"I make the soldiers' trowsers, the Foot Guards principally," said the man in answer to my questions, "gets 6d. a pair, and have to find thread. The thread costs, I should say myself, at the rate I buy it, about ½d. for a pair of trowsers. Many have to pay more, because if they can't get a quarter of a pound they have to give a greater price for a single ounce. At that rate it will take a full pennyworth to make a pair. This is the usual way in which the workpeople buy their thread, because they cannot afford to get a larger quantity at a time. The trowsers, therefore, average about 5d. each. Of course a fire must be kept for pressing the trowsers, and the expense of this has again to be deducted from the price paid. I can make a pair in five hours, but there isn't one in a hundred can do this, and it will take a middling worker eight hours to finish one pair. But then I put the seams out, and if I did them at home it would take me six hours to do all myself. Without the seams I can do three pair a day. In summer I can do four, working very hard, and not being taken off for anything. I cannot get work always. Now I'm sitting still, have had nothing to do this five weeks of any consequence. At the best of times, when work is very brisk, and in the summer time too, I never earn more than 8s. a week. This is the money I have for my work, and from this there is to be deducted thread for the sixteen pair, and cotton for the felling of the same, and this comes to about 16d. and the cost of fire may, with the wood and all together, be taken at 8s. Over and above all this, I have to pay 1d. per pair for the stitching of the seams, and 9d. a week for a woman to fetch and take my work to and from the warehouse. So that altogether there is 4s. 5d. to be deducted from the 8s., and so leaving only 3s. 9d. as my earnings per week at the very best of times. For weeks and weeks I don't get anything. The work isn't to be had. The year before last I was standing full twenty weeks—couldn't get work at all at no warehouse. Last year I had full eight weeks and nothing to do all the time; and this year I have been unemployed a full month at least. During the last week I have only had fifteen pair to make. It is now sealing time—this is the period when the different estimates are given in—and we are always slack then. I never keep any account of my earnings. All I know is, when the money comes in it's as much as I can do to pay my way. Taking one week with another, I'm sure I do not average, throughout the year, more than 5s. a week at the very outside; and out of this there is a full half to be paid for expenses. There's the thread and the firing and the candles all to be paid for. (The seams I do not put out when I'm slack.) All this would come to a good half-crown, so that my clear earnings, taking one week with another, throughout the year, are 2s. 6d. per week.

"If you were to ask me what I *could* make, quick as I am, and putting my seams out—if I was full employed—I should say 12s. a week, including Sundays; and I am obliged to work more of Sundays than any other day. I scarce ever have a Sunday to myself, for Saturday is giving-out day, and they want them in on Monday morning. Monday's taking-in day, (indeed, every other day is a giving-out day,) and the day following a taking-in one. If we didn't take them in on Monday morning as directed, there would be no work for us. If I was not to work on Sundays, I could get 10s. full work. But from this I should have to pay a penny per pair for the seams, and this would cost 2s. for the twenty-four I must make in the week to earn 12s.; and 1s. 8d. for the twenty pair I must make to get 10s.; and the thread and cotton would be another penny per pair—that is, as much as the seams. Then there's the coals, and wood, and candles: these would come to 16d. or 18d. at least. This altogether would amount to 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d. to be deducted from the 12s. per week, and 4s. 6d. or 4s. 8d. from the 10s. a week. So that if I was full of work, and kept at it from six in the morning till ten at night, and carried on all Sunday as well, I couldn't possibly earn more than 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. per week clear—leaving out Sundays, I might get 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. per week. This is the most that can be made in the trade. If you were to ask many workmen, they would say it is impossible to get as much done; but I'm one of the quickest hands at the business. The ordinary hands cannot make more than one pair of trowsers in one day, which, deducting expenses, would leave 5d., to say nothing of candles, for fourteen hours' labour. But even at this rate they could not earn, with their seven days, 2s. 11d., for they would lose at least in fetching the work and taking it home, which would bring their earnings to 2s. 7d. or 2s. 6d. a week, at the very outside. But this only at the briskest time; and we are generally upon an average about two months unemployed. One year we were twenty weeks without work. White trowsers we don't have so much for—only 5d. a pair for them—and they take quite as much thread; and without you've a good fire you cannot work at them at all in the winter, they're so cold in the hand. If the prices were to be raised, the poor would have no work at all, for then the tailors would make them. I never had more than 6d. for the Foot Guards. For the Artillery, the gunners, I have had as much as 8d—some are 7d.; but I would sooner make the Foot Guards at 6d. than the Artillery at higher prices, because there is so much more work in them. At those at 6d. there has been a double cord put in within the last few years, and that has made it a great deal more trouble. You have to take two stitches where you used only to take only one; but the price never was raised. Never knew the price to be raised since I worked at it, and that's seven years ago. I get them from a person who gets them from the warehouse. These intermediate persons are called piece-masters, and they get a penny profit upon each garment, whether it be trowsers, coats, or great coats, and the prices I have stated are those the piece-master pays to me. They won't give them to such little hands as me. They give out a great quantity at a time, and must have them all in at a particular day—very often the next taking-in day. I fancy at one time they used to keep a stock by them; but of late years there have been so many alterations that they're afraid to do it. The piece-masters have to give security—£50 I think it is—very often; and the single hands, before they can be taken on, must be recommended to the piece-master. Notwithstanding this, a great many of the garments have been pledged. At one time the pawnbrokers used to take them in before they were made up, but now I don't think they will. The ones with the red stripes I'm certain they wont. I have got my security down at the warehouse, but it takes so much time taking and fetching, and waiting while examined, that I prefer to work for a piece-master rather than the warehouse-men. If they are not properly done, the foreman will cut the seam right up, and send them back, and there'll be no money till they're finished. The foremen, generally, have no feeling about the poor—that's true. I'm sure they have'nt. If the workpeople can treat them with what they like, and that's liquor, they'll pass the things quicker. The low prices I believe to arise from the very low prices the contracts are taken at. Well, sir, look here, the soldiers, I hear, give 8s. a pair for what we get 6d. for the making of. The cloth cannot cost them more than half-a-crown. If I was to get it I could have it for that; but they must get it considerably less from taking large quantities, which their money empowers them to do. The trimmings, including buttons and pockets, would cost about 6d., and the red stripes 3d. more, so that 6d. making, 9d. trimming and stripes, and cloth 2s. 6d., altogether 3s. 9d., and the other 4s. 3d. is profit. The piece-master, out of this, gets 2d. a pair; this is their gains for taking them in and running the risk of the people stealing the materials. The remaining 4s. 1d. is the profit of the warehouseman and the other parties connected with the trade. To get 4s. a week clear by my business the women must slave both night and day; but really the prices are so bad they won't even pay to have a candle to work by, so that to work at night is only to lose one's time and money."

If, as you say, your clear earnings throughout the year, taking one week with another, are only 2s. 6d. a week, how do you manage to support life upon that sum?—"I couldn't do it, but the fact is, I let a part of my place to young men at 2s. a week. I was a draper's assistant formerly; lived in the first situations in London, Bath, and other places; but, of course, their salaries are small, and one is obliged to dress well on it. Well, I got a situation in the country, so that I might save something, which I could not do in town. I remained in my country situation nearly two years, and saved close upon £50 in that time. This I allowed to remain in my masters' hands, thinking it would be safe, so that I might not spend it. He broke, and I lost my whole. There was not money enough to pay the law expenses, or of course I should have had my money first as a servant. Then I came back to London, I tried to get a situation, and found, as I was getting advanced in years, they preferred young men. Well, I couldn't starve, but I knew nothing that I could get a living at but as a draper's assistant, and that I could'nt get on account of my age. I can't tell you the distress of mind I was in of course, for I was very anxious lest in my old age I should be left to want. Where I was lodging then, a woman made soldiers' trowsers, and as my hands were lissome, and I had occasion to use the needle frequently in the drapery trade, to tack the tickets on cloth and such like, why I thought I might get a crust by them. It was only living that I tried for, unless I'd tailor. I couldn't have done this if it hadn't been from being accustomed to the needle. Well, I tried; and the man I did a few for was very pleased with 'em, and gave me some more. They was 3½d., a pair convicts' trowsers. I takes a cellar at 1s. 6d., buys a little bit of canvass, and some straw; sleeps on the floor, had a chair and table—that was all. Then the man I had done the trowsers for took me to the City, and got me some better work. Then the warehouse gave me as many as fifty pair of Artillery trowsers to make. Then I found I was living too far from my work; so I sells off my things for 4s. 6d., comes to Holborn; there were two rooms to let at 3s. 6d., and I thought I could take a lodger at 2s.; a relation of mine promised kindly to lend me the beds, which they did, and I've paid for 'em little by little since then. I've four lodgers at present, but two of these I get nothing from, as they're out of situations, and they owe me a goodish sum now; but may be I shall have it all, or a good part, when they gets into work again. I ain't had a clean shirt for this month. I really can't afford to pay for the washing. I've never been able to get any new clothes since I've been at the trade. Fourpence I gave for the very coat I've got on from a gentleman's servant, and the other things has beeen gave to me by asking, which is very painful."

(To be Continued.)

PHYSICAL VERSUS MORAL.—Whether the physical wants should be remedied through the moral, or the moral through the physical, has been a question which has occupied the attention of philosophers and philanthropists for centuries. Without attempting to decide the question, there can be no doubt that when the physical condition is impaired it demands the first attention. For instance, a person while suffering from an acute attack of gout would be unable to appreciate the sublimest lessons of philosophy, even though enunciated by the divine Plato. How much more welcome to the sufferer would be a box of Blair's Gout and Rheumatic Pills so efficacious in eradicating this distressing malady.

CAUTION TO THE PUBLIC.—Messrs. Morison and the Society of Hygeists and Medical Reformers hereby caution the public that they have no sort of connexion with the ointments, pills, and farinaceous powders sold in chemists' and druggists' shops.—British College of Health, New-road, London, 1st February, 1852.

Varieties.

A HINT FOR MR. BARRY.—We can tell Mr. Barry how to finish the Houses of Parliament "on the cheap." That portion which was first built is already said to be in a state of partial dilapidation; so that if Mr. Barry continue his present system of delay, he will be enabled to complete the end by means of the ruins of the beginning. After this, the Barry of the next generation will of course complete the beginning by means of the ruins of the end, and thus this amusing game may (at a trifling expense) be kept up for many ages.

LIBERTY.—To be a Man is at all times in all countries, a title to liberty; and he who doth not assert it deserves not the name of a Man.—*Major Cartwright.*

THE POSITION of the Caledonian Railway Company at this moment is without parallel, even in the eccentricities of the disastrous history of public enterprise and individual rashness and credulity. It is without dividend, without directors, without credit, and without much hope, unless, indeed, it can throw off a load of obligations enough to sink a fleet of homeward-bound Indiamen.—*Daily News.*

A NEW READING FOR AN OLD PURPOSE. — The editor of the *Westfield Letter*, an American paper, makes a strong appeal to his non-paying up customers, heading his letter to them with the motto:—

"Help us! Cash us! or we sink."

THE NEAT OLD LADY IN VIRGINIA.—This old lady who scrubbed through the floor and fell into the cellar, is but one among many of the very nice females with which our country abounds. We know a good lady in New Jersey, who whitewashed all the wood she burnt; and another in Connecticut, who used three times a day to scour the nose of her lap dog to keep him from soiling the dish out of which he ate his meals. The same good lady took her own food through a napkin ring to keep it from coming in contact with her lips. — *N. Y. Transylvanian.*

A SAD CHARACTER.—The following advertisement appears in the January number of the *New York Knickerbocker*; "For sale, a poll parrot, cheap. He says a remarkable variety of words and phrases, cries 'Fire! fire!' and 'You rascal!' and 'Polly want a cracker;' and would not be parted with; but having been brought up with a sea-captain, he is profane, and swears too much for the subscriber, being a pious man, and having children in the family, to whom his example is bad. On this account he will be sold a bargain."

INDISPOSED POOR.—Poor people, when taken ill, very seldom want anything but reviving cordials; and, afterwards, wholesome kitchen physic; and then the wheels of nature being unclogged, (new oiled, as it were) will go round again with ease and pleasantness, by aid of that exercise which their labour gives them.

THE AMERICAN MAN-OF-WAR CHAPEL. — Man-of-war's men in general make but poor auditors at divine service, and adopt every possible means to elude it. Often the boatswain's mates were obliged to drive the men to service, violently swearing upon these occasions, as upon every other—"Go to prayers, d——n you? To prayers, you rascals; to prayers."

THE *Devonport Telegraph* says:—"The labourers employed on the foundation of a house at Slaughterbridge, near Camelford, dug up a battle axe, a spear, and a spur, supposed to have lain there since the days of king Arthur. Tradition says that on that spot a sanguinary battle was fought between the troops of Arthur and those opposed to him, and that the nephew of Arthur was killed in the fight."

BOLD AS A LION.—"How do I look, Pompey?" said a young dandy to his servant, as he finished dressing. "Elegant, massa! you look as bold as a lion." "Bold as a lion, Pompey, how do you mean? You never saw a lion." "O, yes, massa; I seed one down to massa Jenks, in his stable." "Down to Jenks', Pompey? Why, you great fool, Jenks hasn't got a lion. That's a jackass!" "Can't help it, massa, you look just like him!" — *New York Post.*

A HINT TO EMERSON.—We wish the author of *Representative Men* would publish a series of *Representative Old Women*, beginning with the members of the present government.

SHAKSPEARE.—Those who deny that Shakspeare was a learned man, should prove that Plato was translated into English in the time of Queen Elizabeth, for the celebrated soliloquy, "To be or not to be" is taken almost verbatim from the Philosopher.—*Preface to "Langhorne's Plutarch."*

WIT AND Wisdom are different qualities, and are rarely seen together.

A COOL SOPHISM.—The Temperance Members of the Admiralty pretend that the crews of the New Arctic Expedition ought, above all others, to be deprived of the hitherto usual allowance of grog, as they are sure to have lots of "cold without."

A YOUNG Frenchwoman, coming over from Boulogne last week, and who appeared to be in a very interesting situation, was safely delivered, by two female searchers of the customs, of four gallons of brandy, which was stowed in sixteen bladders, and skilfully disposed in her peticoat, which was suspended to her shoulders by braces.

OUT OF SPIRITS.

"Is my wife out of spirits?" said John, with a sigh,
As her voice of a tempest gave warning;
"Quite out, sir, indeed," said her maid in reply,
"For she finished the bottle this morning."

RECENTLY, in the north, a hawk pounced upon a weasel, and was carrying off his prize in triumph when he was observed to spread out his wings, and both came gradually to the earth. The hawk was dead, but the weasel, after turning round once or twice, began deliberately to make a meal on the carcass of his enemy.

"THERE IS at present," says the *Limerick Chronicle*, "filling the office of alderman at Sidney, an ex-convict, who was transported from this city, twenty-six years ago, for the murder of a tailor. This elevated personage was sentenced to death, but was reprieved through Sergeant Hill, his counsel, who saved his life on a point of law."

THE LAST refuge of battered rakes, and the chief hope of younger brothers, lie in the good nature of widows; and, sometimes, of forward maids.

VOTING BY BALLOT.—The author of the law, by which votes in the Roman Senate were taken by ballot, was one Gabinius, a tribune of the people. *It gave a very considerable blow to the influence of the nobility*, as in this way of balloting it could not be discovered on which side the people gave their votes; and *took off that restraint they before lay under, by the fear of offending their superiors.—Melmoth's Pliny.*

TRUE SELF-INTEREST.—They who have been so wise in their generation, as to regard only their own supposed interest at the expense and to the injury of others, shall at last find, that he who has given up all the advantages of the present world, rather than violate his conscience and the relations of life, has infinitely better provided for himself, and secured his own interest and happiness.—*Bishop Butler.*

EXTRAORDINARY INSTANCE OF POLITENESS ON THE PART OF AN OMNIBUS CONDUCTOR.

The omnibus is in progress, when the following dialogue takes place.

Passenger. Stop at number two thousand three hundred and thirty-four.

Conductor. All right, sir!

(Omnibus pulls up in the middle of a dirty road)

Conductor. Here you are, sir. Two thousand three hundred and thirty-four!

Passenger. Drive a little closer to the pavement.

Conductor. Certainly, sir. *(To the driver, but in a voice loud enough to be heard by every one inside.)* You must pull up werry close to the kerb, Bill, as the gentleman cleans his own boots.

THE EDITOR of the *Louisville Journal*, retorting a charge of personal ugliness against a contemporary, says:—"We are credibly informed that, after the birth of Harvey, none but handsome babies were born for several years; all the ugly material in the universe was used up in his creation."

PUTTING THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE.—That very useful member, Mr. Ewart, has introduced a very useful bill for the purpose of establishing public libraries throughout England. If the measure should be adopted by the government (which, as it is a good one, will of course not be the case) it would be a capital idea to propose some system of national education; after giving the people books it would certainly be as well to teach them to read them.

"BE CAREFUL how you drink, or you'll wash the colour from your cheeks!" said a gentleman, at a fashionable party, as he handed a glass of water to a lady.—"There is no danger of your ever taking water enough to remove the colour from *your* face!" was the good natured retort.

AN ENORMOUS pike was lately caught near Kirriemuir, and in its stomach were discovered tattered pieces of the *Morning Post* and *Blackwood's Magizine.*

HOOD GIVES this graphic picture of an irritable man:—"He lies like a hedgehog rolling up the wrong way, tormenting himself with his prickles."

A GENTLEMAN hearing of the death of another, "I thought," said he to a person in company, "you told me that Tom Wilson's fever was gone off?" "Oh, yes," replied the other; "but I forgot to mention that he was gone off along with it."

MORAL POWER.—As the operations of the mind are in all cases much more noble than those of the body, so are the things that we compass by the faculties of our reason and understanding of much greater value than those things that we bring to pass by corporal force.—*Cicero.*

OLD INSTITUTIONS.—When the reason of old establishments is gone, it is absurd to preserve nothing but the burden of them. This is superstitiously to embalm a carcase not worth an ounce of the gums that are used to preserve it. It is to burn precious oil in the tomb; it is to offer meat and drink to the dead, not so much an honour to the deceased as a disgrace to the survivors.—*Burke.*

NATIONAL BENEFIT SOCIETY,

Enrolled, pursuant to statute 9th and 10th Victoria, c. 27.

THE ABOVE SOCIETY, as amended and legalised, was formerly known as the NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE BENEFIT SOCIETY; the managers of which have long seen the necessity of legal protection for the security of its members. In framing the new rules, care has been taken to equalise the expenditure with the receipts, so that the permanent success of the Society should be beyond all doubts.

The Society is divided into three sections, to meet the necessities and requirements of all classes of mechanics and labourers, from eighteen years of age to forty.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE SCALE OF FEES TO BE PAID AT ENTRANCE:—

Age.	1st section. s. d.	2nd section. s. d.	3rd section. s. d.
From 18 to 24	3 0	2 0	1 0
— 24—27	6 0	4 0	2 0
— 27—30	9 0	6 0	3 0
— 30—33	12 0	8 0	4 0
— 33—36	15 0	10 0	5 0
— 36—38	18 0	12 0	6 0
— 38—40	21 0	14 0	7 0

WEEKLY ALLOWANCE IN SICKNESS.

	s. d.
First Section	15 0
Second Section	10 0
Third Section	5 0

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A SOUTH LANCASHIRE DELEGATE MEETING will be held in Staleybridge, on SUNDAY MORNING, MARCH 10TH, precisely at ten o'clock in the forenoon, in the CHARTIST ASSOCIATION ROOM, back of the Masons' Arms, High-street, Hydes, Staleybridge. Ashton, Oldham, Stockport, Manchester, Bolton, Mottram, Hyde, Macclesfield, and all the surrounding localities, are expected to send delegates, as business of importance will be brought before the same.

N.B.—All communications to be addressed, Wm. Hill, Secretary, care of Mr. Lawton, grocer, Staleybridge.

NATIONAL BENEFIT SOCIETY,

(Enrolled pursuant to Act of Parliament.)

EDMUND STALLWOOD respectfully announces that he has resigned the Secretaryship of the above Society, and that all correspondence relative to its affairs must, in future, be addressed to Mr. JAMES GRASSBY, 96, Regent-street, Lambeth, London.

PROCEEDINGS IN PARLIAMENT.

A PUBLIC MEETING,

Convened by the PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE of the NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION, will be held at the LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTE, JOHN-STREET, TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD, on TUESDAY EVENING NEXT, MARCH 5TH, 1850, for the purpose of Reviewing the PROCEEDINGS IN PARLIAMENT during the past week.

Feargus O'Connor, Esq., M.P., G. W. M. Reynolds, Esq., G. Julian Harney, W. J. Vernon, Ambrose Tomlinson (recently liberated from his dungeon at Wakefield,) and others are expected to address the meeting.

Chair to be taken at eight o'clock.

ADMISSION FREE.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE WESTMINSTER BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL LAND COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT the members of the above branch, will meet at the TWO CHAIRMEN, WARDOUR-STREET, SOHO, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 6TH, at eight for half-past precisely, to take into consideration the late trial, O'Connor v. Bradshaw; also to consider the propriety of dispensing with the Directors, and other matters of the utmost importance to the Company. JAMES GRASSBY, Secretary.

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To Correspondents.

Mr. PARROTT, Mitcham-green.—9s. 9d.

THE NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION.—Cards of membership can be obtained on application being made to Mr. Jno. Arnott, care of Mr. Truelove, stationer, John-street, Fitzroy-square.

THE HONESTY FUND.—Collecting books may be obtained by applying to Mr. Clark, 144, High Holborn.

NOTTINGHAM.—To Messrs. Barber, Rodgers, Etches, Harrison, Radford, and many other Chartists meeting at the Temperance Coffee-house, Low Pavement.—I have not seen the "Nottingham Review" of Saturday last, which, it appears, contains an editorial notice of Mr. Clark's "sensible pamphlet." I am not surprised to learn that your reply to Mr. Clark and the "Nottingham Review," has been refused insertion in that paper. That reply must also be excluded from the "Northern Star," Mr. O'Connor having, both publicly and privately, declared, that he will not allow any further controversy between myself and Mr. Clark in his paper. I except the following portion of your reply, which assimilates to resolutions already published in this journal:—"We are glad that Mr. Clark has resigned his office of member of the Executive Committee, because, if he had not, we should have been compelled to call upon him to do so, he not being worthy the confidence of the working classes." I must reserve further comment until I again have the pleasure of addressing the men of Nottingham—which, I hope, to have ere many weeks are passed, when I will do myself justice, and Mr. Clark, and the "Nottingham Review" likewise.—G. JULIAN HARNEY.

SAMUEL JACKSON (Attercliffe).—Thanks for your friendly letter, and for the Whig "Sheffield Independent," containing an eulogistic notice of Mr. Clark's pamphlet; in which notice I am pleased to find that I am denounced as a "truculent personage," and that Mr. Clark is pardoned by his Whig friends for "the misdeeds in which he has shared." My earnest prayer is, that I may continue to be denounced, and Mr. Clark praised by such papers as the "Sheffield Independent."—G. JULIAN HARNEY.

LEIGH GLEAVE, Rochdale.—All right.

JOHN PEARCEY, JUNR.—Your excellent letter cannot be published; you will understand why.

THE LETTER from Mr. James Sweet, also the letters from Carlisle, Leicester, and Stourbridge, will be given in next week's *Star*.

To J. PAGE.—Yes. The Land at Great Dodford is tithe free, and subject to lower poor rates, and less tax, than almost any estate in the country, being tithe free increases the value of the Land to the purchaser by at least £6. F. O'C.

Mr. O'CONNOR will be at a public meeting at the People's Institute, Manchester, on Sunday night next. Mr. M'GRATH and Mr. CLARK will also be present.

THE PROVISIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION.

All Letters intended for the Provisional Committee must be addressed to MR. JOHN ARNOTT, care of Mr. Truelove, Institution, John-street, Fitzroy-square, until the Committee shall have taken an Office, the address of which will be announced in the "Northern Star" of next week.

THE NORTHERN STAR.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1850.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.

Education is alike important to individuals and to communities. This fact has been recognised and admitted in all ages by those to whom society looks up with reverence. The basis of PLATO's ideal Republic was a strict system of regulated public or State Education. The Hebrew Monarch to whom the attribute of wisdom is pre-eminently ascribed, has forcibly compressed the whole philosophy of the question into one sentence—"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." The duty of instructing the people has, under every form of government, been recognised as the highest and most essential duty of the State, and provisions for its discharge have been made, in various shapes, in every country, from despotic Austria to democratic America. England constitutes almost the sole exception to the nations which profess to take a high stand. We have yet to agree upon a principle and plans by which the blessings of instruction may be brought home to the whole of the children who are to form the men and the women of the next generation, and upon whose knowledge or ignorance the destinies of this great country must mainly depend.

It is scarcely to be wondered that this is the case. A few years only have passed away since the State in any manner recognised and admitted any claim upon it. Previous to that Education was considered anybody's—or, rather, nobody's—business. Here and there benevolent and active persons, or zealous sectaries, bestirred themselves to impart a smattering of book-learning, intermixed with dogmatic teaching; but the great bulk of the upper classes were of opinion that, upon the whole, the less education "the lower classes" had, the better for all parties. It would tend to put notions into their heads "subversive of the order and well-being of society." They would grow discontented with their condition, and be less lowly in their submission to their "masters and pastors." By common consent, therefore, the people were as much as possible left uneducated. They were treated much in the same manner as the slaves of Georgia or Delaware. Their business was to *work*, and not to *think*. The best master considered he had done his duty in first-rate style, when he saved them the trouble of thinking—kept them hard at work, and supplied them plentifully with rations, to keep them hale and fit for labour.

The first inroad upon this system—so well calculated to maintain the empire of dense ignorance—was made by JOSEPH LANCASTER. The effect of his exertions—after the first and usual attempt to crush him had failed—was to bring a rival scheme of Dr. BELL's into the field. The Church and Aristocracy, failing to put down the Educational Movement, resolved to counteract it by using similar means. They saw clearly enough, that children could be as easily trained to become Episcopalians as Wesleyans, or Quakers, and that to get hold of the young mind was the cheapest way to uphold their supremacy. The instruction of the people was thus, for many years after the commencement of that movement, left entirely to the voluntary efforts of competing sectaries, each with their own narrow and proselytising motives to set them at work.

When at last the Government were awakened to the fact that they were bound to act in a matter of so much importance, they were too much afraid of the nest of hornets they would bring about their ears, to venture upon the establishment of a system based upon plain and just principles. They simply contented themselves by voting a small sum of money annually, and made the rival Church and Dissenting societies the medium through which it was to be spent.

The great question, whether the education was national, and by what arrangements it could be so, has been left in abeyance. Our statesmen shrink from touching it—our public men dread it. Every successive attempt made by successive Governments to compromise the matter, or to get better terms for the public from the warring sectaries, has failed. Rather than let the whole people be saved by any other way than their own, they would sooner see them perish.

While this unseemly and most unchristian warfare for the upper hand has been waged in the name of religion, the masses have been left uninstructed. In no other civilised country is there such a large proportion of totally uneducated persons as in this. The consequence is to be traced in the amount of social evils which flow directly from that ignorance, and which entail enormous pecuniary burdens, as well as grievous moral calamities, upon the nation.

Under these circumstances, there can be no doubt but that a crying necessity for some measure existed—it was equally apparent that whoever attempted to propose one required both courage and judgment. Besides those who object to State Education on religious grounds, there is another, and not an unimportant party, who object to it on political grounds. They do not like the idea of investing the Government with so much additional patronage as a national scheme involves; and they also object to the State having the power of moulding the minds of their children, and conferring an influence which might, in the hands of a bad Government, be made to act most prejudicially to the cause of liberty.

But despite all these difficulties, it was clear that something should be done. Mr. FOX, the Member for Oldham, has attempted that something, and introduced a Bill to provide for the Secular Education of the People, which proves that he has not sat in the House of Commons an inattentive observer of the tone and temper of that House. Instead of attempting to grapple with the want in all its vastness, and to propound a plan consistent in all its details, and rigorously deduced from first principles, Mr. FOX has sought to neutralise the opposition of all existing educational bodies, and to base his plan upon such general propositions as would find most favour with the existing popular mind. We candidly confess, that we could have wished him to go much further than he has done; and yet, looking at the complicated and formidable opposition he had before him, it may be doubted whether the proposal of more would not have prevented his Bill from being read a first time.

The measure merely proposes to occupy whatever ground may be now unoccupied by societies, or benevolent individuals: and, in the case of such admitted deficiency, to levy a rate on the property in the district, for the purpose of educating the neglected children. The amount of the rate, the appointment of masters, and other details of the school system, he leaves in the hands of those who pay the money. The advocates of the principle of local and municipal self-government cannot, therefore, object to it. The point where it is likely to encounter most opposition is, the absence of any definitive provision for religious instruction; the rate is simply to provide secular education; the other must be voluntary, and cannot in any case be enforced contrary to the opinions of the parents, who have the sole power of determining the religious tenets their children should be taught.

The able and temperate manner in which the subject was introduced, had the wonderful effect of charming even the most prejudiced and bigoted opponents of education into eulogium and acquiescence, as far as the first stage of the measure was concerned; but many a tough fight lies between it and the Royal assent—a point, we fear, it will never reach. As a step in the right direction—as a means of turning the attention of Parliament to this most grave and vital question, in a conciliatory spirit—the introduction of the measure is a public benefit; whatever may be the immediate fate of the Bill, it cannot fail to help forward the good work. If the proposer does not garner the harvest, he may, at least, console himself with having sown seeds that must, at no distant day, bring forth an abundant return.

PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW.

PROTECTIONIST TRIUMPH—A FACTION FIGHT ON THE IRISH FRANCHISE—WOODS AND FORESTS, &c.

In a house of 525 members, and after two nights' debate, the Protectionists were only beaten by a majority of twenty-one. This is virtually a victory, and has entirely altered the complexion of the whole Session, as well as the relative position and policy of parties. The very large majorities in both Houses in favour of the Address, were hailed by the Free Trade party and their organs, as conclusive proofs that their policy was indeed irreversible, and that the question was settled finally and for ever. The division of Thursday, the 21st, must have convinced even them that they are mistaken. The agricultural classes, and those connected with them, are not yet subjected to the rule of "Manchester." In resolving that the produce of the land shall have no protection against foreign competition, a host of collateral questions have been raised; the discussion of which must lead to results as little desired as they were foreseen by the Manufacturers. They may indeed continue for a time to resist successfully any attempt to re-impose protective duties—but in a House equally divided, it is impossible for Ministers long to avoid one of two courses, either to concede such a re-adjustment of local and general burdens as the landlord class demand—and which would be an ample compensation to them for the loss of these duties—or to try the whole question by referring it to the present constituencies, and taking the test of a General Election. In either case, they will be driven into the position Mr. DISRAELI and his supporters desire; and after all the abuse heaped upon him as a mere political adventurer and practical nincompoop—after all the hymns of glorification chanted over defunct Protection, the Manufacturers and Moneymongers will be compelled to fight the battle over again.

This singular and sudden change in the relative strength and prospects of parties, is to be accounted for by the secession of Mr. GLADSTONE, and a large portion of the Peelite party, who have, ever since the dissolution of the PEEL Cabinet, voted with the Ministry on all leading questions. That party has indeed occupied a very anomalous and uncomfortable position, and it is a wonder that a change has not sooner taken place. Composed, to a large extent, of men who had held office and acquired administrative experience, they found themselves much in the same position as the staff of an army cut off from the main body, and doing the work for an opposite staff, without sharing either in the honour or the emoluments.

From time to time, rumours of a coalition between the chiefs of the Ministerial and the Peelite party, indicated the disagreeable nature of this position; but the Whigs are too fond of place, pay, and patronage, to relish the notion of sharing them with any other party, if they can help it. Years rolled on, and still they kept possession of the Treasury Bench. Sir ROBERT PEEL, Sir JAMES GRAHAM, and one or two more of the chiefs who have attained a considerable age and large honours as statesmen, might afford to look across the table calmly; but it was not in nature, that young aspiring—perhaps needy—noblemen and gentlemen, who had once or twice tasted the sweets of office, could long endure their continued exclusion.

On the other hand, the main body of the Conservative party have been virtually without a leader ever since the death of the chivalrous Lord GEORGE BENTINCK. The demise of that nobleman took away one great obstruction to a fusion of the severed party. His honest detestation of anything like double dealing or inconsistency, would have operated at all times to prevent any union between the party under his leadership and the persons by whom he felt, with all the warmth of his nature, they had been betrayed and deserted. Since his death, various members of the party have temporarily acted as its representative and leader; until at length Mr. DISRAELI seems by general consent to have gained the position. He has no such antipathies as his departed leader; and, besides, he occupies an infinitely inferior position with an aristocratic party. However high their admiration of his talents and his eloquence may be, the "noble lords" and "right hon. gentlemen" by whom he is supported, cannot forget that after all he is only a plebeian. Their patrician prejudices bound them to Lord GEORGE BENTINCK—the son of a Duke—quite as strongly as his fearless advocacy of their interests. If the Marquis of GRANBY—heir to another dukedom—had been capable of the post, the author of *Coningsby* would never have been promoted to it. Mr. DISRAELI sees, under these circumstances, that an effectual Parliamentary victory, and its substantial results, the possession of office, cannot be secured unless by an alliance with the party which comprises men who have held office, and who have the birth, rank, and feudal influence of which he is deficient.

Hence, no doubt, the junction effected between a part of the Peelites and the Country Party. How long the remaining members of the thinned ranks may continue very faithful to the ex-PREMIER, will soon be seen. As far as he and Sir J. GRAHAM are concerned, it is evident that they have given up all idea of reconciliation with their former supporters; and we therefore anticipate that, one by one, those who yet maintain their allegiance, will gradually fall into their old and natural positions, and that we shall have an out-and-out Tory party once more.

Most sincerely do we congratulate the country on this prospect. The past three years have been a gap in the history and progress of the empire. The unnatural state of parties caused a neutralisation of forces, and a paltry faction has been suffered to usurp the powers, and privileges, and wealth of office, on the simple understanding that they were to do nothing, and to prevent, as far as possible, everybody else from doing anything. It must be confessed, that such a task was peculiarly congenial to the Whigs. They have always shone in the discharge of their vocation of obstructives, when in power. So long as they can be kept on the bleak and non-salaried side of the SPEAKER's chair, they are the advocates of Liberal opinions and progressive Reforms; but the moment they step to the other side, the famous line of DANTE might be inscribed over the entrance to the House of Commons, as a warning to all reforming members:—

"All hope abandon, ye who enter here!"

The formation of a large, powerful, and real opposition, which may at any moment place them in a minority, and compel them to the alternative of resigning office, or trying the chances of a General Election, will have a most beneficial effect on the political and social destinies of the country. Stand-stillism is no longer possible. We must either go forward, or go back. Parties will be sifted, and properly classified. Tories will be Tories, and Reformers, Reformers. There will be an open and earnest struggle—not mere sham contests, as we have had lately. We do not fear the issue.

Mr. DISRAELI does not seem disposed to let his newly-acquired strength lie idle, or to give Ministers any respite for breathing time. He follows up his victory, and, fortunately, in such a manner that the country can be at no loss to understand his principles and policy. They are rank, unmitigated Toryism. The predominance of the landed aristocracy, and an inveterate and uncompromising resistance to the extension of political rights, among the people at large, are the cardinal objects at which he aims. This is as it should be. We like an open foe; and the course adopted by him and his backers, on Monday night, on the question of the Irish Franchise, deserves all credit for its unmistakable declaration of hostility to all political Reform, however small or temporising the proposition may be. Sufficient for him and them are "our *good* old institutions, and our *ancient* English laws." Those who would put their hands upon them, for the purpose of altering or amending them, are rash, impious, and dangerous men, who must be boldly encountered, and, if possible, "put down." The modern CANUTE has planted himself in the front of the swelling tide of Progress, and commanded it to retire. Will it obey, or will he be swept away by its advancing waves?

We have already intimated our opinion of the exceedingly small Whig measure for extending the franchise in Ireland. The stamp of its parentage is unmistakeably impressed upon it. The constituency of Ireland has, during the last three years, become almost extinct. The workhouse, the grave, or the emigration ship, has received the mass of the £10 voters, until at last there are fewer electors remaining for the whole of Ireland, than there are for the West Riding of Yorkshire. This process of extinction has been steadily going on, yet so fearful were the Whigs of doing anything that could tend to counteract it, that for two years they have introduced a measure and then withdrawn it, apparently frightened at the very idea of extending the franchise, however infinitessimally. The introduction of the measure had the effect intended, of gaining them credit for "good intentions," and stopping any real measure from being brought forward; and thus in this, as in all other matters, the stop-gap and obstructive policy on which their Government is founded, was consistently carried out.

It appears, however, that the mockery of a representative and electoral constitution in Ireland, is now so palpable and so ludicrous, that even Whig stomachs revolt at it. Perhaps there may also be a less dignified motive at work. As the present constituencies stand, they may give a clear majority to the Protectionists. If they are driven to a General Election on the existing registry, Ireland would return a large reinforcement of Tories to help to turn them out of office. A sense of self-interest, therefore, at last compels them to bring forward their measure, with the intention of really carrying it if they possibly can. But they have, at the same time, taken very good care that it shall not go beyond the exigencies of their party. At the very utmost, the measure would not raise the constituency for the whole of Ireland to 200,000; the probability is that it would be 50,000 less. The old defective principle of rent and rating is maintained; and the complicated tenures by which votes were held, remain, with all their meshes, to entangle the feet of claimants, and supply the means for thinning the register, according as it may suit the interests of the factions who watch its revision before the Barristers. The Bill is the smallest of small reforms, but small as it is the landlords will not have it. The very possibility of its serving the Ministerial Party is, of itself sufficient to cause their determined opposition; and, apart from that powerful motive, they have a rooted and inveterate hatred of all measures that tend to emancipate the people from their thraldom.

For one whole night, therefore, the landlord party stopped all business in the House of Commons. They were resolved—as Lord J. MANNERS said—to teach the PREMIER "a lesson he would not forget." Upon various pleas—each of them false upon its very face—they objected to proceed with the Bill, and forced the House to no less than SEVEN divisions, the majority against them growing larger every division, until at last Lord J. RUSSELL, wearied out, and seeing the impossibility of doing anything at this hour, gave up the contest at midnight, amidst the cheers of the victorious Obstructives.

There are, no doubt, occasions when minorities, very much smaller than that which supported Mr. DISRAELI on that occasion, may most righteously avail themselves of all the forms of the House to obstruct the progress of obnoxious measures. These forms constitute the most effectual safeguard against the tyranny of an unreasoning numerical majority; but they should, therefore, only be used when the object in view is clearly for the benefit of the nation at large. When they are resorted to—as upon Monday night—for purely party and selfish purposes, they become the instruments of faction, not constitutional weapons in the hands of patriots.

With reference to this factious opposition, and gross abuse of the privileges of an Opposition, the "Times" and other Ministerial journals have given us some curious expositions of Ministerial morality. They hint, that if the Tory faction will insist, in this very unreasonable and ill-considered manner, to obstruct small reforms, Ministers, in self-defence, will be obliged to buy the support of the country with larger ones. Precisely what we anticipated, the moment we saw Mr. GLADSTONE secede from Sir ROBERT PEEL, amidst the vociferous applause of the Protectionists. Yes! the Whigs will be compelled by a real opposition to bid higher for public support. The buttresses by which they were kept in office have been taken away. They must either stand on their own merits and deeds now, or fall to the ground. A short time will show which they prefer.

Business was proceeding pretty steadily up to the division of Thursday, which so entirely changed the aspect of the political world. On the subsequent night, which is generally one of the busiest and most important of the week, the House was nearly empty, and the attention languid to what business did come on. Whatever would bear postponement was set aside. Measures that would have elicited discussion, were forwarded a stage, *sub silentio*, and an important measure for the Reform of a Government department, was introduced by the PREMIER, in a House of about twenty-five or thirty members, with fewer words and less ostentation than an ordinary Turnpike Bill. It was clear that the venue was changed for the time being, from the open arena of the House of Commons to the clubs, and that the various parties were calculating the probable consequences of the previous night's division before taking any further step.

Yet the measure referred to was one which well deserved the deep and earnest attention of the so-called representatives of the people. The Blue Books published by Lord DUNCAN's Committee, have disclosed such a system of gross and criminal mismanagement, peculation and profligate wastefulness, on the part of the Commissioners of the Woods and Forests, as is unparalleled in the annals of jobbery and corruption. The immense estates under their care have been nests for the hatching of every conceivable abuse. The nation instead of deriving an income from property—the estimated fee simple of which is worth many millions sterling—have absolutely been in many cases paying money out of pocket to those engaged in plundering it. Open undisguised robbery, by day and night, was suffered to proceed under the *watchful* eyes of the Commissioners and their *trusty* Officers. The New Forest, containing upwards of 60,000 acres in the most beautiful district of the south-west of England, instead of yielding any revenue, actually cost the country nearly five *thousand pounds* more than it returned, last year! If these immense estates were properly managed, there can be no doubt that they might be made, not only conducive to the physical and social well-being of large masses of persons, who are now compulsorily idle and dependent upon the poor rates for subsistence, but also become a source of permanent and increasing revenue to the State.

The changes proposed by the Ministry in the composition of the Commission, will, as far as they go, tend to prevent the perpetration of such monstrous and disgraceful abuses as have heretofore distinguished the administration of this department; but it does not propose any new and improved plan, for the more profitable and beneficial management of the property itself. The change is purely administrative. In future, two permanent paid Commissioners, assisted by one unpaid, will have the management of the Woods and Forests, and Land Revenues, but without a seat in Parliament. The FIRST COMMISSIONER will be at the head of the Board of Public Works, with a seat in Parliament, and no monies will be allowed to be expended until the items have been submitted to the Treasury, and approved of, we presume, by Parliament, in the ordinary manner, as all other Treasury estimates are, in the usual Committee of Supply. This is, undoubtedly, a great improvement on the former system, which was without any check whatever upon misappropriation and malversation. The FIRST COMMISSIONER will have the responsibility of proposing all votes on account of the department, and of answering all questions as to the management of the property under its control. This is all well, so far; and perhaps the reconstruction of the Board, upon a business-like foundation, may by-and-by eventuate in a better application of the property itself.

A measure for extending the jurisdiction of the County Courts has passed the first reading. Mr. WORTLEY'S bill for legalising marriages with a deceased wife's sister, has been re-introduced, and several other matters debated, which we have no space to comment upon this week.

MR. ERNEST JONES.

So little intercourse is there permitted between Mr. ERNEST JONES and his nearest relations—all other persons being rigidly excluded from holding communication with him—that even the state of his health has been but very imperfectly known to us. We are at this time, however, in possession of information, from which we learn that Mr. JONES has been for some time past suffering from ill health. We know that at the present time he is confined to the infirmary of the prison; and, although he is reported by the prison authorities as "considerably better," we have reason to believe that his constitution is gradually giving way under the severe treatment to which he is subjected. Renewed efforts—which we hope will be successful—are about to be made to secure Mr. JONES's liberation. Should those efforts fail, we shall consider it a duty to give publicity to revelations of the cruel treatment Mr. JONES has suffered, and which we only withold at present under the impression, that by so doing we are best serving the interests of our persecuted friend.

MONIES RECEIVED

FOR THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1850.

THE HONESTY FUND.

Received by W. RIDER.—J. Roxby, Murton Colliery 6d—Mr. Howarth's family, Grove-street, Hulme 3s—Mr. Walker, Pendleton 1s—M. Moorcroft, Pendleton 1s—Three Friends, Spilsby, per W. Brooks 3s—Mottram, per J. Campbell 10s—Lees, per J. Hilton 3s. 3d—J. Ball and Friends, Mansfield 3s—Stalybridge, per J. Zitzka 5s—R. Lundy, Hull 1l—Glossop, per G. Hall 1s. 9d—R. Minns and W. S., New Leeds, near Bradford 5s—Camelford, per E. Brown 5s—Pudsey, near Leeds, per W. Booth 1l. 3s—George Derbyshire, Derby 2s—W. Mawson, Manchester 1s—D. Whitehead, Manchester 1s. 7d—Nottingham, per J. Sweet 17s. 6d—Wingate Grange, per W. Norman 1l. 7s—T. F., Dunfermline 1s—Westminster Chartists 10—W. Haigh and Friends, Halton, near Leeds 2s. 6d—two Handloom Weavers, Dalston 2s—G. Smith, Cupar 5d—Plymouth, per J. Rogers 14s—Friends of Justice and Liberty, Colne, per J. Watson 1l—Okhampton, per H. Fink 5s. 6d—a few Friends, Leigh, per J. Howarth, 10s. 2d—Dudley, per W. Rankin 1l. 4s—Broomfields, Bradford, per N. Frith, 3s. 10d—J. Price, Minster Lovel 1l—E. Todd, West Auckland 1s—Dalry 5s—Messrs. Tristram, Cooper, and Millhench, Oldham 5s. 6d—T. Waddington, per J. Arnott 1s—J. Jones, Plymouth, near Merthyr 1s—J. Bool, Plymouth, near Merthyr 1s—Mr. Hopkins 1s.

Received at LAND OFFICE.—M. Sykes, 1s—J. B. 1s. 6d—J. Sharrock and Friends 2s. 6d—Remitted by Mr. Homes, of Sheffield 1l. 11s. 6—D. and R., Norton 2s—W. Atkinson 1s—W. and Mary Hewitt 2s—J. Elliot 6d—W. Place 2s. 6d—J. Illingworth 2s. 6d—J. Fuller 1s—R. Bloomfield 1s—H. Sumner 1s—T. Bedwell 1s—H. Windler 1s—Old Radical, Leeds 1s—J. Goodall 1s—G. Thompson 6d—Finsbury Locality (first instalment) 6s. 6d—Bacup Locality (first instalment) 10s—Stalybridge Locality 2l—J. Wellcock, 1s—Grantham 1s—Belper Locality (first instalment) 5s—A. S., Arrowgate 1s—J Read, Heywood 1s—C. Mawl 6s—three Friends, Central Rossendale 6s—Cardiff, per J. Watson 13s. 8d—D. Price 1s—S. Willis 1s—J. Newsome, Dewsbury 2s. 6d—J. Dibb, Dewsbury 2s. 6d—J. Hollingworth, Dewsbury 2s. 6d—G. Crunch, Worster 1s—T. Horton, Worster 1s—B. Bullock, Worster 2s. 6d—C. Apps, Worster 1l—J. Harding, 5—T. F. Llanelly 2s—Wingate Grange, per Mr. Nooman 1l. 3s. 9d—G. W. M. Reynolds, Esq. 2l. 2s—Mrs. G. W. M. Reynolds 10s. 6d—Mr. Betmead, 1s—W. Allen, Snig's End 1s. 6d—G. Grey, Snig's End 5s—T. Bluxham, Snig's End 6d—J. D., Snig's End 1s—J. Moody, Snig's End 1s—S. Clark, Snig's End 1s—J. Whilton, Snig's End 6s—T. Jones, Snig's End 1s—J. Bridgwater, Snig's End 1s—J. M'Carthy, Snig's End 1s—D. Whitehead, Snig's End 1s—J. Fowler, Snig's End 1s—D. O'Brien, Snig's End 6d—Mr. Blackford 1s—Mr. Cullingham, Snig's End 2s 6d—Mrs. Cullingham, Snig's End 1s—J. Turnbull 1s—J. Cookhill 1s—W. Vickers 6d—a Barnsley Weaver 1s—H. Pranstone 1s—J. H., Wigan 6d.

Total, £26 4s 5d.

FOR COSTS OF MACNAMARA'S ACTION.

Received by W. RIDER.—Stockport, per T. Broadhurst 5s. 8d; Heckmondwike, per J. Gommersall 7s; Stocksmoor and Shelley, near Huddersfield, per D. Heeley 1l; J. Cook, Shincliffe Colliery 3d; Stockport, per T. Broadhurst (second subscription) 5s; a few friends, Paisley, per P. Cameron 16s. 5d; Blockprinters, Gathland-lane Print Works, Paisley, per P. Cameron 3s. 7d; Forfar, per W. Smith 3s. 8d; T. H. B., Laudport 2s. 6d.——Received at LAND OFFICE.—Crayford, per Mr. Hime 10s.

FOR THE AGITATION OF THE CHARTER.

Received by W. RIDER.—Two Friends, Whitehaven, 2s; Messrs. Paris and Bligh, Greenwich 2s; Mrs. Heath, Greenwich 1s.——Received by JOHN ARNOTT.—Collected at Public Meeting, John-street 1l. 6s. 6d; Mr. Rider, as per *Star* 5s.

TO EXEMPT PRISONERS FROM OAKUM PICKING.

Received by W. RIDER.—W. Sadler, Carnaby-market 1s.

MRS. M'DOUALL.

Received by W. RIDER.—J. Cook, Shincliffe Colliery 3d Justic, Sheerness 1s; a few Friends, Paisley, per P. Cameron 8s; Lees, per J. Hilton 3s. 3d.

FOR WIDOWS OF THE LATE MESSRS. WILLIAMS AND SHARP.

Received by W. RIDER.—W. Gees, London 1s; T. Scott, London 6d; Georgie Mills, per W. Meshan 6s. 7d.

VICTIM FUND.

Received at LAND OFFICE.—Philip Elliott 1s; Wingate Grange 1l. 3s. 10d.

FOR WIVES AND FAMILIES OF VICTIMS.

Received by W. RIDER.—Shoemakers' Harmonic Meeting, at the King and Queen, Foley-street, per Messrs. T. Daniels and C. Stacey 1l. 5s. 6d; Todmorden Victim Committee, per R. Barker 5s; Messrs. Paris and Bligh, Greenwich 1s; Mrs. Heath, Greenwich 6d.

NATIONAL VICTIM FUND.

Received by JOHN ARNOTT, Secretary.—Collected at the Literary and Scientific Institution, John-street, after an appeal by Thomas Cooper 2l. 13s. 6d; Mr. Rider, as per *Star* 1l. 12s; Land Office 1l. 4s. 10d.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE 24TH OF FEBRUARY

While it was not permitted to the French democracy in their own country, to celebrate the anniversary of the revolution of February by banquets, the exiled democrats of many nations, now living in London, could, at least, meet on that day. A supper had been arranged by the French Republican Social Democratic Society. The banquet came off at a first-rate tavern at the West-End of London, on the evening of Monday, the 25th of February. The large room was speedily filled; there were from two to three hundred democrats present, including, besides Frenchmen, Germans, Poles, Spaniards, Hungarians, etc.; the fair sex, too, was numerously represented. The French, Polish, and German colours, adorned the end wall of the room; the Red flags, however, were most numerous. The speakers' platform, too, was covered with a Red flag, adorned with funeral emblems, and the following inscription: "Second anniversary of February, 22nd, 23rd, and 24th, 1848, to the memory of the victims."

There was no chairman; the committee who had organised the banquet, presided over and directed the meeting. In the name of this committee, and with an appeal to universal democracy, (one of the exiles wounded in June, 1848, sentenced to transportation for June, 1849), after the cloth was removed, opened the proceedings by a toast to the Revolution of February. The meeting gave three hearty rounds of cheers for the victims of February, and three cheers more for all nations combating for the cause of democracy, and to the numberless victims fallen in their heroic struggles.

The cries of: *Vive la Revolution, Vive la Republique Romaine, Vive la Republique Universelle, Vive l'Egalite*, broke forth from all parts of the room.

The following sentiments were then given and responded to by the several speakers:—"The Organisation of Labour." "The Republican Army." "The Insurrection of June 1848." "The Insurgents of all Times and all Countries." "The coming Revolution." "*Aux Partageux.*" "*A la famille.*" "The Socialist Proletarians of France." "The menaced French Schoolmasters, the Apostles of Socialism." "The Dissolution of the Armies of Europe." "To the Imprisoned Martyrs." "*A la Revolution sans Phrase.*" Responded to by a German citizen.

A number of patriotic hymns were sung by several citizens, alternate with the speeches. The "*Chant du Depart.*" The "*Republique des Paysans.*" The "*Chant des Travailleurs,*" a German national song, &c., were produced. The proceedings terminated after midnight, all present joining in the "*Marseillaise,*" and in the oft repeated cry; *Vive la Republique Universelle Democratique et Sociale.* The most fraternal feeling prevailed throughout the evening, and the only thing to be regretted was, that under present circumstances, it had been, from motives easily to be conceived, impossible to invite the British Democracy to join in this fraternal meeting.

Two RUSSIAN line-of-battle ships, one of 120 and the other of 84 guns, as well as several smaller vessels, have been lately launched at Nikolaiou.

LETTERS TO THE WORKING CLASSES.
LXXVII.

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

THE CHARTIST MOVEMENT.
ERNEST JONES AND DR. M'DOUALL.

Brother Proletarians,

In some other column of this paper, you will find an account of the reorganisation of the Chartist Provisional Committee. Much praise is due to Mr. Reynolds, and Messrs. Arnott and Stallwood, for their conduct in saving the Chartist party from complete disorganisation. With the zealous co-operation, and ready support of the localities, in town and country, there can be no doubt that the committee will be enabled to, at least, lay the foundations of a movement for the Charter, more potential than has ever yet been seen. Will the committee find that co-operation and support? If so, the result cannot fail to be that which I have just stated. If not, the blame of failure will attach, not to the committee, but to the Chartists generally.

Should any of my country readers object, that some of the members of the re-organized committee are not "leaders," and that their names can hardly be said to be known beyond the Metropolitan circle; it may be answered, that in their respective localities they have been *leading workers* for many years past; and if they have not acquired general notoriety, their names are at least as well known as were those of others some years ago, when circumstances placed *them* at the head of the Chartist movement. There was a time when the name of the writer of this letter was less known than the names of those who have just been called by the Metropolitan delegates to assume a position at the head of the Chartist movement. They will probably lose nothing in your estimation — they certainly gain in mine—from the fact, that mostly, or entirely, they belong to the order of hard-handed Proletarians. If, with one exception, (Mr. Davis, who is an able speaker) the new members of the committee are rather famous for working, than for speech making, they may be none the less efficient on that account. Oratory is necessary, and very well in its way; but there are higher and holier qualifications for "leadership" than the power to "speechify"—a power too often sadly abused—*too often* employed for selfish ends rather than for the public welfare.

Whatever revision of the rules, general or local, may be deemed requisite by the country Chartists, or any portion of them, it is to be hoped, that differences of opinion with regard to matters of detail, will be no bar to the acceptance of the new plan of organisation as a whole. The re-organised committee, having no purpose to serve but that of the enactment of the Charter with the least delay, at the least cost, will undoubtedly do everything practicable to render the plan *workable*, and (as far as possible) satisfactory to the Chartists of every locality.

I *must* warn the Chartists against the stale trick of sowing division in their ranks, by raising the question of "moral," *versus* "physical" force. To listen to the "virtuous indignation" harangues of certain gentlemen who assume to be monopolists of all kinds of "morals"—"moral force" included—a stranger to the Chartist party might suppose that some person or persons had of late been guilty of the "unpardonable sin" of recommending "physical force" as the only means calculated to bring about the triumph of Chartism. Without discussing the question of the *right* of the oppressed to have recourse *to* such a means of ridding themselves of oppression; without examining the policy of, or necessity for, appealing to physical force in defence of Right, it is sufficient to declare that no man has thought it necessary to say anything in favour of "physical force," or against "moral force;" and those who insinuate the contrary, insinuate that which they know to be false; that which, if believed to be true, might again divide the Chartist party into hostile sections and contending factions.

This "dodge" is as old as the notorious Calton-Hill resolutions. Surely the Chartists will not permit any such "dodge" to work the evil wrought by the concoctors of those too celebrated resolutions. From what I know of the men who compose the re-organised committee, I venture to believe that no such question as "moral" *versus* "physical" force, will divide *them*. I venture to hope that no other question will give birth to dissensions in the committee, but that each *with* all, and all *with* each will, in the campaign now commencing, be the order of the day.

The circumstances of the time are propitious for an earnest recommencement of Chartist agitation. It is now evident, that whatever toleration the working classes may be disposed to show to the advocates of the "little Charter," they are not disposed to engage in any movement for anything short of the "six points." They are blind, who cannot see that instead of retrograding in their political knowledge and reforming aspirations, the working classes have been advancing until now the vast mass of those who were Chartists—purely and simply—are *Chartists and much more.* Of course I speak of the metropolitan and manufacturing districts. But even in the agricultural districts containing a population hitherto so politically ignorant and inert, there is a spirit abroad which the Chartists have only to take advantage of and direct, and they may, in a very short space of time, command the material strength which has hitherto been the main physical stay of the present iniquitous system. It is very evident that the squirearchy, the parsonocracy, and the bull-frog farmers are generally and furiously hated by the starved and trodden down peasantry; and if that hatred has hitherto been blindly and ineffectually manifested, it is because no attempt, worthy of the name, has been made to impart to the unhappy labourers the glad tidings of Chartism and the great truths of Democratic and Social Reform. It is lamentable to see these poor men fighting the battles of the Free Traders, who are no more their friends than they are the friends of the Factory Workers. Yesterday week, (Wednesday February 20th,) a Protectionist meeting was held in the town of Dorchester, under the presidency of the High Sheriff, Henry Ralph Willett, Esq. The farmers came into the town armed with "enormous sticks." On the opposite side a crowd of men had been induced to arm after the same fashion for "free trade." The meeting was held in the Riding School of the barracks. The speeches of the "farmers friends" were as usual, pretty full of nonsense, mixed up with a deal of mock-loyalty, and some real denunciation of Chartism and Republicanism. One speaker, Mr. H. G. Sturt, M.P., distinguished himself by such an out-pouring of slang and vulgarity, that had he been a speaker at a Chartist meeting he would certainly have been hissed from the platform. He talked about "all my eye, and Bobby Peel;" described the member for Tamworth as "an old washerwoman," and "a slippery cove;" observed that "Her Majesty's Ministers are Whigs, and they stick to office like bricks," &c. &c.; and this sort of wit (!) and *eloquence* (!) drew from the *enlightened* farmers "laughter," "much laughter," "cheers," and "three cheers for Mr. Sturt." Would that I could add that this imbecility was unaccompanied by brutality; not so however. The shouters for Free Trade who formed part of the meeting, interrupting the Protectionist speakers, the cry of "Turn them out" was ere long followed up by corresponding acts. I quote from the "Sherborne Journal":—

Several of the farmers here united in a body, and raising their sticks, drove those who appeared to be the advocates of Free Trade out of the building. In this process several unnecessary blows were given, and we noticed two or three sticks and riding whips fall severely upon the heads of those who were being pushed on to the green. The half doors were closed, and the speaker proceeded, but a stone flung through the open door was the signal for a fearful volley from the expelled. The farmers then collected in a body and rushed on to the green, driving their opponents out of the gates of the barracks. Cheers were given for this exploit, and the proceedings recommenced, but immediately afterwards the building was stormed in all quarters. Through the windows on either side large stones were propelled with frightful violence, the glass flying in fragments all over the large building. The occupants of the platform quickly deserted their post of danger, but it was not until several persons had been injured that the meeting adjourned. Mr. Oak, the banker of Blandford, was much injured, and blood flowed copiously in many streams down his face. At last the waggon was drawn out on the green beyond the reach of the fire, which was still hotly continued from the people outside.

The speech making went on, and the farmers seem to have had it all their own way while the meeting continued. But

On the farmers leaving the yard they were received with volleys of stones from the mob. They again formed in a body, and with uplifted sticks courageously rushed on, and routed their opponents. The melee became general all over the field, parties of four or five tustling together for the possession of a bludgeon. In one portion of the field we saw a person (we are informed he was a butcher) turn upon a young man, who apparently had thrown a stone, and strike him with a bludgeon, with as much violence as possible on the side of the head. The party struck fell down insensible, and for a considerable time it was feared he was dead. He was carried by four men to the hospital, accompanied by a great crowd of persons, whose exclamations added to the fearful confusion of the scene. Before we left Dorchester, we visited the hospital and found the man whose name is William Allen, a journeyman tailor, alive; but in a precarious state. Shortly after this we observed Col. John James Smith led down the street, wounded in the head. Several farmers were having their wounds dressed in the shop of Mr. Davis, and when we came away the town was in a state of great agitation.

A correspondent has written to say that William Allen died the same evening. He adds that there was hardly a partisan of Protection but was severely wounded either at Dorchester, or by the villagers on their way home.

Here let me observe that brutal as the conduct of the farmers appears to have been, they acted no worse than the Leaguers acted towards the Chartists at Manchester, on more than one occasion, in the course of the Anti-Corn-Law agitation. Indeed, the Free Traders though as brutal, had less excuse for their brutality. The Chartists only desired to employ the *legitimate weapon of argument, in exposing* the fallacies of Free Trade; yet they were encountered by hired gangs of bludgeon men—armed ruffians employed by the League to break the heads and limbs of men they dared not encounter on the fair field of free and open discussion. The middle class Free Traders of Manchester set an example to the middle class Protectionists of Dorset. Let me add for the benefit of those precious patriots, who, with matchless assurance, lay all the blame of Chartist suffering to the account of the Chartists themselves—thus acquitting the government, the aristocracy, the middle class, and the Press-gang, of all blame—that, however short their memories may be, thousands of the democrats of London, have not yet forgotten the special array of "respectable" and aristocratical bludgeon men on the "10th of April."

Next to the fact of William Allen's violent death, the fact that he was killed in a mere faction fight, in which he had no interest, is most to be regretted. What interest had he, an operative tailor, in a combat between the partisans of a landed aristocracy on the one hand, and a moneyed aristocracy on the other? If, indeed, he had fallen in a contest of his own order against both sets of plunderers,—if he had yielded up his life in a conflict for the rights of himself and his brother proletarians—although his premature and violent death would have been lamented by his kindred, and his class—their regrets would have been accompanied by the consolatory reflection, that he had fallen in a righteous and glorious struggle, and had joined *the army of martyrs, who in this and other lands,* have died in defence of justice and the rights of man. I implore the men of Dorsetshire (I know that these words will be read by, at least, some of the working men of that county) not to allow themselves to be made the tools of either landlords, or moneylords, farmers, or shopkeepers. Let those privileged factions fight their own battles, and should they, like the celebrated Kilkenny cats, destroy each other from the head to the tail, it will be a happy riddance for humanity. Let the "few" and true men in Dorchester, Blandford, and other towns, take the initiative. Let them send for cards of the National Charter Association, if *only to the extent of half a dozen copies.* Let them make a beginning. Let them form a staff. Let them prepare the way for an energetic propaganda of Chartist principles; and, assuredly, if the Provisional Committee can but command the means, they will not be long left to struggle in the good cause without help from head quarters.

Brother Proletarians, "the harvest is plentiful," while, unhappily, the "labourers are few." But, with your support, the Provisional Committee will soon find the labourers to gather together the rich crop of democratic moral power, the seeds of which were long since sown by the hands of Oppression.

Brother Proletarians,—With heartfelt sorrow I direct your attention to the statement in another column, concerning the ill-health of our eloquent, energetic, and beloved friend, Ernest Jones. I have information which leads me to the belief that, notwithstanding that Mr. Jones is reported to be "considerably better," he is, in reality, suffering under serious ill-health; and I know that his family view with alarm symptoms which, to say the least, predict a broken constitution. If immediately liberated, that result of his sufferings in your cause may be averted. If not—if kept in prison for the full term of his sentence—I fear that the most gloomy forebodings of his friends will be realised. I trust—and I think I may venture to predict—that energetic steps will be immediately taken, towards obtaining, if possible, the immediate liberation of our persecuted advocate, and all other sufferers yet remaining in prison for "political offences."

Another painful subject demands a few words—I allude to the unhappy position of the family of Dr. M'Douall. In the *Star* of the 16th of February, was published, a letter from the Liverpool Committee, which contained the appalling statement, that the family of Dr. M'Douall were in a state of "actual starvation." That statement has had the effect of bringing in a few shillings for the family's assistance. But, surely something more might be done. The comparative "prosperity" pervading the manufacturing districts, should enable the Chartists of Lancashire, Cheshire, &c., to secure the family of Dr. M'Douall from the unhappy position indicated in the letter above alluded to. Though exceedingly averse to dwell on subjects which must be distressing to the feelings of the parties concerned, I think it necessary to print a few words from a letter recently received from Mrs. M'Douall: "My affairs are come to a most distressing crisis, and unless something is done very speedily, Dr. M'Douall's family must know the want of the mere necessaries of life. Every other privation they have already experienced. This is a confession that no amount of personal suffering could wring from me, but when I consider my children my courage fails."

Some time ago I received from a friend of Dr. M'Douall's a statement, that the Doctor laid claim to a sum of £70 due to him by the people of the Ashton district, for salary and travelling expenses, whilst representing them in the first Convention; and the said statement set forth that there were hundreds in Ashton who were personally aware that the claim was a just one. It was further stated, that the Chartists of Newcastle-upon-Tyne were indebted to Dr. M'Douall the sum of over £4, for a fortnight's agitation in the service of the National Charter Association. Declining to publish that statement at the time it came into my hands, I have now made public the substance thereof, conceiving that existing circumstances command this publicity. It may be time enough for the Chartists of Ashton and Newcastle to arrange accounts with Dr. M'Douall after his liberation, but, I respectfully submit to them, that the voice of justice enforces the appeal of humanity to their sympathy, which, I trust, will be practically exhibited in aid of Dr. M'Douall's family. If the sorrowful words I have quoted from Mrs. M'Douall's letter fail to move the hearts of those who should aid her, appeals from myself or any other person cannot but be useless.

In concluding this letter, I must name a circumstance respecting our friend Carl Schapper, which has come to my knowledge within the last few days. Quitting Weisbaden he proceeded to Cologne, where he learned that the motherless infant, born under the afflicting circumstances narrated in my last week's epistle, had died the day before his arrival. He had scarcely set foot in Cologne, when the police of the hypocritical and brutal King of Prussia commanded his departure, and he was forced to leave that city without being permitted the sad consolation of taking even one look at the grave of the mother of his children!

L'AMI DU PEUPLE.

Feb. 28, 1850.

THE FRATERNAL DEMOCRATS
(ASSEMBLING IN LONDON)
TO THE DEMOCRACY OF ALL COUNTRIES.

Equality—Liberty—Fraternity.

Brethren of the Human Race. — We conceive this to be a worthy occasion to address to you a few words of consolation, encouragement, and fraternal sympathy—an occasion when, in common with the democrats of all lands, we are renewing our allegiance to the principles consecrated by the glorious and ever memorable 24th of February.

On that day commenced the great European revolution destined to terminate in the annihilation of caste-rule and class-slavery; destined to bring to an end for evermore, the despotism of the few and and the degradation of the many; destined to extinguish oppression and misery, to emancipate labour, *establish the reign of justice,* and inaugurate the fraternity of nations—the brotherhood of all mankind, without distinction of clime, colour, speech, or creed.

Knaves may affect to believe and fools cheat themselves into the belief that the revolution is finished; lying journalists may proclaim that "Order reigns in Europe;" the *Ordermongers* may exult that the rule of the sabre has superseded that of the popular voice; but we tell them that—

Body-killing tyrants cannot kill
The public soul.

The privileged assassins murdered Robert Blum, but (as the martyr himself predicted) from every drop of his blood a defender of liberty has arisen. They flogged women, and, lo! universal humanity invokes the destruction of their brutal sway. They gave cities to the flames, and, behold they have kindled a volcano, which, in its overflow, will sweep them away—in its eruption will consume them.

The revolution is *not* finished because the people have been defrauded of the legitimate fruits of their struggles and sacrifices in 1848-9. The revolution is not finished, because the progress of popular intelligence assures the ultimate, universal, omnipotent determination of the people to have, to hold, and enjoy all their rights—political and social.

People of France, you have been grievously deluded by intriguers, and cheated by traitors. Your martyrs, your sufferers in dungeons and in exile, attest the fury and the fear of your betrayers. But terror cannot stay the march of truth, and in Universal Suffrage you have the means of making that truth triumphant. Hold fast by that great right; for by its wise exercise you may regenerate your country, and ensure the salvation of Europe.

Peoples of Germany, Italy, Hungary, and Poland, we mourn the sad issue of your struggles for freedom and justice. But happier days will come. The European revolution must and will continue till every land is purged of tyranny, and every nation has broken its chains.

People of the British Isles, it is for you to prove to the world that while your bretheren of other lands are periling and suffering so much for liberty, you are not content to continue the victims of misgovernment, and the sufferers from unjust social arrangements. The extremes of wealth and poverty, splendour and misery, developed to a greater extent in this than any other country, cry trumpet-tongued for a mighty change. "Laws grind the poor, and rich men rule the laws." "Riches accumulate and men decay." Awake, then, brother proletarians, and demand, struggle for, and win political and social justice.

Peoples of all countries, we greet you as brothers, and in the inspired words of Beranger we cry unto you—

Unite and form the holiest alliance!
Nations join hearts and hands!

Signed on behalf of the Society,
John Pettie, Chairman.
James Grassby, Treasurer.
G. Julian Harney, Secretary.
Edwin Gill, Sub-Secretary.

London, Feb. 24, 1850.

METROPOLITAN CHARTIST CONFERENCE.

The delegates composing this body met on Wednesday evening, in the Coffee-room of the Institute, John-street, Tottenham-court-road. Mr. John Milne in the chair. Mr. John Arnott was elected secretary to the meeting, and called over the names of the delegates.

Correspondence was read from Loughborough and Lambeth; and also from Mr. *Stallwood, apologising for non-attendance,* from ill health.

Mr. G. W. M. Reynolds, in the name of the conveners of the meeting, addressed the delegates, stating the reasons why they had been called together. He said that the secession of six of the nine members of the Provisional Committee, had suddenly left himself and his two colleagues—Messrs. Arnott and Stallwood—in a position of considerable embarrassment; and they had two alternatives to choose between. One was, to retire from their posts and abandon the undertaking: the other, to take upon themselves all the responsibility of the condition in which they were placed. They unhesitatingly adopted the latter course, being determined that so far as matters depended upon them, the Chartist cause should not experience the slightest check nor hindrance. But feeling that they, constituting a small section of the original Provisional Committee, could not possibly carry on the administration of this great movement, and that they were placed as it were in a false position, they naturally fell back upon the constituent power which had raised them to office; and they at once determined to summon the Conference. They were prepared to give an account of their stewardship, and to continue to work with the same conscientious zeal as heretofore in the good cause. He (Mr. Reynolds) should not do more than allude to the unfortunate differences which had taken place; and even this allusion he only made for the purpose of expressing a hope that whatever explanations might be demanded and given, would be vouchsafed, and likewise received in as friendly a spirit as possible. He then proceeded to state that, in his own name and that of his two colleagues—Messrs. Stallwood and Arnott—he should ask the Conference to fill up the vacancies which had occurred in the Provisional Committee, and award to the new combination such an extended lease of power as might be deemed necessary to enable the committee to develope a vigorous policy, and have full time for carrying the same into effect—so that when the moment should arrive for the country generally to elect its Executive, the new authority might find the country well and adequately prepared for the furtherance of the movement. In conclusion, Mr. Reynolds observed that at the various places which he had visited in the provinces, a most excellent spirit prevailed; and it only required a proper policy to give a grand impetus to the Chartist cause.

Mr. Davis moved, and Mr. Drake seconded:—"That the members of the Provisional Committee, who had resigned, be called on to explain why they had done so, and that they each be allowed ten minutes for that purpose." Carried.

Mr. Kydd then rose, and stated that his reasons were, that he could not act in unison with some of his colleagues; and, therefore, he thought it his duty to resign, but that he would use his utmost energies in the cause of Chartism.

Mr. Grassby similarly explained.

Mr. Harney stated that his reasons had appeared in the "Northern Star," and that he did not think it necessary to enter into any other statement. He was fully prepared to explain and defend every action of his political life, if called upon so to do.

Mr. M'Grath stated that why he had sent in his resignation was, that the policy he advocated was at variance with the opinions of the present members of the National Charter Association; but although he had considered it his duty thus to act, he was determined to do his utmost to make the People's Charter the law of these realms.

Mr. Dixon considered that he had acted in strict conformity with the Plan of Organisation which they had agreed to, inasmuch as that plan stated theirs was to be a purely moral and unobstructive agitation; but, as he had found that the contrary had been adopted, he had sent in his resignation.

Mr. Clark stated, that the reason why he had resigned was, that several little knots, calling themselves Chartists, had passed votes of censure upon him; but that he denied their right to denominate themselves the general Chartist bodies of those specific localities. He compared them to the "three tailors of Tooley-street," who called themselves the "people of England;" and he said, that if his policy were submitted to the working classes generally, it would be stamped with approval. (Loud interruptions, and cries of "No, no.") He declared that he had toiled unweariedly in the Chartist cause, and had made many thousands of converts to the doctrines of democracy. (A Voice: "You have been living upon us! you have been paid by us!") He denied that he had received any payment from the Chartist funds for four or five years past; but declared that he had expended a considerable portion of his income in supporting the cause. Only a few weeks ago, he had visited several towns at his own expense, to advocate that cause. But, as the so-called Chartists seemed to him to have organised themselves in small bodies against him, he had felt it to be his duty to resign.

Mr. Utting then moved, and Mr. Hobden seconded:—"That the resignations tendered by the six members of the Executive Committee be accepted by this Conference, and their places forthwith filled up."

Mr. Bentley supported the resolution, and said that it appeared to him that the most important question was the policy that should be adopted in future; and he warned the working classes against being sold.

Mr. Brown charged Mr. Clark with inconsistency; and said the principal reason he had in doing so was that, at the London Tavern meeting, he had written a note to the reporter of the "Daily News," to the effect to do him the favour of taking down what he said in vindication of the Parliamentary Reform Association.

Mr. Clark rose, and denied that such was the tenor of the note. He said it was perfectly true he had written a note to the reporter of the "Daily News;" but it was merely to say that he would explain that point in the programme of the National Parliamentary Reform Association, which promised the emancipation of so many millions of men by means of the clause specifying the claim to be rated. But he denied having written such a note as Mr. Brown had mentioned.

Mr. Brown: Then I will produce the note. (Loud cheers.)

The note was then produced, read, and ran as follows:—

THE REPORTER OF THE "DAILY NEWS."
Dear Sir,—May I ask of you the favour to take a few notes of what I intend to say in defence of the Parliamentary Reform Association. T. Clark.

Mr. Davis advised Mr. Clark, in future, to abstain from satirising working men; as, although they might not possess the eloquence which he did, yet that he (Mr. Davis) considered it wrong to indulge in that sarcasm which Mr. Clark was too fond of adopting.

Mr. Allnutt said he rose to speak to the resolution, and deprecated the policy that had been pursued by Mr. Harney, in using violent language at the London Tavern, and expressed his entire dissent from such a course.

After some explanations from Mr. Harney,

Mr. M'Grath said, that he claimed a right to speak to the resolution, and would allude to the policy that should be pursued. He (Mr. M'Grath) was fully of opinion, that the working classes could not, unassisted, gain their *rights, and adduced several historical facts in* support thereof; and he also thought it very wrong to denounce those who advocated a less measure of reform.

The resolution having been put and carried unanimously, Messrs. Davis, Milne, Brown, Harney, Miles, and Grassby were elected to fill up the vacancies in the Provisional Committee.

Mr. Allnutt moved, and Mr. Utting seconded, "That the Provisional Committee hold office for three months." Carried.

Messrs. Utting and Bentley were appointed to audit Mr. Clark's accounts.

Mr. Pearcey moved, and Mr. Clark seconded, the following resolution:—"That this Conference deprecates all factious opposition at public meetings, but at the same time advise the working classes to attend, and vindicate the right of free discussion, at all meetings called for Parliamentary Reform."

Mr. Harney moved, as an amendment, the Provious Question; which was seconded by Mr. Grassby.

On a division, the Resolution was carried by 14 to 10.

An unanimous vote of thanks to the chairman, for his impartial conduct in the chair, closed the proceedings.

PROCEEDINGS IN PARLIAMENT.

PUBLIC MEETING.

The usual weekly meeting was held in the Institution, John-street, Fitzroy-square, on Tuesday evening last. The hall was crowded. Mr. Hobden was called to the chair.

Mr. G. W. M. Reynolds moved the first resolution, which was as follows:—"Resolved, that the farther the session developes itself, the more apparent does it become to the industrious classes that they have nothing to hope for nor expect at the hands of the legislature in respect to their own just and often repeated demands for their natural rights and privileges; and this meeting, therefore, not only recognises the paramount necessity of agitating for the People's Charter, but pledges itself to sustain that agitation by all legal and peaceful means." In commencing his review of the parliamentary proceedings of the previous few days, Mr. Reynolds touched upon the discussion which had taken place in the House of Lords, relative to the Orange procession at Dolly's Brae. Mr. Reynolds pointed to the fact that Lord Stanley, in giving an account of that procession, and the circumstances attending it, had emphatically pronounced it to be a legal one, although such was the dread of it, that a troop of cavalry, and a constabulary force had been sent to escort the procession. Lord Clarendon, the Viceroy of Ireland, in defending his own policy upon the occasion, had likewise admitted that the procession was legal. Lord Roden, the individual principally concerned in the affair, had insisted upon the same point; and Lords Enniskillen, Winchelsea, and Brougham, had also declared that the procession and meeting were perfectly legal. But how strongly did these assertions contrast with the course adopted by the government and the legislature, when the working men of London announced, in 1848, their intention to hold their own peaceful and legal demonstration on Kennington Common! (Hear, hear.) What was the conduct then pursued by the aristocracy and the government? Old acts of parliament were raked up, whereon to found a proclamation to the effect that the contemplated procession and meeting were both illegal, and that it was contrary to law for more than fifty persons to assemble for a political object. (Hear.) Yet, in Ireland, there was the procession, with all its members armed to the teeth; and because certain noble lords were mixed up in *that* demonstration, no attempt was made to declare it illegal. Nor was it illegal: but he (Mr. Reynolds) was anxious to show how there was one way of interpreting the law for the rich, and another for the poor — how the aristocracy might do what it chose with impunity, and how the working classes, when fearlessly assembling to demand their rights and discuss their wrongs, were denounced as a riotous mob, ready for plunder and spoliation. (Hear, hear.) If the working classes did *not* agitate, the Prime Minister declared that they were satisfied with existing institutions, and did not want reform; and if they *did* agitate, then the Attorney General was set to work, spies were employed, and political persecution was commenced, and carried on with an atrocious violence. (Hear, hear.) Such was the dilemma in which the industrious millions were placed by the tyrants and oppressors who ruled them. Whatever the people did was sure to be wrong: whatever the government and aristocracy did, was sure to be right. The people were stones—veritable stones; and they would remain so unless they took their affairs into their own hands and demanded boldly, despite of all persecution, those rights and privileges which an execrable oligarchy had usurped. (Loud cheers.) Mr. Reynolds then alluded to the report given by the speaker of the House of Commons to allow Mr. O'Connor to vindicate his character against the foul, scandalous, and mendacious aspersions thrown upon it by the viperish member for Sheffield. Mr. O'Connor had inquired whether he could not avail himself of some form of the house to enter upon that vindication, which it would be so easy for himself to give, but which it would be so unpalatable for certain parties to hear; but the speaker replied that there was *no* form of the house which could be rendered available for such a purpose. ("Shame!") And yet every one would recollect that some few years ago, when Lord George Bentinck made an onslaught upon the character of Sir R. Peel—whom he charged with "hunting the noble Canning to death"—the very *same speaker forthwith allowed Sir Robert to avail* himself of some form of the house to vindicate himself. (Hear, hear.) And not only did Sir Robert make a three hours' speech upon the occasion, but a debate was raised upon the subject, and the whole evening was taken up with the matter. It was, therefore, evident that Mr. O'Connor was merely refused a hearing, because he was the staunch, uncompromising, and honest friend of that working class whom the government persecuted, the legislature neglected, and the aristocracy detested. Mr. Reynolds next touched upon the government policy now pursuing towards the Colonies, and exposed the one-sided measures adopted with a view to propitiate the *Colonists. He explained the scandalous* mockery in the constitutions of Australia and the Cape of Good Hope, and prophesied that in a few years time England would lose all her colonies by the fact of their assertion of independence. He then directed attention to Mr. Hawes's answer respecting the cruelties and atrocities perpetrated in certain emigrant ships; and he warned the people not to be deluded by the monstrous humbug of that grand emigration scheme, got up by Sidney Herbert and other aristocrats. Mr. Reynolds implored the industrious classes generally to put no faith in anything which the aristocracy undertook *or proposed in their behalf;* the philanthropy of that aristocracy was a mere sham and deception, to cloak the most infamous intentions; the present idea now, was to adopt in England the "clearance system," so atrociously applied to Ireland; and the first test of the experiment was to be applied to the unfortunate needlewomen of London. The aristocracy wanted to depopulate this country, to such an extent that only just so many workers and toilers should be left, as were sufficient to supply the indolent rich with the luxuries of life; and thus the surplus population was to be got rid of by emigration! But every man who was a husband, a father, or a brother, should warn the poor toiling women of the metropolis, and elsewhere, not to be deluded by the tremendous humbug of the Sidney Herbert project, for the emigrant-ships were nests of debauchery, cruelty, and misery; and when the poor female emigrants arrived in Australia, they would find to their cost how lamentably, and how iniquitously they had been deceived. Mr. Reynolds resumed his seat amidst loud cheering.

Julian Harney seconded the resolution, in a speech of considerable length, which elicited much cheering.

Mr. Vernon said, after the impressive and eloquent speeches made by his friends, the mover and seconder of the resolution, there was little left for him to say on the subject. He read in the resolution that, "the further the session progresses, the more opposed it is to the people. That nothing can be hoped from the legislature." Now, presuming this to be the truth, and the speech of Mr. Reynolds and of Mr. J. Harney, in support of the proposition, with the plaudits with which they had responded to their remarks, justified him in assuming that the meeting at least believed this true. He would ask what is the use of paying any attention to the doings of a set of men, when they were sure no good can come of them? The fact is, that the people must look to themselves and not to others—what an individual, or a people suffers, is the result of something which they themselves have done, either by design or in ignorance—or of something which they ought to have done, but have omitted for one other of the same causes; let every one present assure himself of this fact, and cease to complain of others—let them immediately begin to reform themselves. He had suffered a long and wearisome imprisonment, for open and advised speaking; but even at the risk of what would be a still greater punishment, the loss of the confidence of his brother democrats, he would say what he believed to be the truth. He had no objection to a meeting on Tuesday night, to examine into the conduct of the House of Commons; but he should like one on a Wednesday, to examine into the conduct of the Chartists. Their friends who had spoken had told them what the members of the legislature had been doing during the past week. Now, he would ask, what had they been doing for themselves? He verily believed, nothing, and they were looked upon as nothing. The only business of their representatives is, to dispute and quarrel who should have the greatest share of the spoil. The fault was not in those who tyrannise over the nation, but in the people who permit them to do so. The masses—there were thousands of glorious exceptions—were divided by their own selfishness—families could not live in harmony—each couple would have their own little, although miserable home—they thought of nothing but themselves—they only wished a change for their own benefit. France, and the continent of Europe, had been alluded to. They were trained differently there. Two or three generations—fathers, grandfathers, children and grand-children—all living under one roof—merging self, to a great degree, in the desire to make others happy. A nation is only a large family. A people so trained were, at any time, prepared to make personal sacrifices for a general good. A Frenchman holds his life, even, only in trust for his country and his principles. In England, the want of faith in a principle, and their division was the enemy's strength. He liked to see the co-operative principle spreading; it would bring men together, make them know one another, and so prepare them for a greater move in advance. The people must learn to act with energy and unity. When men are prepared to act thus, will the disgraceful epithet, now so commonly applied to the most useful members of the community, of the *lower orders,* be wiped away—then, and not till then, will the people attain their just position—that of Sovereign in all lands (Cheers.)

Mr. J. Bronterre O'Brien delivered a lengthy, satirical, and powerful speech, which excited great applause.

The resolution was then put and agreed to unanimously. The meeting then separated.

Chartist Intelligence.

Stockport.—A South Lancashire delegate meeting was held in this locality, on Sunday last. The meeting was not numerously attended—but the right sort of materials seemed to have been selected, to re-organise the Chartists of this division of Lancashire. Mr. Thomas Storak, was appointed chairman; Mr. William Benfold, secretary; Stockport was represented by Mr. James Williams and Mr. William Benfold; Staleybridge, by Mr. Samuel Cooper; Manchester, by Mr. John Jackson and Mr. William Schofield; Ashton, by Mr. Thomas Storak. Letters were put in and read by the Secretary from Rochdale and other places, expressing their approval of the objects of the meeting, and bearing upon the formation of a local lecturer's plan. The delegates having entered into a lengthy consideration of the rules of the new Association, Mr. James Williams moved the following resolution, which was unanimously agreed to, viz:—"That the eight rule be expunged, and the following substituted:—'All persons acquiesing in the objects of the Association, shall be eligible to become members by taking out cards of membership, for which they shall pay threepence, and shall also pay one penny per week, as contribution to the funds of the Association; one-fourth of the same to be sent to the Executive, monthly. Cards of membership to be issued annually.'" It was also agreed "that the word 'General' be substituted in the fifth rule for the word 'local'" The local rules were then brought under the notice of the delegates. In reference to which the delegates unanimously rejected the rule which requires the names of the agents to be sent for the "approval of the Executive, also that the second rule be made to read 'three months in lieu of six months.'" It was also agreed "that each delegate must use every endeavour in his respective locality, to raise funds for the relief of Dr. M'Douall and family, to defray the legal expenses of Mr. O'Connor, and other liabilities. The following resolution was also agreed to:—"That in the opinion of this meeting, it is highly necessary for the several surrounding localities of Chartism of this district, to express themselves as to whether the Executive Committee should or should not be members of any other political association." The local lecturer's plan will be drawn up at the next delegate meeting; meantime, all localities are urgently requested to send delegates to the same, which will be held in Staleybridge, back of the Masons' Arms, High-Street, March 10. All localities are requested to send in the names of persons competent and willing to serve on the same, and how often they wish to receive a lecture. After the thanks of the meeting had been voted to Messrs. Storak and Benfold, for their efficient conduct as officers, the meeting separated.

Rochdale.—Mr. D. Donovan, of Manchester, delivered the first of a course of lectures on the Organisation of Labour, in the Chartist Association Room, Rochdale. Mr. Donovan entered fully into the present state of the working classes of the United Kingdom, showing how the people of Ireland were buried without coffins, to the great disgrace of a civilised country; how the streets of London were disgraced by the seduction of the fair sex, and concluded by pointing out our several social evils. Mr. Donovan was warmly applauded during the delivery of his lecture, which gave general satisfaction. After the lecture, the following resolution was agreed to:—proposed by Mr. Wood, and seconded by Mr. Bake,—"That we, the Chartists of Rochdale, agree to do all in our power to prevent the maxim of "ruin him with expenses" from being carried into effect, and that we therefore commence a subscription in order to defray the expenses incurred by the enemies of freedom, in order to show to the world that we are on the alert, and will not allow them to trample the Champion of Liberty beneath their feet."

Newcastle-upon-Tyne.—At a meeting of members on Sunday evening last, in their room, Cock Inn, Head of the Side, after reading the report of the trial of O'Connor *versus* Bradshaw, and the strange decision of the jury had been commented upon, the following resolution was adopted:—"That a subscription be entered into to assist in defraying the expenses of Mr. O'Connor." It was also carried:—"That parties be empowered to engage a room in the event of Mr. Harney consenting to visit Newcastle." The following persons were then nominated as council for the next quarter:—George Smith, Thomas Lighton, J. M'Farlane, John Hudson, John Brown, Martin Jude, treasurer; James Nisbett, No. 10, Gibson-street, corresponding secretary.

Aberdeen.—A general *meeting of the members of the* National Charter Association residing in this city was held on Monday evening last, in Mrs. Bain's Hall, Caledonian Hotel. Mr. Lyon in the chair; a committee and office bearers were elected as local agents for the National Association for three months: several parties were enrolled members. Mr. John Garden then moved the following resolution:—"That we, the Aberdeen members of the National Charter Association, while not binding ourselves to all Mr. Julian Harney's sentiments, feel it to be our duty to express our satisfaction with the manly and independent conduct of that gentleman, both in his connexion with the National Charter Association, and in his bold and unflinching advocacy of the cause of democracy in the *Northern Star;* and we do earnestly hope that he will still continue his valuable labours in connexion with the association, until veritable reform, political and social, has achieved a glorious triumph." This was seconded by Mr. William Lindsay, and unanimously agreed to. The meeting then adjourned.

Plymouth.—At a meeting of Land members, and those *few* others who have hitherto supported the Chartist cause in this town—R. Hellings in the chair—it was unanimously resolved:—"That we accept of the resignation of Messrs. Clark, Doyle, Dixon and M'Grath, and call on them to resign their office as Land Directors also, as we have no further confidence in them. We also would remind Mr. Clark, in answer to his *sneer* at the Birmingham men about the *few,* that it is the *few* who have hitherto supported Chartism in every town, and we do not think that gentleman will get the support of the *many* by his present conduct."—It was also resolved:—"That we enter into a collection in aid of Mr. O'Connor's Law Expenses, and tender that gentleman our sympathy, and assurance of unabated confidence."—Thirteen shillings was collected with promises of more.

South Shields.—A public meeting was held in the Town Hall, *South Shields, to petition parliament* for the repeal of the taxes on paper, on advertisements, and the stamp on newspapers. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Dickinson, in a speech full of argument and eloquence, and by Mr. Robinson and other speakers.

Edinburgh.—The committee for raising a fund for the benefit of the widows of the late Williams and Sharp, having succeeded in collecting the greater part of the arrears for tickets of the concert held here on the 8th of October, beg to state that they have experienced considerable difficulty and delay, occasioned by a defaulter, and who still owes 13s. 6d. to the fund. The committee have come to the resolution to send the sum in hand, £3 3s. 2d., and when the balance is recovered that also will be sent. £5 have been previously sent and acknowledged.

Bristol.—On Sunday evening last a large and spirited meeting was held, when great regret was manifested at the disappointment of Mr. O'Connor's intended visit. A resolution was carried that each member should pay one shilling to the Honesty Fund, but that those unable to do so should subscribe according to their circumstances. Friends from Martock, Somerset, (forty miles,) visited Bristol on Monday, to see and hear Mr. O'Connor.

Derby.—At a meeting of Chartists and Land members, held on Sunday evening, Feb. 24th, at Mr. Belfield's, Temperance Hotel, Green-street, the following address, proposed by Mr. W. Short, allottee at Snig's End, and seconded by Mr. W. Chandler, allottee at Minster Lovel, was unanimously adopted:—

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

"Dear Sir,—We, the Chartists and Land members of Derby, in meeting assembled, beg to assure you, that, having watched from beginning to end "The Great Libel Case," (as the never-so-wise proprietor of the *Nottingham Journal* has been pleased to christen it,) *we are—to a man—more deeply rooted,* and grounded in the conviction we have so long entertained of your "Honesty, Philanthropy, and Integrity." So minutely investigated has your character been, on two different occasions, that we believe the issue of those scrutinies will not only gain for you a legion of additional friends, but give an extra impetus to those heaven-born political and social principles which you have for the last eight and twenty years so disinterestedly and nobly advocated. We regret that the trial, in spite of the glaring evidence put forth in support of the prosecution, should have terminated in favour of the *all-pompous* defendant. How stupid and inconsistent the verdict! What a magnificent specimen of the march of intellect, in this, the nineteenth century of *boasted* civilisation and *free* institutions! Oh! sacred powers of discrimination and judgment, how are you robbed of your utility?

"If this, indeed, be a sample of the wisdom of the middle classes, the sooner they are disqualified to sit on juries the better. But, pshaw, it was not their lack of ability to return a conscientious verdict; the question at issue was so plain and simple, that the way-faring man, tho' a fool, need not have erred therein; it was prejudice to the gentleman, whose character was at stake, that blinded their eyes to every sense of *justice.* Well may the working classes of this country evince a moral loathing to trust them. Had it have been a certain Anti-Corn-Law-Agitator, who once received £80,000 for his services, instead of Mr. O'Connor, who, to the knowledge of many, has spent a fortune in the cause of the People, the verdict would, no doubt, have been *vice versa;* so much for the middle-class ascendancy. But, dear sir, the time is not far distant, we hope, when the tables will be turned; when honest Right shall exult over Might, and justice, in triumphant majesty, proclaim the consummation of oppression. Coulson, who appeared against you on the trial, receives from this *meeting an everlasting disapproval of his perfidious* conduct. Deeply, dear sir, do we deplore that one of our own townsmen should have had no more love for his character than to become one of the partisans of Bradshaw. The statement he made in the Exchequer Court, as to his weekly income, was a fabrication of the most palpable dye, the confirmation of which, one of our members, on whose honest testimony you may rely, will fully establish in a letter, which he intends penning in a day or two to you. In conclusion, dear sir, we beg to tender you our united commiseration; each and all of us solicit the privilege of sympathising with you, in your sad career of unmitigated persecution, and earnestly do we hope that the enslaved myriads, for whose redemption your bowels of compassion yearn, will, by one spontaneous effort, fly to avert the desire of your enemies—"*ruin him with expenses.*" The little band of the grateful hearts of Derby are already in the field, and we feel a happy confidence within us, that our humble subscriptions will not sully the columns of that paper of which you, dear sir, are the too liberal proprietor.

"Signed, on behalf of the Association,
"W. Lewis Faire, Cor. Sec."

South London Chartist Hall.—At a meeting held on Sunday, February 24th, a resolution was carried unanimously:—"That we, the members of this locality, have full confidence in Messrs. Clark, Dixon, and M'Grath, and the policy of these gentlemen, believing they have acted in accordance with the laws of the late Conference in the support they have given by their speeches at public meetings. Also that we, the members of the aforesaid locality, do not acknowledge Messrs. Miles, Pattison, and Collins, as our delegates to the Conference, to take place on Wednesday evening, February 27th." This resolution was carried unanimously, only two members of the locality being absent.

Finsbury.—The members met at Mr. Blake's on Sunday evening last. Mr. Henry was in the chair. The following resolution was carried unanimously. Moved by Mr. R. Jones, seconded by Mr. W. Pool, "That in the opinion of the members of the Finsbury Chartist locality, the practice of denouncing the middle classes from the public platform is calculated to deter those who possess the franchise from using that franchise for the benefit of the working classes, they believing, from such denunciations, that they are opposed to the interest of the middle classes. We further recommend the working classes to stand by the Charter, as the best means of securing their interest." The resolution was supported by Messrs. Blake, Nobbs, Alford, Fuzzen, and Allnutt. The sum of six shillings was collected for the O'Connor Indemnity Fund, as their first instalment, and the meeting adjourned until Sunday evening, March 3rd.

The City of Canterbury.—We are informed that a deputation, consisting of the leading liberal electors of Canterbury, have waited upon Mr. E. James, the eminent barrister, who goes the home circuit, requesting him to offer himself as a candidate in the room of Lord A. Denison, who has accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.—*Globe.*

Kidderminster Election.—The committee to inquire into this election will have two cases of bribery brought before them, and instead of sureties being attached to the petition, a sum of money to defray the expenses of the inquiry has been lodged in the Bank of England.

The Metropolis.

Health of London during the Week.—The mortality of the metropolitan districts, which in the last week of January amounted to 1,094 deaths, has during the three subsequent weeks steadily declined. The number registered in the week ending last Saturday was 911; in the corresponding weeks of ten previous years (1840-9) the deaths ranged from 916 to 1,253, and the average was 1,068, which, if corrected for increase of population, becomes 1,165; the result of the comparison is a decrease in the present return of 254 deaths. The improvement is most conspicuous in that class of diseases which affect the organs of respiration; and in connexion with this fact it is worthy of remark, that since the 24th of January the mean temperature has been about 8 deg. higher than in the same period of seven years. Last week the mean temperature was 47 deg. 2 min., though in the corresponding weeks of ten previous years (1840-9) it only ranged from 31 deg. 7 min. in 1845, to 45 deg. 4 min. in 1849. In the last four weeks the deaths from consumption have been successively 137, 135, 113, and 94; from bronchitis, 126, 14, 88, and 79; from asthma, 33, 12, 22, and 21; from pneumonia, or inflammation of the lungs, 75, 69, 76, and 51. Last week the deaths from the four diseases now mentioned were only 245, whilst the corrected average of the same week is 331. But though the mortality from particular causes has so much declined, the deaths in the epidemic class show a small increase on those of the previous week. There were 9 last week from small-pox, 11 from scarlatina, 21 from diarrhœa, 24 from measles, 32 from typhus, and 36 from hooping-cough; but these are all less fatal than usual, except measles and diarrhœa, of which the latter shows double the average (as derived from the corresponding weeks of 1849-9), though not more than in the same week of the last three years. On the 15th and 19th of February respectively, two infant children of a labourer died of "cynanche parotidæa," at 27, Dove-row, Haggerstone East, one after ten days, another after a fortnight's illness. One person died of intemperance. The mean daily reading of the barometer at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, was above 30 in., except on Tuesday and Wednesday. The mean of the week was 30·070 in. The mean daily temperature was above 48 deg. on Monday and Friday, and the lowest, which occurred on Saturday, was not less than 45 deg. 3 min.

Fires and Probable Loss of Life.—On Saturday afternoon last a fire of a very serious nature, and nearly attended with fatal consequences to two or three persons, broke out in the extensive range of premises belonging to Messrs. Heathfield and Burgess, the experimental chemists, carrying on business in Princes-square, Finsbury. From the fact of the property in which the disaster occurred being contiguous to the congreve factory of Messrs. Hynau and Co., and the hot-pressing works of Messrs. White, a most fearful conflagration at one period was anticipated. It appears that shortly before three o'clock, whilst three or four of the workmen were engaged in the still house attending to the distillation of some chloroform and naphtha, the man-hole of the still, from some cause, not clearly ascertained, blew off, and in an instant, about ten or twelve gallons of the spirits became ignited, when the whole blazed upwards, and rushed through the roof threatening every thing around. Two of the workmen who were nearest the still were burned by the flames coming in contact with their persons, and it was with the greatest difficulty that the other men on the premises were enabled to effect a safe retreat. The firemen were unable to get the flames extinguished until several gallons of chloroform and naphtha were destroyed, the roof of the still-house partially burned off, and the remainder of the stock in trade, with utensils in that part of the premises considerably damaged by fire and breakage. The two poor fellows who were so seriously burned remain in a very precarious condition.——On the same evening a fire, which it is feared will be attended with fatal results, occurred at No. 20, Bell-lane, Spitalfields, in the occupancy of Mr. Lewis Symons. It originated in the first floor back room, from a spark flying out of a lighted candle on to a bed, and a young woman, about seventeen years of age, who was in the place, became surrounded with flame. With the aid of an abundant supply of water, the fire in the room and about the female was extinguished; but so seriously was she burned, that little hopes are entertained of her recovery.——This fire had hardly been subsided, when the firemen were called to another at No. 7, Upper Park-place, Dorset-square, in the occupancy of Mr. George Collins, which was not extinguished until considerable damage was done.—About the same time another fire happened at No. 3, Adelaide-place, Whitecross-street, belonging to Mr. Henry Smith. The firemen and engines were soon in attendance, and the fire was happily confined to that part of the premises in which it commenced.——Another fire happened at No. 173, Brick-lane, Spitalfields, belonging to Mr. W. S. Stubbs, a surgeon, caused from an escape of gas, which, becoming ignited, set the shop in flames. The inmates and firemen, however, succeeded in getting the fire out before any considerable amount of damage was done.——On the same afternoon, shortly before four o'clock, a fire broke out in the Champion Tavern, Dockhead, the property of Robert Coombes, the champion of the river. It was caused by a spark flying out of a grate and setting a quantity of wearing apparel in flames. The inmates and strangers succeeded in extinguishing the fire before much damage was done.

On Saturday night last, an inquiry was held at St. John's Vestry, Southwark, before the coroner of London, on the body of F. Hyland, aged sixteen months. The child became seriously ill on the previous Monday, and application was made to the parochial surgeon, Mr. Leadam, for advice. An order on the surgeon was duly obtained from the relieving officer. The child died on Wednesday night. Mr. Leadam did not see it at all, but it was prescribed for by his assistant, a lad of eighteen, who had not passed any examination, and seemed not to understand the cause of illness. He asked the mother what she thought of the illness. On Monday medicine was given without seeing the child. On Tuesday the mother took it to the surgeon's house, and the assistant promised to call, but he did not do so, though he was twice solicited to do so. The child was supposed to have died from convulsions, caused by pain in teething.—The jury returned a verdict of "Natural death, accelerated by want of proper medical attention."

Fire at Islington.—On Saturday last a fire broke out at a marine store dealer's in Upper Queen-street, Lower-road, belonging to a person named Wood. When the fire was first discovered it was burning furiously in the front shop, and the inmates found some difficulty in effecting their escape. The London Brigade and other engines were quickly on the spot, but the fire was not extinguished until the stock, &c., was consumed. The origin of the fire could not be ascertained.

The Late Fire in Lambeth.—Mr. Crake, the carver and gilder, of the York-road, Lambeth, who has exerted himself in a very praiseworthy manner in behalf of the poor men and females who were thrown out of employment by the late disastrous fire in Lambeth, has succeeded in collecting about £40 to relieve their present necessities.

Fire in Camomile-street.—On Tuesday night, a few minutes after eight o'clock, a fire, attended with the destruction of some thousand pounds worth of property, broke out in Camomile-street, Bishopsgate-street. The premises in which the disaster occurred were formerly used as a dissenting chapel, but at the present time were in the occupancy of Messrs. Hearon, M'Cullock, and Squire, the wholesale and export druggists, of 96, Bishopsgate-street, and were used as their store warehouses. The contents of the premises were not, as is generally the case in similar trades, explosive; if they had been, owing to the extreme narrowness of the thoroughfare, the consequences might have been most disastrous to human life. By half-past ten o'clock the firemen happily succeeded in getting the mastery over the conflagration, but not until the premises and their valuable contents were nearly destroyed. Not the least information could be gleaned respecting the probable cause of the fire. None of the workmen, it was stated, had been in the place for some hours before the outbreak happened.

The Bermondsey Murder.—It appears their is a dertermination on the part of the government to dispose of the claims made by the attorneys for *Manning and his wife, Mr. Binns and Mr. Solomons*, for conducting their defence, to be paid out of the proceeds of the jewels and other property seised by the police, and now in the hands of Inspector Yates. On Saturday last Mr. Binns, the attorney for Manning, received from Mr. Maule a letter, requesting him to furnish him with his bill of costs for his consideration, previous to a settlement, a similar letter being received by Mr. Solomons. It is understood that none of the property will be sold by the government, to prevent a revival of the atrocities committed by their exhibition to the morbid curiosity of the public by the caterers for such amusements, but that the whole will be otherwise disposed of. The lords of the treasury have awarded to Mr. Moxey, the superintendent of the Edinburgh police, the sum of £30, and to one of his officers £5, for their active part in accomplishing the capture of Mrs. Manning at the house in Haddington-place, in that city. Mr. Moxey has very generously distributed his portion among three charitable Institutions in Edinburgh.

Suppression of Gambling.—The gambling-houses in the vicinity of Jermyn-street, Regent-street, and Leicester-square, have been placed under a close surveillance, by order of the commissioners of police. Two constables are stationed at the entrance to each house, to note down and describe the persons entering therein. They will be relieved at stated intervals, the surveillance to continue, without intermission, night and day. It is anticipated that this step will have the effect of considerably diminishing the numbers of the frequenters of these social pest-houses, and that the chances of successful plunder enjoyed by their owners being correspondingly lessened, it will ultimately lead to their total discomfiture.

Caution to Coffee-house Keepers.—In the Court of Inland Revenue Mary Ann Fletcher, of Queen-street, Sherrard-street, St. James's, coffee-house keeper, was charged with retailing spirituous liquors without a licence. Mr. S. Kingsford, an officer of excise, proved the selling of the liquor, which was consumed on the premises, and no money asked for before it was served. Mr. Hayling, the supervisor, corroborated the evidence, and said the defendant had no licence for the sale of the spirits. The court gave judgment against the defendant in the penalty of £10.

Great Public Cemetery at Abbey-wood.—It has been known for some time past that a public cemetery was about to be made to the extent, in the first instance, of 400 acres, at Abbey-wood, a beautiful spot on the south bank of the river Thames, between Woolwich and Erith. The spot is very near the Abbey-wood station, on the North Kent line of the South-Eastern Railway, and about thirty-five minutes' distance from London-bridge. When the examination of the ground took place it was considered to be for a private company, but now there is reason to suppose it is the place recommended, altheugh not named in the report of the Board of Health.

The Provinces.

Uttering Forged Notes.—On Friday evening a gang of swindlers, who were engaged in circulating notes, in imitation of those of the Brighton Union Bank, amongst the shopkeepers of Brighton, were detected and lodged in prison. The forgeries are said to be well executed.—The four prisoners were examined this morning (Feb. 25), before Mr. C. Carpenter, Mr. T. J. Bellamy, Mr. Montagu Scott, Major Allen, and Col. Paine. The court was crowded to excess, scarcely less interest being excited than what was manifested at the failure of Wigney's bank some years ago. The prisoners gave their names as follows:—Joseph Green, City-road, London; Joseph Hadland, Duke-street, Sheffield-park; Robert Stewart, 5, Devonshire-place, Brighton; and William Clarkson. The cases occupied the whole day, and the evidence completely substantiated most of the charges. The following is a summary of this remarkable case:—Mr. T. H. Chase, the chief officer of the Brighton police, received by post a communication from Mr. Stevens, chief officer of the Birmingham police, that a man was in custody in the latter town on a charge of being concerned in passing forged notes of the Birmingham banks; that when apprehended he threw a bundle of notes into the fire, and that one of the fragments recovered from the flames by the police purported to be a portion of a £5 note of the Brighton Union Bank. This fragment was enclosed in the letter. It was the second or right hand half of a note, to all appearance a genuine "promise to pay." The banking firm is that of Messrs. Hall, West, and Borrer, whose notes are en graved in the usual manner, and bear, beneath the name of the bank a miniature delineation of the Pavilion. The signature is that of Mr. West, whose writing bears the impress of nervousness, and is not a bad imitation of the real signature. Mr. Chase, on receiving the communication from Birmingham, immediately placed himself in communication with the bank. He was engaged in conversation with Mr. Pocock, chief clerk of the bank, on the subject, on Saturday evening, when a junior clerk brought in a £5 note, which had been brought to the office for change, and which was thought to be bad. It turned out that a man of gentlemanly appearance had, at the shop of Mr. Lashmar, draper, purchased some articles, for which he tendered a £5 Union Bank Note, and that Mr. Lashmar, not having enough change sent the note to the bank. The bank happens to be very near to Mr. Lashmar's shop. Mr. Chase ran to the shop immediately, and walked to the hall with the draper's customer, who was strictly searched. The stockings were removed from the legs, and beneath the garters were found eight notes similar to those already mentioned. The prisoner, on being further interrogated, said he had no residence in Brighton, and that he lived in the City-road, London, but did not know the number. Finding in the prisoner's pocket a piece of paper on which was written, "Willy, St. James's-street," Mr. Chase inquired whether he had changed any £5 notes of the Union Bank, or received any such notes in payment for purchased articles. One of the assistants replied that a man had made a purchase for which he paid with a £5 note, subsequently changed at Mr. Tuppen's, who produced it. Mr. Chase returned to the Town-hall, and on his way passed the shop of Mr. Lashmar, where the first note had been uttered, surrounded by a crowd witnessing the removal by Superintendent Crowburst of a second man who had been offering another of the forged notes at the same shop. Constables in plain clothes were immediately despatched about the town to put the tradesmen on their guard, and in the course of the evening upwards of twenty other £5 notes, the produce of the same forgery, were brought to the hall, as well as two more of the utterers, in consequence of the information. The notes of the bank are numbered by means of printing types, and the forgeries are well executed resemblances. Economy, however, has been studied for all the numbers are combinations of the four figures, 6, 7, 0, 4, differently disposed. The plan has been well digested. The necessity of simultaneous action seems to have been perceived, for all the utterings were between six and eight o'clock. Evidence having been given bringing the charge home to the accused, the prisoners were all formally remanded. On Tuesday the several prisoners were again brought up before the bench and committed for trial, the magistrates declining to take bail in either of the cases.

Blindness in a Boy caused by Beating.—At the County Court of Cornwall last week an action of damages was brought against William Brabyn, a schoolmaster in Withiel, by a boy named Nicholas Robins, nine years old, who, in consequence of a beating inflicted on him by Brabyn had lost his sight. The witnesses proved that the defendant had struck Robins several times on the head with a stick, and that the boy had been ill ever since, his health having been remarkably good previously. The medical gentleman who had attended plaintiff stated, that when called in he found the boy labouring under symptoms which led him to suppose there was pressure on the brain. These symptoms were succeeded by blindness and deafness. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £20.

Incendiary Fire at Reading.—On Saturday night last, about half-past ten o'clock, the farm premises of George Higgs, Esq., a wealthy gentleman, living at a fine suburban villa on the Oxford road, about one mile from the centre of the borough, but just within its boundaries, were discovered to be on fire. The building ignited so quickly that it was impossible even for the most energetic and daring man to do much for the safety of the cattle, and two fine cows, which could not be approached, were roasted alive in their stalls. Several pigs were injured to such an extent by the flames, that they were instantly obliged to be killed. The fire continued to blaze for hours, and the whole town was brilliantly lighted up by the body of flame, which covered an area of a quarter of an acre. The place is a complete mass of ashes, and the loss must amount to a few thousands of pounds. The property consists of barns, one or two ricks of corn, stables, cattle sheds, granaries, agricultural implements, &c., horses, the two cows, and three pigs. The proprietor was fully insured.

Fire at Clay-Hill Hall.—On Saturday evening last a very destructive fire happened at the seat of Mr. Bosanquet, the banker, at Clay-hill, about two miles distant from Enfield, and was not subdued until a serious destruction of property had taken place. The building in which the fire originated was detached from the residence, and was being prepared, we understand, for a library. It was of an old-fashioned construction, the fronting covered with ivy. Some persons had been engaged during the day in airing the place, and about six o'clock in the evening smoke was seen issuing from the windows by some lads who were passing by. An alarm was instantly raised, and an attempt made to enter the building so as to ascertain the seat of the fire. The heat and smoke, however, were too overpowering to allow them to proceed far into the interior, and in a very short time the flames had full possession of the building. Engines were promptly despatched to the scene of the conflagration, but were not able to save any portion of the place. The exact loss is not known, but it is stated that some very choice books were stored in the building. The dwelling house is not injured. The estate formerly belonged to Mr. Harman, the eminent merchant.

The Mendip Mines.—About 150 of the workmen employed at the Mendip Mines have struck for wages. This determination was made known by them in a body to the chairman of the company, Mr. E. H. Barwell.

Child Murder.—On Saturday last information was circulated of the murder of a male child, five or six weeks old, whose body, with a heavy brick tied to it, was found in a pit of water at Weston Norris. The child which appeared to have been in the water three or four weeks, was recognised as having about that time been seen in the possession of a woman who was stopped and searched by a police-officer, and who then stated that she was proceeding to Stockport. She is described as about forty years old in appearance, and four feet nine inches high: a very coarse looking woman, with round face, sandy hair and complexion, and flat nose a little crooked, and wore strong shoes, without stockings, a short and much worn cloth cloak, a muslin cap, but no bonnet.

Angling for a Thief.—One of the men in Mr. Brigg's tobacco manufactory, at Bristol, having discovered on the 22nd ult. a parcel of about 3 lb. of snuff secreted away under a chest in a room where it could only have been placed for dishonest purposes, informed the foreman, who told him to leave it there and attach a string to it, which he was to convey up behind the chest to a room on the second floor, and there tie it to a stick which served as a sort of float, for the person hurriedly removing the parcel below must pull the string, and give the signal up stairs. As the men were leaving the manufactory the man on watch saw the "float" dip, and running down stairs secured the parcel on the person of a man named George Roberts, and with the string still attached to it. The act was complete, and the *line* of evidence connected. Roberts, who was one of the workmen in the warehouse, has been committed for trial.

Riot and Loss of Life at a Protectionist Meeting.—In an affray that ensued between the protectionists and free traders at the Dorset County Protection Meeting, a young man was struck down by a farmer, and so seriously injured, that he expired the same night. An adjourned inquest on the body was held at Dorchester on Friday the 22nd ult. The name of the deceased is William Allen, aged about twenty, who was in the employ of Mr. Bonifas, tailor of Dorchester. The following was given in evidence:—Mr. W. Tapp, surgeon, attended the deceased when he was brought to the Dorset county hospital, and found him labouring under concussion of the brain. He was much worse at eight o'clock in the evening, and at about eleven o'clock he died. His death was caused from extravasation of blood on the brain. On a *post mortem* examination of the body I found some slight external marks of injury on the head, but only one attended with extravasation of blood; the skull was unusually thin, and there was a slight fracture of the parietal bone.—S. Balster heard Mr. J. Brake, butcher, of Sydling, say to Mr. F. Bennett, landlord of the Royal Oak, that it was he who struck the boy. Happened to hear this conversation in passing.—H. Strickland: I live at Dorchester. I was in the Bridport-road on Wednesday when the meeting broke up. The mob was very thick. The deceased was standing still, with one hand in his pocket, when he was struck by a man who was chasing some boys. The deceased stopped, apparently to let the man pass, but directly he came up with him he swung his stick in the air, and brought it down on the back of Allen's head as hard as he could. Allen staggered and fell backwards. After he struck Allen the man ran away towards the *rest of the farmers*. Stones were flying about. I went up to Allen and took him by the hand, but he appeared quite dead. I did not know the person who struck deceased. He struck him with a dark stout stick, and fell down himself from the violence with which he struck the blow.—M. Devanish, jun., saw the farmers pursuing the mob, and went in the same direction. I saw a young man, of eighteen or twenty, running away from a farmer. I saw him strike him on the head. The boy dropped directly he received the blow, which was given with such violence that the farmer fell too. I did not see his face. He had on a brown over-coat, and appeared to be a tall, middle aged man. I should not know him again if I were to see him.—F. Bennett: I am landlord of the Royal Oak. I had no conversation with Mr. Brake yesterday. I never heard him own that he had struck the boy.—Susan Balster: I was passing down the street with my husband after the meeting was over, and, on passing the Royal Oak, I saw several persons and Mr. Brake. I heard Mr. Brake say to one of the persons, "I have done for him." One of the persons said, "Was it you?" and Mr. Brake replied, "Yes."—C. Cox: I saw the man strike down Allen, and I went across the field to him and said, "You are no man; you are a coward." He turned round to a blacksmith, who was standing by, and said, "I'll serve you the same, and half a dozen like you." The blacksmith offered to fight him. I knew that the man who struck Allen was a butcher living at or near Sydling. I had seen him frequently in the market. I was one of Allen's shop-mates. I did not see him do anything before he was struck down. I went to Sydling this morning to the house of Mr. Brake, and saw him, I am sure he is the person who struck down Allen.—H. Luck, solicitor: I saw one of the farmers running after a young man, and hit him a blow with a large stick. The young man fell down, and the farmer himself stumbled. I looked particularly at the man, but did not recognise him. I am partially acquainted with Mr. Brake, but cannot say whether he was or was not the man. I was fully one hundred yards from the spot, and heard the blow distinctly.—J. Fitz-Simmons gave similar evidence, adding, I knew the man from seeing him frequently in the town. Mr. Brake is the man. I went over to his house this morning to identify him, and told him he was the man who had struck the boy down. He said he was confident he was not. To the best of my belief he struck the lad with a white-handled whip, with a hammer at the end of it, with the hammer end. I undertake to swear positively he is the man.—C. Cooper: I live at Weymouth. I was present at the meeting. The farmer who struck the boy was walking along quietly, when the young man aimed a stone at him deliberately and hit him, I believe, under the ear. He staggered two or three paces back, and then followed the lad. He had a stick—a common walking stick. He made a cut at the boy, and I said, "That's a dead 'un." The boy fell down as a rabbit does when he is shot. I was within ten yards of him. I could not identify the man.—Mr. Joseph Stone, town clerk of Dorchester, said he saw the beginning of the row, when the rush was made from the riding school. Stones were flung, and windows were broken. He went amongst the people and tried to pacify them, and he asked a boy for his stick, which he gave up readily.—A juror: Did you ask the farmers to give up their sticks?—Mr. Stone: I did not.—The inquest was then adjourned.—**Adjourned Inquest.**—On Monday the inquiry into the death of the lad Allen, who was killed in the affray after the protection meeting held at Dorchester on Wednesday last, was resumed at the Shire Hall, before Mr. Wallis, the coroner. On Tuesday morning, the jury having been locked up from four p.m. till half-past eight a.m., announced that they could not agree, and were bound over to appear at the assizes on the 14th March.

Awful Death.—An inquest was held on Saturday last at the Lucker station of the York, Newcastle, and Berwick Railway, before Mr. T. A Russell, one of the coroners for the county of Northumberland, and a respectable jury, on the body of Mr. Richard Hobson, aged 72, of Greenhill, near Bamburgh, who was killed on the previous day by the mail train from the south running him down whilst he was imprudently crossing the line. The deceased was formerly upwards of twenty-six years in the service of the Duke of Northumberland, at Alnwick Castle, as home bailiff, and auditor of accounts in the Commissioners'-office. On his resignation of those appointments, in 1832, he made a tour through the agricultural districts of England and Scotland, and subsequently became principal agent to the late Earl Grey, remaining at Howick, as manager of his estates, up to the period of that nobleman's death in 1845, when he retired to Greenhill, where he has since resided, much respected by a large circle of acquaintances for the genuine hospitality which he practised, and the unostentatious warmth of friendship by which he was strikingly characterised. He was unmarried, and it is lamentable to think that his awful death was the result of his own rash and impudent conduct, of which he had been repeatedly warned by his own servant as well as the station-keeper. The jury, on the conclusion of the evidence, immediately returned a verdict of "Accidental death," the jury expressing that while they quite exonerated all the parties from any blame whatever, they thought that it would be well if the gatekeeper, in future, looked after the foot passengers' little gate when a train is coming up, so as to stop any one from trying to cross.

Disturbance amongst the Farm Labourers in Wilts.—Last week considerable excitement prevailed in that portion of the county adjacent to West Lavinton, in consequence of a numerous body of agricultural labourers having "struck" from work and threatening serious disturbances. A reduction of wages appears to have been the cause of the outbreak. On the previous Saturday most of the principal farmers in the neighbourhood intimated their intention of reducing the wages of their labourers from 7s. to 6s. a week. The men had previously got a hint of the comtemplated reduction, and a number of them waited upon the steward of Lord Churchill (the owner of the principal farms in the parish,) with a view of inducing him to intercede in their behalf. This led to no beneficial result; and the men finding that their masters were determined on reducing them to 6s., about 150 of them assembled early on Monday morning in front of the house of Mr. Spencer, a large farmer, and stopped men, horses, and agricultural implements proceeding to work by that road. Having persuaded others labourers to join them, they went round to all the farms, and completely stopped all operations. They took horses from ploughs, opened sheep pens, and prevented all labour being proceeded with. No opposition being offered them, they pursued the same course throughout the day, visiting every farm in the vicinity and forcing off the labourers who were at work. On the following day some of them returned to work, but it being reported that warrants were out for the ringleaders, more than one hundred of the men formed themselves into a band and paraded the streets with staves. The assistance of the constabulary was then sought, and Captain Meredith, with a strong force arrived, and remained on duty in the village during the night. The men had returned to their homes, and something like order was restored on Wednesday. On Thursday, however, there was a renewal of the excitement. A man named Kite, who had taken an active part in the affair, was brought before the magistrates of this town, and conveyed to prison. He had not been long in custody, before a large body of his fellow-labourers, armed with sticks, came into the town, for the purpose of rescuing him, but were unable to carry their intentions into effect.

Confession of Murder.—It has within the last two or three days been made known that John Baguley, aged seventy, who died at Chilwell, four miles south of Nottingham, on the 16th ult., confessed on his death-bed that twenty-three years ago he murdered a hawker of shawls, blankets, &c., and disposed of the body. At the period of his sudden disappearance, the murdered man professed to be courting one of Baguley's daughters, and as he was known to be in possession of a considerable sum of money, he was looked upon as being rather a desirable suitor, especially as the Baguleys were known to be very poor. The hawker had not been missing more than twelve months, however, before their circumstances began to improve, and from the condition of a poverty-stricken labourer Baguley became suddenly advanced to that of a comfortable cottager, with a number of pigs in his stye. The first Mrs. Baguley died five or six years ago, and said a short time previously that she had something on her mind which she should like to reveal; but this coming to her husband's knowledge, he never afterwards would allow a stranger to go to her room. The present Mrs. Baguley was married to him about three years ago, since which time, she says, his conduct has been very strange in his sleep. Frequently he would jump up in a state of great excitement, and exclaim that some one was about to seize him. The day before he died he said to her, "The pick that I did it with is buried in the dyke," and other revelations followed, which have not yet been made public. The whole of the circumstances have been made known to T. B. Charlrod, Esq., the local magistrate, and will no doubt be fully and efficiently investigated.

Attempted Assassination at Fremington House.—The unfortunate man William Symons, the servant of Mr. William Arundel Yeo, the High Sheriff of Devon, at Fremington-house, near Barnstaple, who was shot on Tuesday night last by an assassin, continues in an hopeless condition, and his death is momentarily expected. The assassin Lillycarp, *still remains at large*; an accurate description of his person has been distributed all over the country by the police, with a reward for his apprehension.

Ireland.

The Tenant Movement.—The Tenant-right Associations, in various parts of Ulster, are meeting to express their "decided abhorrence" of the incendiary and other outrages recently perpetrated, and their "earnest desire to preserve the security of property, and the peace and social order of the community," whilst they are "determined to seek, by every lawful means, a redress of the grievances under which the tenant-farmers of Ireland are labouring." Some of these associations are engaged in local organisations to discover the persons concerned in the system of incendiarism. Referring to the recent tenant-right meeting at Donaghadee, the *Banner of Ulster* observes, "that Mr. Sharman Crawford fortunately took the sense of the meeting on the main provisions of Sir William Somerville's Bill, and, when he did so, this iniquitous measure was denounced amidst bursts of universal acclamation." The *Nation* denounces the bill as "the destruction of tenant-right." The "tenant protection movement" is gaining strength in the south.

The "Press" Newspaper.—The *Dublin Press* published its last number on the 22nd ult. The business of the establishment is to be wound up. That journal had been established twelve months since, in succession to the *Pilot*.

Shocking Case of Fratricide.—The *King's County Chronicle* contains an account of an affray between two brothers named respectively John and Patrick Egan, residing at Ballyduff, in the King's county. The brothers, it appears, held a farm in copartnership, and for some time had been engaged in petty altercations, and on the day named John, the youngest of the two, proceeded to make a ditch, for the purpose of enclosing a slip of waste land as an addition to his garden at the rear of his house, when his ill-fated brother opposed him, and a conflict is supposed to have ensued—there was no person present, but a broken spade was found beside the dead body, which exhibited several bleeding gashes. Both men belonged to a rather comfortable class, were in the prime of life, and, except to each other, were kind and obliging, and of spotless reputation. Their united families number seventeen individuals, thirteen of whom are children under twelve years of age. A verdict of wilful murder has been returned, and the coroner has issued a warrant for the apprehension of the accused, who has absconded.

Spread of Incendiarism in Ulster. — The *Northern Whig* of Saturday contains the following:—"On Tuesday morning last three dwelling houses, with their offices, were burned to the ground, in the townland of Fourscore acres, Cairncastle, the property of James Agnew, Esq. It appears that the previous occupiers of these houses had been ejected for non-payment of rent, two of them being behind three years', and one two years' rent. In one of the houses, three men sleeping in it had a narrow escape from being burned to death. Mr. Agnew is spoken of as a kind and considerate landlord; and we are informed that he had not only drained the land of the ejected tenants, but, that finding they were unable to pay him his rent, had, also allowed them to take away the last year's crops. On Wednesday night a a house was fired and burned at Killead, on the property of General Pakenham. On the morning of that day George Cunningham, who had occupied the premises for many years, and had been struggling for some time past to pay his rent, was ejected from the house."

The *Belfast Chronicle* gives some details of two other incendiary fires. In the one case the inmates had a very narrow escape, having been obliged to make their exit through a window, as the perpetrators of the outrage had fastened the door on the outside. In the other case, the injury was confined to the burning of two stacks of straw.

The gentry and landowners of the county of Down have offered a reward of £500 for the discovery of the persons concerned in the recent attempt upon the life of Mr. Anketell, of Ballinahinch, agent to the Ker estates in that county.

In the south the people are beginning to ply the spring with great spirit. It is stated that in Kerry an unusually large breadth of land is being prepared for potato sowing; and the *Limerick Chronicle* adds that—"The peasantry of the county of Limerick, like their neighbours of Clare and Kerry, are making a vigorous effort to prepare the ground for seed potatoes, hoping, in despite of past failures, for the reward of their labour by increased produce. They have commenced operations thus early in the year, intending to have the seed down this month."

In other parts of Ireland also very extensive preparations are making for planting early potatoes; and the improvement which has taken place in the state of the weather has everywhere revived activity.

Emigration from Waterford.—The *Waterford Mail*, of Friday, says:—"During the last two days our quays have been quite alive with emigrants and their friends, preparing to start for Liverpool, and from thence to America. Yesterday morning, at seven o'clock, upwards of one hundred persons sailed or rather steamed, on board the William Penn; and at twelve o'clock, about four hundred on board the Foyle, Liverpool steamers. Such is the extent of emigration from this and the neighbouring counties, that we are credibly informed we shall shortly have American liners trading between Waterford and New York."

The Clifden Union.—The *Galway Mercury* contains the following:—"The goods and chattels of the Clifden Workhouse were sold out by some of its creditors last week. Cloth, for female clothing, that was purchased in Waterford at 8½d. per yard, and bought by some persons at the sale, was offered on Friday to the Galway guardians for sixpence per yard."

INSOLVENT DEBTORS' COURT.

A Laughable Scene.—A young man, named Percival, applied to be admitted to bail till his hearing, and Mr. Nichols opposed for the detaining creditor, on the ground that Mr. Moon, a furniture dealer, in the New Cut, one of the proposed sureties, was not in a condition to justify as bail.—Mr. Moon, in addition to his affidavit filed, now swore that he was possessed of property in the New Cut of sufficient value to be bail for the insolvent.—The attorney for the detaining creditor (Mr. Howard) stated that he had made inquiries at the house in the New Cut, and a female servant told him that Moon lived at Paddington, and had no interest in the place, and advised him (the attorney) to call when her mistress was at home. He called again, when Mrs. Moon assured him that Moon had no interest in the property, and was a drunken fellow.—At this stage of the case a general opinion seemed to prevail that Moon was "hired bail," and the attorney was despatched to fetch Mrs. Moon, as she had promised to attend, she having said to Mr. Howard, "*Only send for me and he dare not show.*" Moon was requested to remain in court, and he then informed the court that the lady who had given him such a character was his own wife. A laughable scene was now presented. Moon said his wife was determined that he should not be bail in the court and had concocted the story. Some of Mr. Moon's friends assured the court that he was a respectable man, and that his wife had determined to stop him from being bail.—Mr. Commissioner Phillips: At present this seems to be all "moonshine." (Roars of laughter.)—The attorney afterwards returned and said Mrs. Moon would not come with him. She said it was all true what she had stated, and she would come on Monday.—Mr. Nichols said he had told the attorney what had occurred, and he was satisfied that the insolvent should be discharged on the bail as offered.—Mr. Commissioner Phillips told the attorney to be careful how he in future believed what a woman said. (Laughter.) The bail were accepted and the insolvent discharged. Moon had waited in court for the appearance of his wife, but his "careful spouse" did not show when requested, therefore the commissioner said it was "moonshine."

Benefices in Plurality.—By a bill now in the House of Commons, it is proposed that spiritual persons shall not hold benefices in plurality, unless they are actually contiguous to each other, and the population of the two shall not exceed 600. The Act is not to affect benefices under £100, and not to apply to preferments to which persons are admitted. The Act is to apply to Ireland as well as to England.

Assize Intelligence.

CARLISLE.

Uttering Base Coin.—John Williams, aged 28, was charged with having uttered twenty-three base shillings. The Jury found the prisoner "Guilty." Sentence, six months' imprisonment with hard labour.

Thomas Byne, aged 20, pleaded guilty to a similar offence, but of a more aggravated nature. Sentence, twelve months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

Catching a Tartar.—John Grierson, aged 16, was charged with having, at Brampton, assaulted Jas. Freeman, with intent to rob. Prisoner pleaded not guilty.—On the night of the 6th ult., the prisoner and another man had agreed to waylay and rob a person named Warncop, saddler, Brampton, and for that purpose they concealed themselves in a hedge leading from Brampton. Hearing what they thought to be the footsteps of their intended victim, they sprang out from their hiding place, and seized the prosecutor, James Freeman, a soldier, well armed with a thick stick. Startled for a moment the man of war fell under their gripe, and speedily shaking off his antagonists, he belaboured them most unmercifully, and they were too glad to take to their heels. Both fellows escaped for a time, but the prisoner, who had not the sense to keep his own counsel, told the adventure to a faithless friend, who afterwards "peached," and brought him into his present predicament.—Though the counsel for the prosecution strove hard to convict, no proof could be given of the intent.

Murder of Sir James Graham's Gamekeeper.—Joseph Hogg and John Nichol were indicted for the wilful murder of Thomas Davidson on the 8th of November last.—Mr. Sergeant Murphy having opened the case, in the course of which his lordship announced that he should admit the depositions of a man named Andrew Turnbull, charged, along with the prisoners, before the coroner, with the murder, the following evidence was given:—Margaret Davidson, the widow of the late Thomas Davidson, who lived at Kirtle Hall, stated that on Thursday morning, the 8th November last, her husband left home to attend to his duties as a game-watcher for Sir J. Graham. He had received £7 in money on the 5th, three Scotch notes, two sovereigns, and £2 in silver; of this he gave her son two Scotch notes, and paid away £1 8s. He had his stick and plaid with him, no gun. She never after saw him again alive. Her husband's body was brought home on the Saturday, following.—John Armstrong, the gamekeeper of Sir J. Graham, stated that the deceased was one of his watchers. He called on him on the 8th of November, and he was out watching. He called next morning and found he had not got home, and he went in search of him on the south of Skelton-pike. He did not find him that day; and the day after about a score of persons went in search of him, and an alarm was given that his body was found. He saw it in a cart at the deceased's own door. Doe Craig is a favourite place for poachers. He made an examination there on the 15th, and traced some footmarks on the west of Doe Craig. There were some about a mile from Wire's Fold, where the body had been found. Those footmarks were compared with some shoes the policeman afterwards had. On Thursday, the 8th, he heard a gun-shot about ten o'clock. After the body was brought home he searched it, and found a purse, and in it a £1 note, a pocket-piece resembling a shilling, six crooked sixpences, and two farthings and a half-farthing. He undressed the body, and found it black about the neck, and the shirt-neck was torn.—Matthew Patterson, surgeon, stated that on Sunday, the 11th of November, he examined the body of the deceased at Kirtle Hall, his residence. In his judgment deceased had died from strangulation. Had his neckcloth been twisted tight round it would have produced all these effects.—Joseph Gallagher, turnkey, proved that Andrew Turnbull committed suicide in the gaol on the 28th of November, the day after he was committed, and a coroner's inquest was held upon him.—Cross-examined by Mr. James: The same morning that he committed suicide he was told that he was committed on the coroner's inquisition for the wilful murder of Davidson.—William Carrick, the coroner for the district, produced two examinations before him of the deceased Andrew Turnbull, on the inquisition on the deceased, Davidson. He was sworn on each occasion, and the depositions made was in answer to questions. He was told he was not bound to answer anything that would criminate himself. On the second examination neither of the prisoners were present. On the first occasion Jos. Hog was present. The depositions of Andrew Turnbull were then put in and read. The second deposition stated that on the 8th of November last the two prisoners called at his house between seven and eight o'clock, whilst he was in bed, and asked him to go out shooting with them to Doe Craig; it was a very misty morning, and Davidson would not be out watching. He got up and went with them. On their way the prisoner Hogg said to him, "If we light on Davidson we will just put an end to him; thou wilt help us." He said he would not stain his hands in another man's blood, but that he would not tell if they did. They fired at some birds and as they were turning down to Wire's Fold, he looked back and said, "Ah, here is Jem coming." Nichol said, "Curse him, he is." They then all ran, till Nichol cried, "Stop, I will shoot him." Deponent said, he would not stop, and Joseph Hogg then threw down his gun and took off his jacket and made a rush at Davidson. Davidson said, "Be quiet Joe, you know the worst on it." Hogg got hold of his stick and twisted it out of his hands, and Davidson again told him to be quiet. Hogg then seized him by the neck and threw him down, and Davidson cried out, "Thou won't murder me, wilt thou?" Hogg said, "he deserved it, he was only a bad thief at best." Hogg then gripped him by the neckcloth and called on Nichol to help him, and they did it between them, and turned him over on his face. They then said it was all one now; he might have money on him, and they might as well have it, and they took his purse out of his inside waistcoat pocket, and took out of it three sovereigns and three half-crowns, and put back the purse with a Scotch note in it and some silver."—The depositions of Nichol and Hogg, before the coroner, was then put in and read, and they denied knowing anything of the murder.—The evidence having been gone through, his lordship asked the jury if they required Mr. James to address them for the prisoners? The jury were of opinion that the evidence was not conclusive against the prisoners, and Acquitted them.

ISLINGTON COUNTY COURT.

Taylor v. Sullivan. — Extraordinary Case.—This action was brought to recover the sum of £4 15s. The plaintiff (a poor Irish girl) stated that she was in respectable service in Hoxton, and met the defendant nine weeks back, when he suddenly pretended to admire her, telling her she resembled a sister who had died, and asked her to favour him with her company for a walk, as he was a single man, and anxious to get married. She believed his representations, and he continued paying his addresses to her until a fortnight ago, when he induced her to obtain leave of absence from her mistress for a day and a night, representing that it was for the purpose of taking her to Shoreditch church to be married, he having previously told her that he had published their banns there. Her mistress granted her request, the plaintiff having led her to understand that she was going to be bridesmaid to a relative. She met the defendant pursuant to his request, when he took her to the church mentioned, which, however, was closed, when, on his entreaty, she accompanied him to a beer-shop in Whitecross-street, where he introduced her to several men and women, who, he said, were his relatives, and by them and the defendant she was induced to jump over a broom, and go through other mock ceremonies, under an impression that it was legal, and she parted with the amount now claimed, fully believing that he was her lawful husband. After enjoying herself in his company and that of his friends during the day at the beer-shop, she accompanied him to his lodgings for the night, and went to her service in the morning, when she mentioned to her mistress that she had practised a deception on her in obtaining permission of absence, and she then detailed the above extraordinary circumstances, which reaching her master's ears, he adopted the present proceedings, and convinced her of the cruel trick of which she had become the victim.—During the evidence of the plaintiff, the judge, Sergeant Jones, and every one present expressed their surprise and indignation, and, at the conclusion, his honour said it was a matter of surprise to him that her master had not handed over the defendant to be dealt with criminally, which he most richly deserved; and he added that, before giving judgment, he should direct Copeland, one of the officers of the court, to see her master and mistress, to ascertain from them certain matters in confirmation of the plaintiff. Copeland proceeded at once to do so, and when the case was again called on, the learned judge said he had received sufficient proof of the accuracy of her evidence, and he ordered the defendant to pay the money and costs in a week, observing the law then would punish him to the fullest extent if he made any default.—The fellow was then hissed from the spot.

A letter from Naples announces the cessation of the eruption of Vesuvius. The lava had found an issue on the southern side of the mountain towards Mauro d'Ottiano, and flowed down in three directions, the principal stream following the old bed. Notwithstanding this favourable circumstance a good deal of damage had been done to property. Of three persons who had approached too near to witness the phenomenon more at their ease, one was killed, and the two others severely wounded by red-hot stones.

BRITISH COLLEGE OF HEALTH,
NEW-ROAD, LONDON,

Fellow-Countrymen,—In the name of humanity and justice we ask how much longer are the remains of the poor to be cut up in the hospitals, in order to put guineas into the doctors' pockets? Oh! the infamy!

Are the poor who die in hospitals aware that doctors make money by selling their remains to medical students, who pay them so much for a leg, another so much for an arm, &c., &c.? Down with the odious traffic, say all Hygeists. Anatomy is perfectly useless in the cure of any disease. People arise!!

Wreck of a West Indiaman.—The fate of the Sarah, West Indiaman, and the whole of her unfortunate crew, during the recent fatal storm, is now placed beyond all doubt; that she was thrown on the Long Sand by the fury of the hurricane and totally destroyed, there is very little reason to question. Since her loss was rumoured every endeavour has been made to ascertain whether she had been seen after the night of the storm. No satisfactory information has been gleaned, excepting that of her arrival in the Downs from Jamaica, and disappearance the following night. The Cinque Port pilot, Mr. James Pascall, whose melancholy fate has created much regret at Dover and Deal, was put on board of her by the pilot cutter off Dungess, and on the ship reaching the North Foreland, she was taken in tow by the Trinity steam-tug. The circumstance of the towing-hauser snapping and the Sarah getting adrift has already been noticed. The wind had heightened alarmingly from the S.W., and the Sarah, after drifting some distance, was brought up with two anchors, about three-quarters of a mile above the Tongue light-ship. The Trinity steam-tug, after considerable knocking about, managed to get alongside the ship, and the master hailed the pilot, Mr. Pascall, to learn what time they should come alongside in the morning to take her in tow? Mr. Pascall answered, say "Four o'clock; if the weather will permit, we will be ready for you at that time." The storm that ensued soon afterwards was one of the most terrible known in those channels for the last ten years. The ship held on her anchors until about ten or eleven o'clock, when the fury of the hurricane tore her away, and she was seen by the watch on board the Tongue light beacon drifting past, and she exhibited signals of distress, and apparently burning tar barrels on her decks. To send boats off would have probably been to add to the melancholy catastrophe, for it was too perceptible that none could outlive the tremendous seas. The glare from the tar barrels remained visible till one o'clock, when all of a sudden they disappeared; and it is conjectured her destruction took place at that period. The exact locality is not precisely known, but the general impression is that it happened on the Long Sand. During the past week a vast quantity of West Indian produce has been picked up in the vicinity of those sands. The Blue Eyed Maid smack has put into Dover, with nine puncheons and forty bags of nutmegs, which she had picked up between the North Foreland and the Gallopper. The schooner Flora reports having seen the hull of a large vessel, copper bottom, bottom upwards, about sixteen or seventeen miles from the North Foreland, and that a quantity of spices was seen floating about the wreck. Another vessel, which put into Ramsgate, had picked up several casks of rum near the Foreland, and a fourth vessel has reached Calais with more of the cargo. The stern of the wreck has been discovered in the "Knock" sand, thus setting all doubts at rest of the sad fate of the ship and her hapless crew. The Sarah had been some time employed in the trade, and her unfortunate commander, Mr. Bridges, had the character of a very skilful and prudent mariner. The loss of her cargo is said to exceed £20,000. Upwards of thirty poor creatures are reported to have perished.

Coupar Angus Mutual Improvement Society.—The members of this society celebrated their fifteenth anniversary on the evening of Wednesday, the 20th ult., when after partaking of tea, the chairman gave a succinct review of the past history of the institution, and pointed out what he deemed would be some improvements for the future. The meeting was then addressed by several members and friends on the following subjects, viz.:—"The Absolute Sovereignty of God;" "Superstition;" "Dissipation;" "Education;" "Co-operation;" and "Rational Enjoyment." Song and anecdote being liberally interspersed, added greatly to the harmony of the evening.

Feat under Arms.—Last week a match was undertaken by a young officer of the Guards to walk, accoutred in every respect as a private soldier, in heavy marching order, from London to Windsor Barracks in seven hours; five to one was subsequently betted against his doing it in six hours, the distance being twenty-one miles and a half; the weight about sixty pounds, with grenadier cap, knapsack, havresack, musket, &c.; and the difficulty of walking under such equipments, without previous training, was great. The feat was accomplished in five hours and a half, to the surprise of the natives and the soldiery. Crowds were collected at the entrance of Windsor—the cheering was immense. The start from Hyde Park corner was at eight a.m. The first ten miles were walked in two hours nine minutes, and the remaining eleven miles in about two hours and a half; the time of halting was forty minutes. The rate of walking, therefore, with such equipments, without previous training, being about four miles an hour for twenty-one miles.

Death by Spontaneous Combustion.—The following extraordinary occurrence is related in the *Gazette des Tribunaux*:—"A few days ago, in a tavern near the Barrière de l'Etoile, a journeyman painter, named Xavier C——, well known for his intemperate habits, while drinking with some comrades, laid a wager that he would eat a lighted candle. His bet was taken, and scarcely had he introduced the flaming candle into his mouth when he uttered a slight cry, and fell powerless to the ground. A blueish flame was seen to flicker about his lips, and, on an attempt being made to offer him assistance, the bystanders were horrorstruck to find that he was burning internally. At the end of half-an-hour his head and the upper part of his chest were reduced to charcoal. Two medical men were called in, and recognised that Xavier had fallen a victim to spontaneous combustion. This conflagration of the human frame is frightfully rapid in its progress; bones, skin, and muscle, all are devoured, consumed, and reduced to ashes. A handfull of dust on the spot where the victim fell is all that remains."

Public Income and Expenditure.—The first return of the present session has been printed, containing the annual account of the public income and expenditure for the year ending the 5th ult., with a statement of the balances in the exchequer, &c. The net income of the year was £52,951,748 18s. 5d. and the expenditure £50,853,622 16s. 4d., leaving an excess of income over the expenditure of £2,098,126 2s. 1d. The balances in the exchequer on the 5th of January in the previous year were £8,105,561 12s. 9¾d., and at the close of the financial year, the 5th January, they amounted to £9,748,539 12s. 4¼d. There was advanced in the year £1,939,014 4s. 6d. for local works, &c., under various acts of parliament, including £1,217,667 10s. for drainage, poor law unions, and railways in Ireland. The repayments of advances for local works were £1,170,752 13s. 11d., in the year.

Exclusive Audience to the Bar in Insolvency Cases.—On Saturday last in the County Court of Yorkshire, at York Castle, Mr. Sergeant Dowling, judge of the court, gave his decision that members of the bar had not a right either to exclusive audience or to pre-audience in the County Court in cases of insolvency. Since the point was first mooted it has been much discussed by the metropolitan and various provincial law societies, and at the court held at York, on the 26th January, the application originally made by the bar was withdrawn; but the judge then intimated that he would further consider the question, and give his opinion upon it.

Serious Accident to Spohr, the Composer.—*La Presse* quotes the following passage from a letter, dated Cassel, February 16:—"The celebrated composer, M. Louis Spohr, while walking yesterday on the ice, had the misfortune to fall backwards, and received a hurt on his head. M. Spohr was immediately conveyed to his home, where every care and attention were shown him, but the professional attendants despair of saving his life."

The Sale of the Queen Dowager's Effects.—The sale of the effects of the late Queen Dowager has been at length brought to a close. The amount realised is said to be something under £20,000—a sum infinitely greater, no doubt, than would have been secured under the hammer.

Fees in the Court of Chancery.—Last week some accounts of the Court of Chancery were printed by order of the House of Commons. It appears that on the Suitor's Fee Fund the fees in the year ending the 25th of November last were £150,142 15s. 6d. After all charges the excess of fees was £13,154 15s. 3d. In the masters' offices the fees received in the year were £40,605 3s. 9d., and in the taxing masters' offices £31,730 4s. 9d.

In an article in one of the London journals, it is stated that, during the last two years, it has been calculated that chloroform has been used in from 80,000 to 100,000 cases in the city of Edinburgh, and without an accident or bad effect of any kind whatever traceable to its use.

"Sermons in Stones."—A Scottish geologist, while in the country, having his pocket hammer with him, took it out and was chipping the rock by the wayside for examination. His proceedings did not escape the quick eye and ready tongue of an old Scotchwoman. "What are you doing there mun?" "Don't you see I'm breaking a stone." "Ye're doing mair than that; ye're breaking the Sabbath."

Another Reduction in the Army.—Two corporals and a sergeant were last week reduced to the ranks.

Public Amusements.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.

An agreeable little piece, in one act, called *The Poet's Slave*, was produced at this theatre on Monday evening, and very favourably received. It is said to be founded on an anecdote in the life of the poet Camoens, and has the appearance of being of French origin. The poet has returned from his long exile, and is living in poverty and proscription at a hotel in London, the master of which has given him shelter. He is attended by a faithful female slave, whom he has brought from the Indies, and who saves him from absolute want by assuming (unknown to him) the disguise of a gitana, and playing on the guitar at night in the streets and public places. The young king, in his nocturnal ramble, had seen Griselda engaged in this occupation, and has become enamoured of her charms. Having traced her to her residence, he comes, in the character of a military officer, to inquire for the celebrated gitana who has created such a sensation in the city. The host denies that such a person lives there, and Griselda herself, who is instantly recognised by the disguised king, also denies her identity with the gitana, saying that she is only a poor slave girl, and that there—pointing to Camoens who enters—is her master. The king thus baffled, departs; but orders the house to be guarded to prevent any one from leaving it. Meanwhile, a tender scene takes place between Camoens and Griselda, in which their long suppressed feelings towards each other become apparent. The host rushes in terrified, announcing that the house is beset by soldiers, and urging Camoens to escape by a door leading to the river. When the king again enters, he finds only Griselda, to whom he makes passionate love, and at length declares himself to be the king. Griselda makes an eloquent appeal to his principles and feelings, discloses the secret of the poet's concealment, and is so successful in rousing the young sovereign's better nature, that when Camoens is brought back, in the custody of the soldiers, who have intercepted his flight, the king receives him with the honour due to the great ornament of his country, expresses his sorrow for the injuries he has received, and finally bestows upon him the hand of Griselda.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

The Directors, ever anxious to cater for the public instruction and amusement, have engaged Sir H. R. Bishop to deliver a course of lectures on the secular music of England; the first commenced on Monday last. The lecturer, after proving the advantages to be derived by music being a part and parcel of general education in all classes, as it would occupy very many hours in a pleasing if not profitable manner, and thereby rescue thousands from much ill-spent time and idleness. The lecturer traced the progress of English music from the times of Purcell, Lock, Arne, &c., to the present day. The syle of Purcell, Arne, and Storace were illustrated by selections from their works:—"Where the bee sucks;" "In infancy our hopes and fears;" "When with village maids I stray;" the ballad of "Auld Robin Gray," &c. The second lecture delivered by this gentleman was on the composers of Germany, commencing with Glück, who he considered the father of the German school, being the first to combine the German and Italian together, which produced that beautiful and highly dramatic expression into the opera which previously they had been deficient. Mozart, Sir Henry said, had certainly founded his style on Glück, in which, in after years, he so eminently succeeded, many of them surpassing all hitherto produced in ancient or modern times.

STANDARD THEATRE.

A new domestic drama, entitled, *The Seasons*, written by T. P. Taylor, Esq., has been the principal feature in the performances at this theatre, and has been received every night since its production with well merited applause, by overflowing audiences. The aim of the author seems to have been to illustrate the comparison between the seasons of the year and the seasons of life. But to give an outline of the chief incidents of the piece. Two farmers, brothers, Robert Bloomfield (Mr. C. Roby,) and Charles Bloomfield (Mr. Basil Potter,) give a merrymaking to their friends, and all are happy and jocund. The last mentioned of these has formed an attachment to his cousin, Maria (Mrs. R. Atkinson,) while Peter Jones, the cow-boy, (Mr. H. Lewis,) is over head and ears in love with Lilly White, the servant girl, (Miss Eliza Terry,) who by the way does not reciprocate Peter's addresses in a manner at all pleasing to him. The assemblage is graced with the presence of Sir John Portleigh (Mr. John Gates,) a county M.P. of the old school, who has gone to the country for recreation, accompanied by his nephew, H. P. Verdent, Esq. (Mr. R. Honner,) a gentleman of very eccentric habits, while the presiding genius of the scene is Simon Grey (Mr. Lyon.) 'the oldest inhabitant,' who makes his remarks on what he sees and hears in the genuine 'Old Proverb' style. To complete the festive scene. Brambles, a gipsy (Mr. J. W. Doughty,) and Fog, his companion (Mr. Dolphin,) who goes under the appellation of 'Brambles and Co.,' with May, the merry gipsy girl (Mrs. R. Honner,) and Daniel Moore (Mr. E. B. Gaston) against whom old Simon Grey seems to have imbibed an intense hatred, are introduced. Moore, who appears to be a hanger on about the gipsy camp, and styles himself 'A man of mind,' finds out that the two farmers have a well-furnished cash-box, but not willing to risk himself in the enterprise of obtaining possession of it, prevails on '*Brambles and Co.' to do so for him*. They make the attempt, but are frustrated in it by May, the gipsy girl, who watches their movements, and gives the alarm. Among those who come to the rescue is Moore, who shows himself to be a man of mind by knocking down his *protege*, Brambles, in order to screen himself from suspicion. For this Act of deceit Brambles swears against him eternal hatred. We then come to summer, with its blooming corn fields, and harvest with its merry reapers. A letter is handed by Moore to Charles Bloomfield, purporting to be an intimation that an uncle had died in India, leaving him ten thousand pounds, and desiring him to instantly proceed to London respecting it. He resolves to leave his home and go, and Moore resolves on meeting him there, and settling an old grudge he had against him and his brother, by ruining him by means of gambling. The unsuspected farmer leaves his home, not, however, without being warned of the designs against him both by old Simon Grey, and May the gipsy girl. The two latter finding their warnings unheeded, follow him, Simon to wreak his vengeance on Moore, and the gipsy to protect Charles. Brambles also follows them on the same errand, as did Simon, and Peter Jones having fallen out with his faithless Lilly, likewise resolves on trying his fortune in London, and happens to be engaged in the identical club-house where the tragedy was to be enacted. Not to detail the incidents—and they were laughable ones which befel Peter—the result of the matter was, that Brambles having got secreted in Moore's bedroom, stabbed him, and the young farmer having thus been rescued from the trap laid for him, all return to the country, leaving Moore as they thought dead. 'Last scene of all,' the cottage of old Simon Grey was wrapped in snow, and the wintry winds moaned piteously around it. It is approached by a poor forlorn wretch, who, starved with cold, and pinched with hunger, touches the latch, and implores the old man for succour. Simon, whose ear was ever open to the cry of distress, opens the door, when whom does he see in the wretch before him but the object of his long-cherished revenge, Moore. It comes out that Simon many years before took Moore into his house a poor friendless orphan. He educated and brought him up; when, as a recompense for his kindness, Moore eloped with his wife, who took with her an only child, and the old man had never since seen or heard of either. As to his wife, Moore now tells him that she was long since dead, but he could tell nought of the daughter, and having expressed great contrition, for the wrong he had done him, the forgiving old man gives him the shelter of his cottage. Soon after another cry of distress is heard at Simon's door. It is that of May, the gipsy, whom Brambles is *dragging* away with him, and upon rescuing whom the old man finds out, from hints given him by her tormentor, to be his long-lost daughter. Brambles then accuses her of having murdered Moore in the club-house in London, but as Simon causes the murdered man to appear in vindication of her innocence, her accuser is secured and disappears. The rest is all joy and happiness, so much was there of the latter ingredient that Lilly White was afraid 'the wessel would sink with it.' The old man gets his daughter restored, Charles is married to Maria, and Peter Jones and Lilly White also agree to sail in the same boat. The Simon Grey of Mr. Lyon, and the gipsy girl of Mrs. R. Honner, were admirable pieces of acting, and elicited frequent and enthusiastic applause, while Mr. Lewis and Miss Eliza Terry, in their respective parts, kept the audience in a roar. The rest of the characters were well sustained. The piece has been produced under the direction of Mr. R. Honner, and is splendidly put upon the stage. The scenery and appointments are most exquisite, and the whole does the highest credit to the management. The magnificent scene, representing a room in a London gaming-house, elicited immense applause.

Imperial Parliament.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSION BILL.—The Ecclesiastical Commission Bill was considered in committee. Their lordships divided on two amendments, both of which were carried by majorities of five and two respectively. The one, moved by Earl POWIS, referred to clause 12, which, as it originally stood, would, the noble earl contended, have prevented the creation of future bishoprics; the other, moved by the Bishop of SALISBURY, respected the income of certain of the deaneries. The government also assented to clauses proposed by the Bishop of OXFORD, relating to tithes in certain large districts diverted to lay appointments, and to benefices held *in commendam* by some of the bishops. The third reading was appointed for Thursday, and their lordships then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Mr. M. GIBSON presented a petition from Manchester, in favour of a repeal of taxes on knowledge.

THE NATIONAL LAND SCHEME.—Sir B. HALL gave notice that on Friday he should present a petition from certain allottees of the National Land Scheme complaining of the conduct of its chief promoter, and praying that their case might be taken into consideration.

THE "INFIDEL" COIN.—Major BERESFORD inquired whether the issue of the new florin coins had been countermanded; and if so, why?

Mr. SHEIL replied that the whole number of coins struck had been duly issued. Since the die was fabricated, however, the discovery was made by some microscopical observers, that certain letters were omitted from the inscription. As to the fact there could be no question but that a sovereign endowed with so many virtues as her present Majesty, was the gracious gift of heaven, and it was equally certain that the monarch was the head of the Protestant church in this country. But the omission of the words *Dei Gratia* and *Fidei Defensor* was intended merely to prevent overcrowding the face of the coins. For his own part he was responsible only for the manufacture of the money, he had no control over its issue, or the design for the dies.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS—THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT.—Lord J. RUSSELL said that it was the intention of the government to proceed with the navy estimates on Monday next, and on the following Monday to take some of the principal votes on the army estimates; and on an early day—he trusted on the 15th proximo—the Chancellor of the Exchequer would make the financal statement of the year. (Hear, hear.)

PARLIAMENTARY VOTERS, &c. (IRELAND) BILL.—On the motion for going into committee on this bill,

Mr. DISRAELI complained that the bill had been pressed on too rapidly, considering that it was a measure of such importance, tending to create an artificial suffrage; and also that the Irish assizes were beginning to-morrow At no time was the presence of Irish members more needed than at the present. He trusted the government would not proceed with this bill to-night, and he did so on broad and valid grounds—on the same grounds of validity which had been fully acknowledged by the right hon. gentleman, the Secretary for Ireland, in reference to another Irish measure, introduced a few years ago, and which applied on the present occasion with tenfold force. (Hear, hear.) It appeared to him very preposterous that the government *should purpose going into committee on a bill of* such great interest and importance, when it was notorious that nearly every gentleman connected with Ireland was absent. He hoped, therefore, the government would postpone the measure until the termination of the Irish assizes.

Mr. HUME said, a large portion of the members attended the house at great inconvenience to themselves, and he did not think it would be a good practice to establish to postpone a measure of such importance simply to suit the convenience of a few Irish members.

Lord CASTLEREAGH observed that the consideration of bills was often postponed in order to suit the convenience of English members when they had to attend their county sessions, and he could not see why the recommendation of the hon. gentleman could not be acceded to.

Colonel RAWDON said the bill was precisely the same as the one of last year; and, considering the rapidity with which the Habeas Corpus Suspension Bill, which suspended the entire constitution of Ireland, was passed, he thought the house ought not to delay this bill, which Ireland had been wanting for the last nine years.

Lord CLAUDE HAMILTON said if the bill was exactly the same as that of last year, of course there would be no objection to going on with it at once; but he very much doubted whether government would give an assurance of that sort. The bill, in fact, was almost new from beginning to end, and he could not consent to the proposal of government until he had had an opportunity of consulting his constituents on the subject.

Mr. REYNOLDS was glad to hear the hon. member for Buckinghamshire say that he was disposed to look upon any proposition affecting the Irish franchise with liberality; but the hon. member had used a phrase which he (Mr. Reynolds) should like to have translated. He should be glad to be informed what the hon. member meant by "artificial suffrage." The noble viscount the member for Down (Lord Castlereagh) had asked the house to postpone this question until after the Irish assizes. He wondered the Speaker himself was not asked to adjourn the house for a similar reason. (Laughter.) The noble viscount appeared to forget that on the recent division on the motion of the hon. member for Buckinghamshire seventy Irish members recorded their votes in his favour. Now, he (Mr. Reynolds) should like to know at what period of their parliamentary existence, unless some great job was to be perpetrated, there had been a greater muster of Irish members. (Laughter.) This bill, or at least something like it, had now been three years before the house; and he trusted that his right hon. friend (Sir W. Somerville) would resist the present application for postponement.

Sir W. SOMERVILLE responded to this bill by moving that the Speaker leave the chair in order to go into committee.

A further debate ensued for upwards of an hour, in the course of which Mr. HUME, Mr. NAPIER, Lord J. MANNERS, (who moved an amendment), Colonel DUNNE, and Mr. GRATTAN, objected to the immediate discussion of the measure; and Sir GEORGE GREY, Mr. SADLIER, Mr. FOX, and Mr. SCULLY, supported the motion.

The house then divided, when there appeared—

For Lord John Manners's amendment ... 115
Against it 185
Majority for going into committee ... —70

Mr. DISRAELI thought the division which had just taken place fully justified the course which he and his honourable friends had adopted, and he hoped the noble lord at the head of the government would still consider the propriety of acceding to their suggestion. (Hear, hear.) For himself, he could say he had not entered into the merits of the bill, but he had not heard a single observation to meet the objections made at his side of the house. It could not be denied that they were bringing forward a measure of importance, not only to Ireland but to the United Kingdom, at a moment when a great number of the representatives of Ireland must necessarily be absent. (Cries of "No, no.") It might be that so many members from Ireland were not so anxious to do their duty as he gave them credit for, and he took it for granted that some of them would be absent, but still it must be admitted that not forty-eight hours ago was there any idea of taking this course. (Hear.) There was another matter for which, on that evening, the government had almost ostentatiously solicited the attention of the house—(hear, hear)—the question of colonial government, which not only solicited, but agitated public opinion. (Hear, hear.) As they all knew very well, Friday night was so languid—there was so little attention excited—that about ten o'clock, when the noble lord came down to make an elaborate statement on an important branch of the administration, which was suspected of great misgovernment, he merely made a few declaratory observations and sent them about their business. (Hear, hear, hear.) He (Mr. Diraeli) admitted that he remained in the house not quite so long as the noble lord, but he went away under the impression that this bill would not be committed until after the Irish assizes.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL: It was stated at the end of the night that it would be taken this evening. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. DISRAELI: It was stated at the end of the night, when thirty members were present, and when twenty five out of the thirty were asleep. (Laughter.) A very considerable minority had justified the course which he (Mr. Disraeli) and his hon. friends had taken. It was not a course, he admitted, that it was agreeable to sanction, but it was sometimes their duty not only to sanction but to persist in it. (Loud cries of "Hear, hear.") The noble lord could not deny that, at the commencemect of the Irish assizes, he had proposed a bill of fare that entirely, with one exception, consisted of Irish measures. (Hear, hear.) He trusted the noble lord would well consider their suggestion. (Hear, hear.) It was not quite agreeable to them to oppose any government under those circumstances, but they should feel it their duty, if the noble lord would not assent to the suggestion they had thrown out, to resist the motion for the Speaker leaving the chair. (Hear, hear.)

Lord JOHN RUSSELL.—I could hardly believe that the honourable gentlemen who proposed that we should not go into committee were serious, the main ground put forward, and a most insufficient ground for postponing any considerable parliamentary measure being that the assizes are going on in Ireland. (Hear.) The noble lord has moved that the bill be postponed for three weeks, but that would be just the time for the commencement of the Cork assizes; and that being the case, I thought that the excuse of the assizes was merely meant to postpone this bill for a very considerable time; and if it were postponed for a considerable time, and if we should go then into committee, it would be interfered with by other measures, and it would be very difficult to dispose of it. (Hear.) The bill has been before the house two sessions, and the Irish people had a full opportunity of considering the principal provisions of that bill. The hon. and learned gentleman stated that we were supposed not to be in earnest with this bill, because it was not pressed forward last year; and, therefore, that no great consideration was given to the provisions of it in Ireland; but if we now postponed the bill until after Easter, and if it were then interfered with by other measures, the honourable and learned gentleman could say so still more truly, and tell us for ever that there was not sufficient attention paid to the provisions of the bill in Ireland. (Hear, hear.) It appears to me that a bill of this nature, of which the main provisions have been for a long time before the house, and have been considered in Ireland, may be considered now in committee. (Hear, hear.) I don't know the use of bringing forward a bill in one session and postponing it to another, unless it be that you obtain this advantage, that is an entirely new measure, or give further time for its consideration before going into committee. (Hear, hear.) I am sorry the honourable gentleman means to prevent us from going into committee. He has been told elsewhere that it is his duty to obstruct. (Hear, hear.) This is the word, I well remember as used, as descriptive of part of the duty of members of Parliament not in office—(Hear, hear)—and I suppose the honourable gentleman being taught that lesson will do his utmost to obstruct this bill, which is intended to extend the franchises and give further rights to the people of Ireland. (Hear, hear.) Whatever that obstruction may be, I shall think it my duty to insist upon going into committee. (Hear, hear.)

After observations from Mr. REYNOLDS, Lord CASTLEREAGH, and Mr. GOULBOURN, the house divided.

For the motion for going into committee ... 193
Against it 93
Majority for going into committee —100

The house then went into committee. Before the first clause was proposed,

Mr. DISRAELI said.—The noble lord seems to blame very much the course we have taken, and accuses me of obstructing public business. The noble lord has referred to a passage still recollected in this house when that word was used, the phrase said that "he thought it his duty to be ready to obstruct all measures injurious to the constitution and to the country." (Hear, hear.) Now, in my opinion, that was a very legitimate description of the duties of a member of Parliament. (Hear, hear.) What is the obstruction we have on this occasion presumed to suggest? The noble lord and the government tells us that this bill is the bill brought in last year, and therefore we ought to be fully acquainted with it; and it appears that one reason why a Whig administration introduces measures without any intention of carrying them, is to give honourable gentlemen an opportunity in the next year of being masters of the subject. (Hear, hear.) That shows a confidence in the duration of the Cabinet which a Whig ministry can alone entertain. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) The noble lord has been also pleased to say I received instructions elsewhere—not a very constitutional or a very courteous mode of expression. (Hear, hear.) I understand, indeed, that the noble lord, in the course of his career, has received his instructions how to conduct himself in Parliament from many persons, and from many places, but the noble lord cannot say of myself, or my friends, that we have received inspiration how to conduct affairs in this house by consulting seditious clubs. (Cheers.) The noble lord to-night, in a manner quite unworthy him has not only charged us with obstructing the business of the house, but has charged us with obstructing the business in an unwarrantable manner, and insinuated that we were guilty of factious proceedings. The noble lord is the last person by whom I would expect such a charge could be made—the noble lord who brought forward a proposition in this house on which he made the fate of an administration depend—the appropriation clause—and when he upset the Government by means of that factious amendment, and took office, he had neither the conscience nor the courage to carry his policy into effect. (Loud cheers.) For my part, sir, although I would have listened with every respect to any suggestion from any individual in the position of the noble lord, I shall not be deterred from the course I consider it my duty by the speech he has recently made. (Cheers.) This is a measure of immense importance—(hear, hear)—and if it be a measure of importance, ought it to be shuffled through the house? (Hear, hear.) The government ought not to answer our appeal by saying that we can get information from another measure that they brought forward last year, not with the intention of carrying it—a measure similar, but not exactly similar, to the measure now brought before us. (Hear, hear.) In my opinion there never was an appeal more constitutional, or more fair in spirit, than the appeal we made to-night; but it has been met in a spirit of haughty insolence. (Cheers.) I shall avail myself of every form the house permits; and therefore I move, sir, that you report progress, and ask leave to sit again. (Cheers, and cries of "divide.")

The committee divided—

For the motion for reporting progress... 81
Against it 191
Majority ... ... —110

Mr. FORBES again moved that Mr. Bernal do now leave the chair. This led to another "talk;" on a division the numbers were—

Ayes... 70
Noes... 146
Majority ... ... —76

Mr. GROGAN immediately moved again that the Chairman should report progress.

Mr. NAPIER suggested a compromise, by taking a few clauses that night and postponing the next.

Lord J. RUSSELL was willing to adopt any conciliatory course, but believed that the first and most important clause, determining the county franchise, ought to be proceeded with at once.

Mr. B. OSBORNE said that the noble member for Tyrone (Lord C. Hamilton) had told the house that he and other honourable friends had come down to the house with prepared speeches on the Australian colonies; he would therefore suggest to those honourable members who had taken an early hour for dinner—(a laugh)—for the purpose of opposing this bill, that it would be as well to introduce some new matter in the present debate, and to make those speeches which they intended for the Australian colonies in this debate—(laughter)—for he was sure, that as the only object of the opposition was to delay and obstruct the measure—(hear, hear)—a few speeches on the Australian colonies would be quite as apposite as the remarks which had already proceeded from that (the Protectionist) side of the house. (Hear.) The noble lord the member for Tyrone said that he had had no communication with his constituents on the subject of this bill. Now he (Mr. B. Osborne), although he had had no communication with the constituents of the noble lord, still knew that his constituents amounted to just 1,360 out of the enormous population which he represented, and that this bill, if carried into effect, would place upon the register of the county for Tyrone at least 14,600 voters. (Hear, hear) He was one of those who rejoiced at the delay which honourable members opposite had given to the progress of this bill, as it would show to the people of Ireland the real character of the opposition. (Hear, hear.) There had been great apathy prevailing in Ireland from various causes, and he was much mistaken if these proceedings did not open the eyes of the people of Ireland as to who were their real friends. (Cries of "Oh, oh," from the Protectionists). It was the cloven foot of protection that was seen peeping through this factious opposition. (Cheers, and cries of "Oh, oh"). It was not by throwing out bribes or lures of high prices to the farmers that they would be able to gain any support for that party which began the session with better prospects than they now had. (Hear, hear.) The noble lord who was the leader of this opposition was at the head of an organised hypocrisy—(cries of "Oh, oh")—he was at this moment at the head—and he (Mr. Osborne) stated it before the country and to his face—of an organised hypocrisy—(cheers, and cries of "Oh, oh")—when he pretended that he was anxious to delay the bill in order to obtain the opinion of his constituents on the subject. Every person knew that honourable members opposite were perfectly satisfied with the constituencies of Ireland as they then stood. He knew of no worse jury for considering the extension of the rights of the people of Ireland than the University of Dublin, which had always shown itself opposed to the extension of the suffrage in Ireland. (Hear, hear.) He hoped the noble lord at the head of the government would go on as well as he had commenced; he (Mr. Osborne) would be perfectly ready to give him his support, and would sit there to any hour in the morning to support him against the plans of the party opposite. By persevering in his course, the noble lord would show the people of Ireland who was their true friend, and that he was not prepared to hand over the government of that country to the tender mercies of a haughty, and, he would say, insolent faction. (Cheers.)

Another division was then taken, and resulted in:

For reporting progress 63
Against 155
Majority ... ... —92

Mr. ADDERLEY complained of the tyrannical course pursued by the government, and moved that the chairman should leave the chair.

Col. SIBTHORP said the government wished to override the country.

Mr. REYNOLDS wished there to be no delay in giving Ireland a fair constituency. The honourable member (Mr. Adderley) was anxious to give distant colonies a privilege which he withheld from Irishmen.

Lord CLAUDE HAMILTON repeated his arguments in favour of delay.

Mr. DISRAELI said the government were disingenuous, unbusinesslike, and altogether blameable in forcing on so important a measure against all the entreaties and arguments for delay which had been urged against them. He thought no one could complain of their acting factiously in persisting to stop the progress of the bill.

Mr. ADDERLEY again spoke, principally relative to Australia, in reply to Mr. Reynolds's observation upon his conduct in reference to that colony.

Lord J. RUSSELL, for the third time, replied and explained. It was a fair inference, he suggested, from the obstinate opposition to proceed with the consideration of the bill, that the opposition members felt some irresistable antipathy to an extension of the franchise in Ireland. The story would tell much better in that country if the debate and divisions turned upon the principles of the bill, instead of stopping the way with mere motions to gain time.

Mr. W. MILES again demanded a postponement, adducing precedents set in the debates upon the Reform Bill. The present measure was, in fact, a Reform Bill for Ireland.

A sixth division took place at ten o'clock, five hours having been expended in revolving round the question without effecting one step in advance. The numbers now stood—

For reporting progress 70
Against 184
Majority ... ... —114

Capt. TAYLOR moved that the chairman report no progress and ask leave to sit again.

On a seventh division there appeared—

Ayes 70
Noes 185
Against ... ... —115

Sir JOHN WALSH characterised this as a struggle to protect the rights of the minority in that house. He disclaimed the "antipathy" with which his party had been charged by Lord John Russell, but refused to take the country by surprise by hurrying the bill forward without due discussion. As this was not the 24th of February, but the 25th, and therefore not the anniversary of a revolution, he hoped to defeat the *coup d'état* meditated by Lord John Russell. (Murmurs.) He moved that the chairman leave the chair.

Several other speakers having addressed the house amidst much impatience,

Mr. STANFORD spoke energetically in favour of the delay, but the house, after six hours of wasted debating, had become unruly, and the hon. member was nearly inaudible.

Sir JOSHUA WALMSLEY congratulated the Opposition upon the new tone of liberality which had been adopted by it. It was something novel to hear popular rights and the duty of consulting the people advocated so energetically on that side of the house.

The house then divided, the numbers being—

For the motion 75
Against 194
Majority against ... ... —110

It being half-past eleven, Lord JOHN RUSSELL observing that it was too late to make any progress with the bill that night, moved that the chairman do report progress, which was agreed to, and the house resumed. The committee on the bill was ordered to stand first on the order list for Friday.

After some formal business, the Commons Inclosure Bill went through committee.

The house adjourned at twelve o'clock.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—The Earl of MALMSBURY called the attention of the government to a riotous assemblage that had occurred in a Wiltshire parish, where a body of agricultural labourers had met to resist a contemplated reduction of their wages.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE stated that he had received no information on the subject.

On the motion of Lord MONTEAGLE, a resolution was agreed to, that a deposit of the balance sheets and other finance accounts of every railway company seeking an extension branch, or amalgamation bill, should be made with the clerk of the parliament ten days at least prior to the second reading of such bill.

The Earl of MOUNTCASHEL moved for some returns relative to the appointment of surgeons to emigrant ships. His lordship added some statements of the neglect and inefficiency of some of the medical officers in vessels bearing the poorer classes of emigrants.

Earl GREY, in consenting to produce the returns, observed that out of a vast mass of emigration instances of misconduct or incompetence were extremely rare, and every effort was made to prevent or punish them.

Their lordships adjourned at a quarter-past seven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MR. FEARGUS O'CONNOR.—Mr. THORNELY brought up and presented a report from the printing committee, which was read by the clerk at the table. In this report the committee stated that Mr. Henley, one of the hon. members for Oxfordshire, had mentioned to the chairman that he had presented a petition to the house on the 14th ult., which, although ordered to lie upon the table, had not been reported upon. The committee had, in consequence, directed inquiries to be made into the matter, and found that the said petition had been taken from the table of the house by Mr. F. O'Connor, one of the hon. members for Nottingham. The petition in question would be brought up at the sitting of the house, and reported upon to-morrow. He (Mr. Thornely) understood that, at a late hour last night, it was restored to the table of the house by the hon. member for Nottingham (Mr. O'Connor), after being absent eleven days.

Mr. F. O'CONNOR said he could plead in extenuation his thorough ignorance of the forms and practice of the house with regard to petitions. ("Oh," and hear.) A petition had certainly been presented by the hon. member for Oxfordshire, which he did not know until after its presentation contained very extensive abuse of himself. He thought that, under the circumstances, the best thing he could do was to give it the widest circulation throughout the country, and he accordingly took it, and sent it to his own office, where he had it printed and published in his newspaper. In a few days after its publication the hon. gentleman (Mr. Henley) reminded him of it, and he then told his secretary to go to the office and get it. The secretary went and brought it down on Thursday evening last, but left the house with it at half-past seven o'clock, supposing that he (Mr. O'Connor) would not come that night. On Friday evening, at an early hour, and not, as the hon. member for Wolverhampton had stated, at a late hour last night, he came down to the house, brought the petition with him, and gave it to the clerk; and if, in taking it away, he had violated any of the rules or orders of the house, he begged, through the right honourable gentleman, the Speaker, to apologise. (Hear, hear.) He was not aware that he was doing anything contrary to the rules or orders. He believed there were very few hon. members present who would circulate, as he had done, the gross abuse of himself which this petition contained; and he begged to add that if he were going to present a petition which reflected on the character of the hon. member for Oxfordshire, he would give that hon. gentleman notice of his intention, and of its contents, before he presented it. (Hear, hear.) Now, the hon. member for Marylebone had very properly given him notice that he was going to present a petition or two on Friday night which reflected on his character; and this was the course of proceeding which honourable members ought always to adopt in cases of the kind. He (Mr. O'Connor) should be ashamed to pursue any other course. He could only say, as he had said before, that he regretted he had so far violated the rules of the house as to take the petition away, but he had brought it back in the same state as when it was taken. (Hear.)

Mr. HENLEY said the petition in question had emanated from a number of parties in the county of Oxford, and that it appeared to express the opinions of the petitioners against the Land scheme of the hon. member for Nottingham, and not personally against the hon. member himself. In fact, all the inquiries which had been instituted had pointed to the scheme, and not to the hon. gentleman personally. Had that petition been of a different character, he would have given the hon. gentleman notice; but, as it was, he had privately explained to him the nature of the petition on the very day he presented it. (Hear, hear.) This was all he had to say.

The report was ordered to lie on the table.

AFFAIRS OF GREECE.—In answer to Mr. ANSTEY, Lord PALMERSTON stated, that the operations of Admiral Parker's squadron in Greece did not amount to a blockade. No interference with the general commerce of that country was designed, but some Greek vessels had been stopped and retained in the character of pledges, for the due observance of the rights of British subjects by the government of King Otho.

ATTORNEYS LICENSES.—A multitude of petitions were presented from all parts of the country, praying for the repeal of the solicitors' certificate duty, a bill to effect which was afterwards moved by Lord Robert Grosvenor. The amount of this impost his lordship stated at £88,000 a year in England, and £33,000 in Ireland and Scotland, and he enforced its repeal on the ground that it weighed unjustly upon a class, and although unfelt by the wealthy practitioner, was a severe tax upon the young and struggling members of the legal profession.

The motion having been seconded,

Mr. HAYTER (Secretary to the Treasury) opposed the measure on the ground that it involved the whole question of the licensing system, under which a revenue of one million and a-half was annually raised. He proposed adjourning the consideration of the bill until after the discussion on the budget.

Sir F. THESIGER, while believing that the measure was founded in justice, concurred in recommending the postponement, which was agreed to; by Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR, and the bill was adjourned to the 22nd of March, after a few remarks from Mr. GROGAN, Col. CHATTERTON, and Sir DE LACY EVANS.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.—Mr. W. J. FOX moved for leave to bring in a bill to promote the secular administration of the people. After remarking that it was no longer necessary to contend for the advantage of education, and that it was considered the duty of government to see that the people educated themselves, he said that the difficulty now was not caused by indifference, but by zeal. The Church had exerted a magnificent degree of energy, the Dissenters had shown themselves the true friends of education, and the Privy Council had sought, with great honesty, to combine existing efforts, and yet all parties were in collision, and comparatively little was done. There was now an educational movement in various parts of the country, as it was felt that the nation, as compared with other countries, was not supporting its high character. One in thirteen (all kinds of schools being included in the calculation) was the English average of education, while that education, as now administered, had little influence upon the progress of crime. Religious instruction was the most important that could be received, yet, to make that available, a certain amount of secular instruction must be combined with it, or it became "mere words:" and he showed, from gaol statistics, that the majority of criminals had received their nominal education, of which the repetition of the "Lord's Prayer" was the test. After giving various statistical and other authorities to prove the necessity of the measure, the hon. member said, there was a class whose cooperation it was of the utmost importance they should engage in this matter—he meant the working people whose children were to be trained. (Hear, hear.) Unless they coincided with those plans, and looked upon them as privileges for their children, they would not have the effect that it was devoutly wished they might have. The intelligence of that class was, he feared, very much underrated by those who had not the opportunities of personally knowing them. Among these classes there was a sturdy intelligence, a moral sense, which would recoil from charity, which generated suspicion, sometimes not unwarranted, and sometimes very unwarrantable, of their superiors, that indisposed them to read books written by their betters in society, for the sake of a particular action upon their minds. They rebelled against this—and however unreasonable they might think such a feeling, still that sturdiness of intellect, which was the consequence of self-culture without the possession of great external advantages, was entitled to respect. (Hear, hear.) Those people were indisposed to send their children to schools which they thought were founded as charities, or which were meant to proselytize their children to this or that religious denomination. The following was the view taken of this point by an association of working men formed in London for promoting education:—"We cannot consent that our children should be apportioned among the religious sects—that their plastic minds and nascent judgments should be subjected to an external pressure which would give them a permanent bias towards peculiar notions. This appears to us to be the very way to foment and cherish those theological distinctions which already so unhappily divide mankind. Religion is intended to prepare men for Heaven, where the society of the blessed will be united in peace and love. Why should it be made on earth the pretext for cutting up the community into sections, and separating them from one another by unpronounceable shibboleths? We have now for several years been spectators of the dispute going on between the denominations on the subject of popular education. We have noticed that they all agree as to its urgent and imperative necessity; each party has vied with the others in eloquent descriptions of the frightful condition of the working classes. We have been called 'a multitude of untutored savages,' and the places where we dwell have been designated as 'great and terrible wildernesses.' We have sat still expecting that the religious denominations in holy charity and pity for our sufferings, would for once lay by their peculiarities, which they themselves confess are not essential to salvation, and agree upon some plan by which the resources of the state might be employed to rescue us from our awful condition. But we have waited in vain; the controversy has waxed hotter and more furious; our little ones have been forgotten in the fray, and their golden moments have been allowed to run irrecoverably to waste." He believed these to be the genuine opinions of working men, and it was of importance that they should be attended to if this scheme was intended to prove successful. (Hear.) It would be expected that he should say something of the cost of the experiment he proposed. It would be the height of affectation to produce figures on such a subject; but the first impression on their minds was likely to lead to a highly overrated estimate of the outlay that would be needful. The association for education in the county of Lancaster had made the calculation, that to supply schools for the entire education of the country at a rate of 4½d. in the pound would suffice, and that those schools which they proposed—a series of schools from infant upward to adult schools—could be carried on for a rate of 6d. in the pound. (Hear, hear.) But he would ask whether, when the expense of pauperism and criminality was considered, the scheme he proposed was not likely very much to diminish in those respects the public expenditure. (Hear, hear.) He merely referred to these as circumstances likely to diminish the expense to which the country would on the whole be put; but it would be absurd to attempt to calculate the cost of the scheme with any degree of accuracy. He relied much on the teachers for the success of the plan, and he was warranted in doing so by some very sound observations that fell from the noble lord at the head of the government, in that house three years ago, when he said that they would never effectually raise education in this country till they raised the profession and the prospects of the schoolmasters. (Hear.) After referring to the case of the Isle of Man as affording a good illustration of the views he entertained upon this point, the hon. gentleman proceeded to say that the professsion of the schoolmaster in this country had sunk into discredit, because there had not been given that encouragement which would lead people to devote themselves, heart and soul, to the occupation. (Hear, hear.) As of the poet, so it might be said of the schoolmaster, "*nascitur, non fit.*" (Hear.) There were tendencies in some minds that led them to sympathise with children—to feel the difficulties of children, to conciliate their perverseness, and to train them up, for the want of which no amount of learning could ever compensate. (Hear, hear.) He would throw the competition for masters perfectly open, and would make their qualifications, and especially their aptitude for teaching, the great test of each, and would reward them accordingly. (Hear, hear.) Their functions were in reality such as might well be deemed sacred, and they deserved the best honours that the state could bestow. (Hear, hear.) His great object was to obtain leave from the house to lay his bill on the table, and have it printed, and most glad would he be to find other parties brought into competition with him with plans better adapted for the accomplishment of the great object he had in view. He thought of the condition of thousands upon thousands of children in this country, and that alone led him to intrude upon the attention of the house. He thought of the crimes which had thriven upon soils from from which they had hoped they were entirely banished, and that soil occupied by better things. He would pray the house to think of those localities that were continually sending forth hordes of untutored savages on society, who seemed to derive from civilisation only greater facilities for becoming themselves more unwholesome nuisances to the state. (Hear.) He would have them think on their crowded gaols and hulks, and on their reluctant colonies; he would have them think on the peace, and good order, and security that might be spread abroad amongst homes that were well disposed by the general training and moral conduct of the people; he would have them look to yet higher motives—to consider that the natural and moral lustre of our country had ever been a glory superior to that even of its supremacy in arts and arms; he would have them look to those yet higher objects which, when the purposes of civil society should be accomplished, would remain to be realised in the individual, who, by the means which they could afford him, would become qualified to fulfil the great purposes for which he was formed by his beneficent Creator. (Cheers.) The hon. gentleman then moved for leave to bring in a bill to promote the secular education of the people in England and Wales.

Mr. SLANEY believed that the hon. gentleman had rather understated than overstated his case. After a full examination of the subject by a committee of that house, the conclusion arrived at was, that it was absolutely necessary that adequate education should be provided for one in eight of the population; but the average, instead of being one in eight, was one in twenty-six or twenty-seven of the population. Great exertion had no doubt since been made to promote education; but the population had increased in so rapid a ratio, that he believed the education of the working classes was scarcely better provided for now than it was then. (Hear.) The subject was a difficult one, and the hon. member was deserving of the thanks of the house for the temperate and eloquent manner in which he had brought it forward.

Sir R. INGLIS and Lord J. RUSSELL rose together; but the noble lord directly gave way, and the hon. baronet was proceeding to say, that when the hon. member for Oldham had concluded his speech, the temper and ability of which he willingly acknowledged, he waited in respectful silence in the expectation that some member of her Majesty's government would speak and inform the house,—upon which

Lord J. RUSSELL again rose, amidst cheers and laughter; and the hon. baronet, who appeared to be somewhat disconcerted, resumed his seat, leaving the noble lord in possession. The noble lord said, he hoped that leave would be given to bring in the bill. He admitted that there was much to be done in the way of education, and the attention which Mr. Fox had given to the subject was quite enough to justify the bill being received, though its propositions would be matter of consideration upon which he thought it would be better not to enter now. He declined to give any opinion upon the details of the bill; but was inclined to think that the efforts of the various religious bodies to educate had been more successful than Mr. Fox had stated. He thanked Mr. Fox for the spirit in which he had brought in his bill.

Sir R. H. INGLIS, after complimenting Mr. Fox upon the temper and ability of his speech, could not admit the principle he advocated. His (Sir Robert's) idea of education was a training which had reference to man's eternal destinies. He did not think Mr. Fox' figures would bear a critical scrutiny. In all the National Society's schools there was coincident secular teaching. But he wished to obtain from government, in all cases when lay members brought forward plans, an announcement as to the course it would take. For himself, he should not oppose the bill in its present stage.

Mr. MONCKTON MILNES supported the bill, and hoped that the house would consider the matter in a humane, philanthropic, and Christian spirit.

Mr. HUME answered Sir R. H. Inglis, and expressed his satisfaction with Lord John Russell's concurrence in the principle that more education was needed.

Mr. PLUMPTRE opposed the bill. He protested against taxing the people to support schools in which there was to be no religious education.

Mr. B. OSBORNE agreed with the noble lord at the head of her Majesty's government that they would best do their duty by the bill on the present occasion by not entering generally into its details. In fact, the bill was so misrepresented and so misunderstood, which, he doubted not, was the cause of the misrepresentation, that they were not in a position to discuss it. However, he could not sit still without paying his tribute of gratitude—humble as that tribute might be—to the hon. member for Oldham, for the manner, the able and statesman-like manner in which he addressed himself to the question that evening. (Hear, hear.) It had seldom been his (Mr. Osborne's) pleasure to have listened to a speech that gave him such unmitigated satisfaction—a speech which he doubted not would have a most telling effect not alone upon that house, but on the country in general. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. Osborne) would be sorry to add a word of bitterness to mar the effect of that speech, otherwise he might advert to the course adopted towards him by the hon. member for the University of Oxford, when he (Mr. Osborne) cried "oh" at an assertion that certainly should not have been made by a scholar, and one so conversant with historical literature as that hon. member undoubtedly was. (Hear, hear.) That hon. member drew a parallel between England and Prussia. However, he took care not to tell the house what was the state of Prussia. The state of Prussia was this. There was a highly educated people without a representative government; and the progress of that education was to upset that state of things, which might be called taxation without representation. (Hear. hear.) The hon. baronet went further, for he reproduced the joke of the 10th of April, for which day he believed there was to be found in the pages of history—rather in the pages of story books—but one parallel, namely, Grizzle's rebellion in Tom Thumb. (Great Laughter.) In his opinion the hon. member (Mr. Fox) had fully proved the necessity for a universal system of education; because, referring again to the ever-memorable 10th of April, it was found that the people of Middlesex, who were admittedly the most generally educated, were amongst the firmest supporters of law and order on that very day. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. Osborne) did not attach much importance to University careers. If there was a period of his life which he could wish to have blotted from his recollection, it was the period spent by him at Cambridge, where, he should say, he learnt more vice than in his previous or subsequent life. (Laughter.) He supported the present measure, because it approximated much to the national system of education which prevailed in Ireland. (Hear, hear.) And he should say, in conclusion, that he much suspected the philanthropy of gentlemen who denied education to the masses, unless that system of education afforded them the means of instilling their own views and principles into the minds of those masses, however widely and conscientiously they differed from them in opinion. (Hear, hear.)

After some remarks from Mr. NAPIER,

Mr. COCKBURN protested against the proposed measure being considered, as the right hon. baronet the member for the University of Oxford had misrepresented it, as simply a plan of education which had regard only to this world and to this life, and having no reference to a future state of existence. The hon. member for Oldham appeared to be as much impressed as any one in or out of the house with the importance of a religious education. He fully concurred in the desirability of uniting, as far as possible secular with religious education. But looking at the vast number and infinite varieties into which religious opinion in the country was divided, it was perfectly impossible to combine secular and religious education, as a state measure, into one system of education. It could not be done. What would the right hon. baronet the member for the University of Oxford adopt as a system of religious state education? Of course his plan would be that of having the religion of the state inculcated as a part of education. But that system would exclude all that numerous body of persons who did not adopt the religion of the state as their religion. That would at once prevent and preclude the possibility of having a measure of national education which should adopt the state religion as a portion of education. And if the religious views of the Dissenters were to be inculcated in the schools, those persons who belonged to the Established Church would not allow their children to be sent to schools of that kind; a great portion of the influential classes, and above all the clergy of the country, would set their faces against such a system, and it could not be expected that the state would establish any such system as that. What then remained to be done? They could not by possibility have a system of state education into which religion could enter, and if they wished to have a system of state education at all, they must adopt secular education as the basis of it, and confine it simply to that. It was said that religious education was far more important than secular. He fully conceded that point, but if they could not be taught religion by the state that was no reason why they should not be taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, which would enable them to promote their interests in this world at least. (Hear.) By establishing a system of state secular education, they would not interfere in the least with any of the establishments supported by private contributions, or prevent the continuance of those efforts which were at present made for the religious instruction of the rising generation. (Hear, hear.)

Some further discussion followed, after which

Mr. FOX replied—He said that the statistics of his measure would be easily collected. The only way to solve the educational problem seemed that which he had suggested, and he believed, in reference to the theological objections raised, that real religion was promoted by the spread of other truth of all kinds. We had a splendid monarchy, and superb fleets and armies, and should it be said that we were to begarly to teach our children?

Leave was then given to bring the bill.

COUNTY COURTS.—Mr. FITZROY moved for leave to bring in a bill for extending the jurisdiction of county courts from £20 to £50. The experiment of cheap justice had been made, and found most successful, and a million of actions had been tried in the county courts during the last three years, which, as compared to the trials in Westminster Hall, was a proportion of four to one. He expected opposition from the lawyers, whose gains would be decreased by the change he proposed, but did not think their interests ought to be placed in successful opposition to those of the mass of creditors in England. He went into statements to show the hardships of the present system, and described it as a denial of justice. The great merit of the county court, in addition to cheapness and expedition, was its giving the Judge power to allow a defendant to pay a debt by small instalments, a power not possessed by the superior courts.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said he should offer no opposition to the introduction of the bill, although he entertained many objections to extending the powers of the county courts; serious objections attended the working of those courts, and it was a dangerous experiment to give them jurisdiction over large sums.

Sir J. PECHELL believed the measure was much called for.

Mr. HENLEY considered that by extending the principle to £50 they would endanger the success of the experiment now in progress in regard to debts up to £20.

Sir G. GREY agreed with the Attorney-General that it was doubtful whether the principle of the county courts could be extended to £50; but they would be much better able to discuss that question at the second reading. Very much would depend upon the nature of the appeal to be provided—if it were on appeal to the superior courts, the whole value of the measure as regarded economy and speedy adjudication would be sacrificed.

Lord DUDLEY STUART supported the measure; but believed that even in the county courts justice was not made sufficiently cheap and successful.

Mr. H. BERKLEY opposed the bill; which Mr. MULLINGS, as a retired legal practitioner, supported explaining the enormous items of charge which at

present swelled the attorney's bill of costs in suits tried in the superior courts.

Mr. WILLIAMS also approved of the motion, on which leave was given, and the bill brought in.

LABOURERS' COTTAGES.—Mr. HUME then rose to propose the following resolution:—"That this house, taking into consideration the condition of the cottages of the labourers of this kingdom, and the want of adequate accommodation for their families, is of opinion that a drawback should in future be allowed on the bricks and timber employed in the construction of cottages, the rent of which shall be under £4 per annum, as a means of lessening the expense of their erection." He hoped that the name unanimity which had prevailed in the house with regard to the two last resolutions would be extended to his motion. Those who had been in Parliament some time knew that when there was a surplus in the Exchequer a great number of appeals were made to the government for relief from pressure. He had stated on the first night of the session that he conceived some relief for the labourer was more called for than any other, and urged upon the house the necessity of adopting some measures for the amelioration of the condition of the labouring classes, and more particularly as regarded the improvement of their habitations. He had alluded to the strong desire which had been manifested by the higher classes during the last two or three years to increase the comforts and promote the health of the labouring classes. With this view also, they had established boards of health, and had directed the removal of nuisances, and had passed Acts of Parliament to promote to a very great extent the carrying out of similar objects. Among other improvements they had effected, was the putting a stop to the making cellars in Liverpool, and other places, human habitations. A great number of reports from all parts of the country had been printed as to the manner in which the labouring classes were lodged. He would not trouble the house by reading extracts from these documents, for he hoped honourable members had made themselves acquainted with these papers. Up to very lately the condition of the labouring classes had been shamefully neglected, and above all by the government. It appeared from statements received from various quarters, that the expense of building cottages for the labouring classes was so much increased by the duties on timber and bricks as to operate in many instances as a positive prohibition to their erection. These duties then operated directly as a positive check on the social comfort and happiness of the labouring classes. He had recently visited several cottages, and was much struck with one in which were a man and his wife and eleven children, and they were huddled together without regard to decency or comfort. He was convinced that the great impediment to the erection of comfortable cottages for the poor which the high duties levied on timber and bricks. The consequence had been, that the proprietors or builders of these cottages had been prevented from using foreign timber. It was almost impossible to estimate the effect produced by the brick duty upon the erection of these cottages, but he had been informed that ten per cent, on the cost was about the average increase of cost. There was no one who would not regret the uncomfortable state of the homes of those classes upon which so much of the welfare and prosperity of the country depended. One effect of it might be traced in the consumption of spirituous liquors and in the resort of those classes to public-houses, which offered those comforts and relaxations of which their dwellings were destitute. Discomfort alienated a man from his home, and it was probable there would not be such a consumption of ardent spirits by the population if the dwellings of the poor were better adapted for health and comfort.

Mr. LABOUCHERE repeated the objection with which the motion of Lord R. Grosvenor had been met, namely, that it was desirable to suspend questions of remission of taxes until the Chancellor of the Exchequer had made his financial statement; but, independent of this he objected to the resolution on its own merits.

Mr. DRUMMOND, in supporting the motion, explained the unjust way in which he considered the tax on bricks operated.

After some discussion, Mr. HUME withdrew his motion.

Mr. LACY asked leave to introduce a bill for intramural interments, by which railway companies would be empowered to form cemeteries, but, after some discussion, withdrew his motion in order to see the measure of the Board of Health on the subject.

The house adjourned at twelve o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 27.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. — MARRIAGE BILL. — Mr. STUART WORTLEY moved the second reading of this bill. This bill he stated to be nearly the same as that proposed last session. He had, however, withdrawn the cause compelling clergy to solemnise marriages between a man and his deceased wife's sister, leaving that question to the individual conscience of every clergyman. Another clause, by which marriages with a deceased wife's niece was legalised, had also been removed. The hon. member proceeded to argue that the measure was necessary for the preservation of morality; was not contradictory to the injunctions of Scripture, and was designed to rescind laws which had only stood about fifteen years on the statute book. The marriages which it was now intended to legalise were not prohibited before 1835, and up to that year were frequent, especially among the lower classes. No interference with these unions was recorded during the first 300 years of the history of the Christian church; and even then the prohibition was based upon considerations of discipline, and without any allegation of scriptural doctrines. Of the painful, and, in many cases, immoral consequences resulting from the existing state of the law he adduced many instances, selected from a mass of evidence that had accumulated in his hands He called on the legislature to interfere, both for the sake of future relationships, and in order to place upon a proper basis those connexions which were now placing many innocent parties in a false position in the eyes of society.

Sir F. THESIGER opposed the bill by a motion that it be read again that day six months. The measure he characterised as having been prompted by the wishes of a few individuals of high rank, and fostered by motives of professional interest. The hon. and learned member entered largely into the precedents afforded by ecclesiastical history; and controverted the positions assumed by Mr. Wortley by a multitude of arguments founded upon the legal, the moral, and the social view of the case. He appealed to the church to pronounce a definite judgment on a question that rested entirely upon the doctrines of religion.

Col. THOMPSON supported the measure,

Mr. HEADLAM placed the question upon the broad basis whether there did or did not exist any scriptural prohibition to the unions referred to in the measure. He argued that no passages could be found prohibiting them in positive terms, and it was fitting to ascertain the interpretation of texts.

Mr. P. WOOD believed that scripture directly prohibited these unions, and that the prohibition was re-inforced by a variety of other considerations, and the example of the most enlightened among the heathen nations.

Mr. HOPE moved the adjournment of the debate, on the Speaker's account, whose duties required his presence elsewhere, which was agreed to; and the house rose at a quarter-past four.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY, 28,

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THE PARTY PROCESSIONS (IRELAND) BILL was then read a second time, after a short discussion. The house then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.—Mr. HUME moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the national representation, by extending the elective franchise to resident occupiers of houses, or lodgers, for a year, rated to the poor; and by enacting that votes shall be taken by ballot; the duration of Parliaments limited to three years; and the proportion of representatives made more consistent with the amount of population and property. He began by urging the importance of the subject as regarded the peace of the country, the duty of the house to do justice to the people, and our financial situation, the excess of the expenditure having grown up for want of due Parliamentary check and control. The representation, it was admitted, required amendment; the only question was as to the extent and mode. Universal Suffrage was demanded by a large part of the community; he thought that representation ought to be co-extensive with taxation. Instead of universal suffrage, his scheme, which was tangible, easily carried out, and which need alarm no one, based the franchise upon ratability to the poor, whereby no trouble, or expense would be incurred, a registration being already framed: and taking the population at 16,000,000 (the number in 1841,) instead of a constituency of 800,000, there would be 3,232,762 electors in England and Wales alone. He invoked the aid of the government, who in their Parliamentary Voters Bill for Ireland, and in their colonial policy, had recognised the right of the people to representation upon a liberal basis—at the Cape the suffrage would be all but universal. The Reform Bill had not fulfilled its object, which was to bring back the Constitution to its original theory, and that was the object he now aimed at by means of a principle which was at once simple and uniform. He concluded by observing, that whether this was a question of right, of reason, or of policy and expediency, all were in favour of reform. He wished to add to the terms of his motion that there should be no qualification for members.

Sir JOSHUA WALMSLEY seconded the motion. The people, he said, were growing more and more alive to the necessity of altering our representative system, and it was good policy to make timely concessions. The represented as well as the unrepresented believed that it was only by a reform of that house the burdens which pressed upon the industry of the country could be relieved, and the time would come when the demands of the people could not be resisted.

Sir G. GREY complimented Mr. Hume on his consistency and the patriotism of his motives. He nevertheless called on the house to meet the motion by an immediate negative. The question now before them was not limited to an extension of the suffrage, a revision of the details, or a denial of the finality of the Reform Bill. On this point he would pronounce no definite opinion on the part of the government. But what was now proposed was a sweeping change in the constitution as established in 1832. At that era the principle of representation and taxation was adopted, accompanied by certain checks to prevent abuses. Those checks they were now asked to remove without providing any sufficient substitute. The electoral body had been understated at 800,000. It amounted last year to 940,000, without including Ireland. Altogether the changes now advocated were separated by nothing but an invisible distinction from the Charter asked for by Mr. Feargus O'Connor. He denied that it was correct to represent as slaves and bondsmen all those individuals who did not enjoy the franchise. The inequalities in the electoral bodies the hon. baronet did not believe to be injurious, and at all events questioned the possibility of their removal. The ministry had proposed large measures of reform for Ireland, and a variety of remedial bills for England, all of which would be stopped if the country were now to be disturbed by an agitation for a new Reform Bill.

Mr. F. O'CONNOR said that the right honourable gentleman, like all members of government, admitted the justice of the motion, but said that the time was not yet come for granting the demands which it put forth. He (Mr. O'Connor) defied that house to continue as it was then constituted. Here on the bench which he then occupied sat the right hon. baronet the member for Tamworth, surrounded by the members of his party, who based their support on wounded feelings. At the opposite side sat the noble lord at the head of her Majesty's government, supported by his retainers; whilst the bench to the rear was occupied by Irish gentlemen, who, whenever their services were required, or when the ministry was in danger, rushed in to the rescue, heedless of the consequences to their country provided they secured to themselves or friends places or patronage. (A laugh.) That was the present constitution of the house; and he told those hon. gentlemen who referred to the period of 1832 and the passing of the Reform Bill that there had taken place a greater progress in the mind of the country within that period and the present than there had in the previous century. (Hear, hear.) He asserted that there prevailed more knowledge amongst the working classes of England than among the operatives of any other country. When the hon. member for Montrose insinuated that he (Mr. O'Connor) in his advocacy of the People's Charter had urged it too far, and excited the people to violence, he defied him to point to a word said or a line written by him (Mr. O'Connor) that encouraged the people to violence or insubordination. On the contrary, the greatest difficulty he had to encounter was to oppose those advocates who countenanced violence and revolution. He had ever supported the People's Charter, and ever would continue to support it, whether the measure of the hon. member for Montrose should be successful or otherwise. But though he (Mr. O'Connor) was the reviled of all revilers, and though persons generally formed their opinions of his character from the writings in the public press, he would nevertheless defend that character, and stand by the principles of democracy to the last. The year 1842 had also been referred to; but it should be recollected that though he (Mr. O'Connor) had been made the scape-goat, it was the manufacturers that turned out their hands in that year, to carry by coercion the measure of free trade. He could not easily forget it, because he had been put on trial before a special jury for eight days, for having resisted an appeal to violence—at the end of which time he was unanimously acquitted; and the gentlemen who sat on his jury, magistrates, after his acquittal invited him to dine, and declared that though they went into the jury box prejudiced against him, every single prejudice entertained by them previously had been dissipated. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) He considered the Reform Bill as nothing; it was merely a "mockery, a delusion, and a snare." What he wished to see was, that house constituted, as it ought to be, by the free will and choice of the labouring and toiling people. (Hear.) However content hon. gentlemen may be to see the house constituted as at present, yet, they might believe him the day would come when the people would appeal with something more formidable than a petition. If they looked at the manufacturing districts, they would find the people possessing more knowledge, and a keener sensitiveness of the inequality they were made to feel, than in any of the continental towns, where unfortunately the people were never as well prepared for the reception of the changes which they sought, as were the people of England. (Hear, hear.) Much as had been laid to the charge of him (Mr. O'Connor,) it could not be said of him—as could of the noble lord at the head of her Majesty's government, and also of his party—that he it was who inverted the portrait of the sovereign, with the executioner following armed with an axe, to terrify majesty into a compliance with the demands of the people. (Hear.) Neither was it he who recommended the burning of Nottingham or Bristol; but it was easy to justify violence and crime when they were committed to uphold a powerful and influential class. (Hear, hear.) It was not his intention to have spoken a single word, but to have voted on the question. He thanked the hon. member for Montrose for having introduced the measure; and, however that hon. member might revile him, or abuse him and his party in that house, he would ever continue to vote for his motion, stand by the Charter, the whole Charter, and No Surrender. (Laughter and "Hear, hear.")

Mr. PAGE WOOD complimented Sir George Grey upon the adroitness with which he had sought to prejudice Mr. Hume's motion by confounding it with the demands of the Chartists, whereas it was diametrically opposed to them. He pointed out with regret the conduct of governments in offering a premium to agitation, but never yielding reforms except to violent pressure from without; and he asked whether the house thought that three millions of grown-up non-electors were unfit to be trusted with the franchise, or, if they were fit, that they would not soon manage to obtain it? Deprecating all policy which forced men into antagonistic classes and "orders" he supported the motion.

Mr. DRUMMOND said that the antagonism complained of had been chiefly produced by itinerant professional agitators. He should have supported Mr. Hume had he separated the extension of the franchise from the other subjects of his motion, every syllable of which, he prophesied, would nevertheless one day be carried by the Whigs, who cared not so they reigned whether it was by the grace of Brookes', or by the grace of Manchester, and who had adopted the murder of the King and Queen of France, the mutiny at the Nore, and every other atrocity in modern history. The promoters of the motion were attempting to confound, into one great chaos, the system of degree and order which existed throughout all creation, downwards from the celestial hierarchy.

Mr. ROEBUCK said that government was bringing against Mr. Hume the very charge that had been made against Lord John Russell in the Reform times, namely, that of violating the spirit of the constitution, by creating a property test for voters. He believed that the house represented a great deal too faithfully the feelings, ignorance, and passions of the nation, and he also believed that vast benefits accrued to every man in England from the institutions under which we lived; but there was a feeling among the people that they were wrongfully deprived of certain rights, and therefore he would accord them. It was the fashion in that house incessantly to praise the labouring man, but when he asked for political power the house was frightened at him—frightened most needlessly, for he was worthy of all trust.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL assailed the inconsistency of the promoters of the measure in describing all men without votes as slaves and serfs, and then leaving so large a mass in that condition by the restricted franchise they proposed, a franchise which would make the case of the excluded even still more galling. He agreed with Mr. Hume on the theory of the constitution, but differed from him as to its practice, considering Lord Camden's constitutional maxim, that "taxation without representation was tyranny," meant that the Sovereign could tax only with the consent of Parliament, the direct share of every man in electing that Parliament being quite beside the question. He, therefore, deemed that he had not departed from constitutional principles in framing the Reform Act, which did not alter the great outlines of the constitution, but only supplied what had become defective, and in the redistribution of representation, at that time, all he had sought was to preserve the just balance of interests. He conceived that the admission of voters proposed by Mr. Hume would lead to innumerable frauds, and he was at a loss to separate its bearing from that of the Chartist proposal. The conduct of the working classes in England was deserving of high praise, and he believed in their moral and social improvement. But he could not believe in their political wisdom, nor think them altogether fit to be trusted with political privileges On the contrary, he believed that the working men would be misled by demagogues, whose misstatements as to taxes, institutions, and laws, they had no means of correcting. But he appealed to the Irish Franchise Bill, now in progress, to show that he had no hostility to extending the franchise. In reference to the equalisation of districts, he exposed the inconsistent character of the proposed remedy, and said that if alterations were to be made, populous counties which returned no more members than towns of a smaller population would have a right to claim additional representation. He conceived that the plan would increase the feelings of collision between the agriculturists and the dwellers in town. He indignantly denied the serfdom said to exist among the non-electing classes, and pointed to the liberties and privileges they enjoyed, and to their being permitted to rise to the highest station in the state. But he did not look to the £10 franchise as a limit that must always and necessarily be adhered to, though it had been the opinion of himself and his colleagues that it was not expedient in the present session to re-consider the franchise, other matters being of more pressing importance. He alluded to recent continental events, as having afforded salutary lessons, and had especially shown liberty endangered by those who affected to come forward as its friends. Pronouncing a panegyric upon the constitution, asserting that there was no popular demand for an alteration in the franchise, and reminded the house that if we weighed our anchors and set our sails during a perfect calm, we might be driven upon the rocks, he said that when a new measure of representation was brought forward, it ought to be not a substitute for, but a supplement to the Reform Act.

Mr. BERNAL OSBORNE said, that as Lord John Russell would not put to sea either in a storm or a calm, he supposed his lordship was waiting for a breeze—that of a general election, when, no doubt, a bill for extending the franchise would be laid by the ministers upon the table of the house. His lordship's speech of to-night would, however, produce more of a gale than he could desire. He read extracts from evidence taken before committees, to show that this boasted Parliament had been brought together by desperate bribery. He maintained that the power of the aristocracy had increased, was increasing, and ought to be diminished. Alluding also to Treasury influence, he said (amid the roars of the house) that the emblem of the Treasury was not a "whip" but a "fishing rod," with which the parliamentary Isaac Walton bobbed for patriots, and hooked country gentlemen; and he described Lord Melbourne as having once, upon a critical occasion, made a "miraculous draught" of baronets. He concluded a long and humourous speech, abounding with personalities, which were excellently received by the house, by declaring that he supported this motion because he was a true Conservative.

The house then divided, when the numbers were—

For Mr. Hume's motion	...	96
Against it	...	242
Majority against	...	—146

FRIDAY, MARCH 1.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NATIONAL LAND COMPANY.—Sir B. HALL having presented petitions from several allottees upon the Minster Lovel and Snig's End Estates, complaining that they had been deceived, and praying the consideration of the house.

Mr. FEARGUS O'CONNOR defended himself from the charges laid against him, whether by the present petitioners, or his numerous other assailants. He had deceived nobody; had got no money out of anybody; and had neglected no means of securing the welfare of his clients and subscribers. The petitioners had paid, he said, little or no rent; the scheme was his debtor for large advances, and it was no fault of his that the company had not been fully registered, and its financial concerns placed under the control of responsible trustees. He had applied to Lord Duncan and Mr. S. Crawford to assume those functions, but had received a refusal from the former. Finally the honourable member promised to offer a bill to settle the affairs of the association under the supervision of Parliament. [A full report of this discussion will be given in our next.]

PARLIAMENTARY VOTERS (IRELAND) BILL.—The house went into committee on this bill, when several amendments were proposed and negatived. The first clause was then agreed to; and the chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Monday.

The other orders having been disposed of, the house then adjourned.

THE LAND SCHEME.

(Continued from the first page.)

Poor Law. It now became the interest of landlords and large farmers to elbow as many poor as possible out of the parish, in order to keep down the poor-rates. Thousands of little farmers had now disappeared, and their houses were in some cases filled with labourer-paupers, and in others pulled down. Great difficulty was felt by the labourer-pauper to get a cottage at all, and the young husbandman, whom Goldsmith called the "country's pride," and whom the malt-tax drove out of the farm-houses, had to seek a lodging in some small old cottage filled with half-fed and half-clothed children. There was little warmth or comfort to be obtained here of a cold winter's night, and so the young husbandman sought refuge in the comfortable "*settle*" by the blazing fire of the "Tommy-shop." Here conversation flowed freely. There was no master's eye upon his men: no mistress to keep the blasphemous tongue in check. The village beer-shop is the resort of all the scamps in the neighbourhood; the delight of the poacher, and the paradise of the uncaught felon. This is the school in which immense *numbers of our rural population receive their education* and get prepared to enter *college*, which is sometimes the county-jail, but more frequently the union workhouse.

"Repeal the sale of beer bill," says the clergy and others. We say, repeal the malt-tax, and thousands of young husbandmen will be taken back into farm-houses, and resume their seats under a master's eye by his kitchen fire, instead of being frequenters of the beer-shop.

But we must return to the consideration of the possibility of enabling poor men with a small capital—say £100 or £200—to obtain land and to cultivate it themselves, so as to be a burden to no one. Great doubts are entertained as to the policy of letting a poor man have a small bit of land to cultivate it by spade labour. We know that in some places it has been rejected by the labourers themselves, especially since the failure of the potato. Lord Willoughby d'Eresby thinks that it would be better to let the labouring husbandman have three or four acres of meadow land—a small part to be used as a kitchen garden, the chief part for a cow, &c., but none to be used as plough land or for spade labour, except the kitchen-garden. A poor man would be able in this way to reap the advantage of cow's milk and occasionally have a calf to sell. He would also be able to raise some pigs, a little poultry, some bees, some flax, and if the cow would permit, some hops, and even tobacco, and all his vegetables; and with such advantages his labour-wages need not be increased.

Still there are many persons residing in towns ready enough to return to the country if they could obtain a few score or a hundred or two acres of land on reasonable terms, and who have sufficient capital to embark in such an enterprise. But they will not be tenants-at-will; nor tenants at all if they can help it. They want to possess the land in fee simple, as the lawyers call it. They wish to buy it out and out, to make it their own. But there are legal difficulties in the way. Our laws are made as if there were no persons in the Kingdom desirous of becoming small landed proprietors and cultivators. The transfer of landed property, thanks to our noble "laws and constitution," is a very expensive affair, and in the smallest purchase there is frequently a glorious picking to be made out of it in making, or seeking out, and in the examination of, titles, or leases, and mortgages, "releases" and "redemptions of the fee simple," and all the jargon of Westminster Hall, which comes into full play the moment a man talks of buying or selling real property of any kind and especially land. One of the first things, therefore, that are required to be done is to simplify the tranfer of real property, and to render such transfers as cheap as possible, and with as little interference of the law as possible. We believe *there is a notice of motion* to accomplish something of this kind on the books of the House of Commons, and we are not sure that a bill has not been prepared by some member with this object. We do not know how it is, or why it is, but *so* it is, that at the commencement of every session, notices of bills, and bills themselves, are brought before the house, many of them seeming to be well calculated to promote many practical social reforms; but, somehow, before the session closes, most, if not all of these bills slip out of sight, like the Copyhold Bills, and little or nothing is done, or, if done, is so badly done that next session half-a-dozen more bills are required to explain or amend or to repeal parts or the whole of such acts. Such is the tinkering for ever going on under the "omnipotency" of Parliament, that the country has long ceased to expect any wide, sound, practical measures from it, and it is this conviction—that Parliament either cannot nor will not do anything of a really useful kind, so as to recall the confidence of the nation—that has compelled thousands reluctantly to admit that something must be done to bring the people and Parliament more into harmony. Neither emigration nor colonisation wil be found a remedy for the present social condition of the country. We want more people to be engaged in producing for their own wants by the cultivation of the soil. Not half the people who now *keep shops, &c., are wanted in the towns. How* the change is to be, if it can be, brought about, is one of the great problems of the age. Delay it as we may, it will be forced on public attention at last.—*Brighton Herald.*

THE HANSEATIC TRADE.—The opening of the important commercial port of Hamburgh has enabled the General Steam Navigation Company's vessel the John Bull to arrive for the first time from that place and Cuxhaven respectively, having on board a general cargo of provisions and merchandize of Hanseatic produce.

THE FACTORY QUESTION.

THE TEN HOURS ACT AND WAGES.

Sir Robert Peel has diligently studied Cocker. The right hon. baronet is a clever arithmetician. He has *not* studied human nature. Consequently, the late Prime Minister is *not* a "safe" statesman.

During the debates on the Ten Hours Factory Bill, Sir Robert Peel argued thus—"If you reduce the hours of labour in factories from twelve to ten, you will *necessarily* reduce the wages from twelve to ten." And then, with an air of triumph, the self-satisfied *statesman* asked—"Are you prepared to make such an enormous reduction from the earnings of a large portion of the working population, whose wages, even at twelve hours per day, are not more than their necessities require?" By such sophistry many members of parliament were deluded; nay, even now, the economists, *follow* in the wake of Sir Robert, rest their opposition to the Ten Hours Act on similar assertions and questions.

Fortunately, experience contradicts Cocker. Happily facts prove the folly of Sir Robert Peel's philosophy. Take the following. I record it for the especial benefit of the right hon. baronet and his disciples—the Economists.

My kind friend, Mr. Wm. Walker, has just placed a very important document in my hands. It is the record of the wages paid by a millowner, in Bradford, for the working of thirty-two power looms, during the year 1848. *The table is drawn up by* the overlooker who superintended the working of those thirty-two looms during the whole period. The speed, the looms, the wages per piece, the quality of warp and weft, and the workpeople were the same, and during the whole period the hands had full employment. The only difference was the time of working, and the amount received by the workers.

During the first quarter those thirty-two looms were worked eleven hours per day. During the following three quarters they worked only ten hours per day.

Now I will state the result. To that result I respectfully, but earnestly, call the attention of Sir Robert Peel and the Economists.

First quarter wages paid for eleven hours per day, £177 3s. 6d.

Second quarter, wages paid for ten hours per day, £183 5s., being £1 1s. 6d. *more* than for eleven hours per day; and £22 3s. 7½d. *more* than the amount assumed and asserted by Sir Robert Peel, according to Cocker.

Third quarter wages paid for ten hours per day, £191 4s. 6d., being £14 1s. *more* than for eleven hours per day; and £30 3s. 1½d. *more* than the amount assumed and asserted by Sir Robert Peel, according to Cocker.

Fourth quarter wages paid for ten hours per day, £187 12s. 9d., being £10 9s. 3d. *more* than for eleven hours per day; and £26 11s. 4½d. *more* than the amount assumed and asserted by Sir Robert Peel, according to Cocker.

The account before me gives me the name of the overlooker and the mill. I am not authorised at present to publish names. If Sir Robert Peel doubts the statement, I have no fear of being able to satisfy him that there is "no mistake."

And how is this *apparent* contradiction to be accounted for? Simply on this truth—human beings are not machines! That is all. Cocker would be correct if nature did not tire. Sir Robert Peel would be right if human beings were not needed to guide and watch the operations of machinery.

I asked an overlooker to account to me for this result. He said, "Under the system of long hours, 'the hands' were never fairly *rested*. Under the system of ten hours per day, they are never *exhausted*."

"Ay," said I, "my friend, you know more about it than Sir Robert Peel."

It is well to teach the overlookers logic (logic proved by experience) now, when the law is defied which is working so well.

RICHARD OASTLER.

THE TEN HOURS ACT.

The factory operatives of Lancashire held another delegate meeting on Sunday. The central committee deemed it necessary to call a second meeting on account of the unfair means that had been adopted to pack the meeting held on the previous Sunday, by a few persons not at all connected with factories, and who appear to be dividing the workmen with a view of prolonging the agitation. The meeting, as on the former occasion, was held at the Cotton Tree Tavern, Manchester, and was very numerously attended—at least so far as the number of towns are concerned. The point for discussion appeared to be to whom should be entrusted the care of the bill in the House of Commons. Mr. Grant said, as soon as it was ascertained that there was a desire on the part of a few of the factory operatives to have Lord John Manners and Mr. Bankes united with Lord Ashley in the conduct of the measure through Parliament, the central committee agreed that Lord John Manners should be incorporated in the resolution requesting Lord Ashley to take the conducting of the bill through the House of Commons, but they could not see what benefit would result from the addition of the name of Mr. Bankes. And if there was to be a division, he (Mr. Grant) did not hesitate to say he would, and he knew the workers generally would, rather forego the support and assistance of Mr. Fielden than the aid and co-operation of Lord Ashley, in whom they had implicit confidence. Ultimately the following resolutions were passed unanimously:—"1. That this meeting of delegates from the manufacturing districts of the West Riding wishes to record its tribute of gratitude to Lord Ashley and all other supporters of the Ten Hours Act; and thereby also to express its entire confidence in the noble lord and the other tried friends of the factory workers, to adopt such measures as shall secure the integrity and efficiency of the Ten Hours Act for all young persons and women, by putting an end to the odious modes of working by relays and shifts in some parts of the country. 2. That the delegates and factory workers of the West Riding are ready to co-operate with their friends in Lancashire, and in expressing their regret that there should have been any attempt to create disunion amongst them, they now earnestly implore all the delegates and factory workers of Lancashire to unite with each other most heartily for the speedy attainment of their common object."

BRADFORD.—On Friday the 22nd ult. a meeting of the clergy of the rural deanery of Bradford, Yorkshire, was held, *on the summons of the Rev. the* Rural Dean, to consider the critical position of the Factory Act. An address was unanimously agreed upon, to be forwarded by the Rev. Dr. Burnet, vicar of Bradford, to the Ven. Archdeacon Musgrave (brother of the Archbishop of York,) requesting him to convene chapters of all the deaneries in the archdeaconary of Craven, to take into consideration the best means of securing a Ten Hours Factory Act. As soon as the ruri-decanal chapter had been dissolved, the clergy of the two parishes of Bradford and Calverly assembled respectfully under the presidency of their vicars, and adopted and signed petitions to both houses of parliament, and a memorial to the Queen, in favour as a declaratory act which will secure to the poor women and children engaged in factories the benevolent intentions of the three estates of the realm—namely, a Ten Hours Act, giving no sanction to the relay or shift system.

OLDHAM.

On Monday evening a numerous meeting took place in the Town-hall, at Oldham, to consider the propriety of petitioning Parliament to pass an Act to carry into effect the spirit and intention of the 7th Victoria, c. 15. Mr. A. Taylor took the chair, in the absence of the Mayor. Mr. T. Mills, an operative spinner, moved the first resolution, embodying the views of the meeting, and condemning the system of relays; which was seconded by Mr. Lear, and carried unanimously. The second resolution, to the effect that petitions to both houses of Parliament should be prepared, was carried in the same manner, after which a petition was agreed to; and the thanks of the meeting having been passed for the chairman, the proceedings terminated.

THE MINERS OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

SIR,—The last county meeting was held at the Heywood Arms, Miles Platting, Manchester, on Monday and Tuesday, the 18th and 19th ult.—Mr. James Price was called to the chair. Several letters were read from members of Parliament, on the subject of Government inspection of Mines and Collieries; amongst others friendly to our interests, was one from Mr. Duncombe, which I have read at several meetings; at all of which, a desire was expressed, that I should send a copy to the *Northern Star*, so that the miners of the United Kingdom might see that Mr. Duncombe is so far recovered as shortly to attend his Parliamentary duties again; and as he has hitherto pleaded our cause so successfully in the House of Commons, the miners of those districts are desirous, (if his health permit), that he should continue to be their champion until they have proper protection for life and health. I was instructed at the previous county meeting, *to ascertain* whether his health would permit him to take charge of our Bill again. Here is the noble and generous reply:—

5, Palace Chambers, St. James', February 8th, 1850.

DEAR SIR,—Many thanks to you for your kind inquiries respecting my health, which, I am happy to inform you, has lately much improved; and although prudence forbids my giving a very constant attendance at present to the House of Commons, yet I hope at the time you mention,—viz., after Easter,—to be able to resume my Parliamentary duties as formerly, when I shall be happy to give the miners and colliers any assistance in my power; in the meantime you are at full liberty to add my name to the committee of members, whom you say are equally disposed to support legislative interference in the better conducting and safer management of mines and collieries.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

THOMAS S. DUNCOMBE.

Mr. David Swallow, Bolton.

Another letter was also read, in answer to one sent to the chairman of the coal proprietors' association of South Lancashire, with a view to both parties coming to a proper arrangement as to what kind of a bill would best suit the interests of the employer and the employed; but he declines to meet me as a deputation from the colliers in the following terms:—"He understood the Government intended to take the matter in hand; in which case, it would do no good meeting the deputation."

It is all very fine to put us off with such an answer, but, I trust, that the miners of Yorkshire, and every other county in England, Scotland, and Wales, will better themselves, and take the matter in hand, and not leave the battle to be contested and gained by a few counties; let all give a helping hand—then the work will be light—let every district begin immediately to get petitions signed, holding meetings, &c.

On account of having five collieries on strike, it was considered impossible that two men could be sent to London to press the matter on the attention of the legislature, along with the deputation from Durham and Northumberland, out of the present levy; therefore the following resolution was agreed to; to be taken back to the districts for consideration:—"That it is the opinion of this meeting, that it is highly desirable, that a levy of twopence per member should be paid to the county board (for once only) for the purpose of defraying the expenses of a deputation of two men to London, as above referred to; and that every delegate be very particular in laying the matter before his district, so that each delegate might come prepared to state at the next county meeting, whether their districts are prepared to pay the extra levy of twopence or not, for the above purpose."

After the other business, which was only of a local nature, had been transacted, the county meeting was adjourned until Monday next, March 4th, to be held at the George Inn, Lamberhead Green, near Wigan.

At three o'clock in the afternoon, a public meeting of the Bradford, Clayton, Moston, and Tinkerbrow Collieries, was held at the above place, Mr. Hibbert, a working collier, in the chair. The meeting was addressed by Mr. J. Price, Mr. H. Dennett, and others. The meeting was an excellent one, and a very enthusiastic feeling prevailed throughout the whole of the proceedings.

POYNTON (Cheshire).—I held a good meeting on the Thursday previous, at the house of Mr. Peter Clayton, "Midway," Poynton. Mr. Bramall occupied the chair, and opened the proceedings in an excellent speech; after which Mr. Francis, the district secretary, read a copy of a very excellent address, and bye-laws for their own local government, drawn up by him, which was unanimously agreed to, and ordered to be printed. I then pointed out to the meeting, at considerable length, the evils of rash turn-outs—showing the difference between strikes and unions, which some people considered synonymous—to the satisfaction of all present. I anticipate that this colliery will soon be in a far better state of organisation than it is at present.

I have also held a good meeting lately at Hindley, amongst Strangeway's men.

Mr. Price has held some good meetings in and around St. Helen's. I am happy to say that the union has been successful in obtaining a general advance of about sixpence per day on the colliers' wages in those districts, during the last three months. Such are the benefits of union in this county. Yours respectfully,

D. SWALLOW.

25, Sidney-street, Bolton,
Feb. 25th, 1850.

P.S.—Any person who may wish to write to me, upon any subject connected with our society, can do so as above. W. S.

THE MINERS PETITION.

TO THE HONOURABLE THE COMMONS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED,

The humble petition of the undersigned Coal Miners of Northumberland and Durham, in public meeting assembled, on the sixteenth day of February, 1850.

RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—

That your petitioners are coal miners, who, in pursuit of their avocation, are continually exposed to numerous dangers and accidents, such as falls from the roof, breaking of ropes, chains, &c., and more especially to those frequent and disastrous events, colliery explosions, whereby many hundreds of lives are annually destroyed, entailing ruin and wretchedness upon numerous widows and orphan children.

That in addition to those fearful calamities which injure, maim, and destroy so many of the relatives and friends of your petitioners, they are daily exposed to the injurious effects of badly ventilated mines, which being partly free from the explosive gas, engenders carelessness and disregard to the ventilation, and thereby ensuring the presence of carbonic acid and nitrogen gases the constant breathing of which, for a long period each day, necessarily impairs the health of your petitioners, (many of whom at the present time are obliged to work where a candle or other light will not burn, except placed nearly in a horizontal position,) and which in a brief period brings them to a premature grave.

Your petitioners would respectfully intimate, that in 1835, the serious loss of life in coal mines attracted the attention of Parliament, who appointed a committee to examine into the causes of such accidents, and which committee, after a long and patient investigation, made their report, from which we make the following extracts:—

'Your committee do not hesitate to express a conviction, that whilst some mines, equally foul, are materially freed from large accumulations of gas, by the approximation of the seams of coal to the surface of the earth, *others*, where the seams lie horizontally or nearly so, *require more shafts*, additional opportunities for the injection of pure air and the rejection of foul, than are ordinarily afforded. *A less parsimonious* system in this respect, either in the original design of those mines or in their subsequent working, would have rendered easy—otherwise—difficult ventilation, and saved many valuable lives: the absolute necessity of greater attention to this point has been fully established.' The committee further report,—'That the practice of placing wooden partitions or brattices in the ventilating shafts is deservedly reprobated, the slightest explosion removes them, thus, the whole system of ventilation is destroyed, and no timely aid can be rendered to the temporarily surviving sufferers: to this point the committee attach an importance inferior only to the provision of a sufficient number of up-cast and downcast shafts.'

Your petitioners state with regret, that those excellent and proper recommendations of that committee have had practically but little attention from the proprietors of collieries, and that very recently shafts have been sunk, having wooden partitions dividing the ventilating shaft, in direct contravertion of the reprobation of that committee, thus exposing to danger the lives of many hundreds of the working colliers. That, despite the expressed anticipations of that committee,—'That the mass of valuable evidence thus publicly exhibited, would, by its circulation, enlist the aid of science and humanity in the future working of coal mines, so as to ensure a diminution of such frequent and extensive loss of life.' Your petitioners have to state that the loss of life by accidents have greatly increased since the report of the committee was made, and that within the last few years a still further increased fatality has obtained in that respect.'

That in corroboration of the above, we would refer to the parliamentary report of 1840. A committee of which therein stated, that from fifty-five mining districts the number of violent deaths in the year 1838, were 349. That the census of 1841, represent the number of males, twenty years of age and upwards, employed in the mines, to be 124,660, and that amongst men of this class, the violent deaths in 1840, were 498, which is very nearly the same ratio as that of the navy and merchant service at home, and as compared with agricultural labourers as 3,939 to 1,221, and as 3,932 to 940 of men of the same age in the community at large. That the following list, copied from the *Mining Journal*, exhibits by contrast the increasing number of violent deaths in coal mines:—

Number killed by various accidents,	in the year		1838—349.
Ditto	ditto	ditto	1840—498.
Ditto	ditto	ditto	1845—562.
Ditto	ditto	ditto	1847—462.
Ditto	ditto	ditto	1848—570.
ditto	ditto	ditto	1849—704.

Thus affording conclusive proof of the *increasing fatality* among the miners of this country.

Your petitioners sincerely believe that such increased fatality has arisen from the want of a due inspection of mines, and that in the opinion of your petitioners the time has fully arrived when such inspection should be adopted, which opinion has been fully confirmed by the reports of several scientific and official examinations into the causes of particular explosions, one or two of which your petitioners will specify. Sir H. De le Beche and Dr. Lyon Playfair, who reported upon the Jarrow colliery explosion in 1845, whereby fifty lives were lost, state as follows:—"We are led to consider that the evils might be at least mitigated by the careful and judicious inspection of convenient districts, by competent persons, and we believe that the cause of humanity and the interest of the coal owners would be alike benefited by a well considered legislative enactment of this kind." Again, Sir H. De le Beche and Mr. W. Smithe, officially appointed to investigate into the cause of the explosion at Ardsley Main colliery, in 1847, referring to the subject of inspection, made the following declaration:—"We believe that this inspection, if rightly conducted, would be alike important to the employers and employed; and when we reflect that the men who labour in our collieries supply the great mass of fuel which not only contribute to the household comforts of so large a portion of the inhabitants of this country, but also to the means by which its wealth and resources are so greatly advanced, we cannot but conceive that arrangements for the safety of their lives forms a fitting subject for National care and Legislative provision."

Your petitioners further submit, that in addition to the above official reports and evidence, they have to present an extract from the valuable report of the South Shields committee, who examined personally several of the pits in this district relative to this subject, as follows:—"The advantages derivable from an enlightened public jurisdiction in a well organised system of government inspection, are clear and indubitable. That such inspection and jurisdiction for securing the fullest protection in the public interest are perfectly compatible with the private rights of property and the freedom of trade, and that the principle has already been acknowledged by the Legislation with regard to railways, the professions, the manufacturers, and some of the trades, and is peculiarly applicable to mining, unlike the former, far removed from an enlightened public investigation."

Your petitioners beg also to state, that besides their exposure to those dangers above enumerated, they are subjected to the abrupt inundation of water, arising in many instances from want of a proper register of plans, &c. of the old and previous workings, such as occurred in Heaton colliery, in 1815, and by which seventy-five lives were lost; and also at Workington colliery, where thirty-six persons were drowned, and were, despite the many warnings and symptoms given of the apprehended danger, the self-will and obstinacy of the agent prevented him from taking heed thereof, as will be seen by referring to the evidence of Matthias Dunn, Esq., given before the recent committee of the House of Lords, on accidents in mines, and also from an extract of a letter sent by Mr. Browness, one of the under agents at the colliery to that gentleman: Extract:—"Unless some interference can be made, a very few days or weeks will most assuredly bring in the water of the sea, and that opinion is now so generally expressed, that men are leaving the colliery every day." Notwithstanding such warnings, the workings were continued, and the sea broke in, destroying thirty-six lives, and ruining the property. And your petitioners would intimate, that a similar case to the above occurred at Landshipping, in Pembrokeshire, where, by working under the bed of the river, forty persons were drowned, both of which cases exhibit that sufficient warnings were given, but there being no authorised parties to compel attention to those warnings or to stop the works, the destruction followed as a matter of course. Your petitioners would represent that none of the bodies of the persons drowned being recovered, no inquest could be held thereon, so that the carelessnes of the managers went without punishment, thus exhibiting a great defect in the law of coroners' courts.

Your petitioners enlist the attention of your honourable house to the tardiness of the colliery proprietors in introducing any of the aids of science to benefit and advantage the working colliers, and would refer, as in illustration thereof, to the well-known and ingenious invention of G. Gurney, Esq., as detailed by him to the Parliamentary committee, in 1835, but which invention had not been practically applied until July, 1849, when it was partially adopted at Seaton Delaval colliery, Northumberland, and from the evidence of T. E. Foster and J. Mather, Esqrs., as given by them to the committee of Lords, it was proven, that double the quantity of air had been got, by the application of high pressure steam, to the ventilation; and although now that such experiment has been before the country for nearly twelve months, there are none of the other collieries making any efforts, as far as your *petitioners know, to call in such aid*, although at very many collieries the workmen are almost suffocated for want of wholesome air. Again, Mr. Fourdrinier has produced an apparatus for the saving of life by the immediate suspension of the cage in the shaft, should the rope or chain break; and although its efficiency has been tested in the presence of a large number of colliery managers, who signed a certificate of *such efficiently*, yet but two or three collieries have put up such apparatus, notwithstanding the expenses is not more than from 20*l.* to 30*l.*

In conclusion, your petitioners beg leave to implore your honourable house that for the several reasons given, and from the experience of your petitioners themselves, that your honourable house will, without further delay, (as *delay in this case is death*,) proceed to enact that inspectors of mines be appointed (the same being practical men,) with similar powers as belong to factory inspectors, inspectors of railways, &c., that the frequent and extensive loss of life in coal mines may be diminished, and your petitioners' hitherto unhealthy employment be improved, and the condition of your petitioners and their families have a like consideration as other classes of her Majesty's subjects.

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

BRITISH COLLEGE OF HEALTH,
NEW ROAD, LONDON.

FALLACY OF ANATOMY AS REGARDS THE CURE OF DISEASES — THE BURKING SYSTEM — DOCTORS BUYING DEAD BODIES WITH THEIR SHIRTS!!! ON!!

As persons are continually disappearing no one knows how, it may not be out of place to consider whether the burking system is not still carried on to a great extent. Had it not been for the terrible discoveries made on Burke and Hare's trial, there can be no doubt that thousands would have been sent into the next world in order to feed doctors with human flesh, so that they (the doctors) might fill their pockets at the expense of suffering humanity. This dissection our readers should know, forms one of the *very lucrative* emoluments proceeding from '*hospital practice*.' For instance, the professor of anatomy pays we will say, eight or ten guineas for a dead body, and then makes fifty or sixty out of it from the medical students who have paid their money in order to find out, as they are told, the *cause of disease in a dead body!!* Was there ever a more infamous fraud? Where is the doctor who knows how to cure a disease from dissection? They all know it to be a shameful piece of humbug, and they are not a bit the wiser from dissection, as far as regards the cure of disease. It is all to make money! money!! money!!! that the rascality is kept up; dust is thrown into the eyes of the public, and doctors tell the lie (the wicked lie!) that anatomy is requisite to understand the cure of diseases. The only anatomy really required is BONE SETTING, in cases of accidents, which might be learnt by designs; the Vegetable Universal Medicine will then do all that is necessary, by keeping the blood pure and healing the parts—operations for stone, cataract, cancer, &c. are perfectly useless, which is proved by the disease always coming again, because its seat is in the BLOOD!!! Burke, the murderer, found 'Burking' the best trade going—he used to smother people, and then take them to the doctor almost hot, some even with their SHIRTS ON,* and used, without the least difficulty, to get his £8 for each body. Now there can be no doubt that the doctors MUST HAVE KNOWN that the victims had not come fairly by their deaths, yet they blinked at the whole business in order that they might FILL THEIR POCKETS. Talk after this about the 'honourable' profession, the 'liberal' profession, and such humbug. We say, read the confession of the burkers here given, and if you can believe that these doctors did not know at the time that the parties had been murdered, why then you must have more credulity than we give you credit for. The deadly chemicals of the doctors and their burkings are both on a par, only the first is not *so easily detected* by the public as the other; but that a day of retribution will come we make no doubt. We understand that poor people will no longer allow their relatives who die in the hospitals to be mangled by the knife of the human butchers. No wonder.

* Read the official confession of Burke made in the gaol, to be had of all the Hygeian Agents. Oh! oh! the Guinea Trade!!

Markets, &c.

CORN.

MARK LANE, Monday, February 25.—The arrivals of English wheat were small this morning, and of foreign the chief part was from Odessa. Fine English sold rather more readily at last Monday's prices; but in foreign we cannot note any change, though prices are firm. Foreign flour 1s per sack and barrel cheaper. Barley slow sale, and malt dull and 2s cheaper. In rye nothing doing. Beans met with little inquiry. Peas went off heavily at 1s reduction. The supply of oats was moderate, and good fresh corn fully as dear; other descriptions without alteration. Linseed cakes ready sale at previous rates. For red cloverseed there was more demand at last week's prices, but white dull and cheaper.

BRITISH.—Wheat.—Essex, Suffolk, and Kent, red, new 36s to 41s, ditto white 40s to 47s, Lincoln, Norfolk, and Yorkshire, red 32s to 37s, Northumberland and Scotch, white 32s to 37s, ditto red 32s to 36s, Devonshire and Somersetshire, red, —s to —s, ditto white — to —s, rye, 21s to 23s, barley, 22s to 24s, Scotch 26s to 22s, Angus —s to —s, Malt ordinary, —s to —s, pale 48s to 51s, peas, grey, new 21s to 23s, maple 23s to 25s, white 22s to 23s, boilers new 24s to 25s, beans, large, new 22s to 23s, ticks 24s to 25s, harrow, 25s to 26s, pigeon, 26s to 28s, oats, Lincoln and Yorkshire feed, 15s to 18s, ditto Poland and potato, 17s to 20s, Berwick and Scotch, 17s to 21s, Scotch feed, 17s to 18s, Irish feed and black, 14s to 17s, ditto potato, 17s to 19s, linseed (sowing) 50s to 52s, rapeseed, Essex, new £28 to £32 per last, carraway seed, Essex, new 26s to 30s per cwt, rape cake, £4 to £4 10s per ton, linseed, £9 10s to £10 10s. per 1,000, flour, per sack of 280lbs, ship, 26s to 28s, town, 36s to 38s.

FOREIGN.—Wheat. — Dantzig, 42s to 48s, Anhalt and Marks, 36 to 40s, ditto white, 40s to 42s, Pomeranian red, 40s to 42s, Rostock 44s to 46s, Danish, Holstein, and Friesland, 30s to 34s, Petersburgh, Archangel, and Riga, 32s to 34s, Polish Odessa, 32s to 34s, Marianopoli, and Berdianski, 32s to 35s, Taganrog, 32s to 34s, Brabant and French, 34s to 36s, ditto white, 38s to 42s, Salonica, 30s to 33s, Egyptian, 23s to 26s, rye, 20s to 22s, barley, Wismar and Rostock, 18s to 21s, Danish, 18s to 22s, Saal, 20s to 24s, East Friesland, 16s to 17s, Egyptian, 15s to 16s, Danube, 15s to 16s, peas, white, 22s to 23s, new boilers, 24s to 25s, beans, horse, 21s to 23s, pigeon, 24s to 25s, Egyptian, 21s to 22s, oats, Groningen, Danish, Bremen, and Friesland, feed and black, 11s to 15s, ditto, thick and brew 16s to 20s, Riga, Petersburgh, Archangel, and Swedish, 14s to 16s, flour, United States, per 196lbs., 22s to 23s, Hamburgh 20s to 22s, Dantzig and Stettin 20s to 22s, French per 280lbs., 31s to 32s.

WEDNESDAY, February 27.—The arrivals of grain this week are short, particularly of wheat, but again fair of flour. In our trade we have a continued dullness for every article, without variation in price. Most of the country and provincial markets held yesterday were also very dull.

FRIDAY, March, 1.—There was scarcely any English wheat fresh up for market; the few parcels on sale were disposed of with difficulty at the rates of Monday. English barley scarcely sold so well as at the beginning of the week. Arrivals of oats continue on a moderate scale. No alteration in beans, peas, or flour.

Arrivals this week:—Wheat—English, 1,220 quarters; foreign, — quarters. Barley—English, 4,690 quarters; foreign, 1,140 quarters. Oats—English, 6,530 quarters; foreign, — quarters. Flour—4,510 sacks.

RICHMOND (YORKSHIRE,) Feb. 23.—We only had a thin supply of grain this morning. Wheat sold from 4s 3d to 5s 6d; oats, 1s 6d to 2s 6d; barley, 3s 0d to 3s 6d; beans, 3s 3d to 3s 6d per bushel.

BREAD.

The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6d. to 7d.; of household ditto, 4½d. to 5½d. per 4lbs. loaf.

CATTLE.

SMITHFIELD, Monday, Feb. 25.—Although the supply of foreign stock here to-day was but moderate, the demand for it ruled heavy, at drooping prices. There were forty oxen on sale from Spain. From our own grazing districts, the arrivals of beasts fresh up this morning were considerably on the increase. *In their quality a decided improvement* was noticed. Notwithstanding that the attendance of buyers was tolerably good, the beef trade ruled exceedingly heavy, at a decline in the quotations obtained on Monday last of 2d per 8lbs. The top figure for the best Scots was 3s 10d per 8lbs. At the close of business several droves left the market unsold. For the time of year, the supply of sheep was moderately good, and in fair average condition. All breeds were a slow sale, at prices barely equal to those paid on this day se'nnight, yet a clearance was effected. The extreme value of the best old Downs in the wool was 4s 6d per 8lbs. Those out of the wool went at 3s 6d to 3s 10d per 8lbs. Calves were in moderate supply and heavy inquiry, at barely Friday's decline in the quotations. In pigs next to nothing was doing, and prices gave way 2d per 8lbs.

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.—Friday.—Beasts, 980; sheep, 3,210; calves, 244; pigs, 300. Monday. — Beasts, 3,922; sheep, 19,490; calves, 108; pigs, 185.

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

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Feb. 18.—Inferior beef, 2s 4d to 2s 6d; middling ditto, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; prime large, 3s 0d to 3s 2d; prime small, 3s 2d to 3s 4d; large pork, 2s 10d to 3s 4d; inferior mutton, 2s 8d to 2s 10d; middling ditto, 3s 0d to 3s 4d; prime ditto, 3s 6d to 3s 10d; veal, 3s 0d to 3s 10d; small pork, 3s 6d to 4s 0d; per 8lbs. by the carcase.

SEEDS.

LONDON, Monday.—We can notice no improvement in the general tone of the seed trade, and so little was done to-day that quotations must be regarded as nominal. Canary seed of fine quality was offered at 76s to 78s per qr., and Spring tares at 4s per bushel.

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