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"The folly of to-day may be the wisdom of the morrow."

TO LORD JOHN RUSSELL.

My Lord,—In a few days it will be eleven years since I addressed to you a letter, occupying nearly three columns in the "Northern Star;" and was it not my conviction that the readers of the "Star" still bear the contents of that letter in memory, I should re-publish it at full length.

My Lord, I therein defined what the result of your policy would be, and my every prediction has been verified. I proved to demonstration, that the disappointment of the people, arising from the treachery of the Reformers, would at length bring this country into a state of excitement and agitation, which neither Whig nor Tory, nor both unitedly, could suppress. I showed that persecution and tyranny, instead of justice and liberty, had been the result of the Reform Bill; and I predicted that the progressing intelligence of a wise and industrious people would, at no distant period, induce that people to base veritable Reform upon their own power, rather than upon governmental deception, or party enthusiasm, however promising either might be.

My Lord, if you contrast the state of England in those days with the state of France now, you will find it perfectly analogous, carrying with you, however, the fact that France, as to mind, or rather the organisation of mind, is in an infant state, while the mind of England has acquired a giant's stature. The Reform Bill promised to the English people what the Republic promised to France. Upon the accomplishment of the Reform Bill, by the aid of the people, it turned out to be "a mockery, a delusion, and a snare;" while the Republic of France has turned out to be a mere trap, to catch, in the first instance, a party of representatives who were returned upon their enthusiastic professions of liberty, but who are now the first to destroy it. The very principle for which those who gained the Revolution contended, and in achieving which they boldly risked their lives—namely, LIBERTY, EQUALITY, FRATERNITY—is the principle against which the bloody sword of tyranny is now raised. How can Liberty—how can Equality—how can Fraternity exist, when that legitimate equality of man, upon which the new system was professedly based, is destroyed?

My Lord, of course you are aware, that under the dominion of LOUIS PHILIPPE, the thirty-six millions of a French population had no more than two hundred thousand electors to represent them, while England, with a population of not more than twenty millions, has nearly one million of electors. But, my Lord, do not turn this fact into an argument in favour of English liberalism, because I will meet you thus—the English system is based upon the traffic of the capitalist in the labour of the poor, and the system of representation is so constructed, that lordlings, ministers, and capitalists can so constitute the House of Commons, as to legislate for their own and not for the people's interest.

My Lord, in England it has ever been the practice of the Government in power, when threatened with dismissal, to affright their opponents by the threat of revolution. It would be tedious to remind my readers of the bloody and terrific language used, and threats held out, even by loyal men to their monarch, in the event of the Reform Bill being denied. The people know that, in this country, there is one law for the rich, and another law for the poor, and if they presume that such an injustice has ceased, they have only to reflect upon the impertinent answer of your HOME SECRETARY in reply to my question relative to the language recently used by the Protectionists at the Crown and Anchor meeting, presided over by HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF RICHMOND.

My Lord, if HIS GRACE FEARGUS O'CONNOR had presided over a Chartist meeting where such language had been used, he would have been very speedily anointed with the grace of the law, while the grace of God anoints his GRACE of RICHMOND. Let me now call your Lordship's attention to the critical simile between the first Reformed English Parliament, and the first Republican National Assembly. The first act of the English Parliament was to pass a bloody and atrocious Coercion Bill to suppress Irish opinion. It then turned its power to the prosecution of the Dorchester Labourers, the Glasgow Cotton Spinners, and to the suppression of the Birmingham Political Union, by whose vigour and courage the Reform Bill was mainly carried. Then followed the atrocious Poor-law Amendment Act; the prevention of Members meeting from twelve till three o'clock in the day to present petitions, and expound the views of the petitioners; then the tax of twenty millions upon English slaves to emancipate the West India slaves. And such precisely is the policy of the present French Assembly, elected by universal suffrage: that body—like the Reformed Parliament—is now endeavouring to destroy the very power by which it was created. The "Special Constable" PRESIDENT hoping to confirm his power, and to elevate himself to the dignity of Emperor, thinks to tickle the frivolity of the French people by a threat of war with England, while his sole object—or rather that of his MONITORS and HEAD-PIECES—is to preserve tranquillity by a threat of war, in the hope of peacefully carrying the new ELECTORAL LAW. Then, my Lord, notwithstanding the co-operation of Russia and France, the mock conflict will be glossed over, and you will see your French Ambassador again at the Court of St. James's; but, bear in mind, my Lord, that although such a sham may tickle English Reformers, and, for a time, soothe down their anger, it will not have the same effect upon the French people.

My Lord, I have heretofore avowed myself in favour of a Monarchy in a country where it had been long established, and where any attempt to destroy it would lead to revolting massacre and bloodshed, provided the POWER BEHIND THE THRONE WAS GREATER THAN THE THRONE ITSELF. But let me now test the relative value of Republicanism and Monarchy. Republic means things suiting the people. Monarchy means one head of the people. And to show you the difference of the expense, and the folly of upholding the latter, let me remind you, that while the whole national expenditure of America is scarcely eight millions a year, the amount of Church property in England—a majority of which is paid by those who dissent from its doctrines—amounts to over TEN MILLIONS a year.

Your Lordship may ask, what has this to do with monarchy? My reply is, that it is the basis of the English Throne, CHURCH, and STATE—their motto being, "The BIBLE and the SWORD." Again, how can you reconcile it to your conscience to devote eight millions a year—the amount required for supporting the American Republic—to POOR LAWS in this country, to cram bastiles with paupers. While you are importing the produce of American land, nine-tenths of your own country is in a state of perfect sterility? But, my Lord, I will go farther, to show the difference between self-interest and policy. You are upon amicable terms with the Republic of America, and with the Republic of France; you exchange ambassadors with both courts, while you denounce the very name of Republic; you rely mainly upon the odium cast upon those called RED REPUBLICANS in FRANCE by the lying "Times," which would construe their mere colour into a love of blood. But do not presume, my Lord, that because Paris is France, that London is England. The people in Glasgow, in Edinburgh, and other towns in Scotland; the people of Newcastle, Carlisle, Sunderland, Leeds, and the great hives of Yorkshire; Manchester, and the great hive of Lancashire; Nottingham, Sheffield, Birmingham, Derby, Leicester, Northampton, Bristol, and all those hives of England—they, and you know it, are more powerful, and create more terror in the mind of a Minister, when dissatisfaction exists, than London does.

Let me now, my Lord, give you the best definition of the sterling value of the English mind. You let slip the dogs of war—you pack juries—you suborn witnesses—you strain the law—you open the gates of the dungeon, and secure the deaths of many in their cold cells—you have consigned thousands of families of virtuous, honest, and industrious men to the cold bastile; but you have failed to eradicate the principles for the defence of which they perished, and by which their families were consigned to starvation. You have tried Free Trade, in support of which many of the ignorant working classes joined their powerful and oppressive masters. The Financial and Parliamentary Reform Association sprung into existence, as if by magic, and speedily attained an apparently gigantic strength; but it, also, has died a natural death. Its principles were too small for the Chartists, but too large for the capitalist—a fact which I trust will convince your Lordship that the united power—of Queen, Lords, and Commons, bishops, parsons, merchants, manufacturers, and capitalists—the army, the dungeon, and perjury—cannot much longer hold the mind of this country in bondage. It is all very well to state the comparatively small income that the QUEEN receives from the revenue of this country, but I have shown you that the Church is the right arm of the QUEEN, and receives over ten millions a year—that the army is the breast-plate of her MAJESTY; while the poor little woman wields her magic wand over those who traffic in the very sweat and blood of her LOYAL AND DEVOTED SUBJECTS.

Now, my Lord, although I have not had as much experience in red-tape policy, blue books, and Parliamentary humbug as you have, I have had much more experience in public matters, and better understand the public mind. And, although I possess no influence in the House of Commons, as at present constituted—and I rejoice at it—yet I have more experience in those public matters, and a better knowledge of that public mind, which will, ere long, bring you and your associates to their senses. Only let trade get bad, now that cotton has failed. Let us have another bad harvest—which is not at all unlikely from the present state of the weather—and then you will find that the clodpoles, as they threatened at the Crown and Anchor—will mount their plough horses, and marshal themselves into cavalry, and when so headed, with HIS GRACE OF RICHMOND AS THEIR COMMANDER, then the operatives in the manufacturing towns will become the infantry of his Grace.

My Lord, can anything be more revolting to an Englishman, than the fact of hour after hour, day after day, and week after week, being devoted to discussions upon the barbarous and atrocious treatment of English colonists, while not an hour is devoted to the consideration of your own starving poor? I published in 1843, in my work upon the "Small Farm System," the fact that you would very speedily lose your Colonies—and so much the better for the English people; and I anticipated the hope, at a prior period, that I should live to see the day when the griping Stock Exchange would be levelled with the dust, and that the leeches who live and fatten upon war, dissension, and turmoil, and uncertainty, would be compelled to earn their bread by the sweat of their brow, instead of living in luxurious idleness upon the ignorance and traffic of their dupes.

My Lord, I have stated it before, and I repeat it now, that the wise people of this generation will not much longer submit to that nefarious law of primogeniture, which has saddled them with the burden to meet the interest upon a National Debt raised to shed human blood.

My Lord, I shall conclude my letter with a few extracts from that which I addressed to you on the 13th of July, 1839, and from them you may gather the truth of my old maxim, that "the folly of to-day may be the wisdom of the morrow."

Here follow the extracts:—

My Lord, I shall not be so ungenerous as to attribute to you a desire to strengthen the Tories, with the view of falling back upon *them*, rather than upon the popular party, in the event of Whig weakness; but to men who give you credit for judgment and discretion, the case will be at least suspicious, inasmuch as you have strengthened the Tories by neglect of the people; while, at the same time, you manifest a determination to coalesce with the enemy, rather than acquiesce in what you are pleased to call organic changes; and of all and every one of which organic changes your own Reform Bill has been the fountain and the source.

Your Reform, if squaring in action with the terms upon which it was supported and carried, would be a rallying point for an invincible phalanx; and if sufficiently expansive to meet the evils which it professed to redress, instead of being crippled, narrowed, and circumscribed, in the hope of merely making them more palatable, when imposed by new taskmasters, the clamour for organic changes might have been lulled or suppressed in progressive administrative improvement; and therefore, my Lord, the violence of Radicalism derives its origin from Whig imbecility, rather than from Radical impetuosity.

The passing of Catholic Emancipation took many agitators from the ranks of the people, and the passing of the Reform Bill took so many more, that they were once again thrown upon their own resources.

When men congregate together, and speak familiarly over their wrongs, and agree upon the mode of redress, the over-zeal of enthusiasm is checked by the caution of judgment; all act upon a given principle: and if a revolution should unhappily take place, it must be a revolution of the majority against the usurpation of a minority; while, in those countries where public meetings are unknown, the nation must be in a perpetual state of preparedness; not against the outbreak of general discontent, but against the *cabals* of the malcontent.

My Lord, upon the other hand, allow grievances to remain unredressed, or say they do not exist, and suppress public meetings, and then you but smother the flame, which, through secret clubs and societies, will unexpectedly burst forth with only so much notice as the flash gives of the approaching thunder. Then, my Lord, how will you guard your house, fence your Stock Exchange, or protect life against those *emeutes*, which, in the wildness of despair, a revolutionary club, or a discontented association, may, without notice, originate? The great fault consists, not in the meetings, but in the slight wisdom and little profit which your Lordship derives from them.

My Lord, the boast of a statesman should be in the pride of reflection, while his richest reward should consist in irreproachable self-examination. He should lay up in deeds, a store from which memory may draw without surfeit or distaste, and be so pure that error should be ascribed to want of judgment, rather than to lack of virtue. Examine yourself by this rule, my Lord; recall your acts during a period of seven years' power, and upon which of them, as a man or a statesman, would you build your temple of fame, or feed your vanity by a moment's reflection?

My Lord, your Reform Bill has proved a thorn without a rose, while you would daily refresh us with the promised odour of its coming fragrance. Religion you have made a science; its dignitaries being harsh law-makers, and its ministers followers of wealth and scoffers at poverty. You have depicted ignorance as a national infirmity, while your rising sun of knowledge had scarcely shone above the horizon, when it set in a Tory mist, to rise no more.

My Lord, usurpation before gave England a Cromwell; and take heed lest, in the desire to grasp prerogative, you create circumstances which may give her a Protector.

My Lord, perhaps you may not read either my letter or the above extracts. However, although having no power as an independent member in the House of Commons, let me implore of you to take warning from the past, and prepare, not to resist but to prevent that national struggle which, depend upon it, is close at hand, while granting to the people those rights and privileges to which they are justly entitled—SELF-REPRESENTATION. And as the result, you will see a happy people, a flourishing country, and a powerful nation, capable of resisting the united machinations of the SPECIAL CONSTABLE and the NORTHERN BEAR; but withhold those TIMELY AND PRUDENT CONCESSIONS to which you referred in your celebrated Edinburgh dispatch, and you will see your power vanish—your throne totter—and the great English nation dwindling into insignificance.

My Lord, to prove to you that the denial and withholding of those timely and prudent concessions to which man is entitled, urges those to whom they are refused to go still further; and although I never have been, nor ever shall be, induced by any or all power, whether the terror of the law or the will of the people, to proclaim sentiments of which I do not approve; and to show the folly of resisting what is just, I now subscribe myself as one who will adopt, propound, and uphold the principle of Republicanism, if your Lordship longer continues to withhold the rights to which the people are entitled—namely, those developed in the PEOPLE'S CHARTER.

Your Obedient Servant,
FEARGUS O'CONNOR.

BOROUGH OF FINSBURY.

The following communication has been made by Mr. T. S. Duncombe, M.P., to Mr. H. Griffiths, the chairman of a committee appointed to remonstrate with the hon. member on his absence from his Parliamentary duties:—

5, Palace Chambers, St. James's, May 28th, 1850.

Sir,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, calling my most particular and serious attention to a copy of some resolutions agreed to at certain private meetings of a few of my constituents, over which you had the honour to preside at the Kent Hotel, Brownlow-street, Holborn, and requesting me to explain the reasons of my absence from my Parliamentary duties.

I confess that until the receipt of your favour I did not suppose that there could have been found in the well-informed and extensive borough of Finsbury, any person ignorant of the fact, that severe and dangerous illness has been the sole cause of my absence from Parliament, to the duties of which it has ever been my pride, during the twenty-three years that I have had the honour of a seat in the House of Commons, to give an independent and most unremitting attention, and during which period my attendance, I am most thankful to say, has never received a week's interruption, until I was overwhelmed by my recent painful and protracted illness.

However, I am happy to inform you that improved and improving health enables me now to resume my Parliamentary duties; and also that, having from the commencement of my connexion with Finsbury, pledged myself over and over again to my constituents, 'that so long as it pleased God that health and strength should remain to me, and so long as it should please Finsbury to stand by me, I should stand by Finsbury,' I adhere to that pledge. And, further, I beg to inform you that, being assured as I am that the great majority of my constituents do not consider a passing illness, contracted in their service, as sufficient ground for a withdrawal of their confidence, I shall, when the present Parliament has passed away, give to those on whose behalf you address me an opportunity of recording their votes against me—as some of them have done before.

In the mean time, I beg to assure you that should the opinions of my medical attendants and my own anticipations of returning health be doomed to disappointment, I shall not require any appeal from any portion of those who have five times *honoured me by returning me to Parliament*, as to the course which my own honour, as well as their interests, will demand at my hands.

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,
THOMAS S. DUNCOMBE.

H. Griffiths, Esq., Chairman of the Kent Hotel Committee, Brownlow-street.

The following letter was last week addressed by Mr. Wakley, M.P., to the Chairman of a meeting of electors of Finsbury:—

Harefield-park-wood, Middlesex, May 21st, 1850.

Sir,—A friend has informed me of the object for which the meeting of this evening is held. Had I been favoured with an invitation I should have attended.

I am not surprised that a feeling of discontent should exist in Finsbury relative to the state of the representation of that borough in Parliament; and it is my misfortune and not my fault, that I am one of the causes of that feeling. During thirteen years a close attention to my Parliamentary duties obtained for me frequent expressions of approbation from my generous and indulgent constituents. After a long, zealous, and anxious servitude my health gave way, and the duties which I had to execute in Parliament remained undischarged by me from a powerful and irresistible necessity. In the last session I could not attend the House of Commons at all; in the present session my attendance has been both seldom and irregular. Illness alone, of a distressing kind, prevented me from speaking and voting against the detestable window tax, when the motion for its repeal was last before the house.

These things have caused me much anxiety. I feel that I have no moral right to continue as the representative of Finsbury if I cannot perform the duties of the great trust that has been confided to my charge. If I were to act so unworthy a part I should ill requite my noble-hearted constituents for their generous forbearance during my protracted illness. I place myself, therefore, entirely at their disposal. It is a duty which I owe to them, and I do not shrink from its avowal.

The end of the present session of Parliament is rapidly approaching, and hence my resignation at this time would be of little utility. Permit me, therefore, with perfect frankness to state that if I were to be allowed to make choice of the course of proceeding at this juncture, I should prefer to remain in the honourable position of your representative until the commencement of the next session of Parliament, at which time, should my health not be sufficiently re-established to enable me to resume my labours in the House of Commons, I shall, without hesitation and with the liveliest feelings of gratitude, restore to the patriotic and independent electors of Finsbury that honourable and dignified trust which I have so long cherished as the highest object of my ambition.

I have the honour to remain, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
THOMAS WAKLEY.

To the Chairman of the Committee of the Finsbury Liberal Electoral Association.

CAPABILITIES OF THE LAND.

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

RESPECTED SIR,—Being a devoted admirer of your political consistency, indefatigable perseverance, and devoted attachment to the cause of Chartism, and, especially, to your sound views and practical illustrations of the capabilities of the soil, I venture to obtrude myself on your columns while I substantiate your views from my own experience. Attached to my property is about forty falls of ground, the greater part being, what we in Scotland call a "steep brae." Owing to certain local disadvantages I keep no pig or cow, but I manure my ground solely by a careful husbanding of all the slops and night soil made in my family, and the result of my experience of the value of liquid manure fully bears out your letters on that subject. The crops I raise are chiefly potatoes, cabbages, leeks, onions, carrots, and similar vegetables for the family use. I may state that from the position of my ground, the soil is rather of a light gravelly kind, and consequently by nature cannot be supposed as adapted for raising heavy crops, and in the after statements that I may make, I do not boast or challenge competition, but merely show, that even with indifferent soil, a very material advantage may be derived from a bit of land. Last year I planted about six falls of potatoes, dividing each fall into nine rows, being twenty-four inches apart, and took from each row upwards of two stones of potatoes, being at the rate of ninety bolls per acre, and could have sold the whole at the rate of 1s. per peck, being of first-rate quality. In a space of six square yards I took up fourteen stones of carrots, part of which I sold at 6d. per stone, and kept the rest for family use. I am in the habit of laying down plots of five or six falls in grass, which I water with liquid manure during the winter, and let the grass in spring to those who have cows. This year, notwithstanding the barren season we have had, my grass has been cut nearly a month ago, being fully one foot high. After lying two or three years in grass I work it up and plant potatoes, and though I do not give half the average quantity of dung usually allowed, I have always the most abundant crops, and my potatoes have never been affected with the rot. In the autumn, while earthing the potatoes, I dig the soil with a grape, to the depth of twelve or fourteen inches, taking out all the weeds and stones, and turning up the soil to the action of the winter's frost. One fatal error I often observe, not only with farmers, but even with small cottagers, is to spread the manure over the ground, or lay it up in small heaps for a time before covering it up, thus allowing a great part of the fertilising properties of the manure to be exhaled by the sun. Manure, after being taken from the dung-pit, cannot be too soon afterwards covered in by the soil, and no more should be laid down at a time but what can be covered up in the shortest period. I find also that unless ground be thoroughly cleaned and pulverised you can never expect a crop. A number of individuals from not doing the thing sufficiently at first are continually puddling and disturbing the crops, and yet their ground is never half cleaned. It is but a few years since I paid any attention to the raising of crops, but the result of my experience is sufficient to convince me that with two acres of flat land, with a house attached, an individual may, with ease, support himself and family in a style superior to the average rate of working men in this country. "See what a labour," some one exclaims, "before you can make much!" Yes, but I reply, see what a labour you will perform at the loom, and many other trades, before you can obtain even a living. The beauty of bestowing labour on the land is, that it will remunerate you liberally for the time bestowed.

I think, sir, the *Star* should more fully enlarge on the capabilities of the soil, by having articles written more generally on that topic. This, sir, in my opinion, would please the average readers better than long letters and details of meetings of Chartists abusing each other and contending for leadership. I am a Chartist to the back-bone, and will yield to no man in my admiration for you, but I grieve to see the *Star* so much taken up in disseminating the views of parties who would reduce all to a common level, and allow the idle, the vicious, and the profligate, to share equally with the industrious and the moral. But go on, noble sir, in advocating the glorious Charter and Land Plan, and fear not but that you will both be respected and supported, and the *Star* continue to be the leading journal of Democracy, notwithstanding the object of rivals to supplant it.—I am, Sir, &c.,

Leslie, Fifeshire. DAVID CROCKATT.

NATIONAL CHARTER LEAGUE.

The Council having taken the beautiful and commodious Druids' Hall, No. 1, Turnagain-lane, Skinner-street, with a view to promote the great object for which the League has been instituted, the first of an announced series of lectures was delivered on Sunday last, by Mr. Ambrose, on the subject of Reform and Reformers. Mr. Hobden occupied the chair; having made a few pertinent remarks, he announced that unfettered and uninterrupted discussion, as far as time would permit, should always characterise the proceedings of the League. He then introduced the lecturer to the meeting, who began by taking a view of the various reforms being agitated for, and which indicate the progressive tendency of our age. Every age of the world has had its reforms and reformers, and ours was peculiarly distinguished in this respect. Reform and reformers would ever be found the concomitants of society. The lecturer proceeded in most eloquent language to investigate the means of melioration at the command of man, and contended ably for the superiority, justice, and efficiency of the force of mind, the power of intelligence, as agencies in the work of human emancipation. He gave it as his solemn conviction that the promulgation of physical force as a means of reform in this country will ever have the effect of protracting its advent, damaging its character, and injuring its advocates. The real reformer should endeavour to raise man in his own conception; to create, by the strengthening of mind, and the dissemination of thought, an elevated national character, which should by its force and grandeur overawe all hostility to the concession of man's rights. To diffuse far and wide among the masses true ideas of political rights and wrongs, was an important vocation of the reformer. He should be the untiring tutor of the great lesson that man has rights which no government can ignore; that whether his brow bear the ducal crown, or the humble covering of the son of labour; whether he revel amid earth's choicest luxuries, ply the shuttle in the factory, or the needle in the cheerless garret, he has rights, which are as eternal as nature, and which no government can cancel, without daring and flagrant injustice. The lecturer then proceeded to show the desirability of fostering a feeling of sympathy among all classes of reformers. He thought that sections of classes acting in isolation must ever fail through their own weakness. This, unfortunately for the people, experience placed beyond the pale of controversy. A spirit of amity should pervade the efforts of all true reformers. He wished all friends of progress to meet and frequently and calmly discuss these matters, without hindrance or obstruction. He looked upon that man who would impede another in the promulgation of his views, whatever they might be, as one of the worst enemies of reform. That individual who prays for liberty with his breath, yet denies it with his actions, is, at the same time, both a tyrant and a slave. The lecturer then glanced at the position of several of the nations of the continent, but especially France, the thermometer of political excitement. He ably analysed the parties into which that nation is divided,—examined the aims of each, and gave it as his opinion, that that republican idea which fifty years of tyranny could not efface from the minds of Frenchmen, would yet bless that nation with peace and plenty. He also ably addressed himself to the subject of the Charter, and said, he considered that the suffrage should be the grand aim of English agitation, as it was the only durable basis upon which real national greatness could be reared. Whether they looked to the position of parties at home, or to the extraordinary scenes enacting upon the stage of foreign politics, they discovered powerful motives at once to organise a bright intellectual phalanx of the friends of progress, resolved to stigmatise and oppose tyranny till its utter extermination can be accomplished. The lecturer resumed his seat amid the applause of the meeting.

A discussion ensued, in which Messrs. Slocombe, Wilson, Clark, and M'Grath took part. It was then announced that the same gentleman would lecture on the ensuing Sunday evening. Votes of thanks were then accorded to the lecturer and chairman, when the meeting separated.

THE IRISH DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT.

The *Irishman* of Saturday last, contains reports of meetings of the Democrats of Dublin, Carrick-on-Suir, Cork, Kilkenny, &c., &c. At the Dublin meeting, Mr. Cullen delivered a most eloquent lecture on "Democracy." It appears that at Carrick some of the contemptible shopocrats have been holding a secret conclave, at which they adopted a resolution to discharge from their employment persons "guilty" of attending the democratic meetings.

It is our painful task to announce a misfortune of the worst possible kind for the Irish Democracy—the temporary suspension of that most excellent journal,

THE IRISHMAN,

announced in the following address, from its patriotic and high-minded proprietor:—

With feelings of regret, to which it would be useless to give expression, I find myself compelled to announce that, with this number, the publication of the *Irishman* will be suspended.

As an honest man, desirous of acting honestly towards all men, I am driven to adopt this course. The reasons I shall state briefly:—

When I started the *Irishman*, the country was in a stupor. The support I did receive was cordial, but not as extensive as I calculated on. The supporters of a popular journal of stern faith and unyielding principle, such as I have ever aimed at making the *Irishman*, were not to be found among the opulent classes. The *Irishman* was emphatically *for* the people, while, among the people, famine, emigration, extermination, and death had made frightful havoc.

The events, too, of '48 had produced distrust in some, and apathy in others, of which bad men sought to take advantage, and lead the country back to its worse than Egyptian bondage. These, and other causes, combined to make the capital necessary for conducting the *Irishman* far greater than I had estimated. Still, I struggled on, unaided and alone. All the property I had by hard industry scraped together I sunk in sustaining the *Irishman*, until at last I found an appeal necessary to the country.

How that appeal was responded to I can never forget. It proved that the people had the *will* if they only had the *means*. With a heart cheered by the daily evidences of cordial—nay, enthusiastic promises of support as times improved, and the people were in a condition to redeem them, I still struggled on, until I now find myself no longer able to struggle against an adverse fate.

All my expenditure is a cash outlay. I must pay weekly for everything that is necessary for the publication of the *Irishman*—the stamps, the paper, the printing, the editing, and all the routine office expenses, *must be paid in cash, whereas, I am forced to* give for four-fifths of the papers published—not one month's, but, in many cases, two and three months' credit.

Any man of business will understand that to work a concern in this way, a good capital is required; and *had I at this moment only one month's expenditure in advance*, I could not only continue the publication of the *Irishman*, but do so with the certainty of obtaining an adequate remuneration for my labour.

As it is, I must yield to stern necessity, with which I can no longer unaided contend. I desire *not to allude to the injury I have received from interested slanderers*, or the losses incurred by defaulting agents. Both causes have contributed to produce the result I have now announced.

Finally, I now leave the matter with the country. If the friends of human rights and human progress desire to sustain such an organ as the *Irishman*, they have only to will it, and I shall again appear at my post.

If I receive 3,000 quarterly subscriptions paid in advance, I shall IMMEDIATELY RESUME the publication of the *Irishman*. And surely Ireland, Scotland, and England ought to furnish, *before one week's time*, were ordinary exertion made, five times 3,000.

However, this is a matter on which I shall not dwell. It is for the people—with them it now rests—and with feelings of the most sincere gratitude for all the kind and friendly favours I have received during a year and five months' increasing toil of body and mind, I shall cheerfully abide their decision.—BERNARD FULLAM.

Is not this deplorable? Self-sacrifice in the cause of humanity, while it ennobles the victim, disgraces those who might and should have protected their champion from ruin and martyrdom. All that Mr. Fullam says concerning the misery of the Irish masses we accept as sufficient excuse for their non-support of a true and faithful exponent of their rights. We can understand, too, that the sham patriots "among the opulent classes" would as soon swallow deadly poison as give their sixpences for a journal devoted to the interests of the working millions. But we must observe, that the masses of Irishmen living in England, and not existing in that state of absolute destitution to which the great body of their countrymen at home are condemned, constitute of themselves a body more than sufficiently strong to give to a paper like the *Irishman*, a circulation far exceeding that required by Mr. Fullam. We understand that the Dublin Democrats are, at this moment, taking energetic steps to concert measures for resuming, and successfully establishing, the only genuine organ of Ireland's wrongs and rights. We shall not make any appeal to the rest of the democracy in other parts of Ireland to go and do likewise; as a matter of course, that good work will be done. We content ourselves with demanding of the Irish patriots in England to do their duty; and we appeal to the English and Scottish Democrats to join their Irish brethren in securing for the *Irishman* an impregnable position. It must not be, that the only honest Irish paper shall be extinguished. For talent, energy, national patriotism, and a fervid devotion to the cause of all the Labourers of the earth—without distinction of country, colour, or creed, the *Irishman* has already become famous. Such a journal must not die. See to it, friends. Hold meetings, collect subscriptions, and place in Bernard Fullam's hands the means which will enable him to give renewed and enduring life to the brilliant, the chivalrous, and sternly democratic *Irishman*.—ED. *N. S.*

THE IRISHMAN.

The friends and admirers of this paper met on Sunday evening last, at 26, Golden-lane Barbican. Mr. Joyce in the chair.

Mr. CLANCY, who was appointed secretary, read from the *Irishman* the notice of its demise. He (Mr. C.) looked upon the fall of the *Irishman* as a national calamity, which would be felt alike by every son of toil, be he Saxon or Celt; he hoped every working man would look upon it as a lost member of his family—but he had no fears as to the result. Irishmen would never stand by and see their friend ruined; the fact of so many being present that night, without a single notice, told him that the *Irishman* would soon be again in the front of the battle.

Dr. O'CONNOR spoke energetically in favour of the claims of the *Irishman*. Several propositions were made with a view to carry out the objects of the meeting.

Mr. KNOX FLANIGAN suggested, "Volunteer missionaries" to collect subscriptions.

Mr. DWAIN moved the adoption of the following appeal, which was carried unanimously:—

"TO IRISHMEN AND ALL TRUE DEMOCRATS IN LONDON.

"As friends to human progress we invite you to rally with us in support of the *Irishman* newspaper—the honest, fearless, and uncompromising champion of Irish independence and universal liberty—a paper that, after seventeen months of toil, peril, and expense in organising public opinion in Ireland, is now rendered incapable of directing that opinion to its final goal of freedom and independence. Hitherto the *Irishman* has nobly done its duty, and we are sincere in believing that the Herculean task imposed upon its editor has been performed with the national devotion only equalled by the exiled patriot, John Mitchel; the young men of the world are up and stirring—the young men of Ireland are up and stirring; this is as it should be; for this we have 'bided our time,' but the Old Guards must now fall in and look after the rear. Hitherto we have been silent for *many* reasons, dreading lest we should add a single link to the chain of incarcerated victims; preferring to reserve our strength and energies for the battle day, rather than waste them in party bickerings and petty squabblings that disgrace humanity, which make the heart sick and the brain to reel. We are neither dead nor sleeping, but watching closely passing events, resolved never to be the tools of ambitious factions or parties; but ready—ever ready—when human liberty or our country calls. When we see tyrannical monarchies rallying in support of their tottering dynasties, it is time that we should take a lesson from them, and rush to the support of our friends. Say, then, shall the directing power of Ireland's nationality be struck down by the mercenary apathy of her own sons? Say, Irishmen, Englishmen, friends of human progress—shall we allow the rod that may guide us from captivity to Freedom to be thus broken? Say, can we expect the young blood of Ireland to float us to victory, to deliver from worse than Egyptian bondage, without a guide? Shall it be so? Let us hear you exclaim, 'Never!—a thousand times, never!'

Rally, O, rally, disgrace shall be ours,
While Tyranny's flag flaunts o'er Liberty's towers.

The committee meet every Sunday evening at seven o'clock, 26, Golden-lane, Barbican.

JOHN DALY, DR. O'CONNOR, MR. MULSHAM, R. FOLEY, D. DWAIN, M. HANLON, J. M'DERMOT, KNOX FLANIGAN, J. JOYCE, *Chairman*; L. T. CLANCY, *Secretary*.

N.B.—The sum of fourteen shillings and tenpence was subscribed as a beginning.

THE LATE CONGRESS OF THE SOCIAL REFORM LEAGUE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

SIR,—The last number of the *Northern Star* contains—to speak in the mildest terms—a most "incoherent" letter, signed G. Holyoake, charging the Fraternal Democrats with putting a question to him in the late Congress, and your reporter with misrepresenting his (Mr. Holyoake's) reply. Having, I trust worthily, filled both those important functions at the Congress, I must request you to allow me space in your columns to set myself right with those I represented on that occasion: and to show that I am what I have ever had the credit of being, "the faithful reporter of the *Northern Star*," I cannot do better than by submitting what took place on that occasion—not in an "incoherent," but in a most "coherent" discussion, which arose on a resolution being submitted to the Congress, relative to the appointment of an organ of the League, in which resolution the *Weekly Tribune* was mentioned as the "organ," and the words "other papers" occurred, as being worthy of thanks for the services they had rendered; upon which I suggested that those "other papers" should be named. Mr Douthwaite *said there were papers that had spoken well of Socialism that would not like to be mentioned*; for instance (said he), the *Nonconformist*, the *Leader*, and others. The chairman then made a few observations respecting the *Northern Star*, in replying to which I suggested, that the *Weekly Tribune*—which had been heretofore the organ of the League—should continue so; and that the resolution before the Congress should be confined to that specific object. This was assented to, with an understanding that a subsequent resolution should contain the names of such papers, periodicals, &c., &c., as were deemed worthy of the support of the Social Reformers and their friends. The *Leader* having been more than once mentioned, I wrote the following, and handed it up to the president (and, mark, I copy *verbatim* from the identical paper so handed up, and which I have no doubt the president—Mr. Lloyd Jones—will corroborate, if needs be):—"Has not the *Leader* attacked Louis Blanc and Eugene Sue? Did it ever have an article in favour, *until* that of last week—'What is our Socialism?' Mr. Chair—Will you ask this of Congress?—E. STALLWOOD." The above being a literal transcript of my question, how can Mr. Holyoake venture to assert that I put the question to him? The Chairman declined to put the question, and handed me back the paper. I then said, "I will submit the questions myself to Congress"—and I did so; upon which Mr. Sarton (the representative of John-street Institution) said—"Yes, *those persons* were attacked in the *Leader*. At John-street we deprecated those attacks; but, as the *Leader* is now going on in the right course, we think it better to pat it on the back." Mr. Holyoake said, "It only criticised them;" whereupon, I immediately put the further question to Congress—"Has not the *Leader* said of Louis Blanc, 'His exile is his own fault?'" To which Mr. Holyoake rejoined, "Yes; and I, too, consider it was Louis Blanc's own fault that he was an exile!!!" Dr. Travis had now prepared and submitted his resolution, including the names of the *Leader*, the *Northern Star*, the *British Quarterly*, the *Democratic Review*, and the *Truth Seeker*, as being worthy of the support of the friends of Social Reform—which was duly seconded. I think the Fraternal Democrats, and your readers in general, will agree that I was perfectly justified, not only in moving that the *Leader* be omitted from the resolution, but also in reporting that I submitted the question to the Congress, and that the reply was in the affirmative.

Mr. Editor, I now leave the matter in the hands of my constituents and your readers; and am, most respectfully and truly,

EDMUND STALLWOOD,
The Representative of the Fraternal Democrats, and the Reporter of the Northern Star.
2, Little Vale-place, Hammersmith-road,
May 27th, 1850.

P.S.—The report in the *Weekly Tribune* bore out the truth of my report in the *Star*, and I have no hesitation in appealing to the reporter of *Reynolds's Newspaper*, in corroboration of what was there stated.—E. S.

THE SOCIAL REFORM LEAGUE.

The first public meeting of this body, convened to carry out the principles laid down by the late Congress, was held at the Literary and Scientific Institution, John-street, Fitzroy-square, on Monday evening, May 27th, and was numerously and respectably attended—Mr. J. KENNY was unanimously called to the chair, and in a few words introduced

Mr. G. J. HOLYOAKE, to move the first resolution as follows:—"That the means exist, in ample sufficiency in Great Britain, for supplying comfortable subsistence and a high degree of mental and moral culture to every British-born subject, and that means can speedily be made available for our objects, by instituting co-operative institutions of united interests, and by supporting and encouraging unsectarian education, as a necessary instrument for promoting the welfare of the people."—He said, his object in coming there that night, was to cheerfully accord any support in his power to the League of Social Progress. Although, perhaps, its objects were not so extensive as some might wish, yet he believed they were as extensive as practicable, and he was content to advance the principles in the sense of the resolution. (Hear, hear.) In advancing those principles, good and kindly feeling was nearly as important as good and cogent argument. (Cheers.) And, surely, some steps were necessary to elevate industry and genius from the poverty and misery with which they are surrounded, and to endow them with the grandeur and charm of human life. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. LLOYD JONES, in seconding the resolution, said he need not say how cordially he concurred with the sentiments contained in that resolution. Mr. Jones then narrowly criticised the speech of M. Thiers, delivered on Friday last in the French National Assembly, on the Electoral Reform Bill, completely refuting the fallacies and sophisms of that orator, and establishing the truths and beneficence of democratic socialism, amidst loud applause. (At this moment Bronterre O'Brien entered the Hall, and was greeted with great cheering.) Mr. Jones resumed, and said the present vicious state of society could not be better illustrated than by a statement of the fact, that children of the tender age of four years were employed in factories. What was now required was, that all should press forward in the work of propagandism, not as sects, but as one united party of social reformers. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. MERRIMAN said a few words in support of the resolution, declaring his views, both in ethics and economics, were those of Robert Owen; and he could not agree with any man who would lay aside the doctrine of the formation of the human character. (Hear, hear.)

The resolution was then carried unanimously.

Mr. ROBERT COOPER came forward to move the second resolution, as follows:—"That the Social Reform League, in seeking to unite the efforts of all sections of social reformers, for the purpose of propagating a knowledge of associative doctrines, and the importance of unsectarian educational practices, has just claims upon the countenance and support of all who desire to assist in the peaceable amelioration of society." Mr. Cooper said that at no period of the world's history was public opinion so much felt as at the present—at no period were gilded baubles and thrones so little respected. (Cheers.) People begin to ask, of what use are emperors, kings, queens, bishops, &c., &c.—in fine, they begin to have some faint impression that there is no legitimate ruler, save one—the sovereign people. (Applause.) Tyrants and bigots begin to discover that universal suffrage will blot out their despotism; and hence the present attempt in France to put it down. But, although it might for a time be suppressed, it never could be effaced from the minds of the people. The only thing that M. Thiers could adduce against universal suffrage was that it is absurd, chimerical; &c., but these and similar ones had been hurled against great principles in all ages. Mr. Cooper here illustrated his argument by quoting a discussion that ensued in the House of Commons, in (we think) 1670, relative to building bridges over the Thames in the cities of London and Westminster, in which several speakers averred that those cities would be ruined should a bridge be ever built so far up the Thames as even Putney. (Roars of laughter.) Did not this show the folly and absurdity of attempting to sneer or laugh down any proposition that might be submitted with a view of benefiting the people. (Loud cheers.) One of the propositions of the League was that its members should contribute one penny per week to its funds, and if the working classes generally took this up, they would furnish the treasury of the League with two millions per annum, which would speedily enable them to work a revolution in society, in defiance of all the Thierses, Changarniers, or Wellingtons in the world. (Cheers.)

Mr. R. BUCHANAN, in seconding the motion, said he trusted that the people would not content themselves with cheering, but that they would come forward and enrol their names as members of the League. It was their duty to show that Socialism, which was so rampant in France, was not dead in England. Socialism was a vital principle in the human heart, and would exist until such time as justice was done to the whole human race. (Loud cheers.) What the Social Reform League desired, was to see a united, extensive, and combined attack made on the principle of competition. (Applause.)

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

BRONTERRE O'BRIEN addressed the meeting in a long and powerful speech in favour of a propagandism for "Political and Social Rights," declaring emphatically his belief that these must be first established before any beneficial "ism" could prevail, and that in a knowledge of "social rights" depended the stability of Chartist or Republican institutions.

At the conclusion, Mr. LLOYD JONES, in explanation, said the "League" did not adopt any "ism," neither that of Fourier, Owen, or any one else, but simply desired a union of all sects and parties of Social Reformers to join in a propaganda of the principles of Social Reform. (Hear, hear.)

A vote of thanks was then passed by acclamation to Mr. Kenny for his services in the chair, who acknowledged the same, and the meeting separated.

AN AMERICAN BLUEBEARD.—In the town of West Bradford, Pennsylvania, there is an old churchyard in which stand seven tombstones, side by side, covering the remains of the Hon. Nathaniel Thurston and his six wives. They stand in order as follows:—Mrs. Betsy Thurston, died November 25, 1790, aged 34; Mrs. Martha Thurston, died May 12, 1799, aged 32; Mrs. Huldah Thurston, died September 8, 1801, aged 24; Mrs. Clarissa Thurston, died November 14, 1803, aged 36; Mrs. Martha Thurston, died July 30, 1804, aged 25; Mrs. Mary Thurston, died March 3, 1808, aged 27; Hon. Nathaniel Thurston, died in Lansinburgh, New York, October 21, 1811, aged 56. Martha the second, it will be observed, was married and buried within nine months of the death of her predecessor, Clarissa!

THE WIDOW OF LIEUT. WAGHORN.—A royal sign manual warrant has been issued granting a pension of £25 a year to Mrs. Harriet Waghorn, widow of the late Lieut. Thomas Waghorn, "in consideration of the eminent services of her late husband."

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

THE ELECTORAL BILL.

On Wednesday the principal speaker was M. Montalembert, who, of course, spoke in support of the bill.—We are reproached with violating the Constitution, and with attacking universal suffrage. As to the violation of the Constitution, I stand here, the second of the seventeen members who prepared the bill, to give to that affirmation an energetic, conscientious, and complete contradiction. No, we have not aimed at violating the Constitution. Had that been our design, we are the sort of men who would have at once declared it. But such certainly was altogether remote from our intention, as will be demonstrated to you when the articles are under discussion. On the contrary, we entered on the preparation of the bill with the firm determination to respect both the spirit and letter of the Constitution, and in the same frame of mind did we complete our task. We desired to go as far as the Constitution would permit us, but no further. I may even add that perhaps we have respected it too much, and that if our bill is open to objection in any respect, or, in other words, if it is inefficient, the reason is that we have bowed so humbly before the fatal trammels of the Constitution. (Movement.) I say fatal, because we have respected them; had we not done so, they would be of no avail. Having said so, I proceed to discuss this question of the violation of the Constitution, which has been the pretext of the constant attacks made against society during the past year. I am so much the more at ease in this discussion that I voted against the Constitution, for I had my doubts that it was so perfect as its framers fondly represented it—(laughter)—but I hasten to declare that that act of mine by no means liberates me from the obligation of obeying it; I leave that theory of disobeying a law which one has not voted to the Republicans of the *veille*, and to those old conspirators whom the revolution of February has caused to surge up from the depths of their concealment. After an attack upon Victor Hugo, who was absent, the speaker continued—For my part I take the Constitution for what it is—the fundamental law of the country. I am its subject, you are its friends; but I cannot help remarking that you, its friends, render its life a very hard one. (Loud laughter.) You do so in the first place by permitting Socialism to take it as its ensign, and next by constantly representing it as being violated, or on the eve of being so. I say that it is childish and shameful. The violation of a Constitution is not discussed, it is felt. I repeat that such conduct is puerile and ridiculous. It reminds one of the silly shepherd who kept crying 'Wolf! wolf!' so that when the real wolf arrived—(prolonged laughter and approbation)—no one came to his assistance—no one ran to the aid of the lying and cowardly shepherd. I have often asked myself how I should proceed to destroy the Constitution, if ever such an idea should enter my mind; and I am compelled to avow that, after mature reflection, I decided that I should do precisely what its defenders have done—render it at once ridiculous and odious. As they have done, I would represent it as a sort of vestal to produce mirth whose mock-modesty would be the laughing stock of the public ways and of nations. (Loud laughter and applause.) I would make it odious in this manner: I would interfere, Constitution in hand, in every question which interests the honour and prosperity of France, and I would say, 'You cannot do that.' Thus I would have said, 'You cannot go to Rome to re-establish the influence of France, the Constitution is opposed to it; you cannot regulate the right of meeting, it is contrary to the Constitution; you cannot put an end to the scandals of Prussia, the Constitution is opposed to it; you cannot, for the same reason, modify the electoral law.' Between the country and honour, between her and her welfare, I would always place the Constitution. That is the plan I would pursue. (Renewed applause.) I would always place the Constitution between the country and its dignity, like a barrier, or like an abyss. (Sensation.) This is the conduct I would pursue if I had at heart to destroy the Constitution. But there is another thing which I should not have imagined, and that is, to make the Constitution the pretext to organise the right of insurrection in the country. For the last month, insurrection and civil war have been discussed as if it were the programme of a fete. (Sensation.) This is the *regime* to which society has been subjected. I know of no example in history of such a state of things. I say that it is incompatible with social nature, and that it carries us back to a state of barbarism. I know of only one government which can bear analogy with such a state of things, and that is the government of the Dey of Algiers rising on the body of its strangled predecessors. I repeat that it would lead us into the path of the most atrocious barbarism. What is the difference between our adversaries and ourselves? We say that the Constitution ought to be compatible with the interests and the honour of the country; you say that it is incompatible with social life and with the grandeur of the country. That Constitution, nevertheless, recognises anterior rights, and certainly the first of rights is to give life to society. It is, therefore, necessary to make war on Socialism by every means—(Cries of 'Yes, yes!')—by every means which the law allows. (Yes, yes!) I say that it is necessary to undertake against Socialism, which is devouring us, a Roman expedition at home. (Loud applause on the Right, and violent exclamations on the Left.) In the same manner that an expedition was undertaken to Rome against a Republic with which it was wished to unite our responsibility, should an expedition be entered on at home against Socialism, in order to prove that it has nothing in common with the Republic. (Hear, hear.) The position is so much the same that the cry is now raised about a violation of the Constitution, as it was at the period of the Roman expedition. The same accusations are brought forward which it was then wished to follow up by a commencement of execution; the same has been wished at the present time, but those who advocated it have shrunk from it. With regard to the expedition to Rome, there were three paths to be pursued—neutrality, complicity, or hostility. Neutrality would have been the abdication of the influence of France; complicity would have been disgraceful, for we should have assumed the joint responsibility of a revolution which was inaugurated by assassination.

On the Left: You know very well that that is false.

On the Right: Yes, yes! Assassination!

M. de Montalembert: War was made by France against the Roman Republic. *God bless the undertaking*, and on several occasions 450 votes in this Assembly have sanctioned it. You are in precisely the same situation against Socialism at home. Neutrality is death. If you cross your arms you may as well make your will, but that will be of little use, for your heirs will tear it. Complicity is disgraceful, for Socialism dishonours the Republic. There only then remains for us war; war carried on energetically, and by every means.

M. Lagrange here again rose, and endeavoured to speak, but was pacified by M. de Lamartine.

M. de Montalembert: In acting thus, we shall continue our campaign of the days of June, 1848, that campaign which was so well and so energetically conducted by General Cavaignac. We have now the same enemies under the same flag. I regret to have heard General Cavaignac—I am anxious not to say anything unpleasant to the hon. general, but he must allow me to ask him, and history will one day put the same question to him—where are now those men whom he fought against, whom he *chastised, whom he pulverised, whom he transported?* Where are they? They are at his side! (Sensation.) He will vote with them to-morrow against us. It is the same combat, against the same enemy, who besiege the same citadel, but who have recourse to another tactic, and conspire against society in making use of the Constitution in the guise of barricades. They thought they had hemmed us in their circumvallations, but they have left us one issue—that of domicile. It is our duty to avail ourselves of it. (Murmurs on the Left.) Offer up your vows that we may prove that the Constitution is compatible with the salvation of society; for if it were shown that the Constitution is, as the Socialists state, the arsenal and the prelude of anarchy, there is no law in the world that could condemn society to death. It would be its death warrant to condemn it to Socialism. (Ironical laughter on the Left.) The day on which that shall be shown they will be only madmen or wretches who will take part for the Constitution against society. (Loud applause.) I shall be the first to say that it is paramount to save society. (Hear.) The most accredited organ of Socialism says:—'From electoral reform arose the republic; in the same way, from universal suffrage will come social reform.' Social reform is Socialism. This is the affirmation of our adversaries. If such be the case, it is a duty for us to prove that universal suffrage does not lead to Socialism; it is a duty for us to correct, to warn, and to enlighten universal suffrage. We propose to render universal suffrage better by substituting sincere for factitious majorities; by having electors who have some room in society instead of wandering ones. In doing this, we falsify none of our previous acts. If there are by chance men who consider themselves injured, and unjustly deprived of a right, do you know of whom they ought to complain? It is not of us, but of those who have dishonoured and profaned universal suffrage; it is of those who, in the conclave—since that appellation has been borrowed from the church, from that habit of sacrilege which characterises revolutionists—it is of those who, in his conclave, and in the clubs, have made an apology for Robespierre, for Marat, and those names which are abominable in our history. (Sensation.) There is in the minority a minority which performs its self-assigned duty with energy, and sometimes with frankness—that duty is to destroy society. We, on the other hand, have the duty imposed on us of saving it; and I ask myself if we have done our duty with the same energy. Believe me that we have not a moment to spare. If there are men in this majority, men who resign themselves to the triumph of our adversaries in 1852—to the triumph of Socialism—why not decide on finishing the matter at once? You know what was the custom in the middle ages: when the defenders of a citadel were determined to hold out to the death, they placed the keys on the end of a pike, and threw them into the quarters of the assailants. That is better than to perish by a slow death, which would have no other advantage than to be an end without fine phrases. If you will not either render at discretion or die, you must no longer remain on the defensive; you must assume the offensive, and attack! (Loud applause.) You must force the enemy from the positions which it has gained—you must prevent the laws of the land from becoming the arsenal and lurking-place of that monster, Socialism, which will thence fall on society to devour it! (Laughter on the Mountain.) We have in our favour right and strength, numbers and courage; but have we time? No; time is against us. We have already lived a year; in six months we shall have turned the hill and commenced our downward passage. But for an Assembly which has not, perhaps, done all that was expected from it, the period of its wane is a time of death-throes. Our dissolution will, in fact, be forestalled, and before we shall have finished our legal term we shall, like the Constituent Assembly, find ourselves squeezed flat between the party which desires the ruin of society and that other which will reproach us with not having been energetic enough in the fulfilment of our mandate. I repeat to you, therefore, that we have no time to lose. A final word relative to the men who have received the appellation of the seventeen! We have been told in a democratic journal—and without any contradiction or retraction being made to the declaration—that our heads—of us, the seventeen—are devoted to the infernal gods of the revolution! (Sensation.)

On the Left: What does that prove?

M. de Montalembert: The history of the high deeds of your ancestors proves clearly enough what it means! Can we forget the scaffold of the Revolution? Are we not acquainted with the democratic dagger which assassinated Rossi? Well, then, the fate so threatened, I accept! Yes, I prefer it a thousand times to the contempt which, amongst posterity, will hang on the memory of those men whom France charged to place her in safety, but who failed in that sacred duty—those men who, through pusillanimity, will have left France abandoned to the shame, the servitude, the barbarism, which Socialism is preparing for us. (Tremendous cheering, which lasted some time.)

Great agitation followed this speech. General Cavaignac at once hurried to the tribune, but he was obliged to remain standing there for ten minutes at least before the sitting could proceed.

General Cavaignac: The Hon. M. de Montalembert commenced his speech by passing an eulogium on me. After having heard his speech, I am entitled to say that I was right in receiving that praise only with mistrust; I expected it to be followed by a censure. Once for all, what is the meaning of those reminiscences incessantly renewed in the tribune? There is nothing in what I say, or in what I think, which tends to make me obtain in the Socialist party, to which I do not belong, a false popularity. It is not my fault if you have now placed right on the side of your adversaries. It had been said that I had changed my part and my opinion, but that is not the case; I do now what I did in June 1848; I then defended universal suffrage as I do at the present time; such has always been my course of acting.

M. E. Arago declared that he was opposed to the bill, and then, proceeding to criticise the speech of M. de Montalembert, he affirmed that that gentleman desired to bring on civil war. (Loud exclamations; marks of denial.)

The President, to M. E. Arago: You have no right to use such language.

M. E. Arago: I am then prevented from expressing my sentiments. ('Oh, oh,' and laughter.) Has not M. de Montalembert said, 'Let us wage the war of Rome at home?'

On the Left: Yes, yes.

A Voice on the Right: That means that Socialism must be put down by every legal means.

M. E. Arago: Did General Oudinot wage war on the Romans with the laws?

The President: M. Arago, you are travestying the words and intentions of M. de Montalembert.

From the Mountain: No, no; we protest.

The President: You have gone beyond the right of the tribune, M. Arago. You ought to regret your words. For my part, I condemn them absolutely. (Hear, hear.)

MM. Madaud, Baudin, and others: He is quite right! He is quite right!

The President: You can do nothing but interrupt.

M. E. Arago: I ask for nothing better than to interpret in a different manner the words of M. de Montalembert; but it is impossible to look on his language as that of conciliation. (Applause on the Left.) M. de Montalembert, too, appears to me to have a strange mode of respecting the Constitution, when he declares that he submits to it, but that he considers it detestable. The sovereignty of the people is a principle large enough to brave all efforts. Whatever may be the attacks made on the Constitution, the people will despise them, because it knows that it is eternal, and that you can exist only for a day!

The sitting was brought to a close at a quarter past six.

Thursday, May 23.

M. Dupin, sen., the President, took the chair at half-past one.

The public tribunes were by no means so crowded as on the preceding days.

Petitions against the Electoral Reform Bill were presented by MM. Ceyras, Lagarde, Armand (du Var,) Mathe, Bourzat, Sauteyra, Rigal, Lamarque, Sommier, Laclaudure, Dupont, (de Bussac,) E. Arago, Aubry, (Du Nord,) Versigny, Testelin, Madier de Montjau, Pascal Duprat, Charras, &c.

The order of the day was the adjourned discussion on the Electoral Reform Bill.

The President: M. Victor Hugo has expressed a wish to address the Assembly. (Ah, ah.)

A Voice: He has had time to commit his speech to memory.

M. Victor Hugo: I desire to say a few words in reference to what fell yesterday from M. de Montalembert, and the day before from M. J. de Lasteyrie; and in doing so I cannot but express my regret at being obliged to introduce any personal matter across the grave question which we discuss. I might leave aside altogether the attacks, so full of passion, which were made on me by the two gentlemen whom I have just named; they are of a nature only to excite a smile. (Oh, oh.) General Cavaignac nobly replied yesterday to those made on him; but as the attacks on me touch my honour nearly, I will reply to them in the most direct manner. (Movement.) I have been accused of having been the enthusiastic panegyrist of various governments, of having opinions essentially changing in their nature, and of being now inconsistent with my former life. If this accusation refers to language in praise of monarchy, uttered many years back, I might dispense with replying to the charge, further than by declaring that it proceeded from feelings of the most pure and candid nature, and was an emanation of my infancy. (Loud laughter on the Right, responded to by cheers on the Left; long interruption.)

On the Right: You cannot deny the charge.

On the Left: How many governments have you ever, then, betrayed? (Agitation.)

M. V. Hugo: I say, then, that if the allusion is to such language and to such times, the whole matter is a puerility, and merits no further notice. (Oh, oh.) But if the gentlemen of whom I speak allude to the opinions of the man, and not of the child, this is my reply—(marks of deep attention)—I deliver to the most searching scrutiny of my opponents everything that I have said or written since 1827—that is three and twenty years ago—and I defy them to show me one expression that can bear out their accusation. (Applause on the Left.) I defy them to produce one page, or idea, or word, in my whole career of manhood, that can in the slightest degree contradict what I have expressed in these latter times. (Loud cheers on the Left.) If you do not accept this challenge I tell you that you must recoil under the pressure of an unfounded accusation. (Great agitation.) Further, I declare, once for all, that henceforward, after this day, I will not reply to the attacks made on me with the utmost disdain—I shall leave them to the appreciation of the public. (Agitation.) M. de Montalembert has said I have flattered and denied every government. I summons him to come forward and state in what instances I have done so. Was it Charles X.? I have honoured his exile and paid respect to his tomb! Was it the Duchess of Berri? I branded with reprobation the seller, and condemned the buyer, in her transaction. Was it the Emperor Napoleon? It was I who moved in the Chamber of Peers for the re-admission of his family into France—of that family by whom M. de Montalembert and his friends were loaded with benefits. (Loud cheers on the Left.) Was it the Duchess of Orleans? On February 24th, 1848, at two in the afternoon, on the Place de la Bastille, I spoke to 30,000 persons in most eulogistic terms of that most excellent lady. I am, in fact, a strange man. I have taken many oaths, and kept them all. But perhaps the reproach thrown on me is that I am in favour of the Republic. Yet, no; that can scarcely be brought forward as a crime. At all events, I can fling back the reproach of abandoning opinions, and say to M. de Montalembert, that the colours which he has abandoned are those of Poland and of liberty. (Hear, hear.) One word more: M. de Montalembert has alleged it against me, as a crime, that I was absent when he was speaking.

Voices: Yes, yes; you always are so.

M. V. Hugo: Yes, when my chest is shattered with answering the systematic interruptions to which I am always subjected when I ascend the tribune. (Loud denial; agitation.) I might well allow M. de Montalembert and M. J. Lasteyrie to cover me with the thunders of their eloquence, for when I attacked the bill on public instruction, they were silent; when I attacked the transportation bill, they were silent; when I defended the application made for the amnesty, they were silent. (Loud cheers on the Left.) But of this they may be certain, whenever anything is to be done in favour of democracy I am sure to be here. (Loud applause on the Left.)

M. de Montalembert: I shall not take four and twenty hours to reply to the honourable gentleman. (Laughter.) I accused him of having sung the praises of every government, and then proved renegade to it. I repeat the accusation. He sung the praises of the restoration; and the verses exist which he published on the coronation of Charles X., and on the birth of the Duke de Bordeaux. (Loud cheers.) He then sung the praises of the heroes of July, after Charles X. had departed. (Hear, hear.) But I will allow some latitude for poetry, and, renouncing that mode of expression, take up the honourable gentleman's sober prose. I affirm then, without fear of contradiction, that M. Victor Hugo uttered language of the most adulatory description relative to Louis Philippe. (Cheers on the Right.) Last of all came the Republic; and the hon. gentleman, it is well known, praised the people in the most enthusiastic manner for having burnt the throne of Louis Philippe, the throne of him who made the hon. gentleman peer of France. (Loud cheers.) The hon. gentleman now imagines that he sees in the political horizon the coming of the people to power, and, with his ordinary prudence, he joins with the leaders of Socialism, in order to afterwards avail himself of its triumph for his own purposes. (Cheering on the Right; great agitation.) He will then celebrate its accession, as he did the coronation of Charles X., and breathe forth the same incense of praise on the workman, as he did before on the crowned Monarch. (Continued cheering.)

M. Victor Hugo: I asked for facts, and not for words. (Oh, oh.) I defied any one to bring forward a single fact against me, and I do so again. (Laughter on the Right; applause on the Left.) Has the hon. gentleman forgotten his own proclamation to the workmen after 1848? (Loud cheers on the Left.) He has done a strange thing in speaking of my language as a peer of France; for the occasion to which he refers was a secret deliberation that ought not to be made public. (Movement.) Since that gentleman has lifted up the veil, I will say that it was when the King had been fired at, and when two other members and myself desired to have the man's life saved.

The President: This incident being terminated, we have now to decide whether the articles of the Electoral Reform Bill are to be proceeded with or not. A division has been moved for on the point.

The division then took place, and gave the following result:—

Number of votes	689
Absolute Majority	345
Ayes	462
Noes	227
Majority	235

In consequence, it was decided that the discussion on the articles should commence.

The President: There are thirty-seven amendments in all. The following is the first article:—'In the twelve days which follow the promulgation of the present law, the electoral list shall be drawn up in each commune by the mayor.'

M. de Lamartine said that he felt it his duty to oppose the present measure. The motive which actuated the committee and majority in bringing it forward was a feeling of impatience. Men found it often difficult to wait for the proper time to act. It was impatience which had produced the attack on the Assembly on May 15th; led to the insurrection of June; caused the exile of Charles X., in 1830, from his impatience to disconcert the party which he conceived was plotting against him; and led to the downfall of Louis Philippe, in 1848, from his not waiting patiently for the proper moment to discover the plans of those who were plotting against him. [After a speech in interruption from General Bedeau, M. de Lamartine continued.] In his opinion the new Electoral Law, besides being destructive of the Republic, would ultimately prove fatal to society and civilisation. He then denounced various acts of the government, denoting their anti-republican tendency, and amongst others the permission granted to the director of one of the theatres to bring out a play entitled *Monck*, that *ideal* of traitors. ('What did Monck do?' inquired a member on the Right.) M. Lamartine, having satisfied the interrupter, told him in conclusion that he would not have dared to ask him such a question two years ago. ('Bravos' on the Left.)

Friday, May 24.

M. Thiers ascended the tribune, and spoke as follows:—Gentlemen, some of the members who have already spoken have summoned me to come forward and state the reasons which have produced the present bill. It appears to me that most powerful, most decisive ones have been given. Still, I will endeavour also to reply, and, to use the expression of a celebrated Socialist, I will try to do so by the right line. The object of the bill is this: we are convinced that the danger is real and immense. We would fain say that it was an illusion, that we were maniacs from apprehension, and not men of foresight. I fear, however, that the illusion is on the side of our adversaries. It has been said that the bill has originated in the two late elections; but that is not wholly true, though correct to a certain degree. I have never been a convert to universal suffrage; if, during the last two years, I have resigned myself to many things, I have never been converted to any. (Laughter.) Neither I nor my friends have concealed from ourselves the danger of universal suffrage as it is at present organised. I will examine the two last elections, and see whether the dangers we apprehend are illusions. To begin with that of the 10th of March, I will ask what was the motive for choosing the candidate who was then elected? I can understand that he was chosen for himself; but let there be no hypocrisy in the matter; from what motive was he named? One fact is certain, that M. de Flotte fought in the days of June. On which side? Was it on the side of General Cavaignac or on the other side of the barricades? I do not pretend to dictate to democracy whom it should choose, but I have a right to form an opinion of its selection; I therefore ask my opponents whether they did not select an insurgent of June? I now come to the second election; the whole of France was astounded, not at the choice of the candidate, but at the intention which dictated it. I have no right to examine into the opinions of M. Eugene Sue; when he shall have given them an official character by stating them from this tribune, then I will speak of them. I shall now merely look at the intention which dictated his election. There were two candidates in presence; M. Dupont de l'Eure, who represented the republican opinion, and M. Eugene Sue, who represented ideas which we consider as subversive, and which were much more frankly declared at the electoral meetings than here. (Murmurs.) M. Eugene Sue obtained the majority. Twice following did elections take place in Paris, the significance of which was—for the first, the apology of insurrection; and for the second, the acceptance of Socialist doctrines. This must be clear to every one's mind, when they reflect on the cry of triumph raised by our adversaries after each of those elections. It has been said that there is no danger to be apprehended, but I have shown you that there was nothing in the two last elections calculated to tranquillise the friends of society.

On the Left: What society? (Murmurs.)

M. Thiers: I speak of that eternal society which it is not allowable to change. (Hear, hear.)

On the Left: The society of Jesus! (Cries of 'Order,' order! It is disgraceful.')

M. Thiers: In the electoral meetings society and its eternal laws were attacked without shame, and when the question is in this place to resist a law against public danger a very different language is made use of. That is what I call falsehood and hypocrisy. (Hear, hear, from the Right.)

On the Left: What you now say is a falsehood. (Order, order.)

M. Thiers: You have allowed yourself to accuse by name the seventeen persons who have prepared the bill; you have accused them of falsehood, of want of good faith, and of a factious spirit; and yet I must not say that there is falsehood when in the electoral meetings abominable principles are supported which are disavowed from this tribune. (Sensation.) M. de Lamartine yesterday defined three elements of Socialism; allow me now to explain what are the three kinds of Socialism which I see. There is one which is criminal, senseless, and impracticable; that is Communism, or the agrarian law. That cannot even be attempted. There is a second kind of Socialism, which is neither less criminal nor less impracticable, but which may be commenced; that is universal association. There is a third kind, which is innocent, which has but one danger; it has a double face; it promises much without, but does nothing here. It may, however, become the instrument of the two others. The accessibility to labour has been talked of; that is to say, that credit should be placed within the reach of every workman, for capital is an infamy which cannot be obtained but by paying interest for it. It is necessary, therefore, to disembarrass the people of that infamous capital. (Laughter.) For that purpose particular banks must be created, which may give credit to every one with the money of the state. Salary also is a tyranny. (Murmurs.) You find that opinion detestable to you—so much the better. I am anxious to obtain a disavowal, which may serve to enlighten at the next meetings. (Laughter.) Salary is therefore a tyranny; for when that is done away with it will bring all workmen together, who, instead of being slaves, will be all masters and speculators. What is to be done to accomplish this? There must be a general expropriation of all capital. (Sensation.) But where is the capital to come from to provide for all this enormous expense? You doubtless imagine that it can all be done by credit; no, it must be done with a capital which has never been wanting to democrats, which is unlimited, which is made with the stamp of the Republic—with paper money. (Renewed sensation.) It is, therefore, the second kind of Socialism which I fear—namely, the general expropriation with paper money. As for the third kind of Socialism, it is nothing, and we defy it to produce anything. Should we in presence of such a danger fold our arms? Certainly not. I appeal to your reminiscences. I am before men who have never felt themselves compelled to respect the constitutions under which they lived, who have never hesitated to violate them. And why? To obtain the Republic and advance liberty. In order to procure that result they have not hesitated to rebel against the laws of their country, to tear up her Constitution. They have considered it their duty to do so. But if in the presence of a higher interest—that of the salvation of society—we had imitated your conduct, if we had torn the Constitution should we have been more blameable than you? Certainly not. We should have had the same right, and we should have had a more serious interest. (Hear, hear.) Do you think that we want motives for so doing? On the contrary, we have been reproached by a great part of the country for stopping before legal obstacles. We are every day asked why we hesitate before men who made a government in February without consulting France. (Applause on the Right. Murmurs on the Left.)

On the Left: And in 1830.

M. Thiers: We are in the presence of men who never respected any law, and who nevertheless have enchained our future in spite of the tendencies of public opinion, and we are told that it is before such men that we hesitate when the salvation of the country is at stake. (Sensation.) Do you know why we did not follow this impulse?

On the Left: You did not dare do it.

M. Thiers: I have been told that we dare not. Attempt to violate the laws, and you will see whether we dare not. (Murmurs.) Remember this expression, for it is a very serious one. (Sensation.) We imposed on ourselves the duty to remain faithful to the constitution; not that our adversaries have set us the example,—(laughter,)—but because we owed it to our party, which always respects established governments, and never seeks to destroy but to improve them. We have not violated the constitution, and your charges on that subject are not better founded than they were on the 13th of June. If we had not confined ourselves to all the articles of the constitution, we might have obtained many ameliorations, the efficacy of which could not be contested. The fixing the domicile presents a moral guarantee. A man only possesses all his moral value in the place where he has always resided, under the eyes of his fellow citizens, observed and judged of by them. A man who has no fixed residence has no moral value. (Hear, hear.) An outcry has been raised at the arbitrary state of dependence in which servants and workmen will be placed, but why complain of us—did we say that these classes should be electors? (Exclamations on the Left.) I see that there are great logicians who do not understand my reasoning; I must be, therefore, more explanatory with them. Are not workmen and servants now dependent on their employers and masters? But is it the poor man whom we have excluded? No, it is the vagabond—the vagabond who gains money without having any domicile, and who, on leaving his work, hastens to the wine-shop where he spends what he has earned. These men, having no family, care nothing about a domicile. I look on them as the most dangerous portion of society. It is these men who merit a title always employed in history to imply contempt—the title of multitude. I can very well imagine that certain men are unwilling to give up this instrument; I can conceive that tyrants should put up with them, give them food, sometimes punish them, always despise them! (Sensation and applause.) But, for Republicans, to seek out the men of the multitude and defend them—oh! believe me, such persons are false Republicans! Examine history, and you will see that it is the vile multitude that has at all times betrayed and delivered up liberty. It gave it to Cæsar for bread and the Circensian games; and, after having allowed the Emperors to take it, butchered them! It is this vile multitude that delivered up to the Medici the liberty of Florence—that, in placid Holland, murdered de Witt and Bayle—who applauded the execution of the Girondists, and afterwards rejoiced at the merited death of Robespierre! It is this multitude which, after being subjected to the great man who knew it well, in 1815 placed a cord round the neck of his statue to drag it through the mire. (Immense applause.)

M. N. Buonaparte (from his place): I demand permission to speak.

The President: Not now. You can speak at a later moment.

M. N. Buonaparte (sharply): I demand—

The President: You must not thus interrupt. I call you to order!

M. N. Buonaparte: But, M. le President, when—

The President: I call you to order a second time.

M. Thiers: Although I never refuse, when in the tribune, to allow any man to make any observation in reference to what I say, yet to-day I shall depart from my usual custom; for I am unwilling to add to the affliction of the Assembly by contributing to exhibit to it a man who bears the illustrious name of Napoleon defending such opinions as he professes! (Tremendous applause.)

M. N. Buonaparte (with great violence): I must insist on speaking. (Interruption.)

The President: I consult the Assembly as to whether M. N. Buonaparte ought not to be censured.

The Assembly, by an immense majority, decided the question in the affirmative.

From the Mountain: Let us go away. (Agitation.)

A considerable number of the members of the Mountain then left their places. Laughter and applause arose on the Right. Some of the members who had risen then hesitated, and at last resumed places.

On the Right: Go, if you please, all of you! (Laughter.)

Some other members of the Mountain returned to their places in the midst of laughter. M. N. Buonaparte appeared in the midst of a group of them, gesticulating violently. M. Bertholon descended into the semicircle, and entered into an altercation with a representative near General Changarnier; the general spoke to him with animation. A crowd gathered round the spot, and the utmost confusion prevailed.

M. N. Buonaparte then approached the tribune, and apparently asked M. Thiers to allow him to speak. That gentleman gave way, descending the steps of the tribune, which the other gentleman ascended.

M. N. Buonaparte: I have been called to order, and even censured; I can, therefore, according to the regulations address to you an explanation. I was, I confess, carried away by a hasty movement, which I could not master, when I heard M. Thiers say that it was the people. (Interruption.)

On the Right: No, no; he said the multitude!

The President: M. N. Buonaparte has a right to give his explanation. You would be just as culpable as he has been, if you should interrupt him.

M. N. Buonaparte: I admit that I was carried away when I heard M. Thiers affirm that it was the multitude who in 1815, tied a cord to Napoleon's statue. So remarkable an historian as he is surely must know that it was the Royalists who did so. (Applause on the Left.)

MM. Favreau, Leo de Laborde, and de Tinguy protested in the midst of the noise against the assertion.

M. N. Buonaparte: It was the friends of the Cossacks who tied a cord to the great man's neck; and a man whom I will not mention, but who bears a great name. (Interruption; cries on the Left of 'Name him! Name him!') A man who bears a great name was, if I am not mistaken, the first in committing that shameful act. (Interruption.)

M. Benoist d'Azy: The person who did so was named Maubreuil.

M. N. Buonaparte: M. Thiers has thought proper to remark on my political opinions. I deny his right to do so; he was no more entitled to call on me to account for my opinions than I have to interpellate the gentlemen on the Right in a similar manner. But it is because of the name which I bear that I defend the interests of the people. ('Oh, oh!' 'Enough, enough!') And since 1815 has been referred to, I do not hesitate to say that I prefer being on the side of the conquered of Waterloo rather than that of the conquerors. (Exclamations on the Right. Applause on the Left.)

A Voice: And your application for a peerage in 1847?

The President went over the details of the incident, and observed that the explanation which had just been given did not seem to him of such a nature as to call for the removal of the censure ordered by the Assembly. He would again, however, if any hon. gentleman desired it, consult the Assembly on the point. ('Yes, yes,' on the Left.)

The Assembly, being consulted, maintained the vote of censure by as great a majority as before.

M. Thiers: If I have committed any impropriety in speaking of M. Buonaparte's opinions, he was himself the original cause of my doing so by interrupting me. (Hear, hear.) I am of opinion, notwithstanding all the calumnies uttered on the subject, that in France there are no conquerors of Waterloo, that there are only the vanquished. (Hear, hear.) But, to go back to the point at which I had arrived when I was interrupted, I have to remark that the expression which I made use of was not people but multitude—the vile multitude. France regards us, and she knows what is meant by these words people and multitude. It is not the people who set fire to palaces, who butcher men, who overturn statues—oh, no, the people suffer from these crimes of the multitude. It is the real people of the country districts who suffer and who labour. (Applause.) As to us, we desire to give them good laws—(ironical cheers, and laughter on the Left)—and if public repose be troubled the fault will be with you, not with us. France will judge us all; and I repeat, that it is not the people whom we desire to exclude from voting, but the confused multitude of vagabonds who possess neither family nor home. (Loud approbation.) You tell us that the bill is a provocation; if you had said a prevision you would have uttered the correct word. I ask you, are there not places where it has been discussed whether war was to be declared on society or not, and by what means that should be effected? I ask you, if it has not been also discussed whether to refuse taxes would not be preferable? Is all that true or not? Answer. ('Hear, hear,' agitation.) Against these well-known facts, so afflicting to all good citizens, the government has taken its precautions. The army is ready to do its duty—its chiefs are energetic and devoted—all is ready if you do not persevere in a prudent course. Every preparation has been made. In that unfortunate society, where the father sees the bread of his children torn from his hands beneath the threats of insurrection may be heard these painful words—'Since blood is to be shed it is as well first as last.' This expression, however, is not a provocation—it is a cry of despair, the cry of society at its last gasp. It is the strongest accusation against those who have thrown it into such an awful situation. (Long continued cheering.)

The Assembly rose in great agitation at half-past seven.

Saturday, May 25.

This day, the man whose election on the 10th of March was one of the main motives of M. Thiers's virulent sallies against democracy, M. de Flotte, made a speech of great parliamentary talent; its colour and logic strangely contrasted with the fiery vehemence, denouncement, and personality of the Conservatives.

After a speech of M. Leon Faucher and the rejection of several amendments, the first article of the bill for the reform of the Electoral Law was adopted without a division. The following is the article:—

'Art. 1. Within the thirty days which follow the promulgation of the present law, the electoral list shall be made up by the mayor, assisted by two delegates nominated for each commune by the *juge de paix*, and domiciled in the canton. The delegates shall have the right of recording their observations on the *proces verbal*. The *proces verbal* shall be deposited by the mayor with the electoral list at the office of the secretary of the mayoralty, to be communicated to all who may require it.'

The discussion on Art. 2 was postponed till Monday.

Monday, May 27.

In the sitting of the Legislative Assembly to-day the debate on the Electoral Bill was re-opened upon the second article, which makes domiciliation in the canton for three consecutive years a condition of the franchise. M. Pierre Leroux commenced upon this subject the speech which he had attempted to deliver on Saturday; but was overwhelmed by the clamours of the Right, who, at last, upon the proposition of the president, availed themselves of the regulation which permits the house to interdict a member from speaking, who persists, after having been twice called to the question, in repeating the same deviation from the question. M. Dupont de Bussac developed an amendment presented by himself and several other members, which would substitute for the system of the committee the drawing up of a permanent list for three years, of all citizens of twenty-one years of age who had resided for six months in the same commune. M. Leon Faucher opposed this amendment, which, on being put to the vote, was rejected by the Assembly. M. Corne then proceeded to develop an amendment which he had presented in concert, with General Cavaignac, Ferdinand de Lasteyrie, and M. Coquerel, proposing that the condition of domicile should be established by real habitation in the commune in which the obligation of drawing lots for the recruitment of the army and navy had been satisfied, this domicile to be transferable to every commune where the citizen shall have fixed his principal establishment, provided that he make, six months before the revision of the electoral list, the double declaration prescribed by Art. 104 of the Civil Code. This amendment having been opposed by M. Vatimesnil, was rejected by a considerable majority. M. Larabit proposed six months' domicile.

This and a series of other amendments were rejected, and the 2nd article was voted as proposed by the committee by a large majority. The voting was by *assis et leve*. As this is the most important article the bill may be considered as voted. It is said that MM. Beaumont and Vesin have withdrawn their amendment.

Tuesday, May 28.

The debate was resumed on the Electoral Law. The discussion opened upon the third article, which relates to the modes of attesting the electoral domicile—namely, by assessment for the personal tax, highway duty, or the certificate of master or employer. M. Randot opposed the article, MM. Sain and Larabit moved amendments, which were rejected. M. Monnet proposed an amendment tending to admit all kinds of evidence calculated to establish the existence of the principal residence, as required by Article 2. Nothing can be a better sample of the unfair dealing of the majority than their refusal to discuss M. Monnet's amendment. M. Leon Faucher said that the committee opposed the amendment. M. Monnet is a member of the *tiers-parti*. His amendment drives only at facilitating the proof of three years' domiciliation. There can be only one motive for throwing out such a proposition, which is to keep in the hands of the masters and parents of voters the control over the certificate of domicile which is given them by the bill, and to reduce the number of voters qualified as to domiciliation, by besetting with as many difficulties as possible the way of attesting the qualification. M. Monnet besought the majority not to drive from their side members like himself, who supported their general policy, by manifesting an unconciliatory and illiberal disposition. A voice from the Right replied that doubtful auxiliaries were not wanted.

General Lamoriciere inquired whether the reporter of the committee would assign any reason for rejecting the amendment of Monnet. (Silence.) The committee, then, would give no reasons. M. Baroche said the amendment was similar to others which had been already rejected. Gen. Lamoriciere inferred that the amendment was rejected because it was comprehensive. Much had been said of the necessity of moralising the elector by making his vote among his neighbours. He and his friends accepted that object, but could not see how it would be impeded by admitting as many facilities as possible for establishing the electoral domicile. When the object was to impose an obligation instead of granting a right, the law was much more accommodating. Thus for the recruitment the inscriptions were made first on the declarations of young people or their parents; but also on information furnished by all sorts of persons. But such information was rejected in the present instance.

M. Berryer replied. Finally, M. Monnet's amendment having been put to the vote was rejected by a large majority. The amendment proposed by M. Combarel de Leyval, that the lists already drawn up should serve for attesting the domicile, was rejected without discussion. The first paragraph on Art. 3, was then voted by a large majority.

Design of the Conspirators.—The correspondent of the 'Daily News,' writing on Monday, says—The eventuality of the Restoration, which has hitherto loomed vaguely by snatches on the public mind, begins to gather a more definite shape and real bulk. It is known to most of your readers that for the last two years negotiations have been carrying on with a view to the reconcilement of the two branches of the Bourbons which have been disinherited from the throne of France. It is understood that these negotiations have terminated in a transaction according to which the Comte de Paris would be adopted by the presumptive Henri V. as his successor. If any jealousies or cross intrigues still delay the ratification of such a pact, there is no doubt they will disappear before the absolute necessity of an alliance between the Orleanists and Legitimists, when the critical moment comes for smashing the Republic, during the few days at least which are demanded for the execution of the operation. Virtually the united Bourbons are already masters of the situation. The wielder of the army, Changarnier, is reported from good sources to be for both branches under the pact already mentioned; and has possibly his commission, as marshal and commander-in-chief, under the restored monarchy, already in his pocket. The wielder of the police, Carlier, is supposed to be devoted to the house of Orleans. But what, you will say, is to be done with the President? If any attempt has been made to treat with him for abdication, and a future position, an attempt which could scarcely present many difficulties at a court where the most ardent Legitimists are coming continually into contact with the head of the state, it has no doubt been undertaken with a due knowledge of that singular blindness with regard to the state of public opinion which still characterises Louis Napoleon as strongly as when he braved the penalties of desperate enterprises. Everybody knows that at this moment the Napoleonist party in France is reduced to a mere shadow. Yet Louis Napoleon confides so rashly in the magic of his name, as to believe that, were he to submit the question of his re-election to France to-morrow, he would be returned by nearly the same overwhelming majority as before. The most dexterous negotiator could hardly affront positively such a belief with the most splendid offers of wealth and position as a private subject. It is supposed, however, that the matter has been shown to him at half lights, and that hints have been thrown out that he might do worse than accept the princely post of Constable of France, with the *appanage* of Rambouillet and a million of francs pension. In fact, I understand from a good source, that if the Prince-President does not within a certain period close with the offers of the dynastic coalition, means will be taken to put him in a position which would prove equally ruinous to him in his public or private capacity.

The 'Presse' is being printed by a fresh printer, the old printer having apparently feared the responsibility. M. Girardin is cited before the tribunals for clandestine printing.

(*Continued to the seventh page.*)

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Poetry.

A BALLAD OF SIR JOHN FRANKLIN.

BY GEORGE H. BOKER.

"The ice was here, the ice was there,
The ice was all around."—*Coleridge.*

Whither sail you, Sir John Franklin?
Cried a whaler in Baffin's Bay;
To know if between the land and the Pole,
I may find a broad sea-way.

I charge you back, Sir John Franklin,
As you would live and thrive,
For between the land and the frozen Pole
No man may sail alive.

But loudly laughed the stout Sir John,
And spoke unto his men;—
Half England is wrong, if he is right;
Bear off to westward then.

Oh whither sail you, brave Englishman?
Cried the little Esquimaux.
Between your land and the polar star
My goodly vessels go.

Come down, if you would journey there,
The little Indian said;
And change your cloth for fur clothing,
Your vessel for a sled.

But lightly laughed the stout Sir John,
And the crew laughed with him too;
A sailor to change from ship to sled,
I ween, were something new!

All through the long, long polar day,
The vessels westward sped;
And wherever the sail of Sir John was blown,
The ice gave way, and fled—

Gave way with many a hollow groan,
And with many a surly roar;
But it murmured and threatened on every side,
And closed where he sailed before.

Ho! see ye not, my merry men,
The broad and open sea?
Bethink ye what the whaler said,
Bethink ye of the little Indian's sled!
The crew laughed out in glee.

* * *

Sir John, Sir John, 'tis bitter cold,
The scud drives on the breeze,
The ice comes looming from the North,
The very sunbeams freeze.

Bright Summer goes, dark Winter comes—
We cannot rule the year;
But long ere Summer's sun goes down,
On yonder sea we'll steer.

The dripping icebergs dipped and rose,
And floundered down the gale;
The ships were staid, the yards were manned,
And furled the useless sail.

* * *

The Summer's gone, the Winter's come,
We sail not on yonder sea;
Why sail we not, Sir John Franklin?
A silent man was he.

* * *

The Winter goes, the Summer comes,
We cannot rule the year;
I ween, we cannot rule the ways,
Sir John, wherein we'd steer.

The cruel ice came floating on,
And closed beneath the lee,
Till the thickening waters dashed no more
'Twas ice around, behind, before—
My God! there is no sea!

What think you of the whaler now?
What of the Esquimaux?
A sled were better than a ship,
To cruise through ice and snow.

Down sank the baleful crimson sun;
The northern-light came out,
And glared upon the ice-bound ships,
And shook its spears about.

Sir John, the night is black and long,
The hissing wind is bleak;
The hard-bound ice is strong as death:—
I prythee, Captain, speak.

The night is neither bright nor short,
The singing breeze is cold,
The ice is not so strong as hope,
The heart of man is bold!

What hope can scale this icy wall,
High over the main flag-staff?
Above the ridges the wolf and bear
Look down with a patient, settled stare—
Look down on us and laugh.

The summer went, the Winter came—
We could not rule the year;
But Summer will melt the ice again,
And open a path to the sunny main,
Whereon our ships shall steer.

* * *

The Winter went, the Summer went,
The Winter came around;
But the hard-bound ice was as strong as death,
And the voice of hope sank to a breath,
Yet caught at every sound.

Hark! heard you not the sound of guns?
And there, and there again?
'Tis some uneasy iceberg's roar,
As he turns in the frozen main.

Sir John, where are the English fields,
And where the English trees?
And where are the little English flowers,
That open in the breeze?

Be still, be still, my brave sailors!
You shall see the fields again,
And smell the scent of the opening flowers,
The grass, and the waving grain.

Oh! when shall I see my orphan child?
My Mary waits for me;
Oh! when shall I see my old mother,
And pray at her trembling knee?

Be still, be still, my brave sailors!
Think not such thoughts again!
But a tear froze slowly on his cheek—
He thought of Lady Jane.

Ah! bitter, bitter grows the cold,
The ice grows more and more;
More settled stare the wolf and bear,
More patient than before.

Oh! think you, good Sir John Franklin,
We'll ever see the land?
'Twas cruel to send us here to starve,
Without a helping hand.

'Twas cruel, Sir John, to send us here,
So far from help or home;
To starve and freeze on this lonely sea;
I ween, the Lords of the Admiralty
Had rather send than come.

Oh! whether we starve to death alone,
Or sail to our own country,
We have done what man has never done—
The open ocean danced in the sun—
We passed the Northern Sea!

Sartain's (American) Magazine.

Review.

THE NATIONAL INSTRUCTOR. No. II. W. Rider: 16, Great Windmill-street.

The second number of this new candidate for public favour does ample justice to its title. Its contents are judiciously varied; while, in all, the same predominating principle of social and political reform is distinctly marked. "The Secret"—a tale commenced in the first number—improves as it progresses, and exhibits in a very graphic manner the workings of the present classification of society upon the mental and moral character of those subjected to its influence. Fiction—when made the vehicle of sound information as to the causes which pervert the intellect, and debase the moral being alike of the "Haves and Have-nots" of society—assumes a utilitarian aspect, which even the most rigorous disciple of Jeremy Bentham will not be slow to recognise, and has this advantage, that, while the masses might be deterred by didactic and logical expositions of first principles, they cannot help being attracted by them when thrown into a dramatic form. "The Life and Adventures of Feargus O'Connor"—by himself—will, however, no doubt, with the mass of the reading public, form the great attraction of the *National Instructor.* Apart from the excitement produced by an exceedingly lively style of narration, the light which the portion of the autobiography in the present number throws on the *menage* of the author's father, on the kind of education he received, and the prevalent ideas of school discipline, when Mr. O'Connor was a subject of the potent birch—cannot fail to be exceedingly interesting to all students of progress, as well as to those who take an interest in the circumstances by which the characters of men are formed who afterwards exercise powerful and wide-spread influence over their fellow-men. Mr. O'Connor graphically relates his first "love-making," and furnishes another illustration of the oft-quoted words of the dramatist—

"The course of true love never did run smooth."

In subsequent portions of the narrative, we may expect to have much interesting and valuable information, respecting some of the most momentous passages of modern history. "Excelsior" is a well-written sketch, showing the manner in which the most gifted, high-souled, and patriotic of our race, are thwarted in their aspirations and endeavours to benefit their fellow creatures, and how often an untimely grave closes over the fondly cherished hope, which, even in death, sheds its halo over their last hours. We may note, also, that the second number is decidedly more political and practical than the first; while there is no lack of light and agreeable matter, the *utile* is blended with the *dulce.* The opening article, on Home Colonisation, contrasted with Foreign Emigration, as a cure for national evils, is a brief but forcible statement of the merits of the two different systems. This paper—which is from the pen of the editor—after pithily stating the creed of the emigration-mongers, proceeds to show, on incontrovertible authority, that this country possesses the power of supporting four times its present population; and then proceeds to answer the question, why that power has not been developed, in the following manner:—

But it may be asked, if we possess these capabilities, why have they not been taken advantage of? Fully to reply to that question would require some time and space. We can only indicate what appear to us the leading causes. The first is to be found *in the individual appropriation of the soil,* and the consequent existence of laws of primogeniture and entail, which lock up the land—God's gift to all—in the possession of a few families. These appropriators of the common store only allow the soil to be used as it suits their convenience, interest or caprice. In all cases *their* interests are considered, and not the interests of the whole community to whom the land really belongs. Its cultivation therefore, instead of forming a primary object with society, *and being conducted in the most comprehensive* and scientific manner, has been carried on in accordance with individual enlightenment, individual views of self-interest, and the amount of individual capital, enterprise and labour, which might be applied to it.

The wretched results of this system are apparent all over England. In order to maintain political influence over their tenantry, and perpetuate that predominance in the government on which our aristocracy pride themselves, the greater part of the land is held on tenancies-at-will. The result is, that farming is, in such cases, generally carried on from year to year, instead of being conducted on an extended and practical plan, involving considerable immediate outlay, but yielding enormously increased returns at a future period. Wherever the landlords have had the intelligence to make the granting of leases the foundation of their agricultural system, the invariable effect has been an immense augmentation of the gross produce. The proceedings of the late Lord Leicester at Holkham, and the influence he exerted over the whole system of farming in Norfolk, is an eminent instance of the truth of this statement; and, generally speaking, the state of agriculture in the lowlands of Scotland, is a still more striking illustration.

In addition to the obstructive and impoverishing effect of entails in the landlord class, and the want of leases among the farmer class, the game laws, and the sporting propensities of our gentry, may be mentioned as prominent causes of the comparatively uncultivated state of the land of this country. Very large portions are occupied by game preserves, plantations, and pleasure grounds, for the delectation of the wealthy classes, which, if cultivated for the support of man, would yield rich and luxuriant crops. *The farms in the immediate neighbourhood* of these preserves, are plundered to an enormous extent by the depredations of the game, and, of course, this helps to diminish the total amount of food produced for the subsistence of the people.

Besides these inherent defects in the holding and cultivation of the soil, so far as the landlords and farmers are concerned, there has, within the last half century, been another powerful agency at work, to prevent the real value of agriculture to a country being properly appreciated. The introduction of the manufacturing system, with its large and rapid returns to the owners of capital and machinery, has naturally turned the main current of the genius, the industry, and the enterprise of the country in that direction. While the most extraordinary progress has been made in the production of textile fabrics, and in the discovery and application of the most delicate, complicated, and powerful machinery for that purpose, the art of agriculture has not advanced in anything like the same proportion, in consequence of the abstraction of the national energies to manufacturing pursuits.

The combined effect of these causes has been to produce an artificial sterility in the soil of our native land, and to lead partially informed persons to the conclusion that Britain is over-populated. But while it can be demonstrated, that there are the means of producing food for one hundred or one hundred and twenty millions of human beings, while, at the same time, we have not more than a quarter of that number to support, it is evident that this is a gross fallacy and delusion.

The writer forcibly contrasts the merits of the two different plans as a remedy for national grievances:—

Instead of sending away any of that labour, which is the true wealth of the country, to reclaim wildernesses, cut down forests, and cultivate prairies elsewhere, they should be kept at home and employed in fertilizing our own soil. Every thousand acres which may by skill, labour, and capital, be won from either artificial or natural unproductiveness, would, in fact, be an increase to the surface of the kingdom, as much so, as if a slice of a thousand acres had been cut from the shores of some of those distant lands to which it is proposed to transport the "surplus labourers," and added to our own.

Until the unemployed and uncultivated land of this country is brought into full play, we have no "surplus labour." Our first duty is to subdue and cultivate to its full extent, "the land we live in." When that is done, it will be time enough to think about emigrating, the mode in which that emigration should be conducted, and who should be the parties to emigrate.

On the mere score of economy, the plan of Home Colonization is preferable to that of Foreign Colonization. In order to produce the slightest effect on the labour market by means of emigration, we may assume fairly, that one million families should be taken out of it at once. Calculating the outfit, passage-money, and maintenance of that one million, until they got in their first crops, at the low amount of £20 a head, it would require £100,000,000 to locate them. If the plan of systematic Foreign Colonization is to be considered at all applicable to the evils of society, this process of sending off people and treasure, would have to be repeated very frequently. One of the most undoubted facts in history is, that population very speedily replaces itself under favourable circumstances; the vacuum caused by the abstraction of one million persons from the labour market, would soon be filled up, and then the depletory process would have to be repeated.

Instead of this most wasteful and inefficient plan, by which, not only the existing capital of the country, *but its power to produce more, would be most* imprudently squandered, we say, that TWENTY MILLIONS sterling judiciously applied to the reclamation and colonization of our waste and crown lands, would be both an immediate and a permanent benefit to all parties; the country would add to its already large capital, the people would have a larger cultivated area on which to depend for subsistence, and the labourers who had been instrumental in producing this addition to the cultivated territory, the real wealth, and the permanent prosperity of the country, would, under a just system, share largely in that prosperity, without having undergone any of the sufferings, dangers, or diseases which ever track the steps of the foreign emigrant.

"National Education a means of promoting Universal Happiness," is a new and important view of this most essential question, of which we can only give an idea by the subjoined extracts:—

Since the pursuit of happiness is the prime business of life; since there is an eternal craving for it in every human bosom—is it not highly desirable that all arrangements which appear likely to produce it, should be called into immediate operation? In this light, National Education assumes a new and important aspect, as a medium through which the sum of general happiness might be increased.

The uneducated man, in general, is incapable of experiencing the pleasures which spring from the possession of knowledge. The sciences may unlock their stores, and pour their inestimable, inexhaustable treasures at his feet, but he has no taste for their beauties, no mind to appreciate their value. The landscape may be clothed in all the wild luxuriance of nature, but he lacks the inner sense which imparts life to its beauties, meaning to its varied manifestations.

"A primrose by the river's brim
A yellow primrose is to him,
And it is nothing more.

But the case is reversed with the educated. The most elevating pleasures that humanity can feel, spring from the proper exercise of a cultivated understanding, and of an imagination duly disciplined and subdued. An acquaintance with literature, even if it be but partial, is a source of pure delight. The philosophic student digs up happiness from the entrails of the earth, and derives both amusement and instruction from the pebbles on its surface. Nature is to him an interminable source of gratification. Chemistry unfolds to him its wonders, and exhibits the constituent elements of organic and inorganic bodies. Geology enables him to trace the various physical revolutions which have occurred on the surface or in the bowels of the earth, and informs him that other races of beings were its denizens before man was called into existence. Mathematics expand his power of thinking, and open up the pathway which leads to an acquaintance with the sublime science of astronomy, which of itself unlocks fresh fountains of felicity. When the sun has set in glory, and his last rays have fallen upon hill and valley, streamlet and woodland, when the gorgeous tints on the clouds are vanishing, and

"Twilight, clad in sober grey, comes on;"

when

"The lowing herd winds slowly o'er the lea,"

and all nature is sinking to repose—then how cheering it must be to the educated man to wander from home—or, alone, on the watch-towers raised for science, to banquet on the beauties of the scene! The moon, rising in the eastern sky, flings her silvery mantle over the landscape—the stars do homage to her superior brightness; while earth and its waters roll on, illumined by her lustre and reflecting her image. What high and ennobling feelings arise in the philosopher's mind as he scans the Heavens, and roams in thought over the immensity of the Universe. Overwhelming thoughts of sublimity and vastness, lofty conceptions of the beautiful mingled with tender reminiscences of bygone years, agitate his breast. The appearance of the revolving orbs above, calls up feelings with which the names of a Copernicus, a Galileo, a Newton, and a Herschel, are associated. The history of the heavens lies spread out before him, and he is enabled, in some measure, to behold its future condition in perspective. Who will have the temerity to affirm that the astronomer, in such circumstances, does not experience the purest and the most elevating delight? And where is the individual, possessed of the least spark of philanthropy, who would not wish to make such pleasures in some measure accessible to all?

A wise, well-adjusted, and liberal scheme of National Education, if carried into effect, would place these refined gratifications within the reach of the majority of men. The people, if rightly trained from infancy to manhood, would have placed in their hands the key with which they might unlock all the stores of knowledge. A taste for the sciences, and for literature in general, would thus be generated, and a fine and high-toned morality would be made to pervade all the ramifications of society. Crime would be repressed if not abolished; vice would become dishonourable and abhorred, and the full tide of popular opinion would be brought to bear on those dispositions and actions which are prejudicial to the interests of the Commonwealth.

One of the veteran Beranger's "people's songs," expository of the body-and-soul-destroying character of our boasted modern civilisation, as respects large portions of the population of this and all other "civilised countries," will not fail to awaken a sympathetic chord in thousands of hearts which have themselves felt

"The stings and arrows of outrageous fortune."

If the *National Instructor* continues to blend sound abstract social and political information with fiction and poetry, directly bearing on the interests of the masses, it will worthily vindicate its title, and deserve a circulation at least equal to any of its cheap contemporaries.

Public Amusements.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

The announcement of a highly attractive bill of fare, for the benefit of Messrs. Macfarren and Loder, two of our most distinguished musicians, whose operatic works have been eminently serviceable in maintaining the reputation and prosperity of this establishment, brought together an audience on Monday night which filled the theatre to the roof. The entertainments consisted of the first act of *Charles II.*, the second act of the *Night Dancers,* the farce of *The First Night,* and a concert, in which several eminent vocalists and instrumentalists appeared, including Miss Catherine Hayes, Madame Macfarren, Mr. Sims Reeves, Herr Ernst, M. Vivier, Mr. Benedict, Mr. Osborne, Mr. H. B. Richards, Mr. W. C. Macfarren, &c. The whole passed off with the greatest *éclat,* and entirely to the satisfaction of the audience. Mr. Loder conducted in the orchestra.

STANDARD.

This popular little theatre was taken on Wednesday night for the benefit of the wife and family of John J. Fussell, one of the Whig victims of 1848, who is still suffering imprisonment in Tothill-fields House of Correction, and from the numerous attendance, there is no doubt but that the object was achieved. The romantic spectacle of *Peter Wilkins, or The Flying Indians* was presented on this occasion, and from the manner in which Mr. Douglas has placed it on the stage, aided by the talents of Messrs. Gaston, Gates, H. Lewis, and Mrs. Honnor, promises to have a successful run. The interlude of *Matrimony* followed, in which Messrs. Lewis Herbert, Basil Potter, and Miss E. Terry convulsed the house with laughter. The performance concluded with a powerful drama, entitled *The Haunted Grange,* or *The Heart and the Key.* This piece abounds with striking effects, and thrilling incidents, and affords ample scope for the talents of Messrs. Lyons, R. Honnor, Gaston, Mrs. Honnor, and others of the *corps dramatique.* The scenery is splendid, and the performers appeared to vie with each other in emulation. The audience retired well pleased with the night's enjoyment, which was further heightened by the satisfaction that they had served their friend and brother John J. Fussell.

ASTLEY'S.

The Affghanistan War (the revival of which we noticed last week) continues to attract crowded and delighted audiences. The scenes in the circle are of a superior character, and enlivened by the drolleries of the rival clowns, Barry and Wheal. Mdlle Gardoni received well-merited applause for her elegant exercises on the tight rope. The laughable farce of the *Lottery Ticket* concluded the entertainments on Tuesday evening.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

A series of lectures on the chemistry of hydrogen, with especial reference to its application for conveying by balloons pyrotechnic and other signals to Sir John Franklin, has just been commenced by Mr. Pepper, chemical professor at this establishment. The materials and construction of the balloons were first noticed; as they might be made of oiled silk, gold-beaters' skin, or prepared paper: the latter was preferred, because, with ordinary care, it lasted very well, and had the great additional advantage of cheapness. A five-feet gold-beaters' skin balloon cost £10, whilst a dozen paper ones could be made for £3 16s.; thus the number of balloons to be sent might be increased, and the chances multiplied of some of the signals finding their way to the missing expedition. The chemical nature of hydrogen was then demonstrated by various experiments—its extraordinary lightness shown by comparison with coal gas. The buoy signals, to be used in case of distress by the searching party; the pyrotechnic signals by parachutes; the rocket signals, and Darby's arrangements for firing, are all clearly explained. The construction of the fusee or quick match employed, and its admirable principle (the argand), was likewise demonstrated; and it was shown that it would burn just as well for a few minutes as for several consecutive hours. The discourse was illustrated by numerous brilliant and appropriate experiments.

The Seven-mile Tunnel through the Alps.—The following details are gathered from Dr. Granville's paper, as promised. To give at once some idea of the boldness of Chev. Mons' undertaking, we may, in the first place, state that, in its progress, the tunnel must pass under some of the most elevated crests of Mount Cenis—one, in particular, where there will be 4,850 feet of mountain, capped with eternal glaciers, over head, at the middle of the tunnel, so that not only will the workmen and machinery in construction, and the passengers and trains in transit, be buried to that depth in the mountain, but all idea of shafts, either to facilitate excavation, or to promote ventilation, must be out of the question. The breath of life itself must be respired, from either extremity, with artificial aid, in shape of currents of fresh air transmitted, and of foul withdrawn, by mechanical apparatus ever at work, at least during excavation, which is also itself to be effected by machinery of a new and simple nature, worked by water power of mountain streams, whereby the trains are also to be run through the tunnel which ascends, from the northern or Savoy side, at Modane, all the way to its exit at Bardonneche, with a gradient equal to 19 in 1,000. The machine, once presented to the rock, projects into it simultaneously four horizontal series of sixteen scalpels, working backwards and forwards by means of springs cased in, and put in motion by the same water power. While these are at work, one vertical series on each side works simultaneously up and down, so that, together, they cut out four blocks, or rather insulate four blocks on all sides, except on the rock behind, from which they are afterwards detached by hand. It has been already ascertained that each of the two machines, at the opposite ends of the tunnel, will excavate to the extent of 22 feet a day, and it is estimated that the whole excavation will be completed in four years. The gallery to be perforated by the machines will be 13 feet wide by 7 feet high, and this once cut through, the bore will be enlarged by ordinary means to 25 feet in width and 19 feet in height, and a double line of rails laid. The estimated cost of this great tunnel is only 13,804,942f. (£552,197). It is to be immediately commenced at the north entrance.—*The Builder.*

Varieties.

Coleridge and the Jew.—The other day I was what you would call *floored* by a Jew. He passed me several times crying for old clothes, in the most nasal and extraordinary tone I ever heard. At last I was so provoked, that I said to him—"Pray, why can't you say 'old clothes' in a plain way, as I do now?" The Jew stopped, and looking gravely at me, said in a clear and even fine accent, "Sir, I can say 'old clothes' as well as you can; but if you had to say so ten times a minute, for an hour together, you would say '*Ogh Clo*' as I do now;" and so he marched off. I was so confounded with the justice of the retort, that I followed and gave him a shilling, the only one I had.—*Coleridge's Table Talk.*

Patience is very good, but perseverance is much better; while the former stands as a stoic under difficulties, the latter whips them out of the ring.

A Pretty Pickle.—A good lady, who had two children sick of the measles, went to a friend for the best remedy. Her friend had just received a note from another lady, inquiring the way to make certain pickles. In the confusion, the lady who inquired about the pickles received the remedy for the measles, while the anxious mother of the sick children read with horror the following:—"Scald them three or four times in very hot vinegar, sprinkle them well with salt, and in a few days they will be cured."

Soon after the Copernican system of astronomy began to be generally understood, an old farmer went to his parson with the following inquiry:—"Dr. T., do you believe in the new story they tell about the earth moving round the sun?" "Yes, certainly." "Do you think it is according to the Scriptures? If it's true, how could Joshua command the sun to stand still?" "Umph!" quoth the parson, "Joshua commanded the sun to stand still, did he?"—"Yes." "Well, it *stood still,* did it not?"—"Yes." "Very well. Did you ever hear that he *set it a going again?*"

A Gentleman being asked what article of trade was most adulterated, replied, "religion."

You can never overtake Time. It is best, therefore, to be always a few minutes before him.

New Digging Machine.—An implement has been invented by Mr. J. Hutchinson, of Market Hill, for digging the land by horse power. The machine consists of a hollow cylinder of iron, with spades attached to its surface at right angles to each other, and about one foot square apart. During our visit the machine was in use planting potatoes; it went along the furrow, with two women following, who dropped a set in each of the holes made by the implement, which one man easily covered with a broad wooden hoe. It was computed that as much work can be done by three hands with this machine, as by ten hands without it.—*Armagh Gazette.*

If a man be gracious and civil to a stranger, it shows he is a citizen of the world, and that his heart is no island cut from other lands, but a continent that joins them.

At an excellent hotel, not a hundred miles from Liverpool, they were one day short of a waiter, when a newly-arrived Hibernian was hastily made to supply the place of a more expert hand. "Now, Barney," said mine host; "mind you serve every man with soup, anyhow."—"Bedad I'll do that same," said the alert Barney. Soup came on the start, and Barney, after helping all but one guest, came upon the last one. "Soup, sir," said Barney.—"No soup for me," said the gent.—"But you must have it," said Barney, "it is the rules of the house."—"D——n the house," exclaimed the guest, highly exasperated; "when I don't want soup I won't eat it—get along with you."—"Well," said Barney, with solemnity, "all I can say is jest this; it's the regulations of the house, and the divil a drop else ye'll get till ye finish the soup!" The traveller then gave in, and the soup was gobbled.

One person abusing another in the presence of Churchill, the poet, said he was so extremely stupid that if you said a good word he could not understand it. "Pray, sir, did you ever try him?" said the poet.

At a public garden in the suburbs of London, a waiter, observing one of his master's customers bolting before his bill was paid, roared out to a brother attendant: "Run, run, Bob, there's two teas and a glass of brandy and water escaped over the fence—catch 'em."

A Glasgow youth walking with his sweetheart along Queen-street of that city, stopped at the door of a pastry-cook's shop, and addressing his lady-love, said, "Now, my dear, what will you take?" She, expecting to be treated to some of the good things of the shop, modestly replied, "I will take anything you like." "Then," says he, "we will take a walk," and marched past the shop.

The Poet Laureate was formerly called the king's versifier, and may be traced as far back as 1251, at which period his stipend was one hundred shillings per annum; it is now £100 a year. In the "History of English Poetry," Mr. Warton says, "In the reign of Edward IV. the first mention is made of the more dignified appellation of Laureate, which was originally bestowed on John Kay." Mr. Wharton is also of opinion that the title arose from the degrees taken at the University of Oxford, on which occasion a wreath of *laurel* was presented to the new graduate who was styled *Poeta Laureatus.*

"Jim, did you ever double the Cape of Good Hope?"—"I expect I have."—"When?"—"Last night, when I put my arm round the *cape* that belongs to the dress of the young lady that I have *good hopes* of making Mrs. Dusenberry."

Recently, a gentleman was accosted by a female vagrant, when he replied that he never gave to beggars in the street. "If I knew where your honour lived," quietly responded the woman, "I'd be calling at your house, and then I *shouldn't interfere with your arrangements!*"

It is understood that the gentleman called to the bar under the name of Mr. Sims Reeves is not the eminent tenor of that name, however singular the coincidence. The voice of the legal Reeves is a *barytone.*

A Gentleman one day observed to Henry Erskine, who was a great punster, that punning was the *lowest* of wit. "It is so," answered Erskine, "and therefore the *foundation* of all wit."

They debate strange questions down east. The last was—"What is the difference between the Bridge of Sighs, and the size of a bridge?" The next is to be—"The difference between a fac simile and a sick family."

Choosing a Husband.—An American sea captain had as a passenger a young lady of great personal attractions, and five young gentlemen, also passengers, and who, in the course of a short voyage, all fell desperately in love with the young lady. The young lady liking all the five young gentlemen equally well, felt herself placed in a position of some difficulty, and applied for some advice to the captain, who, being of an original turn of mind, proposed to the young lady that she should jump overboard, he having a well-manned boat alongside, to prevent the possibility of accident, and that she should marry the man who jumped in after her. She was very much struck by it, and it being summer time and fine weather, and naturally fond of bathing, decided to accept the proposition. Accordingly, on a certain morning, when her five admirers were all on deck, she went over the side head foremost. Four of the five immediately plunged in after her, and said the young lady to the captain, when they were all on deck again, "What am I to do now? see how wet they are." Said the captain to the young lady, "Take the dry one," which she did.

What part of a ship is like a farmer?—The tiller.

Depths of the European Seas.—In the neighbourhood of the Continent the seas are often shallow and their bottom seems to be only the continuation by gentle slopes, of the relief of the continents which border them. Thus the Baltic Sea has a depth of only 120 feet between the coasts of Germany and those of Sweden—scarcely a twentieth part of that of Lago-Maggiore near the Italian Alps; farther north it becomes deeper. The Adriatic, between Venice and Trieste, has a depth of only 100 feet. In these two cases we see that the bed is only the continuation of the gentle inclination of the plains of Northern Germany and of Friuli. It is the same with the Northern Sea, and with those which wash the British Islands. Here is found a submarine plateau, which serves as a common basis for the coasts of France and the British Islands; nowhere does it sink lower than 600 feet, and frequently it rises much higher. Between France and England the greatest depth does not exceed 300 feet; but at the edge of the plateau, (south-west of Ireland, for example,) the depth suddenly sinks to more than 2,000 feet; we may say that here the basin of the Atlantic really begins. The seas in the south of Europe are distinguished from the preceding by their much greater depths. The basin of the Mediterranean may be called a basin broken through and fallen in, resembling on a small scale what the Pacific Ocean is on a large one. All the short and abrupt slopes of the lands surrounding it fall rapidly towards the interior. The western basin, in particular, seems to be very deep; it is isolated from the Atlantic by a submarine ridge or neck, which, in the narrowest part of the Strait of Gibraltar, is not more than 1,000 feet below the surface. But a little farther towards the east the depth falls suddenly to 3,000 feet; and at the south of the coast of Spain and of the Sierra Nevada, a depth of 6,000 has been ascertained by Captain Smith. Captain Berare indicates still greater depths on the coast of Algeria. If we may believe Marsigli, and it he has not made some mistake in the statement, there has been found in the prolongation of the Pyrenees the enormous depth of 9,000 feet. *Not far from Cape Asinara,* on the north-west of Sardinia, the plummet has been sunk, without touching bottom, at a depth of nearly 5,000 feet.—*Guyot's Earth and Man.*

Military Savings Banks.—According to a return made to parliament and printed on Tuesday, the number of depositors to military savings banks on the 31st of March, 1849, was 6,747, of which 5,756 belong to the cavalry and infantry, and 991 in the ordnance corps. The total amount of the fund for military savings banks, up to the 14th March last was £90,666 6s. 4½d.

AMONG THE MANY DISCOVERIES that characterise the present age, none have contributed so much to the comfort and ease of the community, nor conferred such a boon upon suffering humanity, as the important discovery of Blair's Gout and Rheumatic Pills, the efficacy of which has been tested by the approval and recommendation of many of the greatest men of our day. They are effective for gout and rheumatism in all its various forms, including sciatica, lumbago, pains in the head and face, frequently treated as toothache, &c. They require neither confinement nor attention of any kind, and invariably prevent the disease attacking the stomach, brain, or other vital part: in testimony of which Mr. Blake, Kingscliffe, Northamptonshire, writes—

'Twelve years ago I became afflicted with rheumatic gout. I procured the best advice possible, but without deriving benefit; and the doctors recommended me to go to the Stamford Infirmary, where I continued twelve weeks and left it without obtaining any benefit, and all my hope of relief had vanished. This hopeless state of things continued until a friend advised me to try Blair's Pills. I then lost no time in sending to Mr. Mortlock, of Stamford, for a box; and by the time I had taken that quantity I got rid of one crutch. I then sent for another box, which enabled me to throw away the other; and thank God I have never since had such an attack. *I am much exposed to cold;* but whenever I feel symptoms of attack, I have recourse to the pills with universal success. I recommended the pills to a gentleman, who resides in this neighbourhood, and he has derived the most essential relief therefrom, and is now never without them.'

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Brother Chartists!

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W. H. Willis, Acton, writes; 'I am quite cured now. I had suffered from gravel and pains in the back and loins. I consider them a great blessing.'

Mrs. Edney, Hackney, writes: 'They cured my scrofulous eruption after all other medicines had failed.'

Mr. Smith, Henley:—'I purchased lately from a fellow styling himself Dr., who is evidently an ignorant quack, what I suppose is intended as an imitation of your excellent Purific Pills, and having found it of no effect, I was sceptical of relief till I tried yours, which I feel convinced only require to be known to become extensively patronised.

Address Dr. Alfred Barker, 48, Liverpool-street, King's-cross, London, where he may be consulted daily from 9 till 1 mornings, and 5 till 9 evenings; Sundays 9 till 1.

CAUTION.—Sufferers are earnestly cautioned against dangerous quacks, who have impudently assumed the title of Doctor, and dared to infringe the proprietor's right by advertising a spurious compound under another name, the use of which can only bring annoyance and disappointment.

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Cure of a Case of Weakness and Debility, of Four Years' Standing.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. William Smith of No. 5, Little Thomas-street, Gibson-street, Lambeth, dated the 12th December, 1849.

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Sir,—I have the pleasure to inform you that many extraordinary cures of Asthma have been effected here by means of your pills. One is that of a lady residing near the 'Razorback,' who after having for twenty years been unable to make the slightest exertion, suffering very fearfully from shortness of breath, coughing, and spitting, but is now, to use her own expression, able to run up to the top of that mountain. Another case is that of Mr. Caton, tailor, Hutchinson's-buildings, Clarence-street, who was so dreadfully bad that he was confined entirely to his bed-room for six months prior to his commencing with your pills, and attended regularly by his medical man, who pronounced him to be in a dying state, yet he, likewise, to my knowledge, has been restored to perfect health by the use of your pills, and rubbing your ointment night and morning into his chest.—(Signed) J. K. Heydon.—To Professor Holloway.

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

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

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Fits	Sore Throats	

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Patrons.—T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P. T. Wakley, Esq., M.P. B. Cabbell, Esq., M.P.
F. O'Connor, Esq., M.P. Luke James Hansard, Esq.

The Society is divided into six sections, to meet the necessities and requirements of all classes of mechanics and labourers, from fifteen years of age to forty-five. This Society consists of above two thousand members, and has a funded capital of 2,622*l.* 16s. 9d.; having paid the following sums for benefits since its formation:—Sickness, 5,736*l.* 5s. 10d. Funerals, 1,382*l.* Superannuation, 30*l.* 0s. 4d. Fire, 36*l.* 16s. 5½d.—Total, 7,159*l.* 2s. 7½d.

The following is the SCALE OF FEES to be paid at entrance: 3s. must be paid when admitted, and the remainder can extend over a period of six months, to be paid with the subscriptions, monthly, if desired:—

Age	1st section.	2nd section.	3rd section.	4th section.	5th section.	6th section.
From 15 to 32	£0 5s. 2d.	£0 4s. 8d.	£0 4s. 2d.	£0 3s. 8d.	£0 3s. 2d.	£0 2s. 2d.
— 32—36	0 7 2	0 6 8	0 6 2	0 5 8	0 5 2	not admitted
— 36—40	0 10 2	0 9 8	0 9 2	0 8 8	0 8 2	over
— 40—45	1 1 2	1 0 2	0 19 8	0 19 2	0 18 2	twenty years

WEEKLY ALLOWANCE IN SICKNESS AND SUPERANNUATION.			MEMBER'S DEATH.—WIFE'S OR NOMINEE'S DEATH.		
First Section	18s. 0d.	6s. 0d.	First Section	£20 0 0	£10 0 0
Second ditto	15 0	6 0	Second ditto	16 0 0	8 0 0
Third ditto	11 0	4 0	Third ditto	12 0 0	6 0 0
Fourth ditto	9 0	4 0	Fourth ditto	10 0 0	5 0 0
Fifth ditto	7 0	4 0	Fifth ditto	6 0 0	3 0 0
Sixth ditto	7 0	none.	Sixth ditto	2 10 0	none

LOSS BY FIRE.—In all the Divisions (with the exception of the Sixth) £10.
Monthly contributions to ensure the above benefits.

	Under 30 years of age.		Under 40.		Under 45.	
First Division	3s. 7½d.	General Expenses including Postage, &c., 1½d. Monthly.	3s. 10½d.	Insurance in case of fire, can be raised to 15*l.*, 1½d. a month extra, or 20*l.* 3d. a month.	3s. 5½d.	4d. a month for Medical Attendance and Medicine.
Second ditto	3 0		3 2½		3 7	
Third ditto	2 4		2 6		2 10	
Fourth ditto	2 0		2 2		2 5½	
Fifth ditto	1 8		1 10		2 1	
Sixth ditto	1 3					

Youthful, Gift, Widow and Orphans' Funds extra, for which, see the rules.

Agencies are established in many of the principal Towns throughout the Kingdom, and agents are required in all parts, to whom a liberal allowance is made. Every information can be obtained, by application to the Secretary, at the Office of the Society, 13, Tottenham-court, New-road (thirteen doors from the top of Tottenham-court-road), St. Pancras, London.

Persons in the Country applying for Rules can have them forwarded, by enclosing twelve postage stamps, and if for form of application, or information, three stamps must be enclosed.

Daniel William Ruffy, General Secretary.

ALSO THE

BRITISH EMPIRE FREEHOLD LAND AND BUILDING SOCIETY.

On an Advance your Rent is Saved—you become your own Land and Householder.
Patrons.—T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P. T. Wakley, Esq., M.P. B. B. Cabbell, Esq., M.P. L. J. Hansard, Esq.
Bankers.—The Commercial Bank of London (Branch) 6, Henrietta Street, Covent-Garden,
Chairman of Directors.—George W. M. Reynolds, Esq.
London Office.—No. 13, Tottenham Court, New Road, St. Pancras, London.—Daniel William Ruffy, Secretary.

Arranged in Three Sections.—Value of Shares and Payment for Investers.

Full Share	£120—payment of 2s. 5½d. per Week, or 10s. 6d. per Month.
Half Share	60	1 2¾ 5 3
Quarter Share	30	0 7½ 2 8

Applicants are requested to state in their form the Section they desire to be a Member of.

No Surveyors', Solicitors', or Redemption Fees.—The present Entrance Fee, including Certificate, Rules, &c., is 4s. per Share, and 2s. 6d. for any part of a share. Price of Rules, including Postage, 1s.

OBJECTS.

1st.—To enable members to build Dwelling Houses.

2nd.—To afford the means of purchasing both Freehold and Leasehold Properties or Land.

3rd.—To advance Mortgages on Property held by members.

4th.—To enable Mortgagers being members to redeem their Mortgages.

5th.—To give to Depositing Members a higher rate of interest than is yielded by ordinary modes of investment.

6th.—To enable Parents to make Endowments for their Children, or Husbands for their Wives, or for Marriage Settlements.

7th.—To purchase a piece of Freehold Land of sufficient value to give a legal title to a County Vote for Members of Parliament.

Section I.—By joining this section every person in town or country can become the proprietor of a House and Land in his own neighbourhood, without being removed from his friends, connexions, or the present means himself and family may have of gaining a livelihood.

Section II.—To raise a capital by shares to purchase Estates, erect Dwellings thereon, and divide the Land into allotments from half-an-acre upwards, in or near the towns of the various branches of the society. The property to be the bona fide freehold of the member after a term of seven years, from the date of location, according to his subscriptions.

Section III.—Saving or Deposit section, in which members not wishing to purchase are enabled to invest small sums, receiving interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum, on every sum of 10s. and upwards so deposited.

N.B.—£500 will be advanced to the members of the first Section in November next, when all persons who have and may become members for shares, or parts of shares, on or before the 4th of November next, and who pay six months' subscriptions in advance, or otherwise, will be eligible for an advance.

EMIGRATION.

THE BRITISH EMPIRE PERMANENT EMIGRATION AND COLONISATION SOCIETY,

To secure to each Member a FARM of not less than Twenty-five Acres of Land in AMERICA,
By Small Weekly or Monthly Contributions.
London Office:—13, Tottenham Court, New-road, St. Pancras.—D. W. Ruffy, Secretary.

OBJECTS.

To purchase a large tract of Land in the Western States of America, upon which to locate Members, giving twenty-five acres to each Share subscribed for.

To erect Dwellings, and clear a certain portion of the Land on each allotment, previous to the arrival of the allottees.

To provide for the location of groups, holding the Land in common, as well as for individuals, securing to each their collective and separate rights and immunities.

To purchase in large quantities, for the common benefit, all necessary live and dead stock, and other requisites, supplying each member on location with the quantity required at cost price.

To establish a depot, from which to provide each family with the required quantity of wholesome food, until their own land produced sufficient for their support.

VALUE OF SHARES.

Each Share to be of the ultimate Value of Twenty-five Pounds.
To be raised by Monthly or Weekly Subscriptions, as follows:—
A Payment of Ninepence per Week for Ten Years will amount to 19*l* 10s. Bonus, 5*l.* 10s.
Ditto Sixpence per Week for Fifteen Years will amount to 19*l.* 10s. Bonus, 5*l.* 10s.
Repayments may be made to the Society in Money, Produce, or Labour.

Prospectuses, Rules, Forms of Application for Shares, and every other information, may be had at the Office as above. All applications by Letter, addressed to the Secretary, must be pre-paid, and enclose a postage stamp for reply. By enclosing twelve postage stamps a Copy of the Rules will be forwarded, post free. Forms of Entrance by enclosing three postage stamps. Agents required in all parts of Great Britain.

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

	MEMBERS DEATH. £ s. d.	WIFE'S DEATH. £ s. d.
First Section	15 0 0	7 10 0
Second Section	10 0 0	5 0 0
Third Section	5 0 0	3 0 0

MONTHLY CONTRIBUTIONS.

First Section, 3s. 6d. .... Second Section, 2s. 4d. .... Third Section, 1s. 2d.

The Society meets every Monday evening, at the Two Chairmen, Wardour-street, Soho, Middlesex, where every information can be had, and members enrolled. Country friends, applying for rules, can have them forwarded, by enclosing four postage-stamps.

Members of the late Co-operative Benefit Society, who have paid all dues and demands up to the 25th December, 1849, can at once be transferred to either section of the National Benefit Society, without any extra charge.

Agents and sub-secretaries of the late National Co-operative Benefit Society, are requested to immediately inform the General Secretary of the number of members likely to transfer to the National Benefit Society; and parties wishing to become agents, or to form branches of the new society, can be supplied with every information, on application to the Secretary, by enclosing a postage-stamp for an answer.

James Grassby, General Secretary, 93, Regent-street, Lambeth.

DEAFNESS.—Important Notice.—Mr. FRANCIS, the eminent aurist, who has devoted his attention solely to DISEASES of the EAR, continues to effect the most astonishing cures in all those inveterate cases which have long been considered hopeless, and of thirty or forty years standing, enabling the patient to hear a whisper, without pain or operation, effectually removing deafness, noises in the head, and all diseases of the aural canal. Mr. F. attends daily from 10 until 6, at his consulting rooms, 6, Beaufort-buildings, Strand, London. Persons at a distance can state their case by letter. Advice to the poor, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 6 till 8 in the evening.

MINERS' MEETING.

THE MINERS intend to hold a PUBLIC MEETING on Shadon Hill, near Newcastle-on Tyne, on Saturday, June 15th, when it is expected that the whole of the Colliers of Northumberland and Durham, will turn out to a man.

The Meeting will be addressed by various Miners, who will expose the gross tyranny and oppression which prevails at the present time, and lay down some general plan calculated to emancipate the whole of the mining body.

F. O'Connor, Esq., M.P., has been invited, and will attend, if possible.

THE ONLY CURE FOR RUPTURE
Incidental to Men, Women, and Children.

TRUSSES.—It is a well-known fact, that of all the ills that flesh is heir to, none suffer from prejudice so much as those afflicted with Hernia, different kinds of Trusses being required to meet the peculiarities of each case, and as the majority of Truss-makers are strongly prejudiced to their own inventions they use them to the exclusions of all others. Thus it is that the ruptured public are obliged to visit numerous Truss-makers before being suited. Now the undersigned, a practical maker, having been twenty years in the trade, and well acquainted with the virtues and failings of every Truss extant, earnestly invites a visit from the afflicted, when he will exhibit to them the real cause of their discomfiture, and agree not to receive one penny until complete satisfaction is given, the most hopeless and desperate cases not excepted; with which latter J. G. has been eminently successful, from his impartial system of adaptation.

Persons suffering from ruptures will do well to pay Mr. G. a visit after they have been victimised by Quacks, who profess to have remedies, it being known by the whole Profession that no rupture can be cured without a Truss adapted to the case.

Every variety of trusses and bandages can be had at the lowest possible prices:—Best plain truss, 5s.; Ody's expired patent, 8s.; Coles's expired patent, 10s.; Eggs, or German truss, 17s.; Suspensory Bandages—cotton, 2s.; silk, 3s. 6d.

The following are authentic testimonials, the originals of which may be seen, and the parties communicated with if required:—

Sir,—I told you that I had been afflicted with ruptures about ten years, in that time my sufferings in mind and body have been inconceivable. I have spent considerable sums of money in trusses, but never had a day or scarcely an hour free from pain, till I got a truss from you, that I am now wearing. You are quite at liberty to make what use you please of this letter, and I shall be happy at any time to certify to the superiority of your truss.—I am, Sir, yours most gratefully, Henry Randall, York Town, near Bagshot, March 26th, 1850.

Sir,—I enclose you a Post-office Order, which pays for the truss I had of you, which please acknowledge per return of post. It fits well, and I am very fond of it. Instead of being a burden, as all the others have been, it is a perfect luxury.—Yours respectively, John Milner, Pickering, March 14th, 1850.

I hereby certify that I have examined the truss made by Mr. Garrett for Mr. Nixon, and find that it very perfectly succeeds in supporting the hernia, after he had ineffectually tried all the truss makers in London, and used every remedy advertised.—William Hustable, Hackney, Surgeon Sep. 18th, 1849.

To Mr. Garrett, Truss maker, 33, Wardour-street, London.

Sir,—I gratefully acknowledge the benefit I received from your truss. I was persuaded to try Ody's. I did so—it caused me dreadful pain. I left it off and got one of yours, that I now wear. I go through very great fatigue, yet your truss not only keeps up the rupture perfectly, but it is so light and easy that I frequently forget I am ruptured at all. I believe your truss to be the best, and I feel it a great mercy I came to know you, for by it I am made comfortable at my great age—between seventy and eighty years.—Yours respectfully, Thomas Brooks, blacking and ink-maker, 11, Brook-street, Regent's-park.

To Mr. Garrett, Practical and Scrotal Bandage Manufacturer, London.

My Dear Sir,—I feel happy to inform you the Scrotal Bandage you made for me has exceeded my most sanguine expectations; my countenance, formerly sallow, is now become of a healthy and ruddy hue. My rupture is of many years continuance, and, through wearing inferior trusses, caused it to pass into the scrotum. Accept, my dear sir, my warmest thanks for what you have been the successful instrument of accomplishing for me. If there are any of my fellow-creatures similarly afflicted, I would, by all means, urge them to apply to you as the Practical Maker of Trusses and Scrotal Bandages. I bear my feeble testimony, and shall be happy to give any particulars to those who may be desirous of inquiry, and to whom I can write with less reserve than to yourself.—I am, dear sir, yours most gratefully, John Cooper, Dissenting Minister, Long Sutton, May 22nd, 1850.

J. GARRETT, 33, Wardour-street, Oxford-street, London.

DO YOU WANT BEAUTIFUL AND LUXURIANT HAIR, WHISKERS, &c.?

THE Immense Public Patronage bestowed upon Miss Ellen Graham's NIOUKRENE is sufficient evidence of its amazing properties in reproducing the human hair, whether lost by disease or natural decay, preventing the hair falling off, strengthening weak hair, and checking greyness. It is guaranteed to produce Whiskers, Moustachios, &c., in three weeks, without fail. It is elegantly scented, and sufficient for three months' use will be sent free, on receipt of 24 postage stamps, by MISS ELLEN GRAHAM, 6, Ampton-street, Gray's-inn-road, London. Unlike all other preparations for the hair, it is free from artificial colouring and filthy greasiness, well known to be so injurious to it.

AUTHENTIC TESTIMONIALS.

'My hair is restored, thanks to your very valuable Nioukrene.'—Miss Mane, Kennington.

'I tried every other compound advertised, and they are all impositions: your Nioukrene has produced the effect beautifully.'—Mr. James, St. Albans.

'Your Nioukrene is the most elegant preparation I have ever analysed, being free from colouring matter and injurious scent. The stimulant is excellent.'—Dr. John Thompson, author of a treatise on the human hair, and professor of chemistry.

For the nusery it is invaluable, its Balsamic Properties being admirably adapted to Infants' Hair.

WHY NOT WALK WITH EASE?

Soft and Hard Corns and Bunions may be instantly relieved and permanently cured by Miss Graham's PLOMBINE, in three days. It is sent free for Thirteen Postage Stamps.

'It cured my corns like magic.'—Mr. Johns, Hounslow.

'My bunion has not appeared since.'—Mrs. Sims, Truro.

ENEMIES IN THE CAMP!!

Brother Chartists Beware!!

RUPTURES EFFECTUALLY AND PERMANENTLY CURED WITHOUT A TRUSS!!

CAUTION.—Sufferers are earnestly cautioned against youthful impudent quacks, who copy this announcement, assume foreign names, adopt various addresses, forge testimonials, place Dr. before their names, make assertions, the most extravagant and absurd, and have recourse to the basest practises to victimise the public.

EVERY SUFFERER FROM RUPTURE (Single or Double, and of every variety) is earnestly invited to write, or pay Dr. BARKER a visit, as in every case he guarantees them a perfect cure.

During an extensive practice in many thousands of cases, his remedy has been entirely successful, as the testimonials he has received from patients, and many eminent members of the medical profession, amply prove. It is applicable to both sexes, old and young; easy and painless in use, and most certain in effect.

The remedy is sent post free on receipt of 6s. 6d. by post-office order, cash, or postage stamps, by Dr. ALFRED BARKER, 48, Liverpool-street, King's-Cross, London, where he may be consulted daily from 9 till 1, and 5 till 9; Sundays, 9 till 1.

Hundreds of testimonials and trusses have been left behind by persons cured, as trophies of the immense success of this remedy, which Dr. Barker will willingly give to any requiring them after a trial of it.

In every case, however bad or long standing, a cure is guaranteed.

It is presumed that the following *authentic* Testimonials can leave no doubt with sufferers that it is applicable to their cases:—'In the five cases I wrote to you about, the remedy has perfectly succeeded; send me another for a case of Scrotal Hernia.'—John Armstrong, Navy Surgeon. 'We have witnessed the cure of three cases of Rupture by Dr. Barker's treatment, which confirm the remarks we made some time since on the utility of this discovery to those suffering from Hernia.'—*Medical Journal.* 'Your remedy has cured my Rupture after everything else failed. I have used violent exertion since, but there is no sign of its coming down.'—Miss Symmonds, Bayswater. 'According to promise, I write to say the Hernia is quite cured.'—J. Tarrant, Oxford. 'A fair time has elapsed since I used your remedy, and moreover I have been examined by a surgeon, who declares it is quite cured.'—Mr. Potts, Bath. 'As I promised to let you know the result of the last package you sent me, I now do so. I used your remedy in four cases with perfect success.'—Mr. Owen, Surgeon, Hoddesdon. 'I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letters, and thank you for your kind attention. Your remedy has cured my Rupture.'—Mrs. Farrca, Woburn. 'Many thanks for your remedy; I have thrown away my truss, glad enough to get rid of the torture of it.'—G. Henrys, Chepstow. 'Your remedy has succeeded most triumphantly; no one has suffered more than I have with my Rupture.'—Mrs. Earnest, Hammersmith. 'It has quite cured my Rupture, after everything else had failed.'—Rev. W. Sinnett, Anglesea. 'My Rupture being twenty-eight years old, I really never expected so perfect a cure.'—Mr. Eldred, Grocer, Longthorpe. 'Mrs. Sims begs to inform Dr. Barker that his remedy has been successful.'—Willesden, Middlesex. 'It is now ten months since I used your remedy for Rupture, and I am glad to say I have gone through every sort of exertion, without the least re-appearance of it.'—J. Masters, Mill-street, Bedford. 'I am happy to bear testimony to your almost miraculous cure of my Rupture, being of twenty-nine years standing. I really never expected it.'—John Elvey, Tiverton, Devon.

TO THE EMBARRASSED.

THERE are thousands of persons who have long struggled against the force of misfortune, but few are aware that, by very recent Acts, all small traders owing debts not exceeding £300, farmers, private and professional gentlemen, and all others, owing to any amount (the latter without any publicity), can be entirely raised from their difficulties at small expense, and without imprisonment or bankruptcy. All such Mr. Weston begs will apply to him at 6, Essex-street, Strand, by letter, or personally.

Office hours from 10 till 2, and 6 till 8.

N.B.—The above Acts stay all Palace Court, County Court, and other proceedings. Clergymen need not submit to sequestrations.

EMIGRATION TO NORTH AMERICA.

W. TAPSCOTT AND CO., SHIPPING and Emigration Agents, Liverpool, continue to despatch First Class Ships—
To NEW YORK—every Five Days.
To NEW ORLEANS—every Ten Days.
To BOSTON and PHILADELPHIA—every Fifteen Days.
And occasionally to
BALTIMORE, CHARLESTON, SAVANNAH, QUEBEC, and St. JOHNS.

Drafts for any amount, at sight, on New York, payable in any part of the United States.

Tapscott's "Emigrant's Guide" sent free, on receipt of Four Postage Stamps.

☞ About twenty-eight thousand persons sailed for the New World, in Tapscott's line of American Packets, in 1849.

AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURES, TEETOTALISM,
The best of TRADES-UNIONS,
(A holy TRINITY-IN-UNITY.)

LAND, MOST FERTILE, £2 per acre, Cottages (two small rooms). £4; Double ditto, £8. One of the latter, which can be divided into two *two-roomed* ones (with large gardens each), and three acres of land, is all that remains in hand (with immediate possession,) for the accommodation of one or two more families. There is nothing to take to, and no payment in advance will be required from handicraftsmen of good character, who are pledged teetotallers.

The real blessings resulting from uniting Agriculture, Teetotalism, and Manufactures, are exhibited by the splendid crops raised by shoemakers, and other teetotallers, from Northampton, now to be seen on this estate, the property of a working gentleman, who owes a splendid fortune to teetotalism, and continues, nevertheless, to work hard every day of his life, from religious principles, and to improve the morals of society.

To view the Estates, apply to Mr. Page shoemaker (or any other of the Northampton families), Dibdin Hill, Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks, two miles from O'Connorville.

All letters to be addressed (post paid and enclosing a stamp) to Mr. Hallett, Plummers Farm, Colney Hatch, Middlesex, where a small working builder, and a brick and tile-kiln master may hear of something to their advantage, as extensive brick and tile making and building operations will be commenced after harvest on this valuable estate, on account of its being so near London, and close to a station of the London and York railway.

EMIGRATION TO GEORGIA, IRWIN COUNTY, UNITED STATES.

COTTON! COTTON!! COTTON!!!

Independence!—Self Government in Factories!—with Fixity of Working Hours!

The attention of Manufacturers and Operatives in Cotton of small capital is called to an extract from the New York Correspondent of the *Times*, dated 17th July, 1849, which says, relative to the State of Georgia—'Advantage has been taken of its extensive water power to establish cotton manufactories!' A fact not only true, but also that the returns making upon the capital invested in those factories average at the present time from twenty-five to thirty per cent. Why, therefore, do not the small Manufacturers and Operatives of Manchester and its vicinity, who now only obtain a precarious livelihood, club together their funds, while they have any, and proceed in a body to Irwin County, Georgia, where, if a number—say from 150 to 200 families, with capital sufficient to erect a mill—will proceed by the vessels of the advertiser in addition to the advantages he offers to the general emigrant, he will allow them to choose in the vicinity of their town allotments, free from all charge,

FIFTY ACRES OF LAND,

as a site whereon to erect such mill. The town in such case to be called

NEW MANCHESTER.

The frigate-built Ship, SURREY, 800 tons, Robert Jackson, Commander, examined and approved by her Majesty's Emigration Officers, will sail from the London Docks, London, on the 25th June. About the same time, an equally eligible vessel will be despatched from Liverpool.

Passages by either may be obtained on the following terms:—Each adult, with a steerage passage and provisions, with twenty acres of freehold land, and a quarter acre of town lot, with a shantee hut, 9 feet by 12, erected thereon, for Eleven guineas. Intermediate, with twenty acres, and a half an acre of town lot, with a shantee hut erected thereon, 12 feet square, for Eleven Guineas. A few cabin berths may be secured upon terms to be agreed on.

Passengers can be located upon their several town allotments from the port of debarkation (provisions included) for £2 2s. Children under fourteen years of age, 10s. 6d. each. Those who wish to avail themselves of this advantageous offer will have to notify the same on taking their passage. Man and wife, occupying the same birth, will not be required to take each twenty acres of land, but in such case the passage money for the wife will be subject to agreement. Same observation applies to children. Passengers will be required to find their own bedding.

The stores and provisions are supplied in accordance with liberal dietary scales, and are of the best qualities, and in all cases are examined and approved of before shipment by inspectors appointed for the special purpose.

A deposit of one-half of the passage money to be paid on engaging a berth, and the remaining half prior to the day of sailing. In no case will the deposit be refunded. Previous to the embarkation a certificate will be given, guaranteeing to the holder his twenty acres of freehold land, and the town allotment, with shantee hut erected thereon, which certificate will be exchanged for the title-deeds within as short a period as possible after he has made his selection. To prevent any misunderstanding that might arise as to the exact position or boundaries of the several town lots, the absolute power of deciding such will be vested in the Agent or Surveyor.

Every information may be obtained relative to the above, and a prospectus containing full particulars sent free, on receipt of two postage stamps, on application to

MR. RICHARD KEILY,

Georgian Emigration Office, No. 1, Royal Exchange-buildings, London; or to, WILLIAM HUTCHINSON and Co., Ship Brokers, No. 1, Riches-court, Lime-street, London.

RUIN OF PUBLICANS!
Just published, price 2s. or (free) by post for 25 postage stamps,

M. SOYER'S Recipes for Promoting HEALTH, HAPPINESS, & LONGEVITY,
By the use of his cooling, refreshing, wholesome Summer Drinks, all medically attested, and equally adapted for
CHILDHOOD, MANHOOD, and OLD AGE.

M. Soyer having long seen the necessity of more useful and wholesome beverages than beer, spirits, and the filthy compounds now sold as ginger beer, lemonade, &c, the dangerous character of which is amply testified by medical men, has been thereby induced to give this collection of most useful and beautiful *Recipes*, as he found the price of the various drinks he has from time to time invented, placed them beyond the reach of the million. The Recipes, however, are at the disposal of all, being cheap in themselves, composed of cheap materials easily obtained, (many of which being extensively adulterated by chemists, or if not adulterated sold at exorbitant prices, will be supplied at a mere nominal charge by M. S.). The prices accompany the Recipes.

EXTRACTS AND TESTIMONIALS.

Temperance Gazette.—"We are glad to find that M. Soyer has made another step in the right direction, the Recipes he supplies for 2s. (each of which we have tested) are the best of the kind, and ought to be in the possession of every one, male or female, teetotaller, or otherwise."

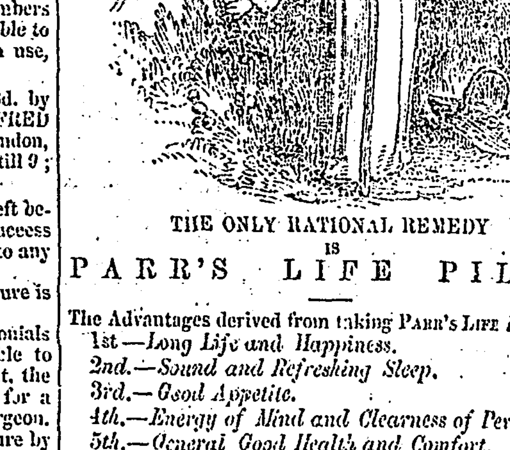
Dr. Macnamara, Kilaloe.—"They are invaluable; I and every one of my family use them regularly, and I have already extensively recommended them to my patients."

Rev. S. Roberts, Lanbrinmawr.—"If all who now drink beer or spirits, would only try your exquisite nectar and other recipes, I really think they would when thirsty drink nothing else."

Address, Mons. Soyer, 25, Lower Tarling-street, St. George's East, London.

CAUTION.—Purchasers are cautioned against spurious, useless imitations.

OLD PARR GATHERING HERBS.



THE ONLY RATIONAL REMEDY
IS
PARR'S LIFE PILLS.

The Advantages derived from taking Parr's Life Pills are:
1st.—*Long Life and Happiness.*
2nd.—*Sound and Refreshing Sleep.*
3rd.—*Good Appetite.*
4th.—*Energy of Mind and Clearness of Perception.*
5th.—*General Good Health and Comfort.*
6th.—*They are found, after giving them a fair trial for a few weeks, to possess the most Astonishing and Invigorating Properties.*

To have produced a medicine so benign and mild in its operation and effects, and yet so effectual in searching out and curing disease of however long standing, exhibits on the part of Old Parr deep research and a thorough knowledge of his subject.

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N.B.—A NEW THEORY.—A new and startling theory as regards the natural duration of human life, appears in a little book called 'The Extraordinary Life and Times of Thomas Parr,' generally called Old Parr; this little work, besides the said theory, contains much that is instructive and profitable as regards the means of ensuring good health, and may be obtained gratuitously of any agent for PARR'S LIFE PILLS.

Education for the Millions.

THIS DAY IS PUBLISHED,
No. II. of
"THE NATIONAL INSTRUCTOR."
PRICE ONE PENNY.

The object of the Proprietor, Feargus O'Connor, Esq., M.P., is to place within the reach of the poorest classes that Political and Social Information of which they are at present deprived by the Government "Taxes on Knowledge."

In addition to a serial history of the "Life and Adventures of Feargus O'Connor from his Boyhood," it will contain Essays by the best writers on all the leading Questions of the day, written in an earnest, honest, and impartial spirit; Tales and Sketches, illustrative of the working of our present Social and Political System; Reviews and abstracts of New Books of a useful and instructive character, and Miscellaneous Information, suited alike for the amusement and instruction of the fireside.

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1. Address.
2. The Secret.
3. Progress and Effects of Steam-Driven Machinery.
4. Life and Adventures of Feargus O'Connor.
5. English Poets: William Wordsworth.
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SECOND YEAR OF
THE DEMOCRATIC REVIEW OF BRITISH AND FOREIGN POLITICS, HISTORY AND LITERATURE.
Edited by G. JULIAN HARNEY.

This day is published No. 13, being the first number of Vol. II. of this monthly exponent of Democratic and Social Progress.

The contents of the number for June include a letter from the Editor on the Conspiracy in France to destroy *Universal Suffrage*; *Tactics and Programme of the Counter-Revolutionists*; articles on Democracy, Mazzini's work on the Popedom, &c. &c. This number also contains certain letters excluded from the *Northern Star*, including the Editor's defence of Chartism, in reply to a Renegade's Revelations; with other matter important and interesting to the Chartists, and all friends to Democratic and Social Reform.

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JULIAN HARNEY'S NEW PUBLICATION.

On Saturday, June 22nd, will be published, PRICE ONE PENNY, No. I. of

THE RED REPUBLICAN:
Edited by G. JULIAN HARNEY,
Assisted by several able and popular writers—British and Foreign.

This periodical, which is to be published weekly, will prove a staunch champion and a faithful organ of true democratic progress, and will fearlessly advocate the interests, and assert the rights, of the proletarians.

⁂ Further particulars will be announced in future advertisements.

NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION.
OFFICES, 14, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND, LONDON.

The Provisional Committee of the NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION hereby give notice,

That those friends who are desirous of forming localities can be supplied with Cards of Membership and Rules, by applying to the General Secretary, John Arnott, as above, from nine till two o'clock, daily (Sundays excepted), and on Monday evenings from seven to nine o'clock: if by letter, prepaid. All applications by letter will receive the most prompt attention.

Notice is also given that all the receipts for the Cards issued, must be forwarded monthly, per Post Office Order, made payable to John Arnott, at the Post Office, Strand, and addressed to him at the Office of the Association, 14, Southampton Street, Strand, London.

On Tuesday Evening, June 4th, a public meeting will be held at the LITERARY, AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTE, JOHN-STREET, TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD, for the purpose of Reviewing the recent Proceedings in Parliament.

G. W. M. Reynolds, J. B. O'Brien, and other friends to Democratic and Social Reform, will attend and address the meeting.

Chair to be taken at eight o'clock.
ADMISSION FREE.
Signed on behalf of the Committee,
John Arnott, General Secretary.

DESTRUCTION OF UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE!
THE FRATERNAL DEMOCRATS
Hereby convene a
PUBLIC MEETING,

To be held on MONDAY EVENING NEXT, at the LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION, JOHN-STREET, FITZROY-SQUARE; for the purpose of reviewing the treasonable acts of the French Assembly, as manifested in the passing of the Electoral Law for the destruction of Universal Suffrage.

☞ All the leading advocates of Democratic and Social Reform residing in the metropolis have been invited, and are expected to take part in the proceedings.

Chair to be taken at eight o'Clock precisely.
ADMISSION FREE.
G. Julian Harney, Secretary.

MONIES RECEIVED,
For the Week Ending Thursday,
May 30, 1850.

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Received by John Arnott, Secretary.—Mr. J. Lewis Lantwit Vardre 2s—Land Office, per T. Clark 4s 11d.

To Correspondents.

Nottingham.—J. Sweet acknowledges the receipt of the following sums, sent herewith, viz.:—For Honesty Fund:—Mr. Mellors 3d. —— For Mrs. Fussell.—Mr. Chipindale 1s.

Newtown, Peterboro'.—E. Scholey begs to acknowledge the following sums for Honesty Fund:—Per A. Batterham's Book: Eye 4s 6d; Thorney 3s.

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Mrs. Heath, Greenwich.—Send the advertisement duty to Mr. Rider; the bill can then appear as an advertisement.

John Nicol, Thornley Colliery.—You had better send a copy of your letter to us to a well known London publisher with a portion of your work. It is not the office of a weekly paper to purchase, but to criticise the merit of the work when published, and recommend it to its readers.

Portraits of Patriots.

The readers of the "Northern Star," and the Democratic party generally, are informed, that there is now a re-issue of the various Steel engravings lately distributed with the "Northern Star." They consist of

Kossuth,	Meagher,
Louis Blanc,	Mitchel,
Ernest Jones,	Smith O'Brien,
Richard Oastler,	John Frost.

These Engravings have excited the admiration of every one who has seen them. They are faithful portraits, and are executed in the most brilliant style. Price Fourpence each.

There has also been a reprint of the under-mentioned portraits, which have been given away at different times with the "Northern Star," and which are striking likenesses, and executed in the most brilliant manner—

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Patrick O'Higgins,	F. O'Connor,
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There is also a re-issue of the two large prints,

"THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF 1839."
"THE PRESENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PETITION, by Mr. DUNCOMBE, in 1842."

To be had of J. Pavey, Holywell-street.

MAGNIFICENT ENGRAVING

A splendid Steel Engraving—being a Portrait of each American President, from General Washington to the present President, Zachary Taylor—is now preparing for our subscribers, and will be ready for delivery to agents about the end of the present month. To prevent disappointment, and to ensure early impressions, orders should be forwarded immediately.

NOTICE.

I am instructed to request that all monies subscribed for the "Honesty" and "Macnamara" Funds be sent *direct to the* "Star" *office*, in order to obviate a complication of accounts.

Wm. Rider.

MR. O'CONNOR'S TOUR.

I have had so many letters, requesting me to name days for attending meetings at different Towns, that I must give answers to all through the medium of the "Northern Star." I shall be at Glasgow on the 6th, and remain there till the Conference is over. I shall be at Paisley on the 7th, and wherever the Committee has appointed on the 8th and 9th. On the 10th, I shall be at Edinburgh, and, as requested, shall attend the open-air meeting there. I shall be at Carlisle on the 12th; at Newcastle on the 13th—not on the 14th, as stated to me in Martin Jude's letter. I shall be at Sunderland on the 14th, and at the Miners' Meeting referred to in the letter of Martin Jude, upon the 15th; and, in reply to my Huddersfield friends, I beg to assure them that I have not forgotten them, and that I will name a day in next week's "Star" when I shall be with them.

Feargus O'Connor.
Friday Morning.

I only this moment received the invitation of my Loughborough friends, and in reply beg to inform them, that I will have great pleasure in visiting their town, and no objection to an open-air meeting.

F. O'C.

THE NORTHERN STAR.

SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1850.

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC IN DANGER.

The prospects of Democracy grow gloomier in France. The differences which separated the various sections of the reactionary party, have been arranged, and the whole of their forces have been combined in the attack upon the Constitution and the Republic. It is now certain that the Disfranchising Bill will pass into a law, under circumstances which will strike off, at least, one half of the voters who made Louis Napoleon President, while it will place the other half almost completely at the control of the wealthy classes. The Republic itself, is intended to follow the destruction of electoral rights. It is confidently stated the bargain is struck between the Legitimists and the Orleanists, and a restoration of the Bourbon dynasty determined upon, whenever time and circumstances will permit. It is understood that the negotiations which have for some time been carried on between the two branches of the Bourbon family who have been disinherited from the throne of France, have terminated in a treaty by which the young son of the Duc d'Orleans, in whose favour Louis Philippe abdicated in 1848, will be adopted by the Duc de Bourdeaux, the presumptive Henry V. of the older branch, as his successor. The united Bourbons are the masters of the situation, as it is said that Changarnier, at the head of the army, is their supporter. As to the "President," it is proposed to buy him off by the revival of the princely post of Constable of France, with the *appanage* of Rambouillet, and a pension of a million of francs. If he declines this offer, the dynastic coalition mean to take advantage of his pecuniary difficulties, and to place him in a position which will prove equally ruinous to him in his public or private capacity.

The plot of the conspirators is complete, and events ripen rapidly in their favour. Yet, even in this apparently hopeless and desperate position of the people's cause, we are not without faith in the noble democracy of France. They have too frequently, within the present century, shown themselves a match for all the combined powers of despotism for us to feel otherwise than confident in their *ultimate triumph. After so long a trial* of a peaceable Republic, and experience of the use of constitutional weapons, with the great mass of the people thoroughly Republican in heart and feeling, to restore the Monarchy in that country seems to us to be as dangerous as it would be to seat oneself on a cask of gunpowder with a lighted cigar. An explosion must take place.

The conduct of the tyrant Majority in the Assembly, during the debates on the Electoral Bill, has been of the most ferocious and infamous character. President Dupin has out-Heroded Herod in the disgraceful and unparalleled abuse of the privileges of his position. His name will go down to posterity—if such a *wretch* is remembered at all—as one of the most unprincipled and shameless bullies that ever disgraced a judicial or administrative position.

The speakers in favour of the Disfranchising Bill, did not even stoop to the hypocrisy of justifying that measure on plausible constitutional grounds. They one and all preached open war with the Constitution and the Republic. They did not want either reason, justice, or conciliation—but brute force; and it is almost impossible—except by personal perusal of their violent and unreasoning harangues—to form an idea of the furious fanaticism by which they are animated. M. de Montalembert—the head of the religious party in France—described the bill as the first step "of the new Roman expedition which it was necessary to make into the interior of France." Socialism is to be crushed as Louis XIV. caused his dragonades to destroy the Protestants of the Cevennes—by the sword, by open war. Yet, when M. Arago calmly rose and complained that such a speech was giving a provocation to civil war, the scoundrel who presided, started up, bullied and insulted the representative of the people who gave utterance to an observation so just, and clearly called for. Even our infamous Jeffries—immortal and transcendent in the list of truculent, remorseless, and violent villains—never exhibited, during his bloody campaign after the unsuccessful rebellion of Monmouth, more foul-mouthed insolence. It is not to individuals, but to the whole of the large party called the Mountain, that these outrageous insults—which make an Englishman's blood boil—are habitually offered by this ruffian. All the ordinary conventionalities of deliberative assemblies—all the standing orders by which they are governed—are either ruthlessly violated, or become in his hands mere instruments of relentless tyranny and injustice. M. Thiers made as warlike and insulting a speech as Montalembert; and, among other false and foul aspersions on the character and conduct of what he contemptuously styled "the mob," accused them of having hauled down Napoleon's statue, and dragged it it by the neck with a cord. M. Napoleon Buonaparte rose up to do an act of historical justice and filial piety, and to refute the falsehood on the spot. He stood up in his place and said it was not the Democracy of Paris who precipitated the statue of Napoleon from its column, but the Royalists—the despot allies—who hurled him from his throne. But President Dupin could not bear that even this justice should be done to the memory and the popularity of the Emperor. He furiously pronounced the censure against his young relative, for having told the truth in the teeth of the practised and veteran liar who thus maligned the people. These are specimens of the treatment experienced by the Minority of the Assembly; while engaged in defending the Constitution. With another sample we close the disgusting exhibition. On Monday afternoon, Pierre Leroux—one of the ablest and most earnest of the Socialist party—alluded, in the course of his speech, to *Robespierre* and *Marat*, as "illustrious citizens." He was thereupon baited by a crowd of the infuriated Majority, who bawled out to him from the foot of the tribune, that "he lied," and that "his heroes were infamous scoundrels." What was the protection of M. President Dupin against such a gross infraction of all the decencies of debate? Why, he sided with the assailants. He, forsooth, could not allow the hon. member to apply the term "illustrious" to "a couple of atrocious villains!"

If the people of France and their leaders are ever again driven into a revolt, will not all these scalding, searing insults—these monstrous violations of every principle that should guide the intercourse of men pretending to be civilised, rise up in fearful judgment against the parties who thus perpetrate the most atrocious crimes against society? If, in "the wild justice of revenge," the masses should remember the burning provocations they and their advocates have received to violence, and retaliate in a similar spirit, the Press of the despots will ring from one end of Europe to the other, with execrations of their violence. At present—while these disgraceful proceedings are going on—they are either silent, or hound on their allies to more fierce assaults on public liberty, and to a more complete disregard of the conduct which should characterise men entrusted with the task of legislating for and governing a nation.

Do they mean to create a war of extermination between the non-productive and the productive classes? If so, let them remember they are the aggressors; and may God defend the right! But we would fain indulge in the hope that the magnanimity, patience, and true courage of the Democratic party will stand between France and that deluge of human blood, and infuriated passion, which the so-called party of "Property, Family, and Order," wish to let loose. The very violence of their conduct shows, that in their hearts they dread most a calm, determined, constitutional resistance, on the part of the people. If the masses can be controlled, time will bring round its revenges in due season, and the seemingly well-concocted schemes of the perjured traitors who now misgovern France, melt, like the hideous shapes which disturb a restless and feverish sleep, leaving the millions in the permanent possession of their just rights.

THE TEN HOURS ACT.

Lord Ashley's proposed compromise with the millowners, has been "pronounced" upon by the factory operatives, and their staunch friends, who, for the last quarter of a century have stood by them through good and evil report. They have unanimously determined that rather than allow Lord Ashley's desertion, and the trickery of the factory lords, to swindle them out of the benefits intended to be conferred upon them by John Fielden's Act, they will throw out any measure that may be proposed short of that this Session, and, under the Parliamentary leadership of Lord John Manners, renew next year the struggle for an efficient Ten Hours Act.

The veteran Oastler, in one of his admirable speeches, tore to tatters the flimsy pretence on which Lord Ashley has, in the language of one of the resolutions, "not only deserted the cause which he had voluntarily pledged himself to support, but that in the manner best calculated to weaken its friends, and to strengthen the hands of its enemies." That pretext was, that there were no words that could be put together, which could bind the millowners not to work shifts or relays. Mr. Oastler declared that a clause had been drawn up by Mr. Butt, the eminent Queen's Counsel, which had been pronounced by all the lawyers consulted to be sufficiently conclusive and stringent on the subject. But the excuse on which that clause was not pressed, was, that it would be introducing new matter, and as Lord Ashley had very unnecessarily given his word that new matter should not be introduced, the factory workers are to be cheated of substantial justice. But see the hypocrisy which lies at the bottom of this pretence. If the question is to be settled at all, without the introduction of new matter, it should be equally binding upon millowners and mill-hands. Yet, Lord Ashley consents to an entirely new definition and arrangement of the factory day, which would tell against his clients, and in favour of the law-breaking factory lords. Obedience to the law is to be rewarded in the case of the hardworking operatives, by depriving them of their hard-won victory; those who are guilty of violating the statute, have a premium awarded for their lawless conduct.

The extent to which the compromise would play into the hands of the refractory millowners, and nullify the legislation of 1847, may be judged by Mr. Oastler's explanation.

"Just see for a moment whether the act really was what they were told it was. They said it would limit the hours of factory labour from six to six, and members of parliament were assured that this was the case from the high-

...But it was not so: if it were, it would make a difference at all in his mind, because he would not give half-an-hour to buy any favour at the hands of the government. But it was not so. Under the act of Sir George the factory day would still continue to be fifteen hours; and there would still be relays and shifts, with this difference, that they would be conducted by persons under ... years of age instead of above. (Great uproar.)

No wonder that there was "great disappointment" at the idea of being thus infamously robbed of a right which the Legislature and the Sovereign, by their solemn act and deed, had deliberately conferred upon them.

But the Government and the millowners had better think twice before they attempt to perpetrate this breach of faith with the operatives, and, for the vilest purposes of sordid selfishness, trample on a statute substantially maintaining the mature and well-considered decision of the British Legislature upon a question which underwent more discussion before it was thus settled than any other public measure within the last thirty years. If by the accidental or intentional blunder of the person who drew up the bill, the law is partially defective; and if, instead of remedying that defect in a straightforward, manly, and honourable way, the Government, to please a few wealthy millowners, will coerce Parliament into a breach of faith—let Government, Millowners, and Parliament look to the consequences. They are fairly warned that so far from settling the question as they pretend, by their shameful compromise, they will only have re-opened it again on a wider basis. There were not wanting speakers of influence at the Manchester meeting, who told them that "it would re-open the whole question of Capital and Labour." With the yearly increasing difficulty of working our present social machinery satisfactorily under the present system, perhaps it would be wise for the owners of property not to excite, wantonly, discussions which may terminate unfortunately for them. One thing they may certainly make up their mind to, and that is this—if they force a renewal of the struggle, it will be for an Eight Hours—not a Ten Hours Bill. Mr. OASTLER, Mr. STEPHENS, and other speakers, distinctly intimated that that would be the ground on which the contest would be re-opened.

The proposal of an Eight Hours Bill was made in 1833-4, by the National Regeneration Society, under the presidency of the late JOHN FIELDEN. He had with him as associates many able men, both as writers and speakers, and may be said to have founded a new science of political economy in the very midst of what is now called the "Manchester School." If the agitation is to be renewed for an Eight Hours Bill, of course the whole of the grounds on which that proposition is based, will have to be re-stated and re-argued, and for ourselves, we say, that we look forward with sincere pleasure to the probability of this being done. It is only by a bold and high-principled opposition, based upon fundamentally different postulates, that the pernicious effects of the pestilential heresies of politico-economical science, which are now fatally predominant, can be counteracted. At the last it must come to a war of opposing principles, and we say, the sooner the better, especially where the contending parties will join issue on such a practical and tangible battle-field as that of the regulation of labour and machinery, and, consequently, of supply and demand, in a particular department of production.

The cotton lords enter the field at a grievous disadvantage. They are divided among themselves upon most essential questions; it is only a very small minority who evade or violate the existing law, and the failure of the cotton crop is a potent proof of the utter madness of making the subsistence and the lives of millions dependent upon so uncertain and precarious a source as that is. For the statesman possessed of political prescience, the horoscope is by no means cheering, unless, in some more rational manner, profitable work and subsistence in return, can be assured to the toiling millions. Our manufacturing system, as a whole, has failed to do so on many occasions, and passing events, in many directions, concur to show that in future it will be still less capable of providing for the varied wants of a great and growing community. Little more than half a century old, it already exhibits the decrepitude of a premature old age. The spasmodic efforts by which it is attempted to keep it in action, will only the sooner exhaust what vitality it possesses, and hasten its ultimate extinction.

We find that even in America, where the people possess the freest political, civil and social institutions in the world, that the Factory system has broken down from its own inherent viciousness. In Lowell—the Manchester of the United States—a large number of mills are closed at the present moment; quite as much from the fact that the cotton growers in the Southern States have also become cotton manufacturers, as from any deficiency of crop. It needs but little intelligence on the subject to perceive, that if the slaves on the cotton estates can be trained to the various occupations of spinners and weavers, and work up upon the estate the raw material grown there, without the intervention of any third party, that they must beat out of the market any competitor in manufactured articles. If Lowell cannot withstand this competition—though it can get its cotton at a comparatively speaking small advance on the actual cost of production—what will Manchester do, which must, under any circumstances, convey the raw material thousands of miles across the ocean, and re-transport it the same distance, after it is worked up, in search of foreign customers?

These grave questions would no doubt have sooner or later forced themselves upon the attention of the public, whether the Ten Hours Act had been impugned or not; but the renewal of the agitation under existing circumstances, and upon the broad basis announced at the Manchester meeting, will tend immensely to accelerate discussion, and, we trust, decision upon them. We confess that we have no faith in the unsound, ricketty, and feverish system, which is upheld by our so-called Free Trade Economists; nor do we believe that the national welfare will ever be placed on a safe and enduring foundation until the "Manchester School" are deposed, and a well-devised and equitable system of production and distribution, based upon an improved mode of agriculture, shall be instituted. The employment of the great majority of the population upon THE LAND, and in the production of articles of prime necessity and permanent utility, is the only firm foundation for national and individual well-being.

In the meantime, we observe the Ministerial "Times"—formerly a consistent and powerful advocate of the Ten Hours Act—has brought all its influence to bear in favour of the compromise, and is, in its own coarse and unscrupulous style, attacking the character and motives of Mr. OASTLER, and others of its old co-labourers in the cause. For this desertion and opposition the operatives were fully prepared, and are not in the least daunted. They have faith in the justice of their cause; and with them we fervently believe, despite the desertion of timid lords and weather-cock journalists, the cause will ultimately triumph.

THE REPRESENTATION OF FINSBURY.

A clique of trading politicians have, for some time past, been making the ill-health of the members for Finsbury a pretext for exciting discontent with their conduct. It is deeply to be regretted that Parliament and the country should have been so long deprived of the active and invaluable services of Mr. DUNCOMBE, especially; but we trust that this will not be allowed by the electors of Finsbury to be used as a handle to promote the selfish and personal designs of small political pretenders, who want to create vacancies, that they may have an opportunity of filling them.

Mr. WAKLEY has written to his constituents, admitting that the state of his health has prevented him from discharging his legislative duties as actively as before, and requesting liberty to hold his seat, at all events, until next Session, when, if not recovered, he promises resignation. We have as high an estimation of the value of Mr. WAKLEY'S public services as any of that gentleman's admirers, but we must remark, in justice to Mr. DUNCOMBE, that there is this difference between the two members—the one has been totally disabled from performing any public duty whatever, while Mr WAKLEY has, —if not continuously, at all events frequently—discharged his official duties as Coroner, while absenting himself from Parliament.

It seems also exceedingly ill-timed to get up an agitation on this subject when Mr. DUNCOMBE—though not yet fully recovered—has resumed his attendance in the House of Commons, and when his name may be found in the division lists, if his imperfectly-restored health as yet prevents his voice from being heard in debate. That fact alone is sufficient to show the *animus* of the parties who are engaged in this agitation. If ever a man was entitled to national gratitude and honour, it is THOMAS SLINGSBY DUNCOMBE. He was, previous to his illness, not only an indefatigable and successful borough member, but to a very large extent a representative of the national feeling upon most important subjects. He was peculiarly the chosen Parliamentary Champion of the industrious classes, and there was not a single abuse in any of our public departments to which he applied himself, which he was not successful in removing. In despite of all the concentrated forces of official power, conservative bigotry, and selfish interests which were arrayed against him, he succeeded, as an independent Member of Parliament, in winning a greater number of triumphs for the public, than ever before fell to the lot of any single member of the House of Commons, and at last extorted from his opponent—the present HOME SECRETARY—the avowal that his services had entitled him to the National gratitude.

It was, indeed, in the public service that he caught that disease which for so long a period rendered his ultimate recovery almost hopeless. In prosecuting that inquiry into the state of the hulks at Woolwich, which resulted in the discharge of those parties who were entrusted with their official superintendence, and in laying the foundation for most of those improved measures on Convict Discipline, which Government have since taken credit for introducing, Mr. DUNCOMBE persisted—against the remonstrances of his medical advisers—in attending the House at night, after long days spent in the damp, dark "'tween decks," of a hulk. The consequence was, that the predictions of the medical men were verified at the close of the Session. He was stricken down by an illness which, for a long period, threatened to terminate fatally, from which he is still but gradually recovering, and the first use he makes of his convalescence is, to resume his place in Parliament, and to vote, if not yet able to speak.

Knowing these facts, we fully sympathise with the tone of Mr. DUNCOMBE'S reply to the Chairman of the intriguers, who, under cover of public benefit, are seeking to advance their own schemes. In reply to the request to explain the reasons of his absence from Parliamentary duties, the hon. Member justly and pointedly remarks:—

> I confess that until the receipt of your favour I did not suppose that there could have been found in the well-informed and extensive borough of Finsbury any person ignorant of the fact that severe and dangerous illness has been the sole cause of my absence from Parliament, to the duties of which it has ever been my pride, during the twenty-three years that I have had the honour of a seat in the House of Commons, to give an independent and most unremitting attention, and during which period my attendance, I am most thankful to say, has never received a week's interruption until I was overwhelmed by my recent painful and protracted illness.

That there may be no mistake as to the position which he has assumed, with reference to the parties who seek this explanation, he gives them fair warning that he intends to continue the Representative of Finsbury, so long as mutual confidence subsists between him and the great body of his constituents. Here is his straightforward declaration on this point:—

> I am happy to inform you that improved and improving health enables me now to resume my Parliamentary duties; and also that, having from the commencement of my connexion with Finsbury, pledged myself over and over again to my constituents, "that so long as it pleased God that health and strength should remain to me, and so long as it should please Finsbury to stand by me, I should stand by Finsbury," I adhere to that pledge. And further, I beg to inform you that, being assured as I am that the great majority of my constituents do not consider a passing illness, contracted in their service, as sufficient ground for a withdrawal of their confidence, I shall, when the present Parliament has passed away, give to those on whose behalf you address me an opportunity of recording their votes against me—as some of them have done before.

We may fairly presume that as far as Mr. DUNCOMBE is concerned the schemers have got their answer, and will rest satisfied therewith. It would indeed stamp the Borough of Finsbury with the stigma of unparalleled ingratitude, if they were, under the circumstances, to allow his retirement, after so many years of earnest and indefatigable labour in their service, and after the great and valuable benefits his exertions have conferred upon the country at large. No man has been able to fill his place during his temporary absence, and it must be the earnest and hearty desire of all friends to national progress to see him speedily, with renovated health, assume his old position as the People's Tribune.

PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW.

Under this head there is but little to notice this week. No new topic has, up to the time of writing, been discussed in either House, and the old ones are worn nearly threadbare. Lord PALMERSTON took an early opportunity of making an elaborate statement on the subject of our interrupted diplomatic relations with France, which was greeted at its close with loud cheers from both sides of the House, though the "Times" and the "Chronicle" persist in asserting that it was neither satisfactory nor complete. But we shall no doubt have a grand "field-day" in both Houses upon the Greek Question as a whole, when "noble lords" and "hon. members" have been sufficiently crammed by painstaking secretaries, from the voluminous Blue Books and the interminable correspondence which have been made public. It will be time enough then for us to give an opinion on the subject.

Two desultory and discursive nights spent in Committee of Supply, ranged over an unusual number of topics, with the usual result—namely, the exhibition of gross mismanagement of the public funds, and the usual acquiescence in all the votes proposed by the Government. The enormous excess of the expenditure on the New Houses of Parliament, over their estimated cost, constituted one prominent feature in the discussion of these estimates. They were originally estimated at £700,000, and it is now admitted that they will not be finished for less than four millions sterling! But, worst of all, after this vast expenditure, it is discovered that the new House of Commons is not only exceedingly inconvenient in many respects, but that it is by far too small to hold all the members, and that, in order to make it of the proper dimensions, one end of it will have to be knocked down! It certainly must be confessed, that we blunder shockingly whenever we put our hand to a public building. In this case, it would almost appear as if the architect and all concerned had deliberately proceeded to act contrary to all previous experience in such matters.

On Tuesday the House was counted out on a motion of Mr. MILES, for sending to our colonies the female orphans in our workhouses. It was on the eve of the "Derby day," and the House having resolved to take holiday thereon, our legislators were restless, and too much under the influence of the holiday feeling to attend to such matters as workhouse female orphans.

In the Lords, the policy of originating Protectionist discussions on the presentation of petitions, is steadily pursued by the Protectionist peers. Lord STANLEY and the heads of the party, however, cautiously abstain from trying conclusions with the Free Trade party; and though Mr. DISRAELI and his allies in the Commons, have an occasional skirmish with the Government and the Free Traders, the results are equally negative.

In order to make up in some degree for the Wednesday's holiday, the Commons had a morning sitting in the new House on Thursday, when an Irish Bill was proceeded with. This may be taken as the forerunner of similar sittings pretty constantly until the close of the Sessions, in order to hurry up measures to the Lords before the dog-days and the shooting season take "every body" out of town. For all the good either the morning or evening sittings will do the industrious classes, they might just as well shut up, what Mr. O'CONNOR truly calls "the show box," at once.

CHARTISTS, TO YOUR POSTS!!

If it is to be presumed that the working classes are prepared to defend those who have sacrificed health, time, and fortune, in their cause, every veritable and honest man will prove his sincerity on Tuesday night next, the 4th of June, by being present at a meeting, to be held at the Belvedere, Pentonville Hill, by the Finsbury Electors, for the purpose of enforcing the resignation of the glorious DUNCOMBE. Chartists! rally like freemen to your posts.

Mr. O'CONNOR is an Elector of Finsbury, and, we understand, will be present to take his part, as he is not likely to forget the assistance rendered by his invalided Chartist friend and leader, both to the Chartists and the Trades, when no other man in his class would dare to defend their principles, or acknowledge their rights.

DUNCOMBE AND LIBERTY FOR EVER! HURRAH!!

Police.

GUILDHALL.—OBTAINING PROPERTY BY FRAUD.—Charles and C. Machin were placed at the bar for final examination, charged with obtaining various sums of money and a large number of law books of solicitors and other parties by means of false pretences. A great many charges of the above nature were brought forward on several previous examinations against the prisoners, which having been completed, the prisoners were committed to Newgate for trial.

MARLBOROUGH-STREET. — A BET ON THE "DERBY."—William Cooper, of No. 23, Rathbone-place, described on the police-sheet as of "no occupation," was charged with having obtained from Thomas Clifford, landlord of the Three Doves, Berwick-street, the sum of £5 by fraudulent pretences. —The complainant said the prisoner, who was a stranger to him, came into his house on Sunday, and had some brandy and water at the bar. The prisoner talked about the Derby race on Wednesday, and boasted that he had got odds to the extent of £100 to £2 on Clincher, and had in his possession a ticket from Serle's, the Salisbury Arms, Howard-street, Strand, as a voucher for the bet. Witness then asked prisoner if he would make him a bet, and ultimately it was agreed that witness should pay £5 to receive £30 and his £5 back in case Clincher won the race. Witness gave the prisoner five sovereigns, and received what purported to be a ticket from Serle's of a bet of £100 to £2 on Clincher. On going to the Salisbury Arms, to inquire about the ticket, he was told it was a forgery. On Monday morning, having found the prisoner in a betting house in Jermyn-street, he gave him into custody.—The prisoner was remanded, but admitted to bail in two sureties of £50 each.

SHOPLIFTING.—Mary Ann Brown was charged with stealing thirty-two yards of silk, value £3 10s., the property of Mr. Digory Northey, silk mercer, No. 1, Princes-street, Soho.—Charles Easton, shopman to the prosecutor, deposed that on Saturday evening, about seven o'clock, the prisoner came into his employer's shop, and requested to be shown some black satin mantles. He took her up to the show room for that purpose, and while he was looking the mantles out, he saw the prisoner take the silk produced, and hide it underneath her shawl. Witness then made an excuse to leave the room, and went down stairs and informed his employer of the circumstance, who immediately sent for a constable to take her in charge. On witness's return he met the prisoner coming down stairs; he requested her to return, and on her getting into the room, she dropped the silk on the floor. He then called the constable, and gave her into custody.—The prisoner, who has been twice before convicted for a similar offence, was fully committed for trial.

A SHAM POLICE INSPECTOR.—John M'Hardy, landlord of the Phœnix Tavern, Stacey-street, Soho, was charged with being drunk, and assuming the office of an inspector of police.—Police-sergeant 11 C stated that about five o'clock on Monday morning he was on duty in Oxford-street, when the prisoner, who was much the worse for liquor, came up to him and said, "Is it all right, sergeant?" Not knowing the defendant, witness replied, "Oh, yes, it's all right," and was proceeding round his beat, when he (defendant) stopped him and said, "I suppose you do not know who I am; I am an inspector of the A division, and am sent out at a salary of £5 per night to look after you and your men." The defendant then left him and went up to another constable, and took down his number on a piece of paper. He subsequently went up to two or three other constables, and took their numbers also. As he persisted in following up this species of annoyance, witness took him into custody, and conveyed him to the station.—Mr. Bingham said defendant had acted very foolishly in assuming to himself the office of a police inspector, whereby he had rendered himself liable to a penalty of £10. He should not fine him the full amount, but, as a warning to him for the future, he should fine him 10s. The money was immediately paid.

MANSION-HOUSE. — POLISH REFUGEES. — A great number of Poles, apparently in distress, assembled before this court, and one of them stated to Alderman Gibbs, the sitting magistrate, that they came to seek for relief and advice. They were driven into this country from various parts of the continent, and being without any resources, and not knowing the English language, they were unable to procure employment, and were almost starving.—Alderman Gibbs said they should address themselves to the Literary Association of the Friends of Poland.—The spokesman replied that the secretary of the association was in attendance, and would inform the alderman upon that subject. —Lieut. Szulczewski, the Secretary of the Literary Association of the Friends of Poland, then stated that, as long as the association could procure funds for its charitable operations, which have now lasted seventeen years, it always afforded relief to the refugees in distress. But of late its exertions have not been so successful, and, unfortunately, at a time when the influx of the Poles into England was greater than ever. Since July last above 200 of them were obliged to seek a refuge in Great Britain, and the state of the funds of the association was so low that it could not in any way alleviate the sufferings of those men. Luckily, several of their countrymen abroad having been acquainted with the fate of their brothers in England, sent over a sum of money, and it was upon that remittance that the 200 Poles chiefly subsisted here. They received 6d. a day, but even that help has now been denied to them, as the sum mentioned is completely exhausted. Under such melancholy circumstances the committee saw no other way of further assisting these foreigners except by stating their case to the first magistrate of the city, that through him publicity may be given to the miserable condition of the Polish exiles.—Alderman Gibbs said he was applied to last week by a number of Germans, and he could not do anything for them. Why should not these men apply to the Society for the Relief of Foreigners in Distress?—Lieut. Szulczewski observed that the Society for the Relief of Foreigners in Distress declined to relieve any Polish refugees. —Alderman Gibbs: I really can give no advice on the subject, nor any assistance, however painful may be the circumstances.—Lieut. Szulczewski thanked the magistrate for having given the Poles a hearing, and withdrew.

THE QUEEN v. KENEALY.—On Thursday, at the Court of Queen's Bench,—Kenealy, Esq., barrister, was brought up to receive judgment, having been convicted at the sittings of last term of committing an assault upon Edward Hyde, his illegitimate child. Mr. Justice Patteson sentenced the defendant to be imprisoned in the Queen's Prison or one calendar month.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNITED TRADES.

Established 1845.

The Conference having broken up on Thursday, the 23rd, as reported in the *Northern Star* of the 25th ult., the Central Committee proceeded at once to make arrangements for resuming the active operations of the Association. It was arranged that Messrs. Green and Peel should proceed to Wolverhampton, to resume the negotiations with the tin-plate manufacturers of that town, for the establishing an equalised book of prices for the town, these negotiations having been unavoidably delayed during the Conference sittings. It was also agreed, that the case of the Todmorden bobbin turners should receive the earliest attention which circumstances would permit; that Bridgenorth and Kidderminster should also be visited, immediately upon the termination of the Wolverhampton case. Messrs. Green and Peel proceeded on Saturday morning to Birmingham, and attended a meeting of the melters of that town, who, although a recently organised society, are rapidly increasing in numbers. The report given by Messrs. Green and Peel of the proceedings, gave universal satisfaction, and a remarkable and highly encouraging proof of the extraordinary efficacy of union, as a conservative power. One of the members reported that he had been offered a reduction of one shilling per week upon his wages, and that he, feeling confidence in the additional power he possessed by his society and its connexion with the National Association, had at once refused to accept the reduced wages offered by his employers; that he had obtained another employment at one shilling and sixpence per week above his former wages, and that his old employer had offered him an advance of one shilling per week if he would stop with him, but which offer he had refused. This incident produced quite a sensation in the society, and several additional members were admitted during the evening. On the same evening a deputation of tin-plate workers waited upon Messrs. Green and Peel, to request their assistance on behalf of two of their men, who had been refused the payment of the regular trade price for some "Oblong O.G. dish covers" they had finished on the previous Saturday. They had been offered eight shillings and threepence, and ten shillings, respectively, for two sizes—9in. and 10in.—instead of eleven shillings and threepence and fifteen shillings—the book prices. The two men had refused to receive less than their proper wages. Messrs. Green and Peel promised to see the employer the first thing on Monday morning.

On Monday, accordingly, the employer was visited, and, although at first disposed to take a somewhat high position, after a short discussion yielded the points, and consented to pay the men their wages for the work they had performed, but at the same time informed the deputation that unless the men could meet him by producing an article of an inferior description, at a lower figure, he should be obliged to give up an extensive West Indian order. The men were advised to submit their employer's proposition to their Trade Committee. The successful termination of this affair has given the greatest satisfaction to the tin-plate workers of Birmingham. Messrs. Green and Peel proceeded immediately to Wolverhampton.

Thus have the first days of the new year's campaign been signalised with the most cheering reports of progress, and, with a most decided and important advantage obtained for an influential branch of our Association.

The Central Committee refer with great satisfaction to the proceedings of the Conference, reported so fully in the last number of this journal. They feel justly proud of the honour conferred upon this movement by the personal attendance of their beloved and honoured president, whom they rejoice to find progressing so rapidly to convalescence, the same unaltered and energetic champion of labour, as heretofore. They feel justly proud and deeply grateful for the expressions of confidence in them and the movement, which they have received from all parts of the country, and beg to assure the Trades of their determination still to pursue that policy which has proved during the last few months so effective, and which has called forth so many commendations. They beg to announce their intention to solicit from Feargus O'Connor, Esq., a renewal of his generous offer of a portion of his columns, for a weekly condensed report of the Association's progress and proceedings, and they call upon the members individually, and the collective bodies in connexion with the National Association, to give their best support to the *Northern Star and National Trades Journal*, the only paper where the working men's interests are advocated and protected, and the official organ of the National Association. The Central Committee are of opinion, and strongly recommend, that every society—large or small—connected with the movement should take one or more copies of this journal for the use of its members, in order that they may acquire a knowledge of the proceedings of the Central Committee, in the execution of the important and arduous mission with which they have, for another year, been honoured and entrusted.

As a continuation of the report of the Conference proceedings, they present the following extracts from a large number of letters which were read to the late Conference, bearing the highest testimony to the utility and importance of the Association, and the reading of which excited deep interest amongst the assembled delegates.

Letters—extracts from which are here given—have been addressed to the Secretary of the Central Committee, and were read to the Conference:—

Carlisle, April 20th, 1850.

DEAR SIR,—Though we are unable to send a delegate to the approaching conference, we are not unable to send the best wishes of our hearts, and to put that confidence in it which is due from us as a body towards those talented and honest men of whom it (the conference) may be constituted. We have no fear but that the best arrangements will be made which its honesty and talent can devise, for the promotion of the general interests of the association.—G. GRAHAM, Secretary.

Lynn, April 19th, 1850.

DEAR SIR,—I am very sorry to inform you that it is not the intention of our society of sending a delegate to the conference on Whit-Monday next, as work has been very dull lately, and is so at present; and the expense would be very heavy on the members. We had a very large meeting on last Saturday night, and the case was taken into consideration. Some were for sending one, and others were against it; and, when put to the vote, it was carried in the negative, but a resolution was passed that every member should pay two shillings each before next conference, to enable us to send a delegate another year. I should very much have liked to have sent one, and so would several of our members; but, as that is not the case, I hope you will have sufficient delegates to carry on the business in a proper manner.—HENRY BOWEN, Secretary.

Kidderminster, May 13, 1850.

DEAR SIR,—At a meeting of the members, at Mr. Wm. Fawcett's, the following proposition was carried unanimously:—"That in order to secure a better representation of the Trades at the annual conference of the association, a fund be created by each member paying one halfpenny per month, to aid the Trades in sending their delegates to such conference." It is my opinion, sir—and I think of the carpet weavers generally—that our connexion with the National Association has had a beneficial operation upon our interests. I consider Mr. Green has, to a great extent, succeeded in organising our trade; and the manufacturers being aware of it, I believe that circumstance has prevented them offering further reductions.—With these few remarks, I am, dear Sir, yours, &c., GEORGE ALLEN.

Keighley, May 14th, 1850.

SIR,—I am happy to say, that the opinion of our small society is, if the principle of the National Association was properly understood and universally practised we should have done with strikes and reductions of wages, and every man would receive the full value of his labour.—Yours respectfully, WM. SHACKLETON.

Birmingham, May 15th, 1850.

SIR,—At a meeting of the millers of this town on Saturday, the business paper was taken into consideration, and the general opinion was in favour of the propositions of the Central Committee, and also of that from Kidderminster; but at the same time leaving it with confidence to the delegates there assembled. It was the sincere wish of the members of this society that T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., should be re-elected president of the National Association; for to lose so worthy and excellent a gentleman would, we conceive, be a serious loss to the association. As to our opinions of the association, and with reference to its general utility, we think it one of the best societies in existence. Our society is increasing very fast, and an unanimous vote of thanks to Messrs. Green and Peel, and of confidence in the Central Committee and the association, was carried.—Yours very respectfully, EDWARD KNIGHT, Secretary.

Warrington, May 15th, 1850.

DEAR SIR,—The spinners of this town beg to express their satisfaction with the National Association, by passing the following resolution:—"That the thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. Peel, and the members of the Central Committee, for their able and straightforward manner of conducting the above Association." Moved by John Simpson and seconded by James Ray. "We are also of opinion, that it would be a good plan to create a fund to defray the expense of delegates attending Conferences. I also give you my opinion in a few words relative to the National Association.—1st. It is my opinion that the above Association is calculated to raise the working classes to their proper position in society. 2nd. That no local union in this country is capable of elevating the condition of the working classes, and that, sooner or later, necessity will compel the working classes generally to come to our conclusions. 3rd. We are arrived at a period when capital and its influence is so great, that nothing short of a national organisation can reach the evils with which the working classes are affected. I must confess I am somewhat surprised to see the Trades so backward in joining the National Association; but I must also confess that they do not study their own interests, in still wearing the fetters which have so long bound them down in bondage to other men's opinions. I mean those self-interested Secretaries, who do all they can to prevent the Trades from joining the National Association. Yours in sincerity, H. ASHTON, Secretary.

Kilmarnock, May 15th, 1850.

DEAR SIR,—We, the Tailors of Kilmarnock, are of opinion that some measure should be adopted by the conference about to assemble, towards bringing more prominently the real principles and constitution of our society before the Trades of this country. We believe this must be felt by every member of the National Association. We believe, the energies of the Central Committee have been crippled to a very considerable extent, but are of opinion, that an appeal from the Central Committee signed by our worthy and honourable President, would go far to arouse the (what we consider only the latent) energies of our members, to renewed and increased action. With regard to the election of a central committee; we, without a dissentient voice, give our vote in favour of the present acting one. We have a cherished faith in the influence and power of the National Association, could its title be made no misnomer. Trusting that the proceedings of the Conference, when published to our members, may operate for our success and well-being, I am, Sir, yours, &c. WILLIAM SPICER.

Carlisle, May 16, 1850.

DEAR SIR, — At a general meeting of cotton spinners, in connexion with the National Association, held on Saturday night last, the following resolution was passed.—"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the propositions to be presented by the Central Committee, are worthy of their time and attention, and such as we hope will be duly weighed by the representatives of the Association. With respect to the principle involved in the proposed plan of registration, we are not in a condition—in the absence of the details—to give an opinion; but, in relation to the third proposition, we think that, as it has been successfully acted upon by other societies, we know no good reason why, if acted upon, it should not be successful with the Association. In the Methodist society, for instance, a fund is established for the support of preachers, in those localities where the poverty of the people, or the smallness of the numbers, renders them unable to support their own preachers. As to the utility of the Association, I think the history of its past proceedings, of its many successful intercessions in behalf of its oppressed members, ought to satisfy any reasonable man of its general efficiency. True, it may not have succeeded in every case in which it has offered its mediation—but what of that? The truth of its general utility stands recorded in the history of its operations. No man ought to doubt its general utility, because it has not yet accomplished all that heart can wish. The utility of the sun and moon might be questioned upon the same principle. I have no doubt but that many selfish, timid employers have been terrified into justice, at the thought of its power. Like a ghost in the counting house, it has done its work; it has risen up to startle and annoy those base and selfish men, who make it their study to plunder their workpeople. In a word, if the principles involved in the constitution and rules of the Association were strictly adhered to by the great body of its members, such a gigantic power could be brought to bear against oppression as must be looked for in vain in any other institution of a similar character.—G. GRAHAM, Secretary.

Birmingham, May 16, 1850.

DEAR SIR,—You wish to know our views as to the general utility of the National Association, and whether we have received any benefit by it? but as we have so lately joined we consider there has not been time to confer any great benefit upon us—the fender moulders. But, as regards its general utility, we believe if the working men of this country would join the association, they would very soon be placed in that position which God and Nature intended them to enjoy. In fact, we believe, if the working classes are ever to get a fair day's wage for a fair day's work, they must cast off their little prejudices and bad feelings towards each other, and become united in one grand bond of union. The well-paid artizan must extend the right hand of fellowship to the poor and badly-paid labourer, and look upon him as a brother, for there is many a noble and honest heart beating within a ragged coat; and if the working men act upon this principle no power on earth can long prevent them from obtaining their just rights. The masters of this country care nothing about a local society; but no sooner do you add the word "NATIONAL" than they become wonderfully mild, and will do anything to assist you. Dear sir, I write these observations from experience, for we have had proofs of this since we joined the National Association. As soon as one of our masters heard that we had joined ourselves into a society he threatened to discharge every one that joined; some sent a deputation, and he received them in the spirit of a tyrant, and would scarcely consent to listen to them. But when we explained to him the principles of the National Association, and that his men had got the Trades of England at their back, then he became quite another man, and promised to do anything for his men. But mark his treacherous conduct; no sooner had the deputation withdrawn than he wrote to Sheffield to engage men, and one came on the following Monday, and one of his men was discharged; but I have written to Sheffield and Colebrook Dale to inform them of this man's conduct, and have received letters favourable to our wishes, therefore I think we shall be a good match for him in the long run. The following resolutions were passed at our last general meeting:—"That the best thanks of this meeting are due, and hereby given, to T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., for his noble and generous exertions in the working man's cause, accompanied with a wish, that he may be restored to a perfect state of health." "That the best thanks of this meeting is given to the Central Committee for the promptitude with which they have attended to our correspondence since we have joined the association." And now, dear sir, I conclude with a wish that the blessing of heaven may attend your labours during the sitting of conference, and happiness attend each of the delegates to his home."—Yours respectfully, WM. S. LYNDON.

Norwich, May 16, 1850.

DEAR SIR,—Yours of May 1st, and the propositions of the Central Committee, have been laid before the trade. We wish we could have sent a delegate, but it was not in our power; but as to the utility of the National Association, we think it has done great good through the country. We hope it will continue to do so. We fully agree with the propositions of the Committee, in particular the third. WM. SNOWDEN, Secretary.

Birmingham, May 17, 1850.

DEAR SIR,—We feel the greatest confidence in the Central Committee, and hope they will keep up the agitating system; and while you can send such persevering men about the country as Mr. Green, the association must prosper. I assure you we, as a body, have received considerable benefit from being connected with the association. Hoping the cause may prosper, I remain, dear sir, yours faithfully, GEO. WAINWRIGHT.

Todmorden, May 17, 1850.

DEAR SIR,—And now respecting the conference. I believe that the National Association has had a good effect upon our trade, up to the present, and, I think that the friends to the society of bobbin turners are generally satisfied with the proceedings of the conference, and we leave it with you, as being competent to manage the business. Yours truly, WM. GREENWOOD.

Kidderminster, April 18th, 1850.

DEAR SIR,—I should have communicated the opinion of our members upon the case of the two men, had I not thought Mr. Barber had done so. We were very glad that a paying firm, like ours, should have been the first case in the town; because the agent would act without any reserve. We thought it was well Mr. Green was in the town as our guide. When he had the interview (with a deputation) with our employers—Master and Sons—he gave the best of satisfaction. Since, we have heard that they (the Masters) have said "they did not think we had such a man amongst us." We have watched you very closely through this case, and have found no deficiency in any way. Our men have paid their levies with satisfaction and promptitude, with a few exceptions; but they are of much stronger confidence in the union. It is as you say, "that there is always a leading few in a society, on whom lean the bulk;" and I am proud to think that we have men of that stamp. We think that, by the actions and appearance of Mr. Green, and the noble president of your Central Committee, with the quaint and pithy arguments you use in print, and also by words—we think we only do well when we give our levies to support, and our influence to augment, the National Association of United Trades.—Yours respectfully, JAMES HARDEMAN, Secretary.

Lynn, May 19, 1850.

DEAR SIR,—At a meeting, held by the bricklayers of Lynn, on Saturday night, I was requested to inform you, that they were quite convinced that if it had not been for the National Association their wages would have been reduced two shillings a week two years ago, when the masters offered a reduction. At that time a member of the Central Committee was sent for, who very soon succeeded in gaining our cause; since that time the masters have not offered any reduction, only by hinting to the men that the wages must come down; but as they find the men are determined to have the wages, they very soon drop it, as they know very well that we belong to the National Association, and if they did not give us the wages their work would very soon be stopped. We therefore advise all the working classes to join this National Union, as we think it the only remedy the working classes can seek; and we hope, after the breaking up of the conference, that the numbers will increase more so than they ever have done yet, for it is numbers we want to stand against capital.—Yours respectfully, HENRY BOWEN, Sec.

MINERS' CONFERENCE.

(*Continued from our last.*)

THURSDAY.

The Conference met this morning at nine o'clock for the despatch of business. After the names of the delegates were called over the following laws were passed.

15.—That the subject relative to advertising the next Conference be brought before the various districts or county boards, to ascertain what support they are willing to give towards advertising the same. The secretaries to act according to their best judgment, and the means placed at their disposal.

17.—That this Conference recommend the various Mining countries to endeavour to emancipate themselves by the adoption of the principle of Home Colonies and co-operation as a means of perpetuating the society.

18.—That this Conference cannot close its labours without earnestly calling the attention of the mining districts of Great Britain to the imperative necessity of again bringing out the 'Miners' Advocate' as an organ of instruction, communication, and defence of the British Miners.

19.—That this Conference recommend to all the mining districts to establish as soon as possible, a system of restriction or regulation of their labour, and that each delegate to the next Conference come prepared to discuss the utility of a uniform system of regulation of the Miners' Labour.

20.—That the name of the society be 'The Miners' National Association of Great Britain and Ireland.'

Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

The Conference re-assembled at two o'clock and a long discussion took place relative to the condition of our Scottish brethren, and general sympathy displayed towards them,—also on the general plans laid down by Conference and the best means to carry them out, while a most excellent union spirit was displayed. It was then passed that the delegates recommend to their respective districts the necessity of a change of lecturers, where such change is wished.

Resolved.—That a vote of confidence in, and sympathy for, our Scottish brethren be given by this Conference.

Resolved.—That a cordial vote of thanks be given to our worthy President and Secretary for their valuable and efficient services to this Conference and to Miners generally.

Resolved.—That this Conference adjourn till Monday, August 19th, 1850, at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, to meet at nine o'clock in the morning.

Resolved.—That this Conference recommend all mining districts to agitate and petition for the attainment of an 'Eight Hours Bill,' for the regulation and working of the mines of Great Britain.

Arrangements were then made for the delegates to address a public meeting, at seven o'clock, in Mr. Brindle's Concert-room, when the Conference broke up in a friendly manner.

MARTIN JUDE, *President.*
WILLIAM DANIELLS, *Secretary.*

MINERS' PUBLIC MEETING.

A public meeting of the Miners of Wigan, was held on Thursday last, in Mr. Brindle's Concert room, Market-place, which was well attended and a good spirit was displayed.

Mr. J. FELL, delegate from Durham, was called to the chair, and opened the meeting with a few sensible remarks.

Mr. W. DANIELLS, delegate from North Staffordshire, moved the following resolution, and showed in forcible language the importance of the same:—"That from the fact of a large proportion of the children of the Miners being without any education whatever, and, also from the fact, that such deficiency must necessarily influence the moral condition of those children,—and further, from the fact that the health of those children is greatly injured and impaired by inhaling for so long a period each day the impure and deleterious atmosphere of a coal mine; this meeting, therefore, admitting the truth of the above, are of opinion that eight hours per day is amply sufficient for pit boys to work, and we consequently agree to petition the legislature to pass an *Eight Hours Bill*, for the regulation and working of British mines, so that these poor pit boys may have proper opportunities of acquiring a suitable education; and we strongly recommend all mining districts to follow our example."

Mr. M. JUDE, delegate from Northumberland, seconded the above, and Mr. J. PRICE supported the same; after which it was put to the meeting and carried unanimously amid cheers.

Mr. W. KELSEY, delegate from North Staffordshire, very ably moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting is of opinion, that it is the duty as well as the interest of both workmen and employers, to so regulate the production of mines as to insure to the former a fair remuneration for their labour, and to the latter a proper return for their capital; therefore, the miners composing this meeting hereby pledge themselves to join the 'Miners' National Association,' the purpose and object of which is to secure the above, and to do justice to master and men. This resolution was seconded by Mr. E. LAWTON, delegate from South Staffordshire, in a long speech, and unanimously passed. Votes of thanks were then given to the chairman and speakers, when the meeting broke up.

NOTICE.

All communications for the "Miners' National Association" must be sent either to Mr. Martin Jude, Sandyford-lane, Barras Bridge, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Mr. W. Kelsey, China-street, Fenton, Staffordshire; or to Mr. C. Meadowcroft, Astley-street, Duckinfield, Cheshire.

A BARBER'S SHOP ON THE ATLANTIC.—On board the American steam-ship Atlantic there is a barber's shop for the accommodation of passengers. The ship, we believe, provides the establishment, the operator relying for remuneration upon what business he can pick up in the passages to and from the New World. The room appropriated for the purpose is at the entrance to the companion leading to the dining-room, and the barber provides neck ties, &c., for those who may have left home in a hurry, or overlooked their lack of such...

The Metropolis.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.—In the week ending last Saturday, the deaths registered in the metropolitan districts were 866, a number which, it is satisfactory to find, is still below the average corrected for increase of population, though it almost exactly coincides with the average if taken without such correction. During the corresponding weeks of ten previous years, 1840-9, the deaths rose by nearly constant progression from 795, in the first year, to 979 in 1848; the average, with an addition for present population is 944, compared with which the number returned last week shows a decrease of 78. The deaths included in the zymotic or epidemic class amount in the present return to 156; the corrected average is 196. Of special epidemics, small pox was fatal to six children and two adults; scarlatina to 13, both diseases, but particularly the latter, showing a less mortality than usual. Measles destroyed 23 children, and a man of thirty-five years, who, according to medical certificate, died of "measles (7 days) typhus (5 days);" hooping-cough 5 children; these diseases at present do not vary much from the average. 11 persons died of diarrhœa. In a house in Chandos-street, visited by Mr. Leonard, the refuse of fish is kept till the smell is intolerable, and the air is so vitiated that some of the inmates have diarrhœa, and have suffered during the last two months from the complaint. 32 persons died of typhus; which is still less than the average, but exhibits a slight tendency to increase: a young boy died of intermittent fever: 12 women died in child-bearing, to six of whom death is ascribed to puerperal fever. Diseases of the respiratory organs, exclusive of consumption, numbered in the last week 138, being more than have occurred usually at this season of the year; the average is 112. Consumption carried off 125 persons; it fluctuated in the corresponding weeks of 1840-9, between 103 deaths and 163. In the case of a lime-porter who died at the age of 50, this disease was produced by the irritation of lime dust, to which he was exposed in his occupation. The deaths of two women are recorded as the direct result of intemperance; and besides these a blacksmith hanged himself, in a state of unsound mind caused by intemperance; and a clerk, aged 24 years, drowned himself "in temporary insanity brought on by excessive drinking." The classification of deaths in public institutions show that 66 deaths were registered as having occurred in workhouses; 50 in hospitals; 6 in lunatic asylums; and 4 in the Royal Hospital, Greenwich.—The mean daily reading of the barometer in the week was 29·486 in. The mean temperature was 55 deg. 5 min., and was rather higher than the average of the same week in seven years. On Tuesday the mean temperature was 6 deg. above the average of the same day; on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, it was more than 1 deg. below it.

LOVE AND SUICIDE.—On Saturday evening last an inquest was held by Mr. Carter, at the Old Mitre Tavern, Broad-wall, respecting the death of Thomas Hunt Cooper, aged 29, lately residing at No. 5, Knightrider-court, Doctor's Commons. Elizabeth Straker stated that she had known the deceased for many years, and she had frequently been annoyed by him, particularly during the last fourteen weeks. He had frequently asked witness if she would have him. She always begged him to go away, and upon one occasion she was so much interrupted by him that she threatened to apply to a magistrate. On Saturday last deceased called at her house, and when she opened the door to him he held a pistol at her, and said he would blow her brains out. Upon this she ran up stairs, and called the landlord of the house. They immediately afterwards heard the report of a pistol, and upon going down into the parlour, discovered the deceased lying on the floor a corpse. The upper part of his head appeared to be blown to pieces, and a pistol was lying by his side. The police were called in, and the following letter, addressed to his father, in the handwriting of the deceased, was found in his pocket:—"Dear Father—When you receive this I shall be no more, for I have made up my mind to live no longer without Miss Straker. Her shadow is always following me, and my thoughts are constantly with her.—Your affectionate son, Thomas Cooper." Mr. Tebbits, a surgeon, proved the nature of the wound, and the father of the deceased having been examined, together with other witnesses, the jury unanimously agreed to a verdict of "Temporary Insanity."

AN INQUEST was held on Saturday evening last by Mr. T. Higgs, coroner, at the Lyceum Tavern, Strand, on the body of William Upfold, aged 34, a carpenter, employed aboard the Chinese Junk Keying. The evidence of the witnesses proved that the deceased accidentally fell into the water and was drowned.—Verdict accordingly.

ALARMING FIRE AND EXPLOSION.—On Sunday afternoon, between the hours of four and five, confusion was caused in the immediate neighbourhood of the Adelphi Theatre owing to the sudden outbreak of a very alarming fire, succeeded by a terrific explosion of combustibles, in the premises belonging to Messrs. Freeman, Roe, and Hansom, hydraulic and gas engineers, 70, Strand, facing the entrance to the above place of amusement. The disaster originated in the third floor front from the following cause:—A number of railway signal lights had been deposited in that part of the building on account of its being considered the most secure from fire; the sun, however, having set upon the windows, its rays were concentrated upon one of the tin packages containing a variety of the signal lights, and the consequence was that it became so hot as to cause the contents to explode. The engines attended, and the firemen set to work. Whilst they were so employed another explosion took place. The firemen eventually succeeded in confining the fire to the top part of the premises, which was burnt out, and the whole of the lower floors severely damaged by water. Messrs. Simpkins' printing-office, and the Society of Arts exhibition, at the rear, fortunately received not the least injury.

A BALLOON OF A NEW FORM was inflated at the gas works, Kennington-oval, on the 24th ult., and afterwards ascended with its inventor, a Mr. Bell, from that place, on the evening of the same day. The appearance of a balloon of a singular form traversing the metropolis occasioned some speculation as to whether the frail car, from its oscillating gyrations, contained an animate or inanimate aeronaut. The occupant of the car was the gentleman abovementioned, who manœuvred his bark through the realms of air with a dexterity that puts all his contemporaries in the shade. Without endeavouring minutely to describe this new balloon, it may be briefly stated that it is of an elliptic shape, somewhat resembling in form the Spanish melon or vegetable marrow, manufactured of the finest silk, with netting of cordage, and with a spring valve constructed on an entirely new principle. It was estimated that the balloon would contain about 15,000 cubic feet of gas, its dimensions being fifty feet in length and twenty-two feet in diameter. It reached the earth again safely at Ligh Laver, in Essex, but in its descent a man named Frederick Clark, who was attempting to render assistance, was killed by the grapnel.

LAUNCH OF THE WASP STEAM-VESSEL.—The announcement that the launch of the Wasp steam-vessel was to take place on Tuesday from the Deptford dock-yard attracted a vast crowd of spectators. The vessel has been for some considerable time on the stocks. After the usual ceremonies had been gone through, the vessel drifted out, amidst the cheers of the multitude, the band playing "Rule Britannia."

THE CENTRAL GAS COMPANY.—On Tuesday several witnesses were examined by the committee. Mr. Tite, the architect, was of opinion that the estimate for the construction of the new company's works was sufficient, and Mr. Radford, C.E., deposed that the mains might be laid down in the thoroughfares without difficulty and within four months.

The Provinces.

THE LEVESON-STREET MURDERS.—The circumstances attending the Leveson-street murders have been painfully brought to mind. The ship Duncan, of which Captain Henrichson was master, left Liverpool on a voyage to Calcutta, under the command of Parry, formerly chief mate. On the outward voyage the son of Mary Parr, (the servant of Mrs. Henrichson, and who shared her melancholy fate), who was an apprentice in the vessel, fell overboard, and was drowned. Another serious casualty occcurred—Captain Parry, who had been married only five days before leaving Liverpool, fell from the poop rail, and was killed.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A CLERGYMAN.—EASTBOURNE, SATURDAY.—A melancholy sensation has pervaded this neighbourhood by an accident of a frightful character, happening on that prominent headland so well known to mariners passing up and down Channel, viz., Beachy Head, which is as many may be aware, some 200 or 300 feet in height from low water mark. In the course of Saturday afternoon the Rev. Henry James, the respected vicar of Willingdon, accompanied by his daughter and the Rev. Henry Watson, of Levington, went for a stroll along the coast, and in their ramble proceeded to descend the rocks. They got a short way down, when Mr. Watson urged the unfortunate gentleman not to proceed any further, in consequence of the extreme danger attending the descent. He, unfortunately, persisted in descending, and Mr. Watson, requested his daughter to remain with him on the top of the cliff. Finding the cliff very steep, he agreed to leave his daughter behind, and he then descended alone, and soon got out of sight. After some time Mr. Watson, in consequence of not seeing the deceased on the beach below, called out to him. He answered, but what he said could not be heard. Mr. Watson, fearing him to be in danger, descended the cliff a short distance, but could not see him. He afterwards heard him cry out, "For God's sake don't come; I've hurt myself very much." Mr. Watson then alarmed the coast-guard, and with Mr. James's servant ran round to the beach, where the deceased was found lying on the sand, apparently lifeless. Blood was flowing from the mouth and nose, and his body was shockingly bruised, and evidently life had been extinct some time, considerable delay having transpired in getting from the summit of the cliff to where the unfortunate gentleman lay. An inquest has been held on the remains of the deceased, and a verdict of "Accidental death" recorded, it appearing satisfactorily that he had fallen from the "Head," while in the act of descending. He was in his thirty-eighth year.

BREWERY ACCIDENT.—THREE MEN SCALDED TO DEATH.—An accident of a frightful nature occurred last week at the brewery of Messrs. Lyon and Greenalls, Wilderspool, Warrington. It appears that four of the men employed as brewers at this establishment, named Charles Bate, two Johnsons (father and son), and a man named Cartwright, had been assisting to brew, and afterwards to empty grains, the liquor having been run out of the copper into the hop-beck. The operation of emptying grains being a warm one, the men left their job, and proceeded to a small apartment, in one corner of the building, and not far from the copper pan, for the purpose of getting some refreshment, when, painful to relate, in a few minutes afterwards a loud crash was heard, which was followed by the falling and bursting of the hop-beck, which had only a short time previously been filled with boiling liquor, computed at about eighty barrels. The vessel in question was supported at a height of twelve feet from the floor by three huge beams, which rested upon a bricked archway. The beams were completely snapped asunder, causing the vessel to come in contact with the bricked arch underneath. The consequence was, the bottom of the hop-beck was knocked out, and, to the horror of the unfortunate men, the boiling liquid rushed, in streams, to all parts of the building, and more particularly into that place where they were sitting, the poor fellows being literally inundated, being up to their breasts in it, and without the least chance of escape. As soon as it was found practicable, every assistance was rendered to the sufferers, who were got out with all possible haste. Bate was conveyed home, quite insensible, being dreadfully scalded; the two Johnsons and Cartwright were also in a similar state. Messrs. Hardy and Hunt, surgeons, were prompt in their exertions to render every aid, but, we are sorry to say they are to little purpose. The unfortunate man, Bate, together with the Johnsons, expired during Wednesday night, and Cartwright is not expected to recover.

MURDER OF A CHILD BY ITS MOTHER.—An inquest was held on Saturday last at the Union-house, Fareham, before C. B. Longcroft, Esq., coroner, on the body of a female child, found in a wheat field, near Fareham, on the 23rd ult., and which had been destroyed by its mother immediately after birth. The woman, who is about twenty-three years of age, is daughter of labouring people employed at Tangier Farm, Copnor, near Portsmouth, and had been in the employ of Mrs. Evans, at Droxford, but left about three months since. She returned again, and was taxed by a witness, another servant of Mrs. Evans, with being near her confinement. She denied it, but from the suspicions entertained she left to return home. She was brought from Droxford by Richard Bennett, a carrier, and she got down at the Old Vine, about two miles from Fareham. She was soon afterwards spoken to by a labouring man who saw her sitting by the road-side, and heard the faint cry of a child, which was in her lap and covered by her gown. He walked on, but soon returned to the place, and he was induced to make a search, which resulted in the discovery of a child, which was then alive, in a wheat field near the spot where the woman had been sitting. The infant was taken to the Union-house, where it died a quarter of an hour after it was brought in.—W. Case, surgeon, of Newtown, deposed to going to the Union-house to see a child. It was a full-grown female child, breathing faintly. There were severe bruises in the face and right temple, a cut across the nose, and another on the right temple; the left temple was bruised and cut also. Found a large quantity of blood diffused over the whole skull, between that and the scalp. There was a fracture of the skull extending from the right ear upwards over the top of the head and half way down on the left side. The cause of death was injuries the brain had received from the fractures and bruises. Went to examine the young woman at the police station, and she admitted she had had a child. — The jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder against Ann Goodall."

DEATH OF MISS JANE PORTER. — The death of this celebrated authoress, whose writings, "Thaddeus of Warsaw," "The Scottish Chiefs," "Pastor's Fireside," &c., must be well known to our readers, took place at the residence of her brother, Dr. W. O. Porter, of Bristol, on the 23rd ult. Miss Porter's disease was a second attack of pulmonary apoplexy. She was in her seventy-fourth year, and maintained the vigour of her intellect and her habitual cheerfulness of disposition till the close of her life.

CHARGE OF FORGERY AT LEEDS.—Mr. Augustus Holman, and his son, Mr. Joseph Holman, of Silver Royd Hill, Wortley, and of Farnley, both in the borough of Leeds, woollen-cloth manufacturers, were apprehended on the 24th ult., by Mr. Reed, the chief constable of that borough, on a warrant, charging them with having forged and uttered two acceptances, one for the payment of £390, and the other for the payment of £330 13s. 6d. The former, purported to have been signed by Messrs. Rodger, Best, and Co., of Liverpool, and the latter by Messrs. Miller, Mackay, and Co., also of Liverpool. Both these acceptances had been paid into the bank of Messrs. Beckett and Co., of Leeds, upon the oath of one of the partners in which firm the warrant for the apprehension of the prisoners was issued. After the prisoners had undergone a brief examination before Mr. D. Lupton and Mr. J. Wilkinson, two of the Leeds magistrates, they were remanded. The elder prisoner is forty-two years of age, and, as a manufacturer, he employed from 100 to 200 persons, by whom, and the public generally he was much respected. His son is only twenty years of age. The apprehension of father and son on such serious charges has excited considerable surprise amongst the manufacturers and merchants of the West Riding. On Wednesday Augustus Holman and his son, Joseph Holman, were brought before the Leeds magistrates, charged with having forged bills of exchange, to a large amount, upon several shipping firms in Liverpool. The whole of the evidence having been read over, the prisoners were asked if they had anything to say in reply to the charges made against them, when they replied in the negative; and were both committed to York Castle for trial at the next assizes.

THE STORM of the 23rd ult. was felt with extraordinary violence at Stoke, Staffordshire. In the railway station, in consequence of the excess of electricity in the atmosphere, the needles of the telegraphic office would not act, and about four o'clock a loud explosion was heard, and smoke seen issuing from the instrument connected with the Derby line. Instantaneously the whole apartment seemed to be filled with flame, and a sulphureous smell was perceived. On examination it was discovered that there had been a fusion of the wires of two of the lightning conductors used under the instruments to prevent the demagnetising of the needles through meteorological changes, and to transmit to the earth the superfluous electricity.

A SOLDIER ROLLED TO DEATH. — On Monday morning about seven o'clock a party of soldiers belonging to the 28th Regt., at Portsmouth, having been on fatigue on South Sea Common, were returning to quarters, drawing after them a very large iron roller charged with iron shot, when, in descending the road to the centre of the glacis at a rapid pace to escape the rain at the time falling, one of the men fell, and in an instant the ponderous machine passed over the unfortunate fellow, whose head and body were so fearfully crushed that instantaneous death resulted.

CHARGE OF ILL-TREATING EMIGRANTS.—The second mate of the ship Jamestown, a coloured American, was charged under the following circumstances:—At Liverpool, on Thursday, upwards of sixty emigrants were conveyed by the steward of Mr. Sabel's establishment, in Moorfields, on board the above ship, preparatory to sailing for New York the same evening. During the time the steward was in the steerage talking to some of the emigrants, he found that his pocket had been picked and a boy being seized as the delinquent, some disturbance arose. Then (as sworn to by a number of the emigrants, who appeared with their heads bandaged, and showed other symptoms of having been seriously injured), the second mate came down the hatchway, took the boy from them, and commenced an indiscriminate attack upon those present, without the least provocation. Many were knocked down, and others cut and bruised, the mate striking in all directions, with his fist and an open knife. This evidence was positively denied by the mate, and a number of witnesses were called who threw quite a different aspect on the affair. They swore that the boy was taken away to be given into custody, upon which the mate was struck in the face by one of the emigrants; that, on his resisting this usage by returning the blow, he was attacked by all who could get near him, brandishing knives, and one a dagger; and, that if assistance had not promptly been rendered, he would have been killed. The wounds must have been received in the melée, as all the witnesses distinctly swore that the emigrants were the only parties with knives.—Mr. Rushton said, it appeared that the emigrants must have laboured under a misapprehension that the mate was rescuing the boy, and were the aggressors, and therefore dismissed the case.

TWO £40 BANK NOTES STOLEN.—On the 17th ult. a letter enclosing two Bank of England notes for £40 each was posted in London, addressed to Mr. Ambrose Smith, sharebroker, in Leeds, but neither the letter nor the cash came into Mr. Smith's hands. On Mr. Josiah Bates, of London, who had remitted the money, being applied to, he stated that the notes sent were numbered 95,020 and 95,021, and notice that they were missing was forthwith given to bankers and others. It was at first thought that the post-office was not clear of blame but it now turns out that an errand boy in the office of Mr. Smith is the guilty party, he having taken the letter and money into his own possession. The boy's name is Abraham Haigh; he is only 16 years of age, and had been in Mr. Smith's service about three months. On Tuesday he was brought up before the Leeds justices on the charge. It seems that on Saturday, the 18th inst., he called at a grocer's shop, kept by Mr. Illingworth, in West-street, and obtained change for one £40 note, pretending that he had been sent by Messrs. Hebblewaite, brothers, wine merchants, whose clerk he professed to be. On this becoming known, further inquiry was made, and the boy was taken into custody by the superintendent of police, who at once charged him with the robbery. The lad denied the robbery, but admitted having changed a £40 note at Mr. Illingsworth's shop, and said the money was secreted at his mother's house, not far from the mantel-shelf. The superintendent of police (Mr. James) on going there, found inside the fire-place a parcel wrapped up in brown paper, and on opening it found that it contained one of the stolen notes for £40, numbered 95,020, and five other £5 notes. On telling the prisoner that he had found one of the stolen notes, the prisoner said he would tell them all about it. The letter had been opened by one of the clerks, who took out the money, and gave it him to get change. On searching the prisoner's person there was found upon him £2. 10s. 10d. in money, a new silver watch, and, in his box at home, a musical box, and a silver pencil case, belonging to his master. When asked by the magistrates what he had to say, he simply repeated what he had before alleged, that one of the clerks had given him the money to get changed. The justices committed him for trial.

A BLACKSMITH'S WEDDING, AND A FATAL RESULT.—An accident of a fatal and most extraordinary nature, arising out of the celebration of a wedding, took place at Bradfield on the 24th ult., and through which a master blacksmith at that place lost his life. It appears it is the custom in some locations, as it is at Bradfield, for the blacksmiths of the place when one of their craft marries, to fire a rejoicing salute by what they call "blowing up the anvil." A wedding of the kind was fixed for Friday, and Mr. John Scrivener, in compliance with the custom, had made preparations for the blowing up, at all times a dangerous, and almost insane proceeding. The process is to turn up the anvil, fill a hole in it with powder, and plug it tightly in; this had been done by Mr. Scrivener, preparatory to firing it, it being his intention to effect this by means of a long iron rod heated for the purpose; but not having adjusted the plug to his mind he took up a hammer and gave it a blow when the powder exploded, probably from their being a piece of grit between it and the iron, and the handle of the sledge hammer, upon which he was resting, was driven through his body. He fell instantly dead, the weight of the hammer head pulling the handle from his body as he was falling. The deceased was a fine man, twenty-eight years of age, and was married, but had no children. An inquest was held on Saturday last, when a verdict of "Accidental death" was recorded.

THE MANNING OF EMIGRANT SHIPS.—At the Plymouth Guildhall, on Saturday, May 25th, a case of considerable interest in connexion with emigration ships, came on for hearing before the sitting magistrates, the mayor, (John Moore, Esq.,) and Colonel Dunsterville, H.E.I.C.S., in which five seamen belonging to the emigrant ship, William Stevenson, bound from London to Adelaide, New South Wales, and which ship is chartered by Messrs. Woolley and Gull, of London, and who gave their names as Edward French, Henry Croger, Peter Graham, William Roberts, and Thomas Knowles, were charged by the captain, Thomas Williams, with having refused to go to sea.—Mr. Edmonds was engaged for the captain.—The five prisoners, who were clean-looking and powerful men, and apparently perfect seamen, were severally asked if they were willing to go on board, and they all answered no, as she was not properly manned.—Edward Leach George was then sworn. He said: I was on board the vessel William Stevenson last evening and saw the crew. I think she is sufficiently manned. She has the proper complement, and they are a fine set of men.—The prisoners said: "They're a fine set of men are they—they are nearly all landsmen."—Witness: There are thirty-six in the ship.—Prisoners: Thirty-six may be on board, but they are not able seamen.—Edward French: There are only twelve able seamen amongst the lot.—Witness: I was seventeen years at sea, and for five years was commander. I should say the vessel was manned in a superior manner.—The Mayor said he wished them (the prisoners) to understand that they would be imprisoned if they persisted in their refusal, and that he had no power to restore their clothes to them.—French said: I still refuse to go, whatever may be the consequence; if I lose my clothes and go a begging.—The Mayor then sentenced him to be imprisoned in the Borough Gaol for thirty days.—The other prisoners came forward one by one, and persisted in their refusal. They were all sentenced to a similar term of confinement. As they were passing towards the prison, they asked that their papers and certificates at least might be restored to them.—The Mayor gave directions that this should be done, and the captain promised to attend to it.—The Mayor then said to the prisoners, "If I had any power to order the restitution of your clothes I would do it."—Colonel Dunsterville signified that he dissented from the Mayor on that point, and on the ground that they were well aware of what the state of the ship was when they engaged. The men were then removed.—A passenger, who had interrupted the proceedings of the preceding case, was now asked by Mr. Edmonds, what complaint he had to make?—He said that he and some others of the passengers feared the ship was not properly manned, from the singularity of finding men willing to lose employment and their clothes, and ready to go to prison, rather than go to sea in the vessel.—The magistrates said they had no jurisdiction in the matter.

THE LATE HONITON BANK.—The affairs of the Honiton Bank have at length been wound up in Bankruptcy.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT AND LOSS OF LIFE AT MORECAMBE BAY. — Several families resident in Manchester have been thrown into great distress by the tidings of a most painful and fatal occurrence, at Morecambe Bay. The whole of the details have not yet reached the relatives of the sufferers, but the following general particulars may be relied upon:—A large party of ladies and gentlemen had left Manchester to spend the Whitsuntide holidays at a watering place in the neighbourhood of Morecambe Bay, and on Friday morning a boating party was formed to cross the water from Silverdale to Grange, consisting of five gentlemen, five ladies, and two men servants. The names of the ladies I have not ascertained; but the gentlemen were Mr. John Morris, solicitor, Manchester; Mr. North, land and building agent, and Mr. North, jun., his son; Mr. Alfred Coates (son of Mr. Coates, late cotton merchant, and now resident in Plymouth-grove,) and Mr. Porter, also of Manchester. In the afternoon, Mr. Morris and Mr. North, sen., returned with the ladies to Silverdale, crossing the sands at low water in a car, but the gentlemen determined to wait till the tide served in the evening, and recross the bay in a boat. It would be high water at eleven o'clock, and it is supposed that the gentlemen attempted to cross the water at that time. Their friends, however, at Silverdale remained in painful suspense till the following morning, without tidings of them, and at daylight intelligence was brought them of the boat being found capsized on the sands, with the dead bodies of Mr. Coates, Mr. North, jun., and Mr. Porter lying near it. It is said there were two other bodies found, but whether they were those of the two men servants, or of other persons, I did not learn. The Manchester Examiner supplies the following particulars, and the result of the inquest:—"Before they had gone far on their journey down the sands, they must have found that the tide was insensibly overtaking them; and when they neared the boat, they discovered too late that they were surrounded so effectually by the tide, that either to reach the boat or return was impossible. The bodies were found the next morning by a person who was fishing on the spot; and the position in which they lay, disclosed how desperate had been the struggle for life which they had made. In their death agony each had grasped the other, and they were all cast upon the beach in a mass. An inquest was held on Monday evening, at Hest Bank Hotel, before Mr. Gardner, coroner, when two men named Ashburn and Fisher, confessed that they heard on Friday evening a cry for help from some parties seemingly in distress, and could even distinguish the words, "Lost, lost," and yet they neither stirred hand nor foot to obtain assistance, but excused themselves on the ground that it was too late at the time to do so! The verdict was simply 'Accidental death.'"

GALLANT CONDUCT.—PORTSMOUTH.—About half-past two p.m. on Sunday afternoon a marine named Crawford fell overboard by accident, and would have been drowned, had it not been for the praiseworthy conduct of Mr. Henry Neale Scaife, the clerk of her Majesty's yacht Victoria and Albert, who, hearing a boat called away to pick up the man, immediately rushed on deck and jumped overboard just in time to save him from a watery grave. This is the third person Mr. Scaife has saved from death by his gallantry; the last previous case occurred in December last, about dusk, when one of the ordinary boats belonging to the Belvidera frigate was upset by getting athwart of the Admiral Superintendent's yacht: a woman would have been drowned had not Mr. Scaife (who was going off to the Royal yacht's hulk in a waterman's boat) pulled towards her and jumped overboard to her rescue. The first case occurred abroad, when he saved a French sailor from drowning.

FURTHER SEIZURES OF SMUGGLED TOBACCO AT BRISTOL.—Since the seizure of 5,000 lbs. of smuggled tobacco at Bristol last week, the authorities at the Custom-house in that city have succeeded in possessing themselves of about 2,000 lbs. more of tobacco, packed in bales of a similar character, and none of it entered for duty. In consequence of a key being found on one of the prisoners, which fitted a stable in the neighbourhood of Broadmead, that place was searched, and a quantity of tobacco found. Some other bales were also discovered in the float, where they had evidently been thrown to avoid detection. The whole quantity has been seized, and another man has been taken into custody, upon a charge of being concerned in the smuggling.

THE PORTSMOUTH STATUES.—The statues of the Duke of Wellington and Lord Viscount Nelson were moved from the railway terminus on Saturday last, alongside the pedestals on Southsea beach, on which they will be placed during the course of the week, though the inauguration will not take place before the 18th of June. The Gallic cock, placed in a degrading position under the foot of the Duke, has been removed—"chipped off"—without detriment to the effect of the statue.

MORE SECRET POISONINGS IN ESSEX.—An inquiry, adjourned by Mr. C. C. Lewis, the coroner, from the 20th instant, was resumed on Tuesday at Clavering (a small village, six miles distant from Newport, Essex, and the scene of the murders of children by poisoning about five years since,) respecting the death of Richard Chesham, the father of those children, and who it now appears died from the effects of arsenic. The deceased was the husband of the woman Sarah Chesham, who was tried at the assizes for the murders and was acquitted. On the 4th of February last he sent to the relieving officer of Clavering parish for an order for medical aid, which was granted, the relieving officer visiting him from time to time until the period of his death, which took place last Thursday fortnight. On the visit of the officer deceased complained of constant vomiting, pains in the chest, and could not bear any weight on his body. Subsequently the officer saw him several times; at times he was better, and seemed to be recovering, and at others appeared worse through attacks of vomiting and purging. Mr. Hawks, surgeon, at Clavering, deposed to attending on the deceased by order of the relieving officer, and described his illness in similar terms. Since death he had made a post mortem examination of the body. The lungs were full of tubercles. The cause of death he considered to be consumption. In consequence of some suspicious circumstances which came to the knowledge of the coroner and jury, it was determined to subject the intestines and stomach to an analysation, and for that purpose they were forwarded to Mr. Taylor, the professor of chemistry at Guy's Hospital. The coroner informed the jury he had received a communication from that gentleman, intimating he had detected arsenic in the remains he had analysed. The inquiry was adjourned, to enable the authorities to obtain further evidence.

HOMICIDE AT SHEFFIELD.—On Monday evening a man named Law was killed in a beer-house at Sheffield, under circumstances of gross atrocity. During the day he had been drinking with a woman named Lydia Robinson. At five in the afternoon they were at a low beer-house in Sim's Croft. They drank two pints of ale, which Law paid for. He called for a third pint, and, after another woman, with whom he was acquainted, had drunk out of it, he refused to pay for it, saying he had no money. Hereupon an angry altercation ensued, which was put an end to by the landlady consenting to take back the beer. Four young men, who were drinking in the same room, accosted Law with indecent epithets, and called him a shabby fellow. Law was very drunk, but he had not previously shown any disposition to quarrel. Exasperated at length by their taunts, he sprang up, and darting towards one of the young men, he exclaimed, "At any rate, I am man enough for thee," at the same time aiming a blow at him. The four men then set upon him and knocked him down upon the hearth. The woman Robinson stepped in front of him, and endeavoured to protect him from further violence. In this she succeeded for some moments; but one of the four young men rushed past her, and in a great rage leapt upon a table, swearing that he would "jump Law's entrails out." He immediately leaped with all his weight upon Law's breast. The suddenness and force of the contusion caused the blood to gush from the prostrate man's mouth and nostrils, and he died almost instantly, without uttering a word. Great confusion and alarm succeeded, amidst which the four young men made their escape. Their names, and a description of their appearance, were as soon as possible communicated to the police, and officers were despatched in search of them. During the same evening one of them, named Bernard Housley, was apprehended. The other three are well known to the police. They are at large, but it is expected they will surrender. Housley was taken before the magistrates at the Town-hall on Tuesday and remanded, his companions not having been apprehended.

Scotland.

SUICIDE IN THE CAVALRY BARRACKS, GLASGOW.—On Sunday morning a most determined case of self-destruction occurred in the cavalry barracks on the south side of the river. A private, named Joseph Seston, in the regiment at present stationed here—the 13th Light Dragoons—while in his ward, about the time in question, deliberately took down his carbine and shot himself through the head. The report brought some people immediately to his assistance, but death was found to have been all but instantaneous. No reason can be assigned for the suicide.

Ireland.

AWFUL MURDER.—Great excitement was created in Dublin by an account announcing the murder of Mr. Robert Lindsay Mauleverer, a magistrate of the county of Londonderry, and an agent over extensive estates in the north of Ireland. The Ulster papers of Saturday bring full confirmation of the dreadful event, which seems to have created a deep sensation throughout the whole province. The most detailed version of the horrible affair is furnished by the Newry Examiner, and is as follows:—"It has become our melancholy duty to record this day as atrocious a murder as ever was committed in blood-stained Tipperary itself. The victim is Mr. R. Mauleverer. He was land agent on the Tipping and Hamilton estates, in the barony of Upper Fews, in the county of Armagh. From the letter of a correspondent we glean the following particulars:—At the time the savage deed was perpetrated the unfortunate gentleman was on his way to meet the down train on the Dundalk and Enniskillen Railway, on Thursday last, about one o'clock. He was travelling on an outside-car, when he was shot through the head, and killed on the spot. The driver states that when the fatal shot was fired his horse took fright and galloped a considerable distance before he could restrain him. On returning to where the murdered gentleman lay, after being absent some time, he found him weltering in his blood, and presenting a truly fearful spectacle. The place where the murder was committed was well selected by the assassin with a view to his escape. It is a lonely valley a considerable distance from any dwelling-house, sheltered by rocks on either side of the road. Various causes are assigned, none of them materially differing from those out of which agrarian outrages have usually arisen, for the perpetration of this terrible tragedy. It is certain robbery was not the object of the assassin, as Mr. Mauleverer had on his person a gold watch and chain, as also a sum of money, all of which were left untouched. The ill-fated gentleman had been engaged of late in serving ejectment notices on a very extensive scale, to the number, it is said, of some hundreds, on the properties for which he was agent, as also in seizing for rents and arrears. At the Crossmaglen petty sessions on Saturday last several men and women were proceeded against at his instance for rescuing cattle seized by a number of his bailiffs. Informations were ordered against the parties; but it afterwards appearing that the notices for distraint were illegally served, the prosecution failed. Two persons have been arrested on suspicion of having been concerned in the murder. They were seen in the locality before the murder; they were subsequently arrested coming in the direction of this county, with blood upon their clothes. The deceased was about forty-five years of age, and resided in Maghera, county of Derry. He was a justice of the peace, and son to the late rector of Tynan, in the county of Armagh. His mother still resides in Armagh." It is stated that a police party will be at once located in the townland where the murder was committed, the expense of their maintenance to be borne by the ratepayers, until the discovery of the perpetrators. Crossmaglen is described as one of the worst districts in the northern province. It is stated by the Northern Whig that "the country people, instead of seizing the assassin, showed their diabolical feeling by striking the body with their spades." The same journal adds, that some ejectments were to have been effected on the day the murder occurred. The verdict at the inquest on the remains of this unfortunate gentlemen was "wilful murder against some person or persons unknown." The latest particulars connected with this most atrocious murder are given in the following remarkable statement which we take from the Newry Telegraph of Tuesday: "Immediately after the inquest had concluded, Mr. Singleton commenced a searching inquiry, in his magisterial capacity, and was engaged in it until a late hour on Saturday night. He received a great many informations, the substance of which may be presented in a short compass. Two farmers returning to their homes, from Crossmaglen, along the Culloville-road, immediately after the murder, were the first persons who came up to the deceased. They first found the deceased's great coat lying on the road. Proceeding a short distance onward, they found his hat; and on advancing four or five perches further, they found his body lying on the road-side, the blood oozing from his head, and his brains dashed out on the road. He was breathing. His walking-stick was near him, all covered with blood and some hair at the heavy end of it. From the place where his great coat was found to the spot, where the body lay, the distance is between thirty and forty perches; and it is evident, from the position in which his coat and hat were found, that there must have been a continuous and desperate struggle between the deceased and the blood-thirsty assassins. Immediately after the two farmers arrived at the scene of murder, two men, named Bernard Hanratty and John M'Atavey, were seen in a field not far from where the body was found, running across the country in the direction of Dundalk. Sub-Constable Benjamin Darlington, who had meantime come up, instantly pursued them, and followed them upwards of three miles, across the country into the County Louth; but was not able to overtake them. Being nearly overcome with fatigue, he went to a police-station, gave information of the murder, and a description of the two men of whom he was in pursuit, and the direction in which they were running. Sub-Constables Steward and Farrell then took up the pursuit; and being fresh, succeeded, in a short time, in overtaking and arresting Hanratty and M'Atavey, who were dripping with perspiration, and greatly fatigued. Hanratty made a desperate resistance. He caught hold of the constable's carbine twice, and only surrendered when the constable threatened that, if he did not yield, he would shoot him. His clothes were all covered with blood, which was not dry, and there were two fresh cuts on his head. The deceased's stick had been found lying near him, with blood and hair on it, at the handle or heavy end. When the prisoners were brought back to Crossmaglen, and while the magisterial investigation was going on, the stick was laid on one of the cuts in Hanratty's head, and the marks and hair corresponded exactly with the angular handle of the stick, and the hair attached to it. The prisoner, M'Atavey, was seen loitering about Mr. M'Donnell's hotel, about eleven o'clock on the morning that deceased left. At that time he had on a cap. When he was arrested he had got on Hanratty's hat, and the latter his cap. They were both fully committed by Mr. Singleton for trial, at the next Armagh Assizes. The story told by the car-driver, Patrick M'Nally, is utterly unworthy of credit; and Mr. Singleton remanded him for further examination. It is impossible not to believe but that he saw some, at least, of the parties who committed this hellish crime. The cushion on which he sat was spotted with blood, the well of the car was covered with blood, and the cushion on which Mr. Mauleverer sat was spotted with blood. The struggle extended over a space measuring thirty perches. Yet M'Nally says that all this took place, and he saw no one all the time, excepting the deceased! Traces of the wheels of the car were found to within forty yards of where the body lay, on the right-hand side of the road; and then they suddenly struck off to the left side, as if the horse had given a sudden bound. There are no fewer than sixteen houses within a short distance of the spot, where the murder was committed."

A serious riot took place last week at Raphoe, owing to the playing of some party tunes by the Orangemen.

THE VICE-ROYALTY.—The London correspondent of the Evening Mail gives the following statement:—"There are some grounds for believing that the Duke of Wellington is unfavourable to the project for the abolition of the Irish Vice-royalty. Whether his Grace will actively exhibit his disapprobation is difficult to say; but I have heard, upon what I believe to be good authority, that he very plainly expressed his disgust at an arrangement which, to use his own words, 'would, he supposed, place the commander of the troops under the orders of the Lord Mayor of Dublin, in case of another Ballingarry rebellion.'"

The Limerick Examiner states that a copper mine has just been discovered on the property of the Messrs. Harrold, in the immediate vicinity of Limerick.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC SYNOD.—The four Irish Roman Catholic Archbishops met on the 24th ult., when it was arranged that the Synod of the Bishops and superior Clergy should be held at Thurles, in the county of Tipperary, on the 15th of August next. The proceedings of this Synod will be looked for with the liveliest interest.

REPRESENTATION OF DROGHEDA.—Some of the Irish journals seem to have decided on the immediate elevation of Sir W. Somerville to the House of Peers, and if a Dundalk paper be rightly informed, there are good grounds for supposing that the Irish Secretary's promotion is not far distant, inasmuch as it is stated that on the 23rd ult. Mr. Meredyth, of Randelstown, county of Meath, and a connexion of Sir William's, had commenced a canvass among the Whigs of Drogheda.

CASE OF THE LORD MAYOR. — In the Court of Queen's Bench on Monday there was again a difference amongst the judges in the long-litigated case of the qualification of the Lord Mayor (Mr. Reynolds, M. P.) Three of the Judges, Chief Justice Blackburn, and Judges Crampton and Moore, were for an absolute order for a mandamus to the corporation of Dublin, requiring the election of a new lord mayor; and Mr. Justice Perrin alone dissented. The mandamus issues this day; and the return is to be made within eight days. Nevertheless, there may be much more litigation on this extraordinary case.

DREADFUL OCCURRENCE.—On Saturday morning last between four and five o'clock, a fire broke out in the shop of Mr. Kelvin, in the town of Clonmel, and before assistance could be afforded to the inmates of the house Mrs. Kelvin, her three children, two servant women, and a young woman who attended the shop, were suffocated. The following particulars are from the Clonmel Chronicle:—"A fire broke out in the shop of Mr. James Kelvin, Main-street, early in the morning, but was not discovered until about four o'clock a.m., when Mr. Kelvin was disturbed by the smell of smoke and burning wood, and upon awakening his wife, they both proceeded towards the shop to ascertain the cause. And immediately upon opening the door communicating between the house and shop an immense volume of flame and smoke issued out against them, showing that the shop was on fire. Mrs. Kelvin then, with true maternal affection, hurried up to the top room, where her children slept, and aroused them for the purpose of devising means for their preservation; but the shop which was their only egress, being on fire, prevented any thought being turned in that direction, whilst the banisters and stairs being now on fire, cut off all chance of flight in that quarter. Mr. Kelvin then entered the front room over the shop, and, raising the window, called for help; but the flames advancing behind him, hemmed him in and prevented any return into the body of the house, upon which he leaped through the window and was caught by the people, who broke his fall. The unhappy mother was then discovered, surrounded by her shrieking children, at the upper window, the lower part of which was strongly secured by three stout iron bars, which prevented their escape, as well as rendered it impossible that help could be given them; ladders were placed to the several windows, and one courageous fellow dashed up the ladder through the flames to the top window, where the poor victims were, but, in consequence of the bars abovementioned, could afford no help, and, the flames threatening to burn the ladder, he was compelled to return. Others attempted the same dangerous task, but failed, in consequence of the flames which were playing round and through the rounds of the ladder; after the lapse of a few minutes the family were seen to retire from the window, and from that time all is conjecture; it is thought that the blaze, which extended from the shop front to the top window, drove them in from the place of refuge, and the thick smoke inside soon suffocated them. An opening was forced through the partition which divides the house of Mr. Shehan, and upon entering the room seven dead bodies were discovered in the room in different positions. Amongst the victims were Mrs. Kelvin and her three children, Mary Ann M'Gawly, the young woman who attended the shop, and two servants—they were suffocated by the smoke."

REPEAL ASSOCIATION.—The beggarly contribution of £5 7s. 0d. towards the repeal exchequer, extorted another (the fifth or sixth) threat on Monday from Mr. John O'Connell to close the doors, and let the agitation shift for itself.

FOREIGN GRAIN.—An importation having taken place in a Norwegian ship from Borregaard, of a parcel of oatmeal in casks, which is subject to the import duty of four and a half per cent., but which was in this instance intended for immediate exportation to Hudson's Bay, application was made to the Customs authorities—with reference to the recent alteration in the corn laws, which enacts that grain and grain flour must pay duty immediately on importation into this country, and is not, as formerly, now allowed to be warehoused in bond—for permission for the oatmeal to be constructively warehoused only for immediate shipment, and that, as the oatmeal was not intended to be landed, it might be allowed to be so transhipped to its destination without the duty being required to be paid thereon, and the matter having been taken into consideration by the authorities of the revenue, the oatmeal has been allowed to be transhipped to its destination without the duty being first required to be paid here, as desired by the parties.

THE Weser Gazette has the following from Vienna:—"A few days ago a young Hungarian nobleman, quartered in the barracks of Grumpendorf with the Honveds, having gone to a café after having been refused leave of absence by his captain, was, on his return, ordered to receive corporeal punishment. All the corporals of the Honveds having refused to inflict this punishment, the captain sent to a neighbouring barracks for a corporal, who inflicted it. After a few lashes the young Hungarian fell to the ground. The Honveds instantly rushed upon the captain and killed him. The entire corps was dissolved the same day."

HUMILITY.—Sir Peter Laurie blandly requesting the omnibus conductor to "put him down."—Punch.

THE EARL OF LINCOLN'S DIVORCE BILL.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

The house met at three, Lord Langdale, Speaker, to consider the second reading of the above bill. There were about twenty peers present, but Lord Brougham and Lord Redesdale only took part in the proceedings.

Mr. ROBINSON attended as counsel for Lord Lincoln, in support of the bill. No counsel appeared for Lady Lincoln; her solicitor intimated to the house that she would not give any opposition to the bill.

From the statements of Mr. Robinson and of the numerous witnesses whom he afterwards examined, it appeared that the petitioner, the Right Hon. Henry Pelham Pelham Clinton, commonly called Earl of Lincoln, was married in November, 1832, to the Countess, then the Hon. Lady Susan Catherine Douglas Hamilton, spinster, daughter of Duke of Hamilton, at whose mansion in the parish of Hamilton, in the county of Lanark, in Scotland, the marriage was duly solemnised according to the forms and law of Scotland. The earl and his said countess lived together from the time of the marriage until the 2nd of August, 1848, with the exception of occasional temporary separations; and there was issue of the marriage, four sons and one daughter: another child has been born in Italy since 1848. On the 2nd of August in that year, the Countess left London without the earl's knowledge, and unaccompanied by any of her or his relatives, and has been travelling abroad, in different parts of Europe, ever since. On her arrival at Baden-Baden, a few days after her departure from London, she wrote a short note to the earl, saying she had just arrived there, was very tired and ill, but hoped she would be quite well upon seeing a doctor. She sent her love and blessing to him and their children. She soon departed from Baden, and travelled through Switzerland, stopping at Lausanne, Geneva, &c., and thence to Italy, frequently in company with Horatio William Walpole, commonly called Lord Walpole, eldest son of the Earl of Orford. That they were on the most intimate terms was quite clear from the evidence. The countess travelled and passed by the name of Mrs. Lawrence. She gave birth to a male child at or near Verona, in August or September, 1849, and the child was baptised by a Catholic priest there by the name of "Horatio Walpole Lawrence." In the month of July of that year, in consequence of the reports that reached this country respecting the Countess's conduct abroad, some persons giving the character of indiscretion only to her acts, while others thought they bore a more immoral character, Mr. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., who had been for many years on the most friendly terms with the Earl and Countess of Lincoln, went with the Earl's sanction to try to ascertain what was the real character of her acts. She had left Naples before he arrived there, but he traced her to Milan, and found her, or a lady whom he supposed to be her, passing as a Mrs. Lawrence, near the Lake of Como. He sent in his card, and also wrote a note to the lady, but both card and note were returned, with a verbal message that no lady was known there as Lady Lincoln or Mrs. Lawrence. He saw a travelling carriage at the door, and observed the figure of a lady in the house whom he believed to be the Countess of Lincoln. As he was going away, the same carriage drove by him in the direction of Verona, and then he saw it was Lady Lincoln. He did not see any gentleman with her, but from all he discovered he had no doubt of the criminal character of her proceedings. On his return to England, a Mr. Raphael, a solicitor, was sent to Italy in company with a person who had been servant in the family and knew Lady Lincoln well. From their discoveries it was most apparent that her ladyship and Lord Walpole had been living together in a state of adultery from August 1848 to September 1849. Although Lord Lincoln had thus obtained sufficient evidence to sustain an action for criminal conversation with the countess against Lord Walpole, no such action has been brought because Lord Walpole has ever since kept out of the jurisdiction of our courts. Proceedings for a divorce, a mensa et thoro, were taken in March last, in the Ecclesiastical Court, against the countess for adultery with Lord Walpole, and a definitive sentence of divorce has been pronounced without any opposition having been given thereto by her. These proceedings and final decree were laid on the table of the house in compliance with the standing orders. Their lordships had on a former day dispensed with the signature of Lord Lincoln to the petition for this bill, accepting in lieu thereof the signatures of his solicitor and proctor, on account of his lordship's absence abroad. The house was for the same reason now required to dispense with another of their standing orders, by which the petitioner for a divorce is required to be present at the second reading of his bill, in order to answer any questions which their lordships should put to him respecting any collusion between himself and his wife for the purpose of a divorce.

After the formal proofs of the marriage, &c., Noel Pavoick, a native of Illyria, who had entered into the service of Lord Walpole in July, 1848, said he had travelled with his lordship to Emms, in Germany, where he remained till the 7th of October, 1848. Lady Lincoln came there after Lord Walpole's arrival, and she stayed there while he stayed. They were at separate hotels, but he visited her very often, and they were almost constantly together. They travelled in the same carriage alone, from Emms to Wisbaden, thence to Lausanne, in Switzerland, and to Geneva, from which place they went to Italy, and stopped at Turin, Genoa, and other places. They used the same apartments. On one occasion witness was desired by his lordship to fetch him a certain newspaper, which witness went for and took up to the sitting-room, and entering without tapping at the door, he saw the lady and Lord Walpole on the sofa. [The witness's description of their position, if true, left no doubt of the nature of the intercourse.] This happened in Genoa, in November, 1848. They went thence to Civita Vecchia and to Rome, where they remained from November, 1848, to April, 1849. The lady (the Countess of Lincoln) was then much stouter, and witness was directed by Lord Walpole to hire apartments for her at Frescati, where his lordship used to visit her frequently. Witness was discharged in May, 1849. The lady's courier had been discharged before that time. He used to see portmanteaus and other things in her room, with the name of "Mrs. Lawrence" on them.

The Right Hon. W. E. GLADSTONE, M.P., examined—Said he was well acquainted with the Earl and Countess of Lincoln, and he and Mrs. Gladstone were for many years on terms of the most intimate friendship with them, allowing for the difference of their ranks. The Countess was always in delicate health, and especially in Paris. Recollected her leaving this country on the 2nd of August, 1848, since which time she has not been, as witness believed, in this country. He had been in constant communication with Lord Lincoln from that time, and knew he was not out of England from August, 1848 to August, 1849. In July, 1849, witness, in consequence of the construction put by report upon the conduct of Lady Lincoln, supposing, then, that her conduct might bear the construction of indiscretion, though her acts were capable of a construction of a criminal character—went abroad in pursuit of her, in order to try to put her in a position of security, if her acts were only acts of indiscretion. He went after her by the desire of Lord Lincoln, and his instructions were to bring her home if he could. He went to Naples, but not finding her there, he proceeded to Milan, whither he was informed at Naples she was gone. She had left there also, saying that she was going to the Baths at Como. He traced her as Mrs. Lawrence to the Villa Manchina. He tried to find access to her as Mrs. Lawrence, and also as Lady Lincoln; he sent his card and wrote a note to her as Lady Lincoln, under cover to Mrs. Lawrence. The card and note were returned to him with a verbal message, that no such person was known there. He saw a carriage standing at the door as if for travelling, and he saw the figure of a lady in the house, and passing to the carriage, which with the lady in it soon after passed him on the road towards Verona. He thought the lady was Lady Lincoln. He then went away.

To questions put by Lord BROUGHAM, witness said he did not see any gentleman in the house or carriage, nor could he observe that the lady was big with child.

To questions put by Lord REDESDALE, witness said he believed Lady Lincoln left London on the 2nd of August, 1848, and without the knowledge of Lord Lincoln. Her reason for doing so, as he understood, was, that the state of her health, as she thought, absolutely required her going abroad, and she, knowing that Lord Lincoln would object, went without his knowledge, not liking to have any discussion with him. He did not know who supplied her with money for her departure, or for travelling.

Mr. PARKINSON, Lord Lincoln's solicitor, in answer to Lord Brougham, said Lady Lincoln had £600 a-year for pin money by her marriage settlement. She had a fortune of £30,000.

JOSEPH OSMOND, a witness, who was butler to Lord and Lady Lincoln for several years, said they had five children before 1848, namely, the Honourable Henry Arthur Alexander Pelham Clinton, Lord Clinton; Edward William Pelham Clinton, Susan Charlotte Catherine Pelham Clinton, Arthur Pelham Clinton, and Albert Pelham Clinton, the youngest, who was about five years of age—all of them are living. Witness was with Lord Lincoln, his master, from August, 1848, to September, 1849, and knew he was not out of England all that time. In September, 1849, witness went with Mr. Raphael to Verona, where they arrived on the 8th of that month. They went in search of Lady Lincoln, and on the 18th of that month, and again on the 20th, they saw her first coming out of the hotel and going into a carriage and returning in two hours after, and the same on the 20th. There was

a child a few weeks old in her apartments, and it was nursed by Ellen Jones, who had been wet-nurse in the family for several years.

Mr. Raphael said, he is a solicitor, but not to Lord Lincoln. He was applied to in September, 1849, by Mr. Parkinson, the solicitor to Lord Lincoln, to go to Italy to make inquiries about Lady Lincoln. This witness confirmed what the witness Osmond had before said, and further said, that he had searched for the register of baptisms in Verona, but all the registers were dispersed or in confusion, on account of the state of the place at that time. He was introduced to a Roman Catholic priest, who stated that he baptised a child for a lady in the hotel, being requested to do so by the master of the hotel; and he gave witness a written certificate of the baptism, which witness gave in during the suit for divorce in the Ecclesiastical Court. The certificate being now produced from that court, was identified by witness, and was translated to the house by an interpreter. The certificate was dated on the 22nd of September, 1849, and stated, that the undersigned (the priest) was sent for on the 25th of August preceding, by the master of the hotel to christen a child of which a lady in the hotel was delivered, and which was declared to be the son of Horatio Walpole Lawrence.

Lord Brougham then rose, and said,—My lords, I have no doubt as to this case, of the absence and non-access of Lord Lincoln to conjugal rights, and of the birth of a child. The bill contained no bastardising clause, for, however strong the moral presumption of the fact may be, you have no right to bastardise an infant without the most positive evidence. The scene on the sofa leaves no doubt on this case. Lady Lincoln and Lord Walpole live together at Como, and travel in the same carriage to Rome, but the moment they come to a large town she gets out, and they enter in separate conveyances. This was done at Genoa, and then there is the direct evidence of Lord Walpole's own servant of what he saw on the sofa, and which renders it clear that adultery was committed. I move, your Lordships, on these grounds, for the second reading of this bill. The absence of the verdict of a jury is easily accounted for, as Lord Walpole has not been in this country for the last two years, and it was impossible, therefore, to serve process upon him. That was the evidence always given to supply the want of a verdict.

Lord Redesdale said, that it was with great unwillingness he addressed their Lordships, but on that bill, more than any other, they ought to be careful not to establish a case as to one party related to many noble lords, members of that house, which would not be applicable to others. He pointed out that the husband was not the petitioner here, but his solicitor; that the noble lord was not present, or at least in attendance, in case their Lordships wished to examine him; last of all, that no verdict had been obtained in a court of law. Unquestionably on the evidence, though Lady Lincoln left her husband without his consent, it does not appear to have been accompanied by any open rupture with Lord Lincoln, but on the contrary, for the only letter their Lordships had heard read from her after her departure was a friendly one, announcing her arrival at Baden. There was no other evidence to explain what subsequently took place when a few days afterwards she joined Lord Walpole. There was no one point on which their Lordship's house was more careful than to avoid the possibility of collusion. It was most necessary that they should require evidence on that point, even where they all knew, as in the present case, that no collusion existed. Now, in the evidence laid before their Lordships, it was not satisfactorily shown that there was no collusion between the parties. He expressed this as his opinion, and from the strong feeling he entertained that nothing should take place in their Lordships' house which was not according to legal evidence, he had considered it as his duty to call their Lordships' attention to these points before the bill was read a second time. It was, however, in the hands of noble lords more competent to pronounce on these matters than himself, and if no objection was taken on the part of other noble lords he would not press his opposition.

Lord Brougham said, that in the absence of Lord Walpole it was impossible to obtain a verdict from a jury. As to collusion, he agreed with his noble friend that a great reluctance was felt by their Lordships if collusion was suspected, but his noble friend appeared to have misapprehended the strict meaning of the word collusion. If the husband enabled the wife to commit adultery by gross neglect, that was collusion; or if he exposed her to the arts of a seducer and in consequence she did what entitled him to a decision, that also was collusion; but if, without collusion, the wife did that which gave the husband a right to proceed for a divorce, there was a collusion that both parties might become free, but not such a collusion as their Lordships would punish. He thought it only fair to Lady Lincoln and her family (with whom he, Lord Brougham, had held a friendly incercourse of half a century's duration) to state that, since they had heard of her misconduct, ending in the birth of a child, they felt it their bounden duty to do what they could to repair the grievous injury which her imprudence had inflicted on the Newcastle family, and they at once said let there be no opposition raised to this divorcement. He (Lord Brougham) thought their Lordships could give the Hamilton family credit for delicacy in this matter. They might have carped at and thrown obstacles in the way of the proceedings, but they had not done so. These being the considerations that pressed on his mind, he had thought it his duty to the unfortunate parties to move that the bill be read a second time. He had observed a most furious article on himself with reference to this subject, giving the grossest falsehoods it was possible to give, and among other things saying that he had resolved and given notice that he would obstruct the bill by browbeating Lord Lincoln's witnesses. The unhappy libeller, for he called a man "unhappy libeller" who had written such gross falsehoods, was not aware that he (Lord Brougham) was the person who had charge of the bill, and was doing all he could do to forward it through the house. He might say more on this subject, which was a clear breach of privilege, but he would be only wasting their Lordships' time in doing so. He, however, would feel it his duty to take proceedings in the common law courts in order to discover the author of this libel.

Lord Langdale, who occupied the woolsack during the sitting, supported the second reading of the bill. Not only had the birth of a child been proved, but another fact also which it was not necessary to describe. Two or three points had been adverted to in the nature of formal objections. With reference to the petition not being signed by Lord Lincoln himself, but by his solicitor, he (Lord Langdale) did not consider their Lordships now in a situation in which they could look back. He did not know whether it was satisfactory to everybody at the time, but it was done, and was no reason why they should not now proceed to the second reading of the bill. It was also objected that no verdict of a common law court had been obtained. Many other cases had occurred in which this had happened. Besides, it was as easy to obtain a verdict by collusion as anything else. Then, as to Lord Lincoln's not being present for examination if required, how often did it happen that on such occasions the husbands did attend or were examined? He felt obliged to the noble lord (Redesdale) for stating these objections, but he did not think that they constituted a sufficient reason for throwing out the bill.

After a few observations from Lord Redesdale in further explanation of the objections stated by him,

The motion for the second reading was agreed to without opposition.

Law Intelligence.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

GORHAM v. BISHOP OF EXETER.

The Lord Chief Justice, on Monday, delivered the Judgment of the Court, that there be no rule in this case.

LAYCOCK v. PIXLAY.

In this case, which was an action for breach of promise of marriage, tried at the last York assizes, before Mr. Baron Alderson, when a verdict was returned for the plaintiff, damages £400, a rule *nisi* for a new trial, on the ground of misdirection, having been obtained in the former term, Mr. Sergeant Wilkins and Mr. Farrar showed cause against the rule; and Mr. Martin, Q.C., Mr. Aspland, and Mr. T. Jones appeared in support of it. The question turned on the legal effect of two letters—one from the defendant offering to break off all connexion with the plaintiff; and one from the plaintiff, in terms of great feeling, expressing since it was the defendant's wish she broke off the connexion, which it was contended by the learned counsel for the defendant amounted to a release in law. The court gave separate judgments and discharged the rule, the Lord Chief Justice dissenting. Rule discharged.

Resignation of the Lord Chancellor.—We believe we may announce as a fact, that the Lord Chancellor has at length actually resigned his high office. His lordship has, we understand, been urged to this step both by the recommendation of his physicians and the entreaties of his family, and by a regard for the public inconvenience occasioned by his continued absence from the Court of Chancery.—*John Bull.*

An Extraordinary Cure of an Ulcerated Leg by Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Extract of a letter from Mr. Eastwood, of No. 4, Marvell-street, Hull, to Professor Holloway:—"Sir,—For two years I was grievously afflicted with a bad leg, which was full of ulcers. I applied to several doctors and took their remedies, but without the least good; at length, happily for me, I procured some of your Ointment and Pills from Mrs. Noble, of this town, which had the effect of curing my leg in a brief space of time, in gratitude for which I make this case known, in the hope that others may derive benefit by adopting a similar course."

LOSS OF LIFE ON LAKE ERIE.

A private letter, addressed to the *United Service Gazette*, gives the following:—

"On Wednesday, the 1st of May, three companies of the reserve battalion 23rd Fusiliers embarked at Montreal on board the Earl Cathcart and Commerce steamers for Port Stanley, *en route* to London, Canada West, under the command of Major Chester; No. 7, and part of No. 12, embarked on board the Cathcart, and reached their destination in safety. The Commerce, with No. 8, and remaining portion of No. 12, proceeded through the canals and Lake Ontario into Lake Erie, and on the night of the 6th of May she came into collision with the (American) steamer Dispatch, bound for Buffalo, near the Port Maitland or Canada shore. The Commerce had but one light at the mast-head, and was mistaken for a schooner, and persevered in crossing the course of the Dispatch, until collision was unavoidable. She was run into on the starboard bow, and rapidly filled and sunk in eight fathoms water. The officers on board were Captain F. J. Phillott, Lieutenants Sir H. O. R. Chamberlain and F. P. R. Delmé Radcliff, and Assistant-Surgeon Douglas Grantham (who joined them at Prescott, where he had been employed for some time past,) and, we regret to say, lost his life on this occasion, in addition to three sergeants, two corporals, one drummer, nineteen privates, eight women, and four children, and, from the opinion given by some of the survivors, those were saved who clung to the wreck, by direction of the commanding officer (Captain Phillott) while those who jumped overboard lost their lives. The survivors were carried into Port Maitland, having lost everything. Many of them were almost in a state of nudity. The officers' plate and mess utensils were nearly all on board and lost. The following are the names of the persons lost:—Assistant-Surgeon Douglas Grantham. No. 8 Company.—Sergeant Alfred Moore and wife; Sergeant George Butler and wife and child; Corporal James Evans; Drummer Henry Griffin; Privates William Ward, John Griffin, Thomas Aldridge and wife, Arthur Buckton, Isaac Jones, Edward Price, John Ryan, Michael Ryan and wife, Thomas Taylor, John Weaver, James Flanigan, and wife of Corporal T. Warner. No. 9 Company.—Private Edward Williams (mess waiter.) No. 12 Company.—Sergeant John Moore; Corporal Theodore Haberfield; Privates Joseph Haberfield, John Beamer, Nicholas Mewitt and wife, Thomas Peake, Robert Pritchard, Thomas Rees, Henry Sharples; wife and child of Private James Maskey; wife and child of Corporal Daniel Paine; child of Private Edward Shipley. The survivors had not left Port Maitland at the latest advices. No. 11, Captain E. W. D. Bell's, and part of No. 10 Company, embarked yesterday (the 11th inst.) on board the Free Trader, for Port Stanley. No. 9, part of No. 10, and head quarters, will embark on the 16th, *en route* to London, Canada West.

The Government Interments Bill.—On Tuesday evening a public meeting of ratepayers of the parish of St. Saviour's Southwark, was held in the vestry-room, to take into consideration the compensation clauses of the Government Interments Bill. Mr. Bailey, was called to the chair. He explained that the parish of St. Saviour's was placed in a very peculiar position, and one likely to be much interfered with by the proposed measure. No rector's fees for interments paid in that parish were receivable by the chaplains, who were only entitled to the surplice fees. The rector's fees were received by the wardens, and applied to the ordinary parochial purposes. If the measure introduced by government were carried without some clause in reference to St. Saviour's, the clergy of that parish would receive compensation for that which they had never lost, and be remunerated for work which they were not called upon to perform. Mr. Mansfield moved, and Mr. Clark seconded, the following resolution:—"That a deputation be appointed to wait upon the Right Honourable Sir G. Grey, her Majesty's Secretary of State, to represent to him that the fees payable for interments in the churchyard of this parish are receivable by the warden of the parish; and to urge upon him the propriety of securing to the parishioners adequate compensation in respect of the same in the event of the Interments Bill passing into a law; and that the wardens solicit the borough members to support them in their application." This resolution was unanimously agreed to, and after the transaction of some ordinary business, the meeting thanked the chairman and separated.

A Mock Guillotine.—At the end of the carnival two married women of Vidauban, Department of the Var (one of them wife of the president of the Montagnard Club), manufactured a lay figure entirely in white, and, after attaching a chain round its neck, placed it in a small cart. A number of the inhabitants then paraded it through the village in solemn procession, accompanied by a number of men carrying axes, &c., and bawling revolutionary songs. After a while they formed a sort of revolutionary tribunal, and the figure, which was called "Blanc," was gravely tried, and, by the majority of the votes of the crowd, condemned to death, the principal judge, a man named Arnaud, saying, "Blanc! you prevent us from dancing farandoles, and therefore we condemn you to death!" Thereupon, a man named Lucien seized the figure, placed it on a plank, and at one blow with his axe severed the head from the body. A bottle of wine had been placed in the neck of the figure, and, this having been broken by the blow, a resemblance of blood was produced. The head was then cast into the crowd and torn to pieces by them. This scandalous scene created a most painful impression throughout the department. A few days ago four men who played a principal part in the affair, and the two women who made the figure, were brought to trial on the charge of exciting citizens to hatred of each other. The men pleaded drunkenness as an excuse—the women declared that they had only intended to amuse their children. Four of the accused were acquitted, and the other two, Arnaud, who had acted as judge, and Lucien, the executioner, were condemned to four and three months' imprisonment.—*Galignani's Messenger.*

M. Scribe.—Eugene Scribe was born in Paris, on the 24th of December, 1791. His father was a silk mercer, near the Piliers des Halles, in the Rue St. Denis. His lively wit at an early age was discerned by all his friends, and he was, in consequence, sent to the Great College at St. Barbe. When at eighteen years of age he left college, he was an orphan, and without fortune. Fortunately, he found a kind guardian in his relation, M. Bonnet, a celebrated barrister of those days, who destined him for his own profession, and placed him under that celebrated jurist and politician, Dupin, the elder, now the president of the French Legislative Chamber, to study the Roman law. But in his studies the legal fact that most deeply impressed itself on Eugene Scribe's mind was that, at twenty-one, a young man is master of his own actions, and having reached that age, he determined to renounce the law, and betake himself to his pen for support. Shortly after reaching his majority, he began his dramatic career by writing a vaudeville for the Gymnase. His success here led to an engagement to write for the Théâtre Français, and to the establishment of his reputation as a dramatic author. He has composed ten comedies in five acts, and twenty in one, two, or three acts for the Français. He has written 150 vaudevilles for the Gymnase. As a lyrical poet he stands unequalled for the number and purity of his *libretti*, having written the poetry of forty grand operas, and of 100 comic operas: to these must be added the *libretto* of the forthcoming *Tempesta*. His entire works are 340 in number, besides his novels. Throughout his literary career he has preserved his independence, and never solicited patronage or place; yet his merits have not passed unrewarded. He is a commander of the Legion of Honour, has received crosses from almost every sovereign in Europe, is a member of the Quarante de l'Académie, and to these gratifying tokens of success he has added the more substantial reward of a handsome independence, achieved by incessant industry.

Meeting of Caffre Chiefs.—The annual meeting for distribution of presents to the Caffre Chiefs, was held at King William's Town on the 11th of March. There were about 4,000 Caffres present, including all the principal chiefs of the Slambie and Gaika districts. Colonel Mackinnon addressed the chiefs, and gave them some wholesome advice. He called upon the commissioners of the Slambie and Gaika Caffres for their reports, which they then made, and which were highly favourable. The chiefs were then called upon to make any statement they wished. They all expressed themselves well satisfied; Botman and Sandilla, of the Gaika Caffres, however, stating, at the same time, that they wanted more land, and that, as they were British subjects, they did not know why they should be confined within certain boundaries. The articles distributed were of a very superior character, consisting of thirty chiefs' dresses, fifty female dresses and shawls, 100 dresses for counsellors of chiefs and commissioners' messengers, 1,000 blankets, 750 spades, 750 hoes, 200 cooking-pots, 200 basting spoons, 100 sickles, and 200 axes.—*Cape Town Mail.*

Messrs. Peter Gavin and Son, rope and sail-cloth works, Bath-street, Leith, have just completed the largest rope ever made in Scotland. It is for the Mitsel Coal Company, Victoria pit, 175 fathoms deep, near Hurlett. The rope measures 200 fathoms, or, 1200 feet; it is seven inches broad, and weighs upwards of three tons.

Father Mathew.—An American paper says:—"The friends of Father Mathew, in Mobile, have presented the rev. gentleman with a purse containing 270 dollars. In his reply to their address he says that 'the gift was most timely, his pecuniary resources being exhausted, and the fear of weakening his influence in the cause of temperance deterring him from making an appeal to defray the expenditure of his mission.'"

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

(Concluded from the second page.)

Incendiarism.—The portion of the forest of Chatelleràult belonging to the Duke des Cars was set on fire by incendiaries on the 20th ult. The fire was extinguished before any considerable damage was effected. This is the third attempt of a similar kind made since the revolution of February.

The 'Daily News' correspondent writing from Paris on Friday, says—'It was observed yesterday that the Legitimists, with the single exception of M. Favreau, voted against all the amendments moved to the second article of the Electoral Law. It is reported that many sincere men of that party were not left to vote according to their consciences, but were influenced by a letter of the Duke of Bordeaux to M. Berryer, expressing the gratification it would afford him to find the supporters of his cause united on this question, and arrayed on the side of the government. This is one of the first important symptoms which have appeared in the legislature of the coalition effected between the two Bourbon branches.'

The 'Evenement' states that M. Emile de Girardin had been chosen by a large majority by the socialist conclave of Strasburg, as the democratic candidate for the Bas-Rhin.

Several waggons of ammunition have set out from Paris for Lyons, Toulouse, Lille, and Marseilles.

The director of the 'Republique du Peuple,' who was prosecuted for an article attacking the rights of property and the Constitution, has been acquitted by a jury at Strasburg.

The director of the 'Voix du Peuple' was sentenced by the Court of Assize of Paris, on Tuesday, to ten months' imprisonment and a fine of 3,000f. for an attack on the President of the Republic.

The directors of the 'National' and the 'Republicaine de la Seine et Marne' were sentenced by the Police Court in Paris to three months' imprisonment and 200f. fine, for publishing a subscription list to defray the expenses of a conviction.

A private soldier was sentenced to death by court-martial in Paris on Tuesday, for revolt and disobedience to his superiors in the fort of Charenton on the 17th of April.

The signatures on the petitions against the Electoral Bill up to Thursday, May 23rd, amounted to more than a million.

The amazing increase in the sale of the 'Evenement' forms the most striking commentary on the reactionary proceedings of the government. This journal, whose sale was lately limited to 14,000, now sells upwards of 40,000.

The government has conceived much uneasiness at the great number of general councils which have pronounced against the Electoral Bill. A circular to prefects is said to be preparing at the Ministry of the Interior on this subject.

The responsible editor of the 'Voix du Peuple,' M. Laugrand, was yesterday condemned by default by the Court of Assize to a year's imprisonment, and 3,000f. fine, for having on the 14th of March published an article asserting that a celebrated Jew banker, of great influence in the councils of the government, and very intimate with the President of the Republic, had lost three or four millions by speculations on the Bourse in connexion with the election of the 10th of March, and that the President had shared in such losses. This article was held by the Court to contain the offences described in the law as exciting to hatred and contempt of the government of the Republic, and insulting the President. The 'Democratie Pacifique' copied the article on the 15th of March, and for so doing its responsible editor, M. Guillon, was condemned to six months' imprisonment and 1,500f. fine, as already stated.

The committee of the Assembly to which was referred the two propositions, having for their object to authorise the Conseils Generaux to meet and take measures for carrying on the government in case of an insurrection, or *coup de etat*, has concluded its labours. After a long discussion it was resolved to report to the Assembly that the committee saw no reason whatever to recommend the measure.

Two companies of the National Guard of Bordeaux were disbanded and disarmed on the 21st ult. The operation was effected amidst the most perfect order and tranquility.

A letter from Marseilles of the 22nd ult. states that precautions continue to be adopted by the authorities in that city in case of disturbances by the secret societies. The posts were doubled on the previous day, and the streets were patrolled by strong bodies of infantry and cavalry.

Letters from Marseilles of the 22nd ult. state that the utmost precautions were taken there on the night previous to protect the shipping, which, it had been discovered, had been menaced with conflagration by the conspirators.

Letters from Lyons of the 24th ult. mention that, amongst other precautions for the tranquility of the city, General Castellane had prohibited the sale of firearms to any one not furnished with a certificate of good conduct, signed by the mayor and sous-préfet. The armourers were also ordered to remove the locks from the guns in their establishments.

Commenting on Thiers's speech, the *National* says:—"M. Benoist d'Azy said yesterday that it was M. de Maubreuil who, in 1815, had affixed a rope to the statue of Napoleon to pull it down from the top of the column in the place Vendôme. M. Benoist is but little acquainted with the deeds of his party. The honour of that action belongs to M. Sosthènes de Larochefoucauld—the same who paraded through the streets of Paris with a cross of honour tied to his horse's tail, and who was followed by a beautiful duchess seated behind a Cossack. M. Thiers treated the history of that period as his friend did; he affirmed that it was the multitude, the people, who had outraged the Emperor's statue. It is a false allegation. Enough of persons witnessed the fact to give it an irrefutable denial. No, it was not the people who insulted the bronze of the column; it left that sad honour to the emigrants, the Chouans, the men of the infernal machine, the accomplices of Cadoudal, the nobility of the Faubourg St. Germain and its lackeys. It was not the women of the people who danced those licentious dances, hanging on the arms of Blucher and Wellington, under the windows of Louis XVIII. They were weeping over Waterloo; they were dressing our wounded soldiers, whilst the great ladies of the aristocracy were fêting the soldiers of the invasion. M. Thiers knows that as well as any one, but lies as to the truth, hoping in that manner to cause his new friends to forget the purchase of the Duchess of Berri and the scandal of Blaye."

The accounts received from the southern parts of France are not very satisfactory for the government. Considerable agitation reigns at Marseilles, Montpellier, Lyons, Beziers, and Perigeux; and there is considerable apprehension of an outbreak. At Lyons the troops have been called out, and strong patrols parade the streets day and night. At Montpellier the agitation is on the increase. Not only have the troops been kept on the alert, but artillery has been placed so as to command the town and the road to Nismes. Cannon have also been placed in all the barracks, and the troops are kept ready for marching at a moment's notice.

The editor of the 'Voix du Peuple' has issued a circular to his subscribers, to state that he has not yet been able to find a printer who will venture to print his paper, in the face of the proceedings on the part of the government, which have closed the printing-house of M. Boulé, and ruined that gentleman.

Thirteen officers of the 4th and 5th legions of the National Guard of Paris have been suspended for two months by the Prefect of the Seine, for having signed petitions against the Electoral Reform Bill.

The 'Presse' publishes a letter from M. Jacquemart, professor of political economy, who states that he has been condemned by the Tribunal of Correctional Police at Soissons to a month's imprisonment, and a fine of 25f., for having, without submitting it previously to the prefect of the department (Aisne), sent by post, from Paris, where it was printed, an essay written by himself, and addressed to the agricultural commission of the arrondissement of Soissons, the object of which essay was to compete for a prize given by the committee in question, on the causes of the sufferings of French agriculture, and the means of improving agricultural credit.

The Prefect of the Côte-d'Or has dismissed M. Locquin and M. Labille, the first and second adjuncts of the mayor of Semur, because the municipal council of Semur has passed a resolution disapproving of the government Electoral Bill.

The provinces, especially in the south, are in a great excitement, which breaks out continually in partial disturbances.

The 'Times' correspondent says:—"It appears that the measure already spoken of for improving the whole length of the Boulevards, the quays, and the other arteries of Paris, is to be immediately carried into execution; these immense thoroughfares will be *macadamised*. This change is, no doubt, for public utility, but the revolutionary press will lament that the last arms of the people are about to be taken from them. The *macadamisation* will, no doubt, be ornamental and useful; it will also enable the troops to manœuvre more easily in case of necessity; it will, in fact, be attended with manifold and obvious advantages.

The director of the 'Reformateur' of Toulouse has been sentenced to imprisonment for one year, and to pay a fine of 2,000f., for having published a seditious libel.

GERMANY.

We announced in our town edition of Saturday last that the King of Prussia had been shot at, and wounded in the arm. The following additional particulars are from the 'Times':—

Berlin, May 22.—At twelve o'clock to-day an attempt was made on the life of the King of Prussia, from which his escape is little less than miraculous. His Majesty and the Queen were about to leave Berlin for the palace of San Sôuci, but were detained a short time for the preparation of the train. His Majesty was just leaving one of the side rooms of the station to enter the carriage, when a man in the uniform of a gunner of the Artillery of the Guard approached, and when close to his person presented a pistol, and fired it at little more than arm's length from his Majesty's breast. At the moment the weapon was raised the King turned swiftly on one side, and the motion saved his life; the ball only inflicted a slight flesh wound on the right arm, below the elbow, and then grazed the front of his coat, but otherwise passed by him harmless. The by-standers, mostly officers and porters of the railway, seized the man instantly, and as a crowd gathered the people became so enraged against the perpetrator of the dastardly act that before he could be conveyed to a place of safety he was severely beaten, and was, indeed, with difficulty saved from summary vengeance. The criminal was formerly a sergeant of artillery, named Sefeloge, but was some time ago discharged from the service as an invalid; he had provided himself with a uniform, which he still wore, though not entitled to do so; it enabled him to approach the person of the King without suspicion, as a detachment of the military is on duty all day at the station, and it is a usual thing to meet them on the platform.

His Majesty was led by his adjutant into the room he had just quitted, and medical aid was sent for; a Dr. Böhm, who was driving past the station, was stopped, and instantly examined the wound, bound it, and did all that was immediately necessary. The surgeons of the household, Dr. Grimm and Dr. Schönlein, soon afterwards arrived, but happily very little was required of them.

No political motive whatever is assigned for the attempt; all the evidence at present gathered indicates that the man has brooded over his dismissal, and fancied it a personal wrong. Some petitions, which he had forwarded to the King for reinstatement in the corps, were of course not attended to, as irregular; and this, it is supposed, has excited him to an act of vengeance that was so nearly fatal in its consequences.

May 23.—The wound in his Majesty's arm appears by the bulletin to be more serious than at first supposed, though not dangerous. The apartment where it was dressed showed on his Majesty's departure that he must have lost a considerable quantity of blood. The criminal, Sefeloge, was severely handled by the people on the platform: a constable cut him on the head with his sword, and he was besides violently beaten. An investigation was commenced soon after the King left the station; but before any questions could be put to the prisoner he had to be bathed and washed, and his wounds dressed; when he had recovered he appeared sufficiently calm and calculated. The few effects of the criminal have been taken possession of by the police, but no trace has been found that that he was in correspondence with any person.

There is no doubt that the criminal is of unsound mind; the fact is not deduced from his having made the attempt on the King's life, it has been long known, as the medical certificates on which he was discharged from the army are dated in September last, and describe him as unfit to perform duty on account of a 'disordered mind,' though he appears to have had intervals during which his acts were rational enough. It is now ascertained that he must have contemplated the act, and all his preparations for it were well calculated; nor had his outward demeanour any of that wildness which might have attracted attention. He has been practising pistol shooting for some time. For eight days past it is now recollected that he has been seen hanging about the railway station waiting for one of the King's many journeys to Potsdam; his uniform enabled him to do this without exciting any special observation, it is so usual to meet the military every where.

The Berlin correspondent of the 'Times' supplies the following significant paragraph:—'Many persons have been arrested in the streets for speaking most disrespectfully of the King in conversations or half harangues to bystanders on the late occurrence. Some individuals, it is said, have given utterance to a very savage and unchristian wish with reference to the attempt.

The assizes at Mayence were opened on the 22nd inst. One of the cases to be tried is that against the members of the republican free corps who were captured in the Rhenish provinces last year. The accused are forty in number. The accusations against them are high treason, attempts to corrupt the fidelity of the military, rupture of the neutrality treaties with Bavaria, and hostile excursion into Baden and Wirtemburgh.

ITALY.

Rome.—A man named Innocenti has been liberated from the Castle of St. Angelo, where he had been confined for more than ten months upon a charge of forcible requisition, or robbery, during the republic, but he was found to be innocent in fact as well as by name. Another republican, accused of having robbed amazing sums, is now living in Africa upon very straightened means—I allude to the celebrated Garibaldi, whose friends in Genoa are now occupied in getting up a subscription wherewith to purchase a merchant vessel and present to him, so that he might return to his early mode of life, and owe his safety to the grudging hospitality of no European power, preferring—

"To trust his fortune to the seas and skies."

On the 17th of May the domicile of Signor Ercole, secretary to the British consulate, was invaded and forcibly entered by the *sbirri*, in spite of the most energetic protestations and remonstrances of his wife and family. They ransacked bookcases, desks, drawers, cupboards, and every possible hiding-place in search of prohibited books or pamphlets, not disguising that the fear of Protestantism, and the desire of extirpating it in the bud, had originated the whole affair. This circumstance has made a strong impression on the English residents in Rome, who feel that there is very little chance of their living a quiet life, in spite of their nationality, when such arbitrary modes of treatment are used towards a semi-official *employé* of their government.

Another gentleman, who was favoured with the presence of the same *sbirri* and five carbineers in his house all night, is Signor Bonfigli, a very accomplished young man, who spent some time in England, and, on his return to Rome, was made under-secretary in the Foreign-office, but, being dismissed from his employment on the restoration of the Papal government, has since occupied himself in giving Italian lessons to the distinguished foreigners who make Rome their winter residence, and by whom he is justly esteemed. His bookshelves and drawers were also subjected to a strict examination, and English books seemed to excite especial suspicion. A volume of that audacious satirist, 'Punch,' was instantly declared to be a lawful prize by the *sbirri* at the instigation of the judge, and two English albums, Macchiavelli's Florentine History, Niccolini's Philip Strozzi, the 'Revue des Deux Mondes,' and some poetic effusions of Campana on the ancient Italian nations, underwent the same fate. Seven doctors were captured 'at one fell swoop,' in a chemist's dispensary on the Piazza della Maddalena. These learned members of the faculty were laying their heads together over a letter which one of them had received, and their absorbed attitude excited the suspicions of a spy who was watching them through the shop window; he ran for a *posse comitatus*, and had the whole party snugly in prison before a quarter of an hour had elapsed. On the same day (the 17th) twenty or thirty *sbirri* passed along the whole length of that street, confiscating all the Fez caps, and red caps of every description, which they could find in the several hat and cap makers' shops, and bearing them off in triumph to the police office, determined that no outward and visible sign of republicanism should remain in sight of the public.

Letters from Rome of the 21st ult., state that the Pope delivered his allocution in the Consistory held the previous day. Rome was perfectly tranquil, but the people were much enraged on learning that no mention of administrative or monetary reforms had been made in the consistory.

Naples, May 19.—The Neapolitan government is singularly happy in its imitation of everything that is dishonest, arbitrary, and oppressive in its Austrian ally. The system of confiscation has commenced here, as in Hungary and Lombardy, and under more aggravated circumstances. Without trial, and without the usual illegal 'decree,' some fifteen or sixteen Neapolitan families, the heads of which are now political exiles, have received orders from the police authorities that they are no longer to exact rents from their tenants, the latter being equally commanded to hand over the money to the government. This is carrying out the patent policy of crushing and crippling the constitutional party by every possible means—by threats, imprisonment, plunder, and false accusations of the paid government spy.

The trial of political offenders in the provinces, as belonging to the 'United Italians,' has already commenced, and the law courts, unable to prove the existence of this terrible sect, have been obliged to liberate many, concentrating the government vengeance on the leading men in each district, by ordering a continued imprisonment for them, 'until further proofs can be produced.' Such was the result of the whole of the trials throughout the *terra di lavoro*, a very important district of the country, where military rule has entirely effaced municipal authority.

Tuscany.—The 'Times' says—'We have received information from a source on which we are inclined to rely, stating that on the 17th inst. a convention was signed at Florence between the Austrian and Tuscan governments, regulating the military occupation of the Grand Duchy by the Imperial troops. The number of troops is limited to 14,000, the time of occupation not being determined for any given period, but left altogether to the will and convenience of the Cabinet of Vienna. The Emperor reserves to himself the right to occupy the Grand Duchy for such time as he may think proper, or to withdraw his army without any notice whatever. He also provides that, in case the exigency of the case should require it, his Commander-in-Chief shall be entitled to declare any city, town, village, or district in a state of siege, and to place the inhabitants thereof under martial law. This convention, which is considered at Florence as private, will, when it is made known, render the Grand Duke very unpopular, and it is supposed that his departure for Venice, with all the ducal family, which is to take place immediately, has been hastened in order to avoid any popular outcry. We learn from the same source from which the above information is obtained, that the state of Piedmont occasions much anxiety in the Imperial Council, and that something like a negotiation is on foot for the occupation of Savoy by a French army, and of the rest of the kingdom by Austrian troops.

POLAND.

Letters from the Polish frontier state that a large camp has been formed at Lowicz, which is only a couple of hours' journey by rail from Warsaw. The Emperor intends to amuse his guests with a grand military spectable. Arrests on account of political offences continue in great numbers.

AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

(From the *New York Tribune*, of May 14th.)

The proceedings in Congress are becoming more important. On the question of slavery a decisive issue has been presented, and is now under discussion in the Senate. Mr. Clay's Omnibus Compromise bill, which disposes of all the vexed questions, was laid before the Senate on Thursday last, and was instantly and violently assailed by the leaders of the Slavery Propaganda. The bill provides for the admission of California with her present Constitution and boundaries, under the usual conditions; creates the territories of New Mexico and Utah; fixes a boundary between the former country and Texas, leaving blank the amount of indemnity to be paid Texas for the relinquishment of her claim to the territory north of El Paso; enacts laws more effectually to secure the recovery of fugitive slaves, and prohibits, under heavy penalty, the slave trade in the district of Columbia.

After the furious attack which followed its presentation, the bill was finally made the order for the day in the Senate. There are of course all sorts of conjectures afloat in regard to it. It is rumoured that the explosion of the slavery party has brought out a declaration from the moderate Southern senators, that in case the opposition is continued, they will fall back upon the President's plan. Whatever be the result, there will be stormy work before the subject is disposed of.

There has been much ado about—next to nothing—an alleged intercepted letter from Sir Henry Bulwer to Mr. Chatfield, British Chargé to Central America. It is written in a free-and-easy style, touches up Mr. Squier, the American Chargé, rather sharply, and pronounces the government at Washington a "weak" one. The letter is said to have been noticed by the Cabinet, in regard to the offensive terms. Its genuineness is denied in some quarters, but this is a matter of little consequence, as the letter makes no "startling disclosures."

The prospects of Land Reform are highly favourable in Congress. General Shields is preparing a bill on the question, which will probably suggest measures that will command the assent of all the friends of the principle. Mr. Webster has devoted great attention to the subject, and will make an elaborate speech in favour of offering every man a Free Home from the Public Lands, whenever the question shall be presented to the Senate.

The season has been unusually cool and backward. The leaves are just beginning to unfold and the fruit trees to blossom—two weeks at least behind their usual time. The indications of a large grain and fruit crop are, however, very favourable. We do not hear that the orchards have yet been injured by the late chilly weather.

The Legislature of Pennsylvania have chartered a College for the Medical Education of Females, to be established in Philadelphia. The bill confers on the institution all the privileges enjoyed by any other medical school in the State. It is stated that Miss Elizabeth Blackwell, who received the degree of Doctor of Medicine at the Geneva College in this State, and has since pursued her medical studies at Paris, will be a candidate for the Chair of Surgery. This is the first regularly organised Female Medical College that has been established in any part of the world, and may be considered as an interesting "sign of the times."

News from California to April 1st, was received here on Wednesday, the 8th ult. Three steamers—the Empire City, Georgia and Cherokee—which sailed from Chagrés within two or three hours of each other, arrived on the same day. The effect of the gold they brought more than counterbalanced the rumours of business stagnation in San Francisco, and the rush for the Pacific side is still as great as ever. The friends of California feel an increasing anxiety for her immediate admission into the Confederacy, in view of the growing perplexities of her present uncertain condition.

A meeting has been called in Montreal consisting of delegates from all the parishes in the district, to consider the best means of abolishing the seignorial tenure. Two other subjects, connected with social reform, are agitated in every rural assembly, and will probably carry the day—the repeal of the law authorising the Catholic clergy to demand tithes of their flocks, and the exemption of homesteads from attachment for debt. Business was very dull at Montreal, at the last dates.

The cholera is making great ravages in many of the Mexican States. In the valley of Taluco, the crops had suffered from violent frosts and hailstorms, which in connexion with the cholera had almost suspended agricultural operations in that quarter.

The cholera has been raging for three or four weeks at Havana with great violence: also at Guanary, San Antonio and Guerrials, among the troops, and at Matanzas, among the people.

Our advices from Rio de Janeiro to the 4th ult. confirm the prevalence of the yellow-fever in that city, which was still raging, with little abatement of its destructive violence. Among the victims, is the American Secretary of Legation, Mr. Thomas J. Morgan, who died about the 1st of April.

EXPEDITION AGAINST CUBA.

The American correspondent of the *Chronicle* writes that an expedition against Cuba has sailed from the United States. The accounts thus far received are somewhat varying in character, and the entire force is differently estimated at from 4,000 to 13,000 men. It is added that several vessels, ostensibly sailing for Chagres, are really destined for Cuba; but the rendezvous, or place of debarkation, is at present a profound secret to all but the initiated. The men have able leaders, arms and ammunition, and the leaders have plenty of money, with assurances of an almost general rising of the people when they land. This I doubt; but one thing is certain — namely, that they will meet with a determined resistance from the Spanish forces, and that they must expect but little mercy if they fail; for what right have strangers to invade any country, under any circumstances, unless at war with that country? A New Orleans writer says:—"The cry is patriotism, but the objects of more than half the invaders are confiscation and spoils." However, we know but little of the matter as yet in the north; and the number of men and sailing of the ships might be exaggerated. A strong Spanish naval force has recently arrived at the Havana.

The same writer in a postscript to his letter, says:—I have just received a letter from Washington, which fully confirms the sailing of the Cuba expedition. The writer says:—"The vessels have sailed at different times, and for apparently different destinations. Several of the leading men of the Southern States favour the enterprise, and have subscribed money. There are about 4,900 or 5,000 men engaged. General Quitman, formerly an officer in the Mexican war, and Governor of Mississippi, is the chief in command; Senor Lopez, the Cuba insurrectionist, being second. The expedition is too small for success, but Lopez says that two-thirds of the people and four-fifths of the army in Cuba will join it, which folks in general do not believe. *On dit* that some of the Ultras of the South require Cuba to be admitted as a state, by way of set-off to California; but this, perhaps, is mere political chit-chat."

Overseers of the Poor.—From returns just issued for the years 1845, 1846, 1847, and 1848, of the expenses allowed by the revising barristers to the overseers of the poor for the publication of the lists of persons entitled to vote in the election of members of Parliament for England and Wales, it appears that the costs of voters, burgesses, and jury lists were for each of these years, respectively, £20,153, £21,556, £25,041, and £24,320.

Speeches and Deeds.—The *Ayr Advertiser* says:—"The estate of Bartonholm, in Irvine parish, which belonged to the late Colonel S. M. Fullarton, was sold last week by public roup at Irvine, and knocked down at £10,500 to C. D. Gairdner, Esq., as commissioner for the Earl of Eglinton." [The Earl of Eglinton, who has paid a very handsome price for this estate, was one of the orators at the "great Protectionist meeting" in London a few days ago, at which the burden of all the speeches and resolutions was that agriculture is ruined and land worthless!]—*Scotsman.*

THE TEN HOURS BILL.

Manchester.—A large and spirited meeting was held on Monday evening at the Corn Exchange, to *protest against the government proposition for* compromising the factory question, by conceding to the masters two hours more per week than is provided in the existing Ten Hours Act, and giving to the men as an equivalent a limitation of hours between six in the morning and six in the evening, (instead of, as now, between half-past five in the morning and half-past eight in the evening,) with the abolition of relays. Letters of apology were read from Lord John Manners, M.P., Mr. Muntz, M.P., Mr. G. Bankes, M.P., and Mr. Ferrand. The leading gentlemen who had accepted invitations, and were present, were Mr. S. Fielden, Mr. R. Oastler, Mr. J. R. Stephens, and Dr. Fletcher. Mr. Thomas Fielden (brother to the late member for Oldham,) presided; and among the gentlemen present was Dr. Bowers, Dean of Manchester.

The Chairman said, that they were met to see if it was true, as had been represented in the newspapers, that they were willing to give up two hours a-week of the limitation which had been granted to them by Parliament by the act of 1847. (Loud cries of "No! not a minute.") That act had fixed the hours at fifty-eight hours per week, and it was now proposed to extend them to sixty. Now he wanted to know if the factory people agreed to that. ("No, no! Less than fifty-eight if anything.") Well, he wished to have no mistake on the matter. He did not believe that they had ever agreed to give up those two hours a-week, and they were met there then to say so if they thought so.

Mr. P. Knight then moved:—"That Parliament enacted the Ten Hours Act after cautiously feeling its way during many years of factory inquiry and legislation; and having at length arrived at the conviction that the limitation to ten hours work per day is indispensable to the morals, social relations, and physical enjoyment of the working classes, this meeting considers that the honour of Parliament is pledged to maintain the principle of the limitation of ten hours per day untouched."

Mr. R. Kay, a factory worker, in seconding the resolution, declared that the working of the Ten Hours Act, as far as it had been tried, had been attended with the most beneficial results.

Dr. Fletcher said, by one of those technical errors which were but too common in legislation, the Ten Hours Bill of Mr. John Fielden had been ineffectual for the declared objects of its promoters, and the honour of parliament was pledged to amend the defect without impairing it in other respects. A compromise had been proposed, and if the factory operatives had accepted it, well and good, but, as they had not done so, he hoped government would keep with them. Time was when men were subject to prosecution for endeavouring to bring government into contempt; and he hoped ministers themselves would not take steps calculated to do that which they prosecuted others for attempting. He hoped they would not be misled by the *Times* paper, which had now forsaken the ten hours cause, and re-open this agitation; because he would caution them, if they did this, they would re-open the whole question of capital and labour. (Great cheering.)

Mr. W. Mathlim, of Rochdale, moved the next resolution, which was:—"That the ten hours' principle having been successfully infringed, owing to an omission of words in Sir James Graham's act of 1844, that omission ought to have been supplied by an amending act; that this meeting sees with surprise and regret that instead of such an act her Majesty's Ministers propose to repeal the Ten Hours Act, and to extend the labour of women and young persons to ten hours and a half per day."

Mr. G. Rhodes, a working man, seconded it.

Mr. S. Fielden, in supporting the resolution, contended, that the whole scheme was a fraud upon the factory workers. In the first place, they wanted to take two hours a week from them, which they openly asked for; but the miserable attempt to defraud them of an hour on Saturday was really shameful, for it was quite clear that if they had no dinner hour during the mill hours they must have it when they had left the mill, so that when they appeared to work only till two o'clock it was really equivalent to working till three. (Cheers.) He asked them if they would rather have the bill thrown out than take the proposed sixty hours? (Cries of "Yes, yes! throw it out, and Bright with it!") The beneficial working of the Ten Hours Act had been so clear and decided that even John Bright could not deny it. Why, then, should they give up so good a measure? ("Never! if any change, it must be to eight hours.")

The Rev. J. M. Polklington also supported the motion.

Mr. W. Carter, of Burnley, moved:—"That this meeting, and the factory workers generally, consider the limitation of the work of young persons and women to ten hours per day and fifty-eight hours per week a great benefit to all persons directly and indirectly affected by it; but by no means a greater boon than ought to have been promptly granted by a parliament of men representing a Christian country."

Mr. J. Scholefield, a factory worker, seconded the resolution.

Mr. Oastler was received with immense cheering. He said, if there ever was a time during the whole agitation for the Ten Hours Bill, when the operatives were required to abandon every feeling of prejudice, and to call home their calm reasoning, that time was now. (Cheers.) He was not about to endeavour to raise their indignation, but it was his business, before he parted from them, calmly and deliberately to lay before them the exact position in which the question now stood, and to entreat of them to decide upon the resolution with all the calmness and deliberation which convinced reason could give them. Since the question had been commenced by himself, it had been held to be the most serious and most sacred question which could possibly occupy the mind of any man. He saw hundreds of thousands of the most industrious people of the country subjected to a period of labour so excruciating that their minds were totally excluded from consideration, while their bodies were bowed down under the physical pressure laid upon them. Every one of these individuals, he contended, had a soul as valuable in the eye of the Being that made it as the soul of the prince that was born the other day to the Queen. (Cheers.) He contended also that every one of these souls and bodies came into the world with as great a right to be able to know its duty to God, its neighbour, and itself, as that prince over whose birth we had lately rejoiced. The result of the agitation had been, through the blessing of God upon the exertions of those engaged in it, crowned with complete success. The operatives knew with what gratitude they received the boon—how they assembled together in Manchester to congratulate one another upon the success of the bill, and subscribed their pence to present to her Majesty a golden medal, commemorative of the great event. He thought her Majesty was possessed of no token so valuable as that. (Cheers.) And when it was presented to her with the assurance that the operatives were loyal and devoted to her person, she exclaimed energetically, "I know it to be true." (Cheers.) Since then the operatives had used that blessing, not abused it. The time gained had not been spent in vice and immorality, but from the testimony of the clergy, the doctors, the millowners, and shopkeepers, and even factory inspectors, in every town affected by the measure, the gain entirely had been used for the best of purposes—to the health of their bodies, the improvement of their minds, and the salvation of their souls. What, then, was the cause of their meeting that night? Was there any blunder in the act that gave them that boon? Not a word. John Fielden's act was perfectly valid and substantial,—no lawyer, no judge, could find a flaw in it; but there was another act of parliament; he begged them to mark this, for it was exceedingly important, not only that they, but that the House of Commons and the House of Lords should understand their exact position; there was another act of parliament, passed three years before that of John Fielden's, in 1847, which was avowedly passed, according to the acknowledgment of Sir James Graham himself, then the Home Secretary, for the doing away with shifts and relays. (Hear, hear.) In that act there did appear a flaw, but a flaw which honourable men would never have taken advantage of. But because it happened to be a penal act of parliament, the judges were bound, by the rules which guided their conduct, to be very scrupulous and strict in the technical wording of its clauses. When the millowners determined to take advantage of this flaw in the act of Sir James Graham, they descended from their position as gentlemen and men of honour, and crept into the dock of the criminal, praying the judge to throw over them the shelter which felons, transports, and murderers alone were favoured with. (Cheers.) He was not making a pictured relation, but speaking the bare truth. They went then to the House of Commons, and asked them not to interfere with John Fielden's Act of 1847, but to make their own act of 1844 what they meant it to be,—what they declared they meant it to be,—and what the judges declared there was evidence it was meant to be. What was the case at present which brought the operatives together? They were told that there were no words that could be put together which could bind the millowners not to work shifts and relays. (Laughter.) Why, it was childish. There was a clause—he had read it—drawn up by Isaac Butt, the Queen's counsel, which had been laid before the lawyers, and was declared to be valid, against shifts and relays, and that no shifts and relays could be worked under it. Then the millowners said they could only correct their errors by altering the factory day, which would be the introduction of new matter; and unless the operatives would allow themselves to be robbed of their Ten Hours Bill, they (the legislators) would not consent to correct their own errors. The operatives were called upon now to weigh deliberately whether under such circumstances they would allow themselves to be defrauded. (Cries of "No, no.") Just see for I

moment whether the act really was what they were told it was. They said it would limit the hours of factory labour from six to six, and members of parliament were assured that this was the case from the highest authority. But it was not so; if it were, it would make no difference at all in his mind, because he would not give up half-an-hour to buy any favour at the hands of the government. But it was not so. Under the act of Sir G. Grey *the factory day would still continue to be fifteen* hours a day, and there would still be relays and shifts, with this difference, that they would be conducted by persons under thirteen years of age instead of above. (Great disapprobation.) It was said again that they were to agree to this settlement, because there had been an agitation for so many years that it was time that the question was decided. No man felt the weight of that argument *more than himself.* (Cheers.) It was high time that the throbbing breasts of mothers were relieved; but it was a question that God himself had raised; it was God's question with man, and it was not to be settled by fraud, by trick, by robbery, but by justice alone. (Loud cheers.) Give us one ten hours bill (pursued the speaker) men of the House of Commons, and the question is settled, and we are thankful; but dare to put your hands upon a moment of the time that God has given us, and we will rive the question open again. (Cheers.) If the operatives agreed to the government bill in any form, they could never again with any honour go to the House of Commons, and ask them to amend that law. Let them understand their position, then, correctly. They were required to take what was now offered them as a final settlement. *Let them be very careful in their decision upon this* point; for, he would tell them that if all the operatives in England, Scotland, and Ireland were to agree that they should be robbed of the half-hours which they had gained under John's Fielden's bill, he would never agree to it, but, as long as he lived, he would devote the whole of his health and strength to endeavour to get it for them again. (Cheers.) Let there be no delusion, then. Mr. Oastler having *referred to Gould, Sadler, and Fielden, who* had died in the cause, and whom he expected ere long to meet, said that he hoped to join them in the choir above, uncompromising to the last. (Loud cheers.) Even supposing Lord John Manners was defeated and the government bill passed, still he rested the cause upon that book which made no blunders—the Bible. The Bible told him what would next be just—if a man robbed another, he should restore to him five-fold; and if the operatives were robbed of the half hour they had gained, his next agitation would be for the restoration appointed by God himself in the Scriptures; and he would *hoist the banner of "Ten Hours a Day, with* Meal Hours taken out." (Immense cheering.) He would let their enemies know from that place, that if they dared to take a single moment from the time granted to the operatives in John Fielden's act of 1847, then would rise a storm in England which no power on earth could quell but justice, and justice would award the victory to the plundered victims. (Loud cheers.) Mr. Oastler towards the close of his speech referred to the great sympathy which existed in the agricultural districts with the factory operatives, and related several instances where he himself had been received with enthusiasm on account of his being the friend of the children of factory workers. Labour, he concluded, was now in agony everywhere, and labourers were beginning to feel that they had souls to save, minds to improve, bodies to nourish; and for this end they must have time taken from that excessive labour, which they were now compelled to devote to Moloch and to Mammon. (Loud cheers.)

The Rev. J. R. STEVENS reminded them that he *had openly declared twelve months ago, that if the* bill came to be repealed by any act of fraud, treachery, or collusion, he for one would not take any part to recover the Ten Hours Bill as such, but that he would, along with Mr. Oastler, Mr. Thomas Fielden, Mr. Samuel Fielden, and others, bearing similar sentiments, hoist the flag of the Ten Hours Bill, taking two hours for meals out of that time. (Cheers.) The present was a far more *important meeting* than any which had taken place in Manchester upon the subject. They had heard *the delegates from all parts of the country telling* them what was thought of the measure, and how cherished in the districts they represented. He was not sorry that Mr. Swan, one of the delegates, had spoken as he had done to the charges which were made against some of the working men of Manchester, which had given the opportunity to Messrs. Donovan, Mawdesley, and Mantle to show that the Manchester manufacturing operatives were no compromisers in reality. There was unity among them, and ever had been on this important question. It had not, and would not lose a particle of the ground it had gained. (Cheers.) Lord John Manners meant to win, and if he failed meant to throw the government bill overboard; and he (Mr. Stevens) wished that with the bill he would throw over the government also. (Loud cheers.)

The other resolutions were unanimously adopted by the meeting:—

"That John Fielden's act, after two years' trial, is found to have produced all the good results that its honest and upright author anticipated, and none of the evils which were too confidently predicted by its opponents; that, therefore, this meeting firmly protests against any, the slightest infringement of its principle—namely, the two limitations of labour *to ten hours per day and forty-eight hours per* week."

"That the factory workers not only protest against the government proposition upon the ground that the limitation to ten hours is their right, granted and assured to them by parliament, and because ten hours per day, the usual limit of the hours of labour for adult males in this country, is still as much as, if not more than, ought to be imposed on young persons and females; but because, from year to year, the improvements made in machinery, the advance in its speed, and other causes, throw an increasing burden on the working hands, insomuch that it is no exaggeration to say that the labour of the factory worker has been fully *doubled since the late Sir Robert Peel, in 1815, sug*gested a ten hours bill."

"That it is with the deepest regret, not unmingled with feelings of a stronger nature, that this meeting views the conduct of Lord Ashley in not only deserting the cause which he had voluntarily pledged himself to support, but that in the manner best calculated to weaken its friends and to strengthen the hands of its enemies."

"That this meeting views with sadness and contempt the affected equivalent of half an hour on the Saturday for the surrender of half an hour on each of the five days of the week, and this meeting protests against that and all other propositions to deduct something from the labour on Saturday as an excuse for extending the period of the labour to other days."

"That this meeting, and the factory workers generally, are determined never to submit to any infringement of their long-sought and hard-earned charter—John Fielding's Ten Hours Act; and that they pledge themselves to resist to the last every proposition that does not preserve untouched the limitations of ten hours per day and fifty-eight hours per week."

"That, should Lord John Manners not be able to carry his amendment this session, this meeting calls upon him and their other friends in and out of parliament to resist every proposed measure not in accordance with the last resolution, and pledges itself vigorously to support his lordship in obtaining an efficient Ten Hours Act in the next session."

"That petitions to both Houses of Parliament, in accordance with the foregoing resolution, be now adopted, and signed by the chairman."

"*That, in the event of an election, the people* are called upon to oppose the re-election of every candidate who shall not vote with Lord John Manners on this question."

"That the best thanks of this meeting are hereby given to Lord John Manners for the prompt manner in which he has responded to the call of the factory workers, in assuming the responsibility and care of their cause in parliament."

"That the thanks of this meeting are also given to Mr. Oastler and the others of our friends who have so kindly attended this meeting."

Thanks having been voted to the chairman, the meeting terminated.

PRESENTATION OF A GUTTA-PERCHA BOAT TO LADY FRANKLIN.—Messrs. Searle, boat-builders to her Majesty, *have presented a very fine boat,* of a novel description, which has been constructed by them, to Lady Franklin. It is similar in form to a whale-boat, 23 feet long, 5 feet 8 inches broad, 2 feet 2½ inches deep, strongly framed with fir, the external part covering the ribs being a perfect skin of gutta-percha. She will go out with the expedition under the command of Captain C. C. Forsyth, now about to sail for Regent's Inlet in search of Sir John Franklin and his party; and as she is calculated to carry six or seven men, and 1600lbs. of provisions, and moreover possesses the advantage of extreme portableness as well as strength, there is no doubt she will be found exceedingly useful. She has been inspected by several aquatic men, and has elicited their warmest approbation.

A VETERAN.—We regret to announce the death *of one of the most distinguished officers* of the French army, General Count de Vittre, Grand Officer of the Legion of Honour, &c. Charles de Raity de Villeneuve, Count de Vittre, was descended from an old and noble family of Poitou, was the comrade of the Emperor at the Military School, and took a glorious part in the campaign of Russia, where he was severely wounded. He also distinguished himself in the Spanish expedition in 1823, where he had *under his orders* General Changarnier, the Duke de Crillon, and M. A. Carrel, who, on account of his valour, gave him the surname of the Bayard of the 19th century. General Count de Vittre was uncle to M. Hughes de Coval, a distinguished political writer of Paris.—*Galignani's Messenger.*

Imperial Parliament.

MONDAY, MAY 27.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—The Masters' Jurisdiction in Equity Bill, the Estates Leasing (Ireland) Bill, and the Judgments (Ireland) Bill, passed through committee.

The Defect in Leases Act Amendment Bill was read a *third time and passed.*

Lord BROUGHAM moved for a return of the arrears of causes and appeals in the Court of Chancery and in the appellate jurisdiction of the house. The noble lord denied the report that there were any considerable arrears in appeals before the house, and stated that though so much could not be said for the Court of Chancery, yet the arrears in that court were far less numerous than in 1830, when he assumed *the custody of the Great Seal.* He regretted extremely that Lord Cottenham would not be able to return for some time to his labours, and hoped, if the rumour that the Great Seal was to be put in commission should prove true, that the opportunity would be seized to make such an arrangement as to the duties of the Chancellorship as would be eminently conducive to the effective administration of justice.

AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.—A Protectionist discussion was commenced by the Marquis of SALISBURY, who *presented some petitions complaining* of agricultural distress, and praying for the restoration *of protection. His lordship accompanied* the papers he laid on the table with a multitude of statements regarding the decline of wages, the scarcity of employment, the ruin of the agriculturists, and the sacrifice of the general interests of the country. He concluded by asking Earl Grey how long the experiment of free trade was to be continued.

Earl GREY denied that the act of 1846 contained any clause limiting its operation, or that any intention existed as to its repeal.

The Earl of MALMESBURY thought it clear that Earl Grey was better fitted for a Ministry among the Medes and Persians than in a constitutional country like *England. So long as such* unpleasant returns as those lately presented with regard to pauperism came before the house, so long must the noble lord be content to have this question of Protection discussed. The Free-trade government had promised the people reciprocity and prosperity, but neither of those promises had been fulfilled.

Earl GREY said that the government must decline to enter upon incidental discussions as to the expediency of Protection. Whenever the noble lords *opposite could make up their minds* to some definite system to be substituted for Free-trade, the government would be happy to meet them; but hitherto one proposed one thing and one another, as was natural to men who argued from imperfect *data.* For his own part, even with the short experience they possessed as to the effect of Free-trade, he *thought it impossible* to assert that it had operated disadvantageously on agriculture, and he believed *that if the efforts now* being made for its improvement were persevered in, they would be crowned with merited success.

Lord STANLEY was not surprised, after what had fallen from Lord Grey as to the prosperity of the country, to hear him declare that the government were confident of refuting any arguments that noble lords on that side of the house might agree in bringing to bear on Free-trade. He was sorry that he could not gratify the noble lord by stating the exact measure which would be proposed, but he was convinced that a change was coming over the mind of the nation, which was opening its eyes to the progress of the dangerous experiment now being tried, and becoming gradually convinced that a return to Protection was absolutely necessary. He would take five or six articles of consumption in which a great diminution had taken place, and though he did not mean to say that they were conclusive against Free-trade, yet when coupled with increased pauperism and the fall of wages, he did not think Earl Grey had any reason *to exult in the success* which had attended Free-trade. He (Lord Stanley) did not propose any measure, but he would *repeat what he had said in* another place, that the prosperity of the country could only be restored by an equitable adjustment of taxation, and a return to a moderate system of import duties.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—The CHESTER AND HOLYHEAD RAILWAY BILL was read a third time after considerable discussion, and two divisions upon proposed amendments.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and the discussion of the CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES was *proceeded with.*

PUBLIC SALARIES.—On the vote of £56,100 for salaries and expenses on the part of the Treasury,

Mr. FORBES moved that the vote be reduced by ten per cent. He thought it was only fair to those who had suffered in consequence of the recent change in their commercial policy, that the salaries of public officers should be reduced in proportion to the fall in the price of provisions.

Col. THOMPSON said that the profits of his constituents had gone up twenty-seven per cent.; not in consequence of any injury which had been inflicted upon others, but in consequence of the abolition of a wrong done to themselves. (Hear.)

Col. SIBTHORP remarked that the report which the select committee was preparing upon the subject of official salaries would be shortly ready, but if the vote before them was passed, any recommendation of reduction which that report might contain, would be but shutting the stable door after the steed was stolen.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER assured the hon. member, that the incomes of himself and his colleagues would be faithfully adapted to the judg*ment of the select committee, notwithstanding the* vote now proposed.

Mr. DISRAELI apprehended that all motions for retrenchment would be useless when stopped by the select committee, which blocked up inquiry on one side, and the financial reformers who always voted with the government on the other.

Col. THOMPSON intended always to look with suspicion upon a suggestion of economy which came heralded by a story of agricultural distress.

Mr. HUME viewed retrenchment as most desirable for its own sake, without distinction of party, but expected to secure it rather by diminishing the number than the amount of official incomes.

Mr. COBDEN refused to concur in a spiteful and malicious vote introduced merely as a medium of retaliation, and suggesting a general reduction in the wages of labour. In the great industrial field in the West Riding of Yorkshire the rate of wages had been for some time on the increase; and if the agricultural districts exhibited a decline of employment, it was because the abundant materials for reproductive labour which they contained were not wisely and actively developed.

Mr. DISRAELI retorted upon the Financial Reformers, their many foregone statements of distress among the middle and employing classes. The "paying power" of the country was diminished, distress reigned widely in other districts, though the West Riding was said to be an exception, and the universal prosperity prophesied from the abolition of the corn law seemed postponed indefinitely upon various pretexts.

Mr. V. SMITH agreed in the principle that the relative value of money and necessaries should regulate the amount of fixed salaries, but declined to disturb a question which was now under investigation by a select committee.

Mr. NEWDEGATE inquired why the economical *prepossessions, so strongly evinced against the* military expenditure, were not equally directed against the outlay for civil services.

Mr. FORBES having declined to press his amendment to a division, the original vote was then put and carried.

The vote for the expenses of the Foreign-office being proposed, a brief discussion upon passports was introduced by Lord MAHON, and elicited from Lord PALMERSTON an announcement that the intention at one time manifested by the French government to abolish the passport system, had not been carried out; nor was there any present prospect *either in that, or other continental countries,* of having the embarrassment thus caused to travelling removed.

An amendment was moved by Mr. ARKWRIGHT to the vote for the expenses of the Poor-law staff, with the object of reducing the number of inspectors in England and Wales from thirteen to eight. The proposition was discussed at much length, but negatived upon a division by 157 to 36—121.

A second *division was taken on an amendment* moved by Alderman SIDNEY, for reducing the number of Poor-law auditors. This amendment was likewise negatived by 181 to 56—125.

On the vote for the Mint, in reply to Mr. THORNLEY,

Mr. SHEIL stated that the issue of the florin coin would be renewed as soon as a new die was ready with the letters inserted, whose omission had occasioned so much public discussion. *A large issue of* threepenny silver coinage was also ordered for the convenience of small traders.

Alderman COPELAND remarked upon the frequent refusal of the Solicitor of the Mint to prosecute in charges of passing bad money.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL explained, that the government prosecutions were on many accounts very reluctantly undertaken, the principle being that a public officer should never appear as prosecutor except in cases where, from the nature of the evidence a conviction was certain.

The vote for certain expenses of the guardianship of the Public Records, was followed by a complaint from Mr. HOPE, regarding the insufficiency and unsafe depositories provided for the most important national archives.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that a vote would shortly be proposed to the house, to pay for building a suitable Record Office.

Col. SIBTHORP moved an amendment to a subsequent vote, by which £500 was to be retrenched from the salary of the Secretary for Ireland.

The amendment was lost by 156 to 41 votes.

The house afterwards resumed.

The Court of Chancery (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Medical Charities (Ireland) Bill went through committee.

The Petty Sessions (Ireland) Bill was read a second time.

The house adjourned at a quarter past one o'clock.

TUESDAY, MAY 28.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MASTERS JURISDICTION IN EQUITY BILL.—On the motion of Lord BROUGHAM, the report on this bill, as amended, was received, and the bill was ordered to be read a third time on Monday.

FEES (COURT OF COMMON PLEAS) BILL.—Lord BEAUMONT moved the second reading of this bill. He said the Bill which had come up from the *other house merely affected the fees* of two officers of the Court of Common Pleas—the senior master, as registrar of judgments, and the officer for registering the certificates of married women under the act for the abolition of fines and recoveries. The bill provided for the proper remuneration of the officers for the labours performed, the surplus fees to be paid into the Treasury; and it also provided for compensation for the present officers.

After some remarks from Lord REDESDALE, Lord MONTEAGLE, and Lord LANGDALE, the bill was read a second time.

Several bills on the table were forwarded a stage, and their lordships adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THE TEN HOURS BILL.—Petitions in favour of the Ten Hours Bill were presented by Mr. J. B. SMITH, Mr. T. S. DUNCOMBE, and other honourable members.

THE ECCLESIASTICAL COURTS.—Sir B. HALL begged to ask a question of the Secretary of State for the Home Department. He had moved for certain returns connected with the ecclesiastical courts of this country, exactly one month ago, and he had not seen them yet. He was informed that a young lady, who, in newspaper phraseology, was of interesting appearance and prepossessing *manners,—(great laughter)—*had the honour of holding the office of registrar of one of the ecclesiastical courts of this country. (Roars of laughter.) He did not mean to impugn the morality or dignity of the young lady in the slightest degree; indeed, she could be in no way accountable, because, as he had been informed, she had held the office since she was five years of age. ("Oh, oh," and renewed laughter.) The question he had to ask was, when were those returns for which he had moved likely to be laid upon the table of the house, *in order that they might see how many more young* ladies were officials of the ecclesiastical courts? (Great laughter and "hear, hear.")

Sir G. GREY said he was totally uninformed with regard to the statement made by the honourable baronet. He had never either known, or heard before, that there was one female official connected with the ecclesiastical courts. As to the returns, they had to be obtained from each diocese separately. They had been ordered in due course, but he was not aware whether any of them had been returned as yet.

THE DERBY DAY.—Major BERESFORD moved that the house, on its rising, should adjourn over the Derby Day, a motion which, after some show of objection by Mr. S. CRAWFORD, and Mr. HUME, was carried.

FIRST SITTING IN THE NEW HOUSE.—Sir GEORGE GREY announced that it had been proposed to have a morning sitting on Thursday, in the New House of Commons. "And," he added, "as there is an anxiety to have a day fixed for the third reading of the Irish Elections Bill, we will take that bill at twelve on Thursday." Uproarious *laughter was caused by the idea of inaugurating* the new house with an Irish discussion.

ASSESSED TAXES.—The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said that he would renew the composition for assessed taxes (expiring in April, 1851) for five years.

RESIGNATION OF THE LORD CHANCELLOR.—In reply to questions put by Mr. PATTEN and Mr. BOUVERIE,

Lord J. RUSSELL said, it was with very great regret he announced that the Lord Chancellor's state of health prevented him from retaining an office which he had discharged with so much ability. As soon as he should have given judgment in various cases he would be compelled to resign the great seal. In filling up the office, the person appointed would take it subject to any regulations or alterations to be made by parliament on the Report of the Committee on Salaries, and the offices in the appointment of the Lord Chancellor, which would become vacant upon his resignation, would be likewise subject as to tenure and emolument, to the determination of parliament. With regard to the separation of the judicial and political functions of the Lord Chancellor, *this subject had engaged the at*tention of her Majesty's government, and was one of very considerable difficulty. No doubt the object was a very desirable one, and he trusted he should be able to propose a measure to parliament on the subject; but, considering the nature of this high office, connected with the political administration of the country, and with the performance of judicial duties not only in the Court of Chancery, but in the House of Lords, he was loth to introduce such a measure without the most mature consideration.

EMIGRATION OF FEMALE ORPHANS.—Mr. MILES moved a resolution, that it is expedient that the government, in concert with boards of guardians in England and Wales, should take immediate steps to forward the emigration of orphan girls, inmates of workhouses, to Australia as apprentices. Confining his argument to New South Wales, he pointed out the inconveniences which settlers with wives and families experienced there from the want of female domestic servants, who were sometimes not to be hired at any wages. He then adverted to the condition of orphan girls in workhouses, who under sixteen mingled with aged inmates, and were thereby liable to contamination; and at sixteen might, at twenty-four hours' notice, quit the workhouse. The consequence of being cast thus suddenly upon the world, without advice or control, was often demoralisation of the saddest kind. The industrial and moral training which children now received in workhouses adapted them to fill up the vacuity in the colony, which, concurring in the object, would absorb a larger number than the female orphans in our workhouses, and these emigrants might be followed by girls deserted by both parents and the children of distressed widowers and widows. The expense he proposed to provide for by requiring *the parishes to pay for the outfit of the children,* the cost of placing them on board ship, and £5 towards the charges of the voyage; the rest to be defrayed by the Colonial Fund.

Mr. STAFFORD, in no feeling of hostility to the motion, moved as an amendment, to substitute "the United Kingdom" for "England and Wales." Ireland, where assistance was most needed, had, unassisted, made vast efforts to promote emigration, and it should not be excluded from any scheme of government encouragement. Mr. Stafford entered largely into the *general subject of emigration,* which he considered to be, above all social questions, the fireside and household question throughout Great Britain and Ireland.

Mr. HAWES admitted the great importance of this subject, especially to the Australian colonies; but observed that there were limits to all these general views of benevolence—namely, considerations as to the capacity of the colonies to receive a peculiar class of emigrants, the interests and welfare of the emigrants themselves, and the interests of the empire at large. The disproportion of the sexes, the crying evil of the colonies some years ago, was now *almost repaired; great numbers of female emigrants* had been sent, and amongst them Irish orphans; and, without discouraging further emigration, to send a large additional number of young females to the colonies, without the certain prospect of their finding employment, might add to the social evils of the colonies. The fund available in the hands of the Emigration Commissioners, who were trustees under an act of parliament, was very small. Though he concurred, therefore, in the general object of Mr. Miles, yet, after the statement he had made, he thought it would be *inexpedient to agree to the* motion, and he accordingly moved the previous question.

Mr. MONSELL urged the expediency of promoting the emigration of girls from Irish workhouses, in some of which large numbers of women, between the ages of fifteen and forty, had been inmates for more than a year.

The house was counted at ten minutes past eight o'clock, and as there were only thirty-five members present an adjournment took place until Thursday.

THURSDAY, MAY 30.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—BREACH OF PRIVILEGE.—Lord BROUGHAM called the attention of their Lordships to a breach of privilege, consisting in a tissue of misstatements in two papers with reference to his conduct in a recent divorce bill. One of those *papers had done all in its power to repair the injury,* but the other had not done so, and if at the next *sitting of the House he felt* as he did at that moment, he would certainly move that the printer be called to the bar.

HOUSE OF COMMONS assembled at twelve o'clock in the new house, which was temporarily fitted up with a view of testing its capacity for the accommodation of members, and its adaptation to the transmission of sound.

The only public business appointed for the morning sitting was the third reading of the ELECTIONS (IRELAND) BILL. A clause proposed by the ATTORNEY-GENERAL for appointing additional polling places upon petition from Justices in Quarter Sessions, which was agreed to, and a clause moved by Mr. FRENCH, authorising the appointment of additional polling places on the petition of 300 electors, which was negatived, occupied the house until three o'clock, when a suspension of business took place.

At five o'clock the house re-assembled, when Lord ASHLEY moved that an address should be presented to the Crown, praying for the total cessation of Sunday labour in the Post-offices of the United Kingdom. The noble lord supported the motion by adducing the religious principle, which enjoined the perfect sanctification of the Sabbath; and while, admitting that some trivial inconvenience would be felt in Ireland, Scotland, and the towns lying beyond a certain radius from the metropolitan Post-office, urged that even from those districts where the commercial interruption to correspondence was most prolonged, petitions, *comprising* some hundreds of thousands of signatures, had been received in favour of the change he now proposed. To obviate all objections, however, Lord Ashley *consented to modify the tenor of his resolution,* so as to imply simply the investigation of the best *methods for securing the object in view,* instead of assuming a directly prohibitory form.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER opposed the motion, and after some discussion the house divided, when the motion was carried by 93 against 68.

Lord J. RUSSELL moved for leave to bring in a bill to regulate the mode of administering the oath of abjuration to persons professing the Jewish religion. Briefly referring to the report prepared by the select committee, as containing full information *regarding the present state of the law* upon this subject, the noble lord postponed until a future stage any discussion upon the principle of the measure he wished to introduce.

After a warning by Mr. NEWDEGATE, of the irreligious character of the proposed step, which he declared his intention of opposing hereafter, in which Mr. PLUMPTRE joined, leave was given to bring in the bill.

On the order of the day for the resumption of the adjourned debate on the English and Irish Universities,

Mr. GLADSTONE suggested that, as it had come on unexpectedly, it should be further adjourned until Monday, to which Lord J. RUSSELL assented.

The ELECTIONS (IRELAND) BILL, debated at the morning sitting, passed.

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

FRIDAY, MAY 31.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—The Bill for the ABOLITION of SUNDAY FAIRS was read a second time, on the motion of the Earl of CARLISLE.

Lord LUCAN moved the second reading of the DISTRESS FOR RENT (IRELAND) BILL. The motion was agreed to, and the bill read a second time.

SUNDAY TRADING PREVENTION BILL.—The Earl of HARROWBY moved that the house should go into committee on this bill.

Lord BROUGHAM looked upon measures of this sort with great anxiety. No one had ever felt the deep importance of Sabbath rest more than he had, but if they attempted to do too much, his fear was they would defeat the object they had in view, and render the consecration of the Sabbath unpopular with the multitude. If they strained too hard, their penalties would all be in vain. Why should this measure be confined to the metropolis? and why should a person there be allowed to buy milk and cream on the Sunday, but no tea and coffee? Shaving and hair dressing after ten o'clock were to be prohibited; but people might buy newspapers, they were one of the absolute necessaries of life. They could not buy a *bible, a prayer-book, or a* sermon, but they could buy *Bell's Life in London,* if they wanted to know anything about the Derby or the Oaks. (Hear, hear.) He must take this opportunity of expressing his surprise at the outrageous address agreed to in the other house, by which all Post Office labour, and consequently all business, was to be suspended for twenty-four hours, for it appeared all the mails were to be stopped on Sundays.

The Earl of MOUNTCASHELL.—That is not this bill.

Lord BROUGHAM.—Did the noble lord think he was such an idiot as not to know that? (Great laughter.) He knew very well it was not the bill before the house, but if they passed the measure now under consideration, the other might follow in its wake. All ships, he supposed, were not to sail on the Sabbath; these men seemed to think that idleness was the best way of keeping the Sabbath. He had been in many countries, not only in those which were Catholic, but in Geneva and the Lutharn states of the North of Europe, and he thought it was only just to this country to state that nowhere, excepting perhaps in the towns of Scotland, was the Sabbath better observed than in England. He knew no great city in which the Sabbath was less broken than in this metropolis.

The Earl of HARROWBY said, that in the poorer districts of the metropolis more business was done on Sundays than on any other days. In reference to newspapers he wished to err rather on the side of indulgence than severity. His object was to put an end to useless Sunday trading, without interfering with that which was absolutely necessary. He *hoped the house would allow the bill to go into* committee.

The Bishop of ST. ASAPH supported the bill, and instanced the New-cut and Seymour-street, in Lambeth, as places which were a disgrace to any civilised country on the Sabbath.

After some further discussion, the bill passed through committee.

AUSTRALIAN COLONIES BILL.—Earl GREY moved the second reading of this bill. Dwelling upon the rapid progress of the colonies in question, where the population had increased tenfold, and the exports fifteen fold, within the past twenty years, the noble earl explained the object of the present bill to be the provision of a free, regular, and constitutional government for the British dependencies in Australia. Some discussion ensued, after which the bill was read a second time.

Their Lordships then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Sir E. BUXTON moved a resolution, declaring that it is unjust and impolitic to expose the free-grown sugar of the British colonies and possessions abroad to unrestricted competition with the sugar of foreign slave-trading countries. The question, he observed, was one of great importance to the West India colonies, but of *still greater importance to the interests of humanity;* and his object was to consider the question as one of humanity and of high moral principle rather than of trade or as affecting the prosperity of our colonies. He traced the history of the alteration in the sugar duties from 1841, when those on slave grown sugar had been reduced to a scale which it was supposed would have enabled our colonial sugar to compete with its rival in the British market to *1846,* when the measure was introduced against which he complained. Though the effects of that measure had been mitigated by the alteration in 1848, whereby the colonists were granted a comparative respite, there was nothing in the condition of our West India colonies which warranted the supposition that when the differential duties were brought to a level the distress in the West Indies would not be as great as before. Reminding the house of the misery and destruction of life attending the slave trade, he urged that, if the slave grown sugar of Cuba and Brazil were admitted to free competition with our own sugar, we must make up our minds that we were promoting a system which produced as much misery and degradation as could exist in any human condition, and which was the worst enemy of civilisation and of the diffusion of the Gospel in Africa.

Mr. R. EVANS seconded the motion.

Mr. HUME concurred in believing that the West Indies were subjected to an unfair competition, but believed that they did not so much require protection as the abolition of the laws which prevented their obtaining a full supply of free labour. By encouraging the importation of African negroes as free apprentices, we should place the West Indians upon an equal footing with the planters of Cuba and Brazil, and thereby diminish the demand for slave labour, and do more to destroy the traffic than could be effected by all our efforts at forcible repression. The hon. member concluded by moving as an amendment to the motion the addition of words denouncing the obstructions interposed by the Legislature, in the sugar growing colonies, to the supply of free labour from Africa and elsewhere.

Mr. MANGLES supported the amendment.

A long discussion ensued, and the house divided—

For the motion 234
Against .... 275—41

The house adjourned at two o'clock.

SYMPATHY BETWEEN THE DEMOCRATS OF ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

Another of those great meetings, convened by the Provisional Committee of the National Charter Association, was held at the Literary and Scientific Institution, John-street, Tottenham-court-road, on Tuesday evening, May 28th.

Mr. JOHN ARNOTT was called to the chair, and *apologised for the absence of Mr. G. W. M. Reynolds,* on the ground of pressure of business. He read a letter from Mr. G. J. Harney, who was detained at home by the alarming indisposition of Mrs. Harney, which had also precluded the possibility of Mr. Harney's attendance at the Lancashire and Yorkshire delegate meeting, held at Hebden Bridge, on Sunday last. However, he (Mr. Arnott) had been to that meeting, and right pleased he was to meet *fifteen most intelligent representatives from the* several towns of that manufacturing hive. The constitution of the National Charter Association was discussed, clause by clause, and adopted. The reports delivered by the several delegates were most encouraging, and the meeting gave in its unanimous adhesion to the National Charter Association, each delegate pledging himself to use his utmost efforts in support of the Association. (Cheers.)

Mr. THOMAS BROWN then moved the following resolution:—"That whilst the members of the National Charter Association are most solicitous of obtaining full and efficient political and social rights for the people of Great Britain—yet, mindful that 'all men are brethren,' they can but view the attempt now being made in the Legislative Assembly of France (by means of the Bill for Electoral Reform) to destroy Universal Suffrage with the utmost disgust and abhorrence, as an invasion of a constitution made by and for the people." Mr. Brown said it must have been painful to all who had paid any attention to the proceedings of the French Legislature to see that men, elected under Republican institutions, could have become *so recreant* to their principles. It unfortunately happened that men of wealth were generally more trusted than those of the industrial orders. The wealthy men—the majority of the Assembly—had broken faith with the French people. (Hear, hear.) First, they had the disgraceful exhibition of the invasion of the sister Republic, Rome; and now, an invasion of the rights and liberties of the people of France, as guaranteed by the constitution. (Hear, hear.) By this last act, the *reactionnaires* had entirely unmasked themselves—(hear, hear)—but he thought the French people were too gallant, once having tasted the *sweets of freedom, to allow it* to be easily wrenched from them. (Loud cheers.) "*The dodge*" of withdrawing the French Ambassador had been tried, but, as he believed, without its intended effect: fortunately, too, the good sense of the patriots had deprived Changarnier of the opportunity of putting Paris in a state of siege, although Montalembert, Thiers, and others, had delivered what he could not regard otherwise than as fiendish invocations to deeds of blood. (Loud cheers.) Last week, the King of Prussia had been slightly wounded in the arm, and what a hubbub was kicked up about it; but when thousands *of working men were slain in cool blood, nothing* was said about that. There were men in England, he was sorry to say, in indigent circumstances who had fought for Hungary, and also in defence of the Roman Republic, under the standards raised by Kossuth and Mazzini, and in the armies marshalled by the gallant Bem and Garribaldi; some of those men were now present, and they at least claimed their sympathy and fraternity. Years ago, Englishmen most ignorantly hated Frenchmen, and the boast was then very common, that one Englishman could beat six Frenchmen; but what a pleasing change had come over the spirit of their dreams. Now, the contest was, who should be the first to hold out the hand of fraternity, to advocates of freedom of every nation. He held, that before any great good would be *done for the people, that a government must be* chosen by and from the people; in fine, that the people must become sovereign. He was delighted to hear Mr. Arnott's report from Hebden-bridge; for his part, he trusted he would be always found ready to do his duty, whether as a collector at the door, or in any other working capacity. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. J. J. BEZER seconded the resolution.

The CHAIRMAN now, amidst loud cheers, announced that Cuffay, Lacy, Dowling, Fay, and their other friends, had arrived safe at their destination, in Australia.

Mr. WALTER COOPER, amidst great cheering, came forward to support the resolution, and said, how often had he felt, with Bobby Burns, that

"'Twas hardly in a body's power,
To keep from going sour;"

and it certainly was a most difficult thing to keep from being discontented—(hear, hear)—when they beheld the useless and dissolute rise to distinction, whilst the best men were crushed in their struggle for bread. He thought Thomas Paine quite right in asserting, that all good sprung from the people. There never would be—and there never ought to be—anything but discontent until the condition of the people was morally, mentally, physically, politically, and socially improved. (Loud cheers.) He viewed these meetings as a school, in which great political and social truths should be taught, so that when the present rotten, tottering fabric fell, they might know how to build up one that would be suitable to the wants, wishes, and interest of the wealth-producers, in which the great truths of democracy—as taught by the Nazarine—should prevail; *in which love should abound, and where they* should have "all things in common." Let them *spread knowledge, create opinion, and gladden the* world, by showing it "that a fount's about to flow," and that a spring of action will clear the way for the great, the mighty, and all beneficent future. (Vehement cheering.)

The resolution was then put and carried by acclamation; as was also a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

As the meeting broke up—notwithstanding its being the week immediately following the Whitsun holidays—one pound eighteen shillings was collected at the doors, by voluntary contribution; and several members were enrolled in the National Charter Association.

Chartist Intelligence.

NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION.—The Provisional Committee met at their office, 14, Southampton-street, Strand, on Thursday evening, May 30th. Present: Messrs. G. J. Harney, J. Grassby, E. Stallwood, G. W. M. Reynolds, E. Miles, J. Milne, T. Brown, and John Arnott. Mr. G. J. Harney in the chair. Several returns were received.—Mr. Harney stated, that domestic affliction had prevented him from going to the delegate meeting at Hebden Bridge, pursuant to promise.—Mr. Reynolds explained that, in consequence of Mr. Harney's inability to go, a consultation had ensued between him and the secretary, the result of which was, that the secretary went to Hebden Bridge, for which they had to ask the approval of the Provisional Committee, which was granted.—Mr. Arnott then delivered in his report, which was ordered to be laid on the table, with a view to being discussed, and an answer returned to the suggestions of the delegates.—Mr. Reynolds also announced that M. Le Blond, a democratic friend of his, had volunteered to subscribe £5 towards meeting the expenses of defending W. J. Vernon, upon condition that the country would furnish the remainder, and he (Mr. Reynolds) was also willing to subscribe a like amount upon similar conditions.—The Committee then adjourned until Wednesday evening next, June the 5th.

FINSBURY.—A meeting of members was held at the Old Dolphin, Old-street, St. Luke's, on Sunday last; Mr. Fennell in the chair. Moved by W. Dicey, and seconded by R. Blake:—"That F. O'Connor, Esq., M.P., be elected an honorary member of this locality, and that the secretary do send him his card of membership." Moved by Mr. Fuzzen, and seconded by Mr. Feline:—"That the election of the executive committee be postponed till next Sunday evening, the 2nd of June, when all members are particularly requested to attend. Chair to be taken at seven o'clock." Moved by Mr. Blake, and seconded by Mr. Dicey:—"That Mr. O'Connor be nominated on the executive committee." Carried unanimously.

HULL.—A public meeting was convened on the 21st ult., in the County Court-room, Town Hall, to raise a tribute to the memory of John Jackson, better known by the epithet of "Radical Jackson," lately deceased.—Mr. George Candelet was appointed chairman, who opened the proceedings of the meeting with a brief biographical account of the late Mr. Jackson's career in the cause of Radical Reform, for a period of forty years. Mr. C. referred to a mass of correspondence he had before him, intimating that he was connected with all the leading reformers of his time, commencing from the year 1809 to 1850. Amongst those letters he found some from the late Daniel O'Connell, Sir Francis Burdett, Cobbett, Wooler, Major Cartwright, Henry Hunt, &c., &c. Although some of these individuals it might be said, had been guilty of apostacy, such was not the case with their lamented friend. He was distinguished in this town for his integrity and zeal, and had received the government stamp of sincerity. He had devoted his life, and spent a fortune in the cause of democracy. He did not wish to pass an unmerited panegyric on the character and conduct of Mr. Jackson; those who knew him best could establish his claims of gratitude upon his townsmen.—Mr. Tate, in a neat address, moved the following resolution:—"That we, the inhabitants of Kingston-upon-Hull, in public meeting assembled, *have heard with satisfaction* a delineation of the virtues and constancy which formed the character of our late lamented friend, John Jackson, for upwards of forty years, in behalf of political and social progress, and pledge ourselves to raise a memento of respect over his remains, as an humble tribute of gratitude to his memory, in endeavouring to advance the universal brotherhood of the human family."—The resolution was seconded by Mr. Martin, who delivered himself with success in advancing the object of the meeting.—The meeting was also addressed by Messrs. Dibb, Barnett, Shelding, Yates, and Dean.—A committee was also appointed, who meet at the Malt Shovel, Church Side, every Wednesday evening.—A vote of thanks having been voted to the chairman and the mayor for the use of the room, the meeting separated.

SHEFFIELD.—On Sunday evening a meeting was held in the Democratic Temperance Hotel, 33, Queen-street, to hear a lecture from Mr. Peddie, but that gentleman being unable to attend, in consequence of indisposition, Messrs. Buckley and Mitchel addressed the meeting, exposing the hollowness of the agricultural and manufacturing exhibitions, such as the one which is to take place in 1851, to the utmost satisfaction of those present. After the disposal of a number of the *National Instructors,* the meeting was adjourned to Sunday evening next.

YORKSHIRE AND LANCASHIRE DELEGATE MEETING.

This meeting was held on Sunday last, May the 26th, at Hebden Bridge, in Yorkshire. At ten o'clock in the forenoon, the Delegates assembled in the National Charter Association Room. Mr. Joseph Hatfield was unanimously called on to preside.—The following delegates took their seats:—Manchester—George Joseph Mantle, Thomas Sidely. Halifax—Christopher Shackleton, John Culpan, jun. Lower Warley—Robert Suttcliff, John Lawson. Bradford—John Moore. Heckmondwike—Joseph Hatfield. Stockport—James Williams. Rochdale—Robert Gill. Huddersfield—John Grant. Todmorden—Richard Barker. Keighly—Joseph Vicars. Hebden Bridge—James Mann. Staley Bridge—William Hill.

John Arnott attended to represent the Provisional Committee of the National Charter Association in the room of G. Julian Harney, who had been appointed by the Committee for that purpose. Mr. Arnott read the following from that gentleman:

London, May 25th.

MY DEAR ARNOTT,—I must get you to explain to our friends, the Lancashire and Yorkshire Delegates, assembled at Hebden Bridge, the cause of my non-attendance. In stating that that cause is the serious, indeed alarming, illness of Mrs. Harney, you *know* that is too true, and not a mere *excuse manufactured for the occasion.* Let me add, that no mere trifle would have caused my absence. In addition to my desire to have represented the Charter Association, there were other reasons which would have induced my attendance, had that been possible. Should a *change for the better* shortly take place in the bodily condition of Mrs. Harney, I will at once set about arranging for my long-promised visit to Yorkshire. I hope to visit Hebden Bridge, Halifax, Bradford, Todmorden, &c., some time in the month of June. Pray give my fraternal regards *to the delegates, and assure them that,* under all circumstances, they will find me devoted to the Charter, and the good cause of progress—democratic and social.

I am, dear Arnott, yours fraternally,
G. JULIAN HARNEY.

After addresses from the Chairman, the Secretary, and from Mr. Arnott, the constitution of the Charter Association was taken into consideration, and the first and second clauses were unani*mously adopted.*

On the 3rd being read, which says, "This association consists of all individuals who take out cards of membership, and subscribe to the funds of the society;" Mr. Williams moved, and Mr. Barker seconded, that the following words be added:—"Subject to the local rules."—Mr. Mantle moved an amendment, seconded by Mr. Shackleton:—"That after 'the,' and before 'funds,' the word 'local' be inserted." Amendment agreed to.

The 4th clause was adopted without discussion.

The 5th was then put by the Chairman, as follows:—"The government of the Association is vested in an Executive Committee, consisting of five members, receiving salaries for their services."—Mr. Mantle moved, seconded by Mr. Williams:—"That the word 'nine' be inserted instead of 'five;' and that the words 'receiving salaries for their services' be struck out."—Carried unanimously.

After a brief discussion, clause 6 was adopted, and also the 7th.

Considerable discussion took place on the 8th clause; but, ultimately, it was adopted by a large majority.

Clauses 9, 10 and 11, were passed *nem. con.*

On coming to clause 12, which says "Lecturers will be appointed by the Executive Committee," Mr. Mantle moved, seconded by Mr. Williams, that it read as follows:—"General lecturers will be appointed by the Executive Committee on the nomination of the localities," which on being put by the Chairman was agreed to.

Clauses 13 and 14 were unanimously adopted.

In the local rules some trifling alterations were *made, which have been submitted to the Provisional* Committee.

Mr. Mantle rose, and in an able and spirited address, moved as follows:—"We, the delegates representing the Chartists of Lancashire and Yorkshire, having deliberately reviewed and considered the policy pursued and principles enunciated by the Provisional Committee of the National Charter Association, and finding that that committee emphatically represents the opinions of this meeting, they, the Provisional Committee, are hereby earnestly solicited to retain their offices until arrangements may be made for a national election of an executive head of the Association; and the Provisional Committee are also requested to make immediate arrangements for such election." Mr. Williams seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

A resolution, in favour of tract distribution was unanimously adopted,—also the following:—"That in order to give practical effect to the decision of this meeting, a great North of England Camp Meeting be held at Blackstone-edge on the second Sunday in July, and that a committee be appointed to make the necessary arrangements for that purpose."

A committee to carry out the above was appointed, and it was resolved, "That Messrs. O'Connor, Reynolds, Harney, and Roberts, be invited to attend the above-named demonstration."

Mr. Mantle moved, and Mr. Shackleton seconded—"That the best thanks of this meeting are due and hereby presented to the Provisional Committee of the National Charter Association, for their energetic and valuable services in the cause of Chartism. And further, the best thanks of this meeting are presented to Mr. John Arnott, for the manly, able, and business-like manner in which he has represented the said committee, and for the satisfactory answers he has given to all the questions which have been put to him." Carried by acclamation.

Mr. Arnott returned thanks, and the delegates separated. In the evening a public meeting was held, and although the weather was unfavourable, a goodly number attended. Mr. John Arnott was called to the chair, and Messrs. Williams, of Stockport, and G. J. Mantle, of Manchester, having addressed the audience in brief but effective speeches, the meeting dispersed—evidently satisfied with what they had seen and heard.

THE SHEFFIELD CHARTISTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

SIR,—Perceiving in your columns, last week, a report of a meeting at Sheffield, on which occasion a complaint was made that a notice of Mr. Otley's lecture had been forwarded to me but had not been inserted in my newspaper, I beg to state that I did not receive the communication alluded to, or I should have published it, as a matter of course. It must, therefore, have miscarried.

Trusting to your kindness to insert this letter,
I remain, sir, your obedient servant,
May 27th, 1850. GEORGE W. M. REYNOLDS.

Markets, &c.

CORN.

MARK-LANE, Monday, May 27.—We had a short supply to-day of English wheat, which was taken off by the millers at fully last Monday's prices. For foreign wheat and flour there was but a slight demand, but firmer prices were maintained. English barley sold heavily and 1s cheaper, the malting season being nearly over. Foreign was likewise dull sale and the turn cheaper, unless for fine samples. Malt dull and 1s lower. Beans and peas met few buyers *at fully 1s. per qr. decline. Our supply of oats* during the past week consisted entirely of foreign, excepting a trifling quantity, coastwise; the trade has been heavy, and last week's prices were barely maintained to-day for any but the finest qualities. For linseed cakes we had a fair sale. The current prices as under.

BRITISH.—Wheat.—Essex, Suffolk, and Kent, red new 38s to 40s, ditto white, 36s to 46s, Lincoln Norfolk and Yorkshire, red 34s to 38s, Northumberland and Scotch, white 34s to 38s, ditto red 32s to 36s, Devonshire and Somersetshire, red, —s to —s ditto white, — to —s rye, 21s to 23s, barley, 21s to 22s, Scotch 19s to 22s, Angus —s to —s, Malt ordinary, —s to —s, pale 46s to 49s, peas, grey, new 22s to 24s, maple 23s to 26s, white 22s to 23s, boilers new 24s to 26s, beans, large, new 23s to 25s, ticks 24s to 25s, harrow, 25s to 27s, pigeon, 29s to 31s, oats, Lincoln and Yorkshire feed, 14s to 15s, ditto Poland and potato, 15s to 17s, Berwick and Scotch, 15s to 18s, Scotch feed, 14s to 15s, Irish feed and black, 12s to 15s, ditto potato, 15s to 17s, linseed (sowing) 50s to 52s, rapeseed, Essex, new £30 to £34 per last, carraway seed, Essex, new 27s to 34s per cwt, rape cake, £4 to £4 10s. per ton, linseed, £9 0s to £9 10s. per 1,000, flour, per sack of 280lbs. ship, 26s to 28s; town, 35s to 37s.

WEDNESDAY, May 29.—We are but moderately supplied with grain this week, nevertheless, the weather being fine *for the growing crops,* the demand for every article is very limited—prices without alteration.

RICHMOND (YORKSHIRE,) May 25.—We had a good supply of wheat this morning:—Wheat sold from 4s 9d to 6s 3d; oats, 2s 4d to 3s 0d; barley, 3s 0d to 3s 3d; beans, *3s 6d to 3s 9d per bushel.*

PROVISIONS.

LONDON, Monday.—There was but little of interest or novelty stirring in our market during last week. With *foreign and home-made butter* we were abundantly supplied, and on cheaper terms. The arrivals of new Irish were trifling, and retailed off at about 70s per cwt. Supplies gradually increasing may now be expected from Ireland, and unless a more healthy and progressive improvement occurs in trade, prices will probably rule low. It is reported that the best brands of Waterford have been offered for immediate shipment, at 65s to 66s per cwt. on board, without attracting buyers. *Of bacon we* have to report a good demand for Irish singed sides of mild cure, at an advance of 1s to 2s per cwt., and a better feeling towards all other kinds, not excepting American. Middles steady in value and demand. In lard no alteration. Hams rather more saleable.

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