

apt Connor, which he thought would be ready by Wednesday. Connor was forthwith discharged, as there was no evidence to implicate him, and the other four prisoners were remanded until next Wednesday, at two o'clock.

They are literally disgraceful. And though we have long known them to be so, we have forbore

from public comment, because we hoped to see some good result from private remonstrance; being unwilling to give him and the other members of the Executive credit for integrity of purpose. "This public appeal of Mr. MORTIMER" renders it impossible for us to be longer silent. "We have by no means commented upon all, or 'nearly all' of the objectionable matters in this balance sheet; or of the unsatisfactory matters in Mr. MORTIMER's explanatory letter; but we trust we have said enough to show the people that it is time they took up the matter in right earnest. These are the things that destroy us more than all the power of the enemy. And we always find that it is those who trample under their feet all regard for principle that are the first to cry out against 'denunciation' in disagreement with, or disapprobation of, their proceedings be expressed. We have hitherto paid much deference to this score-crow; and shall hereafter treat it very cavalierly. We speak at our mind upon all public matters with a freedom from which our best friends must look for no exemption. We esteem highly private friendships and regards; but shall allow them to divert us from our duty; nor shall we permit any personal services of partisan leaders to exempt them from being tightly held by the rein of principle. None can esteem more highly than we do the personal exertions of our respective members of the Executive as leaders and missionaries for the cause of Christianity; they have done much; but that does not set them above the practice of their own principles in the transactions of their own office.

ELECTION OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL.

Our readers are of course aware that the Election of General Councillors through all the localities takes place on the 1st of December. These people should begin to look out for good, hard-headed, prudent men. The office is a most important one. We shall next week give some directions for what we think the best mode of conducting these elections.

TO THE READERS OF THE "NORTHERN STAR."

Star Office, Nov. 17, 1842.

MY DEAR FRIENDS,—On the 17th of Nov. 1837, five years ago, this very day, the first number of this paper issued from the press. Since that time, we have braved together many a breeze. Radicalism was then a name unknown, and Christianity was a stickly infant in its nurse's arms. The professors of the pure principles of truth were for the most part jumbled up and identified with Whiggery, under the general titles of "Reformers" and "Liberals." There was no real line of demarcation between honesty, and stealthy faction in a mask. The people were then, as now, honest, but waiting just direction for their movements; while the prominent politicians of the day were a motley crew of personal adventurers, floating with the tide of circumstances, and continually using the popular breeze to blow up the bubbles of their own or parties' purposes. I saw the necessity of severing principle from faction, and individually laboured for it, as many of you know, long before the *Star* existed. I saw the disadvantage under which the people laboured; I felt, often and severely felt, that the sphere of democratic influence was limited—unnaturally contracted—because the people were not represented by the representatives of the Legislature. The constituents were defrauded of themselves; their sentiments were distorted, their opinions misrepresented, their minds purposely misled, and their active proceedings twisted to the support of first one and then another factions party, while their own interests were lost sight of in the mist. I felt that there was no mirror which would faithfully reflect them. I set myself, therefore, to see the people in possession of an organ which, trumpet-tongued, might speak their will, and utter their complaints. I laboured hard for it, and expended much more time and money than I could afford; but there was wanting either power or energy amongst the people. The work progressed slowly, and I was about retiring in despair from the attempt, when providence brought me in contact with your indefatigable champion, and true friend, O'CONNOR, who had seen and felt the same lack of means to make principle stand firmly on its own basis, and throw overboard adventurous experimentalism. His dauntless spirit, in the face of a most uninviting prospect, resolved to remedy the grievance at all hazards; and the *Northern Star* was hinged up in the political hemisphere, and has continued since, by your suffrages, to enlighten and to cheer the thinking cury, and to shed the clear light of public opinion, the rocks and quicksands of political agitation, and the "rigging" of each party craft that might intrude itself upon the waters of democracy. I speak thus of the *Star*, because I have ever sought to make it rather a reflex of your minds than a medium through which to exhibit any supposed talent or intelligence of my own. This is precisely my conception of what a people's organ should be; this was what I saw to be wanting before the *Star* came into existence; and what, since it has existed, I have ever sought to make it. How far I have succeeded in doing so, may be best evidenced by the position which it has held since the first week of its publication, of the most extensively circulated provincial journal in the empire, and by the fact that it still holds and maintains that position notwithstanding the unparalleled distress which binds to the earth the whole body of its supporters; notwithstanding the incessant fire of prosecution upon prosecution from the Government, to which it is the most galling of annoyances, and notwithstanding the unceasing effluence of the private mailer, the thinking cury, and personal ambition, the disgraced fellows, the false, traitors, and enemies of all sorts. There is, at this present time, another thing which the factions so hate, and the Government so much fears as this newspaper. It is the voice of their antipathies; and they would destroy any sacrifice by which it might be cheapened. While I have your help and confidence I defy them. The wrong-doer shall witness just castigation; the light of justice shall shine upon the haggard face and ugly form of class dominance, so long as it is your pleasure to uphold the *Northern Star*.

Thank you, not more for the gratification it affords me personally, than for your own account, for the power you have hitherto given me in battling with your enemies. I receive your continued confidence and the constant indications of your approbation with the proud consciousness that I deserve it. I accord you now my thanks for having nobly done your duty in the years gone by. You have rallied round the standard of pure, constitutional Radicalism, which has been erected in the *Star*; and you have made the arms of liberty, though bound, yet terrible to the oppressor.

One more part in the good work; and you are no less stronger and my aim steadier than it was five years ago, thanks to the supporting presence of your power. The recurrence of this anniversary brings us once more to a kind of understanding with each other; to a sort of terms of covenant on which to base our future operations against tyranny. There shall be, on my part, a continuance of that same unceasing watchfulness with which I have heretofore endeavoured to point out the tricks and moves of faction to your observance. With the broad flag of Chartism unfurled, and nailed to

ordinary number of ninety-six. None of them
fewer than eight children, and the highest
number was sixteen.—*West Briton*.

