

THE OLD YEAR.

Thy locks are grey, old Pilgrim,
 Thy mantle thin and bare,
 Cold is thy cheek, and storm and cloud
 Around thy forehead are;
 And sooty smudges will greet the ear,
 Proclaiming thou art gone,
 And midnight winds thy requiem sing
 In wild funeral tones.
 Thus once wert young, old Pilgrim,
 And light of step, and gay;
 Thy head was dived with sweetest wreath,
 With roses strew'd thy way;
 While floated far on Zephyr's wing,
 Sweet-scented and holy hymn,
 Thy heavenly soul to morn and eve
 What hand might hope to limn!
 Much hast thou seen, old Pilgrim,
 Much hast thou seen thou heard—
 The woe of love, the wail of want—
 The toil without reward—
 The realm where foodless thousands droop,
 Where plenty faint would land,
 But feel Morpheus guards each port,
 And fights her from the strand.
 Drink to the dying Pilgrim,
 Ye frand-servanted crew,
 And drain the mighty muddied bowl,
 And oath and league renew;
 Fit bound for ever of mankind's sort,
 For each of fierce tones;
 Who would not waste through blood 't phoid
 The "tyranny of thrones"?
 Drink to the poor man's sorrow,
 The orphan's want and wail,
 The crime, the woe, the beggary,
 That in these realms prevail;
 Gout Famine, Agony, and Death,
 Pledge with exultant yell,
 Till Beelzebub grin horribly,
 And demons laugh in hell.
 Yes, traders in Corruption!
 Oppressors' iron hand!
 Quaff of the hour is on the march
 Will sweep you from the land;
 Nor would our tears fall fast and long,
 Nor hopeless would we mourn
 Though we were all the Pilgrim most of you
 Were pass'd the mystic "bourne."
 Then fare thee well, old Pilgrim,
 Thy last sad is in sight;
 Though which of us must first take leave,
 Is hid in deepest night;
 And I will slander not thy name,
 Farther than good and kind,
 And dealt with courteous hand and—
 But tyrant-fists combined.

27th December, 1841.

Has not the British farmer equal skill
With foreigners the yielding earth to till
Fears he for competition? No, he knows
How to grow corn, and how to raise the mowers,
And grow enough for all that want at home;
So that no foreign corn need bother him.
Why then is Cornish corn so scarce and dear?
Why do men make such a fuss about it here?
Our lords are loonsters—"men of wealth and pride
Take up a space, that many poor supplied;
They spare for lakes, lakes, their parks extended bounds,
And leave the poor to starve for want of ground!"
Disgrace for makes less and less our store,
While vulgar actions ask for more and more.

High rents rack'd farmers pay to swell the estate
Of little landlords whom we call the great;
And what is worse, they imitate them too,
Do nought themselves, nor see that others do.
They buy the blood, and sweat, and tears of hire,
Live high, and as the markets fall the higher;
Gamble at times and seasons when they find
Their use no fall short, and quarrel with their hands
That work for them, and then, when they have done,
Not at their fathers' bid, or they might strive,
More on themselves they spend than on their land,
Famine obtains what labor should command:
The soil grows poor for want of management,
Its scarce produce what will pay the rent;
The squire is low but the squire's estate is high,
The squire's estate, buyers must supply.
No work! no money!—when our trade is gone,
Workmen must follow—buyers will be none.

JOHN WATKINS.
20, Upper Marsh, Lambeth.

BENTLEY'S MISCELLANY, for January, 1842.

This very attractive and interesting periodical reached us last week; but not in time for notice. We have read it all through and advise every one who can get it to go and do likewise." The editor is a Quaker, and writes in a Quakerish style, but say that they are by the Cruikshanks, elder and younger, Crowquill, and Leech, to pronounce a warranty for their being well executed and appropriate. We must say, however, that the design of the illustrations is the best that I have seen. The "Razed House," a bright story of intense interest—is not quite so happy as we could have wished. The expression given by the artist to the countenances of his *persons* chords ill in our estimation, and the description of the "Razed House" the tale itself is a graphic and powerful denunciation of brigand life. "Save me from my friends" is a most serious comic recital of the adventures of a young man, who, after the determination of a couple of fussy old maiden aunts from the country, to "push him into notice" in town—and who bring into play all their village arts of finesse to the destruction of the poor fellow's peace of mind, and the ruin of his pocket. "Wash Rebbits," by Doctor Magin, is a capital story. "Richard Savage" is continued. In the present chapter, Poor Old Ludlow escapes from his prison, through the aid of friends. The events of the preceding chapter, and the following chapters, are of great interest, and finely narrated; while the last scene of Savage with his mother is depicted in most masterly style. The characters are well drawn, and the story is well told. It is a well-told comic story of events likely enough to have occurred in actual life, and which had it been read by Fielding, might have furnished the Aints to "Tom Jones." There are many other pieces worth remark; some of them very drol and amusing.

NORWICH.—**STRIKE OF THE MASON'S OF LONDON**.—On Wednesday evening week, according to announcement, a public meeting was holden at the Bazaar, to take into consideration the circumstances relating to the strike of the masons, and to consider the propriety of organising a delegate meeting of the trades of Norwich. At eight o'clock the meeting, including began to fill, which is built in the shape of a theatre, and the speaker, Mr. Robert Howells, who was chosen to read the resolutions, began to read up with glee. Shortly after, Mr. Robert Howells, the speaker, was called to the chair. He commenced the proceedings by reading the placard containing the resolutions, and then he said, "I think this was not a strike to raise the price of fall-moor; if it were, they themselves perhaps might have equal claims upon society at large; but it is one which is a disgrace to the nation, and which, I am sure, whatever be his case or his creed, who is an iron-hugger, you will not so do that would for such a man to submit to the crouching slave of such a man. I am sure that the masons of London have a foreman of the masons, whose cold, pitiless heart could punish a man for attending the obsequies of his wife, whose detestable relative, the wife of his bosom he trusted to the gallows, and who would not be behind these cruel tyrants, even in sympathising with the masons of London, who had so nobly stood forward, and resisted tyranny and injustice. (Great applause.) I am sure that every man would a fair and impartial hearing. We must not longer listen then, but would I were Mr. Ironmonger, a delegate from the masons of London, to come forward, and explain the present position, and the hardships under which they are suffering previous to their strike, and in the course of his speech, I am sure that the masons of London frequently cheered the heartless execration of his audience against the heartless and oppressive conduct of George Allen. He was frequently cheered throughout, and he said, "I am sure that you, as you hear, and will, no doubt, effect much good in this hitherto divided city; he concluded by saying, "I will endeavour to answer any questions that may be put to me, and I am sure that at the meeting; but no one having appeared, the chairman called upon Mr. Briggs, mason, to propose the 1st resolution. Mr. Briggs said he did so with pleasure, and as he was a mason, he said, "I am sure that I deserved the support of every working man in the community, and as they would be addressed by a man who were more capable than himself to do justice to the cause, he said, "I am sure that in reading the following resolution:—"That this meeting sympathises with the masons of London for their just and straight-forward conduct in resisting the tyrannical attempt of George Allen, to oppress and tyrannic conduct towards themselves and brethren at the works of the new Houses of Parliament. Mr. Clancy, on being called on to read the second this resolution, said, "I am sure, long, and a true one, "if we do not assist ourselves, who ought to assist us? The mason's strike ought to

some come to the first side of every working man for discussion; if we allow the reasons to be walked upon with impunity; if we allow them to be struck down by the uplifted arm of Allen's heartless tyranny, we acquiesce in his rule, we make him our monarch. His fiat shall will no more be made, the small vestige of liberty that we yet retain! are we quite sure that what the Whigs have commenced, the Tories will not carry out past experience teaches us that they will. We must make haste, my friends, to smother it. We have it from Mr. Waking that the Tories attempt, in the ensuing Parliament, to introduce a measure to crush Trades' Unions; let us, then, men of Norwich, band ourselves together for the coming year, and let us all urge their husbands, fathers, and children, their fathers-in-law, brothers, and sisters. (Cheers.) What would you think if a bill was introduced into Parliament to oblige every working man to procure a discharge from his last employer, and that you should wear a badge of servility as to seasons of employment? Would you like to do so? You may tell me that they will not attempt such a thing; but I tell you that they may attempt such a thing. Such a bill was once attempted to be privately carried through the Irish House of Commons, and it was rejected. It was the basis of the nefarious scheme : and what did they do? they instantly called a public meeting in the Phoenix Park, from whence they marched down to the docks, and there, at Bill, or the head of its procession (Long continued cheering.) Experience has taught us, and this is a cold-blooded inclination on the part of our rulers to derive labour, or in other words the property of the working man, or slight protection from the avaricious graspings of a few male manufacturers, and the thousands of sons of labour are made millions seven hundred thousand ; and that they produce annually the enormous sum of £37,140,683. Yet with all this vast wealth, which is theirs, they are degraded, and you not the most impoverished and degraded serfs on the face of the globe ! Your new Houses of Parliament will cost you upwards of £170,000. Allen boasted that he had employed in its first works the blackest of blacks, who were sent to do it, and did treat them ! with brutal contumely and scorn ! One piece of stone worth £40 was spoiled the other day, and your pockets by and bye must be picked again, perhaps some of you will say, that the poor fellows of this steel-headed oppressor, George Allen. (Loud cheers.) Men of Norwich, think on this, and rally to strike down the monster. Let no false pre-judice of classes prevent you from coming forward in the glorious ranks of the people. Let every tradesman's party that would pledge themselves to assist him in crushing oppression. With the Whigs, or with the Tories. (A voice.—With the Chartists.) Ay, or with the Chartists. What was in a name ! The same spirit animates the American slave-trade, by any other name. The Americans were rebels, but they happened to be victorious, and now they are the free and independent citizens of the world ! let but the Chartist become a rebel, and he too will be victorious. The Chartists were changed to the Independent and noble minded men of England. (Laughter and cheers.) He would again impress on the trades that the cause of their own existence was in their hands. A Provisional Committee was formed, and they met, as at the Jolly Dyers, Tomblard, for the enrolment of delegates ; let but the trades come out manfully, and soon would we be able to tell Allen, Lincoln, and the rest of the scoundrel mongers, that their cause of retribution was at hand, that they could overthrow determined to assist in crushing the hydra-headed monster of tyranny and injustice. He concluded by seconding the resolution, and sat down amidst much applause. Mr. Canning then proposed the next resolution, which was in accordance with the foregoing resolution. "We the trades of Norwich, pledge ourselves to use our best exertions to support the masses of London in their present struggle with tyrannical oppression." There were descriptions sheets for the same laudable purpose." The resolution had his hearty concurrence, and as the subject had been so ably discussed by the preceding speakers, little remained for him to add ; he, however, said, that he trusted that the trades would urge the necessity of union to protect their rights ; he hoped too, as Mr. Canning had said, that this was but the precursor of many other

grievances under which the poor and honest bodies of trades laboured. The resolution was seconded by Mr. Hall, in a neat and appropriate speech. Mr. Atkinson, who presided, delivered in an able manner the following resolutions:—That the members of this meeting are, and are hereby urged, to the women lately employed at Nelson's monument, to Woolwich, to be particularly attentive to the propriety and noble conduct in refusing to proceed with their respective works so long as their brethren at the Parliament Houses were unjustly and oppressively detained; That the members of this meeting, Mr. Hill, and ably supported by Mr. John Hurrell, weaver, in a speech of great length and ability, castigating Allen and his associates in a masterly manner, and concluding with the following resolutions:—That the members of this meeting, Mr. Laws proposed the next resolution, enjoining the people's press that had so nobly taken up the cause of the poor, to abstain from the use of the following effects:—That the *American* resolutions be respectfully sent to the *Foreign* press for insertion, together with a brief report of this meeting, and a list of the names of the members; That the *British Queen*, and *Standard* be requested to give publicity to the same. Mr. Hawes seconded this resolution, which, together with the foregoing three, were carried by a large majority of voices. The voice of three thanks were proposed to the chairman, and three rounds of cheers given for the motions, after which the meeting broke up, all highly gratified with the harmony and good fellowship that reigned throughout.

CARLISLE.—GREAT DISTRESS AND DESTRUCTION. We stated, last week, that a public subscription had been started, and a committee chosen for the purpose of ascertaining the extent of the distress which would be necessary to find, in order to a most alarming extent. The committee to which we have just alluded, consisted of thirty gentlemen, who it appears divided the town into nineteen districts, and have been making diligent enquiries at their inquiries. The great privation, destitution, and misery which the committee met with far exceeds what was then anticipated. In the nineteen districts which were examined, there appears to be a total of 1,000 persons in need of relief. No settled income; 324 families, consisting of 1,465 persons, receiving less than one shilling per week; 411 families, consisting of 1,623 persons receiving less than one shilling and sixpence per week; 10 families, consisting of 692 persons receiving less than two shillings a-week per week; 140 families consisting of 635 persons, receiving less than one shilling and sixpence per week. The committee brought forward the foregoing as the result of their inquiries; but in consequence of several cases of great destitution having been brought forward, the committee have been obliged to

before the public, and committee, with all their friends, and the friends of the committee, that a public meeting of the working class, should be held for the purpose of forming a committee amongst themselves, for the purpose of aiding the distressed, and the friends of the committee, in the above resolution, a public meeting was held in the Town Hall, which was granted for the purpose, by our present worthy Mayor, G. G. Mounsey, Esq. At the time appointed for the meeting, the body of the working class, and the friends of the committee, Mr. Hanson was unanimously called to the chair. He opened the business of the meeting as follows:—My friends and fellow townsmen, within this fortnight, we have been witness to the most distressing scenes, who felt for the sufferings of the poor, came forward with a view to relieve the great distress which at present exists. A committee was formed, and a subscription was opened in the town into nineteen districts, to ascertain the amount of suffering. They found it to exist to a very great extent, and their inquiries opened up such a scene of misery and distress, that they were obliged to stop. We have met to night at the request of Mr. Dixon and others, who thought the assistance of working men, whom they wished to assist, them by forming themselves into a committee, to find out the extent of the distress, and to find out the objects of relief. It remains for you, my friends, to form a committee or committees, that do all you can to mitigate the great suffering that exists. Mr. John Hanson then said, that he would not be in the way of the present meeting until about six o'clock this evening. It will be necessary to form a committee to investigate the extent of the suffering which at present exists, and to find out the objects of relief. This will be the best way to form your committee. Mr. H. Bowman rose and said, Mr. Chairman and friends, I beg leave to make one or two observations on Mr. Hanson's remarks. It was formed, that when the existing committee was formed, that it ought to have been mixed up with working men, who were better acquainted with the poverty of the people, than the committee that was formed, that it would have suggested the possibility of doing then, what you are now about to do, but as the meeting at which the committee was formed was not mixed up with working men, it is probable that they might then have been considered presumptions on my part; however, I am glad they have seen the necessity of such a step being taken, and I hope you will now form a large committee, to find out the extent of the distress, and the condition of the working classes. This had been done in Leeds, one of the largest manufacturing towns in Yorkshire, and one would have thought, that owing to the distress which exists in Leeds, that the committee in cotton trade in general, that the distress would not have been so great. Mr. Bowman then read an extract from Hobson's "Poor Man's Companion," which contained a list of the names of the poor in Leeds, which had been formed in Leeds, and which showed to what an awful extent the distress prevailed. Mr. Bowman proceeded to read from the same work, the plan of the committee, which was formed, by the Editor of the work, but when he got to that portion where it states, "that the weekly income of the whole of the 19,936 is only

11d. per head being less than 13d. per head per day; and yet the Queen has for her own private use the sum of £164 7s. 10d. per day; Prince Albert has, for "pocket money," £104 per day; he was asked to give up his private carriage and horses, with a view of "questioning" the "peas," (said Mr. Bowman), this is rather away from the subject of the meeting; but it seems to bear very closely on the question, and until there is a material alteration in the condition of the people, there will be no permanent benefit to the poor. I have no more to say, but I have much to say to the people. I have no charity! Something substantial and lasting must be done, or there would be a constant drain on the purses of good and benevolent individuals, who had humanely come forward on the present trying occasion. I have no more to say, but I have much to say, for the purpose of taking a complete enumeration of the present distress, with a view to report thereon, and assist the other committees. Also, to furnish such information to the members for the benefit of the people, and to the House of Commons and Parliament. Some one in the meeting, Mr. James Arthur, we believe, seconded the motion of Mr. Bowman, which, after some discussion as to the difficulty of getting a sufficient number of working men to attend, was carried, and the meeting committed, without some slight remuneration, the motion was carried, and a committee of thirty-eight persons chosen. A vote of thanks was then given to the Mayor, for granting the use of the Hall. Also, a vote of thanks to the Chairman, when the meeting quietly dispersed.

ANTICIPATED MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND, TO CONGRATULATE HER MAJESTY, EXPLODING THE TORIES AND WHIGS FRIGHTENED FROM THEIR LOYALTY, BY THE IMAGINARY INTERFERENCE OF THE HIGH SHERIFF, WITH A CORRESPONDENCE.—
The following correspondence has been published in the Carlisle newspapers, by the High Sheriff for the county, James Robertson Esq., and which has transpired between him and Mr. Hasell, one of the leading Whigs at the Quarter Sessions, and a Mr. Matthews, of Wigton. The burden of the song appears to be, that a respectful requisition had been got up and signed by many of the resident gentry of the county, to the High Sheriff, requesting him to do honour to her Majesty on the auspicious event of the birth of a Prince. The High Sheriff like a loyal and dutiful subject, readily agreed to call a county meeting for the said purpose, which was to have been held at Carlisle, on the 10th inst. next, for the purpose of electing a committee to receive her Majesty's presence. No sooner, however, was this made known than Mr. Matthews takes the alarm, his mind becomes oppressed with horrible visions of "roust, riot, insurrection, and rebellion against the throne," and in great perturbation of mind, he writes two letters to Mr. Hasell, beseeching that the said county meeting should be in no way secured or held at Carlisle, for in doing so he would save some of the leading Tories Charles Colville, who would move some amendments, which must be resisted; in that case, he would not be answerable for any breach of the peace which might be committed." These letters so full of illusive fears so shook the delicate nerves of Mr. Hasell, that he thought it best to fully explain, and immediately writes to the High Sheriff, begging he will not call the meeting at Wigton, but at Cockermouth, where they were not so liable to meet any interruption, and if he should be necessarily retrograde from keeping of Court House! But the High Sheriff, like a brave and gallant officer, as he is, having withstood the thunder of the British navy, and for many years "the roar of battle," and being surrounded by the friends of these two old women, but insisted on calling the meeting at Wigton, as was the practice on all similar occasions. In consequence of the High Sheriff's interdictory, Mr. Hasell and his friends are obliged to give up their original intention accordingly did; and so has ended, or rather never begun, the enacting of another fulsome and disgusting farce to loyalty. In consequence of the correspondence above related to the following pertinent remarks were made by one of the High Sheriff's three of the leading Chartists of Carlisle, and will tend more fully to illustrate this ludicrous proceeding—

TO JAMES ROBERTSON WALKER, ESQ, HIGH SHERIFF
OF THE COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND.

SIR,—You have our unfeigned and hearty thanks
for publishing the very curious and important correspon-
dence, which has taken place between yourself, Mr
Hasell, of Dalmaine, Chairman of the Quarter Ses-
sions, and Mr. Matthews of Wigton. The publication
of this correspondence was a duty which you owed to
yourself, as High Sheriff of the county, and as a loyal
and dutiful subject of her Majesty.

You have thus placed the blame on the right shoulders. Mr. Hoell and Mr. Matthews were, therefore, his true and his best friends. He has been to a county meeting being held, for the inhabitants of Cumberland, to testify their loyalty to her Majesty, on the auspicious event of the birth of a Prince.

Mr. Hoell and Mr. Matthews speak of the temper of the "lower orders" and "lower classes," terms, by the bye, which this good sense does not have suppressed; for the expression of them will only tend still further to convince the people, of the great want of sympathy which prevails, on the part of the wealthy portion of society, towards the poor.

"The rank is but the guinea's stamp,
The man's the gourd for a' that."

Mr. Matthews deems it probable, if the county meeting should be held at Wiston, that the leading *Carlist* *Chartists*, would attend and move some amendment, which must be resisted. It appears, then, that a meeting at Wiston would be a *Carlist* *Chartist* meeting, without the pale of the constitution, and not to allowed to express their wants and wishes to her Majesty; but that a few magistrates and others of the wealthier classes of the country are to meet unselected to pass resolutions, and to express their feelings to her Majesty, at Albert, and not allow the working classes, who are the real wealth and support of the state, to express their feelings and state their real condition. It is not to be wondered at, that the real condition of the fact, that whilst the cottage is desolate there is no security for the throne? that whilst the great body of artisans, mechanics, and agricultural labourers are suffering allged want, there will be a meeting of the gentry and the nobles at Albert. Let her Majesty be put in full possession of the real condition of her people. Surely it cannot be disrespectful nor *disloyal* to remind her Majesty, that whilst her Majesty has a million of pounds of the public money, the enormous sum of £268 7s. 10d. ! there are tens of thousands of her Majesty's industrious subjects compelled to live on one penny three farthings her head per day, and that the throne is continued? Is it not these horrible disparities allowed to exist? Should there be, or can there be, either peace or content in the land until the condition of the people be improved? Mr. Matthews anticipates a breach of the peace, and that the *Carlist* *Chartists* will be resisted, as they must be, he says, if they should move any amendment at the county meeting. What sort of resistance does Mr. Matthews contemplate? If he means physical resistance, then his forebodings might prove true, and the *Carlist* *Chartists* might be resisted, by himself and his friends, endeavouring to carry their address, in spite of the anticipated *Chartist* amendment, then he may not assure that his fears, as to a breach of the peace, are groundless. He says, that the *Carlist* *Chartists* themselves will take upon them the preservation of the public peace, either as *Carlists* or *Wigtons*. How is it that Mr. Russell and Mr. Matthews consider the *Chartists* so disloyal? They ought to be aware that the *Chartists* have been invited to send a congratulatory address to her Majesty, and to move a congratulatory address to her Majesty, on the auspicious event of the birth of a prince; and that address was as respectful, though perhaps not so fulsome, as any that has ever could possibly be. The address alluded to was, "The *Carlist* *Chartists* of the inhabitants, convened in the Town Hall several weeks ago, and that meeting was conducted in a peaceable manner, and the *Carlist* *Chartists* were not the first to do their duty as conservators of the public peace, by calling public meetings in order to ascertain the amount of distress and suffering which now prevails among the working classes, with a view to remedy the same, and to send a congratulatory address to her Majesty, and a flattering address to her Majesty, in quiet and without the slightest molestation.

LEEDS—ANNIVERSARY DINNER.—It being customary with Messrs. Dunn and Son, corn factors, of this town, to provide their workmen an annual treat, of course, provided the same on a grand scale, on the 14th inst., at the residence of Mr. Wotton Parrot, Ltd., Callisne, when thirty of the workmen sat down. The dinner reflected great credit upon Mr. and Mrs. Wotton, who are benevolent and generous, for their good providing. The evening was spent in the greatest harmony and good fellowship, and many excellent songs, toasts, and recitations enlivened the party. A large number of the workmen, ought to be generally adopted, as nothing tends to create a greater tendency to generate a good feeling between the employed and the employer. The workmen, who highly respect their good master, and the kind and the proceeds by giving three times three for their employers.

BISHOP AUCKLAND—**LOCAL ORDER OF**
ANCIENT SHEPHERDS—The officers and delegates
of the Local Order of Ancient Shepherds round
Bishop Auckland met on Friday, the 31st of
December, at the house of brother William
Hall, the Shepherds Inn; they were met by the
officers and delegates of the other lodges
present at ten o'clock in the morning; and at three
they sat down to an excellent dinner provided for
the occasion, which gave great satisfaction to
all present. The day was spent in harmony
and good will.

ON SATURDAY, the 1st of January, the members
of the Jacob's Ladder Lodge, held at the house of
brother Robert Ridd, the day of the year
of their first anniversary. At three o'clock, upwards
of forty members sat down to an ample repast,
which gave satisfaction to all present.

THE COUNTY OF CORNWALL is so extensively un-
dermined, that churches and churchyards, mission-
houses and hosteleries, are many of the suspended
over a yawning gulf, and in danger of crushing the
lives out of some scores of adventurous miners. The
Cornwall Gazette, of last week, gives the following
"narrow escape":—"On Tuesday, at Illogan, as
the wife of a labourer called Dunsstone was crossing
her kitchen, the ground suddenly gave way, and she
was left suspended by her arm over a shaft, but for-
tunately was rescued from her perilous situation
without any injury."—*Palmouth Packet*.

OLD CHICHESTER BANK.—The failure has caused complete stagnation to business in Chichester, and numerous cases have occurred where persons in comparative affluence are reduced to the most abject poverty. Among the persons who have been ruined are maiden ladies (sisters) named Elizabeth and Nancy Fowler, one of whom is a cripple. They proved for £1969 1s. 4d. They are left without a shilling, and have been compelled to apply to the parish for relief. Another case is that of a woman who has been ruined by a mortgage. Another case was a farmer with a large family named Smith; he had £285 16s. 6d. of his own money, and borrowed £1000 for the purpose of carrying on his business, of which he deposited £1000 in the bank for safety. A few days ago he deposited the balance of £1855 16s. 6d. in the bank, and now he has by the occurrence been reduced to beggary. The largest creditor was Mr. Kent, training groom to the Duke of Richmond; he proved for £4595 16s. 7d. and has been reduced to the same state as the other large family. Such was the confidence placed in the bank that numbers, particularly females, deposited every pound they possessed in the concern.—It is a very correspondent call upon attention to the fact, that the Bank of England has been so long so strong, that a bill becomes due—the banking clerk presents it for payment—you tender him notes, and unless they be the Bank of England he refuses to take them. You say, "What is the matter?" "Oh, no, your bill may be n-tyed. It would seem that those who men are wiser than the public."

DEATH FROM STARVATION.—On Saturday night, an aged female, about 60, was found sitting on the lower stair, No. 31, White Hart-street, Dury Lane. When spoken to, with the utmost difficulty she said that she had not eaten for several days (a careful countenance showed the fact); and she added, "If I could only get to the house of Mr. Short, a tavern-keeper in the Strand, opposite Somerset-square, he would give me some victuals." The deceased then got up from the stairs, and in a few seconds was in instant attendance, but in a few seconds the poor creature dropped dead. A Mrs. Johnson, who resides in the neighbourhood of White Hart-yard, had often afforded the deceased shelter and food, and she had been in the habit of saying that she would proceed to the Union, which it is supposed she declined.

THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—A most diabolical attempt was made on Wednesday night to cause a further accident on the Great Western line. The mail train was on its way from London, and when it was about half-way between Maidenhead and Reading was given by the engine-driver of something wrong, and the train was stopped with all possible dispatch. On investigation it appears that some villain had placed two large stones (one on each rail) with the intention of derailing the train, but that the stones did not take place. One of the stones was crushed into a thousand atoms, and flew over the driver and stoker without doing them any serious injury; the other stone was forced on one side by the sword, or, as it is called, the edge of the line, and the train was thus enabled to get on its way. The two guards were put out of their place, and much bent and twisted.

THE RECENT FAIGLHOUT ACCIDENT ON THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—READING, THURSDAY, DEC. 30.—It is with extreme pain we have to announce that the catalogue of those who have been lost in railway accidents is this week made more formidable by the death of a young man, who was killed on the Sunday-hill cutting on Friday week, is increased by the death in the Royal Berkshire Hospital, of Richard Woolley. It will be remembered, that the unfortunate sufferer was admitted an in-patient, and that in consequence of the fracture of the skull, a compound fracture of the skull." The unhappy patient underwent the operation of trepanning, and was proceeding most favorably until Monday night, when erysipelas presented themselves, and though the patient was kept in the hospital, and the medical attendants of the hospital, Woolley died on Wednesday afternoon about half-past three o'clock. On inquiry at the hospital to-day, we learnt that all the accident attendants were present, and that the arrangements were made favorably, with the exception of Thomas Hunkins, Eliza Barnes, and Thomas Hughes, with regard to whom a change for the worse had taken

place, and these three unhappy sufferers now lie in the most painful positions at the foot of the great west wall, on and on the Royal Berkshire Hospital, before Mr. J. J. Blandy, coroner. The verdict of the Jury was that Richard Woolley came by his death from a fracture he received on the skull, caused by the engine, called the Hecla, coming into collision with a mass of earth, having fallen from the slope of a cutting at the Great Western Railway, near Maidenhead. Some of the witnesses are of opinion that the accident might have been avoided, and there been a night police, or watch on the cutting. They, therefore, placed a dead-end on the engine and train of carriages of the sum of a hundred pounds. And further, they recommend that the passenger trucks be in future placed further

BOYS LED TO THE COMMISSION OF CRIME BY BEING REFUSED WORKHOUSE RELIEF.—On Thursday, Thomas Jones and Arthur Evans, two black boys, were taken to the station-house, together with a girl, and a woman, both of whom had stolen a pair of boots in the neighbourhood of Union Hill. Sergeant Lohan, of the N division, stated that on the preceding afternoon the prisoners called at the Station-house in order to obtain workhouse relief, and begged to be admitted, saying that they were without food or shelter, and had nowhere to go to. He directed them to proceed to the workhouse, where, he told them, they would be temporarily relieved. However, the boys, who were returning in the afternoon, afterwards saying that they had been refused any assistance, and threatened with the cane if they did not go away. The sergeant then told the boys that they would not be admitted to the workhouse, and that they must go to the station-house, officers, and they both walked away. In less than an hour, however, than a quarter of an hour afterwards the same two boys were seen in the act of stealing a piece of bacon from a shop window, and being pursued by the police.

upon whom the bacon was found was in the set of gnawing it when the policeman went up to secure them. The owner of the bacon, on hearing the circumstances under which it was found, was so enraged that he immediately started a charge against the two unfortunate boys. Mr. Cottingham questioned Jones as to the cause of his present apparently destitute condition; and his account was that his father and mother were dead, and that for the last seven years he had been supporting his mother and himself by small articles; that on Wednesday morning he arrived in town from St. Albans's, and that the man with whom he went bought him suddenly, and he was taken to the police house; that he had no money;—no money, he said, to give the other boy to the station-house to ask for shelter; that thence they both went to the workhouse, and having described their situation, and that they were starving, the man at the door told them that he could do nothing for them, and that they must go to the workhouse; that they were left for some time, until at length a man made his appearance, and on seeing them he exclaimed:—"These are the young scamps who were here before; fetch me the cane and I'll soon send them about their ears." On this the two boys, who were very much alarmed, ran away; and on passing a ship they took a quantity of bacon out of the window, as they were returning. Mr. Cottingham having sent for the master of the workhouse, where the boys had been confined, he described to that person the circumstances of Christchurch, and that they were brought before him, and said that in his refusal to give them temporary assistance, and in his refusal to give them any money, he was bound to be offence for which they were brought before him. The Magistrate then asked the master of the workhouse for his explanation of the transaction, but he was referred to the porter, who, it appeared, was the person who had refused to give them any assistance. The Magistrate then asked the porter why he refused to give them any assistance, and he replied that he refused to do so because he had, on three different occasions, relieved them before, and that, on so seeing them on the evening in question, he said, "You are the young rascals who

they both went away, but he made no threat of using the cane. Mr. Cottleingham said that the boy Jones declared he had only arrived in London the same morning, and therefore he could not have been in the street at the time of the assault. He could not account for the potter, however, positively denied the truth of Jones's statement. Mr. Cottleingham said that he was bound to rely upon the testimony of the persons who had been present, and that he had been previously relieved by them, and therefore the probability was that the account he gave of himself was utterly without foundation. The Magistrate said that he did not differ with the opinion of the jury, and he heard the previous part of the case, and commended the assessor the apparent state of destitution of the prisoners, had humanely undertaken to place the boy in the street, and the different witnesses who appeared, the facts, however, which had subsequently come to light in the course of the inquiry would have the effect of doing away with that act of kindness, and the boy would be committed for three months to goal. The other boy was ordered to be passed to his parish. In the course of the magistrate's observations he said that he was not aware of any provision in the provisions of the New Poor Law Act as far as related to the cases of destitute persons who were either sent that court or taken by the police to the workhouse of the district for temporary relief. In the course of the proceedings the boy Jones said that the (the magistrate) had made up his mind to inflict the full penalty of £5 on the party so refusing.

THE LATE EXPLOSION ON THE BRISTOL AND GLOUCESTER RAILWAY.—George Collins, another of the sufferers by the explosion of gunpowder, near Wickwar, Gloucestershire, died in the Bristol Infirmary, on Thursday night last. This makes the fifth death.

IMPATIENT FIRE ALARM.—At twelve o'clock on Christmas night a fellow on board the Monarch, who had been drinking, and who had been previously accused a fearful alarm among the other passengers, whom there were several of both sexes, by stamping on the deck over the fore cabin, and bawling out "fire, fire, fire" on deck, and in the cabin. The consequence was general consternation among the fore-cabin passengers, during which a man, jumping on an upper berth, fell on a bench beneath, where he wife of a soldier in the 90th regiment was asleep, and he was killed. The alarm was given, and was probably anticipated. All ran up to the ladder; but we gained the deck before they discovered the alarm, and saw that there was no cause for alarm. The man who had been drinking, and who had been the instigator on arrival in Hull, threatened he would give us one two inches of steel who dared to lay hands on him; and this, probably, deterred the summary execution of the law, and the consequence was that we were obliged to inflict. We fear the law does not enable its owners of the vessel to punish so heartless a wretch; but our informant received a satisfactory assurance from them that care should be taken to prevent the recurrence of such disgraceful conduct in his passenger.

FORBUNK-TELLING IN LANCASTER.—Our Middleton correspondent gives us a long account of a visit which he and two other persons paid, on Friday last, to a certain "medium" who professes to be able to tell the future. North Moor, Chadderton, ostensibly to inquire into the fate of an old man who has been missing since the 13th Dec., and is supposed to have been drowned in the Mersey. The "medium" was asked to explain by what means he and his brethren have succeeded in impressing a large portion of the population of Oldham, Middleton, Chadderton, Tongue, and other places in the vicinity, with a firm faith in his "powers." The "wise man" went through a good deal of summary, and fished very adroitly for information whereby to find his oracular responses. He then purposely misled them, made his usual "conclusions," and bade the visitors only learn for themselves, and to "keep their own counsel." He said that he and his brethren were so well respected, that they shrewdly suspected before that he conjured was an arrant cheat. Our correspondent says that there are seven persons of this description in the neighbourhood of Middleton, and Collyhurst-bridge, and several others near Manchester; that there are thousands within ten miles of Manchester, and those not confined to the lower ranks of the hierarchy, but extending to the middle and even to the highest of the social scale; and that one would judge had an independent investigation been ever made in the business, Can this be true of any part of enlightened, civilized, and Christian England? If it be, how fearful is the responsibility which rests upon the authorities of this country, in not more thoroughly educating the people in *Liberal* and *Mercure*.

FATAL ARRIBAMENT.—My ancient enemy and I now confronted each other a loaded piece, which he usually carried, rested across his arm. We gazed at each other for some time, and then he stepped length he stepped back a pace or two, cocked his gun, and told me, if I did not quickly walk before him as his prisoner, he would shoot me. I felt his words were empty, and I stepped forward, and he leveled his piece from me, or I might settle in a muzzly sort, the long account betwixt us. He advanced upon me as I spoke, and thrust the end of his weapon against my breast. I staggered from the force of the blow, and he stepped forward upon him, he raised the piece to his shoulder and fired. The charge shattered one side of my head, and arrested my impetuous course for the moment. I staggered back, and he stepped forward, and I saw still I still saw him—through blinding streams of smoke, he was still palpably before me,—but he took advantage of the severe check he had given; and, seizing his piece by the barrel, he aimed a tremendous blow at my forehead, and I fell. He received with my left hand, and rushed in upon me.

with a wild shriek of maddened intonation. He was in an instant upon the ground, his hands grasping the prisoner by the neck, and heaving him up to his terrible face; but I tightened my fatal hold upon the heroic ceased to leave beneath me—his arm dropped the limbs slowly convulsed, and there—I saw that the dead!—*Parley's Penny Library.*

Innocent Device.—Thomas Hovey was on a Wednesday afternoon in the New York police court by a recruiting sergeant with having practiced singular imposition. It appeared that the prisoner was extremely anxious to enter the service of the United States army, and that he had been secured by the sergeant under the standard height he fixed to the crown of his head a ball of wax covered with hair. Having by this means elongated himself to the required height, he was ordered to march to the rear of the court, and he obediently went again on Sunday, the ingenious device was detected. Mr. Rutherford said he knew of no law which condemned a man to punishment for such a deception, as that committed by the prisoner. He then cautioned him to repeat the offense, and was discharged.

AN AFFAIR OF HONOUR.—An affair has just occurred in a certain northern city, which has occasioned some amusement to the ladies. A young gentleman, who was once a member of the Guards, and who now, some possessed of a pair of whiskers, and made application to a friend to whom nature had been particularly bountiful in regard to this article, to be permitted to wear a wig, in order to be able to comply with the desired ornament. The friend promised to comply, and presented him with a pot of ointment with which he was to anoint the parts on which he was to raise a crop. The ointment was used accordingly, and the crop grew in due season. The friends. An offence of this heinous description nothing at blood could atone. A challenge was given and accepted—the parties met—and, somewhat abused of their good nature, the challenger, who was a stout, silent, and weapons loaded with cork; though it is due to their valour to mention that they believed them to be charged with a heavier material. On the first of the parties, the challenged, fell overpowered by ready terror. The seconds, to continue what they intended for a joke, but which was certainly carried a little too far, applied a stick of sealing-wax to the red nose of the challenger. At this sanguinary proceeding the challenger, believing he had done murder, took to flight, and was with difficulty so much re-assured as to return home.

On the night of the 20th, the patients of the Old Year's Hospital, at the County Infirmary, Llangystid, were taken to the County Infirmary, Llangystid, on Friday evening, the last of the Old Year, the above institution, for the reception of Llangystid papers belonging to the different parishes within the county of Middlesex, exhibited an extraordinary display of human sympathy and sympathy. The effect of the human sympathy at present, the patients at establishment, where coercion has been done away with, and corporal restraint no longer forms a part in the treatment of the insane. It has been the practice of the last year or two to give the female patients a glass of wine, and a glass of water, and a glass of beer, and to prepare for that joyous occasion, the patients had been for the week previously busily engaged in decorating the wards with laurel, holly, and other evergreens, which were most tastefully arranged in the rooms, and the walls were decorated with their own work in various devices, among which were the initials letters of the Queen, "V.R.", the Prince of Wales, "P.W.", and of the illustrious Prince Albert, "P.A." and of the illustrious Prince of Wales, "P.W." and of the illustrious Prince of Wales, "P.W." with crowns and Prince of Wales's feathers, and the motto, "Dieu et mon droit." At that festive feast, in which the utmost tranquillity prevailed. Soon after five o'clock, the patients had assembled, to the number of nearly four hundred, and had ranged themselves on each side on forms, and the music was played. The occasion, at that time, was secretly a word was to be heard, and the music. The scene produced was most striking and pleasing. Tea and cake were then served out to the patients, and the music was played. The patients, and the daughter, and the nurses, by whom after the patients were played on a pianoforte many cheerful and diverting tunes, to which the patients commenced dancing, which they kept up with much spirit and animation. The music was played, and the patients resumed their seats, they were again presented with half an orange, after which dancing again commenced, and was continued with music at intervals until eight o'clock, when supper was served, and the patients were taken to their apartments, and were very much delighted with the evening's entertainment.

TRUE WISDOM.—A wise general, on the eve of battle, makes a proper disposition of his forces beforehand, and does not wait till the enemy has made a move, and then he is obliged to follow him, and contentedly, reasonably expects a victory;—thus, he who makes a desire to attain a health, and, consequently, a good old age, does not impatiently wait for the attack of disease, but he keeps a constant watchfulness on guard against his insidious approaches, by paying proper attention to the state of his health. Any would find occasionally new medicine to assist him, but he does not wait till he is nearly dead, without his compass, knowing not where to steer, or what to do. He says, "I will be content to wait, as I try first this, and then that, and meet with nothing but disappointment; to these, how welcome is the medicine of the *Life Pills*!"

THE *ANTIBILIOUS LIVER PILLS* are recommended by the most eminent physicians, and are found to be reliable, and are procurable at all Druggists, and the *Northern Star* office. It is only necessary to state that the stamp has Dr. John Armstrong's name, and the engraving is that of the *Life Pills*. Do not get put off with any other pills, and do not get the N.B.—The Pills in the boxes enclosed in marbled paper, and marked B, are a very mild aperient, and are particularly and universally praised. They are the best for the cure of all diseases of the bowels, of business, naval and military men; and they contain no mercury or calomel, and require neither confinement to the house, nor restraint in diet.

THE EXCHEQUER BILL FORGERY.—On Monday morning an order was sent to Newgate, from the same office, for the removal of Edward Beaumont with to the hulks, in pursuance of his sentence. He was accordingly placed in a carriage and conveyed to Woolwich, where he was placed on board the usual receiving hulk.

ANOTHER CALAMITOUS FIRE IN MANCHESTER.—
On Friday evening last, about nine o'clock, an alarm
fire was given, and which was found to be at the
weaving mill and calender house in Bolton-street,
near the Gas-works, the premises of Messrs. Dickinson,
etc., &c., by the late Mr. E. Dickinson, calender-
master, who, and which raged with such fury that
about an hour time, a part of the premises, six
stories high, was a complete ruin; not anything
left but the roof was saved. The loss will probably
be about £100,000. The fire commenced on the
ground floor, which was filled with looms which were all burnt.
The principal part of the weaving establishment,
being separated from the premises burnt down, by
a wall, did not receive much injury; but, as the
premises were so near, the fire spread, and the
employed will, necessarily, be thrown out of work
some time to come. No lives were lost, nor
any one injured.

EFFECT OF COMPETITION.—The competition in the pop business is almost ruinous to a numerous and distasteful class of women at the east end of the metropolis, who managed to support themselves decently by their needle. A few years ago, when shirt-making was reduced to three shillings a dozen, these poor creatures found it so difficult to get their wares to make a bare existence at it. Yet from that time it became gradually reduced, and many of the few Jew shop-sellers at present pay but ninepence a dozen, or three-farthings each shirt, for them. If two shillings was a price at which these poor women could make a mere existence, what must be the effect of the present allowance? And yet thousands are to be found even glad to get such work!

DEATH FROM STARVATION.—On Monday night an account was taken before Mr. Higgs at the Edinburgh Castle, Strand, on the body of Charlotte Ann Macdonald, aged 33 years, who had been dead about three weeks since she saw deceased in the street. It was raining at the time, and the deceased lying, said she was very hungry. She (witness) saw her in the street, and asked her what she wanted, and appeared grateful for it. She called several times since, and on Wednesday last called and appeared very ill. She gave her some tea and allowed her to sit by the fire. She called again on Saturday last, and appeared very much better. She asked her to eat, she was very bad, and said "she had had nothing to eat the whole of the previous day." She begged of her to give her some tea, or she would starve. She borrowed 6d., and gave her some tea. She appeared to be much better. She called on Sunday last. She asked her the reason she did not apply to her workhouse, when she replied "that she would not enter it in the street than enter the workhouse." She appeared having a sister in the Dover-road, she sent her to call for her. She was very much better, and appeared to know Mr. Short, of the Strand, and she told her that he would give her relief. She (witness) and her niece assisted her down stairs, and on getting into the passage she died. The deceased was very much better. She was very much better, and on one cold rainy night she came and implored her to give her 6d. to pay for her night's lodging, her clothes were thin and wretched. She was very thin and emaciated. Three doctors attended. By the Coroner's order, she was buried in the common grave, and bread and meat, and a note, on which was written, "Penitent sinner, to-day on earth, to-morrow in hell; seek pardon and delay not." The deceased was much hurt on reading it. I called on her the next day, and she was very much better, and was very bad person; and had let her husband thirty-two years since, who is still living at Harwich, from other evidence, it appeared that deceased might have been well off, but for her conduct, having married a man who was a very bad person.

— *"Died from want of bread on her own account."*

PLYMOUTH, SUNDAY, JAN. 2.—This afternoon the *Consuelo*, a 25, Captain Bennett, from China, having on board two millions of dollars, anchored in the pond about six o'clock. Her destination was Portsmouth, but a change of wind having taken place, she was compelled to come in here. She entered at the eastern end of the Breakwater, and being after sunset she did not raise the Admiral's flag. She brings home many invalids from the East Indies, and is expected to bring the cargo of G'od Hope on the 1st of October. It is reported that she will be paid off at Portsmouth, if course she brings no intelligence that has not previously reached England.

THE PHILIPSTOWN MURDER.—The horrible murder of a poor idiot, by a party of gentlemen who are sojourning at a country seat in the immediate vicinity of Philipstown, and to which we adverted in a former issue, has been considered as wholly incredible. So horrible is the crime, that even the most cynical person is willing to believe that such barbarous cruelty could be practised by a party of gentlemen in a Christian country. It is our duty, however, to state the facts as they are, and to let the public make their own estimate of the crime. We have to make plain; but we have received additional information, which states that the *idiot* murdered was not *any* man. He was beset with evil influences and had fallen into the hands of a party of men who were engaged in a wicked scheme. The man was held—a mock one, we are led to believe—on the fact that one of the parties engaged in a murder case on the inquest! Money has been squandered in profusion to hush the matter up; and the Government has been asked to send a law officer to the district to inquire into the matter. The majority of them were officers, and, we suppose, are now with their respective regiments. What will the Government do in this case? The matter is now being investigated by a law officer, and the Government is now being asked to send a law officer to the district to inquire into the matter. We ask Colonel McGreg whether the police in the district made any report to him on the subject? We will appeal to the Government to make the proceedings of the coroner's inquest public, and to see that no barbarous murder has been committed under circumstances of aggravated barbarity, unequalled by the horrible atrocities of Indian cruelty, and no steps have been taken to punish the savage perpetrators to justice.—*Dublin Monitor.*

DISTRESS AT STOCKPORT.

The following statement has been published by the authority of the Mayor of Stockport:—

It is well known that the cotton manufacture of this kingdom has been long and greatly depressed, and that numbers of persons engaged in it have been thrown out of employment, and great distress occasioned in the towns and districts of which they are the staple manufactures. The town of Stockport, the working population of which is *engaged* most exclusively in this manufacture, has suffered common with other towns, from its general and continued depression. The distress so occasioned is known to a certain extent, it is believed, by every third of any other town, and that the peculiar circumstances of a local influence. We allude to the six stoppage of some of the largest establishments in the town and neighbourhood, by which several thousand persons have been thrown out of employment, and remain without any prospect of being able to return to it.

Of the establishments at work, a great part are so lowly partially; and the working of short time (that of four days per week) has been continued to a great extent since the strike. The number of the third of the horse-power in the town and neighbourhood is unemployed, which, if at work, would employ more than 4,000 persons. It is a very heavy burden on the poor, who are the victims of various trades unable to obtain employment. The consequence of this suspension of labour is extensive loss and suffering among all classes of the community, and unexampled distress and privation among the working classes. The distress, heightened as it now is by the severity of the weather, has arrived at a pitch of which it is impossible to convey any adequate idea by mere words. The Poor-law authorities have repeatedly increased, and are now become a serious drain on the diminished resources of the comparatively few who are able to pay them. Families, two or three persons are crowding into one house, leaving their cottages and cellars empty, and neglecting their native land: numbers having exchanged all but the last articles of their wardrobe for apparel for the means of sustenance. The hired labourers, who are, for the most part, willing to work, are compelled, with their wives and families, to become street mendicants, or to beg, day by day, on the precarious charity of the passing stranger, or to be driven to the workhouse for relief. In consequence, in a great measure, from a deficiency of food; many, it is to be feared, are literally starving to death. Of 15,823 individuals, inhabiting the town and vicinity, lately visited under the direction of a sub-committee appointed for the purpose, 2,200 are found to be fully employed; 2,866 partially employed, and 4,148, able to work, were wholly unemployed. The remainder 7,605 persons, on the average weekly income of the above 15,823 persons was 1s.4d. each.

The average weekly wages of those fully employed were 7s. 6d., each.

The average weekly earnings of those partially employed were 4s. 7d.

The Committee appointed for the purposes of the Bill were of the opinion that the Bill as drafted would not be afforded, being fully convinced that the efforts that can possibly be made in the town and neighbourhood will be utterly inadequate to meet the pressing necessities of the case, and that, under the direction of the meeting, a further appeal was appointed, to make an appeal to the employers and the community generally, and especially to the individuals and classes of society who were the cause of the distress, and who were responsible for the measure of the times, or who are responsible for the suffering and privation.

NORTH LANCASHIRE DELEGATE MEETING.

TO THE CHARTISTS OF NORTH LANCASHIRE.

GENTLEMEN.—According to a rule made at the first delegate meeting, held at the Temperance Hotel, Blackburn, it is particularly stated that delegate meetings shall take place every six weeks, for the purpose of transacting the business of the district; a delegate meeting will therefore be held at Ayrton, on Sunday, 16th Jan., 1842. Business to commence precisely at one o'clock.

Now, my friends, let every place send a delegate to this meeting, so that every place may be properly represented; and have the delegates to be before the meeting, and that there has been some discussion existing in the towns connected with the district that proper notice was not given of the last delegate meeting through the columns of the *Northern Star*, and, therefore, that we have no means of either knowing when the meeting would take place, or of sending a delegate. I beg leave to assure such places that I sent due notice to the *Star*; but, on account of leaving home in a hurry, to say a discussion on the Corn Laws, at Barnoldswick, on the Monday, I forgot to put a letter in the Post Office before I left. I wrote the letter on Monday at noon, and just at that time a person came up from Barnoldswick for me, to go that afternoon to the meeting. There was no time to be lost, for it was the day before the meeting, and we had to go upwards of seventeen miles, and a rough road; the meeting was to commence at seven o'clock. I, therefore, in the hurry of the moment, forgot to post the letter on the Monday, but on the Tuesday I wrote a letter, and sent it along with a report of the meeting, taken by Mr. Mooney; but neither the report of the meeting, nor the notice of the delegate meeting, appeared. This caused a great deal of dissatisfaction. The people of Barnoldswick, who were to be the champions of the Cause, in an open discussion, and the cowardice of the Plague advocates, in running off the platform, and out of the Chapel, and leaving the meeting in the hands of the Chartists, who had defeated them not by blows, but by argument, should have been left unexpressed.

The different towns expressed their resentment at me, for not sending notice to the *Star*, so that they might have been able to send delegates to the meeting. I am sorry to say that I have not been able to appear in the *Star*; but I have since received a very kind letter from Mr. Hill, the Editor, expressing his regret that the letter had been mislaid, and, consequently, non-inserted. I expect that we shall this time have a full meeting of delegates, for there is a great deal of business to transact; and there will be the business of the Convention to settle.

I am sorry that a misunderstanding should exist between this district and the Executive with regard to the election of members of the Convention, it being the opinion of North Lancashire that it should send its own member; but the Executive have decided that it should send a member from the Convention. I am sorry that I should have been elected by the different towns in North Lancashire to represent them in the Convention, but when I consented to become a candidate for the Convention, I knew not but that North Lancashire would send its own member; but having been elected differently by the Executive, I beg leave to have my name withdrawn from the nomination list for this reason—I cannot conscientiously allow myself to be elected for North Lancashire, I know nothing of the Executive, and I cannot conscientiously with them; I do not know their feelings, wishes, desires, and determination with respect to the Charter becoming the law of the land, only from newspaper reports; I have never been amongst them at any time, and I cannot conscientiously represent their private or public meetings, with the exception of three or four; and therefore, being totally ignorant of their circumstances, I should not be justified were I to allow myself to represent them. I am sorry to find that some of the towns have been elected to the Convention, and I have not that ambition to want to become a member of the Convention for the sake of its name; we have had too many of that description already. I would not, however, be elected to the Convention, increasing the number of our Associations, and spreading our principles into every village and hamlet, so that by any means I might be doing good, and assisting in the bringing about the political redemption of our common country.

I am, your humble servant,
In the cause of Chartism,
WILLIAM BRESLEY,
District Secretary.

TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN.—In my recent letters to the Lord Mayor of London, and to the Chartists of Great Britain, and answered objections which were raised against that body, both morally and physically. I have also shown that the prejudices of country and sect are passing away, and that the English and Irish men were worthy of your confidence and desirous to become your friends; and whilst I thus stated my opinions, I most anxiously wished you would be led to think and inquire for yourselves, and shake off that confiding spirit which has ever been your greatest political fault, and with your own senses examine calmly, reasonably, and dispassionately your present position in the field of political strife.

I will now, with your permission, clearly prove the fallacy of these objections and prejudices, which cause you to stand aloof from the struggle in which the people of England, Scotland, and Wales, are now engaged, and which they are so nobly sustaining, not only for their own sake, but for yours; and will show that it is not in the nature of Irishmen to be either pusillanimous, or ungrateful, and that it is for want of a proper knowledge of the principles of the Charter, and an acquaintance with the character of the people of England, that you hesitate to join in the contest.

Know, then, my fellow countrymen, that the People's Charter contains nothing that is illegal or unjust. It seeks to secure to the people of England, Scotland, and Wales, every subject of these kingdoms ought to possess, and to which he is constitutionally entitled. It aims to redress those grievances and remove those burthens which overwhelm the manufacturing population of the country, and to give the people a voice in the making of the laws which govern them. It seeks for Ireland's rights as well as England's rights, and it is Ireland's cause as well as England's cause, and it does not depend on the repeal of the legislative Union would not be worth accepting, unless you were in possession of Universal Suffrage. I have every reason to believe that by far the greater number of the people of England look forward to a "Repeal of the Union," as the end of their political sufferings. In this they will assuredly find themselves disappointed; they should rather look to it as a means to an end, for, unless the Charter becomes the law of the land, they will only have benefited themselves by bringing their tyrants nearer home, to witness the abuses which existed heretofore amongst them. But suppose a "Repeal of the Union" would confer all the benefits and blessings which are promised to the people, why are you so inactive? Why do you not bestir yourselves to obtain it? You answer, "so we do."—"We have a Repeal Association"—we have meetings—we have our cards—and we have at our head the Lord Mayor of London, who promises to do it for us. When? "When the young Prince of Wales becomes Vice Roy of Ireland!" But suppose his little Highness should never condescend to visit you, when then, are you to get it? He is too busy, he is too wise to do so; but he has not forgot to tell you that Chartism is synonymous with violence and infidelity, and that the people of England are your natural and hereditary enemies. Now, my friends, how much an Irishman as his Lordship, and as much of a patriot as to feel the necessity of your adopting a more speedy and certain method to obtain your political regeneration, than the tortoise-like course you are now pursuing, and yet, I unhesitatingly say, such assertions are false and unfounded. I have already, in my letters to his Lordship, refuted the charges of infidelity and violence, and will now show that Englishmen are not your enemies, and that the prejudices which have long existed against them are to be traced to the people of England, but to an interested portion of them. I know you have many reasons for believing that the English are opposed to your interests; but, were you to reflect, that in so opposing you, they are only increasing their own burthens, you would at once admit, they would not, for their own interest sake, continue it. The fact is, the aristocracy and class interests are that portion of the English, who not only oppose you, but their countrymen. Those are they who first instigated themselves into the green fields of Ireland, and who afterwards deluged them with the blood of their children; those are they who hold all offices of trust and power, and who, like insects, devour the fruits of your industry, and compel you to drag out a wretched existence in want and misery; those are the leeches who suck the life's blood from the hearts of the wretched widows and orphans, and who, by the drink felicity from the fountain of a nation's misery, and who build up their fortunes on the ruins of social happiness.

There are always known that you possessed an unbounded love of liberty, and therefore they use stratagem as well as force to suppress and curb your independent spirit; they taught their dependants to believe that Irishmen were little better than savages, and that the only mode of killing them was by those vile and contemptible wretches who trafficked in your blood, and made a merchandise of your country's liberty.

Yes, my countrymen, it was the aristocracy who first sowed the seeds of slavery and oppression amongst you; they established laws and systems which were intended to gild and adorn you; it was they who forced a "State Church" upon you, and compelled you to pay for prayers which were offered contrary to your notions of worship; it was they who introduced those hypocritical monsters which are amongst you armed with a Bible in one hand and a sword in the other—who spoiled and devastated the homes of your fathers—uprooted the foundations of peace and literature, and who, with the words of charity on their lips, but the daggers of political assassination concealed beneath their hypocritical smiles, awaited the opportunity of plunging you into their unwary victims; and it is the same aristocracy which still lords it over you, and are even now crying out for "coercion for Ireland!"

It is not, my friends, the working men of England who are opposed to you; they have no prejudices against you, and if ever they had any, it was the effect of misrepresentation, and not otherwise. It is not because a man is an Englishman, that he is your enemy—he suffers as much as you do, and he advocates the liberties of his class against the tyranny and misrule of his oppressors, and holds out the hand of fellowship to you, as it is your cause as well as his. Can you then as Irishmen refuse the proffered friendship? Will the blighting influence of prejudice or party rage keep you aloof from the friends in which your interests are so deeply concerned? Remember the enemies you have to encounter are the same, who once trampled on the graves of your fathers; they are the same who persecuted you for your religious opinions, and who hunted you from the mountains and caves, to perish with want and misery, and who offered a premium for the head of a Catholic priest equal to that offered for the head of a wolf.

The same parties who plundered you of your birth-right, and insulted you by calling you "aliens in blood and country," are still forging chains to fetter and bind you to their will. Is it not time, then, that you ask yourselves—shall we be free? Is it not time to set yourselves free by pursuing the right road to liberty? or are you in possession of that spirit which animated your fathers when "liberty" was the watch-word? Yes, it is time you asked those questions; your political position, and the rights of your country, demand that you should not only ask, but act. Weigh well the principles of the Charter, and if you find that they are such as I have stated, come boldly forward, and show the men of England that you can accept and receive them as brothers; join in moral strength to them, and convince your tyrants that the working men of Ireland and England are determined to obtain that liberty which is their birth-right, and that "justice to the oppressed" is their only weapon, and you may rest assured victory will crown your efforts.

I have the honour to be,

Your most obedient humble servant,
W. H. CLIFTON.

THE NORTHERN STAR.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1842.

THE WORKING PEOPLE AND THE PRIME MINISTER.

This day we publish a portion of one of the most important documents ever presented to the British public—a document which will read with avidity and absorbing interest by every working man in the kingdom.

LABOUR has been to head quarters, to tell its wrongs, and to ask for a remedy! Its statements have been attentively listened to, its representatives courteously received, and a friendly discussion had upon the measures of relief it had to propose! Working men have been in conference with the Prime Minister, telling him the truth, and demanding from him, in respectful but firm language, measures which will tend to place them in their proper position; and their statements have been heard, and a more than ordinary interest manifested by those unto whom the tale of woe was told! This is a new era in the history of English Legislation and Government.

The Deputation that waited upon Sir ROBERT PEEL were not coolly and politely "bowed out;" they were not received in a mere formal manner, and got rid of as soon as assumed politeness would admit; but they were met with cordiality of manner, (and we hope we may add of feeling); and the startling truths they told, as to the operation of our present commercial system upon the happiness and well-being of the operative community, both infant and adult, made such an impression upon the mind of the Prime Minister, that he, himself, gave the Deputation introductions to others of his colleagues, that they, too, might hear from the lips of the working men in person, the statements which had so forcibly arrested his own attention. No greater proof than this could be offered of the interest excited in the head of the Government by this mission of working men.

And not less has been the interest excited amongst all classes of society by the publication of the Report of this important interview. It has appeared in the columns of a great portion of the newspaper press. Nearly all have noticed it, either in one shape or other. The *Times* has had THREE "LEADS" devoted to its consideration, in the course of which it has brought forward into more particular notice, the more important points of the very important conversation. The *Standard* and *Morning Post*, too, we hear have also commented on the document, and so has the *Morning Advertiser*. Their articles we have not seen; but understand they are like those of the *Times*, exceedingly favourable to the purposes and object of the Deputation. The *Chronicle* has not yet appeared openly against the document; that is, it has not yet either attacked (in its "leading" columns) the members of the deputation personally, or even defended those principles of political economy which the deputation have impugned and assailed, and which principles are the *Chronicle's* stock-in-trade. Sir JOHN EASTHOPE has not yet openly "come out of his shell," but he has written a letter to the members of the deputation, and inserted it in his *Chronicle*, where it appears without date or address, other than the assumed signature, "A WORKING MAN." Sir JOHN attempts to make it appear that the interview with the Premier was "a farce," and represents that the whole thing was got up for "dramatic effect!" This will not do, Sir JOHN! This will not answer your purpose! You must meet and upset the positions taken by the Deputation, ere you take away from the "effect" produced by the interview and statements. Meet them, man! "You can easily prove the Deputation to be ignoramus." Do so; but do it openly, Sir JOHN! Do not assume to be that which you never was—"a working man." You have no conception of the character, Sir JOHN; you cannot play it. The "dramatic effect" is wanting. You betray your ignorance, Sir JOHN. Give it up, or do your business openly, and in your own character, that of a defender and apologist of the most horrible and cruel system of human slavery that ever existed.

The "effect," however, of that Report upon those who plead so earnestly for another "extension" of our commerce, for the purpose of filling the money bags of the "great" masters, yet more fully, is prodigiously disheartening. Whether it be "dramatic" or not, we leave Sir JOHN EASTHOPE to determine; but, that it has not put them in very good humour, is evidenced by the following strange production, addressed—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.

SIR,—After the amusing description which has been given of the interview of the Ten Hours' Deputation with the Minister, it remains only to anticipate the time when the manufacturing capitalists shall present themselves to the Grand Vizier of the hour, with a corresponding request to have the evils of the agricultural management looked into, and repressed by the strong fingers of the State.

When this time comes, how pathetic will the remonstrants be, on the evils physical and moral, which always arise from agriculture where the manufacturing interest has not a controller on the spot. To say nothing of the tolls of harvest, the flumes of female and infant weavers when the thermometer is below 40, the moral view alone will be terrible and sad. Our popular poetry is full of little but the moral dangers inse-

parable from the encouragement of an agricultural population. The bush, the brake, the "big obabey," and the "maiden green," have each their several temptations, leading all one way, and calling for pensive reflection on the legislator and the parish officer. Shall there be no balm for this, while an active superintendence on the part of a moral and religious manufacturing community might do so much to prevent the apprehended evils? Why not appoint an inspector of hay-fields? Do the landlords properly box off all dangerous places? Are these matters to be left to adjust themselves, or ought the law to interfere to ensure the doing right? The requirements of humanity imperatively demand it.

The landlords may find out some time, that it is just as easy for one set of men to plague and vilify another, as was the converse. Of course it will be understood, that if the question has been treated here with levity, it was in the full persuasion that what is called the Ten Hours' question, after making the needful reservations for well-meaning blunder, is a fraud directed to the preservation of the evil it pretends to remedy, and by the active operation and encouragement of those who made and maintain the evils for the sake of their own personal and dishonest gain.

Yours very sincerely,

T. FERRIS THOMPSON.

Blackheath, Jan. 3, 1842.

The "effect" must have been very gallant upon the party with whom Colonel THOMPSON fraternizes to have drawn from him—a generally good-tempered and quietly humorous man—such a piece of petty malignant spite and gratuitous insult as the above! Yes, petty malignant spite and gratuitous insult! The letter contains these, and nothing else! The fling at the landed interest, which nothing but spiteful malignity could have prompted, is petty and paltry enough, God knows; but the insult heaped upon the manufacturing operatives by the COLONEL is not so easily got rid of. The operatives engaged in factory labour have felt the whole blasting effects of the factory system upon their household comforts and domestic happiness. They have had to submit to the power of iron and steel, which has dragged their infant children from their poor resting place, and demanded their close and constant attendance for eighteen hours together, with only thirty minutes intermission for rest, meals, education, and recreation! They have seen their little ones murdered before their very faces; and because they have complained of this; because they have demanded protection for the infant; because they have asked for a curb to be placed upon the power which works such murderous effects; insults them, THOMPSON, of all men in the world, insults them by representing that they have no more to complain of than the agricultural labourer, the "harvest women," and "female and infant weavers"! He represents their efforts as a "well-meaning blunder," and "a fraud directed to the preservation of the evils they pretend to remedy!" The operatives know that their tender offspring have to attend upon the machinery of the factory-master for twelve or fourteen hours, in an atmosphere artificially heated to seventy, eighty, ninety, and even ninety-four degrees, when the thermometer in the open air stands at twenty-five; they know that this is destructive to the health of the strongest-formed men brought within its influence; they know that their children have, by its means, become "weakly, emaciated, stunted in their growth, dull, sluggish, and diseased;" and yet have more cause of complaint than "female and infant weavers" who follow their occupation in the open air, "when the thermometer is below forty"! He represents their efforts to obtain a modicum of protection for their children, as the efforts of one set of men determined "to plague and vilify another" set of men, the millowners! The insult is grossly outrageous!

"The Ten-Hours question is a fraud directed to the preservation of the evils it pretends to remedy," So says Colonel THOMPSON! He only says so, however. He does not condescend to show how the enacting of a law prohibiting the working of any child between the ages of thirteen and twenty-one more than ten hours per day, with two hours for meals, will "preserve the evil" of working him eighteen hours with only thirty minutes intermission, which was the evil complained of. He does not show how the bringing out of the mills, the daughters and wives of the working people, and sending their brothers, and sons, and husbands to supply their places, instead of their walking the streets workless and penniless as they do now; he does not show how the doing of this would "preserve the evil" complained of. He does not show how the keeping of the wives of the working men at home, to attend to their domestic cares and duties; to keep the poor man's home cleanly, and prepare his food, and mend his clothing, and nurse his children; he does not show how the accomplishment of which is that the man has to do the duties at home, while the wife works in the factory for his support. He does not show how the keeping of the daughters of the poor at home with their mothers, to learn how to make a pudding and knit a stocking; to learn how to bake and boil, and mend, and darn; the COLONEL does not condescend to show how the accomplishment of all these things would "preserve the evils" complained of; and all these things, and many more, are involved in that "Ten-Hours Question" which the COLONEL designates as "a well-meaning blunder" and "a fraud directed to the preservation of the evils it pretends to remedy!"

The fact is, the "Free Trade Party," as they call themselves, are stung to the quick, at the exposure of the hollow sophistries and baseless "principles" upon which they have built their superstructure of fraud and deceit, in the hope of "gulling the natives" into another "extension" of that system which has given "millions" to a few, and taken comfort and plenty from the many! They are mad with rage at the fact, that the working people have detached themselves from the car of MALTHUSIANISM to which they were chained by the Whigs, and have set up business on their own account; sending, of themselves, to the Prime Minister in person to detail their wrongs and grievances, and to set forth their requirements, as a DISTINCT PARTY IN THE STATE. LABOUR never before could get to head-quarters, only when CAPITAL chose to let it. Now it has been there personally and by itself. It does nothing in this? Do not the "great" masters see, in this proceeding, the prostration of all hope of their being able to deceive the Minister, or humbug the people? Their power to do these things is gone! Well may they rage and rave! and well may the cautious and prudently-calculating COLONEL THOMPSON forget himself, and heap insult upon the heads of those who have disappointed a faction's hopes!

In keeping with the COLONEL's pitiful spleen are the malignant lies of the *Weekly Dispatch*. That "friend of the poor," whose knowledge is so extensive that he stands in need of no information, gravely informs the public that "the Deputation included the President of the Executive Secret Council of the Chartist National Association, and another noted Chartist orator." No matter that the Editor knew there never was any such body in existence, as the "Executive Secret Council of the Chartist Association"; no matter that the Editor knew that Mr. JOHN LEECH, of Huddersfield, was not Mr. JAMES LEACH, of Manchester, the latter of whom is the President of the "Executive Committee of the National Charter Association" (with no secrecy); no matter that the Editor of the *Dispatch* knew these things; he knew also that the "effect" of the Report of the Deputation would not be to serve the interests of the class whose prejudices he panders to; he knew that the statements and arguments used by the Deputation were irrefutable; he knew that nothing but enormous lying, which would stir up the class and party prejudices of the upper and trading classes against the Deputation personally, could avail him; he knew the worth of the bugbear, *Chartism*, amongst these

classes; he knew that lies were wanted to conjure up his man of straw; so he told lies, and created a "President of a body that never had existence, for the purpose of representing him as composing one of the Deputation!" O! "Free Trade!" to what despicable shams art thou reduced!

The *Veracious Dispatch*, who is so very knowing as to know every thing, informs the world—

"That the Ten Hours' Committee was set upon its legs by one of Sir ROBERT PEEL's colleagues, who went to Leeds with lots of gold, after the General Election was over, to get up a counter agitation to the Manchester Corn Law movement, and to cause the manufacturing system to be vilified and misrepresented by bribed hackney spouters."

"The Ten Hours' Committee," the "knowing one" does not know that there is a Short Time Committee in every town in the manufacturing district, both in Yorkshire and Lancashire! "The Committee was set on its legs by one of Sir ROBERT PEEL's own colleagues, who went to Leeds with lots of gold." Which of Sir ROBERT's colleagues was it, Mr. WISDOM? Lord ASHLEY is the man pointed at, who did visit Leeds, after the election, to inform the Committee that he should still persevere in his efforts to obtain from Parliament a measure of justice for the infant labourer in the factories, notwithstanding the altered position of parties, which altered position the patrons of the *Weekly Dispatch* had predicted would alter him; and yet Mr. WISDOM does not even know that Lord ASHLEY is not a colleague of Sir ROBERT PEEL,—nay, he does not know, what all the world knows besides, that Lord ASHLEY refused office under Sir ROBERT PEEL, because that Minister had not made up his mind on the question of the "Ten Hours' Bill!" Verily, Mr. WISDOM, your "knowings" are very extensive! But the "Ten Hours' Committee was then set upon its legs." The Leeds Ten Hours' Committee has been in existence ten years! Really, Mr. WISDOM, the "world is ignorant!"

As for the "lots of gold," all we have to say is, we hope the "Ten Hours' Committee" got them. They will need them! The opponent is rich and powerful—his length of purse is such, that it can manage to get the *Weekly Dispatch* on its side. Monopoly is a bad thing, says the *Dispatch*. Don't let it want to have all the "lots of gold" to itself. The Short Time Committees have as much right to be "bribed" as he has.

Leaving the press for the present, let us once more revert to the interview with Sir ROBERT PEEL. The Deputation spoke with a truthful boldness which makes the whole Report of their conversation interesting in the highest degree. No doubt every one of our readers will peruse the entire document, as far as we give it this week; but we cannot forbear from quoting the solemn appeal made by these working men to the Prime Minister of England:—

"You, Sir ROBERT," said they, "are now placed in the most important and commanding position of any individual in Europe, perhaps in the world. At the head of a strong Government, with a powerful majority in the Commons, and an influential portion of the population thinking with you; unlettered as you declare yourself to be, save by your own convictions of what is right and useful; the resources of an empire on which the sun is said never to set—an empire unparalleled in its natural and artificial appliances—at your command, and a population whose enterprises, industry, and genius is proverbially looking up to you; a grave, an awful responsibility rests upon you, Sir ROBERT! The means for producing national well-being are superabundant; the population is but limited. Broad and comprehensive views, vigorous and decisive action, are all called for by the exigencies of the times, and we earnestly hope that such will mark your course."

This is not the language of sycophancy or of prostitution. It is the honest but eloquent appeal of LABOUR to POWER! May it be responded to as it deserves!

In the second portion of the Report, which details the interview the Deputation had with Sir JAMES GRAHAM, the reader will perceive that the "question of the land" is fairly set before the Government, as a remedial measure for the manifold evils we endure and are still further threatened with. The end of the present system, whether we "extend" it or restrict it, without giving a new direction to the energies of our population, is there truthfully depicted; and an awful and sorry end it is! Government, however, have now the truth before them. If they dare to act on it, and fairly grapple with the difficulties, the nation is saved! If the Prime Minister has not moral courage to do this; if he adopt a faltering temporising policy; if he submits his own judgment to the cautious and tardy movements and desires of others; if he be not fully prepared to take the bull by the horns, and fling him, his Cabinet will speedily go to smash! and he himself sink below the level of the would-be-statesman.

Time will speedily decide! The battle will shortly commence. On prudent energy and firm determination the Minister's existence depends; but, whatever may be his fate, the cause of the people is sure! They stand aloof from the "rich oppressor," and perseveringly and successfully prosecute their suit, as the "poor oppressed" in the court of public opinion. Neither bribes, nor threats, nor vilification, nor calumny, nor intimidation can turn them from their course! Their motto is, "Onward, and we conquer; backward, and we fall!" The cause of the people is safe! whatever becomes of the Minister! Cabinets may smash; Parliaments may be broken up; Governmental difficulties may increase and abound; THEY DO SO BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT PREPARED TO DO JUSTICE! The Minister who dares to do this will be the Minister of the people, and will stand: all others must fall!

WAGES OF LABOUR AND "EXTENSIONS" OF COMMERCE.

The great demand upon our space this week by the Report of the Short Time Committee's Deputation, and the proceedings at several meetings, and of the Scottish Delegates, will prevent us from giving, in the present paper, the observations we promised on the last most informal "scheme" of the "great" Cotton Masters of Lancashire, to get rid of the poor unfortunate they have inveigled and trepanned from the agricultural districts, now that they have no further use for them. Those observations will keep, however; and though we are prevented just now from giving them, the world shall know the nature and sincerity of that "sympathy" with the operatives which the "great" masters now pretend so *feelingly* to entertain. Their scheming, both to get the agricultural labourers here into the manufacturing districts, and to get them back again here that they are worked to death, shall be laid bare! O! yes! we will know the value of their "sympathy!"

Meanwhile, we cannot but congratulate the country upon the "fix" in which the "great" masters are placed. The gauntlet has been fairly thrown down to them; they have been challenged to show that former "extensions" of commerce have had the effect of adding to the wages of labour and the profits of the master; they have been fairly told that if they will but do this, the working people will join them in demanding another "extension"; and they have also been told that if they fail to do this, the working people will still continue to stand aloof from the "extension of foreign trade agitation," and go on in their own way, on their own account, and for their own object: the "great" masters have been invited to a fair encounter; and they shrink from the contest! Not one of their organs or advocates have dared to answer or notice the questions we have recently put to them. Neither the *Chronicle*, nor the *Sun*, nor the *Globe*, nor the *Manchester Guardian*, nor the *Leeds Mercury*, have dared to accept the challenge we have given them. Nor has Mr. CONDEN or Mr. PINE dared to attempt to show that our "extended" commerce and improved machinery have added to the comforts of the cottage and the till of the shopkeeper. Nor have they even ventured to attempt to show that they have not taken from both. They dare not

thus attempt! They will shirk the questions we have raised, and affect to treat them with contempt. This, however, will not do! Those questions must be met, and satisfactorily answered; or the working people will never join the "great" masters for "Corn Law Repeal," as a means of further "extending" commerce; and the "great" masters are powerless for this purpose until the working people do join them!

We have before dared the "great" masters to open their ledgers, and tell us the exact amounts they have paid as wages for the same description of work, every year from 1810 to 1842. We again dare them to do this, and we tell them they will have to do it! The nation must fathom this thing. We must know all about it. No measures can be safely taken until we have this information. We must know accurately what the past effects of our "commerce" have been, with all its "extensions," before we can judge what is likely to accrue from future and further "extensions." The information must be had!

The "great" masters dare not, voluntarily, give this information, the working people dare! The reason for this conduct on the part of both master and workman, is obvious! It is the interest of the one that the truth should be concealed; it is the interest of the other that it be blazoned forth! Accordingly the operatives are at work in all parts of the kingdom, preparing the tables of wages we have asked for. To those who have written, apprising us that they are so engaged, we beg to tender our best thanks, accompanied again by the request that they will take care to be very exact. Be sure of every thing you set down; and then we will defy the devil, with all the "great" masters to boot, to upset our positions.

Perhaps we cannot do better than close this short article with two specimens of the "honour" and "honesty" of the "great" masters in the woollen and worsted districts. These persons make "great" pretensions to these two qualities: let us test them.

The woollen merchants, then, we boldly aver, are so "honourable" and so "honest," that they do not pay a single penny for the "finishing" of their cloths! They cheat out of the clothier the finisher and the pusher more than pays for the entire cost of dressing!

Here is the operation. It is well known, now, that none but "great" masters have any chance in the market. Those of small capital are done up! There are none left but a few of the "great" ones, who are known to be "great"; that is, they are known to possess "immense capital." These go, then, say into the Leeds or Huddersfield Cloth Halls, amongst the clothiers who have their "balks" there for sale; that is, cloths in an unfinished state,—just as they have left the weaver, and scourer, and fuller. The clothiers who attend these Halls are men of small means; men who reside in the country villages so thickly studded throughout the West Riding of Yorkshire, and who are just able to make one or two pieces, and bring them to market for sale. But they must sell. The small capital they have, and the other pressings of the system, render it necessary that their money should be turned over. The man with the purse knows this. He shakes the purse in the poor clothier's face, when he bids him a price for his cloth. The clothier is at his mercy. He must sell; he is forced to do so in many instances, at less than prime cost; and, in almost all instances, at a sacrifice of the greater portion of the profits his class used to get. The consequence is, that the race of clothiers is rapidly declining—the little master sinking into the rank of journeyman weaver.

Next follows another "process." The clothier, when the price is agreed on, takes his pieces to the "measurer-in" for the "great" master. This is generally an important, fussy, stand-out-of-way person, age. He knows what he has to do. He has to cheat in the measurement! He will do this, to the extent of two yards in each piece, spite of all the clothier can do. In vain the clothier measures it fairly before his face. The MEASURER "can make it into no more." The clothier is forced to submit to the robbery, or take his piece back again. But he must have money! He cannot eat his cloth! He is compelled to accede to the measurement of the "measurer-in," though he well knows that if he had to go, the next hour, to purchase the piece back again, the "measuring out" would be quite different!

Those two yards, thus cheated, ROBBED, from the poor clothier, will in most instances, pay for the after dressing! But the cheating does not end here. In the course of the dressing the cloths have to be "tentured" after they are "wetted" and "raised." These "tenters" are formed of long horizontal bars fixed upon upright posts, and made of wood or iron. The bars are filled with hooks, on which the cloth is hung by the "lists." The upright post is generally a fixture to the top of the upright posts; and the lower bar, in short lengths, with joints something like those of a turn-up bedstead, is formed so as to slide a certain distance in "slots" made in the upright post. This is done to accommodate the "tenters" to the different widths of the cloths, and to stretch them to their proper width when affixed to the hooks. When "master croppers" were more rife than even factories now are, these "tenters" might be seen occupying the fields around their houses in almost every direction; for then the "drying" was nearly all done in the open air. Now, however, these have nearly disappeared, along with the "master cropper" himself; and the "drying" is mainly done in the "stoves," or "dry-houses," attached to each factory. This prevents the process we are now describing from being seen, as it would be, were the "tenters" in the open air, as formerly.

When the "pieces" then, goes to be "tentured," it is first affixed by the "read-head" (head-end) to the topmost, or endmost post, but not to the bars, other than loosely, on some slight pieces of wood that turn down from the posts to keep the cloth from the ground. When thus hanging loosely in front of the tenter, the men all get to the "hinder-end" of the "pieces," and pull it to the length required. Now, this is a hard task; and a rope and pair of blocks (sometimes with three sheaves) are provided, to enable the men to stretch the cloth to the "extent" required. Formerly the manufacturer or merchant was prohibited by Act of Parliament from stretching his piece of cloth more than a yard beyond the length stamped upon it in the "balk" by the supervisor; for the stretching it beyond this point injures the texture of the fabric. Now, however, that law has become hitherto off; and the pieces are stretched two, three, four, and five yards longer than they measured when in the "balk"! The length thus obtained will more than again pay for the whole process of "finishing," including the new schemes of "boiling" and "steaming," resorted to by the clothier to make coarse wool into fine. All this is to the manifest injury of the consumer. The texture is injured by the "tenturing," and what is left short by that process is finished by the "boiling" and "steaming," for after the cloth has undergone these several processes, it is more rotten than it used to be after many years' wear!

And the men who thus systematically ROB and CHEAT, are "honourable" and "honest" men! Quite "respectable"! And they want to repeal the Corn Laws solely to ensure the operatives' "cheap food, high wages, and plenty to do." No doubt they do! Had they not better give up cheating the clothier, and thus allow him to have a modicum of wages, before they make such "great" pretensions about the interests of the operatives?

Now, then, for the Stuff Trade. "Honourable" and "respectable" men are engaged in this department too. The following is a sample of their practices.

The standard length of a Stuff Piece is twenty-eight yards. It is so posted up in many places in Bradford Stuff Piece Hall. No manufacturer has

any right to make a piece one yard longer. If he does, he infringes upon an established rule of the trade. The Stuff manufacturers, almost universally, take this principle at naught! They are too "honourable" to be bound by rule! They make their pieces from 36 to 39 yards long! And they do not pay one single penny more to the weaver for weaving the 39 yards than they paid for the 28!!! They do not pay one single penny more to the printer, or dyer, or finisher! And when they send them into "our foreign markets," they send them, and pay duty for them, as though they were of the standard length, 28 yards!!!! Their "honour" and "honesty" first teaches them to rob the weaver and dyer at home; and then to defraud the foreigner abroad, to keep and "extend" whose custom we are to ruin the British farmer and agricultural labourer! "Honourable" men! give over robbing and cheating before you ask the working people to "extend" your "commercial system"! "Honourable and respectable" men! A Repeal of the Corn Laws to enable you still further to cheat and rob would be of infinite service; would it not? "Don't you wish you may get it?"!

THE LEEDS MAYOR AND THE LEEDS CHARTISTS.

Again have the public been most grossly insulted by the new Whig official, who seems determined to eclipse even the old woman who sat in the civic chair last year. A requisition, signed by six members of the Town Council, and by a large number of the weavers of the "gold chain"—and signed, too, by not less than fifty borough voters, and by more than a hundred municipal voters, was presented to him last week, asking him to call a public meeting to consider the propriety of memorializing her Majesty for a free pardon for Frost, Williams, and Jones. The parties who presented the requisition, so signed, to his worship, were also instructed to ask him, if he felt the least hesitation about calling the meeting, to grant the requisitioners the use of the Court-House, and they would convene the meeting themselves. But no! Both these requests were refused! His worship "could not recognise any other party in the town than Whigs and Tories." That was his reason! Fit man to be a Mayor!

Well! the parties who had thus grossly insulted learned that a public meeting was to be held in the Music Hall on Monday evening last, at which it was announced the Mayor was to take the chair. Many people were curious to see what sort of a thing it (the Mayor) was; and so determined to go! But no time was wasted for the meeting. The Bills calling it dated the day before, and the assembly was held at the "Society for the Extinction of the Slave Trade," and they also pompously announced that "Prince Albert" was "Patron and President." But they announced no time for the meeting to commence! No matter; the meeting was held; and

(Abridged from the Durham Advertiser.)

would be to better their condition? (Hear, hear, hisses and cheers.) Did they expect if the Corn Law was repealed, and commerce extended, that they would be benefitted in any degree? They were told in 1832 that if they but assisted the class which then possessed political power to attain that power, they would obtain

be attended with infinitely better effects. (Interruption.) It would not be necessary for the people to be removed from those opportunities of mental and social improvement, which existed nowhere to *so* great an extent as in Great Britain, and to go to other lands to seek for a home and an asylum, and to seek an existence from their own proper labour. (Applause.) Having, then, said sufficient to show that the evils did not arise from a superabundant population, and that therefore, they were not to be remedied by a system of emigration, and still less by the immoral and degrading plans of Malhustee, he must now pass to the views entertained

is an *effective* remedy and also as a speedy remedy the Chairman very probably thought the Charter was not a remedy of that description. He must tell him (the Mayor) that neither was the repeal of the Corn Laws a *resist* in Robt. Peel's plan had become known, and it was not in consequence of the views of the repealers. But did they expect to carry a repeal of the Corn Laws sooner than the Charter, could carry the Charter? He should say decidedly not; and in that opinion he was supported by the most intelligent portion of their own press, such as the *Spectator*, and the *Nonconformist*. The

Mr. Bayley had stated in his lecture that if a repeal of the Corn Laws took place it would cause a greater quantity of manufactured goods to be wanted, and would consequently find more employment for the hewers of wood, and labourers would become scarce, and the masters would give more wages to obtain them. Now was it that as we had increased in the manufacturing of cotton goods for foreign markets, we had decreased in the paying of wages? Mr. Beasley enquired. In answer to this question, Mr. Bayley failed in his reply. A long discussion succeeded, Mr. Beasley being the victor.

LEEDS BOROUGH SESSIONS.

PRISONED SIX WEEKS.—Elizabeth Lynch, stealing wearing apparel, the property of John Lee.

PRISONED ONE CALENDAR MONTH.—Mary [illegible], stealing wearing apparel the property of James [illegible].

e Welch, stealing a top coat from Mic

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Saturday, January 8, 1842.

NOMINATIONS TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL

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whom he was not. The 34th section of that only three questions could be put.

the property of John Snowden.	Ann Spence,
shoes, the property of Isaac Cheetham.	Thomas
auff, stealing beef.	Edward Jackson, stealing a
John Land, obtaining a watch and other articles	
pretences, with intent to defraud Philip Lewin	
DISSEMINATED TWO CALENDERS MONTHS. —Elizabeth	
north, stealing caps from Ann Hudson.—James	
n, stealing shoes from Isaac Steadman.—Wm.	
, stealing a hat the property of Benjamin	
DISSEMINATED SIX WEEKS. —Elizabeth Lynch, stealing	
s apparel, the property of John Lee.	
DISSEMINATED ONE CALENDAR MONTH. —Mary	

Qrs. Qrs. Qrs. Qrs.

— Printed for the Proprietor FEAR O'CONNOR, Esq., of Hammersmith, Colindalee, by JOSHUA HOBSON, at his P Offices, Nos. 12 and 13, Market-street, London; and Published by the said JOSHUA HOBSON (as the said FEARGUS O'CONNOR,) at his D-house, No. 5, Market-street, Brigat-e, near the Custom-house, in the County of Middlesex, at the General Communication existing between the said Nos. 12 and 13, Market-street, and the said Nos. 12 and 13, Market-street, Brigate, thus constituting a complete and entire Edition of the whole of the said Printing and Publishing Co-

ONNOR, Esq., of Hammermith, Co.

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