

TO THE
MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL CHARTER
ASSOCIATION.

Mr. FARRER.—At all times it has been my desire to stand before you in my real character; having you to judge of its value and of my consistency; in fact there is no person for whom I have more thorough contempt than for the man who assumes a double character.

The reopening of the question of the Executive in last week's *Star*, without any apparent ground, after I had hoped and the people had thought that all our differences were healed, has placed me in a painful situation. On Monday I am found in company with James Leach, acting with him and against him, as I think his services deserve; and on Saturday he is represented in the *Northern Star* as one with whom no honest man would be associated in an official capacity. I imagine that the capacity of a chairman presiding over a meeting of Chartists, is an official capacity, and I congratulate the meeting upon his appointment; therefore, have I associated with James Leach; and as I hope, at all times, to be consistent, I have taken my duty to lay before you the part that I have taken in the disputes relative to the Balance Sheet of the Executive, and the mode resorted to by Mr. Hill, in his capacity of Editor of the *Northern Star*, in bringing their conduct before the Chartist body.

I was always aware of the difficulty of my situation. To interfere capriciously with the Editor would have been an act of despotism; and to allow the conflict to proceed, when, as the Proprietor of the paper, I was not satisfied with the position assumed by the Editor, would have been weakness; nay, prostitution.

When public notice was first directed to the Balance Sheet, I thought that it was done in a becoming manner; but when the intemperance of the Secretary forced the Editor from his impregnable position of neutrality and induced him to assume the part of accuser, then I was of opinion, and remain so, that he abandoned his strong hold. I saw the necessity of a close adherence to all the rules of our Organization; I saw the fatal consequences of any relaxation of those rules; I read the whole charge against the Executive, and also the circumstantial evidence from many parts of the country, by which a charge of neglect was sustained; and, though scrupulous, I trust, as any man, I never have seen in their conduct that amount of guilt, with which it has been characterised.

To have passed over the neglect would have been as unjust, not only to the Chartist body but to the Executive themselves; while to have magnified their errors would be to deal unjustly with them. I was anxious for the correction of the wrong; and, therefore, desirous that the deviation from the prescribed rules should have been laid before the country, so that the opinion of the Chartist body might be fully tested upon the question: and it was because I feared, in the manner and language in which the charge was made, the probable frustration of that desirable object, that I the more regretted it.

Many persons have supposed that I was not only ignorant of, but favourable to, the course pursued by the Editor of the *Star*; and, had the contention ceased, I should have preferred labouring under this implied censure, to re-opening the breach. The time has now come, however, when I must justify myself; and with that intention I beg leave to state, at the outset, that so far from being a consenting party to the controversy I was most unequivocally opposed to it; in proof whereof I feel myself bound to lay before you the following correspondence which passed between Mr. Hill and me.

The first notice of the matter which appeared in regard to my feelings, I read in the *Star* preceding Mr. Doncombe's visit to Manchester; and immediately upon perusing it I sat down and communicated my dissatisfaction of the course pursued by Mr. Hill; and that is the first letter referred to by him in his reply. The second letter had reference to the article in which hard names were used towards the Executive, and also to an article upon "Extraordinary Documents," or the Address, supposed to have been issued during the recent strike. I never keep copies of my letters, as I never anticipate the necessity of using them for the purpose of justifying myself; however, in the subject letter you will see ample quotations from these letters to lay before you the conclusion that, from the first, I was opposed to the course pursued by Mr. Hill, or rather the mode of making his charges.

The following is Mr. Hill's reply to my two letters upon this subject; and as the date is important, I beg your attention to it:—

Leeds, Saturday evening, Dec. 10th, 1842.

MY DEAR SIR.—I never do anything hastily. I do it all, because I generally find things hastily done to be ill done. I have therefore taken time to state the feelings of surprise and indignation which I read your last letter to be imbued with, before I sat down to answer it.

I shall now try to answer so much of it as I can understand fully, or at least as fully as I may be able to do, and I shall not be able to do more than to say for my own only understanding.

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The Northern Star

AND LEEDS GENERAL ADVERTISER.

VOL. VI. NO. 273. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1843.

PRICE FOURPENCE HALF-PENNY OR FIVE SHILLINGS PER QUARTER.

the appearance of another balance sheet to note its effect.

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There is, at all events, no mistaking that! Its object and purpose are quite sufficiently plain. It was copied the week after into the *Weekly Chronicle*, and would, if not stopped, have "gone the round." I wrote that article, "The Last Shift," for no other purpose than to stop it. It did stop it. It has not been copied into any other paper since. And even your regret, thinking me for the service does not make me regret having written it.

You remind me that "just now, every spare line should be devoted to the Birmingham Conference." I think you must see, if you read the *Star*, which upon my word I begin to doubt if you ever do that the Birmingham Conference has not lacked its share of attention.

You speak of this as "an unpropitious moment for the review of the proceedings of a committee." I have made no attack upon any one. When the Balance Sheet was published, I had to take the Balance Sheet as it was, and I protest against your thus applying them to me, for the purpose of shielding those to whom alone they apply. What may be your reason or motive for this portion of misrepresentation, you best know; I cannot divine it. In my avowed enemies, I can perceive a reason, and a motive; but I do not perceive any reason, or any motive, in your thus applying them to me, for the purpose of shielding those to whom alone they apply. What may be your reason or motive for this portion of misrepresentation, you best know; I cannot divine it.

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readers of the *Star* will conclude, that, at least, Mr. Hill is no fool of mine.

There is also a letter from Mr. Watkins in last week's *Star*, against the whole import of which I most unequivocally enter my protest, as well as to its publication. The whole is written upon an assumption; and from that assumption a conclusion is come to. The assumption is that the Executive are guilty; whereas, I deny that any verdict of guilt has been pronounced against them. It is true, that the Secretary, by withholding the means of judging, has furnished "prima facie" evidence of guilt against himself; but I must protest against the "sequitur," that, therefore, the whole body is guilty.

Mr. Watkins writes in a very fascinating and impressive style; but he has not succeeded in convincing me. He draws a parallel between the acts of our oppressors and those of the Executive; and cites the payment of ten shillings a week to Mr. Donnell as proof of his guilt; nay, calls him a "swindler." Here again I protest against any such term being used to Mr. Donnell. Nay, I will not allow that man to be called by any degrading name. Here my blood gets warm, and the more so, because it has been long pent up. What, however, is the difference? Just this. The acts committed by our oppressors we would not assent to, had our assent being asked; while some of Mr. Donnell's accusers say, "had he made known his wants, the country would have cheerfully acquiesced in the augmentation of his salary." Would we acquiesce if consulted in the acts of our oppressors? No; certainly not. What then is the difference? Just this, that Mr. Donnell, without asking, has committed an error, which, had he asked liberty to commit, would have been cheerfully granted; while our oppressors commit sins to which we could not be reconciled.

Why appoint a committee of five to examine the books of the Executive, if they have been already condemned? and is it not a maxim of English law, that "all men shall be held innocent until they are convicted?" Good God, how can I marvel at the slight evidence upon which a middle class jury would find me guilty if I am to be no more charitable to men, some of whose characters are, in my opinion, beyond reproach, however some of their acts may be highly censurable.

Mr. Watkins says that the Executive have injured our cause, instead of advancing it. I deny it. I assert that James Leach, Dr. McDaniel, and Baintow, have materially served the cause. I assert that we had no Organization before the appointment of an Executive; I contend for it that we have now an Organization. However, I will rather rely upon innocence than presume guilt, when the whole of life speaks in favour of the accused. What, then, has been the character of James Leach? Hard working, sober, industrious, and poor. He has, to my knowledge, returned money gratuitously given to him, in more than forty instances. What! then, are we to suppose that this man prefers gain acquired by plunder to that voluntarily given? Is he such an adept in trick and chicanery that he would wish to grow rich by fraud, while he rejects the proffered bounty? It is nonsense, rank nonsense. Then Dr. McDaniel; is he to be branded with cowardice by Mr. Watkins, because he had the manliness to brave torture and separation from his family

Local and General Intelligence.

LEEDS.—CHARGE OF FORCIBLE ENTRY.—O

Monday last, Mr. Wm. Hirst, felted cloth manufacturer, appeared before A. Tildley, and Griffith Wright Esqrs., at the Court House, on a warrant obtained by Mr. Turner, of the late firm of Turner, Ogden & Co., of the City of London, Messrs. Lane. Mr. Naylor, solicitor, appearing for the complainant. Mr. Turner, on the case being called on, stated that on Saturday morning, Mr. Hirst, a companion by five or six men, came to his premises, and, without any notice, broke the locks of two doors in order to get into the premises, and that he had no right whatever. Mr. Wright inquired whether there was any disputed tenant right, or if Mr. Hirst had any property on the premises, to which Mr. Turner replied in the negative. Mr. Turner, however, stated that Mr. Hirst, that he (Mr. H.) was a tenant of one room, but wanted that room for his business to go the way he did to get to that room. There were two ways of getting into the yard belonging to the premises, one through a pair of large gates used for carriages, and the other through the timbered gate. Mr. Hirst had a door at each end, and one leading into the yard. Mr. Wright asked Mr. Lane. It was for breaking through the office door where Mr. Hirst had no right to go, that compensation was sought; the damage done amounted to ten shillings. In answer to questions from the bench, Mr. Wright stated that the defendant had not been there since the month of October; when they were open, and Mr. Hirst wanted to go to his own room, but the roads into the yard were open to him, he had no right to both, the road through the office was not a necessary way. The bench then said they were not going to award any damages, and the case was dismissed, and therefore the warrant must be dismissed. It was clear that Mr. Hirst had a right to go, and it was on his own room where he wanted to go, and it was on his right that a way should be made for him to go. Mr. Hirst had a charge of assault against Richard Harsden, Mr. Wright, on the ground that the circumstances connected with the preceding case, but which, after some time was also dismissed.

ILLEGALLY PAWNING.—On Tuesday a young woman named Maria Clough, was brought before Mr. Wright and Richard Bramley, Esqrs., on a charge of having pawned a shawl which she had borrowed from Mr. Wright, at the White Cross Inn, and which at the Old George Inn, and a silk dress, which she had received to attire, the property of Sarah Deastrup, servant at the White Cross Inn. The prisoner had been apprehended by warrant at Dewsbury, to which she had been removed since the offence had been committed, which was proved by the evidence, admitted the offence, and was fined £2, the value of the goods, with 20s. and costs in each case, and

in default of payment sent to Wakefield for two months.

CARRIAGE HORSE KILLED.—On Friday evening, a carriage horse, the property of T. P. Teale, Esquire, surgeon, was killed in Park-lane. Mr. Teale was out visiting patients, and gopped in Park-lane, and, on his way home, during his professional visit his servant, led the horse, and, in the act of having been frightened, they started off, when one of them ran with great force against the shaft of a rully which was proceeding in an opposite direction. The horse entered the animal's stomach, and killed it on the spot.

BREACH OF THE EXCISE LAWS.—On Tuesday last, a man named John Hawksworth was fined £ and costs, or in default of payment committed to the Workhouse for six months, for hawking tobacco for sale without a licence.

ASSAULT ON A POLICE OFFICER.—On Monday last, John Clarke and George A. Pugh, were fined 20s. each and costs, for having committed an assault on a policeman, at a house in Paley's Galleries, Marsh-lane, on Saturday night. They went to Workhouse for a month, rather than pay the fine.

LEEDS AND SELBY RAILWAY.—At noon on Monday a special general meeting of the shareholders in the company, was held at Scarborough's Hotel, to audit the accounts of the half year, to declare a dividend and to give power to the directors for the renewal of the charter of the company, and to elect a new chairman. The financial statement showed that, on the 31st of December, there was a sum of £5,250, available for the payment of a dividend. The first motion was that a dividend of £2 10s. per share, for the last half year, be paid on the 18th of February next. The motion was carried, and the following resolutions. Other routine business was transacted, and after a vote of thanks to the chairman, the meeting which was only thinly attended, broke up.

STUPID DEATH.—On Monday morning, an inquest was held at the house of Mr. John Askey, the surgeon, in the parish of St. Andrew, in the parish of St. Andrew, to enquire touching the death of Richard Abbey. The deceased was a shoemaker, fifty-two years of age, and had not been very well for the last week, but no medical man had attended him. He died about nine o'clock, but had not sat long before he complained of a pain at his heart, and went to lie down in bed. Mr. Frobisher, surgeon, was then sent for, but before his arrival the man had died.

SUNDAY DRINKING.—In the parish of St. Andrew, on Tuesday morning, Mr. Wm. Maistrick, lively stable-keeper and hackney-coach proprietor, in Trinity street, was suddenly seized with apoplexy, or wind-

an affection of the heart, in the yard of the North
Midland railway station, where he instantly died.

An affection of the heart, in the yard of the North Midland railway station, where he instantly died. He had been to the station with a gentleman (Mr. Bicknough) who was proceeding to Manchester to attend the Anti-Corn Law Demonstration, and after turning his coach round to return home, it was supposed that he fell down and expired, as he was shortly after found near the side of his horse. Mr. Rastrick was about 46 years of age, and was highly respected. An inquest was held by Mr. Bicknough on Tuesday evening, and a verdict of "Died by the visitation of God" returned.

FATAL EVENT.—On Tuesday morning, an inquest

was held at the house of Mr. Taylor, the Sun Inn
Hnnslet, before John Blackburn, Esq., on the body

John Holsbury, 53 years of age, who went to the Spawville, Illinois, evening meeting, was the weight lifter who was killed by the explosion. He was 5' 10" tall, weighed 225 pounds, and was a member of the "Three Pints of Ale" canteen. He was asked another member of the company, to assist him in the stunts, and he took hold of him for that purpose. He decreased however, lost his footing, and fell down three or four steps, after which he appeared unconscious, and remained in a state of stupor for some time; and ultimately died without being able to speak. Medical assistance was called in, but was of no avail.

that he had died from a rupture of the vessels of the

A "GREENACRE" MURDER IN LEEDS.

On Sunday last, great excitement was created through out a great portion of this town, by a report that the trunk of a human body had been taken out of the water near Knapstrop; nor was that excitement at all allayed on the truth of the report being confirmed, carrying with it, as it did, strong presumption that he had died of a fall from the vessel of the head, caused by falling down stairs, and the jury returned a verdict to that effect.

murder, equalling in atrocity those of Greenside and Good had been committed, and that mutilation, simil

In detailing the circumstances of this awful tragedy so far as they have yet been developed, we shall endeavor to describe, as clearly as we can, the exact locality of the place where the body was found, and all the attendant circumstances with the opinion of the professional gentleman who has examined the remains, so as to give our readers exact knowledge of the position of a yet wrapped man, mysteriously, and which it is greatly to be feared will ever remain so: for this case, while it presents

parallel with those of the two metropolitan murders

parallel with those of the two metropolitan murderers whose names we have mentioned in the mutilation the remains, furnishes not the slightest clue to identify so far as discoveries have yet been made either by the finding of clothes or of the head or extremities of the party, whoever it may have been.

The navigation of the river of Aino, our readers will be surprised to be told by locked but in some measure avoid difficulties, some years ago, a cutting was made from Knopstrup fields to Thwaitz Gate, at which place the river forms an angle, and is intersected by two or three dams or weirs. This cutting which is called Brook's cut, or Knopstrup cut, is about half a mile long

or rather better, and is entered from the Leeds end by flood-gates, which are only necessary when there is

or rather better, and is entered from the Leeds end and the flood-gates, which are only necessary when there is no fresh in the river—at other times they are always open to the level of the water. However, the water is not raised to the level of the Leeds end of the Gate end. Of course, there is only the slightest possible current in the entrance. The cut is crossed by two wooden swing bridges, one at the Leeds end, and the other within about a hundred yards of the lock at the other end; and between the last-mentioned bridge and the lock, on the eastern side of the cut, is the coal-stalk belonging to Messrs Fenton and Leather, for the Thorpe Hall Waterworks. Within or near the cut several small waterfalls are to be seen, and the water is very much

in passing one of these, saw something in the water

On having taken the body out of the water, and seeing what it was, Austin sent two little boys, who had at the meantime come to the place, to fetch some persons from the lives near, and three men came, on being told that the boys had found a body that was wanted. One of the boys then said "they had better bury it, and nobody else would fetch a man to dig it." He added that it would fetch a man to dig it.

UNITED STATES.—The new packet-ship *Ashburton*, Captain Huttleston, arrived at Liverpool on Sunday, having left New York on the 11th.

TOTAL LOSS OF THE ARUNDEL YACHT ON THE

SHX COAST.—To the melancholy list of wrecks occurring on the late boisterous weather another entry, occurring on our own coast, is now added. The total loss of the fine shipper yacht *Arundel*, and of the *Chong Hong* and *Macao*, which took the lives of 100 and 100 respectively, is a most calamitous one. Windless weather, and a calm sea, on Saturday and soon after became a perfect wreck. All the crew were saved.

THE SEVENTH DRAGON GUARDS.—Aforti-

begin as follows: "I leave to my dear friend, Colonel . . . ten thousand pounds three per cent., and my services to the Government of the United States; and in consideration of the uniform kindness of my nephews and nieces, I leave them each, &c. &c., with the usual bequests to the executors, administrators, &c., in the whole a long string of legacies, with the eternal good wishes of the testator." Signed, sealed, and delivered, in the presence of . . .

WE UNDERSTAND THAT MR. STEPHENSON, Junior, retired to the Premier, will succeed Mr. Drummond as Chief Private Secretary; and Mr. Arbuthnot of the Treasury, supply the place of Mr. Stephenson.

A FELLOW NAMELESS PRERRE is getting ahead of him in the business of turning up the world. He is not one of waiting (April, but he has already taken place on the 14th of February. He is holding

IN LONDON.—On the morning of Saturday last, the *Cooner Eagle*, of Swansea, Nicholson, master, filled with a large brig of Arklow Barks, appearing to have been abandoned, when on boarding her was found to be the case. She proved to be the *Caroline* Newcastle, 309 tons burthen, bound from Liverpool to the Cape of Good Hope, with a general cargo.

board, where she arrived safe, in company with the schooner, about eleven, p. m. of the same day. There is every reason to believe that the crew were met with a watery grave, no tidings having been heard of them since.—*Camden Herald.*

[illegible]

had all his crew at sea. The Jane was ninety-ton register, white strake with black ports, and had a woman figurehead. She was commanded by the eldest son of her owner, Mr. Thomas Stevens. Consequently, the vessel was named the *Miss Stevens*. The captain, however, was not reassured by the uncertainty of the fate of their vessel, which was esteemed for his ability as a mariner, and believed for his inefficiency as a man.

THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA.—President Tyler

On the 28th Dec. a communication to the House of Representatives, recommending negotiations to be entered into with the Chinese Government, to secure free commerce and navigation, and to the effect that the Government of Hong Kong will be enjoyed by Great Britain, and the opening of four ports and the possession of Newgate and Leadenhall markets, not only from Scotland, but various other quarters, it will be found that, for several weeks, they have averaged

per annum; and that in the year 1894, to the extent of \$1,000,000, the cost of the supplies, from the United States amounted to \$1,000,000 in domestic produce, and \$45,000 dollars in foreign merchandise.

INSUFFICIENT WEIGHTS.—At the Borough Court, on Monday, Mr. Hesketh and Sir. Storis, tradesmen in Bank-street, appeared to answer summonses obtained against by Mr. Fogg, as "carcassers." These immense supplies, having, in consequence of their chiefly coming to hand from the United States, and of the prevailing warm weather, met a heavy inquiry at extremely low figures, those who generally operate largely here as "carcassers" have purchased to a very limited extent; hence has arisen this so much complained of illness, coupled with the prevailing low rates of the currency. It may perhaps be imagined that the

intercepted the inspector whilst in the execution of his duty. On the 17th instant, Mr. Fogg went to Mr. Hosketh's shop to try his weights, several of which he found to be deficient. He was about to return those which he deemed to be short to a Mr. Hosketh, when Mr. Stions, who is a relative of the said Mr. Hosketh, came in and told him that he had been charged by Mr. Hosketh to call on him, and that he had been told that he was short of weight. Mr. Stions, who is a relative of the said Mr. Hosketh, came in and told him that he had been charged by Mr. Hosketh to call on him, and that he had been told that he was short of weight. Mr. Stions, who is a relative of the said Mr. Hosketh, came in and told him that he had been charged by Mr. Hosketh to call on him, and that he had been told that he was short of weight.

the two defendants, and in answer to a question put to him, Mr. Fogg said, that, in his opinion, weights might, in the course of twelve months, from Simon wear, lose as much as Mr. Hesketh's were valued. Mr. Gaskell contended that the case was not one of fraud, but of sustained fraud, and that the weights being short, there could not be the slightest doubt exist this had arisen from their being made, and that there was no intention to defraud.

had never been intended - by the legislature that they person having light weights should be considered; a discretionary power was left to the executive, and it might be intended, however, that the same fraud was intended, where it was not. Fogg himself, if asked, would, no doubt, say he did not think there had been any intent to defraud; it would be a hard case for Mr. Hoeth to be subjected to the degradation of a conviction. - The

some superior Old Downs were disposed of at 4s 2d. We had about 70 short Kents in the pens, which went off at about 3s 4d per 8lbs. In Lambs, next to nothing was doing, there being only about 40 on sale. Calves moved off slowly, and their rates were dropping. Prime small Porkers maintained their value but not the smaller sorts. Some of the best corn, with about 70 by sea from Ireland. We received from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridge

shire, about 900 horned and polled Scots; from our Northern counties, 700 short horns and runts; from the Western and Midland Districts, 250 short horns pure, Devon, Hereford, and Irish beasts; from other parts of the Kingdom, 100 short horns, and from Scotland, by a steamer, 80 Scots mostly polled.

POTATO MARKETS.—The receipts of Potatoes during the past week from Scotland, and various other quarters, have amounted to full average supply.

Rose, with a number of firemen and engines, went in a short time after, and on getting a supply of water, commenced playing on the building. The fire continued, however, to increase, and the firemen and engines were obliged to retire. The warehouse, occupied by Mr. J. C. Eckhard, No. 11, Folsom-street, which was entirely destroyed, once it caught the upper part of the warehouse owned by Messrs. Hall, gingham-manufacturer, No. 12, Folsom-street, and the goods were all lost. The goods of Messrs. Hall and Eckhard were insured for \$100,000 in the Merchants' Mutual Insurance Co. of New York. Good parcels, however, are selling firmly at late current prices; but other qualities command little attention. — South Reds, 30 to 55 per ton; York Hatts, 40 to 55; 50 to 55; 55 to 55; 55 to 55; Essex, Whites, 40 to 45; Wisbeach, 40 to 45; Jersey and Guernsey Hatts, 40 to 45; Yorkshire Prince Regent's, 40 to 45.

BURGHOGH HOE MARKET.—Although we have had a better supply of hoes, both yearlings and olds,

The Brown-streaks, which was also destroyed, the men underneath, were much damaged. The boats were driven to the shore, and the engines were wrecked in getting the flanges under about two o'clock on Sunday morning, but they continued to work without intermission until seven o'clock a.m. and on all apprehension for the safety of the arrangements subsided. How the fire originated has been ascertained, although, as usual, several reasons are given for the cause. The following are the reports:-

THE TAILLOW.—The holders of Tallow generally are

ductions are the property of Mr. John Hall, of
 dieston. Messrs. Gaststone and Clayton were
 in the Plein six and Liverpool offices, and Mr.
 ward in the Sun office. During the day, the
 or the configuration, which is the inhabit-
 town, was visited by thousands of the heart-
 of the. The fire did not spread any further,
 and many were present at at early hour, left
 at eleven a. m. on Sunday, and one engine only

filled to play on the ruins. The adjutant's greaves were filled with goods which had been rescued from flames. Several of the articles in question were charred and burnt.

MURDER.—A few days ago, a young woman in a dress at Lyons set out to walk to Bagnon, where she was to meet her lover. On her way she was overtaken by a young soldier travelling the same road. They entered in conversation, and a mutual confidence took

any public sale be here announced. The imports in the week have been 2,040 packages, mostly from our colonies.

HARKNEY.—The state of Trade, here, gets worse every day, and with it the sufferings of the people.

RICHMOND COT MARKET, SATURDAY, JAN. 28th.—We had a plentiful supply of grain in our market to-day, but the sale, as stated last week, still continues dull. Wheat sold from 54 3/4, to 65 6d. Oats

de. The young woman informed her companion that she was carrying home her savings, to the end of 800f., and he related his adventures with her discharge in due time. She was carrying home her savings, to the end of 800f., and he related his adventures with her discharge in due time. She was carrying home her savings, to the end of 800f., and he related his adventures with her discharge in due time.

The ladies to-day amount to about 4,000 bags, consisting of 250 Marannah at 38 1/2 to 41; 150 Bahia, 6d; 200 Suras, 38 1/2 to 41; 50 Langayara, 5d; and the remainder American, 38 1/2 to 41 1/2. With a fair amount of business being done, the market can hardly be said to be more fair. As prices are so low, it is in favour of the buyer, though perhaps not 1/4d more.

LIVERPOOL CORN MARKET. MONDAY, JAN. 30.—

asked if they had seen his companion of the day
 ore. On receiving an answer in the negative, his
 suspicions became awakened. Communicating these
 to the Gendarmes, they desired he would return
 to them to St. Louis, and that he should be
 there to be shut up, and no one answered to his
 calls and calls for admittance. On making inqui-
 ry of the neighbours, the son of the owner of the
 house, a boy playing in the street, stated, in answer

the questions put to him, that his father was in the cellar digging a hole to put something into. The man was immediately surprised, and a locksmith sent for and showed them their way into the cellar, they found the man with the dead and mangled body of the poor girl in his arms at the mouth of laying it in the hole he had dug. He had ordered her to secure her 800*l*. He was immediately taken and committed for trial.

THE SEVENTH DRAGON GUARDS—After a continuous tour of home duty, the long duration of which is unprecedented in the military annals of this country, the 7th Dragon Guards have at length been placed under orders for foreign service. They are to be sent to the Canton coast, where, as requisite arrangements for their conveyance thereto can be completed. It has also been decided to send the 1st battalion of the 45th regiment to the same station.—*United Service Gazette.*

WE UNDERSTAND THAT MR. STEPHENSON, Junior Secretary to the Premier, will succeed Mr. Drummond as Private Secretary to the Secretary of the Treasury, supply the place of Mr. Stephenson.

A FELLOW NAMED PREBLE is getting ahead of other in the business of turning up the world. He no idea of waiting till April, but says it will be his place on the 15th of February. He is holding his place in New Hampshire.—*New York Paper.*

on the morning of Thursday, the 20th. From that to the present time it has pleased an overruling providence to withhold all intelligence of the ill-fated schooner; the probability is, that she is now on her way to the bottom. The *Juan* was ninety tons register, white streak with black ports, had a woman figurehead. She was commanded by the eldest son of her owner, Mr. Thomas Stevens, a merchant, the grief of whose family is naturally increased by the untimely death of their son. His relative, who was esteemed for his ability as a mariner and beloved for his inefficiency as a man.

THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA.—President Tyler writes, on the 30th Dec. a communication to the House of Representatives, recommending negotiations to be entered into with the Chinese Government, for the purpose of securing to the citizens of the United States all the advantages which will be enjoyed by Great Britain, and the opening of the four ports and the possession of Hong Kong. In his message the President states that the importations from China into the United States have increased to have been 1,000,000 lbs. per annum; and that in the year 1841, to the great damage between the two countries, the value of

making *Barley* was taken at late rates, but grinding and distilling stores might have been purchased on easier terms. In Malta a limited amount of business was transacting, and the prices of that article remained about the same as at home. *Wool* was scarce, yet, as the supply was small, last week's figures were maintained. Beans and Peas, moved off slowly. Both town mace and country mace flour were dull, and the latter was a shade easier in price.

LONDON SMITHFIELD MARKET, MONDAY, JAN. 30. —*Pork* was rather easy, but have not had occasion to report; *sauk* lard, coming in freely, but not falling during the present season; indeed, so far from any improvement being looked forward to, the presumption is that prices have not yet seen their lowest point. A question here naturally arises as to the extension of the *Wool* trade, and the probability of things, to which we shall attempt to reply. If reference be made to the arrivals of slaughtered meat up to Newgate and Leadenhall markets, it will only from Scotland, but various other quarters, it will be found that for several weeks, they have averaged about 1000 carcases, and the same quantity of mutton, having, in consequence of their chief coming to

that Mr. Stones could not be sustained; and, as the weights being short, there could not be the slightest doubt exist this had arisen from their being short, and that there was no intention to defraud. The question then arose, whether the person carrying having light weights should be considered a discretionary power was left to the inspector so that he might discriminate between cases where fraud was intended, and where it was not. Judge himself, it asked, would, no doubt, say he would not have had any objection to the use of the weight, if it would be a hard case for Mr. He-keth to be subjected to the degradation of a conviction. The magistrates, after a consultation, said, they thought a case against Mr. He-keth was proved, and that it had been aggravated by the weights being taken away, and the man fined £20, and costs £5. The case against Mr. Stones was dismissed.

DREADFUL FIRE AT MANCHESTER.—Between the hours of nine and ten o'clock on the night of Saturday last, a dreadful fire broke out at Manchester, which has destroyed property to the extent of between £16,000 and £20,000. The flames were first

offered this morning, and which were turned out a fortnight since. The attendance of both London and country buyers was extremely scanty, and the prices for the season, especially heavy, and the prices declined, from those of the previous season, being only 24 per 8 lbs., it being with the greatest difficulty that 24 per 8 lbs. could be obtained for the very prime lots. Scarcely any store-bats were brought forward. Notwithstanding the numbers of sheep were sold, the market was not so well supplied as more than adequate to meet the wants of the butchers, and the currencies suffered a further abatement of 24 per 8 lbs. As a general figure, 4 per 8 lbs may be considered the true price, though in a few instances, some superior Old Down were disposed of at 42 1/2. We also saw some 40 lbs. of the same quality, which went off at about 35 per 8 lbs. In Lambs, next to nothing was doing, there being only about 40 on sale. Calves moved off slowly, and their rates were drooping. Prime small Farkers maintained their value. Large Hogs were purchased on eastern terms with about 70 per 100 lbs. and were received from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, about 900 horned and polled Scots; from our

without interruption until seven o'clock a.m., on all apprehension for the safety of the arrangements subsided. How the fire originated has been ascertained, although, as usual, several rumors have sprung up and are current. The buildings and the property of Mr. John Hall, of Madison. Messrs. Gaston and Clayton were burned in the Plie in and Liverpool offices, and Mr. Howard in the Sun office. During the day, the fire spread to the eastward, and in the heart of the city, the configuration, which is in the heart of the city, was witnessed by thousands of the people. The fire did not spread any further. The houses, who were present at at early hour, left at eleven a.m. on Sunday; and one engine only left to play on the ruins. The adjoining houses were filled with goods which had been rescued from the ruins. Several of the articles in question were charred and burnt.

MONDAY.—A few days ago, a young woman in a dress at Lyons set out to walk to Bargoin, where her parents reside. On her way she was overtaken by a young soldier travelling the same road. They entered in conversation, and the soldier, who was a Frenchman, informed her company

men to St. Laurent. On coming to the house of the man, he found it shut up, and no one answered to his knocks and calls for admittance. On making inquiry of the neighbors, the owner of the house was located, and he was brought to answer the questions put to him, that his father was in the cellar digging a hole to put something into. He was immediately surrounded, a locksmith sent for, and the door opened. On hastening down into the cellar, the men found a large hole had been dug, and the bodies of the poor girl in his arms at the bottom of laying it in the hole he had dug. He had ordered her to secure her 800*fr.* He was immediately taken and committed for trial.

THE NORTHERN STAR.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1843.

THE APPROACHING TRIALS.

In the *Liverpool Times* of the current week, we find the following:—

"We understand that the trials of Feargus O'Connor and the other Chartists, upon the indictments against them, which were removed by *certiorari* from the late Special Commission, will be tried at Lancaster, and not at Liverpool. Hence it has been thought right to assign a longer period for the assizes at Lancaster than would otherwise have been necessary."

We know not what authority the *Liverpool Times* may have for this statement, as we have received no official information on the subject, but we deem it our duty, at all events, to place it before our friends. The fact that two weeks are allotted for the duration of the Lancaster Assizes, which commonly last only two or three days, seems to give it an air of probability; and it is most likely upon this circumstance that the Editor of the *Liverpool Times* has founded his assumption. At all events, it is high time that those who are interested in the matter should bestir themselves.

WAGES OF LABOUR.

In estimating the value of any "improvement" in the mode of producing wealth, it is a rule with us to ask, "what increase, or decrease, has it made to the MEANS of the working man?" and according to the answer given to that query is our estimate of value.

When arguing upon the question of "Extension of Commerce," we have pointed out the question to its advocates: "What have been the effects of former 'Extensions' upon the wages and comforts of the labouring man?" and have honestly avowed that if it could be shown that they had been of benefit to the worker; that they had added to his stock of comforts; that these had enabled him to enjoy more of the good things of life; that they had placed additional bread and butter upon his table, and put additional clothing upon his back; we have oftentimes avowed that if this could be shown to have been the effect of former "Extensions of Commerce," we should be the first to call for, and struggle for, another and greater "Extension."

Our inquiries, however, have led us to a directly opposite conclusion, to that of benefit from former "Extensions." We have endeavoured to ascertain the condition of the labourer at the beginning of the present century, a period when the beginning of the rapid and much-lauded "Extensions of British Commerce" may be dated; and we have contrasted that condition with the present condition of the labourer; and that contrast is not favourable to the "Extension" cause.

It is not necessary that we say much respecting the labourer's present condition. It is admitted on all hands that it is deplorable in the extreme. There is no party who now disputes the existence of general distress. It is well known that the cottages are comparatively empty of furniture; that hundreds of thousands are wandering the streets for want of employment; that those who are daily and almost nightly employed, are not receiving wages which will furnish them with a sufficiency of the first necessities of life; that starvation is endured by millions of British subjects; and that the shop-keeping class are rapidly falling into the ranks of the unemployed labourers, the march of poverty and ruin having reached them, in its progress, upwards, through all classes of present society.

This is the avowed and undisputed condition of the labouring man at the present hour.

It is also avowed and undisputed, that the condition of that same class, fifty years ago, was, comparatively, a much better one. They had, then, comparatively, well-furnished cottages; a well-laden table; and well-dressed bodies. Employment was not then scant; and the wages paid to the worker would purchase him, comparatively, a fair share of the comforts of life.

During the last fifty years we have added to our means of producing wealth most immensely. The producing-power of the Kingdom at the beginning of the present century has been stated by eminent Statisticians to have been:—

Manual Labour	2,750,000
Mechanical and Scientific Power equal to	11,250,000
Total	15,000,000

The population at that period was also 15,000,000; consequently, the aggregate productive-power and the population were equal, or as one to one.

In 1842, the producing-power of the Kingdom was thus estimated:—

Manual Labour	9,000,000
Mechanical and Scientific Power equal to	600,000,000
Total	609,000,000

The population in 1842, as shown by the census, was 17,000,000. The proportion, therefore, which the producing-power then bore to the population was as twenty-two to one!

What a vast increase in producing-means! How comes it to pass, that with this increase in the means to produce wealth, the comforts and well-being of the wealth-producers should have decreased?

The Returns connected with our Foreign Trade show also that during those fifty years, we have increased that trade most prodigiously! In 1798, we exported, in *Official Value*, £19,672,263; which brought us in, in *Real Value*, £33,148,682. The last Returns published, for the year ending January 5, 1842, show that we had exported in *Official Value*, £102,180,517, which only brought us in, in *Real Value*, £31,634,623. Thus it will be seen that we had increased in QUANTITY nearly SIX TIMES OVER; as for an increase in *price* that is quite another matter! That increase is not, by any means, a six times increase!

Commerce then has "Extended"! Of that there can be no doubt. Our means of producing wealth has "Extended" also, and with these "Extensions," the wages and means of comfortable living of the workers have decreased!

These facts are, with us, conclusive evidence that former "Extensions of Commerce" have not benefited the working people; and they hold out to us little hope that another "Extension," now sought for by a repeal of the Corn Laws, will do that which all former "Extensions" have failed in doing!

To this view of the subject; however, we can not fix the attention of the advocates of Corn Law Repeal. These facts and arguments they shrivel with much adroitness. They invariably decline to meet them; but content themselves with uttering forth an experience-exploited "principle" of Political Economy:—"Extended trade causes extended employment. Extended employment causes extended wages: therefore extended trade is beneficial to the worker."

Lastly, however, another tack has been taken. It is now the cue of the Free Trade writers to endeavour to induce a Doubt, as to the correctness of the fact that the labourer in olden time was much better off than his brethren of the present day. In this matter the *Morning Chronicle* has taken the lead. We thought, that, had an article to show, as he thought, that the labourers of England were wretchedly ill-off some 150 years ago; and the inference which he evidently wishes the existing that they have not much to complain of in their present condition, seeing that it is better, or at least, no worse, than the condition of the labourers in the beginning of the last century.

"The writer has adroitly chosen his time. The period he has upon, is about the very best he could have picked out for his purpose. It was just after the 'glorious revolution' when all the interests of the state had sustained the shock of the internal commotions of that century. It was just at the period, too, when loans and

loan-mongering began to exercise their baneful influence upon the happiness and prosperity of the producers of wealth, under the auspices of the blessed Bishop BURNET. It was a period, too, when the taxation of the country had been increased, at once, two-and-a-half-times over!!! A period of this character, pregnant indeed with depressing consequences, has the *Chronicle* fixed upon for the illustration of his dogma, that 'the labourers of England, in olden time, were as wretchedly off as the workers in our own day.'"

Now, even if the *Chronicle* had proved his point, we should not have been disposed to admit his intended inference, that because the labourers were badly off then, they have no cause for complaint now, seeing that they are in no worse condition. We should have asked if it was right, that the labourer should have no share in the numerous advantages to be derived from an increase in the means of producing wealth? We should have asked, if this age of "improvement," this age of steam and steam; this age of mechanical and scientific appliances to the production of food and clothing; this age of means of increase of wealth: we should have asked, even had the *Chronicle* established that which he has attempted to establish, if these "improvements" ought not to have worked BENEFIT to the workers? We should have asked if it was right, that the working classes should be kept in a *stand-still* position, when all the rest of the world was travelling to the goal of human perfection at a railroad pace!! We should have asked these questions, even had the *Chronicle* proved that the labourer's condition had not deteriorated contemporaneously with the introduction and present application of those new and mighty agents of civilization, steam and gas: how much more necessary is it to put them, when the *Chronicle* has not proved his position; when it is a fact staring us full in the face that the condition of the producers of wealth is deteriorated; that the "improvements" have been anything but "improvements" to them!

The *Chronicle* says:—"The labourers of England were wretchedly ill off during the first half of the last century; of which fact there is but too abundant evidence. Wages were extremely low—3s and 4s a week. Stephen Duck, about 1750, threshed in a barn in Wiltshire for 3s a week. The population hardly experienced any increase during all that period. But about the year 1760 great advances in manufactures took place. Numerous canals were cut, and other works executed, and the demand for labour led to an increase of wages. No man could be so comfortably employed as the labourer in the manufacturing districts. Before that time, wheat bread was little used by the labourers. About 1760 the use of it became general. But even then, the condition of the labourer was not so good as it is now. No man can have been by any means an enviable one. We have in the various tours of Arthur Young, in the eastern, northern, and southern counties, very minute accounts of the wages of labour, and they appear extremely low, relative to what we now receive. In Ireland, in 1776, 1777, and 1778, and in the second part of his tour he states minutely the results of his experience with respect to the condition of the Irish cottagers, contrasting it with that of the English labourers; and it does not certainly say so much for the comfort enjoyed by the latter, that upon the whole he considers the Irishman best off. This, he remarked, is the opinion of a man who had visited every corner of England, and was intimately acquainted with the state of the agricultural population. The following is an extract from Young:—

"Then the Irishman's cow may be ill-fed is admitted; but ill-fed as it is, it is better than the cow of the Englishman; the children of the Irish are better fed than the children of the English. A quantity almost incredible, the beggar seating himself to it with a hearty welcome, the pig taking his share as readily as the wife, the cocks, hens, turkeys, geese, the cat, and perhaps the cow, and all partaking of the same dish. No man can often have been a witness of it without being convinced of the plenty, and I will add, the cheerfulness that attends it."

"When I see the people of a country, in spite of political and religious dissensions, with well-fed, vigorous bodies, and cottages swarming with children, when I see their men athletic, and their women beautiful, I know not how to believe their subsisting on an unwholesome food."

"I will not assert that potatoes are a better food than bread and cheese; but I have no doubt of a bellyful of the one being better than a half a bellyful of the other. If any one doubts the comparative plenty which attends the board of a poor man of England and Ireland, let him attend to their meals; the sparingness with which our labourer eats his bread and cheese is well known; mark the Irishman's potato-bowl placed on the floor, the whole of which he has around him, devouring it with a quantity almost incredible, the beggar seating himself to it with a hearty welcome, the pig taking his share as readily as the wife, the cocks, hens, turkeys, geese, the cat, and perhaps the cow, and all partaking of the same dish. No man can often have been a witness of it without being convinced of the plenty, and I will add, the cheerfulness that attends it."

Let us examine the facts the *Chronicle* brings in support of its general statement that "the labourers of England, in the beginning of the last century were wretchedly ill-off." "Wages," says he, "were extremely low; three shillings and four shillings per week. STEPHEN DUCK, about 1750, threshed in a barn in Wiltshire, for three shillings a week." We shall adopt the mean between his two rates of wages, three and four shillings a week; and take it that the average wages paid in money was then three shillings and sixpence a week. We shall then endeavour to ascertain what husbandmen are paid at the present day; and measure the amount of their earnings in the quantity of provisions and other necessities of life, which the wages of each period would purchase; taking into account the other several matters which enhanced, or enhanced their relative condition; and thus have before us a fair contrast of the two periods, as far as the labourers are concerned.

What then are the wages paid to husbandmen now? Let the *Chronicle* answer.

Week before last we inserted from its pages a long document descriptive of the doings of the Socialists ON THE LAND, written by a gentleman who subscribes himself "One who has Whistled at the Plough." We explained that that document was only one of a series; the writer being now engaged in a tour throughout the farming districts to "note" the condition of both Land, Farmer, and Labourer. In the extract we made last week, he lets out, incidentally, the following information relative to the wages of agricultural labourers:—

"At an inn called the Winterland Hut, (between Salisbury and Brighton) I received information, that the wages of labouring men had been reduced to seven shillings a week by the largest farmer in that district, and that the other farmers were expected to follow immediately with a similar reduction; and the common expression of those, who were present, some of whom were residents from Salisbury, and one the respectable landlady of the house, was to this effect: 'God above only knows how the poor creatures are to be fed! What matters it to them that they have bread and cheese this year than last! They could buy little of either either last year, and they can buy as little this. They must buy potatoes, not bread, and potatoes are but a middling crop this year; they are good, but small.'"

In the *Chronicle* of Wednesday, Jan 18th, the same writer says:—

"Wages are miserably low. Near Preston and about Lancaster, able-bodied men are working to farmers for nine-pence a day! A shilling and fifteen pence a day are the more common rates of wages. The labourers in Lancashire are on a level with those of Dorset, Somerset, and Devon; but so far as I have yet seen, the farms of Lancashire and Cheshire are not so well managed as in these ill-cultivated counties of the west."

The wages, then, of husbandmen now, may be taken on the authority of this writer, who has been to see with his own eyes and hear with his own ears, at seven shillings a week, on an average. Remember that he has found many working for nine-pence a day! Remember that nine-pence a day is but four shillings and sixpence a week! Remember, too, that a shilling a day is a common rate; and that a shilling a day is but six shillings a week! Remember all this; and then say whether the sum named, seven shillings, is not a fair average to infer from the facts the writer has added.

Seven shillings a week, then, we take to be the average wages paid to husbandmen at the present time; or double the amount paid to the same class of labourers in the beginning of last century, according to the *Chronicle*.

Now how stands the relative prices of provisions and clothing at the two periods: for on this will mainly depend the contrast we wish to make.

Fortunately the period fixed on by the *Chronicle*, telling as it is for him for the reasons we have before enumerated, is about the only one during the course of the last three centuries, (barring the last fifty years), that he could have hit upon to enable us to satisfactorily solve this last question.

There are no regular consecutive returns of the prices of produce, until towards the close of the seventeenth century. There are several statements as to the price of provisions in earlier times; but they are many of them collected from old household accounts; and cannot be depended on, like accounts regularly taken and regularly published.

In the year 1694, however, six years prior to the beginning of the period fixed on by the *Chronicle* for his contrast, the present *Official Rates* of valuation of Exported British Produce and Manufactures were fixed; and that fact will enable us to state, with certainty, the prices of provisions and clothing at both periods.

It will be necessary to explain that the *Official Value* of the present day, was the *Real Value* of that day; and that the difference between the *Official Value* and *Real Value* shows the increase or decrease of prices since the period we are speaking of, 1694. The rate of valuation then adopted has been since constantly maintained; because it has had its uses as a common denominator, or indicator of quantity; and has served, too, to show the fluctuations in price.

It follows, therefore, that the *Official Value* and the *Real Value* of any particular article of British Produce and Manufactures in the List of Exports will show its price at the beginning of the seventeenth century, and the price of the same description of article now: the fact being that the "Official Value" was the real price in 1694; and the "Real Value" the real price at the present day.

Let the *Chronicle*, then, take the last published List of Exported British Produce in his hand, and a single glance will tell him, that at the beginning of the last century, when "the labourers of England were wretchedly ill-off," and when they only received, according to his own showing, 3s. 6d. a-week as wages; a single look at that List will prove to him, that "Corn, Grain, Meal, and Flour" was then nearly three times "cheaper" than it is now! That is, the labourer's three shillings and sixpence would purchase him nearly three times as much "Corn, Grain, and Flour" as the labourer's three-and-sixpence will now! He will find also that Butter and Cheese, Beer and Ale, were fully three times as cheap; or as much then for one shilling as for three shillings now! He will further find that: Cows and Oxen were four times as cheap! or that one pound would then go as far in purchasing a Cow or an Ox, as four pounds will go now. He will find, too, that Sheep's Wool and Hides are now nearly double the price they were then; and that Woolen and Worsted Yarn is also about doubled in price.

These facts will the *Chronicle* learn by an appeal to the last published Returns relating to "Trade and Navigation," and they will aid him materially in his endeavour to form an accurate estimate of the relative condition of the labourers of England.

But there are other facts which must not be kept out of sight, in this important inquiry. *Money wages* were not all that the labourers of England had to live upon, during the earlier periods of English History. A far different system obtained at the beginning of the last century from what obtains now. The labouring-man was not then driven out of the farmer's house! He, in general, and almost always when unmarried, formed one of the farmer's own family; lived at the farmer's own board; and slept under the farmer's own roof! However the farmer fared, he fared! and we may readily believe that if the labouring inmates of the farmer's dwelling fared well, the labourers who lived out of the house would not fare much worse!

That such was the general custom is a fact that admits not of dispute. It has been discontinued within the recollection of persons now living! It was discontinued when the immense amount of paper-money in circulation, consequent on LOANS and BANK RESTRICTION, had forced up prices to such a degree, as to induce the Farmers, Manufacturers, and Shopkeepers to think we had the world "in a band," and that we could lead it whithersoever we listed. It was discontinued when the age of BULL-FROGISM set in; whenever a farmer considered himself a Squire; and every farmer's daughter, "a Miss." Then the labourer was driven from the homestead! Then he no longer lived as the farmer lived. Then he had to depend entirely upon the amount of money-wages he could succeed in wringing out of the close-fisted Bull-Frog, who despised him because he was a labourer!

That this custom of in-dwelling the labourers obtained at the period fixed on by the *Chronicle*, is proved by the construction of the old farm-houses themselves, and the furniture with which they were furnished. The contrast between the style in that day, and the style now, will be best understood by the following graphic description, by one who was well qualified to paint the scene he witnessed and describes, and to tell of other times and doings. It is one of COMBATT's inimitable and instructive "RURAL RIDES":—

"Reigate, Thursday Evening, 20th October, 1825."

"Having done my business at Hartwood to-day about eleven o'clock, I went to a sale at a farm, which the farmer is quitting. Here I had a view of what has long been going on all over the country. The farm, which belongs to *Christy's Hospital*, has been sold by a man of the name of CHARINGTON, in whose family the lease has been, I hear, a great number of years. The house is hidden by trees. It stands in the Weald of Surrey, close by the River Mole, which is here a more rivulet, though just below this house the rivulet supplies the very prettiest four-mill I ever saw in my life."

"Everything about this farm-house was formerly the scene of plain manners and plentiful living. Oak clothes-closets, oak bed-steads, oak chests of drawers, and oak tables to eat on, long, strong, and well supplied with joint stools. Some of the things were many hundreds of years old. But all appeared to be in a state of decay and nearly of disuse. There appeared to have been hardly any family in that house, where formerly there were, in all probability, from ten to fifteen men, boys, and maids; and which was the worst of all, there was a parlour! Aye, and a carpet and bell-pull too! One end of the front of this once plain and substantial house had been moulded into a 'parlour,' and there was the mahogany table, the fine chairs, and the fine glass, and all as bare-faced upstart as any stock-jobber in the kingdom can boast of. And there were the decanters, the glasses, the 'dinner-set' of crockery ware, and all just in the true stock-jobber style. And I dare say it has been *Squire* CHARINGTON and the *Miss* CHARINGTON; and not plain Master CHARINGTON, and his son Hodge, and his daughter Betty CHARINGTON, all of whom this accursed system has, in all likelihood, transmitted into a species of mock-gentlefolks, while it has ground the labourers down into real slaves. Why do not farmers now feed and lodge their work-people, as they did formerly? Because they cannot keep them upon so little as they give them in wages. This is the real cause of the change. There needs no more to prove that the lot of the working classes has become worse than it formerly was. This fact alone is quite sufficient to settle this point. All the world knows, that a number of people, boarded in the same house, and at the same table, and with as good food, be boarded much cheaper than those persons divided into two, three, or four, can be boarded. This is a well-known truth; therefore, if the farmer now shuts his pantry against his labourers, and pays them wholly in money, instead of what he does it because he thereby gives them a living to him; that is to say, a worse living than formerly! Mind he has a house for them, a kitchen for them to sit in, bed rooms for them to sleep in, tables, and stools, and benches, of everlasting duration. All three he has: all these cost him nothing; and yet so much does he gain by pinching them in wages that

he lets all these things remain as of no use, rather than feed labourers in the house. Judge, then, of the change that has taken place in the condition of these labourers! And, be astonished, if you can, at the pauperism and the crimes that now disgrace this once happy and moral England."

"The land produces, on an average, what it always produced; but, there is a new distribution of the produce. This *Squire* CHARINGTON's father used, I dare say, to sit at the head of the oak-table along with his men, say grace to them, and cut up the meat and the pudding. He might take a cup of strong beer to himself, when they had none; but, that was pretty nearly all the difference in their manner of living. So that all lived well. But, the *Squire* had many wine-decanter, and wine-glasses, and a 'dinner set,' and a 'breakfast set,' and a 'dessert-knives'; and these evidently imply carriages and a consumption that must necessarily have greatly robbed the long oak-table if it had remained fully tenanted. That long table could not share in the work of the decanters and the dinner set. Therefore, it became almost untenanted; the labourers retreated to hovels, called cottages; and, instead of board and lodging, they got money; so little of it as to enable the employer to drink wine; but, then, that he might not reduce them to quite starvation, they were enabled to come to him, in the king's name, and demand food as paupers. And, now, mind, that which a man receives in the king's name, he knows well what to do with; and it is not in nature that he should thank anybody for it, and least of all the party from whom it is forced. Then, if this sort of force be insufficient to obtain him enough to eat and to keep him warm, it is surprising, if he think it no great offence against God (who created no man to starve) to use another sort of force more within his own control? Is it, in short, surprising, if he resort to theft and robbery?"

"This is not only the natural progress, but it has been the progress in England. The blame is not justly imputed to 'SQUIRE CHARINGTON and his like': the blame belongs to the infernal stock-jobbing system. There was no reason to expect that farmers would not endeavour to keep pace, in point of show and luxury, with fundholders, and with all the tribes that war and taxes created. Farmers were not the authors of the mischief; and now they are compelled to shut the labourers out of their houses, and to pinch them in their wages, in order to be able to pay their own taxes; and, besides this, the manners and the principles of the working class are so changed, that a sort of self-preservation bids the farmer (especially in some counties) to keep them from beneath his roof."

"I could not quit this farm house without reflecting on the thousands of scores of bacon and thousands of bushels of bread that had been eaten from the long oak-table which, I said to myself, is now perhaps, going, at last, to the bottom of a bridge that some stock-jobber will stick up over an artificial river in his cockney garden. 'By — it should,' said I, almost in a real passion; and so I requested a friend to buy it for me; and if he do so, I will take it to Kensington, or to Fleet-street, and keep it for the good it has done in the world."

"When the old farm-houses are down (and down they must come in time) what a miserable thing the country will be. Those that are now erected are mere painted shells, with a Mistress within, who is stuck up in a place she calls a parlour, with, if she have children, the 'young ladies and gentlemen,' about her: some showy chairs and a sofa (a sofa by all means: half a dozen prints in gilt frames hanging up; some swinging clock-shelves with novels and tracts upon them: a dinner brought in by a girl that is perhaps better 'educated' than she: two or three nick-nacks to eat instead of a piece of bacon and pudding: the house too neat for a dirty-shod carter to be allowed to come into, and everything proclaiming a comfortable beholder, that there is here no want of anxiety to make show not warranted by the reality. The children (which is the worst part of it) all too clever to work, they are all to be gentlefolks. Go to plough! Good God! What, 'young gentlemen' go to plough! They become clerks, or some skinnily-dish thing or other. They flee from the dirty work as cunning horses do from the bridle. What misery is all this! What a mass of materials for producing that general and dreadful condition that must, first or last, come and blow this funding and jobbing and enslaving and starving system to atoms!"

Another means of adding to the labourer's stock of comforts, over and above his money-wages, must not be lost sight of. At the period fixed on by the *Chronicle* there were extensive COMMONS, on which the labourer had common rights! The aid that these were to him cannot be estimated by the labourer of the present day: for the COMMONS are gone, and, with them, the common rights! During the last seventy years millions of acres of land have been taken from the labouring people, upon which they formerly kept their cow, their pig, their flock of geese, or their poultry. A rare addition these things, to the money wages paid them by their employers!

It is a fact, that in the period from 1801 to 1831, no less than ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED and EIGHTEEN ENCLOSURE ACTS WERE PASSED! each one taking hundreds, and, in some instances, thousands, of acres from the labouring people, whose common right to the use and enjoyment of them had been sanctioned and guaranteed by numerous acts of the Parliament, as well as by the Common Usages and Law of the realm!!

There was also another means of comfort to the labourer of old had, that must not be excluded from the account. The money wages he received from his employer were for the work he did for his employer. But they were for his own work alone. The married labourer's means were added to, by the exertions of his wife and his young family, at home; aided by his own exertions, on long winter nights, and on wet days. They nearly manufactured all the clothes they wore; they carded; they spun; they wove! They did within themselves! and was it no advantage! Did not this help his three or four shillings a week? Was not this rather better for domestic comfort, and for educational purposes, than the idling in a factory, for sixteen or eighteen hours daily, of the wives and infant daughters of the manufacturing-slave-labourer of our time! Ah! Mr. *Chronicle*, when we come to inquire into the real facts of the case, we do not find much to congratulate ourselves upon, in the condition of the husbandman now, when contrasted with the condition of the husbandman in the beginning of the last century! We find that his wages now will not purchase him as much food as the wages then would; while we find him deficient of many aids and helps which the labourer of old possessed!

But mind! I do not say that the labourers of England were absolutely well-to-do at the period we have named. We believe the contrary to have been the fact. We believe that the event called the "PROTESTANT REFORMATION" worked much to the disadvantage of the labourers of England; and we believe that what the REFORMATION left short of their total and complete degradation, was effected by the Whig-made "glorious Revolution," with its attendant National Debt, Paper-Money, and Excessive Taxation. The period, therefore, which we should choose for a contrast between the then, and the present, condition of English labourers, would not be the one chosen by the *Chronicle*; but one anterior to the first event just named. We have bestowed the labour and attention which this article manifests, not to prove that the *Chronicle*'s position, "that the labourers of England were wretchedly ill-off during the first half of the last century," is untenable; but to show that if such even were the case, they were much better off then, than the labourers are at present! notwithstanding all the "improvements" of which we boast, and notwithstanding all the additional means of producing wealth with which we have become acquainted, and which ought to have worked out a far different result.

Our position, that the labourers now are much worse off than the labourers were then, may be strengthened by the mention of two facts, which even the *Chronicle* will not gainsay. "The labourers of England were wretchedly ill-off during the first half

of the last century." If so, the poor rates will be found to have been excessive; for poor rates then existed, and the poor were not then blessed with a New Poor Law, with its workhouse-and-degrading-law-test, to prevent them from applying for relief. What is the fact? Why that for the three years 1748-50 the Poor Rates for both England and Wales amounted only to the sum of £730,135!! While the Poor Rates have averaged, for the last twenty years, no less than £7,000,000 annually!! What a frightful increase of pauperism, contemporaneously with the enormous increase of productive power!!

The other fact is, that from 1714 to 1736, the taxation of the kingdom averaged £2,386,572; while the average for the last fifty years is nearly £70,000,000 a year!! The producer of wealth in later times has much (TAXATION) to pride himself upon!!

With the notions of Mr. ARTHUR YOUNG, quoted by the *Chronicle*, we shall not presume to meddle. We shall say nothing to disturb the equanimity of those who can see plenty, accompanied with cheerfulness, in a family "squatted on their hams on the floor, devouring POTATOES in a quantity almost incredible," having for dinner companions "the pig, the cocks, the hens, the turkeys, the geese, the cat, the cat, and perhaps the cow; ALL PARTAKING OF THE SAME DISH;" we shall say nothing to disturb the equanimity of those who can see PLENTY in this, and who, with ARTHUR YOUNG, would almost seem to wish to persuade the cheese-and-bread eater to exchange that bread and cheese for the POTATOE-BOWL! There it is! reader, plainly before you, as pictured by ARTHUR YOUNG: say how you like it!!

The conclusion, then, we arrive at, from a full examination of the question is, that the labourer now is much worse off than the labourer was then; and this, too, despite of the vast increase to our means of producing wealth; and in despite, too, of the many and enormous "Extensions" of British commerce!

From that conclusion, so arrived at, we infer that another "Extension of Commerce," on the same principle as we have hitherto acted on, can only have the effect of "making bad, worse." To expect anything else, after the experience we have had, betrays stupidity and obtuseness of vision enough!

One word more to the *Chronicle*. In contrasting the present and present condition of the labourer, we surely had a right to expect from a LIBERAL journal, a progressive scale of the "improvement" of all classes, by which that of the industrious classes should be liberally measured. But no! The luxuries of the great are to increase as a natural consequence of those "improvements" tending what is called civilization; while the condition of the labourer under all circumstances, is to remain the same; or he is to receive a modicum of his share, not as a legitimate consequence arising from the same causes, but as a pauper with becoming gratitude and thanks!

In another portion of his article the *Chronicle* says:—

"It is certain that great discontent now prevails and has long prevailed among the labourers. They may not have been better off formerly, but they were more accustomed to their condition. BURKE, quoting the opinion of ARISTOTLE, remarks, that the agricultural class are the least of any 'inclined to sedition.' We are afraid that so far as our agricultural labourers are concerned, the maxim will hardly hold good as a universal one."

In this he commits a grave error. For *League* purposes he would contrast the condition of a class too "ignorant" (as he says) to think for himself with the condition of the same class when political knowledge has beamed upon them. The desire ought not to be to contrast the labourer of 1843 with the labourer of 1743; but to contrast the labourer of 1843, with him who employs him in the same year! If, however, we are to narrow our contrast to his own condition at different periods, take him from 1803 to 1843; and take also the relative condition of all other classes into the full consideration of the question; and then say whether the labourer has held or lost ground!!

Throughout, the professing Liberal argues, as all Mathurians do, that as much has been done for the labourers as circumstances would admit of. If the *Chronicle*'s picture is to be complete; and if the sitters are to remain side by side on the canvass; we may perhaps be permitted to ask what has become of the Irish Cow, so feelingly described by ARTHUR YOUNG, when singing the praises of the POTATOE BOWL! What has become of the BELLYFUL (of that trash!) What has become of the turkeys, the geese, the hens, the cocks, the cat and the cur; and above all, what has become of the Cow! What has become of all these? Church and State have swallowed them all up! and a substitute is now to be furnished out of an infernally-principled system of poor laws, which the brave Irish, not yet thoroughly debased by the dependant hand-to-mouth system, have resolved to resist even to the death!

One remarkable saying of the *Chronicle*'s needs a word: "They may not have been better off formerly; but they were more reconciled to their condition." So were the West Indian Slaves, until they became sensible of their power to alter their condition. Englishmen were never reconciled to a degraded condition, however ignorant they may have heretofore been as to the means to alter it. As for reconciliation, no journal has taken more pains to reconcile them to that exact condition in which they may be slavishly or violently servile to faction, and aid in its unwholesome purposes, than the *Chronicle*! Out of evil comes good. The desperate attempts of the squabblers to grasp power have compelled them to paint the labourer in those colours in which he now desires to see himself. Power achieved, the limner would gladly rub the colouring from the canvass! but pride and many dignity keeps it alive in recollection; and he who was so fairly represented, would fain make himself a fair representation of so fair a picture! The right position of man is not now merely confined to the Reform canvass, or the Reform print: it is engraven upon the heart, and stereotyped in the mind! The impression is now fixed: and man boasting tries to make himself what those who once courted him told him he ought to be!

A WORD OF CAUTION.

There are few things of more consequence to the people, and to which the local leaders seem to pay less attention, than discriminating carefully between the movements of the people in their individual capacity throughout their several localities, and their acts as members of the National Charter Association. We have often pointed attention to the fact that the 39th Geo. III. c. 79, makes every political society illegal whose members meet for the transaction of business in separate masses, parts, or divisions; and that, therefore, the National Charter Association as such, has no meetings. It exists, and can exist only in the public registration of its members, in the persons and correspondence of its officers, and in its public documentary acts. The advantage of the National Organization is, that it affords a common system, upon which the operations of all the local bodies of Chartists in the kingdom may be conducted; and that thus they may be all directed continuously towards a given point. Still, however, it should never be forgotten that all their distinct operations in their several localities are those of local bodies, and not of the general body; if this little fact were borne in mind, in the calling of the several meetings, and the wording of the several resolutions which from time to time are adopted by those meetings in various towns, it would be much better. We ought never to forget that the same faction which first enacted these infamous statutes is now in power, and waits only a convenient opportunity for enforcing them. We should, at least, therefore, be careful not to afford them evidence against ourselves; yet this is done every time

was charged by some with having been actuated in this and other denunciations by personal motives. I declare before you that I have not; that there never has been a man in the whole Christian movement against whom I ever entertained a hostile personal ill feeling; and that, as far as I know, there have been no more than three men whose names I have mentioned in the movement, whom I have ever so severely taken to task. One of these has been I say entirely out of the movement, and the other two, as they have been ever since I knew them, my best friends. There was, therefore, no possibility of my being actuated by personal motives, even if my nature had been capable of it, which I hope it is not. There was no number of the present or the past Executive whom I did not regard as a brother, and whom I did not eagerly seize upon for every opportunity of serving to the utmost amount of my power, in my regard for the principle and the people's cause called "hatred." But even my course, and I trust it ever will be, I have even now, no angry feeling; though I cannot avoid having a very strong opinion. Their own conduct has forced that opinion upon me, without any consent

"That the General Councilors resident in Hull, having seen a statement in the *Star* attributed to Mr. James Leach, of Manchester, that 'in the month of July last, the Hull Chartists were about to pass the Balance Sheet'; and a friend that was present at that meeting wrote to Campbell, stating that there was a plot hatching against the Executive,' do most unequivocally and unqualifiedly affirm this statement to be false: that there was no such meeting; that no such plot hatching against the Executive was at that time about to pass; the Balance Sheet being stopped by Mr. Hill on his coming into the room; and that Hill would not by any means the first of the Hull Chartists to start objections against the Executive; that the first council meeting to consider that Balance Sheet was specially convened by Mr. Robert Jackson, at the suggestion of several other councilors, and every councilor was present save one: that, notwithstanding our just dissatisfaction with the Executive, we saw no reason for hatching against the Executive, and that consequently no person could have truly said to the Executive any letter to that effect; that we, the councilors of Hull, are not in the least dependent on the Executive, and that we demand upon such subjects as we have a right to take cognizance of; that we are not in the habit of being led by any individual, whether Mr. Hill or Mr. Leach, in the formation of our opinions, but that we endeavor to form our own opinions; that the letter we demand from Mr. Leach or Mr. Campbell the publication of the letter which Mr. Leach says was received from a friend, who was present at the meeting when the Hull Chartists were stopped from passing the Balance Sheet by Mr. Hill, and the name of that friend, and that this our demand be not complied with, we shall believe this statement of Mr. Leach's to have been invented either by him or Campbell."

JOHN ROBINSON would suggest to the Chairmen of Manchester the idea of getting up a play for the benefit of the Defence Fund, and offers to give his personal assistance in the getting of it out.

Feargus O'Connor, was then carried by acclamation; and after a few words from that gentleman, the meeting separated, and at twelve o'clock Mr. O'Connor started for Leeds.

tyes to the good cause will reward the energetic efforts of the few friends who have established the Association on this place. A contribution has been forwarded to the Defence Fund.

At the New Hummums, London, on Sunday, the
22nd ult., John Hampton Hampton Lewis, Esq., of
Henleys and Bodger, in the County of Anglesey.

RT.—On The

their own business, the four newspapers of the town were handed up to them, when the colouring of the *Mercury* was at once pointed out by Mr. Griffith Wright, who shrewdly guessed that Mr. Craven had called at the *Mercury* Office, and persuaded Mr. Baines to give his own statement of the affair. In connection with this subject, we received on Thursday, through the medium of the post-office, the following *jeu d'esprit*, enclosed in a nicely sealed envelope:—

TO THE "CRAVEN" INFORMER.

"Doctor!" again our course molest,
We'll seize thee as a common pest;
And, whatso'er may be the cost,
Thou, in a blanket, shalt be lost.

BETTY PESTLE.
SALLY MORTAR.

"Bilking Bob!" Alley, Vicar-Lane,
Jan. 23rd, 1843.

DUCROW'S CIRCUS.—On Monday evening last

Mr. Ducrow, with a talented company of equestrians, opened the Circus in King Charles's Croft, for twelve nights. It has been well attended during the week, and the performances have elicited marked applause. The riding of "Le Petit Ducrow," in particular, is deserving of every praise, and the audience, on each time of his appearance, have not failed to mark their approbation of his extraordinary talents. We recommend those who admire such exhibitions to visit the Circus.

PLATE STEALERS.—On Thursday James Brennan, Ann Higgins, and John Murray, were earlier examined at the Court House, (having been remanded from Tuesday) on a charge of being concerned in several robberies of silver plate. The female prisoner, on Saturday night last, sold a quantity of broken silver at the shop of Mr. Lerra, in Caul-lane, which coming to the ears of the police, Inspector Child obtained a search-warrant.

searching found a very large quantity of broken silver; amongst which was a pint, and a mulliner, which had been stolen from the house of Mr. French, in Blenheim Terrace, on Saturday night last. Higgins was then apprehended, and she implicated the other two, who were likewise taken into custody. In the house of Murray's mother, was found the handle of Mr. French's pint, but there was no evidence to implicate Brennan in the robbery. Other property, however, still remained without

identity, and though Higgins and Murry were committed on this charge the whole three were further remanded, as a tea-pot and stand, the property of Mr. Audus, of Headingley, was amongst the property found, with which it is suspected Brennan is implicated. There were also several silver spoons, for which the police have no owners, and which are marked respectively, "J. H. R.," "R. Y.," "W. M. W.," "F. W. E.," "J. L.," and "E. M. B.," and one with a crest, a lion rampant. Should this

A "POLISH COURIER."—On Wednesday last a man who gave his name John Thompson, alias Richards, *alias* "Signor Widdcomb," and who represented himself as a professor of equestrian exercises, was brought up at the Court House, having been apprehended a few days previous with some soldier's clothes in his possession, belonging to a

trumpeter in the 11th Hussars, part of which are now stationed at Sheffield. It was stated that the "Signor" had made application to Mr. Ducrow, whilst he was performing at Sheffield, for a situation, and having represented himself as having been long connected with the "profession," and a superior rider, it was arranged that he should have a trial, and so evening was set apart in which he was to appear in character as a Polish Courier. He afterwards went to the Barracks, and succeeded, by false pretences,

in "borrowing" a military suit from the unfortunate trumpeter, who found to his cost that he had not taken sufficient security; the "Signor," after having got the uniform in his possession, having forgot to go to the Circus, and it was soon found that he had sold part of the clothes for what he could get for them. One of Mr. Ducrow's establishment recognised him in Leeds and gave him into custody, at which time he was wearing the trumpeter's cap and trousers, the latter of which he had got dyed.

The magistrates fined him £10, or in default of payment to ride courier on the treadmill for six months.

DEATH BY DROWNING.—On Friday (yesterday) an inquest was held at the Clarendon Hotel, before Mr. E. C. Hopps, Deputy Coroner, on the body of Thomas Musgrave, who was taken out of the Leeds and Liverpool canal, on the day previous. The deceased resided at Wortley until about a month ago, and removed from thence to Jack Lane, Hunslet; he

was a clothier by trade ; and on the evening of Saturday, the 7th instant, was with some companions at Miss Carke's, the Malt Shovel Inn, Springe, having left his own home about half-past five o'clock, but it is not known what time he left the public-house. He had only some copper when he left home, but received 10s. for his son's wages in the course of the evening ; he had made some trifling purchases, and had 9s. 4d. in his pocket when found, and the body was entirely free from any marks of violence.

SUDDEN DEATH.—On Wednesday night last, between ten and eleven o'clock, an old man named Robert Thompson, 64 years of age, residing on Quarry Hill, was found dead in his house. He resided with his son, who is deaf and dumb, and who had gone out about six the same evening, leaving his father then to all appearance in his usual health; but on returning he was unable to find him.

but on his return at the above hour, he was found seated on the bed, with his head resting on his hands, and quite dead. An inquest will be held this day, when it is expected an interpreter will have to be sworn to give the young man's evidence. The deceased, we understand, has been in a weak state of health for some time.

WEST RIDING SESSIONS.—The Intermediate Sessions for the West Riding will be held at Sheffield, on Monday, the 27th February; and at Watfield, on Tuesday, the 28th. The sessions will be held along

on Thursday, the 2nd of March, for the trial of Lewins and misdemeanants.

LOCAL MARKETS.

LEEDS CORN MARKET, TUESDAY, JAN. 31.—The arrivals of Grain to this day's market, are larger than last week. There has been rather a better sale, prices sup-

demanded for fine wheat, and last week's prices were
 ported; the damp qualities are rather lower. Bar-
 ley, Oats, and Beans, have varied but little in
 price.

THE AVERAGE PRICES OF WHEAT, FOR THE WEEK
 ENDING JAN. 28, 1843.

Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.
2610	2181	526	—	263	0
					£ s. d.

LEEDS WOOLLEN MARKETS.—There has been again very little business done at either Saturday or Tuesday's market. There is, in fact no demand for goods at all, except for very low-priced heavy qualities. The wool market is also void of the slightest activity.

YORK CORN MARKET, SATURDAY, JAN. 28.—There is a tolerable supply of Grain to-day. Wheat is dull sale, but we cannot quote a decline of more than 1s

quar, but we would quote 2s per quarter cheaper. Barley is also 1s per quarter cheaper. Malt, and 2s for inferior samples. Oats 1d to 3d per stone cheaper, and in fair demand at this reduction. Beans as before.

MALTON CORN MARKET, SATURDAY, JAN. 23.—We have only a thin attendance of farmers to this day's market. Wheat is in fair demand, at a reduction of 1s to 2s per qr. Barley is 1s per qr. lower; and Oats rather cheaper. Wheat, red, 46s to 48s per qr. of 40 stones. Digo, white 50s to 52s per qr. of 40.

Barley 22s to 47s per qr. of 33 stones. Oats 10s 8³d per stone.

SKIPTON CATTLE MARKET, MONDAY, JAN. 30.—We had a good show of well-fed fat Beasts, but that of Sheep was short; and although there was no want of customers, yet the market was heavy, and prices were lower. Beef, 5³d to 6d; Mutton, 4d to 5d per lb.

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No. 5, Market-street, and the said Nos. 12 and 13, Market-street, Briggate, thus constituting the whole of the said Printing and Publishing Office on one Premise.

All Communications must be addressed, Post-paid, to Mr. HOBSON, Northern Star Office, Leeds.

(Saturday, February 4, 1843.