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## LANCASTER ASSIZES.

(Continued from our second page.)

lines have any for nothing—(laughter). I have written in the book as I should have written in any other book, but not with the intention of giving evidence. Leach was an inhabitant of Hyde, and I paid more attention to his speeches than those of any other party, because I knew him better than any of the others. I know that Leach was a staunch advocate of the Charter, and a strenuous opponent of the Anti-Corn Law League. Mr. O'Connor—Then you have confined all the alterations you have made in the book to the Charter?

The Attorney-General—Don't let it be said that we have made wholesale alterations. I observe in one place there is the word "not" omitted.

Mr. Dundas—There are several other alterations and not of a very trifling nature.

By George Johnson, defendant—I am not aware that many districts have been made by the inhabitants of Hyde, during the last eighteen months, or what has been the increase in the number of papers there. The Poor Law Guardians make the Stockport, and not at Hyde, and therefore I know nothing about the facts. Stockport is out of my division.

By William Pilling, defendant—I don't know that one factory labourer in Hyde is now doing the work of three men. I don't know what you mean by the "coupling of jennies" for I never was in a factory more than three times in my life.

Defendant—Then you don't know what you ought to know—(laughter). Mr. Dundas called the attention of the Court to the alterations which appeared in the book of the witness, and especially to one part of it where in speaking of one of the speeches made by Leach, the words "they should do as was done in the case of King John, the people went to the King in a large body, and demanded 'Magna Charta,' and it was granted; and he (Leach) would recommend the people to keep out of work, and the Charter would become the law of the land." I know that after the general body of the report had been written.

The Attorney-General objected to the course of proceedings on the ground that his Learned Friends who appeared for some of the defendants, were making upon any cross-examination, and that the book which had not been given in evidence, if they would consent to put the book before the Jury, as evidence, he should not object to the examination.

Mr. Dundas did not see that he was bound to offer the book in evidence.

The Judge said that Mr. Dundas had a right to show, if he could, the insertion of any fraudulent matter in the book, because that would go far to impugn the general evidence of the witness. It was then agreed that the book should be put in evidence, and Mr. Dundas proceeded with his cross-examination.

The witness, on being called upon to explain the reason of the addition to the speech, said that he had been asked to examine the book, and that he had been asked to submit them to the Magistrates; and he distinctly remembered that on looking at the one made by Leach, he made the addition pointed out.

The Judge—When you did make any additions, were they, to the best of your belief, in strict conformity with their truth?

Witness—They were, my Lord.

Mr. O'Connor—I find, on further looking at this book, that from the commencement of the period at which the witness as Special High Constable of Hyde, began to make his reports to the Magistrates, to the end of the transactions, of which he has been speaking, not a single alteration occurred; but since then, they were numerous.

The Judge—But that is merely an observation.

Mr. O'Connor—I would go far, my Lord, to prove that the entries in the book have been taken from notes, which are not before the Court.

The Attorney-General asked his Lordship whether he intended to take any further witnesses to-day?

His Lordship replied that he would sit till seven o'clock.

A conversation ensued between the Attorney-General and Mr. O'Connor, the result of which was that Sir Frederick Pollock, who had been requested on the part of the defendants to ask that the Court might be adjourned to the 15th of August, had been asked to do so, and that the application was merely with reference to the convenience of the first day, he consented to the adjournment, intimating that he should sit late the following day.

The Court rose precisely at six o'clock.

## THURSDAY—SECOND DAY.

His Lordship took his seat at nine o'clock, immediately on which

Mr. O'Connor rose and said—My Lord, as several witnesses have already been examined, I beg to renew my application that they may be requested to retire. I observe the Right Hon. Secretary of State for the Home Department, Sir James Graham, on the bench, and I make an exception in his case.

The Judge—Have the other defendants any wish that Sir James Graham should retire from the Court?

Mr. O'Connor—I can answer for them, my Lord; most all.

The Attorney-General—The penalty for remaining in Court after a witness has been ordered to retire, is punishment by the Court, and not exclusion from giving evidence.

The Judge—It is contempt of Court.

The following evidence was then proceeded with: Joseph Sadler—I am a police officer at Stockport. I was at that place on the 11th of August last, I remember between 20,000 and 30,000 persons coming there. They came from Hyde, and from Ashton and Hyde. They were armed with bludgeons and sticks. When I first saw them, they were mixing a great noise, but nothing else at that time. I went to the Court House, and gave information to the Magistrates. We had military in Stockport; part of them were stationed at the Court House, part in the Market-place, and some of the yeomanry in their different quarters. The number of the multitude varied, and in consequence of the large numbers, we had to be on our guard. The shops were turned out, and the works stopped. I went to the Union workhouse, with the authorities. On getting there, I saw a number of persons coming from the workhouse, having leaves of bread with them. We had a number of persons in the workhouse, and others outside. Three or four persons applied at the lodge of the workhouse, to have an interview with the Magistrates. The name of one of them was John Wright, and he said that they were all from Hyde. I saw him afterwards, during the interview with the Magistrates, but I don't remember ever seeing him before. I believe his name was John Leach, and I heard that he came from Hyde. I do not know that I could identify him again.

Mr. Dundas objected to the question and answer. The witness believed that the name of the party was John Leach, but that did not at all identify him with respect to any other transactions.

The Attorney-General—There was evidence that was sufficient to go before the Jury to prove the identity of the defendant. He would call their attention to the fact that the defendant was well known in the neighbourhood of Ashton and Hyde, and in the course of his speech he admitted that he had been at Stockport, and that, he (the Attorney-General) held to be sufficient.

Mr. Dundas submitted that until they had examined the whole of the John Leach's evidence, he (the Attorney-General) should not have advanced one step to show that this was the John Leach in question.

The Judge—The objection is not made by John Leach, but by others.

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The Judge—I think there is sufficient proof to proceed with the evidence.

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By Mr. Dundas—Stockport is seven miles from Manchester, and five from Hyde. I am not aware that the Riot Act was read there.

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By Mr. Dundas—There was a great rush on the premises, and such a crowd would be likely to do damage. The number of paupers in the workhouse had increased at that time. The mob did not injure me personally, but I was in great doubt about it. The Attorney-General asked his Lordship whether he intended to take any further witnesses to-day?

His Lordship replied that he would sit till seven o'clock.

A conversation ensued between the Attorney-General and Mr. O'Connor, the result of which was that Sir Frederick Pollock, who had been requested on the part of the defendants to ask that the Court might be adjourned to the 15th of August, had been asked to do so, and that the application was merely with reference to the convenience of the first day, he consented to the adjournment, intimating that he should sit late the following day.

The Court rose precisely at six o'clock.

His Lordship took his seat at nine o'clock, immediately on which

Mr. O'Connor rose and said—My Lord, as several witnesses have already been examined, I beg to renew my application that they may be requested to retire. I observe the Right Hon. Secretary of State for the Home Department, Sir James Graham, on the bench, and I make an exception in his case.

The Judge—Have the other defendants any wish that Sir James Graham should retire from the Court?

Mr. O'Connor—I can answer for them, my Lord; most all.

The Attorney-General—The penalty for remaining in Court after a witness has been ordered to retire, is punishment by the Court, and not exclusion from giving evidence.

The Judge—It is contempt of Court.

The following evidence was then proceeded with: Joseph Sadler—I am a police officer at Stockport. I was at that place on the 11th of August last, I remember between 20,000 and 30,000 persons coming there. They came from Hyde, and from Ashton and Hyde. They were armed with bludgeons and sticks. When I first saw them, they were mixing a great noise, but nothing else at that time. I went to the Court House, and gave information to the Magistrates. We had military in Stockport; part of them were stationed at the Court House, part in the Market-place, and some of the yeomanry in their different quarters. The number of the multitude varied, and in consequence of the large numbers, we had to be on our guard. The shops were turned out, and the works stopped. I went to the Union workhouse, with the authorities. On getting there, I saw a number of persons coming from the workhouse, having leaves of bread with them. We had a number of persons in the workhouse, and others outside. Three or four persons applied at the lodge of the workhouse, to have an interview with the Magistrates. The name of one of them was John Wright, and he said that they were all from Hyde. I saw him afterwards, during the interview with the Magistrates, but I don't remember ever seeing him before. I believe his name was John Leach, and I heard that he came from Hyde. I do not know that I could identify him again.

Mr. Dundas objected to the question and answer. The witness believed that the name of the party was John Leach, but that did not at all identify him with respect to any other transactions.

The Attorney-General—There was evidence that was sufficient to go before the Jury to prove the identity of the defendant. He would call their attention to the fact that the defendant was well known in the neighbourhood of Ashton and Hyde, and in the course of his speech he admitted that he had been at Stockport, and that, he (the Attorney-General) held to be sufficient.

Mr. Dundas submitted that until they had examined the whole of the John Leach's evidence, he (the Attorney-General) should not have advanced one step to show that this was the John Leach in question.

The Judge—The objection is not made by John Leach, but by others.

Mr. O'Connor—I beg to remind your Lordship, that the witness says he does not think he could identify the defendant again, and that, I think, is a good objection to the proof of identity.



## NOTICE.

Many articles of news and several communications are unavoidably shut out this week. A glance at the matter we have given will show the reason why.

On Monday next, the 13th instant, Mr. Roberts, Solicitor to the Charities, will address the people of Manchester, at the Carpenter's Hall, at eight o'clock, when he will give an account of the proceedings at Lancaster connected with the Charities. Admission One Penny, to go to the Defence Fund.

## THE NORTHERN STAR.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1843.

## THE TRIAL.

We can but call attention to the continuation of our report of this most important proceeding. We have given all respecting it we could procure up to the latest moment of going to press. The DEFENCE, it will be seen, was entered upon, and the trial was expected to close about noon on Thursday. In succeeding Editions we shall give the proceedings up to the end.

It is impossible to particularize remarkable incidents in connection with this trial at present. The state of our columns alone forbids it. There is much, however, to be said upon the whole matter, both generally and particularly. To say this, occasions must be embraced as they present themselves. A LESSON, NEVER TO BE FORGOTTEN, MUST BE TAKEN FROM IT. It is the last proceeding of the sort that we must have in connection with the Charities cause! Whatever may be the result of the Jury's finding, we must endeavour in future to conduct our exertions for the attainment of right, as to preclude the possibility of the leaders of the people having again to stand at the bar, to answer such charges as circumstances have this time enabled the ATTORNEY-GENERAL to frame against them.

This can be done. This must be done. It is truly lamentable to see the exertions, and time, and money, of the poor workers employed in aid of such purposes, as we sometimes have seen them put to. We must have no more of it!

The knowledge we have gained by the past will enable us to direct our efforts in the future, as to produce to us manifest proof of their utility. No more outbreaks! No more secret plottings! No more strikes! No more putting ourselves between the fangs of the Attorney-General! No more indictments! But plenty more of peaceful and firm agitation! Plenty more of operating on public opinion! Plenty more of uniting the working people in a strong and firm union to resist the onward progress of oppression, and introduce the reign of right. Plenty more of efforts to obtain some portion of this land, to show the world what we can do with political power when we possess it! Plenty more of these things; but all within the law!

In the accomplishment of these objects, we can have the direct action of LAW, if we choose to avail ourselves of it. The time has come when this can be, and must be done. We live in a world of progress; and the mind that has been evolved by the previous applications of our energies will guide our steps to a far advanced position.

We have just seen a gentleman who has returned from Lancaster. He brings news of a confident hope generally entertained of a verdict of acquittal. The effect of the speeches in defence upon the spectators in court has been most striking. During the address of PHILLIPS, when telling of his sufferings, almost every eye was suffused with tears. The Jury and the Bar were sensibly affected. He boldly and fervently told them, if another reduction in his wages was attempted he would resist it! He would sooner take his life with his own hand than submit to another reduction! Potatoes and salt were all that he could at present procure, even though he himself, and his wife, and his children, were all in full work! Less than potatoes and salt he would not put up with.

Just before going to press we received a private note from one of the defendants, who had addressed the Jury, enclosing some slips of his address, for publication. In it he says as follows. We give it, because it is the latest news we have:—

"O'Connor made a splendid defence—spoke two hours and a quarter. Defence concluded shortly after mid-day. We have had the reply of the Attorney-General. To-morrow the Judge sums up; and then for the Verdict!"

## FACTORY LABOUR.

In the Northern Star of last week we gave an epitome of a debate in "the House," consequent on the introduction of a motion by Lord ASHLEY for "an humble address to her Majesty praying that her Majesty will be graciously pleased to take into instant and serious consideration the best means of diffusing the benefits and blessings of a moral and religious education amongst the working classes of her people," which motion was passed unanimously, and acquiesced in by Sir JAMES GRAHAM and Sir ROBERT PEEL on the part of the Government, and supported by Lord JOHN RUSSELL and other members of "her Majesty's Opposition."

This motion was mainly founded on the Second Report of the "CHILDREN'S EMPLOYMENT COMMISSIONER" just presented to Parliament; which is a valuable and imperishable record of the injuries done to the working classes, and the fearful state of physical and moral destitution prevailing amongst the children of the poor. The revelations made in this Report, as to their condition in both these respects, are horribly appalling, and almost incredible. Think, however, the record stands; and it tells the fate of the present system! It is impossible that it can much longer be sustained.

From time to time we shall give copious extracts from this Report, accompanied by such observations as we may deem needful to make the matter of it familiar to the minds of the class for whom we care. It is a powerful lever placed within their reach; and it can and must be used to the overthrowing, the toppling over, of that course of selfish oppression and wicked misrule which has produced the awful state of sin and suffering so truly and so fully described.

During the course of the debate on Lord ASHLEY's motion, Sir JAMES GRAHAM detailed, at some length, a scheme which the Government have matured, for educating the children of the poor; and, amongst other things, he announced that "A New Bill for the Regulation of the Employment of Children and Young Persons in Factories," would shortly be introduced.

On Tuesday night last, the Home Secretary moved for leave to bring in such Bill; and as he then detailed the main of the alterations Government intend to make in the present Act, we give, in this place, what occurred on the occasion, feeling that the subject is one which intimately concerns the working people in the manufacturing districts. It will be seen that several of the projected alterations are vastly important to the workers in factories; and that they tend to the preservation of life and limb. The contemplated power, to cause the dangerous portions of the machinery to be boxed off, and to prohibit the cleaning of machinery while it is running, will be a valuable protection to the sentient beings required to watch the operations of the "miserable" machinery, should it be obtained; while the regulations respecting meal-times and making up of lost time, will, if only made efficient, prevent the practising of much imposition and much oppression.

It is also contemplated, as will be seen, to further reduce the hours of labour for the children in mills, from eight hours to six-and-a-half. This is a great step; especially when coupled with the proviso that such children must attend a properly conducted school during the other portion

of the day, to qualify them to enter the factory as well. The children will thus have some chance of obtaining the rudiments of common knowledge at least; and not be subjected, as they have hitherto been, to the eternal din, and noise, and stench of the factory, without intermission or respite. It is true that the present Factory Act protects "children" from being worked more than eight hours a-day; and that it directs that they shall attend school; but its provisions have not been efficient for the purpose. They have been continually broken or evaded. "The school" has, in many instances, been the "fire-hole," and the "schoolmaster" the "fire-ur!" This has been found to be the case, and reported to be so by the Factory Inspectors themselves. In the very last Report made by Mr. SAUNDERS, bearing date January 25th, 1843, we find the following description of the sort of "education" provided by the "Forty Thieves of Pudsey" for the children employed in creating wealth. And this is a sample of what has occurred in by far too many places. Let the fact be made known for the benefit of the Pudsey "partners" in guilt, who could not "tho!" ten shillings for school books for the use of those who were making them hundreds of pounds! Here is the account as reported by Dr. BAKER, the Superintendent of Factories, to his Inspector, Mr. SAUNDERS; and by Mr. SAUNDERS reported to Sir JAMES GRAHAM, the HOME SECRETARY; and by us reported to the working people, for the benefit of the poor in general, and for the benefit of the "Forty Thieves of Pudsey" in particular. Here it is:—

"In Pudsey, which is a woollen district, great numbers of very young children are employed; the inhabitants are poor, and education is at a very low ebb. I may give you an instance of this. At the Priestley mill, where there are about forty partners, forty-five children are employed who come under the education clauses. On one of my recent visits, I found the book-keeper was the schoolmaster, and the books, pieces of an old newspaper torn ad libitum into sections of about three inches in diameter. On remonstrating with this man on this improper and tasteless conduct, he said, 'I had no power to amend what his masters ordered'; and my offer to procure for this company a set of elementary books for the small sum of 10s. has been as completely disregarded."

The shortening of the hours of labour by the present act, added to the wages of the children employed. The shortening of the hours of labour by the contemplated act will have another similar effect.

Another alteration announced we cannot commend. We mean the proposal to lower the age at which children may enter the factory from nine to eight. This is to be regretted. It would have been much better to have entirely prohibited the employment of children and females altogether; not allowing even a male to enter a factory until he was fourteen. This would have necessarily called into play a great amount of unemployed idle male labour, which has been superseded by the cheaper labour of children and females. If society was, what it ought to be, it would take care that none of its members should be put to work, until their physical capabilities were fully developed; for society is deeply interested in preventing the deterioration of the species, which must be the consequence if unformed beings are set to perform operations for which they are not physically fitted. All the work that a child or youth should perform before the age of fourteen, should be only such as is needful for educational purposes; the males taught the rudiments of agriculture and horticulture, by easy exercises during school hours; and the females the use of the needle and the scissors, with proper instruction, under the mother's eye, in all the domestic cares and duties of a household. This is what every child born amongst us has a right to expect at the hands of society possessing such means of producing wealth as we possess; and when we have learned how to devise common sense arrangements to equitably distribute the wealth we can so profusely create, this, and much more, will be the portion of every child. It is not monstrous, that one of the effects of an increase in our means to produce the good things of life, should have been the infliction of additional toil and labour upon mere children, while the father is forced to walk the streets idle, for want of employment!

What follows is the Report of the proceedings in "the House," when Sir JAMES GRAHAM moved for leave to bring in his New Factory Bill. It will be seen that several other important alterations, besides those enumerated, are in contemplation; particularly the extending of the provisions of the new measure to the children and young persons employed in the manufacture of lace, and in print works, as well as in silk factories. This of itself is highly important. Here is the report:—

"Sir J. Graham said, that after what had taken place the other evening, he thought it would be best that he should introduce the Bill of which he had given notice, for regulating the employment of children and young persons in factories, and for the better education of children in factory districts. The measure he proposed rested mainly on the report of the Commission, which was read last week, and on the subject of this subject. The report stated the defects and omissions of the existing law; and his object was to supply the defects and omissions in the law which the Commission had pointed out. The Commission, in fact, was at present, limited from nine to thirteen, and the hours of labour were limited to eight per day. He proposed to reduce the number of hours from eight to six and a half; and he also proposed that the age of children should be raised from six to eight, and that children should not be taken place either in the forenoon or in the afternoon, and not partly in the one and partly in the other. He was disposed to believe that the lowest age for children should be raised from six to eight, and that a child from eight to thirteen might work from six and a half to eight hours either in the forenoon or in the afternoon wholly, and not in both. The Committee had recommended that the education of children should be altered from eighteen to twenty-one. Young persons should not be permitted to work more than twelve hours a day. He proposed to alter the age of females; in the case of males coming under the denomination of persons he did not propose to make any alteration. There were several minor alterations with respect to meal-times. The regulations for dinner contemplated at the least a space of one hour. He proposed to limit the hours of making up of lost time to nine, so that persons would be worked twelve hours on other days, and nine hours on Saturdays. From the report of the Commission it appeared that objections were made to the education clause, which was made up. He proposed to limit those modes of making up lost time to those factories where water labour is used. He proposed to give the inspectors power to select qualified surgeons to attend the several mills in each district, and to report upon their condition at stated times. He reported to accidents arising from machinery, he intended to provide against them by making it compulsory on the owners to guard every dangerous portion of the machinery in their possession from the possibility of any injury to any of their persons in the employment; and he also intended to prohibit the cleaning of machinery while it was in motion; for these various purposes clauses would be introduced in the Bill making it compulsory upon millowners to act in conformity with his regulations. Such a Bill must, of course, contain several penalties; besides, it was intended to introduce as many as possible of the alterations recommended by the Committee. He should not now enter at large into the education clauses, for it would be unnecessary for him to restate what he had said upon former occasions, but he hoped that the whole measure would give general satisfaction. Thus much, however, he should say with respect to the education clauses, that he trusted the effect of the measure would greatly increase the number of children receiving the benefits of education. The Bill would include within the scope of its operation all children employed in silk factories, and he hoped still further by a separate Bill brought in with the sanction of her Majesty's Government to include the lace factories and the children engaged in printing, thus comprehending all the children employed in all the great branches of our manufactures. There was one omission in the Bill which he begged to point out; it was that in all the manufacturing districts the employment of any parents, whether those children were employed in factories or not should have the benefit of the education clauses. 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the first place, that the Attorney-General is not to be taken as acting in behalf of the subject, but in his private character at the suit of the Crown, and in it is not competent for him to do so. *Th* Attorney-General, therefore, may enter the *not* *prosequi*, in the defence of the defendant just as if he had no *verdict* rendered. What I would suggest, however, is, instead of entering a *not* *prosequi*, you should take *judgment* of the Court at all times upon such cases, and, be essential to the interests of *the* other that this party should be acquitted.

Attorney-General—I will take your recommendation.

Lord.—

Attorney-General—I believe the rule is, that a co-defendant cannot be acquitted till the end of the trial.

Attorney-General—I hold that no co-defendant can be heard at a point.

Conger.—The ground on which the Attorney-General consented to the acquittal of the defendant was, that he had nothing against him. Now, the case of Cartledge, he has something against



Continued from our Sixth page

"I was one of the parties who were to have been tried at the special commission there. I traversed my trial. The magistrates demanded high bail, two minutes to me a few days before the last special commission in October, that I should be wanted here as a witness. That intimation was made to me by Mr. Irwin, inspector of police, at Manchester. I had not made my communication to him that I was ready to make solemnly swear. The intimation was made to me by Mr. Griffin, the reporter. He was a very intimate friend of mine, but I rejected his offer with scorn. Griffin referred to the dangerous situation I was placed in by that placard. There was nothing said about getting a reward. I was not asked to come in coming to me. He came to me while I was in the lock-up at Manchester, and asked me to become Queen's man and traitor, the treachery of the Chartists, the branding of me as a traitor, and inculcating my wife, was what made me turn Queen's evidence. I saw no other course! When I was deserted by my own party, but to throw myself on the clemency of the Court and to tell all I knew. The name of Griffin was never mentioned during the consultations favourable to Irwin. Griffin knows my hand-writing. I have written placards professing to come from the Chartists. One was to petition for the life of John Frost. I will swear that the manuscript of the Executive placard was not in my hand-writing. I did not write that the corrections in it were not in my hand-writing. I saw Griffin at Eyde on the day I was committed by the Magistrates. I had no conversation with him on that day. I did not suppose that any of the resolutions proposed at the delegate meeting were illegal. The principal understanding in passing them was to induce the people to adopt the "People's Charter."

By Mr. McQuibb—I believe the reason why Mr. Schofield told me to send away the men, who were set upon some steps opposite to his house, was to keep the Chartists from coming as possible. I was a delegate myself from Aylesley. I can't say whether any other reporter than Griffin would have been admitted.

By Mr. O'Connor—When did you come to Lancaster?

On Tuesday.

When did you come with?

With Mr. Irwin and Mr. Griffin.

How did you come?

By the rail way.

By the third class?

Second class?

No.

First class?

Yes—(laughter).

Did you wear your working jacket that you have on?

It is.

Have you no better jacket?

No.

Will you swear that?

Yes.

Have you got a fancy waistcoat?

I believe I have got a better waistcoat than this.

What did you give for it?

Three shillings.

Did you give £1 15s for any thing?

No.

Where did you buy the waistcoat?

At a shop.

Where?

In Manchester.

Whose shop?

I don't know.

Will you swear that?

Yes.

Did you pay for it?

I believe I did.

But you are not sure?

No—(laughter)—Either me or my wife paid for it, it is paid for.

Did you know Mrs. Knowles?

I do.

Did you order a coat and waistcoat of her?

Yes.

When?

A few weeks since.

When did you get the coat?

About a fortnight ago.

Did you pay for it?

I don't know, and consequently it is not mine.

Did you give any notice of your intention to leave your lodgings, or you left them in a hurry?

I left them in a hurry—(laughter). When I got the coat and waistcoat, I got them for the express purpose of bringing me to bring me here. (A suppressed hiss here arose in the body of the court.)

Did you pay for your seat in the railway carriage?

Yes.

Did you pledge the coat and waistcoat?

I don't know my wife's.

What was got for them on pawn?

I don't know.

You never heard?

No.

Even your oath?

Never.

How soon after you got the things from Mrs. Knowles did you leave your lodgings?

I don't know. I left my wife there.

In what district is she called purveyor and secretary to a district co-operative store?

Yes.

For what district?

Lancaster.

In what district of Manchester?

Ancoats.

Did you fill any post of distinction in the Brown-street district?

I did.

Were you purveyor to the association?

Yes.

And secretary?

No.

Did you settle accounts?

So far as I was concerned, I did.

Was there a balance in your favour?

No.

Was it all the other way?

No, I don't understand the nature of the question—(laughter).

Was the balance against you?

No, not when explained.

Do they charge you with owing the money?

I believe not.

Then why wants explaining?

I had the selling of *Northern Stars*, the profits of which were to go to the association. They did so, but certain parties ran into debt. A fresh committee came into office, and now they say I must be amenable for the debt of other parties, and they lodge that to my account.

How much do you owe?

I don't owe any thing.

With respect to the Co-operative Stores. Do you owe any thing there?

I don't know how the matter stands.

Do you owe money?

No.

Then, do they owe you money?

No.

Then you don't know how it stands?

No. (Much laughter).

You say that the Chartists behaved badly to your wife when you were at Chester?

Yes.

Did she go to Chester?

Yes.

Who sent her there?

The Chartists.

Did they give her money?

Yes.

Then, it was at Chester that you first concurred in the intention of coming here to give evidence?

It was.

And it was in consequence of the bad treatment of the Chartists to your wife that you came?

It is.

Did you consider it bad treatment to have your wife sent to Chester?

I did—(Great laughter).

I think you stated, in answer to the Attorney-General, that on the 14th of August you were a Chartist?

Yes.

How soon after did you read your recantation?

I have not read it.

Are you still a Chartist?

I still approve of the principles of the People's Charter.

Are you still a Chartist?

Yes.

Are you for Annual Parliaments?

I am.

Are you for Universal Suffrage?

I am.

Are you for Vote by Ballot?

I am.

Are you for equal electoral districts?

I am.

Are you for no property qualification for members of Parliament?

I am.

And are you for payment of members for their services?

I am.

Then you are a good Chartist—(much laughter, and an attempt at cheering in the body of the court, which was instantly checked).

The witness stated that it was in consequence of the great danger you were represented to be in from the placard of the Executive Committee, which induced you to come here?

Yes, for other protections.

Will you swear that the corrections in that placard are not in your hand-writing?

I will.

When you went to the meeting of delegates, was there any instruction offered?

None whatever.

No one knew who were delegates until their credentials were produced?

None whatever.

Did you know that the delegates about to assemble in Manchester, were elected two months before the time fixed to commemorate the erection of the monument to Mr. Hunt?

I believe that some of them were.  
 When were they elected?  
 On the night of the 16th.  
 Now, Sir, for what purpose was the delegate meeting to take place? Was it not to examine the Chartist organization to see if there was anything requiring alteration, and to heal the difference that existed between some parts of the Chartist body?  
 That was what I understood to be the object of the meeting.  
 I believe you have the honour of being an active member of the Chartist body?  
 I did.  
 Did you fill the office of Secretary to the South Lancashire delegates?  
 I did.  
 How long did you officiate?  
 More than two years.  
 During that time, I believe, many spirited publications came from your pen?  
 Some addresses did.  
 Did any come from your pen that were refused publication?  
 Not to my knowledge.  
 Will you swear that?  
 Will.  
 Have you sent any addresses for insertion in the *Northern Star*?  
 I have sent some.  
 Have you complained of the non-insertion of some of them?  
 Not to my knowledge.  
 Don't fence with question, Sir. Have you complained, whether or not?  
 I believe I have.  
 Are you aware that while the Conference was sitting at Manchester, a deputation came from the trades to ask for admission?  
 I am.  
 Are you aware that the Conference refuse to receive the deputation because it was illegal?  
 I have.  
 Are you aware that it was distinctly said that if they wished to constitute a part of the audience, they, or any body else might remain if they chose?  
 I am.  
 Now, Sir, we have tested that you are a good sound Chartist. (Laughter.) During the last two years how many Chartist meetings have you attended?  
 A great number.  
 Have you attended one hundred?  
 Perhaps I have.  
 Well, have you attended five hundred?  
 I think not.  
 Have you done your duty by attending every one within your reach?  
 I have.  
 Have you attended some meetings at personal inconvenience?  
 I have.  
 Now, Sir, I ask you, on your oath, wherever a resolution was made, at a public meeting of Chartists, whether it was not in substance, and nearly in words, the same as that passed at the Conference?  
 Nearly so.  
 Especially those words which relate to the peaceful struggle to obtain the Charter.  
 Yes.  
 You were a delegate from Moseley?  
 I was.  
 You attended the whole meetings of the Conference?  
 I attended that on the 17th of August.  
 On your oath, was there one word said at the Conference about the placard of the Executive Committee?  
 I have.  
 Nothing more than what was said with respect to Turner the printer.  
 Was it proposed to the Conference?  
 No.  
 We have heard something about a placard—"Run for gold, and the people to withdraw their money from the Trades' Delegates of Manchester."  
 I don't know from what source it emanated.  
 Don't you know that the Trades recommended a run for gold, and the people to withdraw their money from the trades?  
 I believe it came from M'Douall.  
 Are you aware that Griffin was reporter for the *Northern Star*?  
 I am.  
 Were you in friendly communication with Griffin?  
 I was.  
 Are you aware that as representing the Manchester district, he had a very good salary of £75 a-year—(laughter among the reporters).  
 I don't know what he had.  
 Are you not aware that he was very much annoyed at having lost that?  
 He was.  
 Now, was not Griffin discharged from his office as reporter of the *Northern Star* prior to the meeting of delegates?  
 Yes.  
 Now, I will ask you a question, and answer it honestly—on your oath, are you not aware that Griffin was paid not to rely on the accuracy of Griffin's reports, and that he did not wish to be misrepresented?  
 Not to my knowledge.  
 On your oath, did not M'Douall say, when he proposed that there should be no report of the speeches of the trades, that he did not wish to be misrepresented?  
 Not to my knowledge.  
 Did not you once tell Griffin to remain and take notes of what I said, after I had discharged him?  
 You did.  
 When did you first give over taking an active part after the meeting in August?  
 After I came from Chester.  
 Did you leave any publications?  
 Yes.  
 When?  
 Sometime intervening between my arrest and the time of the conference.  
 Did you issue an address on the 14th of September?  
 Not to my knowledge.  
 Was any address refused in the *Northern Star* about that time?  
 Did I know of.  
 Did you publish one in the *Evening Star*?  
 Tell me the time.  
 The 14th of September.  
 Yes.  
 What address refused insertion in the *Northern Star*?  
 The address bore my name.  
 Who first examined you?  
 Mr. Drake.  
 Where?  
 At Chester.  
 Were you then unwilling to come?  
 I was.  
 How soon after you had consented to Mr. Irwin that you came, did Mr. Drake examine you?  
 The next day.  
 How often have you been in Griffin's company, from that time to the present?  
 I have not been in his company till I started on this journey.  
 You distinctly swear that?  
 I do.  
 What did Mr. Drake or Mr. Irwin say to you, when he asked you to give this information?  
 They pointed out the difficulty and danger I was in, and at last I consented to give evidence.  
 On what condition?  
 Unconditionally.  
 Wholly unconditionally?  
 Yes.  
 How many of the persons who met at the Conference were unknown to you?  
 I can't say.  
 How many were perfect strangers?  
 Some of them were.  
 How many?  
 I don't know the number.  
 Was there a youth admitted?  
 Yes.  
 Now, Sir, you have attended hundreds of meetings. On your oath, and I ask you boldly, did you ever hear me express one word or a sentence at variance with the duty of a good subject?  
 Not to my knowledge.  
 That is, you did not hear me. Have you heard me complain, and complain loudly, of the misrepresentation that I had to encounter, and that there was no man in the country who had been so much misrepresented through the medium of the press as I had.  
 You have.  
 Have you not heard me in the most emphatic and convincing language that it was possible for a man to use, to urge me to endeavour to point out to the people the folly of violating the peace in any, the slightest respect?  
 You have.  
 Do you know a man of better character in the world than James Leach?  
 I do not.  
 How long have you known him?  
 Several years.  
 About what time was tranquillity restored in Manchester?  
 Very soon after the conference.  
 I will ask you, as an honest man, whether or no you think that the object of the Conference, and the tendency of the duty made, was to preserve the peace, and to keep the people out of violence?  
 I believe it was.  
 Now, Sir, I place before you a file of the *Evening Star*, of the 14th of September, 1842. Was the address of the South Lancashire delegates to their constituents written by you?  
 It was.  
 The file of the above newspaper was put in, and the office of the Court read from it the following address—  
 "THE ADDRESS OF THE SOUTH LANCASHIRE DELEGATES TO THEIR CONSTITUENTS, AND THE CHARTISTS GENERALLY.  
 "BROTHERS IN BONDAGE AND IN HOPE.—We conceive it to be our duty to address you at this critical juncture in the affairs of this class-ridden country. Since last we met on your behalf many have been the struggles in which you have had to engage in your different localities. Though the conflict is fearful, the contest is not doubtful when a united people rally

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No.  
You never spoke a word to Griffin or Irwin, did you?  
There might be something said.  
If so, I don't know.  
The principal conversation referred to the dangers in which I and Griffin were placed.  
Had that a powerful effect upon you?  
It had.  
Did you go and see your wife?  
No.  
Do you mean to say upon your oath that not one word was said about this trial except the "dangers" you were in during the whole time you were together?  
Were you told that you were relieved from considerable danger?  
I had no promise made to me whatever to that effect.  
Did any one tell you to say that you had no promise whatever?  
No.  
Have you lived in the house with Griffin since you came here?  
Did you eat beef steaks and onions together on Tuesday night?—(Laughter).  
Did you sup together?  
We did.  
Was there any conversation?  
No.  
Did you meet Irwin yesterday?  
Yes; I and Griffin.  
What was said?  
We said to know how the trial was going on.  
And nobody could tell you?  
No—a word.—(Laughter).  
Had you any conversation with Irwin before you came into Court to-day?  
Did any body tell you that the crown was falling to make out a case?—(Much laughter, in which the Attorney-General joined).  
Did you send your expenses in Lynn?  
I did not.  
Was it absolutely necessary for you to go there?  
I don't know.  
How did you go?  
By Mr. Irwin's address at his as Dr. M'Donnell.  
Does he keep a good house?  
I did not go to his house.  
Who paid your expenses to Lynn?  
Mr. Irwin.  
Was paid for your living there?  
Mr. Irwin.  
Who is paying for your living here?  
Mr. Irwin.  
How long is it since you have been at work?  
I have been partly at work ever since I came from Chester.  
What sort of work?  
Part of the time at my school, and part of the time with a dealer.  
How much have you earned since you left Chester?  
I can't say.  
What did your school make for you?  
Perhaps 6s. or 7s a week.  
Have you seen your examination?  
No.  
And you have had no conversation about this trial with Griffin, or Irwin, or Beswick, or any one?  
No.  
You may go.  
By Mr. Carnegy—I am aware that the object of the credentials being produced and read at the meeting of delegates was to show that the delegates had been legally and properly elected at public meeting.  
I said that I had seen the manuscript of the placard was in the hand-writing of Dr. M'Donnell. I have seen him write several times. I mean by the Chartists having insulted my wife, that in her presence, they called me a traitor. I did not hear any objection made to the reading of the placard at the meeting of delegates, as a reporter, on the ground of his reports being inaccurate. Dr. M'Donnell alluded to several other reports. I understood he was driving at Mr. Turner. He was reported for the *Northern Star*. Mr. Hill called the meeting again to his as Dr. M'Donnell said that himself and Griffin were the only reporters in the room, and that they might trust to his discretion not to publish anything that would prejudice the delegates.  
Witnesses.—Perhaps, my Lord, you will allow me to explain why I did not think it would be of any advantage to me for my wife to come to Chester?  
Judge.—Certainly.  
The witness said her to induce me to take my trial, instead of traversing. She attempted to persuade me to do so, but I would not.  
George Barlow, examined by Mr. Hildyard.—In the month of August last I was an apprentice to Mr. Turner. I said that I had seen the placard called the address of the "Executive Committee." I don't know who brought the manuscript. They said that if we could not make out the writing, we were to apply at Leach's. In the afternoon a person called to see a proof of the placard. I said that I had seen the manuscript of the placard. The proof was not ready. He requested it might be sent, when ready, to Noblett's house. The same person returned with the proof, with some corrections marked upon it. The proof now produced to the meeting of delegates was the same person again came to Mr. Turner's shop. He said he wanted a part of it taking out, as it might bring some trouble on them. My master told him it would be a great deal of trouble to take the matter out of the placard. He said that he had known I was coming, he would not have had either books or papers, with the bill posters were to have the whole of the bills, with the exception of fifty, which were to be sent to Noblett's.  
By Sergeant Murphy—I am quite certain that the witness brought the proof sheet, answered to the name of M'Donnell.  
Thomas Sutton, also an apprentice to Mr. Turner, gave similar evidence, and stated that when he took a proof sheet of the placard to the shop of Leach, a person called to see a proof of the placard. He said that he had seen the manuscript of it. The witness identified the proof sheet produced as that returned by M'Donnell.  
John Heap, examined by Mr. Pollock—I am constable. I looked at the placard at Brook school, schoolmaster, living there. I had a warrant to apprehend him on the 5th of September. I took him at his own house. I found some books and papers. (These were produced.) I told Mr. Brook what I had come about. After I had taken the books, he said that he had known I was coming, he would not have had either books or papers. I handed over the papers to Mr. Eastwood, solicitor, of Todmorden.  
By Mr. Dundas.—When I showed the warrant to Brook, he looked at it, and made no objection to the house being searched.  
Mr. Eastwood, solicitor, deposed to the fact of having received the books and papers alluded to from the preceding witness.  
Brook, schoolmaster, Hickenbury Clough, inspected the papers, and identified the writing to be that of Brook's. He also marked some passages in the books, which he said had been written by Brook.  
By Mr. Pollock.—I asked Mr. Brook to read with the defendant about seven years. He and I have written together. I have not seen any of his writing since last summer.  
By Mr. Atherton.—Do you conjointly with your professional schoolmaster, unite the trade of journeymen tailor?  
Witness (indignantly) why do you mean, Sir?—(laughter).  
Mr. Atherton.—Were you never a journeyman tailor, at Skelridge?  
Witness—I was never in Stalbridge in my life.—(The witness retired amid laughter).  
The witness was occupied in comparing the original manuscript found in Brook's possession with a fair copy sent by Mr. Eastwood, and another gentleman, who acted as the defendant's adviser. The orthography in the original was very imperfect, and much difficulty was experienced in deciphering the documents. The witness said that he was not sure of what was the feeling of the Chartists in several districts with which the defendant was acquainted. The papers were put in and read. They possess no interest.  
By Mr. Pollock.—I asked Mr. G. Lewis—I live at Egnington, near Todmorden. I remember being at a meeting held on the 18th of August, at a place called Basin Stone. Robert Brook, the defendant, was there. He made a speech, saying that he had been to a deputation at Manchester. He said that he had known I was coming, he would not have had either books or papers. I handed over the papers to Mr. Eastwood, solicitor, of Todmorden.  
By Mr. Dundas.—I was requested to go to the meeting by my brother, John Heap, constable. He told me to go and see if there was any disturbance, and if so, to let him know. I did not take any notes at the meeting, but I had a memorandum when I got to Todmorden.  
By Mr. O'Connor.—Brook is a lame man, and walks with a crutch.—(laughter).  
John Heap recalled, and examined by the Attorney-General—I got a copy of the original placard, now produced, at the address of the Executive Committee from a party who was posting them in Todmorden, on the day of the meeting.  
James Wilcox examined by the Attorney-General—I live at Ashton-under-Lyne. I remember a meeting of delegates at Ashton-under-Lyne, on the 1st or 2nd of August. I took some cards on to the Chartist news-room, at Charlestown. I found the room divided by means of pack-stowing. There were a number of persons there. I knew one of the Chartists, Todmorden, who was acting as chairman. They were talking about the heading of a placard. He said it should be headed "The reckoning day is nigh." I saw

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