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GLORIOUS NEWS.

FIVE HUNDRED ACRES,

one rood and nine perches—three hundred and thirty-six of meadow land—purchased for the working classes, together with all the timber upon the estate, and a splendid baronial hall with the appurtenances thereunto belonging. This is the way that Lord John Russell should feed the starving Irish people.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CHARTIST CO-OPERATIVE LAND COMPANY.

My dear friends,—The term, "This is the proudest day of my life," has become so hacknied, some people using it on the occasion of being appointed bottle-holder to a pugilist, that I fear to use it, even upon great occasions; however, I think I may truly say that I had a good right to feel proud on Tuesday last. I drove twelve miles in an open gig, in the snow, and walked through the snow over some hundred acres of land, and, as you will see by an announcement elsewhere made, I purchased FIVE HUNDRED ACRES, ONE ROOD, AND NINE PERCHES; with all the Timber, and two Pews in the Parish Church; and all in a ring fence, and in the loveliest valley in the world, under the admired Malvern Hills, almost bounded by their base, and within less than two miles of the fashionable town of Great Malvern, four from the market town of Ledbury, and eight from the city of Worcester, and within ten of Lowbands and Redmarley; and with a lovely clear stream running through it; three hundred and twenty acres of it meadow land; and in the centre of all kinds of building materials; the finest sand in the centre, and lime, stone and gravel within three-quarters of a mile. It was the seat of a kind-hearted gentleman, and was sold to pay debts; and I assure you, it grieved me to see a mansion in which I could scarcely count the rooms—a magnificent baronial seat—with racing stables, hunting stables, harness rooms, coach houses, brewing houses, and a perfect village of out-buildings, estranged from its proprietor; while the novel purpose to which it is now to be appropriated, gave rise to very serious and grand reflections, in which I feel assured, you, working men, will fully and generously participate. I thought, how odd, that, while responsible governors were addling their brains about your concerns, and were well paid for making a mystery of simple matters, and questions easy of solution, that an outcast, and one thought deserving of felon's fare and solitary confinement should be traversing the estates of the NEGLIGENT wealthy—up to his knees in snow, to purchase them with the aggregate pence of the IMPROVIDENT POOR, as you are whimsically called. Ah, my friends, I knew that when there was a premium, or even an inducement, for economy and frugality, that your vices would speedily fly before your virtues. I thought how odd that the leveller and destroyer should be engaged in repairing the follies of his own order, with no other materials than the combined power of his mad followers, and by their united exertions that we should be enabled to restore beauty and productiveness to the exhausted estates of the loyal and the honoured, the distinguished and privileged classes; bad trustees, methinks, of your affairs when they are unequal to the task of taking care of their own. I thought of the novelty of building 170 cottages, for husbandmen upon the ruins of one section of a Squire's dilapidated estate; I thought of the oddity of the heartless monopolist increasing the marketable BREAD STUFFS from the rude produce of about fifteen hired slaves to the produce after consumption, of about 300 free labourers and their families; and I thought of John Bright and the Whistler, as Mr. Cullingham and I were trudging through the snow, and I thought how natural that such an ANTI-MONOPOLIST should hire such an ANTI-CHRISTIAN dog to bark at all who dared approach the gate of the FREE LABOUR MART. And whilst the snow was above me and below me I thought more, I thought how FOOLISH, WEAK, and FUTILE would now be all the machinations of the wily to resist the growing desire of the dependent poor to labour honourably for themselves, without being pensioners upon the charity of the upholders, forestallers, monopolists, and regraters of their produce. I further thought what a heavenly sight 170 men and their children would be on a May morning, for the poor COLD WATER patients who come to Great Malvern to restore health, which might have been preserved by industry and frugality. A new drive has been made for invalids just over the estate, and commanding a full view of it, and think what a scene for them to contemplate as they loll their aching heads through the carriage windows. Think of your pride, when on Sundays you go into your own pews and pray with the parson, not for charity, but that God may preserve the fruits of the earth to OUR kindly use, so as in due time YOU may enjoy them. Then think of the candidate for your suffrages, riding from Lowbands to Malvern, to canvass your independent votes, not faggot ones, but real ones; and think of the grasp HE'LL THEN give your hand, and how he'll kiss your children, and praise the ECONOMY of your wife, and call you his RESPECTED FRIENDS, and how he'll CONDESCEND to taste your CHEESE, and eat your FRUIT, if it is summer season, or your dumplings, if it is winter, and how he'll pledge his UNSULLIED HONOUR, to represent YOUR every interest in Parliament, if he shall be fortunate enough to be the choice of such a constituency, and how he'll fork out £500 for books in a public building. However, my friends, my mind was filled with the grandest thoughts, for I love men and women and children, especially children; I can spend a happy day with five or six infants, and they always love me better than father or mother. I returned home at half-past two on Wednesday morning, after seventeen hours and a half, and I had no grog, but a cup of tea; read 11 letters from 3 and 4 acre allottees, all satisfied with 3 rooms and outhouses, and I slept like a top, after I thought of the pleasure the announcement would give you. Now to particulars; honest men need no secrecy. We get possession of the whole at Michaelmas next, and for the whole—timber and materials, all of which are money to us, but of no value to the common farmer, I gave £20,000; so that you will see I have no great chance of GOING TO AMERICA with a very large sum during this year. I shall be finished here, and the occupants located, long before Michaelmas, and when done here, all the carpenter's work can be going on just the same as if we had possession and ready for use when we get it. I never, in my most sanguine moments, anticipated getting such situations as Herringsgate, Lowbands, and Malvern, and especially the latter, which people come one hundred miles to see. You may rest assured, my friends, that I am not indifferent to the great responsibility I have imposed upon myself, nor blind to the watchfulness, caution and prudence requisite for carrying out such a gigantic national scheme. In fact, I now never bestow a thought on my own affairs; they are of insignificant importance when compared with the success of the LAND PLAN, and there are many, very many, great improvements yet to be made, and of which all must have the benefit, whether located or not; and, firstly in importance, comes the question of outbuildings. Upon this subject great explicitness is necessary. Every man, then, who is entitled to a four-roomed house, can have one, without outbuildings, or a three-roomed house, with dairy and back kitchen communicating with dwelling, house for donkey cart, stable for donkey, cow-house for two cows, duck or fowl-house, fuel-house, pig-styes for four pigs, and privy, with walled-in yard, with a gate to it, all occupying about two perches and less than one-third of ground, and worth, in my humble opinion, more rent than half the land. Mr. Cullingham and I have calculated the cost to a nail, and we find the result to be as I state, that the rent for three rooms and those outbuildings, will not be quite so much as the rent of a house without them. They will be built with brick, and slated with the same kind of slates as the houses, and whoever wishes for a tank may have one, price deducted from his capital of £15, £22. 10s., or £30, at a cost of about £3. 15s. to hold about four hundred gallons, and rain water excluded. On thinking over our Rules, and the standard by which our rents are established, I find that a two-acre allotment on Lowbands, with £60 expended upon house, and £15 capital, would come to £9. 12s. 6d. a year, that is, the land, two acres, has cost 100*l.*, being 62*l.* 10*s.* over what it would have cost at 18*l.* 15*s.* an acre. That was our standard, and for this 62*l.* 10*s.* each occupant was to pay five per cent., or 3*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* a-year, in addition to the 5*l.*, and five per cent. additional upon what the cottage cost over 30*l.*: so, supposing it to cost 60*l.*, he would pay 1*l.* 10*s.* additional rent for that, making an addition to the 5*l.* a-year of 4*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* making the rent 9*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* Now, two acres, with 60*l.* for cottage, and 15*l.* capital, will have cost the Company 175*l.*; and what I mean to propose at next Conference is, that our rents shall be established upon a wholly different scale—namely, five per cent. upon the outlay; and in that case, the allotments here, instead of letting for 9*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*, would let for 8*l.* 15*s.*, or five per cent. upon the outlay—and quite enough—and instead of reducing the rent I would propose that the 17*l.* 10*s.* should be expended in out-buildings, as 17*s.* 6*d.* would be the interest upon the 17*l.* 10*s.* at five per cent—that is, that each two acre occupant should still pay 9*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* a-year, but that he shall have a set of out-buildings, instead of none. Now, as to offices, I can build on the wholesale principle, whereas, each man building his own would build at retail expence. I can build for 17*l.* 10*s.* what no one individual can build for 25*l.* Above all things, what we must be cautious in is to take care that we so expend our money as to give increased value to the Land, and increased comfort, convenience, and security to the occupant. This plan could not be observed in the case of four-roomed houses, as the expense of building would be out of the way disproportionate to the value of the land, and would stop us in our march.

Another proposal which I mean to submit to all is, the wisdom of the Conference meeting on the first Monday in July, when they can see the land, instead of meeting in January; and that the Conference shall be held on the estate last completed. Now, observe, this will enable men to judge for themselves; it will enable them to see something of the operations; they can travel in third-class carriages in summer and have a school-room to meet in, free of expense and lodgings, cheaper. The Conference should hold its sittings from ten till four, and from eight till ten. They can spend the morning till ten in the fields, and from four till eight, instead of in the beer-shop; and they can take back valuable information and make valuable suggestions. And I mean to propose that the next Conference shall meet here, at Lowbands, as central a spot as any in the kingdom, and on the first Monday in July, when we can walk over to Great Malvern in a body some Sunday, and pronounce judgment on my last purchase. I will have all finished here by that time, and we may have a demonstration from Kidderminster, Cheltenham, Gloucester, Tewksbury, Ledbury, Worcester, Stroud, Red Marley, as we are in the very centre of those populous districts. I have stopped the building of four-roomed houses till I hear from all, and now you will see the grandeur of our plan. I promised to locate one hundred before summer, I bought land enough at two acres each to locate one hundred and thirty-two, and now we have land enough to locate 382 at two acres a man; thus, in ten months I have purchased 763 acres of prime land, although I was not to be able to purchase any. I told you some time ago that henceforth I would astonish you, and I think I have, and now, to confound you entirely I am in treaty for a magnificent estate of 1700 acres.

Now you may go on with the Bank, and all the injury you can sustain is to have YOUR MONEY BACK AGAIN. Send it to me if it was MILLIONS, and I will put it out at our stipulated interest, if only for a week, but you shall have your money and interest back. You may therefore send for deposit and redemption EVEN NOW, as the Bank will be shortly opened. Give me your pence and you shall have the land, and it is my pride to say, that not one farthing has been wasted, and not a farthing shall be wasted. Of course, all these propositions apply to Herringsgate, as we never disinherit our children, or make any distinction. Let me pay off the 20,000*l.* at once, and I will soon have 2000 acres more, and you have the land, such security as no banker gives.

Send in your money then for deposit or redemption, and I will soon make you independent of masters and ANTI-MONOPOLISTS.

I am now writing with two cats and a dog jumping about me, one was a wild one that I tamed, and I brought all from Herringsgate, and Rebecca, the cow. A word about Rebecca. I spoke of eight quarts of milk a day, she gave twenty-eight and more in summer, and she gives over eight now on bad keep and in the snow. I will write you a long practical letter next week. I hope you wont consider this too long: I am always thinking of you. If I had millions they should be spent in redeeming you from slavery. We can do it in spite of all opposition, if you have only PRIDE AND PRUDENCE. I am very happy to night, and am just about to start to Gloucester in an open gig in the snow for London, at nine o'clock at night.

God bless you all my dear loved children,

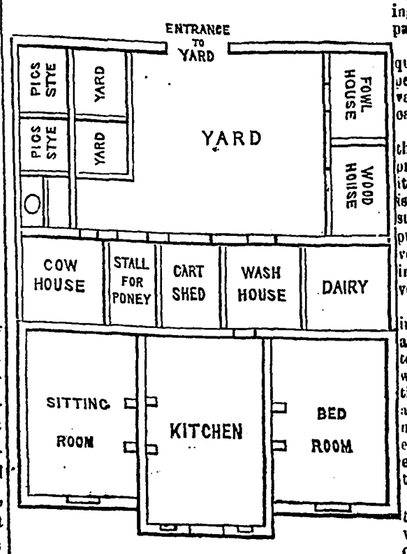
And I remain,

Your fond and affectionate Father and Bailiff,

FEARGUS O'CONNOR.

P.S.—The annexed plan, is a faithful description of the out-buildings which I undertake to erect for the WISE MEN who shall prefer them with three rooms, to four rooms without them. Members must always bear in mind this one plain and simple fact, that we should stick in the mud if the money expended on building dwelling houses bore an unfair proportion to the value of the land, while money expended in the erection of out-buildings gives increased value to the land. The rent of four acres, a three-roomed house with out-buildings, and a capital of £30, for an allotment on the Malvern Estate, will not exceed £12 a year, and in my mind will be cheap at £25, as better land, for our purpose, a crow never flew over.

F. O'C.



TO THE CHARTIST BODY.

Brethren,—We deem it our imperative duty again to address you at this awful but momentous juncture of our country's history, upon subjects which we conceive to be of vital interest to you, as comprising the majority of the sons of industry in this empire; and in doing so, we would first solicit your attention to the appalling misery, disease, and famine, which, like a fierce tornado, has spread and carried destruction to tens of thousands of our fellow-creatures, in unhappy and oppressed Ireland, during a considerable portion of the past year, and from what we have learned through the medium of the public press, and other sources, is likely, we grieve to say, to prove more terrible and unrelenting in its blighting course of devastation during this.

2nd. We would also remind you that the people of the Sister Isle have not been the only sufferers through this terrific and much to be deplored calamity, if we may be permitted to use the term; on the contrary, the hardy mountaineers of Scotland, and their fellow countrymen in the lowlands as well, have felt its withering and life-destroying power; so much so, indeed, that the haughty and tyrant Oligarchy of the sea-girt Isle were constrained to meet together and devise means, such as they were, for alleviating, not removing, the extreme destitution which prevailed around their princely mansions.

3rd. We would further add, that even in Albion, that Albion whose working people are far-famed for their industry, skill, and enterprize, have likewise felt, to an alarming extent, the same evils which afflicted, and still afflict, the two former countries.

Now we would ask, friends, what is the cause of this horrible and almost indescribable state of society? The answer given to the above question by certain parties, both lay and clerical, is, that in consequence of the failure in the potato crops of Ireland and Scotland, millions of human beings have suffered the biting pangs of hunger; that in some parts of the former country one out of every ten died of absolute starvation, that this is famine, and famine is a visitation of Divine Providence upon the people, sent as a just punishment for the sins they have committed.

This is a monstrous and blasphemous assertion without one shadow of proof to support it inasmuch as this famine, or so-called visitation of the beneficent Creator of the Universe, has only affected the toiling slaves of the United Kingdom, while those who do not labour (and they are a very considerable portion of the community) have not been deprived of one of their allotted meals in the day, or even one joint less on their tables at those meals. Now it is a generally admitted fact, and history proves it, that famine, to be a visitation of God, should be universal, so far as the people of a country are concerned, and that all would necessarily feel its dire effects. But in the present instance such is not the case, for we find the monopolizers of the land and the money of the country, enjoy the venison, the beef, the mutton, the ham, the veal, the poultry, the game, the fish, the bread, the butter, the cheese, the tea, the sugar, the coffee, the pastry, the fruits, and the wines, indeed every thing the heart of man can desire, or his taste relish, in superabundance, while those who have produced all these comforts and luxuries have been the only persons deprived of their fair share of them.

Brethren these are facts well known to you, and prove to a demonstration that the *visitation* has been sent by monsters in human shape, who by the laws and institutions which they have made, doomed the people through those laws to live upon one sort of vegetable food, thereby constituting that food the staple food of millions of our fellow subjects. Now it must happen sooner or later, when the people of any nation or country are dependant upon one particular sort of esculent for an existence, that, when that fails, starvation must necessarily follow, unless the government and legislature take immediate steps to procure them other sorts in their own country, or from any other where they are likely to be supplied; and even should such an attempt be made, it would fail to provide sufficient for so large a mass of human beings as are now perishing through disease and famine within the limits of this empire.

A good government would, however, make the attempt, and though they might not succeed in preventing the Wolf (hunger) from entering the habitation of each suffering individual, yet they might so arrange and order affairs, that death through starvation should not take place.

A wise, added to a good government, would make such alterations in the existing laws—would bring forward such measures for the amelioration of the physical and social condition of the people, as would effectually prevent, as far as human foresight or legislation could do so, any occurrence of a similar nature to again afflict them.

But alas! it is, and has ever been, the unhappy lot of the working portion of the community, where class legislation made its hideous appearance, to be cursed with law makers that possessed neither virtue or wisdom; and surely in our case, brethren, we are peculiarly unfortunate in having, to rule our destinies, men without those qualities so necessary in statesmen. In proof, we need only glance at the measures of last year, and those propounded in this, to substantiate the above opinion.

Those measures will only tend to indemnify a landlord class from the just retribution which should fall upon them, for the iniquitous and murderous acts which they have perpetrated upon a brave, confiding, and generous people.

But, friends, while the Irish aristocracy are to be indemnified—while they are to have money advanced to them, in order that they may purchase seed for this year's crop upon their estate; and which money must come from the results of your labour—yet, Lord John Russell, of finality notoriety, said it would not be prudent, nor safe, to allow the small farmers or labourers a like privilege.

Again, while a million of pounds sterling is to be devoted to the purchase and reclamation of waste lands, not above the annual value of 2*s.* 6*d.* the acre; the greater portion of which land in all probability the Irish landlords have not received a fraction for during their previous existence, to say nothing of those who possessed them antecedent; yet this million of pounds sterling must come out of the taxes levied upon you, without your will or consent, while we would at same time venture to predict, that if any number of your order were to solicit the government for a loan of one hundredth part of the above named sum upon good security, for the purpose of purchasing lands already partially cultivated, a direct refusal to the solicitation would be the answer.

But it may be said by those who are in favour of the measures of the present government, that if the Irish landlords will not sell the waste lands or improve them, that they will be taken forcible possession of by the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, and appropriated to the purposes of reclamation. Granted. But there is a healing clause comes in between, which will prevent anything of the sort transpiring, (that is, if the Landlords have sense enough to know their own interests) viz., should they not think proper to sell these lands, the government will advance them sufficient money to reclaim and improve them for their own personal benefit.

Friends, you will at once perceive from this one fact, what a fellow feeling exists between our aristocratic Government and their brethren of the same class in Ireland, and in truth throughout the United Kingdom. These lands are, however, according to the announcement of the Prime Minister in Parliament very lately, "To be reclaimed in lots of from 25 to 50 acres each, and that when these lots have been reclaimed (that is made really valuable by labour), they may be either sold, or let to tenants for a certain number of years, with a determination that they shall be sold at the end of that time."

The Premier further says—"It is intended that we shall not confine ourselves either to letting or selling, but to act as may be found expedient in each particular case."

Brethren, we would simply ask, and it's a fair question, seeing that this land is to become the property of the State, 'Who are to enjoy the increase value given to it, by and through labour in either case?'

Suppose at the end of ten years this land is let at the annual rental of £1 per acre, who are to have the profit over and above the cost of properly reclaiming it? Or, suppose it is sold at 25 years purchase, (that is at £25 per acre), who are to have possession of the surplus, deducting the cost of labour, &c., or for what purpose is that surplus to be applied, as it appears very clearly that those who have by their industry increased its value, are not to reap their just harvest?

Friends, this system of legislation is very different indeed from that adopted by many of your order and principles some twenty months ago. We allude to the "Chartist Co-operative Land Company," whose laws we recommend to the especial consideration of Lord John Russell, and for his future guidance, as in them he will find a greater developement of genuine wisdom, foresight, simplicity, and equity combined, than in all the laws that have ever been made by class legislators since man's creation.

But, fellow-countrymen, we need not inform you in this, the ninth year of the Chartist movement, that we do not expect genuine wisdom, foresight, simplicity, and equity at the hands of our rulers No, sad and long experience has taught us the folly of such expectation.

Seeing then, that while political power is exclusively confined to the few, we can anticipate nothing but increased physical depreciation, social misery, and moral degradation, it becomes our bounden duty to rouse ourselves once more from cuipable apathy, and callous indifference; buckle on our armour, and prepare, like true democractic soldiers, to fight the moral fight of our country's political, and subsequently social, emancipation.

But in order to commence this laudable and holy war the necessary funds must be provided, (as we intormed you in our brief address in last week's *Northern Luminary*), otherwise we, your chosen officers, cannot make the attempt with the least probability of success, therefore we earnestly and respectfully call upon you to forthwith send in "the sinews of war," so that we may be enabled, in addition to the dem cratic apostle—Dr. M'Douall—to send forth others to agitate the country, for the purpose of getting up such a Petition to the present Parliament, calling upon its members to make the "People's Charter" a Statute of this Realm, that for numbers, determination, and intelligence, shall greatly surpass any other that has been presented to any former Senate in this Empire.

We would again bespeak your serious attention to the Memorial to the Queen, praying her to restore to their country, their relatives, and friends, our loved exiled brethren, Frost, Williams, and Jones; and fervently hope, that you will be as energetic and expeditious as you possibly can, in carrying into effect the few instructions we imparted to you last week, relative to this important subject.

In conclusion, brethren, we implore you to avail yourselves of every opportunity that may present itself, in order to further the glorious cause we are engaged in.

Recollect! that it is only by union, perseverance, and indomitable determination on our parts, to achieve our long-lost liberties, that will be at all calculated to realize so desirable an object. Up then, brothers, and prove by your patriotic actions in the sacred struggle, that you are true and noble sons of freedom, and as such are worthy its possession.

FEARGUS O'CONNOR, PHILIP M'GRATH,
THOMAS CLARK, THOMAS MARTIN WHEELER,
CHRISTOPHER DOYLE, Secretary.

Chartist Intelligence.

NOTTINGHAM.—At a meeting of friends favourable to the Chartist movement, Mr. W. Freece in the chair, the following resolutions were unanimously agreed to:—Moved by Samuel Boonham, seconded by John Wall—"That, in order the more effectually to strengthen the hands of the Executive Committee, we become members of the National Charter Association." Moved by John Wall, seconded by Joseph Ward—"That, the following persons do compose the Council: viz., John Wall, George Clarkson, John French, Samuel Boonham, John Skerritt, Godfrey Machin, and Richard Fleckney." Moved by John Skerritt, seconded by Samuel Boonham—"That, Mr John French be treasurer." Moved by John Wall, seconded by Joseph Ward—"That, Mr. John Skerritt be secretary."

MANCHESTER.—The Observation, Registration, and Petition Committees of Manchester, have been acting for some time as an united body. We have held weekly meetings, issued collecting books, and commenced operations to obtain signatures to the National Petition. We are keeping our eyes on the present struggle for the repesentation of Manchester, and are collecting together a *third party*, which will remain neutral until circumstances arise of which they may take advantage. It therefore becomes the bounden duty of the South Lancashire Chartists to come to our aid with their subscriptions, especially as we intend to remit our share of the expenses of contesting certain Boroughs at the next General Election. If this should meet the eyes of our country friends who were represented by Delegates lately at Oldham, we hope they will take up the question and bring it on before their meetings. Localities, such as Salford, Heywood, Rochdale, and Oldham, should assuredly follow out the policy laid down at the delegate meeting, by sending in a portion, at least, of the sixpenny levy which was voted, and without which, of course, nothing practical can be effected. The committee will hold their next meeting on Wednesday evening, February 16th, in the New Hall: any members absent will be reported at the monthly meeting of the locality.

JOHN O'HEA, secretary,
GEORGE JOHNSON, chairman.

WEST RIDING DELEGATE MEETING.—This meeting was held according to notice on Sunday last, in the Working Man's Hall, Halifax, Mr. Alderson, of Bradford, in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting were read over and confirmed. A list of local lecturers was handed in, and a lecturers' plan finally arranged for three months, commencing on Sunday next. The election of secretary was deferred until the next meeting. A levy of one halfpenny per member is to be paid in at the next meeting, to defray the current expenses, &c. The meeting was adjourned to the second Sunday in April, to be holden at the house of Mr. Charles Brook, Littletown.

BILSTON.—A public meeting was held in the Chartist room, Stafford Street, Bilston, on Tuesday evening, February the 8th, Thomas Hammersley in the chair, for the purpose of adopting a petition to Parliament praying for the Abolition of the Rate-Paying Clauses of the Reform Bill. The petition was unanimously adopted, and ordered to be sent to the Hon. Charles Pelham Villiers, M.P. for presentation, with a request to Thomas Thornley, Esq., the other member for the borough, and the members for the county, to support the prayer thereof. After which, Dr. M'Douall delivered an excellent lecture, he was frequently applauded.

CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH-DAY OF THOMAS PAINE IN NOTTINGHAM.—A supper in honour of the above eminent political character, numerously attended, was held on Monday evening last, at the Seven Stars, Baker Gate. After the cloth was removed, Mr. Sweet was unanimously called upon to preside, who opened the business of the evening in a neat speech, and proposed the following toasts:—"The sovereignty of the people." Mr. Baggaley responded. "The People; may they well study the first principles of government, and never relinquish the struggle for social and political right, until the People's Charter becomes the law of the land;" responded to by Mr. Thomas Wright. "The memory of the immortal patriot, Thomas Paine—may the principles he advocated become universally studied, and reduced to practice;" spoken to by the old veteran reformer, Mr. Thomas Roper, at great length. "The *Northern Star*, and the whole of the democratic press—may it continue to advocate the rights of man, and be supported in its warfare with the oppressors of the human race, by every true lover of his country;" responded to by Mr. Sands. "The speedy downfall of kingcraft and priestcraft;" spoken to by Mr. Baggaley. "May all mankind become brethren, and to do good be their rule of faith;" by Mr. Baker, who gave—"Robert Emmett's defence." "F. S. Duncombe, Esq. M.P., the only man in the British House of Commons who has the honesty to demand justice for the whole people;" spoken to by the Chairman, and drank with all the honours. Song by Mr. Gisby, "The four-leaved Shamrock." "Feargus O'Connor, Esq., the people's friend and the tyrants' foe—may he live to see the men for whom he struggles socially happy and politically free." Drank with all the honours. Song by the whole of the Company—"The Lion of Freedom." "W. P. Roberts, Esq., the people's attorney-general—may the working classes cheer him in his onslaught against tyrant magistrates and bloated capitalists." Drank with all the honours. Song by Mr. Mather—"Zadi the Moor." "The Executive of the National Charter Association, and the Trustees and Directors of the Land Company—may their exertions in the cause of humanity be eminently successful." Drank with all the honours. Recitation—"The Black Slave," by Mr. Baker. "The speedy return of Frost, Williams, Jones, Ellis, and every other political martyr." Song by Mr. Clarkson, "Frost, Williams, and Jones." "The memory of Henry Hunt, and the illustrious dead of every age and nation, who while living struggled for the freedom of their fellow-men." Various songs and recitations were given by Miss Blatherwick and others, which added very much to the harmony of the evening. Votes of thanks were given to the ladies for their attendance upon the occasion; also to the aged democrat, Mr. Thomas Roper, to Patrick O'Higgins, Esq., for his exertions in the cause of his oppressed countrymen, and to the Chairman for his past services, to which he briefly responded, and the meeting separated, highly delighted with their evening's entertainment.

SOUTHAMPTON.—THE LAND.—On Wednesday, a public meeting convened by placard, was held in the old Assembly room. Mr. Goodman presided. Able addresses were delivered by Messrs. Clark, M'Grath, and the Rev. Herbert Smith, of the established church, on the value of the small allotment system to the community. The Rev. gentleman considered the land project a powerful lever for raising the condition of the people, and, although he disliked the word *Chartist*, as forming any part of its designation, would nevertheless take out a share in the Company. The thanks of the meeting having been awarded to the lecturers and chairman, the meeting dispersed.

THE CHARTER—A meeting was held in the same place on Thursday evening, which was attended by Messrs. M'Grath and Clark. Resolutions in favour of the Charter and the National Petition were unanimously adopted.

NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.—On Friday evening, a numerous meeting of the middle and working classes, was held in the large room of the Grapes Inn. Mr. Oliver, a veteran democrat, was unanimously appointed chairman. He said he accepted with much pleasure the honour of chairman to the present meeting. He was delighted to see so many of his townsmen assembled, to advance the cause of political justice to the oppressed millions of this empire. He called upon Mr. Nichols to move the following resolution:—

Resolved,—That, in the opinion of this meeting, the state of the Elective Franchise as at present exercised, under the provisions of the "Reform Act," is unjust and tyrannical, as it excludes five-sixths of the male adults of the community, from the exercise of their political rights; we therefore agree to petition Parliament, for the enactment of the document known as the "People's Charter," which contains the principle and details of a measure, for securing the rights of all classes of the people.

Mr. Nichols said, that the resolution which he had just read, embodied those principles which were necessary to a true representation of the whole people. It would, therefore, be an object of the most anxious solicitude with every friend to the freedom of his country, to have those principles made the law of the land. Mr. Nichols continued to argue with much eloquence and force in favour of the principles of the Charter. The motion having been seconded by Mr. Barnes, and eloquently supported by Mr. Clark, was unanimously adopted. The National Petition was then ably moved and read by Mr Cooper, and seconded by Mr. Denyer. Mr. M'Grath addressed the meeting in support of the petition, which was adopted without a dissentient. Votes of thanks having been passed to the chairman, and Messrs. M'Grath and Clark, the meeting separated.

THE LAND.—Messrs. Clark and M'Grath addressed a meeting in the above room upon the land and its capabilities on Saturday evening. The addresses gave universal satisfaction. The unanimous thanks of the meeting were given to them for their labour in the cause of Democracy.

PORTSEA.—THE LAND AND THE CHARTER.—The Working-man's Association of this town having seen by the *Northern Star*, that Messrs. M'Grath and Clark were to visit several places in the South, at once took steps to secure their services; the Athenæum was engaged, and bills were issued announcing the meeting for Monday evening, and notwithstanding the severity of the weather a very good meeting was assembled by 8 o'clock. Mr. Stroud was appointed to preside, who very ably stated the purpose of the meeting; he then introduced Mr. Hewess, to move the first resolution, which was as follows:—"That we have heard with feelings of commingled horror and indignation, of the alarming state of destitution to which our Scotch and Irish fellow-subjects have been reduced, through the agency of the social and political institutions with which they are cursed, and hereby declare our solemn conviction, that this lamentable state of things never will be effectually remedied until the people of those countries are allowed the independent proprietorship of their native soil, secured to them by the enactment of laws, founded upon the universal rights of man." The motion was seconded by Mr. Fox, and powerfully supported by Mr. Clark, and carried without a dissenting voice. The next resolution which was condemnatory of Class Legislation and in favour of the Charter, was moved by Mr. Dart, seconded by Mr. Malcolm, and supported by Mr. M'Grath in speeches, which were most cordially responded to by the audience. On being put to the meeting, it was adopted *nem. con.* Mr. T. Fox proposed the National Petition, which was seconded by Mr. Dart, and carried. The customary votes of thanks being given, the meeting dissolved.

WINCHESTER.—Messrs. M'Grath and Clark addressed a meeting of the inhabitants of this town, in the assembly room of the Globe Inn, in elucidation of the principles and objects of the National Land Company. From the good feeling evinced an increase of the Company may be expected as the result of the meeting.

LEEDS.—The discussion on the measures for Ireland was opened on Sunday evening by Mr. Macintosh, when the room was well filled. A very animated debate took place, which was adjourned until Monday evening, at six o'clock, when Mr. Brook will resume the subject, and likewise the measure of Lord George Bentinck's.

THE TOWN'S MEETING FOR THE CHARTER.—The requisition to the Mayor for a public meeting to adopt the National Petition mentioned in last week's *Star*, after receiving a goodly number of names, was presented to his Worship on Monday by Messrs. Brook and Harris, when they met with a most agreeable reception. The mayor at once agreed to call the meeting in the Court House, and likewise to be there to open it, and, if possible, to stay during the whole proceedings. The council wish to have a good meeting,—they wish to show the mayor and those of the middle classes who may be at the meeting, that the Chartists are a strong party—that the Charter is dear to them, and that they are determined to agitate more than ever for its attainment. Will he council be deceived in expecting such a meeting? It is to be holden on Tuesday next at 1 o'clock, in the Court-House, that day is a holiday to many, surely then they have a right to expect that the building will be crowded to excess. Chartists of Leeds come forward on Tuesday next as you have done in times gone by, viz., in large and enthusiastic numbers. You have never yet, with all the progress you have made (and that is not small) in this town, had the chief magistrate to preside at one of your Chartist meetings. The time will be on Tuesday when you can have your petition signed by him on behalf of the meeting, and what an argument such a petition will be in the hands of Mr. Duncombe. Dr. M'Douall, with other talented friends of the town, will address the meeting. Remember Tuesday next, at one o'clock, in the Court House.

MANCHESTER LOCALITY.—Mr. Tomlinson, of Rochdale, lectured here on last Sunday evening, on the right of the people to the Charter, and gave much satisfaction.

BRIGHTON.—A general meeting of the Chartists of this town was held at the Artichoke Inn, on Wednesday, February 10, Mr. Sinnock in the chair, when the following resolution was proposed by Mr. Giles, seconded by Mr. Page, and unanimously adopted:—"Resolved, That we, the Chartists of Brighton, hail with pleasure the engagement of Dr. M'Douall by the Executive, believing he will be a great auxiliary to our cause; we, therefore, hope every Chartist will rally round and support the Executive in pecuniary matters, as now is the time when good men and true are wanted to advocate our principles."

BIRMINGHAM, Feb. 10th.—At our usual weekly meeting on Sunday evening last, the following resolution was unanimously passed:—"That the best thanks of this locality are due to Dr. M'Douall for his splendid lecture at the People's Hall this evening." [The latter part of the resolution, which we have omitted, should be sent to the Executive.]

CENTRAL REGISTRATION AND ELECTION COMMITTEE.—A very full meeting of this body, over which T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P. presided, and at which T. Wakley, Esq. M.P. acted as vice-president, was held at the Assembly-rooms, 88, Dean-street, Soho, on Wednesday evening, February the 10th, when letters were read from Lord John Russell and Robert Grosvenor, Sir B. Hall, Sir W. Molesworth, Joseph Hume, Esq. M.P., Dr. Bowring M.P., W. S. O'Brien, Esq. M.P., and the following M.P.'s and gentlemen, who promise to attend the meeting on Wednesday evening next, at the Crown and Anchor:—Sir B. Hall, M.P., Sharman Crawford, Esq. M.P., Captain Pechell, M.P., Charles Cochrane, and Lawrance Heyworth, Esqrs. A letter was also read from Colonel Thompson, enclosing £5 towards defraying the expenses of the movement. Resolutions, &c., were then adopted, to be submitted to the public meeting on Wednesday. Mr. Stallwood brought forward his resolution relative to taking the first opportunity of placing Mr. P. M'Grath's nomination for Parliamentary honours, as a working-man Candidate, which was seconded by Mr. Cuffay; and after a very able debate the following amendment, moved by Mr. John Shaw, was carried:—"That this committee recommend to their friends to give their cordial support at the next General Election to Col. Thompson, Candidate for Bradford; to Mr Halliday, Candidate for Oldham; and Mr. Lawrence Heyworth, Candidate for the Tower Hamlets: also that our friends should take steps to find Constituencies for Mr. Philip M'Grath Mr. Ernest Jones and other worthy friends, as well as to render every assistance to such members of the present Parliament as support the principles of the People's Charter." The committee then adjourned until Tuesday evening, February the 16th, at eight o'clock precisely.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(*Continued from the 8th Page.*)

disagreeable, and the whole place like a hothouse, and he consequently asked why they did not open the windows. He was first told that it would not be quite so well to have the windows open; and when he asked why not, and whether it would not be quite as well to, the health of the workpeople, he at last got at the fact that they would not be quite so well able to spin cotton in a lower atmosphere. It appeared, therefore, to be necessary to this manufacture to keep all these poor girls all day long suffering from a state of perspiration, from which, and from being obliged to go home in a state of relaxation and lassitude, all manner of diseases befell them, and, in fact, they became deteriorated both in body and mind. He had stated the general results of the inspection of these mills that he had made in Manchester, and, not having any interest in manufactures, he trusted he was able to form a correct view.

MR. BRIGHT, in reply to the attacks made upon him from various quarters, reminded the house that he had lived all his life among the population for which it was now called upon to legislate, and that he was therefore well able to describe, and to judge of, their feelings, wishes, and true interests. He denounced the object of the proposers of this bill as an interference with persons of every sex and age engaged in manufactures, and as an attempt to give to all classes a legislative protection, by which they might diminish the amount of labour and increase the rate of wages. He should be the last person to say that the reasonable wishes of the workpeople should not receive due attention; and in this respect he would go further then the hon. member for Dorsetshire, for he was prepared to give them votes, by which they would be enabled to send men to that house to represent their feelings and wishes. (Hear, hear.) The people were taught to believe, by Mr. Oastler, and others who were favourable to this measure, and by "The Short-Time Advocate," or "The Ten Hours Advocate," that the consequence of limiting the hours of labour would—as in the case of other articles—by lessening the supply, enhance the value—("hear, hear," from Mr. Ferrand)—and the hon. member for Knaresborough appeared to be of the same opinion. (Hear.) But it was a fact that you could not reduce the hours of labour but five minutes a day, without reducing in the same proportion the production of the Bill. The hon. member for Birmingham had charged him with getting up a petition in favour of the hours of labour. That was one of the follies of his boyhood—(a laugh)—and he regretted to see that those weaknesses and follies of his youth seemed to attach themselves to the hon. member for Birmingham in his mature years. ("Oh," and a laugh.) The proposition to compromise the matter by an eleven hours' bill, he was equally opposed to. He was astonished at the conduct of the ministry on this question. Was this a subject to be left as an open question by a government? For his part, he looked upon it as a question not inferior in importance to that which had been set led by Sir R. Peel last year. (Hear.) That was a question to raise rents by raising the price of food, and this was a measure to raise wages at the expense of the capitalist. In both cases it was the same principle that was involved. (Hear, hear.) It was the duty of the noble lord at the head of the government, if he was convinced that the principle of the measure was just, to go to it manfully, and call upon his subordinates to go with him. If the noble lord supported it he should make it a cabinet question, and let the government of the country take upon itself the responsibility of this enormous change. If, however, the noble lord was not prepared to take the responsibility of the change; if he thought it a dangerous experiment, the whole weight of the government should be given to the opposition of the bill.

Sir A. L.

ASTONISHING EFFICACY
OF
HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

The Testimony of a Clergyman vouching to Eleven Cases of Cures by these wonderful Pills.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. George Prior, Curate of Mayah, Letter Kenny, Carrigart, Ireland, 10th Jan. 1846.

To Professor Holloway.

SIR,—I send you a crude list of some eleven cases, all cured by the use of your Pills. I cannot exactly give you a professional name to the various complaints, but this I know, some of them baffled the skill of Derry and this County. In a previous letter this gentleman states as follows:—Within a short distance of my house resides a small farmer, who for more than twenty years has been in a bad state of health; Mrs. Prior gave him a box of the Pills, which did him so much good that I heard him say, for twenty years past he never ate his food or enjoyed it so much as since taking your Pills.

(Signed) GEORGE PRIOR.

*** The above reverend and pious gentleman purchased some pounds' worth of the Pills for the benefit of his poor parishioners.

Bad digestion, with extreme Weakness and Debility—an Extraordinary Cure.

Mr. T. Gardiner, of No. 9, Brown-street, Grosvenor-square, had been in a very bad state of health for a long time, suffering much from a distended stomach, very impaired Digestion, with constant pains in his Chest, was extremely nervous, and so greatly debilitated as scarcely able to walk one hundred yards: during the long period of his declining health he had the advice of four of the most eminent physicians, besides five surgeons of the greatest celebrity in London, from whose aid he derived no benefit whatever; at last he had recourse to Holloway's Pills, which he declares effected a perfect cure in a very short time, and that he is now as strong and vigorous as ever he was in his life. This being so extraordinary a case, may lead many persons almost to doubt this statement, it might therefore be necessary to say that Mr. Gardiner is a broker, and well known.

Cure of a Confirmed Asthma, accompanied with great Debility.

Extract of a Letter from John Thompson, Esq., Proprietor of the Armagh Guardian, Armagh, 17th April, 1846.

To Professor Holloway.

SIR,—There is at present living in this city a Serjeant, who had been for many years in the army at Cabul, in the East Indies, from whence he returned in September last. On his way here, from the change of weather of a tropical to a moist climate, he caught a very violent cold, which produced a confirmed case of Asthma. In December last he commenced taking your Pills, and by the use of two 11s. boxes, with two 4s. 6d. pots of your Ointment well rubbed into his breast, he is, I am happy to say, not only quite cured of the Asthma, but is also become so strong and vigorous, that he informed me yesterday he could now run round the Mall, with any person in the city, and that he never got any medicine equal to your Pills and Ointment.

(Signed) J. THOMPSON.

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

Extract of a Letter from the Earl of Aldborough, dated Villa Messina, Leghorn, 21st February, 1845:—

To Professor Holloway.

Sir,—Various circumstances prevented the possibility of my thanking you before this time for your politeness in sending me your pills as you did. I now take this opportunity of sending you an order for the amount, and, at the same time, to add that your pills have effected a cure of a disorder in my liver and stomach, which all the most eminent of the faculty at home, and all over the continent, had not been able to effect; nay! not even the waters of Carlsbad and Marienbad. I wish to have another box and a pot of the ointment, in case any of my family should ever require either.

Your most obliged and obedient servant,

(Signed) ALDBOROUGH.

This Wonderful Medicine can be recommended with the greatest confidence for any of the following diseases:—

Ague	Female Irregularities	Sore Throats
Asthma	Fits	Scrofula, or King's Evil
Bilious Complaints	Gout	Secondary Symptoms
Blotches on Skin	Headache	Stone
Bowel Complaints	Indigestion	Tic Doloreux
Colics	Inflammation	Tumours
Constipation of Bowels	Jaundice	Ulcers
Consumption	Liver Complaints	Venereal Affections
Debility	Lumbago	Worms, all kinds.
Dropsy	Piles	Weakness, from whatever cause,
Dysentery	Rheumatism	&c., &c.
Erysipelas	Retention of Urine	
Fevers of all kinds	Stone and Gravel	

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N.B.—Directions for the guidance of patients in every disorder are affixed to each box.

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A MEDICAL WORK on the INFIRMITIES of the GENERATIVE SYSTEM, in both sexes; being an enquiry into the concealed cause that destroys physical energy, and the ability of manhood, ere vigour has established her empire:—with observations on the baneful effects of SOLITARY INDULGENCE and INFECTION; local and constitutional WEAKNESS, NERVOUS IRRITATION, CONSUMPTION, and on the partial or total EXTINCTION of the REPRODUCTIVE POWERS; with means of restoration: the destructive effects of Gonorrhœa, Gleet, Stricture, and Secondary Symptoms are explained in a familiar manner; the Work is Embellished with Ten fine coloured Engravings, representing the deleterious influence of Mercury on the skin, by eruptions on the head, face, and body; with approved mode of cure for both sexes; followed by observations on the obligations of MARRIAGE, and healthy perpetuity; with directions for the removal of certain Disqualifications: the whole pointed out to suffering humanity as a "SILENT FRIEND" to be consulted without exposure, and with assured confidence of success.

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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

"We regard the work before us, the "Silent Friend," as a work embracing most clear and practical views of a class of complaints hitherto little understood, and viewed over by the majority of the medical profession, for what reason we are at a loss to know. We must, however, confess that a perusal of this work has left such a favorable impression on our minds, that we not only recommend, but cordially wish every one who is the victim of past folly, or suffering from indiscretion, to profit by advice contained in its pages."—*Age and Argus*

Part I. of this work is particularly addressed to those who are prevented from forming a Matrimonial Alliance, and will be found an available introduction to the means of perfect and secret restoration to manhood.

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Is intended to relieve those persons, who, by an immoderate indulgence of their passions, have ruined their constitutions, or are on their way to the consummation of that deplorable state, are afflicted with any of those previous symptoms that betray its approach, as the various affections of the nervous system, obstinate gleets, excesses, irregularity, obstructions of certain evacuations, weakness, total impotency, barrenness, &c.

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An anti-syphilitic remedy for searching out and purifying the diseased humours of the Blood; conveying its active principles throughout the body, even penetrating the minutest vessels, removing all corruptions, contaminations, and impurities from the vital stream; eradicating the morbid virus, and radically expelling it through the skin.

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Venereal contamination, if not at first eradicated, will often remain secretly lurking in the system for years, and, although undiscovered, at length break out upon the unhappy individual in its most dreadful forms, or else, unseen, mentally endanger the very vital organs of existence. To those suffering from the consequences which this disease may have left behind in the form of secondary symptoms, eruptions of the skin, blotches on the head and face, ulceration and enlargement of the throat, ulcerations, and threatened destruction of the nose, palate, &c., nodes on the skin, bones, or any of those painful affections arising from the dangerous effects of the unrestrainable use of mercury, or other evils of an imperfect cure, the Concentrated Detersive Essence will be found to be attended with the most astonishing effects, in effectually ravaging out the disorder, removing all scorbutic complaints, and effectually re-establishing the health and constitution. To persons entering upon the responsibilities of matrimony, and who ever had the misfortune during their more youthful days to be affected with any form of these illnesses, a previous course of this medicine is highly essential, and of the greatest importance, as many serious affections are visited upon an innocent wife and offspring, from a want of these simple remedies than perhaps half the world is aware of; for, it must be remembered, where the fountain is polluted, the stream that flow from it cannot be pure.

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With explicit directions, rendered perfectly intelligible to every capacity, are well known throughout Europe to be the most certain and effectual remedy ever discovered for gonorrhœa, both in its mild and aggravated forms, by immediately allaying inflammation and arresting further progress.

Gleets, strictures, irritation of the bladder, pains of the loins and kidneys, gravel, and other disorders of the urinary passages, in either sex, are permanently cured in a short space of time, without confinement or the least exposure.

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"I respectfully assure you that I shall recommend this valuable medicine to the fullest extent in my power, and never while travelling shall I in future be without it. During my illness my residence was at Mrs. Slocombe's Greyhound Inn, Broadmead, Bristol, whose family, if requisite, will confirm the facts I have stated.

"I forward my case to you for publication, that the afflicted may be assured of and obtain relief.

"I am, Sir, yours respectfully.

"THOMAS YATES,
"Traveller to Messrs. Day and Martin,
97, High Holborn, London."

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and all respectable Medicine Venders throughout the United Kingdom. Price 2s. 9d. per box.

Ask for BLAIR'S GOUT AND RHEUMATIC PILLS, and observe the name and address of "Thomas Prout, 229, Strand, London," impressed upon the Government Stamp affixed to each box of the Genuine Medicine.

TESTIMONIAL MANIA.—Everybody now-a-days is giving everybody a testimonial. Wellington, in bronze, riding the high horse; Cobden, the peaceful hero of the world—not a country; an Hudson, the railway monarch, whose motto might be, "nulla dies sine linea." It may, however, be confidently predict that one might be named whose exertions in alleviating human sufferings far outbalance the just and willingly rendered claimes of those whose names are above enumerated. This will be at once apparent, when we call to mind the almost incalculable amount of agonising torture relieved by Blair's Gout and Rheumatic Pills, whose proprietor may be said already to have reared an imperishable monument on the gratitude of thousands.

Surprising Case of the Recovery of Health by Holloway's Pills.—Mr. Roberts, a gentleman residing in New-street, Birmingham, had been suffering for years from a disordered liver, deranged stomach, palpitation of heart, shortness of breath, swelling of the hands, feet, and legs, lowness of spirits, a want of strength and energy, which state of things was slowly sending up his constitution: finding no benefit from the medical treatment at Birmingham, he proceeded to London, where he resided for six months, in order to consult the most eminent of the faculty, which he did to no advantage. He then tried these extraordinary Pills, which, in a few weeks restored him to perfect health and vigour.

BAPTISM EXTRAORDINARY.—An itinerant preacher of the Baptist persuasion has visited Bridport lately, and, it appears, succeeded in gaining proselytes, as, on Sunday night, about ten o'clock, he dipped eight adults (several of whom were females) in the open river, at Allington. The weather on the occasion was intensely cold, of which the parties gave evident proof on their being safely landed on *terra firma*.

Metropolitan Intelligence.

ALARMING FIRES.—On Sunday morning last, between five and six o'clock, a fire that caused considerable alarm in the neighbourhood, broke out in the upper part of the premises in the occupation of Mr. Goodman, a baker, of 17, Great Bell-alley, Moorgate-street. It was caused from the soot in a blocked up flue becoming ignited, which set fire to a chest of drawers and the flooring in one of the rooms. The engines quickly attended, and the firemen succeeded in getting the flames subdued, but not until considerable damage had been done. A second fire broke out at No. 1, Bethel-place, Vine-yard, Tooley-street, belonging to Mr. E. Clowrow. A spark from a lighted candle falling upon a bed, set it in a general blaze. The inmates having been aroused from their slumbers, they kept the fire at bay until the firemen arrived, when, owing to the combined exertions of all parties, the flames were extinguished. Unfortunately the occupier was not insured.

PRISON DISCIPLINE.—An inquest was held by Mr. Bedford, in the Millbank Prison, as to the death of William Everett, aged twenty-two. Captain Groves, the governor, stated that the deceased was convicted at the Northampton sessions, on the 1st of July, 1846, for felony, and sentenced to fifteen years transportation; he was received into that prison on the 20th of July, in the same year, and died on Thursday morning. The Coroner — Had he suffered any punishment in prison? The Governor—Yes, five or six times. The Coroner—What were they, and the offences? The Governor—On the 28th of July he was reported for talking at the pump, and he had only bread and water that day. On the 2nd of October he was again reported for refusing to work, but nothing was done to him. On the next day he was very abusive, refused to work, and said he would cut the warder's liver out. For this he was ordered into the refractory cell for three days, but had his full rations. On the 26th of October he was reported for talking at exercise, and was deprived of his dinner. On the 6th of November he was very unruly, said he did not care for the governor or his bread and water, and was put into the refractory cell for two days. Dr. Baly having stated that the deceased died of consumption, and that everything was afforded him in the infirmary, the jury returned a verdict of "Natural death."

REPORTED CHARGE OF MURDER.—The apprehension of Captain Kerr, of the barque Lavenside, for running away from the ship, off Folkestone, with two caskets of diamonds, and other precious stones, valued at £3,300, has created considerable interest among those connected with the shipping of the port of London, more particularly on its being known that government had received notice from the British consul at Rio Janeiro, to the effect that the accused was suspected of having murdered one of the crew while on the barque's outward passage from England. The principal portion of the crew were taken before the Crown solicitor, at the Treasury, and the subjoined facts were elicited. The ship, on her departure from England, took out a cargo of coals for Patagonia, in order to take on board guano. On reaching Gibraltar, however, the captain violated the instructions of the owners, by disposing of the coals, and entering into a speculation with a Jew of that port, to trade with miscellaneous articles to Cadiz and elsewhere. Two supercargoes were placed on board the barque as a temporary protection over the property, the understanding being that, as soon as she had discharged her freight at Cadiz, they would be returned to their homes at Gibraltar, both being married men, and having large families. The ship proceeded, as was thought, on a voyage to Cadiz; but, after touching that port, her course was altered for South America, taking with her the two supercargoes. The men implored Kerr to set them at liberty when she re-started, which he peremptorily refused. One of them became an object of much sympathy, and evinced the deepest grief on leaving his wife and family for so distant a land. At last he manifested symptoms of aberration of intellect, and one night, in a very excited state, he jumped overboard and was drowned. The ship was brought to, and attempts were made to save his life, but to no purpose, the unfortunate man having almost immediately disappeared. It was satisfactorily shown to the Treasury solicitor, that it was the poor fellow's own act, and that the captain did not throw him overboard, as described by the other supercargo on his arrival at Rio Janeiro to the British consul.

THE RATE-PAYING CLAUSES OF THE REFORM ACT.—On Saturday, at a large meeting of the vestry of St. Marylebone, the Rev. Dr. Sprey in the chair, Mr George Daniell brought up a return, which had been moved for, of the number of persons omitted from the list of borough voters last year, consequent on the omission to pay the assessed taxes, poor rates, and other causes, rendered compulsory by the rate-paying clauses of the Reform Act. The return showed that the number of persons disfranchised for non-payment of assessed taxes was 1,032; for non-payment of poor rates, 334; an account of rates being compounded for by landlords, 1,448; and females, 1,950. Total number of houses in the parish of £10 annual value and upwards, 11,017. The return was ordered to be entered on the minutes.

AN ILLICIT DISTILLERY.—A seizure of a very large illicit distillery was effected on Saturday, by the officers of excise. On proceeding to the premises, No. 1, Grattan-street, Bethnal green, where ostensibly was carried on the business of a general dealer in the wood and fish trade, they found in a lower kitchen under the shop, a large still, fitted in brickwork, which appeared to have been recently at work, as it was quite warm; a quantity of fermented molasses wash, ready for charging the still for further operation; several barrels of yeast, forty large barrels, a small stock of spirits, and the usual fittings of a distillery. A man, found on the premises, gave the name of John Spencer, and said he worked the still for his father. He was taken into custody, and conveyed to Worship-street police station. The wash and yeast were destroyed by the officers, and a van having been procured, the still, stock, and utensils were conveyed to the excise warehouses in Broad-street, to be adjudicated upon by her Majesty's Commissioners.

METROPOLITAN POLICE.—Accounts have just been laid before Parliament (pursuant to Act) showing the sums received and expended for the purposes of the Metropolitan Police, Police Superannuation Fund, and Police Courts, in the year ended 31st of December, 1846. It therefrom appears, that the receipts for the service of the Metropolitan Police in that year were £381,593 13s 8d, and the expenditure £326,925 13s 5d—making the balance in hand £54,668 3d. The receipts on account of the Superannuation Fund were 22,039 cash, and £73 334 government stock, valued at the sterling cash. The expenditure by superannuations, allowances, and gratuities to police constables amounted to £7,783, leaving a balance of upwards of £14,200 cash, and £73,334 government stock.

DARING STREET ROBBERY.—Information was received on Monday last, by the police that, between two and three o'clock on Saturday afternoon, as Mr. William J. Carwardine, clerk, in the employ of Messrs. Wilson and Company, of Silver-street, Wood-street, City, was proceeding from Messrs. Barclay and Company's, bankers, Lombard-street, to the Old Jewry, by way of the Poultry, he was robbed of a black leather pocket-book, containing a bill of exchange for £51 14s. also of a canvass bag containing £25 in gold. The robbery was effected by the thief cutting through both Mr. Carwardine's great coat and pocket of the undercoat.

FATAL ACCIDENT FROM THE FROST.—On Sunday night, about half-past eleven o'clock, as a woman, named Jeffries, living at No. 13, Camden-street, Kensington Gravel Pits, was returning home, she fell with great force on her back. She was assisted home by two policemen, but she died shortly after her arrival, having ruptured a blood vessel by the fall.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE CROYDON ATMOSPHERIC RAILWAY.—Owing to the snow on Sunday getting into the atmospheric tube, the various trains after five o'clock had to be conveyed by the locomotive. At nine o'clock an attempt was made to work the down train by atmospheric power, but in consequence of a stoppage a locomotive was sent after the train to assist it on its journey, when one of the men employed to superintend the closing of the valve by the cement, not being aware of the arrangement, and it is supposed not suspecting a locomotive on the atmospheric line, was fulfilling his duty, and before he was observed the engine ran over him, almost literally crushing him to pieces. An inquest was subsequently held on deceased, and evidence having been elicited, the jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death."

BURGLARY.—Information was forwarded on Monday last to the various police stations of a burglary having been effected between six and eight o'clock in the morning, at the residence of Mr. J. Worge, 16, Lansdowne-terrace, Caledonia-road, Islington. The property stolen consisted of five £10, and three £5 Bank of England notes, as also several valuable gold and silver watches, gold mounted brooches, diamond pins, rings, and other articles, to the value of about £150.

DEATH IN A POLICE CELL.—On Monday Mr. Mills held an inquest, at the Crown and Anchor, King-street, St. Giles', on the body of John Harvey, aged forty-five. The deceased was a well known mendicant who, having lost the use of his limbs, was in the habit of traversing Bloomsbury, Bedford, and Russell Squares, and their vicinities, in a squatted position, a small pad only between him and the ground. On Wednesday last, he was in Southampton-street, following his usual vocation of mendicancy, amidst the rain. His helpless condition excited considerable sympathy. The constable on duty having several times in vain desired him to "move on," was at length compelled to remove him to the station house, George Street, St. Giles's, where he was placed in a cell warmed to a temperature of eighty degrees. Every half hour, until eight o'clock on Thursday morning, he was visited by the gaoler; but when he visited his cell at twenty minutes after eight o'clock, the gaoler found him dead. Mr. Bennett, Surgeon, who performed the *post mortem* examination, found the body in a frightful state of filth. His liver was so friable that it crumbled to pieces. He died from apoplexy.

THE BENEFITS OF SULPHURIC ETHER.—On Saturday an operation was performed on a man, at the King's College Hospital, by Mr. Ferguson, of an interesting character, in consequence of its being one of the first ever attempted. The patient, an old marine, had previously lost the greater portion of his arm; on Saturday, while under the influence of sulphuric ether, the remaining portion was amputated, the blade bone cut away, and part of the shoulder bone sawed off. At the first incision of the knife the man gave a slight shriek, and the next moment began to laugh and talk, calling out during the operation, "clear the gangway." The operation lasted five minutes and a half. When the effects of the ether had gone off, the man declared he had felt no pain, although the wound made was very large. Another man had a cancer cut out of his upper lip without experiencing any pain while under the influence of the sulphuric ether.

FURTHER OPERATIONS UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ETHER.—Three very successful operations were performed at St. George's Hospital, on Thursday; one by Mr. Cesar Hawkins, who removed a long piece of dead bone from the interior of the new bone formed around it, in the leg of a little boy. The little patient inhaled for about three minutes, and awoke as out of a sleep, just as the operation was concluded, having passed through it without the slightest sign of suffering. This operation is always extremely painful, and in the present case would have been more than usually so, in consequence of the inflamed and tender state of the bone. Afterwards, Mr. Cutter amputated a thigh, (the ether being previously administered), with the same success. The third patient was a negro, from whose shoulder a large tumour was removed by Mr. Tatum. Having inhaled the ether, he felt nothing of the operation, and, on recovering his consciousness, was with difficulty convinced that he had lost his load. His surprise and pleasure on seeing the tumour were very ludicrous. The painful operation of removing a cancerous breast was performed at the Cheltenham hospital, when the ether was tried (for the first time in that town). A few minutes after the operation was completed, the poor woman recovered her consciousness, and being asked if she had felt any pain, said—"None whatever; you have not done the operation, you are only deceiving me; nor would she believe to the contrary till the removed breast was shown to her, and then doubted that it had been cut out with a knife. Mr. Lansdown, of the Bristol hospital, also reports a list of successful instances, and remarks, in conclusion, that he has "now administered the ether thirty times, and in no instance has been anything like a tendency to apoplexy, neither have I seen any injurious effects resulting from it."—A man was admitted on Wednesday into the Royal Free Hospital, and, on the arrival of Mr. T. Wakley, jun., one of the surgeons, it was found necessary to perform an operation, to which the man consented, expressing a wish that it might be "done with ether." He was then removed to the operating theatre, and Ferguson's apparatus being charged, the patient commenced inhaling, which he did vigorously for half an hour, without any effect being observed. Mr. Wakley, jun., thinking the case a failure as regarded the ether, was anxious to commence the operation, but the man persisted in inhaling, and in thirteen minutes from that time he became quite insensible, and remained so for four minutes, during which time Mr. Wakley performed a very serious operation without the man betraying the slighest consciousness. Thus he inhaled for nearly three quarters of an hour, inspiring the vapour of three ounces of pure sulphuric ether. The man, however, explained the extraordinary fact by admitting that he was a "wager dram drinker."

FALL OF TWO HOUSES IN LONG ACRE.—On Tuesday morning, shortly before twelve o'clock, a serious accident, but fortunately unattended with fatal consequences, occurred in Long Acre. The improvements which have lately taken place in that district have rendered necessry the removal of many houses contiguous to the new church of St. Giles's in the Fields. At the point where Hanover-street intersects Long Acre, several houses have been taken down by consent of their occupants; but the intended improvements have remained some time in abeyance, in consequence of Mr. Hersey, the proprietor of the George Inn, who held a lease from the Mercers' Company, refusing to surrender without a greater compensation. Some time since Mr. Kensall, the district surveyor, had pointed out to Mr. Hersey the dangerous position in which his house stood, and recommending that measures should be adopted for giving it temporary support. Nothing, however, was done, and on Tuesday morning a cracking sound was heard, and Mr. Hersey having been forewarned, recommended all his inmates to retire from the premises. Had it not been for this timely warning all must have perished. In a few minutes the walls fell in with a fearful crash, and the greatest danger exists that other houses may fall, owing to the slightness of the foundation on which they are constructed. The second house that fell was that of a Mr. Clark, livery stable-keeper. His stables were contigious to Mr. Hersey's premises, but it fortunately happenned that his assistants had left before the occurrence, which has involved the destruction of considerable property.

IMPUDENT ROBBERY.—On the same day two men having the appearance of porters, called at the residence of Captain Buckland, No. 41, Upper Park-street, Euston-square, saying that they had been employed to remove the Captains luggage to the railway. The servant at once allowed them to take two heavy trucks and a portmanteau that were standing in the hall ready for removal, containing a quantity of valuable property. On the Captain's return with the porter he had engaged, the robbery was detected, and is supposed to have been committed by two men whom the captain refused to employ in its removal.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—An inquest was held on Tuesday in the broad room of the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's Inn-road, on the body of Edwin Glynn, aged 66, late in the employ of Mr. Ashfield, builder, Red Lion-square. The deceased with others, was engaged splicing poles on a scaffolding in front of a house in Burne's court, Col bath-fields, when he missed his footing and fell to the ground on his head. A concussion of the brain and death ensued. Verdict accordingly.

FIRE IN THE OLD-STREET ROAD.—On Wednesday night, a few minutes before ten o'clock, a fire broke out upon the premises of Mr. Bury, Victoria Coffee-house, Old-street-road. While the parties connected with the premises were in the lower room, a quantity of smoke filled the room, and in a few minutes the roaring of flames was heard in the upper part of the house, shortly after which the fire burst through the chamber windows. Several engines quickly attended; the fire, however, prevailed, nor was it quenched before the building (built chiefly of wood) was burned through, and its contents consumed. The fire is supposed to have originated through some defect in the flue. It is said that the occupier is not insured.

EXTENSIVE FIRE.—Between six and seven on Wednesday morning a terrific fire suddenly burst forth from the cabinet manufactory of Messrs. Bailes, 23, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square. In the course of a few minutes two machines belonging to the Royal Society for the Protection of Life from Fire arrived, and the parish engines, with numerous others of the London Brigade, and no time was lost in setting the engines to work; but owing to the firm hold the fire had obtained, it became apparent that the manufactory was doomed to destruction. Accordingly, the firemen exerted themselves so as to prevent its further spread. Whilst so engaged, the roof and part of the outer wall fell with a tremendous crash, and the flames then shot into Mr. Oliver's mahogany loft, setting fire to the building, and also to a number of pieces of valuable cabinet wood. The hoses of several engines were taken through the surrounding houses, and by that means the firemen were enabled to attack the flames in the right quarter; but it was past nine before they extinguished them, and not until Messrs. Bailes's manufactory was burned down.

FALL IN THE PRICE OF BREAD.—On Wednesday there was general fall of one halfpenny, throughout the metropolis, in the price of the 4lb. loaf of bread, the charge now being 8d. for inferior, and 9½d. and 10d. for the best bread. Some of the bakers are selling a mixture of rye bread at 7½d. the 4lb. loaf.

EASTERN COUNTIES RAILWAY.—Another lamentable accident occurred on this line on Saturday afternoon, at a place called Manser's Bridge, a short distance this side of Broxbourne, to the fireman of the goods train, which leaves London at twenty minutes to four o'clock. It appears that, contrary to all regulations, the poor fellow, at the spot named, proceeded to oil his engine, and whilst so engaged slipped off, there not being any protection against such an accident, and fell with both legs on the rail. The entire train passed over him before there was a possibility of release, when it was ascertained that one leg was completely detached from the body, and the other nearly so. The unfortunate sufferer (a very young man) was brought back by the five o'clock train, and instantly conveyed to the London Hospital.

AFFLICTING CASE.—On Saturday information was brought to Guildhall that Irvine, the old man who was formerly a merchant, living at 56, Wood Street, Cheapside, and who was in the year 1806 ruined by the seizure and confiscation of a large quantity of Manchester goods which he had exported to Hamburgh, and has for some time past supported himself by hawking haberdashery, which he had been prevented latterly doing by an attack of fever, had died that morning. It will be recollected that an account appeared in the newspapers of an appeal for assistance he made to Mr. Alderman Johnson who kindly gave him a sovereign to enable him to replenish his stock. The publication of the case also excited much public sympathy, and about £20. were sent in by benevolent and charitable individuals, of which the unfortunate man received £4. previous to his death. With that he took a temporary lodging on Tuesday last, at No. 17, Allen Street, Goswell Street, where he became ill, and, although medical assistance was called in, he gradually sank. He has left two children (sons) totally unprovided for.

DIED, on the 3rd ult., at Long Buckby, Mr. George Cooper, aged 24 years, late of the Somers Town locality

RICHARD OASTLER, ESQ.,

TO THE RIGHT HON. LORD JOHN RUSSELL, M.P., HER MAJESTY'S PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OF STATE.

(Concluded from our Last.)

The excessive competition to which I have before alluded has had the effect, by reducing the value of labour, of forcing the operatives to send their wives and children to the slavery of the mills, thereby still further reducing the value of their own labour, and opening the door to social and domestic evils that make the stoutest heart tremble. The result is, the unscriptural union of Industry and Diligence with Poverty and Vice! Labour, that should produce health, has for fruit disease! Diligence, that should ensure plenty, is crowned with want!

* * * *

It is to that branch of our national industry—*the factories*—that I would now direct your lordship's most serious attention, knowing that it is utterly impossible your Government can elevate the religious, moral, social, and domestic condition of the inhabitants of the manufacturing districts, if you leave the factories in their present condition. This assertion obtains abundant proof in the public documents to which your lordship has access. Therein, you will find demonstrative proof given by clergymen, magistrates, schoolmasters, medical men, millowners (at their head, the late Sir Robert Peel, Bart.,) respectable inhabitants, and factory operatives, that, to work women and growing youths more than ten hours a day is totally incompatible with the good condition of their health and morals.

This fact is also established by the unanimous testimony of hundreds of public meetings held in the towns and villages of the manufacturing districts, many of them in Manchester. The great county of York, at the last public meeting of its inhabitants, presided over by

Poetry.

THE FACTORY TOWN.

A Poem.

BY ERNEST JONES.

(From *The Labourer*, for February.)

The night had sunk along the city.
It was a bleak and cheerless hour;
The wild winds sung their solemn ditty
To cold, grey wall and blackened tower.

The factories gave forth lurid fires
From pent-up hells within their breast;
E'en Ætna's burning wrath expires,
But man's volcanoes never rest.

Women, children, men were toiling,
Locked in dungeons close and black,
Life's fast-failing thread uncoiling
Round the wheel, the *modern rack!*

E'en the very stars seemed troubled
With the mingled fume and roar;
The city like a cauldron bubbled
With its poison boiling o'er.

For the reeking walls environ
Mingled groups of death and life:
Fellow-workmen, flesh and iron,
Side by side in deadly strife.

There, amid the wheels' dull droning
And the heavy, choking air,
Strength's repining, labour's groaning,
And the throttling of despair,—

With the dust around them whirling,
And the white, cracked, fevered lips,
And the shuttle's ceaseless twirling,
And the short life's toil-eclipse:

Stood half-naked infants shivering
With heart-frost amid the heat:
Manhood's shrunken sinews quivering
To the engine's horrid beat!

Woman's aching heart was throbbing
With her wasting children's pain,
While red Mammon's hand was robbing
God's thought-treasure from their brain!

Yet the master proudly shews
To foreign strangers factory-scenes:
"These are men—and engines those—"
"I see nothing but—*machines!*"

Hark! amid that bloodless slaughter
Comes the wailing of despair:
"Oh! for but one drop of water!
"Oh! for but one breath of air!

"One fresh touch of dewy grasses,
"Just to cool this shrivelled hand!
"Just to catch one breeze that passes
"From our blessed *promised* LAND!"

No! though 'twas night of summer
With a scent of new mown hay
From where the moon the fairies' mummer,
On distant fields enchanted lay!

On the lealands slept the cattle.
Slumber through the forest ran,
While, in Mammon's mighty battle,
Man was immolating man!

While the great, with power unstable,
Crushed the pauper's heart of pain,
As though the rich were heirs of *Abel*
And the poor the sons of *Cain*.

While the priest, from drowsy riot,
Staggered past his church unknown,
Where his God in the great quiet,
Preached the livelong night alone!

Still the bloated trader passes.
Lord of loom and lord of mill;
On his pathway rush the masses,
Crushed beneath his stubborn will.

Eager slaves, a willing heriot,
O'er their brethren's living road
Drive him in his golden chariot,
Quickened by his golden goad.

Young forms—with their pulses stilled,
Young heads—with the eldered brain,
Young hearts—of their spirit rifled,
Young lives—sacrificed in vain:

There they lie—the withered corses,
With not one regretful thought,
Trampled by thy fierce steam-horses,
England's mighty *Juggernaut!*

Over all the solemn heaven
Arches, like a God's reproof
At the offerings man has driven
To Hell's altars, loom and woof!

And the winds with anthems ringing,
Cleaving clouds, and splitting seas,
Seem unto the People singing:
"Break your chains as we do these!"

And human voices too resound:
Gallant hearts! take better cheer!
The strongest chains by which you're bound,
Are but the chains of your own fear.

Weavers! 'Tis your shrouds you're weaving;
Labourers! 'Tis your graves you ope;
Leave the tyrants toil-deceiving!
Rise to freedom! Wake to hope!

Still, the reign of guilt to further,
Lord and slave the crime divide:
For the master's sin is *murder*,
And the workman's—*suicide!*

Up in factory! Up in mill!
Freedom's mighty phalanx swell:
You have God and Nature still.
What have they, but Gold and Hell

Fear ye not your masters' power;
Men are strong when men unite;
Fear ye not one stormy hour:
Banded millions need not fight.

Then, how many a happy village
Shall be smiling o'er the plain,
Amidst the corn-field's pleasant tillage,
And the orchard's rich domain!

While, with rotting roof and rafter,
Drops the factory, stone by stone,
Echoing loud with childhood's laughter,
Where it rung with manhood's groan!

And flowers will grow in blooming-time,
Where prison-doors their jarring cease:
For liberty will banish crime—
Contentment is the best *Police*.

Then the palaces will moulder,
With their labour-draining joys;
For the nations growing older,
Are too wise for *regal toys*.

And nobility will fleet,
With robe, and spur, and scutcheon vain;
For Coronets were but a cheat,
To *hide* the brand upon a *Cain!*

And cannon, bayonet, sword and shield,
The implements of murder's trade,
Shall furrow deep the fertile field,
Converted into hoe and spade!

While art may still its votaries call;
Commerce claim and give its due;
Supplying still the wants of all.
But not the wastings of the few.

Gathering fleets may still resort,
With snowy canvass proudly bent,
For bearing wealth from port to port
But not for war or banishment!

Then, up, in one united band,
Both farming-slave and factory-martyr!
Remember, that, *to keep the* LAND,
The best way is—*to gain the* CHARTER!

Reviews.

DOUGLAS JERROLD'S SHILLING MAGAZINE—FEBRUARY. London: *Punch* Office, 85, Fleet-street.

"The Chapters of St. Giles and St. James,' are unavoidably postponed till next month." This notice might be stereotyped. Bad management, Mr. Jerrold!

There is nothing very remarkable in the present number of this magazine, unless, indeed, we except some rather remarkable absurdities.

The new story, "The Dreamer and the Worker," is continued. Agnes Roach directs some small shot against the Smithfield nuisance, in an article entitled, "John Bull and his Bullocks." The "Arcadia of this Age" is an attempt so prove the happiness of town compared with country life. "In the next fifty years the inhabitants of our towns will be more than doubled, and four times as numerous as the tillers of the ground. For our successors there seems no other prospect than to be more closely packed together than we are." "Densely-peopled cities constitute the Arcadia of the living generation, and still more densely-peopled cities must be the Arcadia of the next generation." What *Arcadians* indeed this writer has! What a hopeful prophet he is! Heaven send he may prove a false one. He would have England the "workshop of the world;" one huge sweaty den of Mammon's priests and slaves. He naively tells these miserable slaves, that, "For them, the over-arched and almost hidden stream, that discolours, serves a thousand factories, should be more endeared than the brightest rill that purges waste and unimpeded through the daisied meadows." What a taste! How thoroughly ignorant must the writer of such trash be of the real feelings and hopes of the miserable slaves now sweating in those dens of misery, Leeds, Bradford Manchester, Liverpool, &c.! The writer in *Jerrold's Magazine* fondly anticipates a time when England shall be one huge metropolis, and all the food consumed by Englishmen shall be brought from other lands! Now, the reverse of this is desired by the English masses. The desire to escape from towns and to return to the country is the hope, the passion of hundreds of thousands, and will yet be the aim of millions. At the commencement of this Magazine we were assured that every article should "breathe with a purpose." Heaven save the people from the "purpose" breathed in the article we are now commenting on. Heaven relieve us from "The Arcadia of this Age."

"Prospects of British Commerce in Japan" is full of the strangest fallacies regarding the "blessings of commerce," and the "right" of England to impose her trade upon the Japanese; yet the writer is exceedingly imperfect in some men." This is a truth which he fully illustrates in his own person. Of course, the writer is a great philanthropist in his way, and is very affected at the ignorance and suffering of the Japanese: "Owing," says he, "to most unsound maxims of policy, they are compelled to re-enact the fable of Tantalus—to behold abundance in various forms surrounding and tempting them, but always escaping their grasp; to feel the waters of plenty surging upwards to their lips, but still never to be tasted by them or their families." This state of things he would cure by a flood of foreign commerce. Now, we ask, is not the picture this writer has drawn of the condition of the Japanese—which we believe to be more fanciful than real—is not his description a faithful picture of tens of thousands of the English people—a people, the bone and sinew of the greatest commercial nation in the world? Does "foreign commerce" prevent the writer's own countrymen sharing the fate of Tantalus? Can he be ignorant that "foreign commerce"—as at present conducted—has much, very much to do with the misery that exists in this country, the gross inequalities, the extremes of wealth and wretchedness which curse this nation beyond any other on the face of the earth? Heaven save the Japanese from the "purpose" of this writer!

If Mr. Jerrold desires to retain the good-will of the masses, he will either pay closer attention to this magazine, or withdraw his name therefrom. If the "purpose" "breathed" by some of the writers in this publication is persevered in, the sooner the title is changed the better; we would suggest,—"Millocrats' Manual, and Profit-mongers' Pocket-Companion."

"A Night in a German Swamp" and "The Worm towards the Sun," are interesting articles. We have no room for extracts.

PUNCH—PART LXVII. London: *Punch* Office, 85, Fleet-street.

"The Rising Generation" are well hit off in this Part; the conceit and insolence of the *boyocracy* will furnish ample materials for the columns of *Punch*. The knaveries of O'Connell, and the difficulties of Russell are admirably illustrated. The "Club Snobs" are terribly roasted by the author of the Snob papers. We extract the following specimen of *Punch*'s poetry:—

THE FINE OLD ENGLISH GENTLEMAN OF THE PRESENT TIME.

I'll sing you a fine old song, improved by a modern pate,
Of a fine Old English Gentleman, who owns a large estate,
But pays the labourers on it at a very shabby rate.
Some seven shillings each a week for early work and late.
Gives this fine Old English Gentleman, one of the present time.

His hall so brave is hung around with pictures, all in rows,
Of oxen that have gained the prize at agricultural shows,
And pigs so fat that they can't see an inch before their nose:
For the whole of his attention on his cattle he bestows,
Like a fine Old English Gentleman, one of the present time.

In winter's cold, when poor and old for some assistance call,
And come to beg a trifle at the portals of his hall,
He refers them to the workhouse that stands open wide for all:
For this is how the parish great relieve the parish small,
Like a fine Old English Gentleman, one of the present time.

When any of his working men are bold enough to press
For a trifle more of wages in a season of distress,
He answers like a thorough-going man of business:—
"Must I pay this or that for work which I could get for less?"
Says the fine Old English Gentleman, one of the present time.

But rolling years will onwards flow, and time, alas! will fly,
And one of these fine days this fine Old Gentleman must die,
Ah! will he then bethink him, as he heaves life's latest sigh,
That he has done to others quite as he would be done by,
As the true Old English Gentleman did in the olden time!

THE FAMILY HERALD—PART 45. London: G. Biggs, 421, Strand.

This part contains the usual amount of pleasing miscellaneous literature, for which this publication has become so celebrated. The editor continues his inimitable essays, and in all departments the talent and energy is manifested which have from its commencement, rendered the *Family Herald* so justly popular.

THE MUSICAL HERALD—PART 9. London: G. Biggs, 421, Strand.

An excellent selection of music, British and Foreign, together with some original compositions prepared for this publication, will be found in this part of the *Musical Herald*. The "Literature" is interesting to the non-musical as well as musical reader. This is decidedly one of the neatest and cheapest publications of the day.

THE PEOPLE'S PRESS, AND MONTHLY HISTORICAL NEWSPAPER—Isle of Man: W. Shirrefs and A. Russell, No. 2, Lord-street, Douglas.

This is a wonderful two-penny-worth; really the most complete thing of the sort we have ever seen. First we have a summary of the events of 1846, not a mere chronological list of dates but a brief history of the occurrences, home and foreign, of the past year; then follows an epitome of the news of the month, and the mass of news contained in this epitome of less than five pages is truly astonishing; a number of ably written essays and articles supplies the remainder of this first number. The second number is to appear on the first of March. Though not agreeing in all things with some of the writers in this publication, we, nevertheless, feel it a duty to recommend it to our readers, that they may read and judge for themselves. *The People's Press* may be had post free from the publishers (Isle of Man), and may also be obtained, by order, from Messrs. Gilbert, Paternoster-row; Vickers, Catherine-street; and Perkins, Compton-street, the London Agents. We wish the projectors success.

THE CHRONICLES OF THE BASTILE. Parts 1, 2, and 3, second series. London: T. C. Newby, 72, Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square.

Lengthy extracts from the first series of this work have already sufficiently informed our readers of its merits and the great abilities of its author. This second series of which we have received the three first numbers will complete the "*Chronicles*" (in twelve monthly shilling parts). The opening of the story showing that "coming events cast their shadows before," powerfully describes the dreadful state of France immediately preceding the commencement of the Revolution of '89, as witness the following extract:—

THE FAMINE.

The year of Grace Seventeen Hundred and Eighty-nine, so memorable as being that of the outbreak of the great French Revolution, was ushered in by a winter of unprecedented severity; the rigours of which were cruelly aggravated by the total failure of the crops in the Autumn preceding; a calamity in itself sufficiently fearful, but in this instance rendered a hundred-fold more terrible, because it proved not only the forerunner of a series of disasters of the same nature, resulting in the general famine of Seventeen Hundred and Ninety-three, but because it was the consequence of a continuation of scanty harvests, which, for twenty years, had already desolated the kingdom; decimating the population, embarrassing the government, and engendering amongst the people dissaffection towards the existing state of affairs, and towards those who regulated them.

As always happens at periods of national distress, the first who experienced the grievous effects of the dearth, were precisely those least able to provide against the emergency—namely, the people; under which comprehensive designation might be said to be included all not actually nobly born nor come of gentle blood. Yet, amongst this class, to have kindred with, or to have derived descent from which, was, in those now happily bygone days of security and stability, considered almost a crime; branding the individual with an indelible mark, that not even courtly association could efface; amongst this class, say we, poverty and misery owned their gradations, and stood forth as prominently as did the various degrees of wealth and magnificence which appertained to and characterized the ranks of the higher favoured in respect of birth and position. Thus was it not simultaneously throughout the mass of the people that the encroachments of hunger became manifest; it was not upon the solid chalk of the obese burgess, nor upon the scarcely less material comeliness of his plump spouse, that gaunt Famine first stamped its outward and visible sign; these and their like could smile if bread was dearer to-day than it was yesterday, or threatened to be yet dearer to-morrow, for they possessed the means of purchasing the staple article of food, even at the advanced price; whilst their superiors, enjoying larger revenues, and consequently experiencing no difficulty in procuring supplies, at what cost soever, might be presumed to dwell in ignorance of the extent to which the famine raged, and of the privations which the inferior orders of the community were daily suffering; the more especially as they seldom or never had the opportunity of coming into personal contact with them: but the hard-working artisan who bartered the sweat of his manly brow, and the labour of his sturdy sinews, for the miserable doit under the name "hire and wage" doled out to him by his task-master, the burgess or the noble aforesaid; the toil-worn-husband-man, to whose plough and harrow, guided by his powerful arm, was due even the slender, ungrateful harvest that waited upon his efforts, but of his just portion whereof he was not to taste; in a word, the entire working population of France, this was the class upon which the visitation fell with its utmost weight; affecting first and most severely the very poorest; next, those only one degree removed from absolute poverty; and so on, in a regular ascending scale; or, like the ripple engendered by a pebble cast into smooth water, extending in a series of concentric circles, until, having attained its limit in the wealthy citizens and still wealthier nobles the reflux ceased to be felt at all; or too slightly to derange the economy of their well-regulated and sumptuous household.

Under these circumstances, the streets of Paris offered, at this period, a most distressing spectacle; at all hours might be seen groups of lean visaged individuals, besieging the bakers' shops, the corn-market, and every place where food was exposed for sale, but which was to them doubly forbidden, first on account of its exorbitant price, and secondly, because it was everywhere guarded by strong companies of soldiers, ready to drive the hungry multitude back at the point of the bayonet. The gates of every hotel, every mansion, were, in like manner, beleaguered, morn, noon, and night, by similar crowds, who fought against one another for the possession of the broken meat which the underlings of the great distributed, immediately after every repast of their masters. Even the very footways and gutters were explored in search of anything that bore the appearance of food, or could be converted into it; garbage, of the filthiest kind, being greedily devoured wheresoever it was found, whilst the public slaughter-houses were absolutely blockaded by throngs of famishing men, imploring the butchers to give them the offal from the reeking carcasses that had just succumbed beneath the pole-axe or the knife.

As the winter advanced, and provisions became scarcer, the condition of the populace grew daily worse; the public mind, too, began to ferment; men who worked, began to think they had a right to eat also; and here and there one, bolder than his companions, would harangue them upon the subject, insisting upon the equality of all, and how it was, or ought to be, the privilege of every man to enjoy his just portion of the fruits of the earth, and his due share of its riches.

The first character introduced is a "mob-orator" of the Equal Rights school, the afterwards celebrated *Camille Desmoulins*, who is addressing a hungry multitude assembled in view of a baker's shop:—

"WHY SHOULD WE STARVE?—DOWN WITH THE ROBBERS!"

"Why should we starve?" said he, after a brief pause, filled up by a loud murmur of approbation from his listeners. Why should we starve, I ask; we who work, or would work if we could; whilst the nobles, who don't work, are gorging themselves with every delicacy that their wealth can purchase? Are we not all equal? All of the same flesh and blood? Have we not, every one of us, a right, a natural right, a right unalienable, to demand a just return for the labour of our hands? Yet do not our present institutions debar us from that right? For instance, we work, and are paid with a piece of paper. But even *that* wouldn't signify if the government honoured its bills! Instead, we must pay discount to get them changed; and they who drive this vile traffic are agents of the Exchequer-office! Who, then, gets the profit of our labour? That very government itself which I say we don't want, and yet which we endure! Why, what are we? Dogs in a kennel; with the foot of power trampling upon us! Yes, dogs! I repeat it! Again; how much of what is left to us of our hard earnings, goes to the Church! Is not every man taxed to support it; not according to his means, but because he happens to be born with a head? And what do the Clergy do with it? Do they succour the poor? No! We do that; we, who are already poor, are compelled to contribute to the maintainance of those who are *poorer* than ourselves; whilst they who should perform this charitable office are lavishing their gold upon courtesans! We don't want a Church at all! No Church, no priests, no nobles, no government except a Liberal one; a Republic! That's what Jean Jacques Rousseau says; and if he doesn't say so, he means it; but if he does neither, I do both, and that's all the same! He didn't like the nobles, nor do I! They are the cormorants of the State! They eat up everything, and leave us to starve! And this brings me back to the point. Again I ask, why *should* we starve? We any more than they? We have mouths as well as they, and larger appetites! We ask for bread, and what answer do we get? *There is no corn!* 'Tis a lie! There *is* corn! Corn in abundance! Corn stored up in granaries, which will be brought into this very market to be sold at a high price!"

The mob hardly comprehend Camille's tirade against nobles and priests, for the masses—with some few individual exceptions—had not yet thought much upon those political and social questions which, subsequently so greatly agitated the democracy of Paris. His appeals, however, respecting "bread," are at once understood and fiercely responded to. The result is an attack on a baker's shop, a struggle between the mob and a small body of soldiers, bloodshed and death, the victory of the mob, and the sacking of the baker's premises, accompanied by acts of barbarity, strangely relieved by acts both just and generous, of which the real history of the revolution presents so many astounding examples. We must defer further notice till our next number.

Correspondence.

THE FAMINE IN THE FAR NORTH—HIGHLAND PROPRIETORS AND SCOTCH PRIESTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

SIR,—The public are much indebted to you for the many valuable lessons you have taught them from the commencement of your journal, and I am sure your Scottish readers would feel grateful if you would demonstrate, or throw some light upon the nature of public meetings. I do assure you there is much need for it.—For my own part I never went to a meeting, especially when invited by placards or advertisement, but I considered myself while there as a juror, making up my judgment from the evidence and facts laid before the meeting, either to acquit or find guilty the parties or party arraigned. If I am right, I fear much that many are wrong, led astray, making up their judgment from the views of their priests and cunning leaders, consequently returning, very often, a wrong and sinful verdict We had a painful demonstration of this in our own city upon the 18th ultimo. You are aware of the deplorable, famishing condition of the Highland population, and that a public meeting was held in the Music Hall, Edinburgh, on the above date, to take into consideration the cause of it, and to adopt the most advisable measure to save the people from death by starvation. The meeting was numerous, and composed of the most respectable and influential citizens of Edinburgh, and the Lord Provost in the chair. It was opened by prayer, wherein to my unspeakable astonishment, there was an indication that the Almighty Creator and Ruler of Heaven and Earth was to be arraigned at the Bar. No doubt he was called bonny decoying names, such as "Omnipotent," "Just," "Merciful," and "Holy God," "King of kings," and "Lord of lords," and that he had a just right to punish the nation for national sins, &c., &c. The first resolution was moved by a Rev. Gentleman, (it has been read over the breadth and length of the land ere this time) I need not repeat it, but it began thus, "As it has pleased the Almighty God, in the mysterious working of his providence, to visit this land with scarcity of food..... and to destroy the potatoes, &c." The resolution was supported by another Rev. Gentleman, who strenuously endeavoured to exonerate the Highland proprietors, and read a letter from one of their tools, stating that his patron tendered two or three thousand pounds for the relief of the poor victims. Yes, victims of his own cruel, and boundless ambition. I made an attempt to exonerate my God from the charge brought against him, and to bring it home to the guilty proprietors, but I was hissed; and the resolution passed with acclamation. Hence, Highland destitution and misery—were saddled upon the will and pleasures of God

I then prepared a letter for the Edinburgh liberal press, and every one of them refused to give it insertion, with the exception of the *Express*, which took a short extract of it.

I have written a good deal for 12 years back upon the cause of Highland destitution, and published a pamphlet upon it, (not making any pretence to literature); but now that the cruel, reckless, and unhallowed policy of Highland landlords, has given birth to this fearful and grim monster that is stalking up and down the barren moors, cliffs, and precipices of the Highland sea shore, my remarks are considered too strong and bordering upon infidelity, by our pious, priest-ridden Scottish press But I expect a better return from the English liberals.

I need not trouble you with the preamble, so that I begin with the resolution.

I have no right to dispute the Rev. Gentleman's knowledge of, and familiarity with, the mysterious pleasures of God, but I have learned from his revealed will that judgment is a strange work with him, and that he has no delight nor pleasure in the death of sinners.

The failure of the potato root was felt all over Scotland, England, Wales, and Ireland, and would not have affected the Highlands and Ireland in a greater ratio than other places, had not their previous condition left the inhabitants victims to all the casualities of the season. I maintain, as I did at the meeting, that Highland destitution had its origin in human agency. For, in the first place, it pleased the British legislature to enact laws, whereby the earth, with all the treasures beneath it down to the centre, making a fair division with the antipodes, and, above it, up to heaven, and, to a certain extent, out to sea, were consigned over to a few men, to do with it what they pleased, among whom we find Highland proprietors. Secondly, it pleased these gentlemen to turn the aborigines, who held the land by an original right, out of their fertile glens and productive hills, and to convert the land to sheep walks and hunting parks, leaving the people no other alternative but to accept of patches of barren moors, among rocks and precipices, on the sea shore; in short, in most cases, places that God never designed for cultivation nor for the abode of man, created only to support game and pleasure ground, and shelter for sea gulls With few exceptions, the people accepted of these patches, expecting that matters would get better; but, instead of that, they have got worse, and the result is, according to the statistics laid before the meeting, and which were not exaggerated, that three hundred and fifty thousand human beings are deprived of every resource in their own land for subsistence, except what they could rear of the unnutritious root, and now that root has failed they must die, unless they are kept alive upon public charity.

The speeches of the mover, seconder, and supporter of the resolution, maintained that the potato rot was a judgment for national sins. Now, I would ask those gentlemen, what are the leviathan sins of the nineteenth century? are they not the robbing of the poor; yea, of the industrious poor, and expending the booty, the price of blood, upon unnecessary dignity, garnishing idols, gambling, seduction, usury, and debauchery. Now, if this is admitted, and who can deny it, I would then ask, Is it consistent with His other works of Creation, Redemption and Providence, or with one word He spoke while on earth, that a holy, just, and merciful God would punish the poor people that were robbed for the sins of those that did rob them, and to allow the robbers to go scot free?

Oh, ye hypocritical apologists for evil doers, how long will ye continue to saddle the guilt of your evil doing patrons upon the pleasure and providence of God! You, and such as you have done more injury to the cause of Christ and true religion in the world, than all his avowed enemies could accomplish.

I should have expatiated upon the maniacal instruction given to the Committee, who were elected to conduct the funds which were about to be collected, and of the course the committee and railroad contractors are pursuing, (to the latter, in all probability, the destitution will turn out a profitable judgment); but I am intruding too much on your liberality at present, and, with your permission, will resume the subject at no distant period.

Yours respectfully,

DONALD M'LEOD.

15, North Richmond street, Edinburgh,
January 30, 1847.

[We have been compelled to omit a portion of Mr. M'Leod's letter; only for the reason that while Parliament is sitting we cannot afford room for long letters.—ED. N. S.]

THE REPRESENTATION OF NOTTINGHAM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

SIR,—As your valuable paper is freely circulated in this neighbourhood, permit me through your columns to make a few observations upon this important subject, especially as a local paper—the *Nottingham Mercury*—has already had some comments upon it, and several communications from its correspondents. Although several gentlemen are mentioned as fit and proper persons to represent Nottingham in the next Parliament, none of them appear to me sufficiently qualified to entitle them to this honour; being principally from the old schools of political economists, free traders, and followers of Adam Smith, the greater portion of whose doctrines are fallacious and exploded. The fact is, if the electors of Nottingham intend to lead, they must look out for parties who, having studied the production of wealth, have also some knowledge at least of the principles of distribution, and as such I would venture to recommend (without wishing to appear presumptuous) such gentlemen as Mr. Feargus O'Connor, T. S. Duncombe, or Mr. Sharman Crawford, as being highly gifted in this respect to serve the electors of Nottingham. Trusting to your kindness in inserting these brief remarks in your next week's *Star*,

I remain, your obedient servant,

RICHARD CLARK SUTTON.
An Elector of Nottingham.

Grey Friars Gate, February 5, 1847.

[Mr. Duncombe and Mr. Crawford are already well seated in representing Finsbury and Rochdale.—ED. *N. S.*]

CHARTIST VOTES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

SIR,—Seeing that Election and Registration Committees are formed in several localities, allow me to call the attention of the Scottish Chartists to the subject. The attention of the Chartist body has been before directed to the subject through the medium of the *Star*; but very few, I fear, have as yet acted on the suggestions made. The mode of obtaining the franchise is easy and simple for any one who cannot afford to pay £10 rent for a house or shop. He may take a house, and let off a part furnished, which will cover the difference of rent and rates, and something more: or, if that does not suit, he may let the spare rooms unfurnished. All that the sheriff, who is revising barrister, asks for is the landlord's receipt, shewing that the applicant pays £10 per annum or upwards of rent. Now, whoever adopts this plan will find that he is no loser by it, for houses, like other things, are dearest in the retail market. I have put my own name on the register in this way, and so may thousands if they choose. What avails our Election Committees if we have not Chartist electors to bring to the poll? Are the middle classes expected to become converts to our principles? We may as well try to convert a wolf into a lamb. There are many honourable exceptions to be sure, but they are but exceptions to the general rule. When the Whigs ousted the Tories from Downing-street, Sir Robert Peel said, We must fight the battle in the Registration Courts. The Tories fought and conquered. When the Anti-Corn Law League despaired of Parliament yielding to Cobden's bullying, they set to the manufacturing of votes; and the Government quailed before them, and at last surrendered. So, if the Chartists are avowedly in earnest about having twelve Duncombes in the house, every man must exert himself to get a vote as a compound householder, if he cannot get it otherwise. Let the Chartists remember that when an election comes on one vote will be worth twenty speeches, and that without a good number of electors our hustings demonstration will be like firing blank shot, only end in smoke.

Yours very respectfully,

J. CEMMING.

14, Duncan-street, New Town, Edinburgh.

MEETING OF "THE IRISH PARTY."—THE NEW POOR-LAW.

There was a very numerously-attended meeting of "the Irish Party" on Saturday, at their apartments, in Old Palace-yard, Westminster, specially convened, for the purpose of considering the bill introduced into the House of Commons by Lord John Russell, Sir George Grey, and Mr. Labouchere, "to make further provision for the relief of the destitute poor in Ireland." Lord Monteagle was called upon to preside. Among the members of the houses of Peers and Commons present were Earl Mountcashel, Viscount Doneraile, the Earl of Fingal, the Marquess of Sligo, the Marquess of Conyngham, Lord Clements, Mr. D. O'Connell, Mr G. A. Hamilton, Mr. W. S. O'Brien, Mr. D. O'Connell, jun., Mr. W. R. Collett, Mr. Robert Dillon Browne, Colonel Acton, Mr. Robert Archbold, Sir H. W. Barron, Hon. P. Butler, Mr. D. Callaghan, Mr. Timothy O'Brien, Mr. James Power, Mr. Edward Grogan, Mr. William Henry Gregory, Sir Thomas Esmonde, M. F. French, Mr. H. Grattan, Mr. James Kelly, Mr. Anthony Lefroy, Mr. John O'Brien, Mr. Ralph Osborne, Captain Taylor, Mr. H. M. Tuite. The noble chairman read the clauses of the bill *seriatim*. Upon the second clause of the bill, which enacted that the guardians might be authorised by the poor-law commissioners to give out-door relief to persons not permanently disabled, there was considerable discussion. The principle of extending this mode of relief in food, save in cases of sudden and urgent necessity, found a number of supporters, but there were some who expressed themselves antagonistic to the ministerial proposition, in terms almost similar to those which they declared immediately after Lord John Russell's exposition of his projected Irish policy in the House of Commons. The fourth, fifth (save as to the number of relieving officers that might be deemed requisite,) sixth, seventh and eighth clauses of the act were briefly considered. The ninth clause, which provided that all relief given out of the workhouse under the provisions of the act should be charged upon the poor rates of the whole union, and that no relief given under the authority of the act should be ministered out of the union to which it was charged, caused an animated and protracted discussion. The great majority of members present declared themselves favourable to, and determined to support a continuance of the present system of taxation by proportionate assessment on the electoral districts. It was generally admitted, however, that the present mode of assessing the poor's rate should only last until there would be more leisure to effect cautious and salutary changes of the distribution of taxation. The clause rendering the administration of relief under the act subject to the direction and control of the poor-law commissioners having been duly canvassed, and it being arranged that ministers should be questioned in committee as to the full extent of the powers with which it was intended to invest them, the thanks of the meeting were voted to Lord Monteagle, and an adjournment shortly afterwards took place.

SANKY BROOK COLLIERY, PARR, NEAR ST. HELENS.—On Saturday, 23rd ult., an explosion occurred at this Colliery, when a collier of the name of Hitchcock was dreadfully burnt, and on the 30th ult. he died of his wounds. Other two colliers were burnt and lamed at the same time, but are expected to recover.

STARVATION.—A family in Kishorn Lochcarron, have subsisted for several weeks this season on boiled grass and nettles, without tasting any other species of food. Nothing whatever has been done for the poor in that parish beyond giving the paupers a few bolls of meal, and ere summer, Jeantown will be as utterly destitute as Skibbereen, in Ireland.

General Intelligence.

A NEW COMET.—On Saturday evening last, a few minutes after nine o'clock, Mr Hind discovered a telescopic comet in Cepheus. The comet is a faint nebulosity, with a slight condensation in the centre, though no positive nucleus is visible.

REPRESENTATION OF WINCHESTER.—A rumour is prevalent in this city that Mr. J. B. East does not intend to become again a candidate.

RUMOURED RETIREMENT OF COL. MABERLY FROM THE POST-OFFICE.—On Saturday evening a rumour was current in the Post-office that Lieut.-Colonel Maberly is about to retire from the Secretaryship of that establishment.

PROPER.—The Lords of the Admiralty have presented two large gold chronometers to two French captains, as a token of honour, for humanity shown to some shipwrecked English seamen.

MURDER.—Four women have been committed to Derry jail, for the murder of Mr. R. Turbett, at Newtownlimavady.

FEED HIM WITH IT.—Patrick Carty, a baxter in Boyle, has been charged with having sold flour mixed with sand.

USED TO IT.—Sub-constable Cunningham arrested at Abbeyleix John Creegin, notorious for having enlisted in the 6th, 55th, 58th, and 84th regiments.

THE DESTROYER.—At a *conversazione* held on Saturday evening at the residence of Alfred Smee, Esq. F.R.S., in Finsbury-circus, numerous objects of interest were exhibited on the tables for examination; amongst these were many microscopical specimens of plants diseased or destroyed by the *aphis vastator*—the cause of the potato rot.

FAMISHING DOGS entered Ballygibbon Church-yard and tore up and devoured the remains of three persons buried there.

MONEY ORDER OFFICE, LONDON.—The extensive building erected in Aldersgate-street, to which the entire of the money-order department of the General Post-office will be transferred, is to open for business on the 1st of March.

RAILWAY LEGISLATION.—We regret to announce to the railway interests of this country that the government have in preparation a bill of railway powers, pains and penalties, which is likely to prove more injurious to railway property than any other measure which has been attempted against them.—*Railway Chronicle.*

A LUCKY NAVVY.—A navigator working on the Lewes railway has just received information that his uncle bequeathed £87,000 to be divided between him and his brother.

GENTILITY.—A gentleman at Boston is such a stickler for gentility, that he requested the schoolmaster "not to teach any of his boys vulgar fractions."

LORD MORPETH WEARING THE RED CAP.—Lord Morpeth recently dug the first sod for a railway in a navigator's red cap and jacket, in the presence of a large crowd.

GILDING GOLD.—A distant relative, Mr. Windham, has left the Duchess of Sutherland £50,000.

MEN OF MANY WIVES.—There exists in Bengal a particular class of Brahmins, known by the name of Kolins, who are notorious for the number of their marriages One member of this caste has been known to have formed 300 matrimonial alliances, and to have had wives scattered over a vast extent of country.

PARLIAMENTARY DIVISIONS AND ATTENDANCES.—CURIOUS INVESTIGATIONS.—There have been 912 divisions since the present Parliament met in August 1841. Great party questions have rallied, with the aid of whippers-in, a tolerable show, but the real business of the country has very frequently been conducted by less than a legal House, viz, forty members.

CHARTER OF INCORPORATION FOR WARRINGTON.—Major Jebb, the Government Commissioner, has reported to the Privy Council in favour of this application.

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.—The Mayor of Bolton compels the police to seize and thrust into the churches all persons in the streets during divine service.

NONE SUCH A FOOL.—Mr. Dyce Sombre, the alleged lunatic, has petitioned the Court of Chancery for an increased allowance, alleging that £60 a week is not enough for his comfortable support! Poor fellow!

SILK.—The King of Bavaria has authorized an association of ladies, formed for rearing silk worms and promoting the growth of silk within the kingdom.

A HORRIBLE SUICIDE took place last week at Dieneres, in the Haute-Loire. A workman at a saw mill, in a temporary fit of insanity, placed his arm under one of the saws, by which it was separated, and then put his head to the instrument. He was just expiring when he was discovered.

FATHER OF HIS PEOPLE!—The Emperor of Russia has ordered an increase of one-half in the land-tax paid by the free peasants in Russia.

LOVE AMONG THE SPINDLES.—They marry so fast in Lowell, that the editors have been compelled to have their letter boxes enlarged to receive the notices.

IRON STEAMERS.—Two iron steam schooners are about to commence running with goods and passengers between Liverpool and Lisbon.

BRUTES.—John Devany, and Patrick Harbey, wardsmen of Galway workhouse, are committed for the manslaughter of Michael O'Donnell a pauper boy, whom they flogged with a leather strap.

THE PRESS AND PRUSSIA.—The *Siecle*, the *National*, the *Reforme*, and the *Charivari*, French papers, and our contemporary *Punch*, have been forbidden in Prussia.

AN EFFECTUAL CURE FOR DYSENTERY.—A cup of the very strongest coffee, sweetened with white sugar, and without milk, with a hard cake or water biscuit.

BENEFITS FROM TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION.—A few days ago a vessel grounded in the Humber, and was in danger of being wrecked. To save her very prompt assistance was requisite, and the aid of a powerful screw propeller being required, the telegraph from Hull, made known the want at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and by the first train the much needed screw was forthcoming, and thus property was saved by this prompt assistance exceeding in value considerably £1,000.

THE MAGI.—The festival in honour of the Magi was held at Rome on the 10th ult., when hymns, celebrating the nativity, were chaunted or recited in a great variety of oriental languages and dialects, as well as in almost all the languages of Europe.

"PUNCH" IN TROUBLE.—We learn from the *Gateshead Observer*, that the captain of a Newcastle trader was seized in a French port, and hurried before the authorities, because a stray copy of *Punch* was found wrapped round a bottle of brandy!

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE ROBINS.—We regret to have to announce the death of this gentleman, who expired at Brighton, on Monday last, after a protracted illness.

EXPLOSION OF A LOCOMOTIVE.—A disastrous explosion has occurred on the Reading Railroad, near Philadelphia. A locomotive exploded, killing seven persons. The report was heard four miles distant. The mangled limbs of the unfortunate persons were thrown a great distance.

THE FORGERY AT GURNEY'S BANK, FAKENHAM, NORFOLK.—John Church, who was formerly a surgeon at Bradenham, Norfolk, and who has been described in the *Hue and Cry* for some weeks past, was, on Saturday last, apprehended at a tavern, in the neighbourhood of Regent-street, by Sergeant Grey, of the detective force, assisted by Superintendent Pegler, of the Norfolk constabulary, and conveyed immediately to Fakenham, charged with defrauding the above bank of £126, by means of a forged cheque.

FRENCH LEGITIMIST JOURNALS.—In the *France, Quotidienne*, and *L'Echo Francais* there appeared announcements to the effect that from Sunday last, Feb. 7th, those three papers would be united under the title of *L'Union Monarchique*.

THE FAMINE IN IRELAND.—The Pope has promulgated a *Triduo* for the relief of Irish distress.

STATE OF SICILY.—Great distress prevails in Calabria, at Messina, Barcelona, and other parts of Sicily, and fears are entertained that want will cause the poor to proceed to violence. The corn crop has been destroyed by inundations, and famine is now impending.

A MODERN HENRY VIII.—Young Prince Hatzfeldt, a member of the high st Roman Catholic aristocracy in Silesia, intends to dissolve his present marriage, and contract another. As it is only in very few cases that his Holiness at Rome grants the dissolution of a marriage, the prince intends to embrace the Protestant faith, a circumstance which is much talked of, and causes a great sensation in the higher circles,

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THE NORTHERN STAR

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1847.

THE NEW ESTATE.

IT is with no small gratification we have to record the purchase of another estate for the people since, abstracted from its intrinsic value, it is a fact, proving better than all mere wordy argument the vitality and energy of the popular mind in a time of general depression, famine, and scarcity of money. It establishes the position of the working classes in a proud moral point of view, since it refutes so many of the calumnies that have been urged against them. Let no one, henceforward, call them improvident, since we now see them enabled by the saving of their pence to purchase the estates of their aristocratic rulers, whose improvidence is forcing them, despite their thousands, to surrender that which, in most cases, they surreptitiously or forcibly obtained.

The late proprietor of the Malvern Estate, we understand to be a most amiable and upright-minded gentleman; it is such, however, as well as their more guilty companions, who have to suffer from the effects of a vicious system of extortion and prodigality, based upon that parent of all evil, monopoly Let no one, we further say, accuse the working classes of ignorance. Where is that ignorance to be found? Is it in the fact that they apply their resources to moral, social, and political improvement, while the landocracy they are beginning to supplant waste theirs in unprofitable, nay, ruinous extravagance; so much so, that Lord John Russell, when granting loans to the Irish landlords out of the English working man's pocket, to improve their neglected and dilapidated property, is forced to express a hope that they will not expend those loans in extravagance at Paris, Naples or Vienna. Is this ignorance to be found, we ask, in the fact that the people know better than their rulers where to find the paths of true pleasure—not in stifling hells, insipid or licentious courts, and insane orgies, but in the beautiful fields and gardens; in healthy, bracing labour, and the cheerful home-fireside of a winter's night; or the pleasant chat before their *own cottage door*, or stroll through *their own domains* of a summer's evening: with no factory bell to fear in the morning — no bastile on the confines of the village, grimly waiting to receive them, the insatiable grave of honest industry. But, blessed change operated by democracy! the school-house rises in its place—and the mother, instead of sending her children to the mill, there to brutalize the mind and waste the young form, sees them go to school with a light heart, to brighten that intellect which God gives equally to all, but the very use of which the rich have denied to the poor.

Here, again, is a signal refutation to those who fear to grant the working classes that power, which if not given, sooner or later they will take, and who oppose their emancipation in any shape, from the fear of the uses to which they would apply it. The very fact of this Land movement, the very fact of this estate being purchased, speaks volumes for the wholesome direction of the public mind. It proves that the working classes are not levellers, but elevators; not destroyers of property, but industrious men, who turn the occasion of all wealth—the land, to its best and holiest uses, extracting its neglected treasures, and turning it to its legitimate destination—the sustenance of toiling millions, instead of the support of horses and hounds to indulge the vicious appetites or wasteful luxuries of a few pampered individuals. Indeed, it is gratifying to think that the kennels and stables on this new estate will be converted into healthy dwellings for the emancipated slaves of monopoly; that the produce of these farms will be reared to nourish men, and not to pamper cattle;—nay! that the very materials of the feudal mansion will suffice to build cottages for a colony of the Chartists.

Again, the dissipation and excess attributed to the working classes is a calumny that must now fall to the ground. Were they such as the monopolist would make the world believe, would they not build the tavern instead of the school? Or, indeed, would they ever have been able to save money wherewith to buy estates at all? Thus we see, that while the legislature is debating about education, the people are educating themselves; while the aristocracy are losing their estates by prodigality, the working men are purchasing them through the means of being frugal; while political economists are accusing them of ignoranee, the men whom they accuse are outstripping them in the glorious race of progression.

We have reiterated these facts, inasmuch as they illustrate the moral effect the purchase of an Estate like this, must have on the mind of the so-called upper classes. It must teach them, that men, who are strong enough to do this, can carry any just measure; it must tell them, trumpet-tongued, that monopoly has no longer a chance against co-operation; it must show to THE CONSPIRATORS OF MONEY, that they must bow before the COMBINATION OF MEN; while, on the other hand, it must open the eyes of the millions to the real power they possess; it must teach them the value of union, without which this never could have been achieved: and above all, it must encourage the down-hearted, and recall the waverer to the ranks of the people. Were it only for these results, the Estate would be a cheap purchase; but further, the immediate vicinity to several market towns, and to places of fashionable resort in one of our most beautiful counties, affords facilities and advantages to the fortunate allottees, such as our most sanguine hopes hardly expected to see realized.

THE PRUSSIAN "CONSTITUTION."

"Then be the juggling fiends no more believed,
Who palter with us in a double sense,
Who keep the word of promise to the ear,
And break it to the hope!"

Shakespeare.

Let the sceptics who doubted the promises so oft given by the Prussian monarch, but not until now fulfilled, stand abashed; after the gestation of thirty years, the Prussian Constitution is produced, born like Pallas from the head of the (anything but) Jupiter of Prussia! On the 3rd. inst., a Royal letter patent proclaimed the "glad tidings," that *at last* the pledge given by the late king was redeemed, nay more, that "the promises of our late royal father" are exceeded in the grant now made "to the faithful estates of our realm."

Great is the joy of his Prussian Majesty's admirers—by the bye rather "few and far between." The *Times*, the *Post*, and the *Daily News*, are in raptures at his Majesty's liberality! The *Times* says:—

"At such a memorable crisis in their history, we are convinced that the feeling which will predominate over all others in Germany is that of *thankfulness* for the confidence the King has shown to his people, and a firm resolution not to employ the liberties thus secured to them in mere struggles and contentions for popular power or for party interests, but for the public good, &c. We trust that the anniversary of the day on which Frederick William IV. performed the promise of his reign, and began the highest and most arduous duties of his life, will long be celebrated with the blessings of successive generations of a free and prosperous people."

Of course after this flourish of trumpets, our readers will expect to find the fruit of thirty years' growth, something extraordinary and astonishing. They shall judge.

The kingdom of Prussia comprises eight provinces, each of which has heretofore possessed a "provincial diet." These diets are composed of four classes of delegates, two each, representing the nobility, knights, burgesses and rural communes. The subjects submitted to these provincial diets have been generally municipal and administrative questions, such as public roads, forests, local courts &c., &c. They can discuss only the affairs of their respective provinces, but can decide on no question. They have the right of petitioning the throne, meaning thereby the right of grumbling.

In addition to the meetings of the provincial diets, the decree of the 3rd of February organises the assemblage of all the provincial diets in a general one, or National Parliament.

The General Diet will consist of two houses. The upper house will be composed of the royal princes, and other princes, counts and lords, who have seats in the provincial diets. We believe that the Prussian prelates, answering to our Bench of Bishops, will have seats in this house. The system of voting by proxy is to be allowed to the members of this house. The lower house will consist of the deputies of the knights, burgesses and rural communes, who have seats in the provincial diets. As these are the nominees of the wealthy classes, they may be considered as sufficiently aristocratic and conservative. Thus (as was remarked at the banquet of the German Democratic Society) this precious "Constitution" rewards the long-suffering patience of the Prussians with an upper house, a shade or two worse than our "hospital of incurables," and a lower house, which is a *cross* between the old boroughmongering (English) House of Commons, and the corrupt and infamous (French) Chamber of Deputies.

As regards the sessions of this hopeful assemblage, our readers will desire to know whether these are to be annual, triennial, or septennial. They will be neither The King will assemble the General Diet "when the necessity shall occur," or when he may "consider it advisable!" The duration of the sessions and the place of meeting the King will also regulate. The powers here reserved to himself, enables his kingship to render his boasted boon a dead letter. We shall not be at all surprised to hereafter find that the General Diet has held its meetings NOWHERE, at NO TIME!

For certain reasons, however,—reasons affecting! the state of his Prussian Majesty's Exchequer—we are inclined to believe that the General Diet will meet; let us see then what are to be its powers.

No new loans are to be raised, and no *new* taxes imposed without the consent of the General Diet; but so many limitations are added to these clauses, as almost entirely to destroy their effect. Import, export and transit duties, local taxes, the revenues arising from the royal domains, and such indirect taxes as may become the subject of treaties with foreign states are excepted. A pretty tolerable list of exceptions! But mark what follows. *In case of war the King reserves to himself the power of levying extraordinary taxes without consulting the General Diet, should he deem its convocation unadvisable!* Under such circumstances, too, the raising of new loans are to be transferred to the commission for managing the affairs of the national debt. Thus it will be seen, that precisely when his kingship is most likely to want money, and when perhaps public opinion, opposed to an unjust war, would be most determined against granting new taxes and sanctioning new loans, then the king will snap his fingers at the "constitution," get the money as he best may, and settle accounts afterwards.

Only two other points of this "constitution" are worthy of notice:—First, When the General Diet has to agree to new State debts, new taxes, or the raising of existing taxes, the two houses will vote together; this is for the purpose of swamping what opposition may be manifested in the lower house by the flood of royal and courtly tools and sycophants from the upper house. Second, Petitions and complaints can only be brought before the King when previously adopted by two-thirds of the members in each house. Petitions once refused cannot be again preferred by the same assembly, and by a subsequent one only if there be *new reasons!*

We should add that a "Committee of the United Diet" is to be formed from the members of the General Diet; this Committee will meet periodically, and will possess nearly the same functions as the General Diet. There will also be a "Deputation" or Commission, formed from the General Diet, for managing the affairs of the State debts. It is very evident that the "Committee" and "Deputation" will be the real working bodies; composed of the King's creatures, they will devise the "ways and means" to keep the state machine moving. The General Diet will be consulted but rarely, and only in cases of emergency.

Such is the *thing* called a "Constitution," but which is in reality nothing of the sort. It neither restrains power nor confers rights. The people will as heretofore have no controul over the making of the laws, nor will they be allowed a free press, or the privilege of publicly associating for the discussion and redress of grievances. Classes—a limited few of the population—are permitted to agree to taxes and raise loans when the King may feel his inability to procure either without their assistance. This "great concession" "hath this extent, no more."

So far as the raising of money is concerned, Frederick William has reason to acknowledge the superiority of "Constitutional Governments" over his own. No despotism has been able to extract such enormous sums of money from its victims as have been wrung from the people of this country, in the name of "constitution" and "glorious institutions." With this object in view, the Prussian King has taken a step in the "constitutional" direction. The result for the people will be, an increase of taxation, with no increase of their liberties.

Nevertheless, we hail the appearance *am.* Disgusting as it must nearly all parties, it is very likely to excite a storm of indignation, instead of the burst of gratitude solicited by the *Times*. The middle classes who have been offering to join the King in keeping down the democrats, provided he would place them on a level with their class in England and France, will be not a little chagrined to find their propositions unheeded. As to the working classes, with this additional proof of the insincerity of royal pledges, and the humbug of royal concessions, they will persevere in their efforts to accomplish that mighty change designed by the true Democrats of Germany, which will free them from the oppression and exactions of princes, nobles, usurers, and tyrants of every description, and ensure them a state of veritable and permanent freedom, based upon social justice, The hour is not yet, but is fast coming. *Barbarossa will not sleep another hundred years!*

PARLIAMENTARY REVIEW.

This has been a busy week in the House of Commons. The members of the Upper House are always compelled to kick their heels at the commencement of the session, waiting for bills being sent up from the other branch of the Legislature, greatly to the discomfort of Lord Brougham, whose impatience can hardly be restrained by forms, and who seizes every opportunity, however irregular, for carrying on a sort of guerilla debating on his own account. There is, however, every likelihood of his Lordship's appetite for talk being satisfied in the course of next week. The first batch of Irish measures, having reference to the withdrawal of able-bodied labourers from the roads and similar unproductive works, employing them in cultivating the soil, and preparing for the next harvest, and supporting them while so engaged, are rapidly passing through their several stages in the lower house. The speechification is smaller, and the work, such as it is, greater than is usual at the commencement of the session.

The opposition of the Irish landlords to the only valuable portions of the Government plans, and their insatiable selfishness, are developed more clearly as the successive measures are brought forward. A numerous meeting, of what is called the "Irish party," was held on Saturday, under the Presidency of Lord Monteagle, when a resolution condemnatory of the principle of out-door relief was unanimously passed. The Government measure, in fact, does not establish the *right* of the destitute to such relief. It merely gives *permission* to the guardians to dispense it at their discretion. By the existing law, they are strictly tied up to afford no aid whatever except in the workhouses. Against this discretionary power, the "Irish Banditti" resolutely struggle. They will, if it passes, no longer be able to lay their own cruelty and hard heartedness on the law. No Act will stand between them and their responsibility. Besides, they dread that what is at first dispensed as a favour, may grow into a claim. The Government Poor Relief Bill may become the thin end of the wedge, which, when driven home, will give Ireland a real substantial Poor Law, based on the old principle, that those who hold the land of the country in their possession, are bound to find the people upon it either employment or subsistence; and that, in fact, the first mortgage on the soil is that of the labourer.

Mr. Roebuck is no favourite of ours, but the manner in which he has contended that the Irish landlords shall not turn the distress of that country to their own advantage, and demanded that the money and energies of the people of Great Britain shall not be mortgaged for the aggrandizement of a particular class, deserves commendation. His attempts to arrest the lavish generosity of the Whigs, and to expose the true character of the Government plans, have stung the "banditti" to the quick, and the personal attacks which have resulted, diversify the debates on the distress and its remedies.

The Government scheme of Education, like everything else they have yet brought forward, is a miserable abortion. The characteristic cowardice of the party is stamped upon it. The magnificent promises of the Premier have dwindled down to a miserable abortion, introduced by an open confession that the Government dare not grapple with the question manfully, because it is a difficult one, and they are not strong enough to fight the Church on the one hand, and the voluntaries on the other! It is a disgrace to the country that, at such a crisis, men so confessedly incompetent and weak should be permitted to retain office a single week. As the scheme will in due time claim the attention of Parliament, we shall reserve further comment upon it at present.

An assault was made on Tuesday upon a remaining vestige of our old protective system. The Free Traders cannot be said to have any particular reasons for boasting of the success of their measures so far, but they seem resolutely bent upon the destruction of everything based upon the protective principle. The Navigation Laws formed part of a system, whose

leep himself; he was up again at three on Saturday morning and worked till four in the afternoon, he came home quite exhausted and went to bed, and remained there till Monday morning; the effect of this week literally broke his heart, so far as Edleston's shop was concerned—his body was "stiff" on Monday, so on Tuesday, on the Wednesday he "absconded."

Out of the 18s., 1s. was taken for the "black book," 2s. for "tools" (a shameful charge not recognised by other masters), and a shilling or two, "sixpence a dozen" for "looking after him."

Two years ago Wyke was "stiff" one morning, "could not get up," and lost a quarter of a day; he had then been an apprentice two years, and had never before lost an hour. For this he was taken into custody, and confined all night in the Bridewell, the magistrates, however, on this occasion "forgave him." The lad at this time was growing very fast, too fast for his strength, and was obliged to sleep a little. There is little doubt but that his three months at Kirkdale will be a permanent injury to him. Since the "quarter of a day" absence he has been absent two or three days.

If nothing should result from the present petitions. I purpose to present one, from myself, to the House of Lords, and for Wyke's mother to present another embodying the foregoing.

The trial of Wyke did not occupy six minutes; he and Gerrard were not more than a quarter of an hour before the court. Throughout my examination and address Mr. Lyon continually interrupted me to the effect that he had made up his mind, and that my efforts were quite useless.

O'CONNORVILLE.

The disagreeable duty of carrying out a very wise and prudent provision of the late Land Conference has this week devolved upon us. Some of the occupants, regardless of the decision of the Conference, and without any previous notice to us, arrived at O'Connorville, when their respective houses were not fully prepared for their reception, and at a time when it was impossible for the Directors so to dissever their labours as to pay a kind of disjointed attention to the wants and situation of a few. Under these circumstances it became our painful duty to refuse the location of the parties thus looking for premature possession. It would be useless upon our part to characterise the act in harsher terms than mere imprudence, while, had we tolerated it, there would be an end to our controul, and very speedily an end to our occupation. While we are well watched in the discharge of our duties, we are resolved that the performance of those duties shall defy reproof. Now, every member will at once see and confess, that acquiescence in a self-willed act of this kind would peril the existence of the Association, as there would be no end to such attempts at premature occupation. The course the directors adopted was this: they despatched Mr. Doyle to O'Connorville with sufficient cash to transmit the parties to their several homes, and, however their friends may sympathise, and their enemies may rejoice, we beg to remind all, that the act was indispensable, that the duty was imperative, that the resolution of the Conference was decided.

NOTICE.

THE DISCUSSION ON THE CHARTER between Messrs. Gurney and Clark, will be fully reported in the *Northern Star* of February 20th.

A full report will be published in the same day's paper of the

PUBLIC MEETING AT THE CROWN AND ANCHOR, TO PETITION PARLIAMENT TO REPEAL THE RATE-PAYING CLAUSES OF THE REFORM BILL.

To Readers & Correspondents.

LEGAL.

J. R., N—H.—The letter-deliverer has no right to make the demand in question.

M. F., CHESTER.—If you occupy the tenement, and the rent, exclusive of taxes, amounts to £10 or more, you are entitled to the vote. It would appear, from what you say, that the overseer has been telling you a parcel of lies.

THOS. PHILLIPS.—Not if he has taken out a hawker's license.

G. A., BURY ST. EDMONDS.—Yes, if he has a life-estate in his wife's property. For Registration see Synopsis of Reform Act in the *Northern Star*.

J. B. MERRY, HAMPSTEAD.—If the lodger is still in the lodgings, and has property on the premises, you can distrain. The point in your other question depends on mutual arrangement.

R. PINFIELD.—Any man may be an informer, policeman, or otherwise. By your own statement you were liable to be fined.

A SUBSCRIBER, SUNDERLAND.—It will, providing it does not infringe the laws of Belgium.

T. E., COVENTRY.—None of the parties can have any right to the property except the eldest son, or, if dead, his eldest son.

HENRY P. MOUNTSORRELL.—If you are satisfied, that your master is in your debt, you must proceed against him. Apply to a magistrate.

MR. DAVIES, STOCKPORT.—1st. A bond for good conduct, similar to that usually given by a banker's or merchant's clerk, if your case is one *not* affected by either the Joint Stock Act or Friendly Society's Act. The bond must be stamped, and must be entered into by the storekeeper, &c., (and by their sureties, if any,) by their proper names, with the society by *their* proper names.—2nd. If there were *no* dispute, the committee could stop nothing out of the rent on account of repairs, *unless authorised by their lease to do so.*

CHURCH-RATES.—In the Court of Queen's Bench, on Monday, Lord Denman gave the decision of the court on another important question raised in the celebrated Braintree church-rate case. The judgment was to the effect, that if a meeting be called for the purpose of levying a church-rate, an amendment that there be no rate is not legal, and cannot be entertained, it being the duty of the meeting to make a rate. If, therefore, the majority refuse a rate, they are to be considered as not taking part in the business of the meeting, and the minority may make a rate. In future, then, it will be impracticable absolutely to refuse a rate; but the object of the opponents will be substantially obtained by proposing a rate too small in amount to be collected.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A SUBSCRIBER, Tavistock.—Refer to our reply to Mr. J. Summers, in last week *Star*, and your question is answered.

CAUTION.—We take the following from the *Times*:—Sir,—As few persons are aware of the danger to the constitutions of pedestrians from the practice of throwing salt upon the snow, without immediately removing it from the footpath, I send you the result of my experiment to day, which may be the means of sparing the lives of those who incautiously tread into the intense cold which is occasioned by it. The temperature of my room was forty degrees, that of the snow thirty-two degrees, and the water thirty-four degrees. When the snow and salt were amalgamated, the temperature was reduced to only half a degree above zero; showing an increased intensity of cold below the snow register of thirty-one and a half degrees. When the water was added to both, the temperature was raised to twenty-eight degrees. These facts may be serviceable to every pedestrian, and save some lives. H. P.—Bermondsey-square, Feb. 10.

THOMAS BROWN, Manchester.—Yes. Full particulars will be announced in a few days.

C. M., Nottingham.—The 1s. per share in lieu of the directors and conference levy, must be paid in advance, in order to enable parties to be eligible to the ballot.

W. STARK, Salford.—The shares in future will be £1 6s. each. No person will be allowed to hold less than two shares, or more than four shares. The new rules will be ready for issue in a few days.

J. SWEET begs to acknowledge the receipt of three petition sheets, and the sum of sixpence from Mr. Hunter Osborne. All persons holding petition sheets and subscription books are requested to forward the same as soon as possible.

The members of the Land Company are respectfully informed, that if they do not pay the sums in accordance with the notice given by the directors in the *Star* for several weeks past, before the first Monday in April next, their names will be erased from the books of the Company, and they will forfeit the amount already paid.

JAMES SWEET.

J. VICKLES.—We don't know.

Forthcoming Meetings.

CHARTISTS OF THE METROPOLIS support your Parliamentary Leader, T. S. Duncombe, attend the Demonstration against the Rate Paying Clauses in the Reform Act, at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, on Wednesday, evening next, February 17th, at half-past seven for eight precisely, to which all the metropolitan members of Parliament are invited:—Thomas Wakley, M.P., will be proposed to the Chair,—and the following gentlemen stand pledged to attend, T. Wakley, M.P., T. S. Duncombe, M.P., Sir B. Hall, Bart., M.P., Sir C. Napier, Knt., M.P., W. S. Crawford, M.P., Charles Cochrane, Esq., and Lawrence Heyworth, Esq.,—in addition to whom the members of the Executive Committee of the National Charter Association will be present.

HYDE.—The members of the Hyde branch of the Chartist Land Company are requested to meet at the house of Mr. John Leigh, John Street, on Sunday, February 14th, at two o'clock in the afternoon, Persons wishing to become members may do so by applying to Mr. John Gaskell, Tailor, Hyde Lane.

LIVERPOOL.—The adjourned meeting of the members of the Land Company will take place on Monday night at eight o'clock, at Mr. Farrell's, 4, Cazneau Street.

BRIGHTON.—A public meeting will be held in the large room, at the Artichoke Inn, on Monday evening next, February 15, at eight o'clock, for the purpose of petitioning Parliament for the repeal of the rate paying clauses of the Reform Act.

WELTON, NEAR DAVENTRY.—William Munday, of Northampton, will deliver a lecture at this place on Monday, February the 15th, at seven o'clock in the evening.

OLDHAM.—On Sunday a lecture will be delivered in the school-room of the Working Man's Hall, at six o'clock in the evening, by a Friend.

LEICESTER.—The Chartists of this place will hold a public meeting in the Town Hall, on Monday evening next, at half-past seven o'clock, to take into consideration the propriety of petitioning Parliament to repeal the rate paying clauses in the Reform Bill.

HULL.—The Chartists of Hull will meet at the Ship Inn, Church-lane, on Sunday evening next, at seven o'clock. Dr. M'Douall will much oblige by sending his address to the secretary of the National Chartist Association, Mr. George Stephens, 64, Stainforth-place, Hessle-road, Hull.

HALIFAX.—The members of the Chartist Land Company will meet at their large room, Bull Close Lane, on Sunday next, at two o'clock in the afternoon.

BRADFORD.—The Chartists of Daisy Hill, will meet in their room, on Sunday morning, at ten o'clock. The Chartists of Bradford will meet on Sunday, at two o'clock in the afternoon, in their room, Butterworth-buildings, to make arrangements for the reception of Dr. M'Douall. The Petition Committee will meet at the same time. A public meeting will be held at North Brierly, at the Faint Revived Inn.

HYDE.—The members of this branch of the Land Company will meet on Sunday next, at two o'clock in the afternoon, at the house of Mr. John Leigh, John Street.

HAUGHTON GREEN.—The Members of this branch will meet on Saturday next, at 6 o'clock in the evening, at the house of Mr. John Merrick, Haughton Green.

MANCHESTER.—Dr. M'Douall will lecture here on Sunday evening next, 14th inst., at half-past six.

LITTLETOWN.—On Monday, the 15th instant, a public meeting will be held at the house of Mr. Robert Redferas, to adopt the National Petition. Messrs. B. Rushton, F. Sucksmith, and others, will address the meeting.

HEBDEN BRIDGE.—Mr. Richard Wheelwright will deliver a course of Three Lectures in the Democratic Chapel, Bridge Lanes, the first on Sunday, February 21st, at half-past 2 in the afternoon.

HALIFAX.—Mr. Bowden will lecture on Sunday, (to-morrow) at half-past 6 in the evening.

DR. M'DOUALL will deliver a lecture on "The Food and Famine Question," in the Working Man's Hall, Bull Close Lane, on Tuesday next, the 16th instant, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. A public meeting will be holden in the above room at 6 o'clock in the evening, to adopt the National Petition, when Dr. M'Douall and other friends of the cause will be present.

BACUP.—A public meeting of the inhabitants of Bacup and its vicinity, will be held in the Chartist room, Rochdale Road, Bacup, on Monday evening, the 15th of February, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of adopting the National Petition in favour of the People's Charter. The meeting will be addressed by Dr. P. M. M'Douall and others. Chair to be taken at eight o'clock.

ASSEMBLY ROOMS, 83, Dean Street, Soho.—On Sunday evening next, February 14th, Mr. John Skelton will deliver a public lecture, subject, "The production and distribution of wealth."

Chartist Land Company.

MANCHESTER.—The Shareholders held their adjourned meeting on Sunday last, in the Hall of the People's Institute, Mr. Abbott was unanimously appointed to preside, and Mr. Dixon was appointed secretary, pro temp.

Mr. DONOVAN moved the following resolution:—"That there be an office taken for the transaction of the business of the Land Company, and that the following officers be elected:—a financial secretary, corresponding secretary, scrutineer, and treasurer." The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. DONOVAN moved, and Mr. GREGORY seconded the following, which was carried unanimously:—"That no money be received for the Co-operative Land Company in any other place but the office, and then only by the secretary, scrutineer, and treasurer."

Mr. DONOVAN moved, and Mr. RANKIN seconded the following:—"That in order to meet the local expenses, each shareholder in this branch shall pay one farthing per week per share."

Mr. HALL moved, and Mr. MITCHELL seconded the following amendment:—"That the members who have not paid up their shares, shall pay one penny per month per share, and the paid-up members one halfpenny per month per share, to defray the local expenses."

The original motion was agreed to by a majority.

The next question was the rent of the office and officers' salaries, when it was agreed that the office should be open two nights in the week, and on the Sunday evening; and as the attendance of the officers on those nights will be necessary, it was resolved:—"That the secretary should be paid 8s. per week, corresponding secretary 2s. 6d. per week, scrutineer 2s. 6d. per week, and treasurer 2s. 6d., with 2s. 6d. per week for the rent of the office:" which, calculating the number of shares at 1000, would leave a balance in the hands of the treasurer each month, after paying for office and officers, of 11s., to defray any other necessary or incidental expenses which may occur.

The following officers were then appointed, pro tem.:—Mr. Murray, financial secretary; Mr. Dixon corresponding secretary; Mr. Foster, scrutineer; Mr. McMulloch, treasurer. Two auditors were then chosen for the next six months, with one member as committee-man to act with the other officers, as a committee for conducting the business of the branch: auditors, Mr. Apenshaw, Mr. Addison—committee-man, Mr. Ansley.

NOTICE.—The committee appointed by the shareholders to receive the members cards, and examine the accounts of this branch, respectfully request that the members will bring in their cards without delay in order to the final settlement of the accounts. The committee would impress upon the shareholders the necessity of punctually attending to this not only on account of the accounts of this branch, but also that they may be furnished with the names, trade, and residence, in order to make out the lists for the comple registration of the company under the Joint Stock Companies Act. The Committee will sit in the ante-room of the People's Institute, on Sunday, (to-morrow,) to receive cards and enter names from ten o'clock in the morning, until twelve, meet again at two o'clock, and sit till four, and assemble again at six, and sit until half-past seven in the evening.

THE BANK.

The Directors are now in treaty for a suitable place for the Bank to be established in connexion with the Land Company, and all depositors and redeemers may forward their monies to the Land Office, 83, Dean Street, Soho, London, till further notice is given of the regular place of business.

THE BALLOT.

In consequence of a recent purchase of a splendid estate of 500 acres, and the desirableness of making such arrangements as are necessary to prevent the complication of members of different sections being located upon the same estate, the Directors hereby announce that the ballot for the location of members belonging to the Second Section, on so much of the estate recently purchased as will be required for thirty occupants, is postponed to Monday, the 8th of March, and all persons to be eligible to the ballot must have have paid in full for their shares, together with the expenses due, by Thursday, the 4th of March.

FEARGUS O'CONNOR, CHRISTOPHER DOYLE,
PHILIP M'GRATH, T. M. WHEELER,
THOMAS CLARKE.

NOTICE TO DISTRICT SECRETARIES AND TREASURERS.

The attention of all District Secretaries and Members of the Company is particularly called to the subjoined instructions:—

1. As the Joint Stock Company's Act does not recognise parts of shares, no transfer of such can in future take place; neither can any paid-up share be transferred during the period of provisional registration.

2. The collection of the halfpenny levy per share per month, henceforth shall cease. Every member of the Company, and all who may join it, are liable to one shilling per share per annum, to commence from the 1st of January, 1847. Holders of paid-up shares must pay the share charge to be eligible for the Ballot.

3. Persons taking one share must pay 3s. 4d., those taking one share and a half 5s., those taking two shares 6s. 4d., within 3 months from the date of entrance, or forfeit the instalments subscribed. And as there are several persons in the Company more than three months who have not paid the amounts above stated. All District Secretaries are hereby instructed to erase from their books, on the 1st of April next, the names of all defaulters who have entered previously to January 1st, 1847.

4. All matters relative to the third Section must be totally distinct and separate from the first and second.

5. The next ballot for the second Section will take place in London, on March the 8th, and all shareholders, to establish their eligibility, must pay in full on or before Feb, 15th, 1847.

By order of the Directors.

RECEIPTS OF THE CHARTIST CO-OPERATIVE LAND COMPANY.

PER MR. O'CONNOR.

SECTION No. 1.

	SHARES.				£	s.	d.
City of London..	0	10	6	Bradford ..	7	17	0
Lepton	0	4	6	Huddersfield ..	4	11	4
Crieff	0	4	0	Newark-on-Trent	2	8	4
Shoreditch ..	0	1	0	Birmingham, per			
Westminster ..	0	5	0	Goodwin ..	0	5	10
Burrowash ..	0	5	0	Hull	7	6	8
Hindley, per				Warrington ..	10	9	0
Cook	0	1	0	Wakefield ..	0	19	6
Lower Warley ..	1	11	0	Bolton	4	18	0
Shrewsbury ..	0	12	6	Oxford	2	0	0
Colne, per Hay..	0	3	6	Lambley ..	1	8	8
Prescot.. ..	1	11	0	Rotherham ..	2	19	7
Hindley, per				Smethwick ..	0	4	0
Bowden ..	1	18	0	Warwick ..	0	3	6
Derby	0	14	0	Blackburn ..	5	0	6
Norwich, per				Mottram ..	0	10	6
Hurry ..	2	0	0	Macclesfield ..	5	0	0
Leicester, per				Reading ..	0	15	0
Astill.. ..	6	0	0	Ashton-under-			
Sudbury ..	2	0	0	Lyne	2	18	6
Nottingham, per				Sutton-in-Ash-			
Sweet.. ..	0	6	9	field	0	19	0
Cheltenham ..	0	1	0	Shoreditch ..	0	1	0
Preston.. ..	0	7	4	Merthyr, per			
Crown & Anchor	1	8	0	Morgan ..	0	2	6
					£81	2	6

SECTION No. 2.

	SHARES.				£	s.	d.
City of London..	1	3	0	Leigh	1	6	0
Jessie Earl, En-				Astley	0	9	6
field	0	18	0	Greenwich ..	5	4	0
Shiney Row ..	2	16	3	Chelsea.. ..	1	3	10
Lepton	0	17	6	Alfred Preator ..	4	4	0
Darlington ..	1	7	6	E. Edisbury ..	0	5	0
Crieff	2	19	9	Preston.. ..	1	7	0
Mr. E. Elliott ..	2	12	0	Old Sheldon ..	3	0	9
Littleton, per				Ayr	1	15	8
Pannell	7	2	0	Newcastle-on-			
Shoreditch ..	0	4	0	Tyne.. ..	7	0	0
Lambeth	3	3	6	Elpinstone, Jas.	1	0	0
William Burch-				Finsbury ..	11	5	0
art	0	2	6	Do. Mr. West,			
Edward Smith ..	0	10	6	Jun.	3	12	0
G. Bishop ..	0	0	6	Crown & Anchor	0	7	0
Westminster ..	0	19	10	Bradford ..	10	0	0
Llarelly ..	2	16	0	Nuneaton ..	0	14	9
Easington-lane..	1	0	0	Bridgewater,			
Garndiffeth ..	4	13	0	Fink	4	7	0
Glossop, per				Huddersfield ..	11	11	6
Lewis ..	33	8	0	Newport, Isle of			
Thrapstone ..	9	2	0	Wight ..	2	13	6
G. Mallows ..	4	3	6	Edinburgh ..	1	16	0
Burrowash ..	0	1	4	Newark-on-Trent	0	10	0
James Hill ..	0	6	0	Mells, per Smith	1	19	11
Andrew Burney	0	0	6	Birmingham, per			
Crieff	0	1	11	Goodwin ..	11	14	2
Bury	7	12	0	Smethwick ..	12	5	0
Hindley, per				Barnsley ..	5	0	0
Cook	8	8	2	Hull	4	17	0
Bridgewater,				Malmesbury ..	1	2	0
Aston.. ..	2	19	6	Hugh Noble,			
Bilston.. ..	10	0	0	Brechin ..	0	2	0
J. B. O... ..	4	0	0	Bradford, Wilto	0	9	6
Shrewsbury ..	0	5	0	Warrington ..	0	8	9
Wm. Young ..	1	0	0	Birmingham,			
Rochdale ..	4	16	9	Ship	5	13	0
John Rennerson	0	8	0	Wakefield ..	9	0	0
Calais	0	12	0	Bolton	1	8	0
Brass Founder's				Oxford	0	8	6
Arms.. ..	2	6	1	Lambley ..	3	17	9
Stepney.. ..	0	2	0	Ashburton ..	3	2	0
O'Connorville, J.				Saddleworth ..	1	6	2
Robertson ..	2	0	0	Portsea.. ..	4	10	0
Somers Town ..	2	11	8	Warwick ..	0	1	0
Leamington ..	5	6	6	Blackburn ..	21	1	8
Lancaster ..	3	3	9	Teignmouth ..	23	19	4
Arbroath ..	1	17	3	Stockport ..	4	0	0
Corbridge ..	0	6	6	Mottram ..	8	18	6
Derby	3	19	2	Macclesfield ..	3	0	0
Barnstaple ..	4	12	0	Gosport.. ..	2	8	8
Walsaken ..	11	1	10	Reading ..	0	12	4
Leicester, per				Wootten-under-			
Astill.. ..	3	0	0	Edge	5	4	6
Stockton-on-Tees	2	8	10	Retford.. ..	2	8	5
Sandbach ..	1	11	0	Ashton-under-			
Ledbury ..	0	2	1	Lyne	4	14	0
Birmingham, per				Sutton-in-Ash-			
Follows ..	4	5	3	field	1	2	9
Alva	0	10	0	Elland	2	3	6
Nottingham, per				Merthyr, Mor-			
Sweet.. ..	4	2	6	gan	4	14	6
Cheltenham ..	4	0	6	Shoreditch ..	0	2	0
Torquay ..	10	12	10				
					£404	13	7

SECTION No. 3.

	SHARES.				£	s.	d.
Creif	0	5	4	Old Shildon ..	0	2	4
Littleton, Pan-				Newcastle-on-			
nell	2	0	0	Tyne.. ..	3	0	0
Shoreditch ..	0	9	10	Lambeth ..	0	1	4
Newent.. ..	0	8	0	Crown & Anchor	0	2	6
Rochdale ..	0	4	0	Hull	4	17	6
Leamington ..	0	0	6	Lambley ..	0	1	2
Arbreath ..	10	12	4	Gainsborough ..	1	13	0
Leicester, per				Smethwick ..	6	3	9
Astill.. ..	0	8	0	Blackburn ..	9	7	8
Nottingham, per				William Cowper,			
Sweet ..	0	10	0	Newcastle-on-			
Cheltenham ..	0	1	8	Tyne.. ..	5	4	6
Greenwich ..	0	6	0	Ashton-under-			
J. B. T. Loriot ..	0	1	4	Lyne	0	1	4
Preston.. ..	7	17	0	Shoreditch ..	2	10	0
					£56	8	4

EXPENSE FUND.

City of London	0	6	5	Aberdeen, J.			
G.March, Bright-				Mann ..	0	2	0
lingsea ..	0	2	0	Kenilworth ..	0	9	6
Worcester ..	0	18	4	Calais	0	8	0
W. Cowper, New-				Brass Pounder's			
castle ..	0	1	2	Arms ..	0	6	0
Daniel Hopkins	0	1	0	Leamington ..	0	3	6
Crieff	0	0	6	Prescot	0	4	6
Mr. and Mrs.				Mountain ..	0	1	0
Elliott Clap-				Hindley, Bow-			
ham.. ..	0	4	0	den	0	10	3
Finsbury (West)	0	2	0	Longton ..	0	3	0
Littleton, Pan-				Derby	0	5	6
nell.. ..	0	2	0	Littleton ..	0	2	0
Mr. Richards ..	0	1	0	Littleborough ..	0	2	0
James Hall ..	0	2	0	Levi Warner ..	0	1	6
Westminster ..	0	2	0	Belper, Worthy			
Kensington, Mr.				and Brown ..	0	3	0
Cousins ..	0	2	0	Alloa	0	1	0
Richard Spar.				Sudbury ..	1	3	0
row	0	1	0	Nottingham, per			
Davis	0	1	0	Sweet ..	1	10	5
Parker, West				Belper, per			
Auckland ..	0	0	9	Gregory ..	0	18	1
W. Jarratt,				Leigh	0	2	0
Doncaster ..	0	2	0	Halstead ..	0	3	0
Garndiffeth ..	0	3	0	Preston ..	1	14	6
H. Wright ..	0	1	3	Old Shildon ..	0	6	0
G. Mallows ..	0	2	0	Ayr	0	2	11
Somers Town ..	0	6	0	Monmouth ..	0	8	0
Whittington &				J. G. Holland ..	0	1	6
Cat	0	2	0	Exeter.. ..	1	4	0
Hindley, per				Bridgewater,			
Cook	1	1	0	Fink	0	5	2
J. Miller Grant-				Huddersfield ..	2	5	2
ham.. ..	0	2	0	Newport, Isle of			
Earlsheaton ..	0	1	6	Wight ..	0	2	0
Wootten-under-				Thomas Phil-			
Edge ..	0	13	6	pott Allington	0	2	0
Glossop ..	0	12	0	Hull	0	12	6
Belmont ..	0	3	6	Edward Wilson	0	1	6
Malmesbury ..	0	7	4½	Barnes, Ormskirk	0	2	0
Leicester, Adams	0	1	6	Blackburn ..	3	6	4½
Warrington ..	0	2	0	Torquay	0	13	9½
Birmingham, Ship	0	7	0	Samuel Davis,			
Andrew Cleland	0	1	6	Bath	0	2	0
A. C., Chippenham	0	2	0	Teignmouth ..	0	10	4
Bolton	0	3	0	Mottram	1	6	0
Oxford	0	1	8	Priscilla Toy ..	0	2	0
Lambley	0	5	1½	Rending	1	7	7
George Susham	0	2	0	Sutton-in-Ashfield	0	7	2
Pleasance Gage	0	1	0	G. F. Stanning	0	1	0
Lynn	0	8	0	Jackson, Swansea	0	1	0
Ashburton ..	0	2	0	Elland	0	12	0
Peterborough ..	0	7	6	Merthyr, Morgan	0	5	0
Tavistock ..	0	1	0	Marga et Russell	0	1	0
Chipping Norton				Coggleshall ..	0	2	0
C. Austin ..	0	1	0	Smethwick ..	0	6	0
Saddleworth ..	0	3	6				
					£32	1	2

THOMAS MARTIN WHEELER, Financial Secretary.

TOTAL LAND FUND.

Mr. O'Connor, Section No. 1 ...	81	2	6
Mr. O'Conner, Section No. 2 ...	404	13	7
Mr. O'Connor, Section No. 3 ...	56	8	4
Expense Fund	32	1	2
	£574	5	7

REPAYMENTS TO MR. O'CONNOR ON ACCOUNT OF DEBT DUE BY DEFENCE FUND.

Received at the "Northern Star" Office.

Manchester, per Mr. R. Radford	0	10	0	Mr. Jas. Winsor, Bovey Tracey	0	1	0
					0	11	0

Per Mr. Christopher Doyle.

Mr. Delahoy ..	0	0	6	John Robertson	0	2	6
A Friend ..	0	0	2	Hindley ..	0	2	9
Cardiff	0	4	6	J. G. Rolland ..	0	0	6
					£0	10	11

TO THE SUB-TREASURERS OF THE NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION.

Smethwick ..	0	1	2				

CHRISTOPHER DOYLE, Secretary.

VETERANS', WIDOWS', AND ORPHAN'S FUND.

The sum announced last week from Brighton should have been 3s. 3d. and not 2s. 3d

NATIONAL TRADES ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF INDUSTRY.

"Union for the Million."

The central committee of the above association held their usual weekly meeting on Monday last, at their office, 11, Tottenham-court-road.

T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., presided in the chair, when, after the usual preliminary business was disposed of and a mass of correspondence read, among which was one from the serge weavers of Cullompton, thanking the central committee for having sent Mr. Allen to that town, and stating the employer had discharged the chairman of the union, but set him to work again upon the intercession of his sister. The central committee decided upon employing the chairman, should the employer discharge him, (for not a man in the village dare move in Trades Union matters in consequence of the tyranny exercised over them by their heartless employer.)

DUNDEE.

On Tuesday evening a public meeting of the trades was held in the Thistle Hall, Union-street, to hear a lecture from the Association's Missionary, Mr. Jacobs; the Hall was crowded, the lecturer, in his usual spirited style, dilated on the grievances of the trades, the numerous petty tyrannies and peculations of the master class. Mr. J. proceeded to develope the plans of the Association in a masterly manner, showed that the millions of workers could by their accumulated pence, become masters of all the trades in Britain in a few years, after touching on the question of markets of manufactures and sustenance, British and Foreign, and showing the necessity of regulating which none other class than the workers could or would properly effect. He next reverted to the progress of machinery, the necessity of the workers directing it into its proper channel, namely, to assist themselves in the protection and obtaining food and raiment, concluded in a powerful appeal to union, that drew forth the loud and long continued plaudits of the assembly; when silence was obtained, the lecturer rose and said, if there was any person wished to be further informed on any point, he would be most happy to answer any question they felt inclined to ask,—a few questions were asked and answered to the satisfaction of the meeting, after which, the following resolution was proposed, seconded, and carried unanimously:—

That we approve of the principles and objects now set forth, and deem it the true interest of the trades of Dundee to join forthwith, that the committee do send for rules and prospectuses to supply the trades in this district.

Votes of thanks were passed by acclamation to the missionary and chairman, which were duly responded to, and all went off with the best spirit.

ARBROATH.

On Tuesday evening a public meeting of the trades was held in the Rechabite Hall, to hear a lecture from Mr. Jacobs. About half-past eight, Mr. J. Seager was called to the chair, and opened the business by informing the meeting that the reason of calling them to that part of the town was, that they were successively refused the Trades' Hall, and the Guildhall, those Halls were frequently let to Tom Thumb, Mountebanks, Light Dancers, and Showfolks of any sort, but to benefit the working class it was refused, the plea made was, "it would create unpleasantness for the masters," for the present they must do their best, but he hoped the workers would unite to the monster association, and then they could treat these petty chiefs better manners, he would now introduce the missionary, who would show them the world's wealth and power.

Mr. Jacobs came forward and said, "Friends, I shine the statements of your chairman sufficient to spur you on to union in our great cause, that you may rid yourselves at once, and for ever, from all your tyrants, in trades or towns affairs. The Lecturer then proceeded with his lecture in his usual energetic style, and was much applauded. At the close a resolution in favour of the Association was carried, a good spirit is set on foot among the trades of this town that will only increase by opposition.

GLASGOW.

On Friday, the District Committee met in the Nelson-street chapel. The member for the Currier's Society took his seat, and subscribed to the forms of office.

Several delegates reported the state of their trades. The Missionary reported progress.

The Secretary read the minutes, and reported he had been too unwell to attend the trades he was deputed to during the week.

A deputation from the tailors, consisting of the Secretary and others, attended, and requested the Missionary to attend their public meeting on Friday, to explain the principles, &c., of the Association.

Saturday—Mr. Jacobs visited the Cotton Spinners Committee to arrange for their meeting.

BARNSLEY.

A public meeting was held in the Odd Fellows Hall, on Monday evening, February 1st, to hear the principles of the National Association of United Trades, expounded by Mr. Lenegan, the Association's missionary, who delivered a very interesting lecture on the subject, after which a resolution was passed unanimously that we, the working men of Barnsley, do immediately join the above Association. A committe was appointed to carry out the object of the meeting. The aforesaid committee met at Mr. John Pickering's large room, on Saturday night, February 6, to enrol names, elect officers, &c.

On the 2nd of February, Mr. Lenegan also attended on the tailors, and addressed them some time, after which they agreed to join with the other trades in the town. On the 3rd instant, he went to Dodworth, and addressed the hand-loom weavers and miners; they passed a resolution to join *en masse*. On the 4th instant, he attended a meeting of shoemakers, and addressed them for an hour and a half, after which they agreed to join the Association,

Home News.

England.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DREADFUL MURDER.—Early on the morning of Sunday last a most dreadful murder was committed at Newbrough, near the Fourstones station, a few miles west of Hexham, on the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway. The following are the particulars which have reached us on the subject:—The murdered man, who e name was Proud, and was hind to Mr. Maughan, of Newbrough Lodge, had a child to be baptised on Sunday afternoon, and, after leaving church Proud and his friends had gone to a public-house in the village of Newbrough to get some refreshment. While there, some little misunderstanding took place between Proud, the father of the child, and a man of the name of Welsh, who was a labourer at Porduch-stones lime-quarries, situated in the neighbourhood; and on Proud and his party leaving the public-house, Welsh left also, and went in the same direction. It is reported that the quarrel was renewed, and that something of the nature of a struggle took place between Welsh and Proud, at the turn of the road leading to Newbrough Lodge, which is situated a little west of the village, and that the latter having the best of it, as soon as they were parted, Welsh went away, and the party supposed they had got rid of him. However, before they had gone far up the lane, Welsh, who is supposed to have taken a somewhat nearer road, suddenly re-appeared, and, making up to Proud, seized hold of his head, and, pulling it back, cut his throat so dreadfully, that the unfortunate victim died almost immediately. After committing the horrid deed, Welsh instantly ran off, and called at the same public house, where he got a pot of whisky, and having drank it, he stated to the mistress of the house that it was the last time she would see him. He then left, and hastened to the Fourstones station. On reaching it he seems to have been entirely overcome, partly by the liquor he had taken, and the exertions made to flee from the locality of his crime. In the meantime, intelligence of the murder soon spread over the village, and Mr. Maughan having arrived at the spot, gave directions to make instant pursuit, and the constable (Mr. George Ridley) immediately mounted a horse, and went to the Fourstones station, where Welsh was taken.

On Tuesday afternoon an inquest on the body of the murdered man was held at Newbrough, before S. Reed, Esq., one of the coroners for Northumberland, when after hearing the evidence of several witnesses, the jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against Welsh, who was committed for trial at the ensuing assizes. Welsh is not more than 23 years of age. The deceased was much older, and has left a widow and family to lament his fate.

LIVERPOOL.

ALLEGED ARTFUL ROBBERY.—A story is current here that a lady of this town stepped from her carriage opposite the Royal Bank Buildings, passed through the area, and, entering the bank, presented a cheque for a considerable sum, which she received in bank notes. It is believed that she was minutely watched. She returned to her carriage, and was just about to step in, when a gentleman in spectacles, without his hat, and with a pen in his hand, hastily, but politely, accosted her, saying, "I beg pardon, madam: we have forgotten to make a memorandum of your notes. Will you kindly return them to me for a few minutes, and I will restore them to you directly." The lady, believing the person who addressed her to be one of the clerks of the bank, surrendered the notes at once, and the gentleman hastily retreated up the steps, through the gates, into the area, and ran in the direction of the bank. The lady waited some time, and at length went to the bank to inquire why the notes were not sent back to her. She was assured that no person had been sent after her from the bank, and that her business with the teller had been completed when the notes were counted out to her. She perceived at once that she had been ingeniously robbed, and that the respectable looking gentleman in spectacles, after he had obtained the notes, must have made his exit from the buildings through the gates opening into Elbow Lane.

THE DESTITUTE IRISH.—At the usual fortnightly meeting of the vestry the statement of accounts for the fortnight ending on Saturday last, was submitted by the vestry clerk. For the week ending the 30th January, it appeared that there were 23,445 Irish cases attended to, comprising 25,405 men, 25,603 women, and 96,585 children; total of individuals, 147,593; who received in money, £178 6s 9d; and in bread and soup, £225 12s 8½d. The casual relief to other poor was £13 11s. Total extra cost to the parish, for the week, caused by the Irish immigration, £388 8s 5½d. For the week ending Saturday the 6th instant, the total number of Irish emigrants whose wants were attended to was 55,193; being 9,184 men, 11,955 women, and 33,997 children; at a cost in money of £165. 1s 3d. and in soup and bread, £162 19s 6½d; to other casual poor, £11 2s 6d. Total cost, £327 14s 9½d, being an extra cost for the Irish poor, of £316 12 3½d. On the motion of Mr. Scholefield, seconded by Mr. Avison, it was resolved that a deputation from the board be authorised to proceed to London, to urge upon government the necessity of some legislative means being adopted to check the continued influx of Irish immigrat on into this port.

RUNCORN.

CHARGE OF MURDER.—On Saturday last, a considerable sensation was caused in Runcorn by the fact of a man named Richard Edwards, a carpenter by trade, having killed his wife. It appeared that Edwards, who is a man given to drink, had been fuddling all that day, instead of being at his work; and his wife Betty Edwards, who is described as having been a quiet, peaceable woman, had sent one of her children to receive what wages were due to him. About four o'clock in the afternoon, Edwards came home, and wanted to get some money; but his wife declined to give him any, as all that she had received was due to the provision shop. Edwards immediately began to abuse and beat her, in the presence of her children; he took her by the hair of her head and attempted to throw her out of doors, and then he struck her several times about the head and neck, knocked her down, and kicked her most severely. His eldest son who is an apprentice, interfered on behalf of his mother, but was obliged to desist in consequence of the threats of his father; but he ran out to fetch the neighbours in, who found her on the floor quite dead, so that she had literally been beaten to death. Edwards took the matter quite coolly, and when his son was desired to send for a doctor he threatened that if he went he would kill him. Again, when he was told his wife was dead, he made use of the brutal language, "Let her die, and to h—l with her." Edwards was immediately taken into custody. On Tuesday last, an inquest on the body was held at the Royal Hotel, Runcorn, before Mr. Henry Churton, coroner, when the jury returned a verdict of "Wilful Murder against Richard Edwards," who was accordingly committed to Chester Castle on the coroner's warrant, to take his trial at the next Chester assizes.

MANCHESTER.

DESTITUTION—THE SOUP KITCHEN.—The distribution of soup and bread continues with unabated liberality. On Saturday, not less than 1,500 gallons of soup, and 1,500 loaves of bread, were distributed to needy individuals; on Monday, there were 1,400 gallons of soup, and 800 loaves of bread given away; and on Tuesday, the quantity distributed was 1,500 gallons of soup, and 1,500 loaves of bread.

WARRINGTON.

INCREASED DISTRESS.—On Monday evening last, a meeting was held at the Sessions House, "to take into consideration the steps necessary to be adopted for providing some proper relief to the distressed *able-bodied* poor in the township of Warrington and Latchford, and to whom no other parochial aid can be given, except that afforded in the Union Workhouse." Mr. Reynolds, the senior overseer, presided. Ultimately it was resolved, that a requisition to the constabler to convene a public meeting, for the purpose of establishing a soup kitchen, or adopting such other means as the urgency of the case required, to relieve the able-bodied poor, should be adopted.

BOLTON.

FATAL COAL-PIT ACCIDENT.—On Friday last an inquest was held at the Hare and Hounds public-house, Little Lever, on the body of George Baxendale, a boy aged ten years, son of Wm. Baxendale, brickmaker. The boy was employed as a drawer in one of Mr. John Fletcher's coal-pits, and was descending the shaft on Thursday evening, with some other boys, by means of ladders. The other boys wishing to pass the deceased, he stepped aside on one of the landings, where there was a board off, and fell through to the bottom and was killed. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death."

LEIGH.

FATAL COLLIERY ACCIDENT.—On Friday afternoon an inquest was held at Westleigh, before Mr. Henshall, deputy-coroner, on the body of Charles Burton, aged twenty, who has died from the effects of burns received by an explosion of fire damp, at the Liverpool and Manchester Coal Company's Works, Park Colliery. The explosion took place on Thursday the 28th ult., and ten persons were burned, three of the number being dangerously injured. Burton and a boy named James Cunliffe, aged twelve, died on the Tuesday after the accident. Verdicts to the effect that the deaths were the result of accident were returned in both cases. The inquest on Cunliffe was held before Hayes, he having died in Hindley, which is in a different district.

OLDHAM.

DISTRESS ON THE HATTERS.—The operatives engaged in the hat manufacture at Oldham, are in great distress from deficiency of employment. Great numbers of them have not more than two days' work per week, and some not more than a day's work per fortnight.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

FATALITY ON THE ICE.—On Monday afternoon, John Shaw, a lad about sixteen years of age, went upon the Rye Croft Pit, as he was returning after dinner to the factory, when the ice gave and he fell in. The body was recovered in a short time afterwards, and the usual means used to restore animation, but without effect.

STALYBRIDGE.

CHARGE OF FELONY.—At the Stalybridge petty sessions, on Monday last, Christopher Thornton was charged with stealing two deal boards, the property of Mr. James Woolley, of High-street, Stalybridge. It appeared from the prisoner's own statement, when charged with the offence, that he had stolen them on Saturday morning, from Mr. Woolley's cart-house. He was met by the watchman when carrying them away, and taken into custody.—The prisoner was committed for trial.

BRADFORD.

LAMENTABLE CASE OF MANSLAUGHTER.—A man named Joseph Holmes, a fly maker, at Victoria Mill, Bowling, was killed on Tuesday, under circumstances which have caused a great sensation in Bradford and the neighbourhood. Deceased was in partnership with some other persons as fly makers. He was a young man, and resided with his widowed mother, who, it is stated, had another son killed some time since. Deceased was, on Monday night, at the Barley Mow Inn, where he quarrelled with the landlord of a beer-shop, in Bowling, known by the sign of the Rose and Crown; and in a fight, the landlord (Haley) received a severe thrashing. It appeared that the treatment which Haley had received the previous night, was, on the Tuesday morning, the subject of much conversation at the beer-shop, where John Hartley, aged forty, a labourer at Bowling Foundry, and a biscuit baker, named Thomas Rollins, living at Chapel-lane, better known as "Biscuit Tom," from his hawking biscuits happened to be. Tom had, according to his confession before the magistrates, seven pints of ale at the Rose and Crown, and being a noted fighter, it was arranged he should drub Holmes for his conduct. Accordingly he was watched coming to his dinner. On his coming past the house, Elizabeth Haley accosted him, and asked him how he could fashion to come past the house after he had used her husband in such a manner. Hartley then, according to the evidence of William Bean, of Queen's Head, delver, seized Holmes and the prisoner. Rollins then struck him two or three times about the head, having, at the same time, hold of his collar. On Collins, the constable of Bowling, coming and charging peace, Rollins left hold of Holmes, who fell from the pavement and instantly expired. He was carried into the Rose and Crown, bleeding much at the nose and head. Mr. Field, surgeon, was soon on the spot, but could render no assistance, and made a *post mortem* examination of the deceased's head, that he had found about two ounces of effused blood in the posterior part of the brain, and that deceased died from the effects of the rupture of a blood vessel of the brain caused by violence. The prisoner, Hartley, who was defended by Mr. Terry, said nothing in defence. Rollins said he was drunk at the time, having had seven pints of ale, and that deceased challenged him. Both prisoners were committed to York Castle for trial, but bail was accepted for Hartley. Rollins is 27 years of age.

NEWARK.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE NOTTINGHAM AND LINCOLN RAILWAY.—On Saturday last a fatal accident happened on the Nottingham and Lincoln Railway, near the Staythrope Gate, about four miles from Newark. It appears that at five o'clock in the morning, George Cree, aged 28 years, in the employ of Messrs Craven and Son, contractors, took two horses on the railway when the mail train from London to Lincoln had been due nearly an hour, and the workmen had all ceased their employment to let the train pass. Cree perceiving the mail train approach, moved off the down line with his horses; but at that moment a special cattle train from Lincoln happened to come up, and the engine caught Cree upon the head, and struck one of the horses. The man was carried about 100 yards, his head was smashed to pieces, his brains were scattered in all directions, his left leg cut off, his right thigh broken, the bone protruding through the flesh, and the horse killed upon the spot. The other horse escaped unhurt. The body of Cree was conveyed to Rollestone Church, and in the afternoon Mr. P. Falkner, Coroner, held an inquest, when the Jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

WORCESTERSHIRE.

MALICIOUS OUTRAGE. — In the beginning of last week, one of those acts which we have so often to record in the mining districts, resulting from the most fiendish and revengeful feelings, occurred at Brookmoor. It appears that before daylight on Wednesday morning four pieces of hard oak were introduced between the teeth of the crown wheel and the nut wheel of the Star Pit winding engine, at the Widewaters Colliery, near Brookmoor, belonging to Long Ward. The object of the miscreant was to break the machinery, and destroy the lives of the first band of men who might happen to descend the shaft, a calamity which was happily averted by the timely discovery of the affair. A reward of £20 has been offered by Lord Ward's agent for the discovery of the miscreants engaged in this nefarious transaction.

CHELTENHAM.

SUSPECTED MURDER.—A few days ago, while some men were making a new road through an orchard, belonging to Mr. Croome, of Dumbleton, they discovered some human bones. Inquiries were instituted, and it was ascertained that about eleven years ago a horse had been found tied to a tree near the spot, but the owner was never discovered. The man who found the horse kept it for twelve months, at the end of which time he sold it for £10. The impression among persons living in the neighbourhood was, that the owner of the horse had been murdered, and the discovery of the bones strengthens the supposition.

NORWICH.

EXTENSIVE FIRE.—On Saturday night last the anti-friction grease manufactory of Messrs. Kittore and Lockett, near the Foundry Bridge Wharfs, Norwich, was entirely destroyed by fire. How the fire originated is not ascertained, but suspicions are entertained that it was not accidental.

ESSEX.

FIRE AT RADWINTER.—On Saturday evening, between six and seven o'clock, a fire broke out at an off-hand farm occupied by Mrs. Carter, at Radwinter; and though assistance was speedily rendered, and the fire engine from Walden was as quickly as possible conveyed to the spot, a small barn and some sheds were destroyed, besides about fifteen quarters of oats and fifteen quarters of barley; three cows and two calfs which it was impossible to get out in time, were burnt in the latter. Superintendent Clark and four of the police hastened to the spot and rendered every assistance, and by great exertion the other part of the premises and the dwelling-house were saved. The damage is estimated at about £260. There is no doubt the fire was entirely accidental. Mrs. Carter has had charcoal burners employed there through the winter, and on Saturday a quantity of charcoal was placed in the loft over the cow-shed before it was properly cold, and as the fire broke out in that part there is no doubt that this caused the conflagration.

BOXFORD.

AWFULLY SUDDEN DEATH OF THE REV. W. PLUME.—On Monday evening last, about eight o'clock, while Mr. Plume was sitting by the fire, she perceived Mr. Plume's hand, upon which he had been previously reclining, drop, when in an instant he fell forward upon the hearth-rug. Before any one could be called to his assistance he was a corpse. The deceased gentleman was deservedly respected and beloved by all who knew him. He had held the mastership of the grammar-school for nearly thirty-three years, and was in the sixty-sixth year of his age.

DEVON.

CONSCIENCE-STRICKEN THIEVES. — A short time since, in a parish on the confines of Devon and Cornwall, an honest and thrifty farmer engaged a sweep to come to his house for the purpose of sweeping his chimnies and flues; and as the worthy knight of the soot-brush arrived late in the evening, he was provided with a warm supper and was comfortably domiciled in the barn, in order to commence his operations early on the following morning. Sooty having wrapped himself in the winnowing sheet, and stretched his weary limbs on some clean straw, had just resigned himself to the arms of Morpheus, when lo, a man with a dark lantern, and another with a number of sacks, entered the barn, and speedily began to fill the sacks with the wheat, which was lying in the barn-pool, just fit for the market. The sweep lay snug in his dormitory, and watched their operations without saying a word; when one of the thieves remarked to his companion, that they should get on much more expeditiously in filling their sacks if they had got a third person to hold their candle. Sooty, with genuine simplicity, aroused himself from his rustic crib, and exhibiting his ebony figure to the astonished robbers, coolly said to them, "I'll hold the candle for you." The conscience striken thieves, in their excited imagination, readily conceiving "the gentleman in black" to be no less a personage than his Satanic Majesty himself, hurriedly threw down the sacks, flew through the doorway like a flash of lightning, and in their terror and hurry to escape the clutches of Old Nick, actually took their departure, leaving a horse and cart behind them, which they had intended for the transit of the corn, and poor Sooty, the only actor left on the stage, speedily alarmed the sleeping inmates of the farmhouse and put them in pursuit of the marauders.

GREAT INFLUX OF IRISH POOR INTO NEWPORT.—A correspondent writing from this place on Saturday says: "We have had frequent importations of Irish poor into this port every year in search of employment; but the present number of immigrants from that unhappy country is quite unprecedented. A vessel, named the Wanderer, has just arrived here with nearly two hundred of the wretched and famished creatures, chiefly from Skibbereen, huddled together in a mass of wretchedness unparalleled. On examining the crowded vessel it was found that between twenty and thirty starving men, women, and children, were lying on the ballast in the hold in a dying condition. Their state was most deplorable; and had it not been that surgical and charitable aid was rendered the moment the vessel came alongside the wharf, it is said that many would have been brought ashore dead.

Scotland.

MILITARY MOVEMENTS.—In consequence of the disturbances which have recently occurred in the Highlands, a considerable augmentation of the military force at present stationed in the Highlands is now taking place. In addition to the troops which have already been despatched to the north from Edinburgh, a detachment of fifty men of the 76th Regiment, under Captain Dennis, left the castle on Friday for Aberdeen; and a detachment of 100 men of the same regiment, under Brevet-Major Scott, Captain, Flanagan, and Lieutenant Large, proceeded on Sabbath for Burghead by steamer.

CLEARINGS IN THE HEBRIDES.

In South Uist there are places called Frobosts, where the people, generally speaking, were, upon the whole, comfortable and able to pay their way; but they have been turned out of their small holdings, to the barren hills and mossy moors, to spend their energies on a stubborn soil, which can yield no remunerating crops for years to come; and how in the meantime the poor people are to be supported, no one can tell. At Whitsunday last, a number of families were cleared from Watersay, to make room for cattle, and these families are now located on a most sterile spot, to the east of Castle Bay. The Sound of Eriskay was at the same time cleared of a number of families, in order to accommodate sheep or cattle. And were are the people now? On the wildest portions of the inhospitable hill of Kilbride. Again, the inhabitants of the east side of Binnmore have been banished to the outskirts of the Kilbride hills, and this for no other purpose than to provide additional grazings. Preparations are now making, it is reported, for another clearing at the ensuing Whitsunday; the place to be cleared is said to be Helesay.

LOCHCARRON.

HORRIBLE DESTITUTION.—A family in Kisborn, have subsisted for several weeks this season on boiled grass and nettles, without tasting any other species of food. Nothing whatever have been done in the parish beyond giving the paupers a few bolls of meal, and ere summer, Jeantown will be as utterly destitute as Skibbereen, in Ireland.

FRASERBURGH.

FOOD RIOTS.—In this town the condition of nearly three-fourths of the population is deplorable, and families have been living on turnips three times a-day, with a handful of meal cast in amongst them—others have been without bread or meal in their houses for days—want is to be seen depicted in their countenances. They repeatedly applied to different parties for advice or relief, but nothing having been done for them, and thinking that there would be nothing further for them but starvation, from the shipment of grain continuing to be pretty extensive, they assembled here in large numbers on Friday and Saturday week, demanding relief for themselves and families. On entering the town, they immediately repaired to the harbour, and turned the carts which were shipping the grain up the quay. No violence was done to any one, nor was a single pane of glass broken in the town; and on both days, when an assurance was made by the Chief Magistrate that something would be done for them, they dispersed, and left town quietly.

RIOTS BY FEMALES.—During the past week the village of Garmouth has been kept in a perfect ferment by the unruly proceedings of a number of women. These Amazons were regularly mustered by a ringleader or two, who appeared on parade, with flag on shoulder. Guards were kept during night to warn the party of the approach of any carts with grain for the stores; and in the daytime the most perfect surveillance was observed. * * * Two of the ringleaders concerned in the riots, named Margaret M'Donald or Murray, and Isabella Bowie or Brown, were apprehended, and escorted by a guard of the 76th, committed to Elgin prison.

ARDER.

A poor woman, resident within a mile of this town, was subject to attacks of epilepsy, and in one of the fits, a few days since, an infant she had in bed with her fell out, and was nearly devoured by a pig. The neighbours missing the woman, and conjecturing all was not right, burst open the door, and horrible to relate, found the head and some of the infant's limbs about the floor, and the unfortunate mother a corpse in the bed!

Ireland.

DUBLIN, FEB. 6.—DETENTION OF FORGED NOTES ON THE BANK OF IRELAND.—On Thursday, Thomas Jones Atkins, late of Grafton-street, and formerly of Wicklow-street, engraver; and Thomas James, of Mecklenburg-street, engraver; and Henry Fitzsimon, of Whitehorse-yard, printer, were brought before Messrs. Hetchcock and Tyndall, at College-street Police-office, in custody of Brennan, and some other officers of the detective police, charged with being concerned in the forgery of notes of the Bank of Ireland. The notes forged were dated May 11, 1844, and 6th of December, 1845. A witness named Daniel M'Cormick, of Toomevara, who had been engaged in circulating the forged notes, in various parts of the country, was examined at much length as to the mode of operations. An officer of the Bank of Ireland was also examined. The prisoners were committed for trial at the commission.

DISTRESS IN CLARE.

The Rev. Mr. Molonoy, writing from Kilkenny to the Clare journal, and after recounting the various deaths caused by starvation in that parish within the last three months, says, "But why trespass on your space with a few isolated cases?" There are 6000 yet breathing skeletons of men and women in the parish. Your reporter, when here, seemed to be deeply moved at the sight of some. What if he had been here now? What if he had seen them all? What if he had seen the hundreds upon hundreds who are unable to crawl abroad? Had he visited the cabin of poor Blake, the death of whose child I have already stated, he would see there the mother of deceased, like a corpse on which a lingering comsumption had committed all its ravages. He would have seen her and her other famishing little ones laid, not on a bed, as poor Blake called it, but on a wad of unwholesome, I might say loathsome, straw, on the damp earth, without a sheet, blanket or quilt, deserving the name—even the ordinary inner article of dress of every female she had not, but a piece of time-perforated calico about the neck and shoulders.

STATE OF CAVAN.

Distress is rapidly on the increase, and in several localities the relief arrangements are very defective. A vast concourse of labourers, at least 500 in number, flocked into Cavan on Wednesday last, all of whom had just been thrown out of employment, in consequence of the cessation of the public works in the above parish.

CARRIGAHOT.

Within the last thirty days 59 deaths have taken place in this locality!

BANTRY.

Fourteen inquests were held in one day, the verdict in each case being—Death from Starvation.

TRALEE.

So great is the famine here that several "donkies" have been sacrificed in that country by the starving peasants, and used as food.

CORK.—FAMINE RIOTS.

On Friday morning, about half-past nine o'clock a notice was brought to the Turkey-street guard-house, stating that a large mob, numbering from eight hundred to one thousand persons, had gone to the workhouse with the intention of attacking that establishment, and plundering the provisions contained there. A party of police, under the command of Sub-Inspector Walker and head-constable Condon, was immediately ordered out, and proceeded quickly to the scene of the anticipated riot. It appeared from the evidence of head-constable Crowley, delivered before the magistrates this morning, that he had also proceeded with a detachment of police to the workhouse, but, on his arrival there, he found that the mob had left it a short time previously without committing injury or violence. After leaving the workhouse, the mob came down Douglas-street, and attacked the shop of Mr. Barry, baker, out of which they took a quantity of bread. They then proceeded down White street, and up George's quay, where they met a bread cart, which they rifled of the greater portion of its contents. Head-constable Condon, and the party under his direction, met the mob at Parliament-street, and followed them into Prince's-street. They then attacked the shop of Mr. Thompson, baker, Prince's-street, and, notwithstanding the opposition of the police, carried off a large quantity of bread, after demolishing several panes of glass, and committing other injury. A party of three hundred or four hundred separated from the main body, and walked quickly by Prince's-street, accompanied by head-constable Condon and his party. On entering Patrick-street, they ran quickly towards the Parade, and on getting into the North Main-street, they rushed into the shop of Mr. David Walsh, broke the glass in the window with their shovels, and attempted to obtain possession of the bread in the window. The police arrested two of the most prominent actors in the outrage, named Daniel Wallis, and a man named Casey, at present living in Blackpool, but originally from the parish of Macroom. The prisoners were taken into Mr. Walsh's shop, when the mob attacked the police with their spades and shovels, and swore they would not leave the place till their comrades were liberated. Several of the police were struck with stones, and also beaten with the spades of the rioters. At this time the riot had assumed a most serious aspect, the mob appearing determined to rescue the prisoners. Head-constable Condon took a bayonet from one of the policemen, and with a few of the party charged the mob with drawn bayonets down the North Main-street, over North-gate bridge, up Shandon-street, and Clarence-street. The rioters then retired towards Blackpool, and the constabulary returned into town. Daniel Wallis, Patrick Roche, Jeremiah Murphy, and Daniel Casey, were brought up to the police office in half an hour after the occurrence and committed for trial before the Recorder. Up to the hour of one o'clock the baker's shops in Patrick-street, and the other principal streets of the city, remained close for fear of a second attack."

DUBLIN, FEB. 8.—THE RENT GOING DOWN TO FAMINE POINT.—The usual weekly meeting of the Repeal Association was held this day, at the Conciliation Hall, Thomas Steele, Esq., in the chair. The Chairman, in taking his seat, addressed the meeting at some length. In alluding to Mr. Roebuck's recent attack on Ireland and the Irish, he compared that individual to a certain crawling insect afflicted with a loathsome disease. The Secretary read the minutes of the last day's proceedings, and a letter from Mr. O'Connell, which was ordered to be inserted on the minutes. The rent for the week amounted to £28 9s. 6d.

DREADFUL INCREASE OF FAMINE.

The deaths from starvation are rapidly increasing in the western and southern counties—to such an extent, indeed, that some of the local journals find it impossible to publish reports of the inquests.

The *Sligo Champion* reports sixteen inquests, in all of which the verdicts were "death from starvation."

The *Cork Reporter* says:—

"The duty of publishing reports of inquests held on persons who have 'died by starvation' has now become so frequent, and such numbers are daily reaching us from every part of the county, that the limits of our space do not admit of their publication. Our reporter sends particulars of 15 such cases from Bantry yesterday, and mentions that 20 more had occurred during the week, but inquests could not be held; and we received this morning from Mallow reports of 11 inquests held by Richard Jones, Esq., on persons who had died from want of food. Communications pour in from every district, a tithe of which we could not find room for, stating similar appalling facts."

The reports from Kerry are equally afflicting as to the ravages of famine. Mr. Stephen O'Reardon, in a letter to the *Tralee Chronicle*, gives the particulars of ten inquests which he held from the 6th to the 31st January, in which the verdicts were "died from want of food." In addition to these he mentions several cases of death from want of food, in which inquests have not been held.

The *Longford Journal* says—

"Our poor, notwithstanding all the efforts made to relieve them, are wretchedly off, and throng to the workhouse to finish a miserable existence, as the following facts prove:—'Deaths since the 1st instant (Monday), 44; ditto in the month of January, 116; ditto in the month of December, 71; total, 231.'"

Typhus fever and dysentery are spreading in the most destitute districts.

CORK.

A letter from the Rev. Cornelius Corkron, P. P. to Daniel O'Connell, dated January 26th, and the particulars of which are attested by the chairman of the Ballyfeard Relief Committee and others, gives an appalling picture of the general destitution.

The district subject to the Ballyfeard Relief Committee, of which I am a member, comprises a territory of three miles radius (ever remarkable for the cultivation of potatoes); it contains 1,200 destitute subjects for relief, each on an average having five in family. Of these 700 are employed on the public works, earning from 4s. to 6s. per week, and paying 2s. 9d. a stone for Indian corn flour. Life thus sustained is but a protracted death.

The destitute unemployed on the public works are in a state of appalling misery, which I will not, because I could not, describe. They are, to my own knowledge, frequently without tasting any food for forty-eight hours, and then glad to get raw turnips, cabbage, or seaweed, which they greedily devour.

Some sustain life by visiting in troops the houses of the gentry, some by casual charity, some by plunder. Our union workhouse is full. The weekly average of deaths in my parishes, from slow starvation, is four; three such cases occurred this day—namely, Denn, of Farranbrien; Cummins, of Ballinvuling; and Lyons, of Ballingarry. The last (an able-bodied young man, aged 27,) applied to our committee yesterday for work, after a hard competition, he succeeded in obtaining it, went home, and died of exhaustion. (Since I wrote the above a coroner's jury has declared it starvation.

BANTRY.

Fifteen additional inquests on cases of death from famine have been held since the above, and twenty more have occurred during the week, but inquests could not be held.

MALLOW.

Eleven inquests have been held here by Richard Jones, Esq., on persons who had died from want of food. Communications pour in from every district, a tithe of which we could not find room for, stating similar appalling facts.

THE IRISH POOR LAW—OUT-DOOR RELIEF.

The following requisition, bearing the signatures of eighteen priests, appears in the *Cork Reporter*:—

"We, the undersigned, respectfully request a meeting of our brethren, the Roman Catholic clergy of the united dioceses of Cloyne and Ross, at Fermoy, on Thursday, the 11th inst., to consider the propriety of petitioning parliament for out door relief for the ablebodied as well as for the infirm poor of Ireland, and for an enactment affording cheap and speedy means to enforce such a right."

FRIGHTFUL EXTERMINATION OF THE STARVING.

The progress of distress in the county of Cork may be learned by the following brief paragraph extracted from the *Southern Reporter* of Saturday:—

"The duty of publishing reports of inquests held on persons who have 'died by starvation' has now become so frequent, and such numbers are daily reaching us from every part of the country, that the limits of our space do not admit of their publication. Our reporter sends particulars of 15 of such cases from Bantry yesterday, and mentions that 20 more had occurred during the week, but inquests could not be held; and we received this morning from Mallow reports of 11 inquests held by Mr. Richard Jones on persons who had died from want of food."

DREADFUL INCREASE OF MORTALITY.

DUBLIN, FEB. 9.—The most appalling statements come forth almost daily from different parts of the country, but from the county of Cork above every other. Take the following as a specimen. It is extracted from a letter from the Rev. Dr. Traill, rector of Schull, and the chairman of the relief committee of that parish, and it bears date from Schull Rectory, 5th inst.:—

Frightful and fearful is the havoc around me. Our medical friend, Dr. Sweetman, a gentleman of unimpeachable veracity, informed me yesterday that, if he stated the mortality in my parish, at an average of thirty-five daily, he would be within the truth. The children in particular, he remarked, were disappearing with awful rapidity. And to this I may add the aged, who, with the young—neglected, perhaps, amidst the wide-spread destitution—are, almost without exception, swollen, and ripening for the grave.

Since I penned the above I was hastily summoned to a sick bed. Fast as my horse's limbs could carry me I hurried to the spot, but ere I reached it the spirit had taken its flight. Over the corpse was one son weeping and wailing, while in a corner lay another in fever—his wife, near her confinement, miserable and wretched—and all starving together. On my way I had met a corpse, a little hay its only shroud, going to the place of interment; and I passed a gentleman who stated that he had found a man in the agonies of dissolution by the road side. On my return I visited three persons in fever. On a bed of straw, in one of the cabins, lay a poor dying Roman Catholic, with one child, a little corpse, at his side, and another nearly expiring at his feet, while a third was so feeble that the mother, wringing her hands in anguish—herself pale and emaciated—was obliged to change its position as necessity required. From this heartrending scene I proceeded homeward, and stepping into a miserable hovel, where lived another Roman Catholic family, and where I had been not two days before, I beheld the father dead and ghastly, and his poor daughter, apparently in great pain, sitting opposite to her departed parent, herself not far from the grave.

Nothing else have we to anticipate than another city of the plague! Three dead bodies—*miserable eisu*—were recently conveyed in one cart, side by side, to the burying ground, and thrown into a hole, unmourned, unwept; for, amongst us, sorrow has long since exhausted her tears. A piteous story I may here relate. A female was observed directing her way to the graveyard, unattended, save by two children which she bore in her arms. One of these, it seems, was a corpse, and for it she scratched a hole, and having consigned it to its cold dwelling, she took up the other and placed it in her lap, and was seen in that position waiting till it also should expire, that she might lay her two dead infants in one common grave.

THE FAMINE IN ULSTER.

The mortality is greater in one town in Ulster than in any part of the south or west. In the workhouse of Lurgan, one of the principal seats of the linen manufacture in the county of Armagh, the deaths have increased to a most alarming extent. In the first week of January they amounted to thirty-five; but last week the deaths in the workhouse, containing less than 800 persons, amounted to ninety-five!

Bankrupts.

(From the *Gazette* of Tuesday, Feb. 9.)

Thomas Spratt, Sloane-terrace, Sloane-square, St. Luke's, Chelsea, coachmaker—Tamazin Sarah Buttifant, Norwich, haberdasher—William Grossmith, Portsmouth, baker—William Blenkarn, Stockwell Park-road, Surrey, builder—John Henry Paine, High-street, Camberwell, beer retailer—Josiah Haines, Chipping Barnet, Hertfordshire, victualler—William Hitchcock, Hogston, Buckinghamshire, victualler—Nathaniel Thompson, Liverpool, factor—Mary Grimes, Gloucester, saddler—John Spencer, Nottingham, nurseryman—James Dodgson, Wakefield, Yorkshire, innkeeper—George Hole, Watchet, Somersetshire, coal merchant—Richard Dean, Clitheroe, Lancashire, grocer.

BREWING AND DISTILLING FROM SUGAR.—We learn that her majesty's government have acceded to the application of the sugar refiners, and now propose to allow the use of refined crushed and bastard sugars in the breweries,—we presume also in the distilleries, but the letter which has been shown us does not say so. The cases, however, are precisely similar.

ANNUAL BANQUET OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

[Die Deutsche Bildungs-Gesellschaft fur Arbeiter.]

This patriotic and flourishing society celebrated its seventh anniversary on Monday evening last, Feb. 8th. In the course of the past twelve months the society has greatly advanced in numbers and resources. The members now number upwards of three hundred, and a branch society has been established in Whitechapel, which already numbers one hundred and sixty members.

The parent society now holds its meetings in a large and splendid room in the rear of the White Hart, Drury-lane.

The library of several hundred volumes has been considerably increased, and the maps, musical instruments, and other appliances for the instruction and entertainment of the members have been considerably augmented. Altogether, the society is in a most flourishing condition—prospering, and evidently destined to prosper.

The hall of meeting is a large room having a raised roof, decorated with beautiful arabesque ornaments, composed of graceful scrolls, figures and flowers, associated with medallion portraits of Shakespeare, Schiller, Mozart, and Albert Dürer. On the centre of one of the walls immediately above the chairman's seat is an extensive view of Hampstead Heath, taken during the last May festival of the association (painted by Messrs. Holm, Pfaender, Clausen, and Eus). On one side of this view is a statue of Liberty, and on the other side a statue of Justice. The other sides of the room are decorated with large and beautiful maps, with which, on this occasion, were interwoven wreaths and festoons of laurel and other evergreens. The room was brilliantly illuminated with gas, an extra quantity of which was supplied for the purpose of giving effect to a large and beautiful transparency gratuitously painted by an English member, Charles Keen. The painting represented a full-length female figure, combining the attributes of liberty and equality, trampling under her feet the hydra of corruption, and holding aloft *le bonnet rouge*, the rallying-sign of awakening nations. In the back-ground war and tyranny are represented as fading away beneath the influence of the rising sun of liberty, which lights up the happy homes of the emancipated millions. The whole is surrounded by a golden wreath (on crimson ground) of oak leaves and acorns, with which is entwined a riband, bearing the society's motto:—

"ALL MEN ARE BRETHREN,"

in twelve different languages: German, English, French, Swedish, Danish, Dutch, Italian, Greek, Spanish, Polish, Hungarian, and Russian.

The eatables provided by the worthy host, Mr. Rogers, were of the best quality, and supplied in abundance. This portion of the entertainment (as every other portion) gave unbounded satisfaction.

The tables having been cleared, and the chair taken by Carl Schapper,

The CHAIRMAN (who spoke in German) said:

Brothers,—This is indeed a happy evening for all who have the welfare of our society at heart, for all who have ranged themselves under the banner of liberty, equality, and universal fraternity. Our labours here in London have been crowned with success; a branch of our society has been established in the east end of London, which already counts more than 160 members, all animated with the best spirit, and our society has nearly tripled since last year. (Cheers.) To be be successful in their struggle is all the reward which honest Democrats can hope for; this reward we have received, therefore, we are satisfied. (Applause.) But although we have hitherto been successful, and have firmly established our society, we must not believe that our work is done, and that we can now repose. No; we must still advance, for standing still must end in going backwards. The principles which we have made known in our meeting places in London, must also be spread on the continent; it is, therefore, our intention to commence publishing this year a monthly paper called the *Proletarian*; a paper which shall defend all those who are deprived of their due share of nature's bounties, against the usurers and money mongers who oppress and rob them; a paper which shall advocate the principles of truth, justice, and fraternity all over the world. (Loud cheers.) But in order to effect this, we must again make sacrifices, we must be more firmly united than ever. And, brothers, I am convinced every one of us will do his duty. (Hear, hear.) We have heart and we have hope, for we know we struggle for truth against ignorance and superstition, for justice against injustice and oppression. Therefore say, let the German parsons in London open rival establishments; let them fulminate against us from their pulpits, they can do us no harm, their time is past, all that they have done, and all that they can do, is to make our society known to all Germans who come to London, and become thus the involuntary means of increasing our numbers. (Loud cheers.) One word more brothers and I have done. We are no conspirators, all that we do, we do in the face of the Sun, we can let every body known it; but do not let us forget that on the continent we must, above all, gain our rights of which the people are deprived, and which happily the English people possess to a great extent. I mean the liberty of the press, the right of associating, &c. We must gain these rights peacefully if we can, forcibly if we must. Should therefore our princes resist the will of the people, resist with guns and swords, we must do our duty. The communists and democrats must be found in the foremost ranks. (Applause.) We will not conspire to make revolutions, we do not like revolutions, but if revolution is forced upon us, then we we will show that we know how to do our duty. The star of liberty is rising. No priest nor king can make it descend again. (Cheers.) Forward then brothers, and let us always remember the words of our immortal poet:—

"The man who dies for liberty,

Foreign Movements.

"And I will war, at least in words,
(And—should my chance so happen—deeds,)
With all who war with Thought!"

"I think I hear a little bird, who sings
The people by and by will be the stronger."—BYRON.

REVELATIONS OF AUSTRIA.*

NO. IV.

(Continued from the *Northern Star* of February 6th.)

There are three classes of public functionaries in Austria; firstly, the "Kaiserial," who are paid out of the Kaiser's treasury; secondly, the Urban, or civic functionaries, who are paid from the town treasury; and, thirdly, the Dominical functionaries, who are hired and paid by the landholders. In one respect the Austrian despotism acknowledges an equality unknown to the "free constitutional" government of Great Britain. Offices and ranks are granted in the civil, military, and ecclesiastical departments, without regard to either nobility or obscurity of birth or fortune, the personal qualification of the candidates being only regarded.

Venality and corruption prevail amongst the Austrian functionaries, (the Russians, however, far out-rival them in this respect); even Metternich was in the pay of the Tsar Alexander, who paid him, it is said, a million of roubles annually. Metternich's real name is Ochsenhausen, he is a native of Westphalia, belonging to an obscure family. The Kaiser Francis created him Prince Metternich, and the mercenary German papers give out that Metternich is of an ancient princely family.

Here are some painful revelations concerning

THE AUSTRIAN ARMY.

The Austrian army is recruited by conscription. To this effect, Austrian Poland is divided into twelve districts. On the second of January every year a military commission, composed of two subaltern officers and three or four corporals or soldiers, as writers, appears at the chief town, burgh, or village of their district, and having invited to its assistance the clergyman of the place as well as the burgomaster and the representative of the seignorial proprietor, it proceeds to the conscription.

The clergyman is obliged to carry with him the register of births, deaths, or marriages.

All male individuals from the age of seventeen and upwards are obliged to present themselves in person before the commission.

The father of the family must appear to declare the changes which have taken place in his family since the preceding year, the proprietor to give an account of his tenants. All individuals fitted for military service are designated in a column of the conscription-books.

The officer of the military district sends a copy of this census to the circle, and makes a report to the commanding general at Leopol.

The circle again makes its report to the Gubernium which distributes the recruits by circles, and orders and fixes the night for seizing the recruits, which is the same for the whole province.

The circles make the re-partition of the recruits by towns and villages, and orders the burgomasters and dominical jurisdictions to commence on the night fixed by the Gubernium. All these orders are transmitted with the greatest secrecy.

The evening of the night fixed upon, the burgomasters and lords summon all the police agents, employés, spies, police soldiers and often soldiers of the regular army, and at midnight, when everybody is asleep, the recruiters, divided into several bands, disperse, surround the houses, and break open the doors, and if they are not directly opened, carry away the men discovered, tie them with cords and bear them off to prison.

The recruiters are furnished with sledge hammers to break open the doors, with bludgeons to strike their prey if it should make any resistance or attempt to defend itself. According to the befehl or command of 1828 only the men of from ten to thirty are subject to the military service in a time of peace. During a period of war men are drawn up to the age of fifty years. The victims are carried to the office of the circle, where a mixed commission, composed of a commissary of the circle, two military officers, and a doctor of the regiment, measure, examine, and only select the finest, most robust and youngest. Notwithstanding that the number of recruits is fixed, the burgomasters and lords are obliged to present before the commission all married or unmarried men up to the age of thirty years, because the commission has a right to choose, and they cannot know beforehand how many will buy themselves out of the service, for it is permitted in time of peace to pay 300 florins (£30.) to the Kaiser, who alone has the right to find substitutes, which he does by impressing other young men who cannot pay the ransom money. The night of carrying off the recruits is truly a St. Bartholomew's night.

During days succeeding this night nothing is heard in the houses, streets, and roads, but the sobs and lamentations of mothers, fathers, wives, and children, who follow in cars the Imperial Sbriri who are leading away their children, husbands, and fathers. Their lamentations are not surprising—the conscripts are then carried into a foreign country, into Germany, Italy, or Hungary.

They are subjected to a barbarous discipline, and ill-treated by the German officers and corporals whose language they do not understand.

The German language is the language of military command for the whole army composed of eleven-twelfths of Poles, Hungarians, Italians, Bohemians, &c., &c. and one-twelfth Germans.

Here is a revolting account of the horrible

AUSTRIAN MILITARY PUNISHMENTS.

The military punishments are, 1stly, blows with the stock upon the back; 2ndly, beating on the bare back; and 3rdly, death.

The lieutenant has a right to administer to the soldier Landsknecht for the slightest insubordination, and without any sentence, twenty-five blows of the stock or cane given by a single corporal.

The captain has a right to administer thirty blows of the stock by two corporals, and in the presence of the company.

The punishment takes place in the middle of a public place during market or fair time, and with a prescribed ceremony.

Firstly, the culprit carries the bench himself, places himself before the company, and lays himself on this bench at the command of the officer.

Secondly, two corporals are ordered out of the ranks, and place themselves one to the right, and one to the left of the extended landsknecht.

They examine whether his thighs are covered with anything more than drawers, and proceed to execution. At the word of command, the corporal at the left of the criminal strikes the first blow, and one or two minutes after the corporal on the right, alternately; after each blow they wait at least a minute or two, in order that the culprit may have time to feel and suffer, and that the thighs may swell and bleed; the officers of the company superintend the execution, and cry, strike well. (hau zu.) The execution lasts about three quarters of an hour.

After the twentieth blow strips of the drawers and thighs are often seen to fall. Formerly they struck on the cloth trowsers that the soldiers wear, but the Kaiser Francis, called by the Germans, the father of his country, (Landesvater,) ordered them to strike on the drawers by way of "economising the trowsers, and that the blows should be better felt."

RUNNING THE GAUNTLET.

Desertion and other serious offences are punished by running the gauntlet. The soldier condemned by a court martial to this punishment is stripped to the hips, and compelled to pass and repass ten, fifteen, twenty, or thirty times, through one or several battalions of infantry, ranged in two lines, face to face; the space between the two lines is three or four paces broad. Each soldier, furnished with a willow stick, strikes the culprit as he passes, with his whole might, on the bare back.

As a precautionary measure the soldiers are furnished with several sticks in case of their breaking. If the unfortunate faints and cannot any longer proceed, he is then laid on a bench, and the soldiers passing and repassing at the ordinary step strike him as he lies.

If he die under the blows, which often happens, (as I personally witnessed in 1808 and 1809,) they strike the body until the number of blows are completed.

After passing a few times the length of a battalion, composed of from eight hundred to a thousand men, the flesh of the back falls off in pieces, and very often the entrails protrude through the lacerated sides.

The punishment of death is executed by hangings for civil, and by shooting for military crimes. Repeated desertion is punished by death. Here is an affecting picture of

A MURDERED DESERTER, HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN.

In 1808 or 1809 I saw a Hungarian woman who came from the interior of Hungary with her three children, the eldest of whom might be six or seven years of age, and the youngest still at the breast, four or five months old. This unfortunate woman hoped by her presence to soften Austrian cruelty, excite the pity, and obtain the pardon of her husband, a deserter, but she was mistaken, he had been shot, she threw herself on the still warm body of her husband, filled the air with her cries, called him by his name, "Paul, dear Paul!" shook the body, and opened its mouth, thinking to awaken and recal it to life.

Two or three hours after she expired, her lips glued or rather frozen to the mouth of her husband.

The child at the breast followed the fate of its mother.

On that day the snow fell in such abundance that the three bodies were quite covered towards two o'clock in the afternoon. Nobody dare assist the wife or children of the criminal—every one being afraid of drawing down the ire of the paternal government.

The army is all paramount, even common soldiers may murder civilians.

Passers by are obliged to uncover before a sentinel, to obey, without hesitating, his orders, on pain of being beat or killed by the bayonet. The sentinel is thus made your absolute master,—your judge and executioner,—from whom there is no appeal. Woe betide you, therefore, if you pass alone before a sentinel whom you have offended. He kills you, and says afterwards that you were wanting in respect towards him. Such sanguinary occurrences happen often in Gallicia, but it is forbidden to speak about or publish them in the newspapers—they happen even sometimes at Vienna. According to the *Augsburg Universal Gazette* of the 16th of February last, No. 47, the Austrian sentinels have killed by gun shot wounds, in a short space of time, five persons who passed them smoking cigars.

Colonial and Foreign Intelligence.

VAN DIEMAN'S LAND.

We have newspapers from this colony to the 18th September. The governor continued in as bad odour as ever, and his position, even in the legislative council, was such as to make it indispensable to the legitimate influence of government, that his successor should arrive as soon as possible.

The *Hobart Town Advertiser* of September 18, states:—"Robberies are becoming very rife at the outskirts of the town."

WEST INDIES.

The mail steamer, Dee, which arrived at Southampton, on Monday morning, has brought advices from Jamaica to the 13th, from the Havannah to the 11th, from Barbadoes to the 9th, from Trinidad to the 7th of January, and from Chagres to the 26th of December. The house of assembly of Jamaica had lowered the salaries of the governor, and of many placemen, about a fifth; but it was thought that the legislative council would not consent to these reductions. In Jamaica, and all the British West Indies, the crops appear to be flourishing, and the weather justified good expectations.

FRANCE.

The discussion in the Chamber of Deputies on Thursday, presented a fact, unprecedented perhaps in the history of the French Chambers—a single speaker occupying the tribune during the whole sitting. M. Thiers disscussed most fully the question of the Spanish marriages, and incidentally touched on the affair of Cracow. In examining the former subject, he blamed the Ministry most strongly, for the undue haste with which, he said, the marriages had been urged forward. He approved of the marriage of Queen Isabella with Don Francisco, but blamed that of the Duke of Montpensier with the Infanta Louisa; this latter he declared to be either null or dangerous—null if the Queen had heirs, and dangerous if she remained childless; he announced himself to be a partisan of the English alliance, which, he maintained, the Ministry, after having made great sacrifices to obtain, had broken unnecessarily. After examining at some length the state of Europe, and upholding the absolute necessity of the English alliance, he concluded his brilliant speech by expressing an ardent wish that the Queen of Spain might soon have an heir to the throne—the best prayer for his country, he remarked, that he could offer up!

On Friday M. Guizot replied to the speech of M. Thiers of the day before, and very nearly at as great length. He adduced arguments to prove that the French Government were in a measure compelled by circumstances to conclude simultaneously the double marriage, and that this necessity was caused by the difference of conduct manifested by the Tory and Whig Governments. He argued that the relative position of France and Spain was improved by the marriages. He did not deny that with respect to England, France was placed in a delicate and difficult situation; but the circumstances, he said, which affected both powers at the same time, and equally were so important, that it could scarcely be supposed that they should not soon see the advantage of making up their differences; he concluded by declaring that France would still pursue the course of Conservative policy which she had practised during the last 17 years.

The debate on the second paragraph of the address, after having occupied the Chamber of Deputies three days, was at length brought to a close by the adoption of the parsgraph, as drawn up by the committee, without a division.

A royal ordonnance has just appeared, dissolving the National Guard of the town of Buzancais (Indre,) in consequence of the way in which it acted at the corn riot in that place.

The *Réforme* states that the price of grain is again advancing, and that a sudden rise has just taken place at Paris, and in all the markets, such as Chartres, Provins, Melun, Montereau, Chateaudun, Rouen, Montargis, &c., that supply the capital. 330,000 persons, or a third of the population of Paris, are demanding cards at the Bureaux de Bienfaisance to enable them to pay their bread, only 20c. the pound.

SPAIN.

We announced last week the formation of a new ministry under the presidency of the Duke de Sotomayor. On the 1st the new ministers made an exposition of their intended policy, to the effect, that it was the intention of the government to respect the Constitution and the Cortes, and to govern in a legal and conciliatory manner, but at the same time should disturbances occur, to repress them with a firm hand. The policy of the government would be a purely Spanish one, though it would seek to enlarge their relations with other countries. He promised strict economy, and that it was intended to make such reforms in the tributary system as might alleviate its pressure as much as possible.

A Barcelona letter, of the 28th of January, says:—"General Breton set out yesterday for the environs of Berga, where Ros D'Eroles is, with from 250 to 300 men. The appearance of the bold and intrepid chief of the Carlist hordes has excited great alarm."

PORTUGAL.

THE CIVIL WAR.

According to letters of the 1st from Lisbon, and of the 2nd from Oporto, Marshal Saldanha had not yet crossed the Douro to invest Oporto. His head quarters were at Agueda, a town south of the Vouga, about thirty miles from Coimbra. He had dispersed columns of his army to take military possession of the province of Beira before he advanced. The old Royalist General Povoas had accepted from the Junta of Oporto the military command of Beira. He assumed the command and raised the white standard of the Junta in Guarda, on the 17th. He retired with some troops on the 22nd, from the town at the approach of Baron Solla's division. Oporto was fully prepared for defence and provided with everything necessary for a protracted siege. Conde de Bomfim, Conde de Villa Real, and General Celestino had made an attempt to escape from the Diana frigate; the attempt was prevented while in the act of escaping. Thirty-nine of the chief officers, including the three just named, were going to be sent to, it was supposed, the coast of Africa, on the 27th, but the entreaties of the Duchess of Terceira, who feared retaliation on her husband, induced the Queen to revoke the order until she again heard her Council of State.

A report has reached us that as the Iberia lay off Oporto, information was given that the Miguelites had been entirely dispersed by the Queen's troops. General M'Donald and many chiefs being killed at Soborosa. Another account represents M'Donald as badly wounded but not dead.

GERMANY.

THE PRUSSIAN CONSTITUTION.

On the 3d instant, the Prussian government published a royal ordinance establishing a general diet, and defining its powers and constitution. No new loans are to be raised, and no new taxes are to be imposed without the consent of the general diet; but so many limitations are added to these clauses, as almost entirely to destroy their effect. Import, export, and transit duties, local taxes, the revenues arising from the royal domains, and such indirect taxes as may become the subject of treaties with foreign states, are excepted; and, in case of war, the king reserves to himself the power of levying extraordinary taxes, without consulting the general diet, should he deem its convocation unadvisable. The princes of the blood are to possess a seat and vote in the estate of the princes, counts, and lords of the general diet. Besides these, the estate of the lords is to consist of those members of the German *Reichsstände* (princes and counts of the empire) who had seats in the Provincial States, of the Silesian princes and noblemen (*Ständesherren*), and of princes, counts, and lords, and members of such institutions as are in possession of the right of *vota virilia* or *vota communia*, and who have seats in the eight provincial diets. The deputies of the lesser nobility (*Ritterschaft*), the towns, and the rural communities, are to meet in the general diet in the same number as in the provincial diets. When the general diet is to decide on a proposition of agreeing to new state debts, or of imposing new taxes, or of increasing the existing taxes, the order of peers is to unite with the other orders in a general deliberation and conclusion. In all other cases, the deliberations and votes of the order of peers will proceed from the particular assembly of the order.

EXECUTION OF A POLISH PATRIOT AT POSEN.

We take the following from a German paper:—

"POSEN, FEB. 2.

"On the 9th of January this year, the mounted gendarme Komorkiewicz, from Rogasen, met in the village of Studzeniec, about a mile from the former place, an unknown man, dressed as a peasant, who was smoking his pipe on the road. The gendarme followed the stranger to the public house in the village, in order to call him to account, and, as his suspicions were awakened, took this opportunity of asking for his passport. The stranger delivered up a parcel of papers, which the gendarme declared unsatisfactory, intimating to him, at the same time, that if he were not able to give a better account of himself, he would have him transported to Rogasen. The stranger, who was walking up and down the room behind the gendarme, who was examining the papers, then drew out a pistol and fired it at him. The police servant, struck by the shot, fell slowly to the ground, while the culprit, firing a second pistol at some peasant who rushed into the room on hearing the report, fled across the fields towards a neighbouring wood. After having destroyed some papers which he had kept back from the gendarme, and having in vain sought to defend himself with a pistol in one hand and a dagger in the other, he was ultimately seized by the peasants, and transported to Rogasen. The gendarme, Komorkiewicz, died on the 17th of January from the effects of the wound. The culprit, who, according to his own account, was a Polish emigrant from Warsaw, by the name of Anton von Babinski, and a member of the Democratical Society of Paris, and who had sojourned in the Grand Duchy of Posen since the 4th of January this year, with a view of promoting the objects of this society, relative to the restoration of Poland, was, in accordance with the Royal decree of 7th March, 1846, by order of the undersigned General, placed before a court martial on the 30th of January, by which he was unanimously condemned to be shot, for having, with arms in his hands, made a murderous assault upon an officer of justice. During the execution, all the troops of the garrison formed an open square towards the cannon shed. The prisoner was led out in front of this building, and a section of infantry, consisting of twelve men, having been ordered forward, took up their position at a distance of five feet from him. His eyes were then bandaged, and he had hardly knelt down before his breast was pierced by twelve balls. He fell without a groan. During the trial Babinski seems to have revealed very little, so that it is not yet decided whether the name put forward is the true one. The prisoner died without having betrayed the least weakness; on the contrary, he repeatedly saluted the people who followed the procession to the Kanonenplatze.

UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.

By the arrival of the Yorkshire, from New York, and the Fairfield from Charlestown, we learn that in the senate, on the 15th, the bill for an appointment of a lieutenant-general was defeated by a majority of 28 to 21. The bill for increasing the army was still under consideration. The ways and means have at length reported a bill authorising an issue of twenty-three millions of treasury notes, with the privilege of funding in a twenty years' loan at 6 per cent.

The United States naval forces had captured a town called Laguna, and in the province of Tobasco, wherein were some cannon and munitions of war. As a set off against this success, the Mexicans had recaptured a small port in Upper California, called Los Angelos. The Americans stood a sieze of six days; at last capitulated to General Flores, on the 30th of September.

General Santa Anna is declared by the new congress duly elected President of the Republic of Mexico. The Mexican papers convey the impression that San Luis is to be the great battle-ground of the war.

Trades' Movements

THE BOILER MAKERS OF WOOLWICH AND DEPTFORD, AND THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNITED TRADES.

The boiler makers of this district with a deputation from the "Land of Promise Lodge," Lambeth, met at the Shipand Billet Tavern, Woolwich-road, East Greenwich, on Monday evening, the 8th Feb., to hear the principles and objects of the National Association of United Trades, for the protection of Industry and the employment of Labour, explained by Messrs. Green and Robson, a deputation from the Central Trades Office.

Mr. Jessy Caswell was unanimously called to the chair and said, he had very great pleasure in presiding over so important a meeting. He had much pleasure in introducing Mr. Green.

Mr. Green,—(cheers)—said he was most happy to find the trades at last taking steps in the right direction. The boiler makers of Glasgow and other places had already given in their adhesion to the National Association, he and his colleague had also addressed a very numerous meeting of boiler makers at Limehouse, about a fortnight since, which meeting had expressed their confidence in the principles and objects of the Association. He believed that all trades would be benefitted by a National Combination. He knew there were some masters who would not concede to the men the right of combination. The masters' organ, the *Times*, contended for what they were pleased to denominate "Free Labour," now that paper had not had a unionist employed on its establishment for the last quarter of a century! No wonder then, that it desired "Free Labour." If masters and men were placed on an equal footing, he would not object to this, but masters had capital or accumulated labour to fall back on, whilst the men if thrown out of employ for any length of time, had nothing but hunger, wretchedness, rags, and destitution, and hence the necessity of that natural protection, called combination. National Organization was better than sectional or local union, from its tendency and means of creating a powerful mind in the working community, as he regretted to say that ignorance still prevailed to an alarming extent on subjects that vitally affected them. Local leaders had failed to place all trades on one general footing, and to teach the doctrine that "All men are brethren;" it was only through national combination that agents could be employed and supported. The best proof of the efficiency of national organization was the declaration of masters, "that they did not mind their local unions, but that they hated the meddling of monster national associations." (Hear, hear.) Why did not employers mind local associations, simply because when they were overstocked with goods, they could offer a reduction of wages, and thus throw the men on their narrow resources and exhaust them, and when business got brisk again they offered the old prices, and the men went to work. By such means they rendered local or mere sectional unions powerless. Local unions had unfortunately not exhibited much wisdom in their proceedings, they had not calculated the chances of failure previous to striking, and hence the result not unfrequently was the expenditure of some £70,000 or £80,000, and that too without any beneficial result. In their National Association a careful calculation of chances was made, and if the time was not propitious, the strike was delayed until a more favourable opportunity. Again, national union was far preferable, in consequence of the facility with which they could create funds, with their organisation it would be easy to raise £100,000, which would place them in the proud position of conquerors, and enable them rightly to employ their labour, and after a strike was won leave them in possession of articles of worth for sale, which would realise a handsome profit on their outlay, and it would be much easier and far less costly for the men to trade than the masters, as they would not require splendid travelling equipages, or magnificent mansions for residences,—(Hear, hear.) Mr. Green then feelingly alluded to the case of oppression of the Warrington engineers, by the tyrant capitalists of Newton-in-the-Willows, and said, national association for mutual protection was the sure and only preventive of such inhuman scenes. Their first association was literally a trade's union, its members subscribing at the rate of two pence per pound on their average earnings, and received support according thereto, when necessity required. The second society was a joint-stock company, in which the first association held numerous shares, and through which means they could set any trade to work that required it. (Applause.) He would now conclude, leaving his friend Robson to give any further explanation required, being at the same time perfectly ready and willing to answer any question that might be submitted to him. Mr. Green resumed his seat amidst the most rapturous applause.

Mr. ROBSON, having invited questions from all interested, proceeded to say that their respected secretary (Mr. Macnamara) at the Limehouse meeting put him in possession of a most valuable suggestion, showing how easy it was to start and support a concern to set the boiler makers trade at work. (Cheers.) He now held a document in his hand—"Combinations defended," showing what an immense amount had been spent in paying people to walk about the streets. If we possessed those funds now, we would not content ourselves with walking about the streets, but build streets, aye, and in each house have a boiler and an oven, and thus would they calculate their value—so much for the land on which they were built, so much for materials, so much for labour, and adding five per cent. interest on the outlay and that would be the cost of the houses. And think you the mechanics would not sooner live in their own houses—(loud cheers)—and then, should another Manchester strike take place, and Mr. Holmes come and say, I want your labour, the answer would be—Wait a while; stop until we have finished our own street. (Loud laughter and great applause.) He calculated, under such circumstances, Mr. Holmes would be happy to abide by the arbitration of even a poor journeyman shoemaker or carpenter. (Hear, hear.) In a short time their associations would be in the proud position of being able to accomplish any thing in reason. He would now proceed to show what might be done for the boiler makers. Start a factory, let them appeal to the publican, through him to the brewer, and tell them in a voice of thunder, that unless they employ you, the journeymen boiler makers, that the trades of England will drink none of their beer—(Great cheering)—and it any of the masters should venture under such circumstances to turn a man out, they might make a foreman or overseer of him, and thus laugh at the evil genius of the capitalists. A factory might be established for boiler makers as easy as cloth might be obtained to employ the tailor, or leather to employ the cordwainer. (Loud cheers.) Depend on it the only way to solve the great labour question is to create capital and employ ourselves. (Much applause.) The monster evil was competition—dishonest competition, and he contended that all honest and virtuous masters (if any such there were) would support a national combination in support of such glorious objects. A national combination would create a home trade, instead of a foreign one, enable them to make shoes, clothes, &c., for themselves instead of for others, and save the expense of transit across the ocean. (Cheers.) Mr. Robson sat down much applauded.

Mr. Tracy desired to know what benefit he should derive in the event of a strike?

Mr. Robson; As an individual you cannot join the Association for the Protection of Industry, but you can hold shares in the Joint Stock Company for the Employment of Labour.

Mr. Tracy; Suppose we wish to strike, should we be compelled to give notice of it to the Association?

Mr. Robson; Yes, you wish to have support from the general association in the event of a strike, it is also necessary in order to give the association an opportunity of employing arbitration between the employed and the employers (and arbitration has been found generally very beneficial), and further, it was of all things necessary that they should know if they had the means of gaining the object for which the strike was contemplated before the strike took place, and which invariably proved the guarantee of success.

Mr. Whelan said he perceived that an article in their rules specified fourteen shillings per week as the maximum relief or support allowed, now some of their men earned upwards of £2 per week, could the scale be made to approximate more closely?

Mr. Robson; When the Association was formed none of the best paid trades were with them, hence the present scale was adopted, and as the Central Committee was an executive body, that rule must stand until the next Conference, when it would be in their power to send a delegate, and he had no doubt the scale would be so arranged as to meet the case of the boiler makers.

Mr. Thomas Jeffries, of the Land of Promise Lodge, wished a little information relative to the matter of deputations to masters. He wished to know if, from the time they joined until the time they could send a delegate to conference, would they be entitled to have arbitrators sent to their masters? and if so, would they be men who knew nothing about their trade? He also thought one remark that fell from Mr. Robson was scarcely worthy a body of unionists, the remark was, "we will submit for some time," he could not help thinking this was giving masters an advantage.

Mr. Robson said there never was a case in which the agrieved party did not accompany the deputation of arbitration to the employer. The aggrieved party, of course, understood the technicalities of the trade, the men of other trades forming the deputation were invariably best calculated to arrange with the employer. As to the other portion of Mr. Jeffries observation, their great strength lay in calculating their power, and if they had not at the time the means of success, waiting until they had, therefore making failure almost impossible.

Mr. Jeffries expressed himself satisfied.

Mr. Whelan, wished to know if they joined the association as a trade, if an individual afterwards joined their society would he be compelled to wait six months before he could receive any benefit?

Mr. Robson said it was necessary that societies should contribute to the fund before they derived any advantage from it, hence their rule was six months to a society, any individual joining the free society three months. They had, under extraordinary circumstances, rendered aid by loan, deputation, &c., at the expiration of a fortnight, and under similar circumstances might again. (Hear, hear)

Mr. Whelan wished to know if their members decreased would they have to make up the deficiency of contribution from the funds of their society?

Mr. Robson.—No; a running account is kept, and allowance made for either decrease or increase of members.

Mr. Short.—Supposing he was placed with an inefficient man, and thus compelled to strike, would he under such circumstances be entitled to support?

Mr. Robson.—Supposing you to be a free member, most decidedly you would, and such support would be rendered you from the moment you turned out.

Mr. Jeffries asked, would it be necessary to make application to the Central Committee through their secretary, if they required assistance?

Mr. Robson answered in the affirmative.

Mr. Whelan said, other circumstances besides reduction of wages sometimes led to strikes, in such cases, would they receive support?

Mr. Robson.—Most certainly; there were such things as too many apprentices kept, which was as effective in reducing wages as the cut direct. Mr. Robson here took occasion to censure severely the *Weekly Dispatch* for its article on the Ten Hours Bill, and said, shortening the hours of labour was an excellent means of employing the unemployed, and raising wages, which he illustrated by the case of the Sheffield men, who now got more wages for eight hours' labour than they previously obtained for sixteen hours. (Great applause.)

Mr. William Crabbs wished to know, as they would not be free for six months, suppose a strike took place in the mean time, and a portion of the men returned to work, without the object for which they struck being gained, and without the consent of the society, would these men be received as members of the association.

Mr. Robson—Decidedly not. (Loud cheers.) He begged them to understand that the associations did not interfere in the local affairs of any society that might join them.

Mr. Jeffries wished to know, in the event of a strike taking place, and the union men bringing other men out with them who were not free, would they be supported, seeing they came out for trade purposes?

Mr. Robson said such was the general usage of trades societies, and in order to illustrate what they would do, he would suppose them to be shoemakers, well they received 1s. per pair, the Association would give 1s. 1d. per pair, and interest would be sure to lead them in the right road. (Cheers.)

Mr. Whelan then moved—"That the boiler makers now present have heard with pleasure the statements of Messrs. Green and Robson, and are decidedly favourable to the principles of the Associations for the Protection of Industry and the Employment of Labour, and hereby recommend their brethren throughout the kingdom to hear the same explained, and judge for themselves."

A member seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Thomas Mann moved, in a very complimentary speech, the following:—"That our thanks are eminently due, and are hereby given, to Mr. Edmund Stallwood, the reporter to the "Northern Star," as well as to the editor and proprietor of that Journal, for their able advocacy of the interests of the working classes."

Mr. Whelan seconded the motion, which was eloquently supported by Messrs. Robson and Green, and carried amid the loudest acclamations of applause.

Mr. Stallwood briefly acknowledged the compliment.

A vote of thanks was awarded to Messrs. Green and Robson for their attendance, and a similar compliment was paid to the Chairman, and the meeting dissolved.

DAVENTRY SHOEMAKERS.—For the last three years, with but few intermissions, the Journeymen Shoemakers of Daventry, have been struggling with our employers to maintain a fair remuneration for our labour, and whilst there remained an increasing demand for it, we could partially effect our purpose, this having ceased to be the case, we are left to submit to the iron arm of oppression, or exercise the only prerogative left, viz., "Take our own affairs into our own hands." We have chosen the latter. By a small weekly contribution we have accumulated a few pounds with which we have commenced (of course in a small way) a manufactory of our own, thereby fulfilling the old maxim which says, "Virtue thrives best beneath a burden." Knowing we have still many difficulties to contend with, we take the liberty to request the insertion of this letter in the *Northern Star*, in the hope that your many valuable correspondents, some one will be philanthrophic enough to throw some light on the system we are attempting to carry out. We hope that very many shopmates will "go and do likewise."—*Correspondent.*

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "NORTHERN STAR."

SIR,—As usefulness appears to be the peculiar province of your paper, and to do good the delight of its editor, we hope we shall not apply in vain for the insertion of the following list of subscriptions for the benefit of the family of the late John Oddy; for which along with the grateful thanks of the widow and orphans, we beg to expres our grateful acknowledgements, and the same to the *Northern Star*:—West End Boot Makers, by Mr. W. Stewart, £1 16s. 4d.; Ditto, Harrup-of-Hoby's meeting, £1 8s.; Ditto, Messrs. J. Clark and G. Gunning, £1 8s.; West End Ladies Shoemakers, by Mr. J. Smythes, £2 0s. 5d.; City Boot Makers, by Mr. Winsgett, 2nd Division, £3s. 6s.; Ditto, Mr. Woodman, 3rd Division, £3 4s. 4d.; Ditto, Mr. Smith, 4th Division, £2 14s. 1d.; Ditto, Mr. Bellingham, 5th Division. 17s 6d; From the Employers of the City, £2 13 6d; Penzance, 5s; Dorking, 1s; Stafford, 5s 11d; Dover, 10s. 6d; Leeds, 7s; Sheerness, 4s 3d; Maidstone, 11s; Mr. Thompson of Maidstone, 5s; Nottingham, 10s; Chatham, 18s; Greenwich 10s; Collected by Mr. Knight, Grinder, £2 13s 0½d; Ditto by Mr. Moyne, Grinder, 12s 5d; Ditto, Mr. Barton, Grinder, £1 9s 6d; Ditto, Mr. Davies, Grinder, 5s 7d; Ditto, Mr. Cooper, 1s 10d; Ditto, Mr. Glenister, 6d; Ditto, Mr. Dennis Pulteney Street, £1 5s. 8d; Ditto, Mr. Dennis, Vere Street, 2s 6d; Ditto, Mr. Leesh, 1s 4d; Ditto, Mr. Jackson, 3s; Ditto, Mr. Dooley, Bell, Old Bailey, 13s 11½d; Ditto, Mr. G. Bond, 6s; Ditto, Mr. Gunaway, Craw, £1 18s 8d; Ditto, Mr. Charles Burnley, £1 11s 5d; Ditto, Mr. Vidler, £1 9s 6d; Ditto, Mr. Holliday, £1 3s 6d; Ditto, Mr. Winter, £1; Ditto, By a Few Friends, 19s; Ditto, Mr. Taylor, Sun, 15s 4d; Ditto, Mr. Burrell, Bull and Mouth, 13s 2d; Ditto, Mr. Alderson, Woolpack, 8s 8d; Ditto, Mr. T. Fancey, Caledonian. Ditto, by the Weaver's Arms, 2s 6d; Ditto, J. Bryant, 13s; Ditto, Mr. J. Spencer, 8s. 9d; Dito, Mr. W. Weaton, 8s; Ditto, Mr. Cartwright, 4s 3d; Ditto, Coroner's Jury, 11s; Ditto, Mr. Breeson, 13s 4d; Ditto, Mr. Knipe, Milton-street, 6s; Ditto, The Philanthrophic at the Willington Arms, £2; Ditto, Mr. Price, 1s 8d; Ditto, Mr. J. Wilson, 1s. Ditto, Mr. J. Long, 3s. 4½d; Ditto, Mr. T Ranson, 1s; Ditto Blue Last, 1s; Ditto, Mr. R. Frost, 1s; Ditto, Mr. Barratt, 1s 4d. There are two persons who have got subscriptions in their hands. We hope the same will be given up without compelling us to take other steps for that purpose.

JOHN WALKERDINE,
THOMAS SPENCER.

KIDNEY POTATORS.—Such is the extreme scarcity of the ash-leaf kidney potatoes, that the extraordinarily high price of one guinea a bushel was obtained for five bushels intended for seed, at Windsor on Saturday.

THE TEN HOURS' BILL.

OPPOSITION OF THE MILLOCRACY.

Last week a meeting of the millowners of Manchester and neighbourhood was held at the office of Mr. William Heron, Princess-street, at which it was resolved to give the most strenuous opposition to the bill now before Parliament for reducing the hours of labour in factories. A deputation, consisting of Messrs R. H. Greg, Henry Ashworth, Thomas Ashton, and several other millowners, was appointed to wait upon ministers with a view to ascertain what their intentions were.

MEETING OF DELEGATES.—On Wednesday, a meeting of the whole of the delegates from the manufacturing districts was held at the Craven Hotel, Craven-street, Strand. Mr. John Fielden was in the chair. Resolutions to the following effect were unanimously adopted:—

"That the most grateful thanks of this meeting are due and hereby given to Lord John Manners, M. P., for the very able and efficient support he has uniformly given the Ten Hours Bill; but more especially for the able, comprehensive, and unanswerable speech, delivered in the House of Commons this afternoon in favour of the second reading of Mr. Fielden's bill.

"That the whole of the delegates who feel themselves authorised by their instructions to do so remain in London till Wednesday next, to promote the passing of the second reading of the Bill now before Parliament.

"That Mr. Matthew Bohn be appointed to go to Halifax, to inquire into the proceedings connected with the recent working of eleven hours a day, and the reasons for returning to twelve hours, and any other facts he may think necessary for the purpose of answering the statements made by the Right Honourable Sir Charles Wood, M.P.

"That the most cordial, hearty, and grateful thanks of the delegates be given to the Right Hon. Lord Ashley and Mr. Fielden, for their uniform assuidity in promoting this most laudable measure for the benefit of the working classes.

"That it is the unanimous declaration of this meeting, that the effect of this measure on the question of wages has been fairly put to the working classes, at 21 meetings held in as many large towns in the manufacturing districts: 'Are you prepared to accept the Ten Hours Bill, regardless of its effects upon wages?' This answer was unanimously 'Yes;' and that, therefore the declaration of Mr. Bright, and this was not done, is without foundation, and in every sense of the word untrue."

The thanks of the delegate having been given to Mr. Fielden, for presiding over the deliberations, the delegates separated.

RICHARD OASTLER, ESQ.

TO THE ELECTORS OF MANCHESTER.

GENTLEMEN,—I think you will not charge me with impertinence, when I appeal to you against that which I conceive to be injustice on the part of a gentleman who is seeking the honour of representing you in Parliament.

Mr. Bright is a perfect stranger to me. He has, however, thought me worthy of his notice. In the *Manchester Examiner* of the 12th ult., it is stated that Mr. Bright, when addressing the electors of the Chorlton-upon-Medlock district, on the 7th ult., said:—

"There was another question, on which some persons in this town felt deeply, and that was the question of legislative interference with the hours of labour in factories. This was a question which of all others should be discussed in the calmest and most friendly spirit. (Cheers.) He (Mr. Bright) did not believe there was any man in favour of a Ten Hours' Bill, because he thought it would injure anybody. He had been asked if education would not go on faster if the hours of labour were reduced? There was no doubt that it would; and no one disputed that the people would be much better for it, other things remaining the same. Give the workpeople, if possible, the same wages for ten hours as they now got for twelve hours' work, and the young will have two more hours in the evening for education and play, and the elder for reading and amusement. There was no man in Manchester more anxious to see such a state of things than he was. For any one to suppose that he was not a friend to education, whether private or public, or that he would not do all he could to advance and increase the intelligence of the people, was an indication that the individual, forming such an idea, knew knowing whatever about his (Mr. Bright's) private or public character. (Much cheering.) It might be said that the working classes were willing to risk a reduction of wages. Why, we were all willing to risk the danger which we did not believe in. All who had attended the meetings addressed by Mr. Fielden, Mr. Oastler, or Mr. Ferrand, must have heard them bring forward arguments to convince the working classes that there would be no reduction in wages. Now, he could not conceive a guilt more dreadful than that of a man coming before a large audience of the working classes—unless he had first deceived himself—(hear, hear)—for the purpose of endeavouring to persuade them that they might work ten hours a day instead of twelve, and that by some sort of act of parliament jugglery they could have twelve hours' wages for ten hours' work. (Much cheering.) And it must be borne in mind that the individuals who were preaching these things to working men had never shown any extraordinary sagacity hitherto on public questions. Mr. Fielden himself had been no great advocate for the repeal of the corn laws; (hear, hear,) he never supported, but always derided the league. Had Mr. Oastler done anything in favour of freeing the industry of the country? (Cheers.) Had Mr. Ferrand proved himself, by his votes, to be a particular friend of the working man? (Great laughter and applause.) Unless you could prove that twelve hours' wages would be given for ten hours' work, you have proved nothing whatever. (Cheers.) For the man to attempt to improve the condition of the working classes, to enable them to educate their children better, to make their homes more comfortable, and to render them independent, by diminishing their wages one-sixth or one seventh, was to go in the opposite direction to that in which he professed to be travelling. (Much cheering.)"

I insert the "cheers," &c., as I find them in the report. They show the importance attached to Mr. Bright's statements by the electors whom he was addressing. No doubt, his hearers believed his statements, and that he was prepared to support them in presence of the accused.

Observing that Mr. Bright was disposed "to discuss this question in the calmest and most friendly spirit," I proposed to meet him, in public discussion, at the Free Trade Hall, in Manchester, to maintain the following propositions, by facts and by arguments:—

"1st. That it is a delusion to su

Imperial Parliament.

In the House of Lords on Friday evening, Lord Brougham moved for returns of the premiums on Exchequer Bills, the dividends paid on English, Irish, and Scotch railways, and the names of all persons holding shares in Irish railways, and in so doing, declared that the measure introduced in the other house by Lord G. Bentinck had for its object the raising of the price of railway shares, to enable the holders to sell them at double their original price.

This was contradicted by Lord Stanley, who praised the measure as being of a great and comprehensive nature, brought in by his Noble Friend in the other House for the purpose of giving employment to the people of Ireland, facilitating internal communication, and attracting capital to that country without taking one shilling from the pockets of the English, or adding to their burden of taxation.

The Duke of Richmond, Earl Fitzwilliam, and the Earl of Winchelsea, expressed their approbation of Lord George Bentinck's measure.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE deprecated discussion of the subject at the present moment.

Lord Brougham's motion having been agreed to, the conversation dropped.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.—The Marquis of LANSDOWNE laid on the table the minutes respecting education lately adopted by the Education Committee of the Privy Council. The noble marquis said he had not the satisfaction to announce that the government were prepared with any plan of education such as would put the people of this country on a par with other countries in Europe in which education was almost universal. After the fullest consideration it appeared to them impracticable to frame any system of education on a large scale, because they found that it could be made comprehensive only by placing children of different denominations and religions in the same school—a plan to which there would be numerous objections and prejudices. But the Government thought it practicable to give to the system of education already established an impetus beyond that which it had hitherto received. The parliamentary grants from the year 1833 to 1846 amounted altogether to £490,000, and there were now nominally 700,000, and actually 500,000 persons provided for by the schools in operation, irrespective of the normal schools. The proposal of the Government was to provide for the more frequent inspection, because they thought every school ought to be inspected at least once a year; this they would be able to accomplish by the addition of three or four inspectors. A deficiency of schoolmasters and their assistants was generally complained of, and to remedy this it was proposed that in all schools, reported as good schools, a power should be granted to the master to receive apprentices, and that these apprentices should be allotted to be trained with the view of becoming schoolmasters. From the apprentices so trained it was proposed that a certain number should be selected to have exhibitions in the normal schools, by which they would be advanced to the station of schoolmaster; and that arrangements should be made by which those who would not become schoolmasters should be entitled to employment in the revenue department. Thus the most numerous would be qualified to act as schoolmasters, while the others would not lose the advantages of the education. It was proposed that a small provision for old age should be made for schoolmasters and mistresses after at least fifteen years conduct of schools of a certain size. Besides these retiring pensions it was proposed that a certain number of gratuities should from time to time be given to masters not retired. The government also proposed to increase the ratio of grants to such schools as should have appended to them some system of industry, agricultural or mechanical. The government likewise intended to propose that schools should be established in the poor workhouses, to be placed under the authority and inspection of the committee of the Privy Council; and also that sets of cheap books should be provided for such schools as might demand them.

Lord BROUGHAM complained that the system proposed was not comprehensive enough.

The Bishop of London, the Bishop of St. Asaph, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, expressed their general approval of the Ministerial measures.

Their Lordships then adjourned.

In the House of Commons, on Friday evening, on the motion that the House, at its rising, adjourn to Monday,

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE moved, as an amendment, that a copy of the report made by Mr. B. Escott to Her Majesty relative to the Millbank Prison, be laid on the table.

Sir C. GREY said he had no report relative to the Millbank Prison, except what was already before the House.

After a conversation the amendment was withdrawn and the motion agreed to.

DESTITUTE PERSONS (IRELAND) BILL.—On the motion to go into committee on this bill, Mr. HUTT expressed his opinion that a large system of colonization would best preserve the people of Ireland from present starvation, and lay the foundation for their permanent security.

Mr. STAFFORD O'BRIEN called the attention of the house to the propriety of establishing a smaller territorial division in Ireland for the purpose of poor relief rating, such a division as would enable them to act on the principle of distinguishing in Ireland between the good landlord and the bad, the improvident one and the careful.

Mr. LABOUCHERE objected to the principle recommended by Mr. Stafford O'Brien as inapplicable to a free country, as an entirely feudal principle, which could only exist in a state of serfdom.

After a few remarks from Lord John Manners, the house went into committee on the Bill. On third clause

Mr. S. O'BRIEN moved an amendment to the effect that a clergyman of each denomination, and president justices in the particular districts, be appointed ex-officio to serve on the relief committees.

On this amendment the committee divided—

For the amendment	32
Against it.....	128
Majority against the amendment ...	—96

The clause was agreed to, as also the clauses to 11 inclusive.

On the 12th clause,

Mr. ROEBUCK moved that the chairman report progress. The motion was agreed to, and the chairman obtained leave to sit on Monday next.

The other Bills on the paper were postponed, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer gave notice that the Destitute Persons committee would be the first business on Monday, then the Sugar Brewing Bill, and then the Sugar Distilling Bill.

The House adjourned at a Quarter-past Twelve.

MONDAY, 8TH, FEB.—The house sat for a short time. The Chelsea Pensioners Bill was read a second time, and the Buck Wheat Bill passed through committee.

Earl FITZWILLIAM moved for a return of the moneys advanced, since the Union, by the Imperial Treasury for public works in Ireland.

After three speeches from Lord BROUGHAM respecting the emigration of Irish paupers into Liverpool, and misrepresentations of former speeches made by him, and a conversation between the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl Fitzwilliam, the Marquis of Westmeath, and Lord Monteagle, the return was ordered.

The Earl of MOUNTCASHEL, withdrew his motion for a return of registered judgments, &c., in Ireland, on the assurance that it could not be procured.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS a large number of petitions were presented by various members praying for a Ten Hours' Bill.

RUNDALE SYSTEM.—In answer to a question by Lord Clements, whether he intended to put an end to the Rundale System, or joint tenancy in Ireland, under which no less than 1,902,547 acres were held,

Lord J. RUSSELL said the government intended to introduce a bill with respect to the relations of landlord and tenant in Ireland, but he could not state that it would contain any positive prohibition against the holding of land in Rundale.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The noble lord gave notice that on next Monday week, the 22nd inst., he would make the general financial statement of the year, in committee of ways and means.

DESTITUTE PERSONS (IRELAND) BILL.

On the motion in going into committee on this bill,

Mr. DANIEL O'CONNELL said a few words in support of the acts and measures of the government. The Labour Rate Bill, he thought, had been too generally condemned, for though it might have failed of its intent in some parts, it had worked efficiently in others. He was ready to give up every objection which he entertained against outdoor relief, in order not to impede the government in carrying measures to save the people from starving. He feared the house was not sufficiently aware of the horrible situation of the Irish population; but he could assure them that 25 per cent. of the whole Irish population — 2,000,000 of human beings—would perish by famine and disease, unless the Parliament and the people of Great Britain contributed at once, generously, magnificently, and he would add enormously. It might be said, "Why don't the Irish relieve them?' They had not the means. It was shown by the reports on the table that there were four millions of human beings in a destitute state, and on the verge of starvation. In the 47th year of the union the Irish people were being annihilated through the destruction of the potato crop; they were perishing in shoals; they were perishing in hundreds, in thousands, in millions. They might say that the Irish landlords ought to do their duty. Why many of them had done their duty; some of them had not, and he had no wish to shield those who had been guilty of neglect. He would give the government unlimited and dictatorial power to apply what sums and what mode of relief they deemed necessary, being responsible, of course, to that house, but still not being fettered by strictly legal regulations, and having all necessary powers to prevent starvation. (Hear, hear.) He wished to see the house confiding to the government—and he did not care from which side the government was taken—the means of rescuing the people from destruction. Now, he had not said one word indicating irritation or anger—he had not uttered one syllable of reproach—he had not told them that the present condition of the people was an unhappy consequence of the act of union—he simply implored them not to allow thousands of the people to perish. In the name of Heaven, by all that was sacred, he called upon the house for assistance. The dead rushed on his sight; the people were falling day after day in increasing numbers; and there was no remedy but to get food wherever it could be got, and at whatever expense. They knew that the Irish poor could do nothing for themselves, that they could do nothing without the aid of the landlords. Let them recollect how many estates were in Chancery, how many were in the hands of persons who were not the owners; let them remember that Ireland had no legislative power of her own; she was in their hands bound down and tied in a helpless position; they alone could save her, she could not save herself. The hon. and learned member's once powerful voice was so feeble as scarcely to be heard, and he appeared in all respects completely broken down in spirit and energy.

Sir B. HALL wished to make a few remarks in allusion to what had fallen from the hon. and learned gentleman. He had obtained returns from the boards of guardians of two of the largest metropolitan parishes, which showed the amount of destitution to be very great in the metropolis. In one of them, the population being 139,455 the number of out-door recipients of parochial relief at present on the list was 6,847, in-door 2,070, making a total of 8,917, or one-sixteenth of the whole population. In the parish of St. Pancras, the population being 130,000, the total number of persons receiving relief was 10,434, or twelve and a half per cent. of the whole population. The number of deaths was also exceedingly high as compared with former periods. Now the hon. and learned gentleman said that England was responsible for what was taking place in Ireland. He differed from him on that subject. (Hear.) Knowing as they did that the potato crop had failed, the Irish landlords were responsible for the present misery, if it could be shown that they had not made proper provision for feeding the people. (Hear, hear.) Suppose that in the principality of Wales the poor were allowed to be in the same state, because he and others refused to pay their rates, or suppose that when a gentleman in Wales went out by his park gates he saw cottagers living in hovels which were not fit to be the dwelling of a dog, would not the finger of scorn be held up against them, and would they not be objects of execration with everybody in this country? (Hear, hear.) Whilst there were resources in Ireland the landlords were bound to apply them for the relief of distress, and if those resources were not sufficient the English people would be ready to afford aid. What, however, were the facts? The workhouse of Ballina was capable of holding 1200 persons: on the 4th of January only 809 were located there. Ballinrobe afforded a similar instance. There no rates had been struck since 1843 or 1844, with the exception of one in 1846, amounting to £3,000, of which only £1,100 had been collected;—the collection was not, in fact, proceeded with, though it was admitted that there were persons capable of paying the rates, but who refused to do so. (Hear, hear.) Look again at the union of Castlebar. There were persons of large property and great influence in that district who refused to pay. He thought such persons ought to be held up to the execration of the country. It had been stated that even Lord Lucan was one of those who had not paid his rates. The property in the neighbourhood of Skibbereen was estimated at £50,000 a year. Sir Randolph Routh gave the names of the owners. Lord Carbery had £15,000 a year; Sir William Beecher had a large estate; yet the rates were not paid, and Sir Randolph put a question which he should like to hear answered by Irish members—"With such property as this, with such resources as these, ought such destitution to exist?" It was of no use, with such facts before their eyes, to come to that house and tell them that the landlords of Ireland were not reprehensible. At a meeting held at Old Palace-yard, where Lord Monteagle presided, that noble lord moved a resolution condemning the clause in the Irish Destitute Relief Bill which gave a discretionary power to afford temporary relief at the expense of the union. He should like to know at whose expense relief should be given? They should pass a law compelling the Irish landlords to do their duty. The landlords did not appear, in many respects, to approve of a permanent Poor-law Bill That was what the house wished them to approve of, and what it must make them accept.

Mr. MONCKTON MILNES defended the Irish landlords Even if they had not all done their duty, this was not the time for such speeches. It might be that there were unions in Ireland in which the rates were not paid; but the hon. member should have rather contrasted these exceptional cases with the cases in which the rates had been paid, than have cited them as the prevailing rule. (Hear.) It was not fair to make that house and the country believe that in this extremity of Ireland's misery the exception was the rule. And this feeling it was which made him take strong objections to the speeches delivered in the house during the present session by his hon. friend the member for Bath. Those speeches might contain truisms; but he (Mr. Milnes) could not but express his opinion that it was not decent—(Hear, hear)—that it was not decent at that moment to objurgate the landlords of Ireland as his hon. friend had objurgated them. (Much cheering from Irish members.) Great misery and destitution always find sympathy in the hearts of honourable men—(Hear, hear)—and he (Mr. Milnes) was sure that in stating what he had done he was only expressing the feelings of the benevolent and honourable people of this country. (Cheering.)

Mr. POULETT SCROPE and Lord DUNCAN supported the views of Sir B. Hall. His Lordship said he had been requested by the first magistrate of Bath to corroborate the statements of his hon. colleague. His constituents were in great distress, were bending under the weight of local and general taxation, and were quite opposed to the motion of undertaking burdens that should rest exclusively on the shoulders of Irish proprietors.

Major MACNAMARA, who laboured under evident excitement, rose and said:—I take the first opportunity I can to state that every sentence in Captain Wynn's letter is a malicious falsehood. The honourable and gallant member's brief and pithy speech caused loud laughter.

Mr. B. OSBORNE said that he regretted none of the Irish landlords in that house had risen to reply to the charges of the hon. member for Marylebone. When that hon. member lectured them in that peculiar strain, only made use of in the columns of certain daily papers—when he made use of the sort of objurgations which were the stock in trade of orators on Irish matters as the member for the Keighley union—(a laugh)—he meant for Knaresborough—(renewed laughter)—when he talked articles learnt by heart from the columns of *The Times* of that day three weeks—and came down there with mangled documents and mutilated information, he (Mr. Osborne) must say, that it did surprise him to find that no Irish landlord was to be seen to rise from his seat to answer his wild calumnies, and state what was doing for the poor by those who were most interested in their welfare. (Cheering.) He was far from defending the conduct of all the Irish landlords; but this he must say, that neglect was the exception, and not the rule, and that if their conduct was blameable, it was conduct which the British legislation had to answer for, for they had legislated for Ireland as they would legislate for an English colony—(hear, hear)—and if they had legislated in a different spirit, they would not have had the state of things in Ireland which existed now. He saw the hon. member for Paisley (Mr. Hastie) laugh. The hon. member was always attacking the Irish landlords in private, but he hoped he would soon see reason to change his views.

Mr. HASTIE hoped he should never say in private what he was afraid to say in public, nor had he stated any thing in private or in public which was not made universally well known by the official statements laid before that house. The Irish landlords had grossly neglected their duty. (Hear, hear.) That was a fact fully confirmed by the evidence before them; he had stated it in private, and no doubt in the hearing of the hon. member who referred to his remark, and he thanked the hon. member for giving him an opportunity of repeating his opinion before that house and the country. (Cheers.) When the Irish landlords saw the famine coming, what did they do? Nothing but sit down and howl for English money. (Loud laughter and cheering.) What ought they to have done? It was their duty to have ascertained the quantity of grain in every parish—to have made returns to the government and to that house, and to have taken every means in their power to supply the deficiency. (Hear.) That was the difference between what they had done, and what they ought to have done, and certainly he (Mr. Hastie) would not acquit them of blame.

Mr. Hastie's plain spoken speech brought up Sir D. Norreys and Sir H. W. Barron in defence. The latter said, There was a systematic attempt going on to put down the Irish landlords, an attempt which he was disposed to regard as a low, cunning manœuvre of the London capitalists, in order to reduce the market value of Irish land, and thus secure it at a cheap rate. (laugh.) The attempt was aided by certain portions of the press here, representing, what was called, the money interest.

Lord J. RUSSELL came to the rescue of the monied capitalists:—The hon. baronet had thought proper to make a most unfounded attack upon members of a constituency very dear to him, the constituency of the City of London. The hon. baronet charged them with a low and cunning conspiracy to get hold of Irish estates at a cheap rate. He begged to remind the honourable baronet of a circumstance:—About a month ago, several gentlemen, intimately connected with the money interests of London, but having no connexion with Ireland, having no property there, and, in all probability desiring to have none—(a laugh)—met for the purpose of raising a subscription for Ireland; at which meeting several of those gentlemen contributed £1,000 each towards the object. (Hear, hear.) Not content with doing this, and occupied as they were all the morning till four o'clock, they formed a committee and met every day at four o'clock for the purpose of further forwarding their generous purpose, by receiving subscriptions, conducting correspondence, and taking measures to transmit the funds raised in the manner calculated to be most useful to the Irish people. (Hear, hear.) As to the Imperial Exchequer, he would beg to remind the hon. baronet that within the last week not less than a million sterling had been sent over to relieve the immediate distresses of Ireland. He believed, in a word, he might say that if, unhappily, on the one hand, the calamity under which Ireland was suffering was unprecedented, the sympathy, the cordial and practical sympathy extended to her by England was equally unprecedented. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. S. CRAWFORD would not for an instant think of asking aid from England, if he did not believe that Ireland could and would repay the advances made to her. For his own part he should be ready to have his property taxed to the last farthing for this purpose, and he considered that the property of every landlord in Ireland ought to be strictly taxed for the same object, and rigourous measures adopted, where necessary, for enforcing the prompt payment of the amount assessed upon each landlord. (Hear, hear.)

After some further discussion, the house at last got into committee.

Various amendments were proposed by the Irish members, and negatived.

On clause 16, which provides for the payment of loans, another exciting discussion as to the conduct of the Irish landlords took place.

Mr. ROEBUCK demanded of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to state explicitly what would be the gross amount of the sums necessary to carry into effect the Ministerial measures; and whether the requisite amount would be obtained by an increased income-tax or by a loan? He would not wait for the budget to hear that which ought to have been told long ago. He had been astonished—he might say astounded at the patience of the hon. member for Montrose. (Laughter.) That hon. member had put this question in so mild a form that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had said that he would tell him some day or other. He (Mr. Roebuck) wished that he would show some of the vigour of his earlier days, and force the Chancellor of the Exchequer to tell that which he was bound as a member of the government to do. He (Mr. Roebuck) wished that the right hon. gentleman should not merely enjoy the honour of being Chancellor of the Exchequer, but that he should be bound by some of the obligations of the office. Let him meet the question and the difficulty fairly, and as was his duty—let him say these are the difficulties and these the means by which it is proposed to meet them and to raise the money. It was for the house then, if they did not agree with him, to say so; but it was not fair to go on with the petty details of this bill till that great question was settled. No one had been able to get at what the expense of this measure would be to England. He demanded an answer to this question.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER objected to the offensive tone and manner in which Mr. Roebuck questioned him, and refused to anticipate the general financial statement, promised for Monday week, the 22nd inst. However, he had no objection in saying that up to the end of January £2,000,000 sterling had been expended. But under the Bill before the house, the Government would be restricted to £300,000; and, for any future sums they would require, they would come to the house and ask for it in committee of supply.

Mr. EVELYN DENISON wished to be distinctly informed if the government meant positively to support substantially their own Poor Law (Ireland) Bill?

Sir G. GREY thought the question a most extraordinary one. The Bill was brought in by the Premier, the Irish Secretary, and himself, and he had not before heard even a surmise that they did not intend effectually to carry their own Bill.

Lord JOHN MANNERS entreated the Irish representatives to mark well that the English members on his side of the house did not acquiesce in the sentiments expressed by Mr. Roebuck and his friends. To mortgage the property of Ireland would be, in his Lord John Manners, judgment, of little use to the poor people of Ireland. The English Members would not allow the people of Ireland to starve, because the Irish landlords might have neglected their duties. They would feed the famishing people first, and then devise means of making the landlords pay for the support of their poor.

The Bill ultimately passed through committee,

BREWING FROM SUGAR BILL.—On the motion for going into committee on the bill,

Mr. W. MILES expressed his regret that the Government had not acceded to Lord G. Bentinck's suggestion, and made this and the Distilling from Sugar Bill temporary measures. The honourable member pointed out to the house, from the result of experiments, what would be the bearing of these measures on the home agriculture and the colonial sugars. They were proceeding quite in the dark.

Mr. M. MILNES, amidst much laughter, asked the Government to allow fresh liquorice juice to be used in breweries and distilleries. He hoped no financial objections would be urged against the proposal.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER considered that liquorice tasted so well in Pontefract cakes and liquorice stick, that it would be a pity to divert liquorice from its purposes. He did not think the financial objections to the proposal would be very strong.

After remarks from Mr. James, Mr. Finch, and Mr. Newdegate, the house went into committee on the Bill, and all the clauses were agreed to.

The Distilling from Sugar Bill also passed through committee.

The Poor Relief (Ireland) Bill was postponed.

The Customs' Duties Bill was read a second time, and the house adjourned at half past 12 o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS—TUESDAY, FEB. 9.

COLLEGIATE CHURCH AT MANCHESTER.—Lord STANLEY presented a petition from the churchwardens of Manchester, complaining that whereas the rectorial revenue amounted to above £5000, which was received by the Dean and Fellows of the Collegiate Church at Manchester, that body claimed to be exempt, on payment of a trifling fine, from residence and from the cure of souls. Thus, practically, this parish, with a population of 400,000, was left destitute of spiritual assistance. In strict construction of the ancient charters, the claim was perhaps sustainable, but it was astonishing that the Dean and Chapter could reconcile it to their consciences to receive from the rectorial funds of Manchester nearly £6000 a year, and leave so large a population without spiritual advice and instruction.

Lord BROUGHAM thought the only remedy that could remove this abuse would be a legislative enactment.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE read a letter from the Dean, stating that the representations made in the petition from the churchwardens were inaccurate, and bore testimony to the zeal and assiduity of the Dean of Manchester in the cause of education.

The Lord CHANCELLOR said no one could entertain a doubt but that the funds of the parish should be applied to the spiritual wants of the people, but it was extremely difficult to know how to deal with property which belonged to a corporation for more than four hundred years. This, however, was quite clear from the grant of incorporation, namely, that the Dean and Chapter were subject to certain pecuniary payments, which, when paid, relieved them from the obligation of perpetual residence. If the Dean and Chapter of Manchester conformed to the terms of the charter, respecting which he would express no opinion, they were as much entitled to the tithes as any one of their Lordships was to his estates. If the petiting appealed to the wants of the parish of Manchester, that was another question, and it might be proper that an act of Parliament should be obtained to remedy the grievance complained of.

After a few remarks from from Lord CAMPBELL,

Lord STANLEY denied that the letter of the Dean had controverted any meterial statement in the petition. He thought the matter called for the special interference of the Legislature.

After some further discussion the matter dropped.

No other business of public importance occurred, and their lordships adjourned at a few minutes before seven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—TUESDAY, FEB. 9.

Previous to the commencement of public business, a long discussion took place on the railway canal proposed to run through the Regent's Park. In the course of the debate,

Mr. W. WILLIAMS observed, the Regent's Park was one of the principal lungs of the metropolis; but if they made a railway on the banks of the canal, the most favourite parts would be deserted. That part of the park was now frequented by carriages, and ladies and gentlemen on horseback, but they could not then frequent it, owing to the danger to which their lives would be exposed in consequence of the horses taking fright at the noise of the engines.

Sir C. NAPIER said: Supposing that this line of railway communication should be made, it would materially injure forty villas, and when an engine went by with a team of carriages, snorting, and snoring, and whizzing, what a pretty accompaniment it would be to a lady playing on a pianoforte in one of those houses. (Laughter.)

Ultimately the bill was postponed in order to enable Lord Morpeth to ascertain certain facts connected with it.

RATE PAYING CLAUSES OF THE REFORM ACT.—Mr. T. DUNCOMBE gave notice that he should postpone, from the 18th to that day fortnight, his motion as to the rate paying clauses of the Reform Act.

IMPORTATION OF SALT INTO INDIA.—Sir JOHN HOBHOUSE, in reply to a question, stated that a despatch had been forwarded on Monday last to the Governor General of India, ordering the resolutions in force in India respecting the importation of salt to be cancelled.

NAVIGATION LAWS.—Mr. RICARDO moved for a select committee to inquire into the operation of the Navigation Laws. The honourable member said that a committee had been appointed in 1844 by the Conservative party; that committee not having made their report, although they printed evidence, was re-appointed in 1845. They did not finish their inquiry in that year, but asked to be re-appointed in 1846. They were never re-appointed since, and consequently no report had ever been made. As, therefore, the Conservative party had admitted that there was a doubt of the efficacy of these Navigation Laws, he did not think they could refuse his motion, which was intended to bring the inquiry to a conclusion. The honourable member proceeded to argue that these laws were injurious to the manufactural, the commercial, and the colonial interests of this country. They upset the natural law of trade, and they acted as a direct encouragement to foreign manufactures over our own. They were only designed as a protection to British shipowers, but they were no protection at all, unless they raised the price of freights, and if they raised the freights 10s. a ton, they would tax the country to the amount of £4,273,000. This, however, he did not believe. He denied that the Navigation Laws encouraged the navy, that they were a real protection to the shipowners, or to British seamen, or to British carpenters. The Americans made better and cheaper ships, and he thought it was a fair question to ask, if it would not be wiser to buy American ships instead of building them.

Mr. M. GIBSON, on the part of the Government, recommended the house to agree to the motion. The resolution only asked for an inquiry, and would not commit any member to the opinion entertained by Mr. Ricardo. The house would be continuing a train of useful inquiry, commenced in 1844, and pursued in 1845, by appointing this committee.

Mr. LIDDELL could not agree to the proposed committee, because he did not believe that it was intended to follow up the inquiry of the committee of 1844-5. The object that committee had in view was the improvement of the Navigation Laws, the evident design of the proposed committee was to abolish them. He hoped the house had not as yet come to the point of considering the British shipowners, British commerce, and the British marine as undeserving of protection. How far were the house prepared to go in exposing the industry of this country to foreign competition? He would oppose the motion.

Mr. HUME, to the question, "Where were they to stop in their Free Trade course," would answer, nowhere. He would not disguise his opinion, which was, that the Navigation Laws should be abolished. He seconded the motion.

A lengthened debate, which occupied nearly the whole of the sitting, ensued.

Lord SANDON thought it quite unjustifiable on the part of the government to throw on an honourable member not representing any great commercial constituency an inquiry such as this, without guidance, control, or responsibility. It was the business of the government to make a distinct statement on so important a question, and to conduct the inquiry if they thought it desirable to institute one.

Mr. LABOUCHERE hoped he should never see the time when the government of this country would take upon itself to say to the motion of any independent member, "this is not a subject fit to be conducted by any independent member of Parliament." Subjects of the greatest interest had been investigated at the instance of individual members. Neither the government nor any hon. member would be committed to any opinion upon the general question of the Navigation Laws, by consenting to the select committee asked for: all they would be committed to was, that in consequence of late commercial changes it was not possible to deny that this question ought to undergo the test of inquiry.

Lord G. BENTINCK maintained that it was not permitted to a government to allow a question of such magnitude to be sent up to a select committee, particularly after the declarations from the proposer and the seconder of the motion that the shipping interests and the commercial navy of England ought to be compared to pedlars and pack-horses, and the trade and shipping of England to be as free as free trade in shoes. When that was the spirit of the proposers of this committee, it was clear that it was not at all similar in its interest to the committee of 1844. In fact, it was designed to drive down the wages of the British shipwrights to half the present amount, and he would resist the inquiry.

The motion was supported by Messrs. Bright, Mitchell Hutt, Sir Walter James, and other members, and opposed by Aldermon Thompson, Mr. Hudson, Captain Harris, and Mr. Disraeli, who said the Protectionist party were not going to vote either in favour of or against the Navigation Laws, but simply against enquiry. (Laughter.)

Sir ROBERT PEEL avowed his intention of supporting the proposition. He saw no reason why an opportunity should not be given for ascertaining whether the Navigation Laws were for the benefit of British shipping and necessary for securing our maritime.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL said that if the Government had proposed an alteration in this most important law, they would have been met by the objection that they had proposed it without inquiry. On behalf of the shipping interest, as well as of those who wished for an alteration of the Navigation Laws, he was glad the proposition was made, and he gave it his cordial support.

The House divided—

For the motion	155
Against it.....	61
Majority for the motion...	94

Considerable cheering ensued upon the announcement of the division.

Mr. WATSON moved for and obtained leave to bring in a bill for the further repeal of enactments imposing pains and penalties upon Her Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects on account of their religion.

Mr. PUSEY then moved for and obtained leave to bring in a bill for the improvement of agricultural tenant right,

Mr. HUME then moved for a return of the corporal and other punishments which had taken place in the navy from the 1st of January, 1844, to the 31st of December, 1846.

A somewhat animated discussion ensued, during which Lord John Russell intimated the readiness of the Government to give the same returns in reference to the navy as were given of corporal punishment in the army. He thought this the more proper course for the Admiralty to take, as mystery and concealment frequently led the public to believe that things were much worse in this respect in connection with the service than they really were. He could not, however, grant the motion of the honourable member in the terms in which it was framed.

Mr. HUME then withdrew his motion in order so to frame it as to procure such returns as were assented to by the Government.

The order of the day for bringing up the report upon the Destitute Persons (Ireland) Bill was then read, and the report was brought up and received.

The report upon the Brewing from Sugar Bill, as also that upon the Distilling from Sugar Bill, were then brought up and received.

The other orders of the day were disposed of and the House adjourned at half-past 12 o'clock.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, on Wednesday, the Speaker took the Chair at 12 o'clock.

After a vast number of petitions in favor of a Ten Hours Bill had been presented,

Mr. FIELDEN moved the second reading of that measure.

Mr. HUME, after complaining of the absence of Lord John Russell, who had promised to state his opinions on this measure on the present occasion, declared that he could not meddle with the industry of the country in the way now proposed; for it was a sound principle that masters and men should be left to make the best arrangements as to work and wages for themselves. The house professed to consult the welfare of the labouring community, but in his opinion the working classes were well able to take care of themselves. He objected to submitting human industry to a Procrustean process and to making all labourers conform to one standard without regard to their relative powers of skill and exertion. Those who asked for not more than eight or ten hours' labour would, if they obtained the boon they sought, find it work to their own discomfiture. If the mills stopped after 10 hours' labour there would be no profit whatever on account of capital, and a surplus of labour of one hour and a half, or perhaps two, beyond that time, was barely sufficient to obtain a remunerative return for it. If honourable gentlemen were anxious to maintain the superiority of England in manufactures, they must give fair play to her industry and capital by not interfering with either. If they do anything to drive capital from its proper employment, and to prevent the exportation of articles of cheap manufacture, they would bring the labouring population to ruin by their injudicious interference. He suspected that the outcry in favour of this bill was got up by a set of individuals who were more influenced by a desire for their own enjoyment, and by a dislike to labour, than by any feeling for the rest of the community. He cautioned the house to beware how it sanctioned rash experiments of this kind now, and referred to the state of Ireland as a proof of the misery which resulted from the want of employment and the absence of capital. He sincerely hoped that the house would adopt his amendment, and read this bill a second time that day six months.

Colonel L. HAY seconded the amendment.

Sir G. GREY was willing to state at once the course which he as an individual member was prepared to pursue. He used the words "individual member," because it was known to those who had marked the different views entertained on this question by the several members of the Government, and who had heard the answer given last year by the Noble Lord at the head of the Administration, that the Government did not feel themselves bound to an united course upon this measure. It had been the full intention of Lord John Russell to be in his place at the opening of the debate, but he was unavoidably detained by public business; however, the house might rest assured that the Noble Lord would not shrink from an explicit avowal of his opinions on this important subject. The question was one not of principle, but rather of degree, and he admitted that it might be legitimate matter for discussion whether they had as yet arrived at the utmost limit to which they could safely proceed. But when the hon. member talked of consistency, he would take leave to ask him whether it would be consistent to repeal the Factory Laws already passed? That was the real issue of his argument, and he put it to the hon. member whether he was prepared to submit that issue plainly and decidedly to the house. It could not be denied that there was an earnest desire on the part of the majority of those who were employed in factories to see this matter settled by legislative enactment. On the other hand, he feared that there was a formidable and general feeling of opposition on the part of employers to any such interference. The chief argument against further legislation consisted in predictions as to the certain ruin to follow from adopting, even in a modified degree, the provisions of the bill introduced by the hon. member for Oldham. (Hear, hear.) Similar predictions were uttered when it was proposed to prevent the employment of children under eight years of age, and to restrict that of children between eight and twelve, and he now asked the house to contrast the anticipations with the results. (Cheers.) In the more recent debates on that subject, the most strenuous advocates of non-interference had not asserted that the regulations and restrictions already existing had produced a prejudicial result, or stated that they were prepared to recommend their repeal. (Hear.) The right hon. baronet, the member for Dorchester, (Sir James Graham) had distinctly admitted the benefits of past legislation. Nobody could doubt those benefits as regarded children, whose moral and intellectual welfare had certainly been promoted. Simultaneously with increased comfort to the workpeople, and an extension of education, there had been a great increase in the amount of production, and the reports of the inspectors showed that manufacturing wealth had greatly accumulated. Experience, therefore, was in favour of the principle of the present bill. (Hear, hear.) The real question was, whether parliament, having taken upon itself to fix the hours during which females, young persons, and children, should be employed in factory labour, had now adequately discharged its duty. With regard to children, he thought he had done so. He thought that the legislature, however, had not fulfilled its duty with regard to persons between the ages of twelve and eighteen. When he saw a child at the age of twelve, after working only six hours a day up to that period, suddenly transferred to a class in which the employment extended over the same period as that of adults, he could not but feel that there was a defect in the system. He would suggest that there should be an extension of the period of childhood, using that word in the sense in which it was employed in the act, and that the period of enjoying the benefits of education should be further protracted. With regard to adults, though there was no direct interference in the bill proposed, he fully admitted that if the measure passed, the hours of labour would practically be equally restricted for all classes. (Hear, hear.) He repeated that he did not believe ruin to the manufacturers was at all likely to ensue. He thought one result would be a more equal distribution of labour throughout the year; and taking into account the energies, both of the masters and of the operatives, he felt that they had no cause to fear foreign competition. (Hear, hear.) He did not however agree with Mr. Fielden, in thinking that factories occasioned an excessive mortality. Last year his hon. friend had declared that he claimed for the members of his government freedom of thought, expression, and action on matters of detail. (A laugh.) This he (Sir G. Grey) held to be a matter of detail, and not one of principle. (Hear, hear.) He did not doubt that the course of the discussion would show a difference of opinion amongst the members of the government. For his own part, he should vote for the first clause of the bill, restricting the hours of labour to eleven instead of twelve; and when the house went into committee, he should oppose the clause which prospectively—that is, at the end of a year—limited the hours of labour to ten. (Hear, hear.) He could not consistently, with proper caution, go the full length proposed by the hon. gentleman.

Mr. BANKES, in supporting the bill, said he believed he was authorised in saying that those who sought for a Ten Hours' Bill had entered into no compromise. He called upon the hon. member for Durham (Mr. Bright), for the sake of his own consistency, to support this bill. On the 23rd of May last year, that hon. member said in the House of Commons that "the proper mode of proceeding would be for the operatives to seek by private arrangements to obtain the ten hours, which he admitted they ought to have by some means or other"—(hear, hear)—and in reply to a question put to him at Manchester in December last, the hon. member said, "I am quite certain that a man who works ten hours a day is much more likely to be educated than one who works twelve hours; I don't differ as to that point at all, I differ as to whether the reduction of time should be carried out by legislative enactment, or whether it should be carried out by a regulation between the operatives and the masters themselves." Now had the experiment suggested been tried since May last year, or since December last? and if it had not been, what chance was there that it ever would be? (Hear, hear.) He trusted that the circumstance of the hon. member for Durham being now a candidate for Manchester would not lose his vote to the good cause. (Hear, and a laugh,) He trusted that that hon. member would not draw back from the opinion he had given last session. There might be persons in Manchester whose opinions were more important than those of the humble operatives, whose petition had been laid upon the table; but that circumstance, he was sure, would in no way influence the views of the hon. member for Durham. He was surely too honest a man to withdraw from the pledge he had given, and from the opinion he had so decidedly expressed that the only practical mode of carrying through this measure, was by making it an act of the imperial legislature. (Hear, hear.) The millowners said that usage and habit had accomodated themselves to the long hours of labour. The same plea had been offered in defence of slavery, but had not been allowed as a sufficient reason for the continuance of that system. Having shown that since the commencement of our legislation for the purpose of restricting the hours of labour the consumption of cotton had increased 400 per cent. above what it was in 1824, he called upon the house not to be deluded by the predictions of mischief which some ill prophets were now making. The government had just introduced a measure for extending education throughout the country; but that measure would be a nullity, and even an insult, as far as the factory labourers were concerned, if time were not given to them to avail themselves of the benefit of it. He, therefore, implored the house to read this bill a second time if it wished to avoid the distortion of mind as well as of body which excessive work and deficient instruction were certain to produce.

Lord J. MANNERS trusted that the hon. gentleman, who had vindicated himself from any possible charge of being personally interested in the vote he should give, would permit him to say that there was no hon. gentleman in that house standing in less need of such a vindication. (Hear, hear.) Unnecessary, however, as he (Lord J. Manners) considered that protest to be, perhaps the hon. gentleman would allow those who advocated this measure to make use of the same vindication. Until, indeed, he had heard the hon. member for Montrose say that the bill was supported on party grounds, he had little expected to have it declared in that house that there was the necessity, either in advocacy or in opposition, of such a superfluous attestation of integrity of motive. He should have thought that any one, looking back to the past history of the question would come to the conclusion, however hon. gentlemen might have differed in their views, that in this at least all were agreed, that never was a great question, affecting largely the policy of a country, debated more exclusively on pure, on high, and on disinterested grounds. (Hear, hear.) And when he thought of the hundreds of thousands who in this half-century had gone down to their graves, their hopes deferred, to their children, deputing to advocate the cause they had advocated,—when he thought of those children, who had been left to die of over-toil, and how, over and over again, they had petitioned and protested, it must undoubtedly be conceded that their conduct of this great cause had been worthy of this country, and worthy of the great interests involved in its satisfactory settlement. (Hear, hear.) It was not alone the soldiers who had perished in this thirty years' pacific war; the generals who had led the armies had one by one departed. Sir R. Peel might die and bequeath the contest to Sir J. Hobhouse; Sir J. Hobhouse might advance to a certain point, and there rest contented with his labours. Mr. Sadler might succeed to Sir J. Hobhouse, and fight with no apparent success; and, afterwards, the head of the veteran Mr. Oastler might become gray with years of disappointment.