

Poetry.

We give another translation of the 'Marseillaise' and 'Mourir pour la Patrie,' from the pen of BENNET JONES:—
(From *The Labourer for April*).
THIS MARSILLAISE,

TRANSLATED BY BENNET JONES.
Sons of freedom! break your slumbers.
The day of glory's drawing nigh.
Against us tyrants' red numbers
Rear their bloody banner high.
Rear their bloody banner high.
Hark! hark! the tramp of marching strife,
Far and near sound war's alarms,
And outrage to your very arms,
To hope—the partners of our life.

To arms! brave citizens! array each gallant band!
March on! march on! your tyrants' blood
Shall wash the nation's shame;
We'll march! we'll march! our tyrants' blood
Shall drench the thirsty land!

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THE IRISH STATE PROSECUTIONS.

The following are the resolutions adopted at the meeting of the Irish Repealers held in Farringdon Hall, on the 7th inst., in the chair of Mr. T. D. Daly, seconded by Mr. J. Lindsay:

That we deliberately adopt the prosecutions of W. S. O'Brien, Esq., M.P., (John Mitchell), and Thomas Francis Meagher, and tender to those gentlemen our deep and English law gratitude for having asserted, in the teeth of the law, the right of self-government; and hereby promise to sustain them in any and every effort that they may make to break down English domination in Ireland, which brings nothing to her inhabitants but starvation, shame, pestilence, and death."

Moved by Mr. J. M. Leary, seconded by Mr. Mahon:

That the spirit, manly, and efficient conduct of the council of the Irish Repealers, and the arrest of O'Brien, Mitchell, and Meagher, entitles them to the admiration of every lover of Ireland's independence; and we pledge ourselves to support them at every risk and sacrifice, in their noble struggle with their country's oppressors."

Moved by Mr. Fitzgibbon, seconded by Mr. Looney:

That we hail with inexpressible delight the determination of our countrymen to establish a National Council, and as it is more than probable that the English government may resort to violent and coercive means, for the purpose of crushing the glorious spirit which has arisen in our long-oppressed fatherland, we believe it to be the solemn duty of every patriotic Irishman, and friend to Ireland's cause, to prepare themselves, forthwith, with arms of some description or other, in order that they may be prepared to do for Ireland what Irishmen should do."

Moved by Mr. Kenny, seconded by Mr. Dowling:

That at this time, when the courage, virtue, and patriotism of the Irish people are about to be put to the test, it is the opinion of this meeting that all who are determined on seeking their regeneration, should abstain, as much as possible, from the use of intoxicating drinks."

More than 2,000 persons adopted the above resolutions unanimously.

THE LONDON REPEALERS.

The union between the Repealers and the Chartists of London is now settled, and the two parties have cemented that union for the avowed purpose of establishing the rights of the unfranchised in Great Britain and Ireland against the evil effects resulting from the present system of representation. A large meeting of Irish Confederates was held at the Green Man, Berwick-street, Mr. R. Hussey in the chair. Messrs Reynolds, McCarthy, O'Mahoney, and Glass, addressed the meeting, and one of the speakers alluded to the liberators of Rome, William and Joseph, who were heartily responded to by the meeting, showing that the feeling is not confined to Englishmen, but that Irishmen feel with them, and denounce the illegal conduct pursued towards those men by a despotic government. In the course of the evening, a deputation consisting of Messrs. Reynolds, Mitchell, and Wilkes, from the Chartist, for the purpose of asking the meeting to send two delegates to the Metropolitan Council of Chartists to arrange matters for the forthcoming demonstration, was received with the warmest reception. The delegates were then introduced to the subject of their mission, amidst loud and deafening cheers, (for Repeal and the Chartist). Messrs Glass and Hussey were then appointed to attend the council. The meeting, which was a crowded one, then broke up, giving three cheers for the glorious union between the oppressed of both countries.

On Monday evening an aggregate meeting of Irishmen and friends of Ireland of Westminster, was held at the Working Man's Temperance Hall, Carter-street, Westminster. The hall was crowded to capacity, there not being room for the many who had been invited to attend. The meeting was opened by Mr. Wm. Spiller, who was called to the chair. The first resolution recommended union among all classes of Irishmen. The second resolution strongly condemned the conduct of the government in Ireland, and their determination of standing by Ireland in the event of bloodshed. The third resolution adopted an union of the working classes of both England and Ireland against class legislation, and to prevent the destruction of the rights of labour.

The resolutions were then moved and seconded by Mr. Spiller, and were carried amidst loud and deafening acclamations, and the whole of the speeches breathed the true spirit of democracy, and consisted in a determination to be up and doing, if required. Mr. Dixon attended from the Metropolitan Council of the Chartists, and addressed the meeting; he said that he always advocated the right of Ireland to a parliament. Messrs Reading and Walford were then appointed to attend the Chartist Convention at Manchester on Monday evening. The meeting then broke up, giving three cheers for Union, (to repeal the Union); for Repeal; and the Chartist and the brave French.

A large and enthusiastic meeting of the Irishmen of Wapping, was held, on Sunday last, in the large Temperance Hall. Mr. Looney addressed the meeting, at great length, and a determination was evinced by the men of Wapping, to be up and doing. A committee was then formed to carry out the organization of this important district, and it was strongly denied by many, that the Whigs, as a body, had enrolled themselves special constables; they said, the thing had been magnified to suit the base intentions of a base government.

DAVID'S CLUB, 83, Dean-street.—On Monday evening, a crowded meeting of the Club was held, in the large Temperance Hall. Mr. Looney addressed the meeting, at great length, and a determination was evinced by the men of Wapping, to be up and doing. A committee was then formed to carry out the organization of this important district, and it was strongly denied by many, that the Whigs, as a body, had enrolled themselves special constables; they said, the thing had been magnified to suit the base intentions of a base government.

THE CHARTIST TRICOLOURE. BY ALFRED PENNY. Secour true eagle in the sky, Its folds the banner fly; The rallying day for liberty, The Chartist Tricolour; Displaying in its varied shades, Thine, the white, with Erin's green, One tint doth the bright banner display Which lighten up the sky— The world of freedom's day, When suns fresh to the world, And as the rises fair and free, To be the sun of liberty.

One, the white foam that crests the wave, When winds and tempests play; While as the sails of gallant bark That cleave the ocean's way, May Freedom's banner fly along, As straight her course, as pure, as strong.

The beautiful mantle of the earth, When Spring-time gaily comes, When grass blades dance with wind in mirth In all their quiet tones— As glad—as gay—as we soon be Beneath our eagle's foot.

There were our eagle's foot, From the Liberator to the North— Come, all of Freedom's gallant band, From East, West, South, or North— And as we see our banner fly Salute the flag of liberty.

Salute it all ye nation's proud, When we see the flag display; That flag is with more glory crowned Than monarch's best array. Obsolete say ye tyrants, for This our Chartist Tricolour.

THE 'NORTHERN STAR.' AN ACROSTIC. To the friend of the weak, To the stern foe of might, To the champion of Freedom, To the champion of Right, To the defender of the poor, To the defender of the weak, To the defender of the poor, To the defender of the weak.

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TO THE RIGHT HON. LORD J. RUSSELL.

My Lord.—Allow a humble artisan to whisper into the ear of a philosopher—a man among the millions—a man of the people—a man who has seen the world—the noble heart and his sole companion with the interest of the wealthy classes, leads him to undervalue and condemn, namely—the deplorable condition of the working classes—the rights they claim, the wrongs they suffer—and the pressing necessity of restoring them to the position of equality with the other classes.

Whoever is not in the full possession of equal social and political rights, is a slave. Whoever is not equal in all respects before the laws, is a slave. That body of men who are debased by law from the status of citizenship, under a theory, autocracy, aristocracy, constitutional monarchy, or the republic, are created to the administration of the laws as an inferior order—a "blasted" class that must be chained and muzzled—are slaves. The chains may be invisible, and the muzzle glided, to the apprehension of the uninitiated; they may be hugged with delight by fawning sycophants; they may be hidden from the eyes of the few who, though subsisting comfortably at present, live in constant dread that the same social and physical suffering which is overwhelming their relatives and neighbours, will one day be theirs; but all are now opening their eyes to the condition of the nation, and the state of the empire, and they are even for long years, are no guarantee against dismissal from employment, the breaking up of their homes, the loss of their little all, and the expropriation of their property. Formerly, it was the worthless, the idle, the drunk, the profligate, the dissipated, the wretched condition of the nation, and the state of the empire, and they are even for long years, are no guarantee against dismissal from employment, the breaking up of their homes, the loss of their little all, and the expropriation of their property. Formerly, it was the worthless, the idle, the drunk, the profligate, the dissipated, the wretched condition of the nation, and the state of the empire, and they are even for long years, are no guarantee against dismissal from employment, the breaking up of their homes, the loss of their little all, and the expropriation of their property. 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Mr McGRATH delivered an excellent lecture to a vast audience in the Amphitheatre, Leicester, on last Sunday week.

WHITE-STARS.—The Chartists and Repealers at its place have fraternised.

SOUTHWALLING.—Great open air meetings are being held every night. The excitement increases.

GREAT CHARTIST MEETING AT LEIGH FIELDS.—On Tuesday evening, March 28, the long club room of the Fox Inn, in this village, situated about two miles and a half from "Charterville" (Minster) Level) was densely crowded. At least five hundred persons were present. Edward Fawcett, Esq., M.P., was unanimously elected to the chair, and briefly opened the proceedings for the evening. Mr Henry Ross, in an argumentative and convincing speech, moved a resolution setting on foot a committee to counteract the effects of the present system of labour, tending to the evils of class legislation and aristocratic domination, and to allege the remedy to be the representation of the people.

Amongst the allottees, it is determined to refer to the postal authorities to have a post-office erected on the estate. Also, as soon as the school-house is finished, to have a public library for the benefit of the allottees and friends visiting the estate. The following are the names of the allottees:—A meeting of the allottees and members will be held at Norton's Commercial street, Back-lane, on Monday next, the 10th inst., at eight o'clock in the evening.

Worcestershire.—On Thursday evening last, a large public meeting was held in the Guildhall (granted to the Mayor) by Mr. Doyle, one of the Executives, delivered most splendidly, and was excited to the utmost enthusiasm. On Friday, a public meeting was held for the election of a delegate to the national convention, when Mr. Edward Walters was elected. An address to the noble people of France was unanimously adopted.

THE SPECIAL WEST RIDING DELEGATE MEETING

nads was tendered to the Chairman, and the meeting
 marched off the common with a tricoloured flag
 over them in the most peaceable manner.—On Sun-
 day evening, the Chartists of Little Herton, met at
 a fair Barker's, Yorkshire Divan, and formed a
 society of the Chartist Association, when forty
 members were enrolled.—The Chartists of
 the same locality will now form a locality
 and above fifty persons enrolled their names.—On
 Monday evening, a meeting was held at New Leeds,
 when a number enrolled their names to form a locality
 of the Chartist Association.—Meetings were also held
 at Bowling, Manningham, and Wapping for the same
 purpose. The organisation is rapidly progressing in
 the neighbourhood.

Carried unanimously. Mr Fennell moved, Mr Nobbs seconded, the following resolution:—That we view the prosecution of Messrs W. Smith, G. O'Brien, John Mitchell, and T. F. Meagher, by the present government, as a gross violation of the rights of a free government Ireland by force of arms, and not just; and as a fresh proof of their blundering incapacity for legislation; and regard this base attempt to stifle public opinion as calling especially the strongest reprobation and sternest opposition the Charities of this country. We hereby express warmest sympathy with those gentlemen, with Irish Confederates and Regulators, holding their rights as sacred, who are determined to persevere to obtain the Charter for England and Ireland. Supported by Messrs O'Connell, O'Grady, and Overtown. Carried unanimously. The meeting for the delegates was then taken, and the adjourning adjourned to April 2nd, at seven o'clock in the evening. Several new members were enrolled at the meeting.

columns of our journal:—

ARMED CLUBS.

The United Irishmen (Cork) wishes to be informed of the rates for the formation of a Rifle Club, to be composed of persons of British means, to enable the members of such a Club to purchase and learn the use of arms.

Answered thereon.—A good strong serviceable rifle, the best in the barrel, along grooves, percutible breech, and back action lock, plain steel mounting, without any trap, and of any calibre, can be made in Dublin (Lisbon) or the same, with brass mounting, for £2 10s; a hundred persons form a club, each of whom must contribute 2s. 6d. per week. Let 51. of each count for the set apart for the general expenses of the club for the payment of a person competent to train and instruct in rifle practice, or drill, or the use of arms generally. The remaining 2s. of each subscription is added to the stock fund of the club; and each member amasses 10d.; by which four rifles (at £3 10s.

growing desire for a return to our ancient constitution, the failure of the Imperial Parliament to provide redress for the relief of our poor, and their want of inquiry into the defects of the present unjust partial system of Poor Law taxation, joined to theomatic continuance of a pernicious and unconstitutional policy of centralisation, cause us to sympathise in present feeling, and to participate in the general demand for self-government.

Considering that extreme opinions and violent language, however denounceable, are but the natural exposure of so great a mass of discontent, we humbly beg your Excellency our opinion, that it would be expedient to grant the petitioners what they have lately taken place, rather as evidences of the railing desire for a change of policy, than as individual offences against the law; and pray your Excellency recommend to your government the speedy adoption of measures which may restore to Her Majesty's Irish

use between the weavers and their employers which dispute he also succeeded in adjusting to the satisfaction of the weavers.

Notice.—The March report can be had from the Central Committee, price one penny; it can be sent free, either singly, or in parcels to any part of the kingdom. We trust members will make use of this privilege.

The Central Committee deem it an important part of their duty, and a part they are very much disposed to fulfil to the utmost of their power, to act as sentinels over the generally acknowledged rights and privileges of the trades of England, whether such trades are correctly speaking members of our combination or not.

There are certain acts of parliament which limit and define the extent to which trades in combination may proceed in defending themselves against the oppression of capital. The act 6 George 4, cap. 1, is the most recent of these, and may be said at the present time to contain all the essential features of the criminal law of England, as between labour

capita'. It is generally considered in England as a crime that this court fully recognises the undoubted fact that any number of working men to unite and combine, for the purpose of the open avowed object of raising their wages, and resisting a reduction of wages, or any encroachments upon their local trades usages or customs; provided the means employed for the prosecution of such object is unattended with violence, and that the persons who are not being members of such combination or conspiracy. This construction of the act was most distinctly laid down by Baron Rolfe, in the celebrated trial of the *Knights of the Holy Trinity*, in the year 1817, in the case of *Attorney-General v. Shipley & Selby*; and the issue of the trial was settled on as a triumphant recognition by one of the most common law judges of the day, of the undoubted right of working classes to combine, to strike, to withhold their money from their employers, as a means of resisting a reduction of, or raising their wages, or of limiting or altering the hours of labour; or, of not labouring, or of any encroachment of their employers upon their rights. Such was the opinion expressed to be the law, at least, according to the judgment and commentaries of Mr Baron Rolfe. But, although a second Daniel has come to judgment, and although the Sheriff of Invernesshire, has overruled the judgment of the Court of Session, yet the *Knights of the Holy Trinity* pleaded in *toto* the above acted act of parliament, and George 4, cap. 120.

Two trials have recently taken place in Scotland:

the somewhat anomalous functions of judge and maker of Inverness. The press of matter precludes us from giving a report of the trial, but the following extracts will place the thing in its true perspective before the trades of England:—

The Sheriff Colquhoun presided. The cases for the afternoon were conducted by George Young, Esq., advocate-depute (who had come from Edinburgh on horse), and John Mackay, Esq., procurator-fiscal. Messrs Dallas and Simpson, solicitors, were agents for the accused.

FIRST TRIAL.—INTIMIDATION OF MASTERS.

[illegible]

Mr. Dallas, for the pannel, objected in bar of trial (1) That they had not been completely summoned, in terms of the 7th section of the statute, [] That the pannels having been apprehended under a warrant, and not a subpoena, they were not bound to appear, and imprisoned for an indefinite period, on December last, at the instance of the present prosecutor, and the period of three months, to which they were committed, was a punishment of the offence, being expired, the pannels were not bound to have already undergone the punishment of the offence. (3) The statute confers no power on the sheriff to imprison before indictment, and the common law requires the pannels to be brought before the High Court, in the term of Michaelmas, 1837, or July, 1837, excluded. After referring to several other authorities, and to the statute itself, in support of his objections, he moved the court to dismiss the complaint, as being defective in law.

These legal objections were, of course, instantly overruled by Judge-sherrif Colquhoun. The prisoners, (as they are termed in the Scotch law.) the pannels, having fully pleaded not guilty, when Mr Dallas objected, the court proceeded to try the case, and the prisoner was charged with contravention of the 3rd section of the 2d Geo. IV., c. 129, which is directed against violence to the person or property of another, and against intimidation, molestation, obstruction, and annoyance, for the purpose of forcing a trade, or manufacture, or alteration in his mode of carrying on his trade.

governing part of the clause being violence to person or property, formed, as he thought, the meaning of the words "threats or intimidation," and other terms used, meaning "violence or intimidation," in the present case, no violence is alleged, nor threat of violence, and no language calculated to intimidate is averred. In particular, the only allegation of the accused threatened, in a certain contract, to refuse to work, if the name of the persons, over whom it is not said that the parties had control, would refuse to do so. Here there was active threat, but an intimation that, unless certain demands were complied with, the threatened persons would not work, would not be what they had previously peremptorily demanded, "name the man to work; in other words, do nothing at all." He submitted, with confidence, that the threat of refusal to work was not a threat in the meaning of the statute, and it had been averred that the parties were not in control of the persons who were the foundation of some legal contract—it being clearly implied in the statute, and the ordinary meaning of the term "threat," that it must be something active, and not a passive threat. After stating other objections of minor importance, he referred to several lines in *Ex parte Jackson*, and the judgment of the majority of the court, and the judgment of the majority of the court, as to show the interpretation put upon the clause, to be what he now contended for.

His well-stated and very feasible objection having been over-ruled with the same promptitude as the previous ones, the public prosecutor proceeded with evidence in support of the charge, which it is not necessary to repeat. He referred to the evidence of *Ex parte Jackson*, the testimony of *Ex parte Jackson*, and the testimony of the shoemakers' society. It referred to the fact of a deputation (two of the prisoners) having been sent to Messrs Macneon and Co. to request a man, by the name of Polson, to be sent to the workhouse, and that the workhouse had been closing shops. The Messrs Macneon refused to accede to the request of the men, which (as he proved) was only an arrangement, general in the nature, and previously admitted and sanctioned by the society itself. It was fully admitted that the Messrs Macneon performed their duty in sending their messengers, and that no threats or violence were used, nor any obstruction offered further than that, they persisted in retaining Polson, in violation of custom of the trade, the men would cease work for them. Now, there can be no question that

“This was quite lawful: Macquon had a perfect right to retain Polson if he so pleased, and his men an equal right to agree together and say to him—‘you do so persist, we will no longer work for you.’”

the fact that the men were threatened to strike if their employers continued to import into Inverness shoes and boots from Dublin, London, and Glasgow, against the men. This charge is entirely false, as the men would not mend and repair boots or shoes so imported, which we consider they also were entirely entitled to do. In connection, at the place of the non-examination said, "I entitled to dispense with the workmen's services" they returned a piece of work finished, and the workmen were entitled to refuse to work. No work was returned to the shops unfinished in consequence of these proceedings." We conclude our report with Dallas's excellent remarks in defence of the prisoners.

Mr Dallas addressed the Bench for the panels, Noble, McManis, and John Mackenzie, shoemaker. It would be scarcely necessary for him to impress upon the court the necessity of judging of the case upon its merits. What he claimed for his clients was no more than what was so eloquently laid by the

ned counsel for the prosecution, thereby, freedom of
on and a right to dispose of their labour, the
man's only estate and capital, upon their own
as. The result of giving effect to the views of the
ned counsel, in this case, would be to deprive the
rative steammakers of Inverness of this right, and
freedom of action. With regard to the story of
importation, or the cobbling work, it was this. A
at body of journeymen steammakers in this town de-
clared chiefly, if not entirely, on the making of new

