

A Christmas Carol.

PART II.

We commence the second part of our *Carol* with the following

ADDRESS TO WINTER.

Welcome, old Winter! with thy forelock grey,
Thy snowy mantle, and thy wrinkled brow,
Grasping the rein of thy way,
And laying nature's reins below,
Thou art at the helm of the world's way,
And storm and tempest utter in thy reign;
Thy breath equal the marm'ring stream,
Thou flow'st in aye a sweetest through the plain.
Thou art a scabbard gleam of thy gloomy day,
And all around is darkness and cold;
Yet, Winter! still I love thy friendly way,
Which terminates the swiftly circling year,
I love to draw around the blazing hearth—
To listen to the laugh-erect tale;
To crown the festive bowl with harmless mirth,
While the rude blast sweeps howl through the vale.

To read and pause upon the ample page,
Where knowledge opens all his store;
To reach the recess of a farmer's age,
Or learning's path to conduct to explore.
Season of social joy! I feel thy reign!
Imagination laughs at thy chain;
Thou canst not bind her to thy chain;
Thou canst not freeze the fervour of her soul.
The year is fast drawing to its end. Another
week and 1848 will be numbered with the past.
Listen, then, to—

THE YEAR'S LAST HYMN.

BY JOHN SWAIN.

'Farewell, O earth! ye sun and moon, farewell,
And all ye stars—departing to its hand:
And now for ever shall I cease to dwell
In the blue sky, on ocean, or on land:
Soon shall the living heart the midnight bell
Lead forth mine exit from this mortal strand:
Yet ere the light dawns of December die,
Creatures of time, O! list, the year's last hymn,
Men meet on earth, and part, and meet again;
The tribes of ocean go, and come, and go;
The blending clouds that bar the ocean's rain,
Bid the blue sky to open, and the sun to show;
The roses that bloom in summer's heat,
Decays and dies, yet gives green to glow;
But as for me, O earth! my reign is o'er;
We meet to part, we part to meet no more.
O earth! farewell, another year of time
Is added to the ages past and gone!
Thou spacious, blue, and starry vault sublime
Will bid me no more silent course upon!
But earth, there is not on thy round a clime,
Or house of man, where light and life are done,
Whose darkest secrets are not all revealed.
All, as it passes, is copied, signed, and sealed.
For as the flash—the unripe or the ripe—
Tells a true story of the parent's life;
As takes the sheet the impression of the type,
And bears the record over land and sea;
So—fair or foul—no mortal hand may wipe
One jot away of things impressed on me—
Time's leaves are all the tidings unfold,
Soon as I vanish all the tale is told.

Hark! there are footsteps on the steep stairs;
Let us be hushed at midnight's hush, farewell,
Let us be hushed at midnight's hush, farewell,
For blessings upon man, who lives and dwells,
Are seen and heard above, and heaven is there,
Who live for heaven!—Just then the loud-toned
bells,
In wavy wells along the midnight toll'd—
The new year dawns, and passes away the old.

New Year's Eve is a festival which was once
celebrated with great feasting and rejoicing in this
country. The custom still lingers, and the 'loving
cup,' though changed in form, still circulates in spirit.
At twelve o'clock at night, the moment the hour
has struck, the church bells peal forth a joyous wel-
come to the new year. This custom, as our readers
are aware, is called 'ringing the old year out
and the new year in.' This takes place all over
England.

We present to our readers

THE YEAR'S LAST CUP.

BY FRANCIS BROWN.

With the festive song, with the glad heart's blaze,
With the wine of its own bright vintage days,
Still rich in the light of its own vintage days,
It caught through the vineyard's parted leaves—
White light, in the night of silence, lies,
On snow clad hills and on starry skies,
And the knell of its number'd hours draws near,
We fill the cup of the parting year!

But say to what pledge of memory's power
Is the wealth of that mystic wine poured?
Is it Time? To his ever onward track,
And his endless train, that hath after him a back-
To his glass, with whose dim sands ceaseless flow,
Beauty, and strength, and glory go?
And his cry to the nations might hath mown—
Let us cry to these—but not these alone!

Then pledge me the dark-velvet Future, then,
And the wealth of hope it had once for us—
The stores which its billows still may hide—
And the bark sent forth on its boundless tide:
Or the Past, with its springs and its sunny shrines,
The snows which its winters lie behind,
And the harvests fair which its soil hath sown,
We pledge—but we pledge not these alone!

Say, then, hath the year's last cup been crown'd?
For the loved and the loving hearts around—
The names in our souls' seal'd book enroll'd—
The heads of gray and the locks of gold?
May the time-rod of friendship break no thrall
Of frost that cold on life's twilight fall—
And the young—may we pledge not these alone!

Are there not loved ones yet more dear,
That mingle not in our festive wine?
The names by the hearth long heard and wept,
And still in the hush of memory kept?
Drink to the absent! Change and tears
Have fall'd on these dim and severing years—
But the faith of our love no change hath known;
And we pledge them now—but not these alone!

Drink to the changed! They have left their place
In our hearts, like a broken altar's base,
Still graven with the sculptured names of yore,
But a wreck and a ruin, and a void and a gloom,
Drink to the dead! There are hearts that hold
Their memory yet with a love untold—
For time and death have no shadows thrown
On their truth, shall we drink to these alone?

Hold! for the cup hath drops left
We may not waste on the rent and ref—
One prerogative as the year departs—
To the holy land of our homes and hearts!
For the faith that we pledge, and the love that we give,
And the love that for better hopes hath striven—
Oh, bright be their joys, however our own
May set—yet we pledge not these alone!

Drink to the world! There is promise yet
In the bright To Come, which no eye hath met—
In the march of her nations, behold on
B: the light of her far-seeing Sabbath dawn.
But hark!—'tis the mighty midnight chime,
Like a voice from the spirit's world of Time!
And ere our cup is drained, its last toast give,
Let us fill to the bright New Year alone!

We said last week, that whilst in Scotland Christ-
mas-day comes and goes unnoticed, our Northern
friends compensate themselves for their neglect of
Christmas by their festivities on Hogmanay (New
Year's Eve) and New Year's Day. On oatmeal-cakes,
cheese, and whiskey (we speak of the customs of the
people) are set before every visitor on Hogmanay.
However humble this kind of entertainment may
seem to the devotees of luxury, it is not lightly
esteemed by those who are blessed with good
stomachs and happy dispositions. Unaffected mirth
and hours of real happiness, render Hogmanay a
festival dear to the Scottish peasantry, and working
classes generally, ayont the Tweed.

'First Foot' is a cherished custom in Scotland,
and we believe also in some parts of the North of
England. The first person who crosses the thresh-
old after the clock strikes twelve is called 'first
foot.' The new comer, addressing the family circle
as he enters, says, 'A Happy New Year to ye'.
The response is, of course, 'A Happy New Year to
you.' 'First foot' invariably brings a bottle, which
our readers may be sure is not empty, but, the
contrary, is full to the cork, with the national elixir
—whiskey. The contents having been offered round
and accepted, 'first foot' is required in turn to
drink of the contents of the family bottle. The
first custom is followed by many others, who
continue dropping in until daylight, but, of course,
too late to claim the honour of 'first foot.'

A good deal of importance is attached to the
'first foot.' We have heard say that, to exclude all
suspected or unlucky persons, it is customary for
one of the damsels to engage beforehand some fa-
voured youth, gladly comes with so signal a mark of
female distinction, gladly comes as soon as the clock
has 'chappit twal.' Of course the bottle is not for-
gotten.

Here is—
A SOCIAL SONG FOR HOGMANAY.
Bring in the year we wish and glow,
And let no one be sad;
Each honest heart must aid a part
To make a neighbour glad.

It was a crime, at a time,

When neighbours meet 'gither,

Though they agree, and frank and free,

To taste 'twixt ane another.

To like each other here;

We'll spend the night we're true delight,

And welcome in the year!

Oh! who will say that pleasure smiles

But only on the great;

When we can be as blythe and free

As nobles of the State.

We canna' boast o' nobles' rank;

Nor look as proud and vain;

But we can say that what we ha'e

Is honestly our ain.

Then fill the glass, &c.

We dinna mean for love o' drink,

Like any top room pack;

But we'll be pleased wi' reason's feast

And friendship's social treat.

We'll drink a health to absent friends,

May frank and right acquiesce might

Throughout the coming year.

Then fill the glass, &c.

Though we ha'e faults and errors too

Which others might defend,

We winna try to justify,

But rather strive to mend;

And though our enemies are few,

We'll strive wi' honest will

By friendship's love, throughout the year,

To make them fewer still.

Then fill each glass, and let it pass

To like each other here;

We'll spend the night we're true delight,

And welcome in the year!

Aberdeen. D. W.

In Scotland the breakfast on 'New Year's Morn'

answers to the Christmas dinner in England. In

lieu of the usual meal of 'parritch,' the table groans

under the weight of 'beef-ham,' stewed beefsteaks,

'loaf-bread,' oat-cakes, 'scones,' biscuits, fresh

'butter,' 'preserves,' 'sweets,' honey, eggs, tea,

'whiskey,' &c., &c. In the olden time a haggis

crowned the board, but this once national dish is

now seldom seen, and in the course of the day visitors

are regaled with 'a clum,' and currant buns or

'short-bread.' 'Heaven bless the man,' says Sancho,

'who invents sleep.' Heaven bless the man, say

we, who invented a New Year-day-dram and 'short-

bread!' All true Scotchmen say 'Amen!'

Balls for the young folks, and social parties of

the married, the middle-aged, and the veterans and

matrons, conclude the festivities of this chief of

Scottish holidays. In Burns's tale of 'The Two

Dogs,' Luath, 'the ploughman's colley,' gives a fine

description of the joys of a Scottish homestead on

the festival of New Year's Day.

That merry day the year begins,

They bar the door on frosty wiles;

The nappy reek wi' mantling steam

A shews a heart-inspiring gleam.

The luster pipe and snuffing mill

Are banded round wi' right good will.

The cannie folk crackle o' merriment

The young an' rantie thro' the house.

My heart has been so fain to see them

That I for joy ha' barrit w' them.

For some time past we have been well nigh

bankrupt in the way of political poetry. Fortunately

we have this week been favoured with the following

poem, which cannot fail to command the applause of

our readers, and will, we hope, do much towards

stimulating them to retrieve in the coming year the

political reverses which have afflicted Charism in the

course of the year now expiring.

FAREWELL TO THE YEAR FORTY-EIGHT.

BY EDWIN GILL.

Farewell, thou old, and strange eventful year,

Of battles, murder, pestilence, and strife,

Whose advent fill'd each despot's heart with fear,

While every slave with liberty was free.

The hardy sailor's sail and gun were stow'd,

And the Italian bared the gl'orious Gaul's (1)

To deal destruction on each tyrant band,

Or die for freedom, home, and fatherland.

When thou didst issue from the womb of Time,

Europe with rapture hail'd thy glorious birth,

Which promised banishment from every clime

Of despotism. Thyrones totter'd, fell; the worth

Of man was laid—worthless; and man stood

forth.

Appal'd o'er by tyrants. Liberty

Disdain'd by ruthless deeds to stain the free.

O! false philosophy! Still we can applaud

The Swiss triumph o'er priestcraft: still we love

The brave Gaul; the heroic courage laid,

Magnanimous in victory, that drove

A hoary-headed traitor, king of fraud,

From France; when the proletarians were

And the sacred word of liberty was free.

Dropt in June by the traitor bourgeoisie,

Still does the patriotic breast admire

The Sicilian struggle with the haughty foe;

And hail Palermo's fall, with eyes of fire,

Who sought in vain the tyrant's overthrow, (2)

And raised the battle cry wi' h' 'regional fire,

Headless of the cannon's murderous roar;

Emulating Mazzini's noble deeds,

Through Freedom, vacillated, weeping, lies and

bleeds.

Hail to the Viennese! Hallowed the fane (3)

That withstood the eagle, when 'death was drunk

With gore.' thrice hallowed the immortal name

Of Blum, from whose patriot presence shrink

The empire's tyrant, until he became

The murderer o'er the noblest child, and sunk

To infamy. The name of Blum shall be

A watchword till the universe is free.

His death shall be avenged; 'the kiss of life' (4)

Will never more deceive; but let tears

Wash out his last indignity. (5) This strife

Hath taught a lesson, which tyrants fear

Shall turn to good account. When man is free

For freedom, he'll scorn each tyrant's force

And teach the lesson he hath dearly bought,

Till all his woes be on the oppressor wrought.

What can I say, my native land, for thee,

Where 'thoughts and words' meet with the

father's doom?

Where the aspirations of the free,

Confer its votaries to a dungeon's gloom?

What do, but wipe the tear of misery

From widowed cheek, and orphan's early bloom;

And mourn, dear Erin, o'er thy blighted prime,

Until thy woes are proved thy oppressor's crime.

Be sure a day of reck'ning is at hand,

Let all who wish their country to be free

Unite, from John O'Grady's to Corra's strand;

By deeds, not words, prove their sincerity.

Supper the class-made victims, and command

Success by doing worthy liberty.

Let all do this, we need not then repine.

Farewell old year, and welcome 'Forty-nine.'

New Year's Day is the great holiday in France, but

of the festivities of our Gallic friends on that day we

will speak on another occasion. We quote from

the *Herald's Journal*, the following account of the merry

makings on

NEW YEAR'S EVE AND NEW YEAR'S DAY IN GERMANY.

New Year's Day is kept in Germany as a thorough

holiday; there is service at the churches; business is at

a stand; and like Christmas Day, it is far more observed

than a Sunday. New Year's Eve, perhaps the most

merry time of the German year. In almost every house

are parties met to conduct the old year out with dance

and sport. About five o'clock in the evening the church

bells ring, and guns are fired off in all directions. In

this respect every town is filled with as much noise of

firing and small of gunpowder as the night of the 31st

of December used to be in England. The practice has

been forbidden by the authorities; but except in the chief

cities the authorities are not over active, and the prohibi-

tion is little regarded. The police go about the streets,

but in all ordinary towns there are so fat and sleepy,

that it is only necessary to be quiet just where they are,

and everywhere where they are not are guns and pistols

discharging.

It is considered a compliment for young men to go

and fire a salute in front of the house of their friends.

In the University towns the students, a little before

twelve o'clock, headed by their clubs, proceed with

torches to the house of the Rector, and by a volley

of fire-arms, and a loud cheer, announce the termina-

tion of the year, and wish him a happy new one. The

Rector appears at his window, makes there a short

speech in acceptance of their compliments, drinks a happy

new year to them, and frequently concludes by flinging

the glass down on the pavement, that it may never be

used on any other occasion. With loud cheer they echo

his good wishes, and march away to part the same com-

plicity a few others of the most popular Professors

present one with his torch, forming a train, headed by

the alder of the town, in their respective costumes, joined

by as many other students as please, with wild looks,

singing, and torches flaming in the stormy winds,

and followed by a crowd of the miscellaneous of the city,

marching through the wintry streets at midnight, with

shouts and scattered discharges of fire-arms—a strange

and picturesque. At a distance you see the light of their

THE NORTHERN STAR.

torch train, confined by the narrow streets, stream up

discharge of gunpowder, and the successive

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THE MANCHESTER VICTIMS.

ly to the address of the Executive in

page, in which is made an appeal to the sense of John West, George White, J. C. Schuch, and their fellow sufferers. We trust that that appeal will be heartily responded to. Our readers are aware, that the imprisoned patriots are placed on the footing of first-class misdemeanants; they are permitted to wear their own clothes, receive books and newspapers, write and receive letters, and believe, see visitors every day, Sunday included. They are not merely allowed to be bound, to find their own provisions, but they are permitted to go out of the prison allowance, they would forthwith be allowed to enjoy the privileges they at present

Such a result of public apathy would be
 so painful to the men themselves,
 would be disgraceful to the world
 and to the Government. These men are an honour to
 the country, and for the rights of their order
 they are suffering. The people must act

We presume, that before this time, letters have been formed in Manchester, Liverpool, to provide for the wants of incarcerated brethren. We ought to be placed in a position to have furnished with the addresses of the secretaries of such committees, but, at present, we are ignorant of what steps have been taken in this town; we, therefore, can only repeat our remembrance of last week, that assistance be forwarded to the care of Mr Farrington, at the Marlborough Hotel, 62, Richmond Row, London.

Anything in the shape of actual assistance cannot be too soon forwarded—such as money, postage stamps, or provisions of any kind.

We again appeal to the readers of the Journal, to do their duty to the men who have failed in the performance of their duty whilst battling for the cause of the people.

THE FAMILIES OF THE VICTIMS

"I know," said a certain judge, when
he was asked to name a number of Chartist victims
who had been hanged, "now that most of you have those at
home who will suffer by your conduct."

We have received a letter from L. J. ... containing some particulars of the pro-

dition of the wife and children of the
isoned patriot, George White. We
ard with feelings of indescribable pain,
rs White is without house or home of her
nd that George White's children are posi
ting food. "This is a..."

We are informed of a circumstance we possibly admits of explanation, and when explained, may wear a less ungraceful appearance than it does at present. It is reported to us, that on Sunday night last, a public meeting in the Leeds Bazaar, the friends made a collection for Mrs White, and obtained the sum of twelve shillings. It is further stated, that the collectors were allowed to give this money to the person whom it was collected, the committee reserving the money should be sent to the General Committee. H.

common fund, we have always approved of the general fund, and only regret that that fund was so inadequately supplied with the means for distributing efficient aid to all who remained upon it. But we submit, that cases of this kind where assistance is pressing and where there is only an act of justice to be done which may be obtained from any source, without waiting for a remittance to be general fund.

So far as the facts are before us, we believe that a case to be that of Mrs White, at the time of her death. If we have been misinformed, we shall be happy to correct any error we have fallen into; but if the facts have been correctly stated to us, then we must persist in our opinion that the act was not against an act which we conceive to be to the interest of Mrs White.

It may be as well to state that Mrs White's present address is 7, Fenton's Court, S

We have hesitated to make this statement. We feel assured that it will pain both the imprisoned victim, and her whose name is prominently brought forward. But she might be the cause of even a greater suffering of George White's wife and children. We should hold ourselves guided if we did not adopt the only course open to obtain, if possible, an amelioration of the condition of those who deserve a humane state.

Let it not be supposed that we desire to bring out any particular person with a view of seeking a monopoly of public notice, or that person. Nothing of the sort. We fear that the families of several of General White's comrades are in an equally unenviable position. If we do not name them personally, it is because we desire to spare them the pain of being dragged before the public.

A well-suppplied General Victim should be provided for the fair and impartial relief of all the families; in addition to moral assistance should be liberally and cordially given.

CHARTIST ORGANISATION.

We beg to remind the Chartist body of address from the Chartist Executive Committee, which appeared in this journal on Monday, 16th, calling on the friends of Chartism to subscribe

A NEW YEAR'S GIFT.

To the funds of the Charter Association, that appeal is properly responded to, the Executive will be enabled to prosecute the struggle with renewed vigour, and establish a formidable organisation of the friends and

Let it be borne in mind that the Executive is an unpaid body. That the members of the Executive Committee give to, not take from the Association. Besides giving their time, talent, labour, they are foremost in contribution to the general treasury.

It is impossible to impute other than interested and patriotic motives to the members of the Executive, in making the appeal we have done. Should the members and leaders of the Association neglect to answer the appeal, the leaders will, of course, remain in the Executive position. If on the other hand they be as prompt to answer the appeal as they should be, they will be satisfied to resign, and the Whigs will be soon made to perceive that they have persecuted and persecuted the cause of the Charter in vain.

Next Saturday's money bill will determine whether the present disorganisation is the result of the Executive, or whether we are to have an efficient and well-organised movement for the purpose of securing the triumph of Equal Rights and Liberty.

To Readers & Correspondents

We cannot publish any 'forthcoming' &c., in future, unless paid for as advertisements. We are compelled to adopt this in order to avoid the heavy duty we have lately on such announcements. The publication of ballots, raffles, &c., is illegal.

SWISS acknowledges the receipt of the following (sent herewith) for the Defence Fund, viz:—

" The Seven Stars
" Mr Paterson
" Mr Thurman

The Victoria Fund.—John Arnott acknowledges on behalf of the Victoria Fund, the following presents, on behalf of the Defence Fund.

The Chronicles of the Bastille and the Novels
Cooper: Mr _____, fifty copies of the
Trials, fifty ditto Proceedings of the National
tion, twenty ditto of Treatises on Small Pox
Pergus O'Connor Esq. M. P. _____

MR KYDD'S TOUR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

Sir,—I lectured at Bradford on Tuesday, the 19th. The trials at York were then going on, and great anxiety was manifested as to the probable fate of the Bradford victims. The meeting was held in the Long Pledge Hall, and the numbers present may be estimated from the fact, that the money collected was £2 17s, the surplus being voted for the defence of the prisoners. The council promised to use their influence to re-establish the old Plan of Organization, and, as an earnest of their good intentions, voted 10s. to the Executive Fund. Under judicious management, Charismism would flourish in Bradford. The town is densely populated, and when meetings are held, there is an unanimity of resolution, powerful for good or evil, depending solely on its directors. A practical and defined purpose. A local council, with a definite aim, and the most sober and experienced of the body, would, by perseverance, speedily regenerate the popular movement. The enthusiasm of youth is always to be courted, encouraged, and admired. It is the young blood of

state that gives energy to popular reforms ; but, in a country like this, the institutions of which are old, and its people unhabituited to sudden changes

young men enthusiasm sometimes becomes dangerous, it ripens and quickens into resolution—reaction is correlative among the propertied and dependant classes—men are afraid—despotism is strengthened—and the magnified fears of the middle classes are the stock-in-trade from which ministers undermind the liberty of the subject by Coercion and Gagging Bills, and their sure successors—political persecutions. Therefore it is that intelligent and experienced men are most valuable as sub-agents to the National Charter Association. We require the energy of youth, directed by the experience of age. The wild soldiers are the tappers and miners, who prepare and direct the attack; the young constitute the active and reserve forces, who carry the siege and storm the citadel. Both are indispensable for victory. But the tappers and miners must go first. More money has been collected in Bradford than in any other town of its size. Yet they are in continued trouble and pecuniary difficulty. Let th

past be a lamp to light the path for the future and Bradford, once enrolled in the Plan of National Organisation, for the objects defined in the rules of the society, and, my word for it, this town will be found to be a powerful auxiliary.

I next proceeded to Honley, a small manufacturing village, laying between Huddersfield and Holmfirth. The friends here have a hall for their own purposes. The night was little dark and bleak.

standing, the meeting was well attended. A most respectable and intelligent-looking workman asked the following question:— 'Mr Kydd, seeing we are surrounded by bigotry and error, do you not think it would be wiser for the friends of progress to form themselves into societies

for the organisation of labour? I answered, "It is the interest of all men to improve their circumstances industrially, and nothing could be more desirable than that the labourers should be enriched by the full possession of the fruits of their own labour, and a few successful experiments would do much toward

the solution of the problem—What can be done for the people; be it remembered, however, as my friend has said, that we live surrounded by bigotry and error. These obstructions must be removed, and all measures of relief must be looked at in a two-fold light.—What will be their results on the active agents engaged in the work.

What will be the general results in their relation to the interests of humanity? Chartism is not destructive, but humanising; political, social, and moral reform are not antagonistic, but joint parts of the same whole. I say, then, to the Communists, co-operators, and moral reformers 'Go on, and improve the world.'

you may prosper.' Such a question suggests to your readers some thoughts on the 'spirit of the age' and is worth more than the last volume of Hausard containing the rambling lucubrations of Chisholm, Anstey, the witticisms and conceits of Disraeli, and embodying in thick boards the crudities, absurdities

and puerilities of Parliament. I returned by coach and railway to Keighley, and lectured on Thursday evening at Howarth, a small hamlet among the hills, in the Keighley district. On Friday I lectured in Silsden, in the same district. The meeting was held in the Odd Fellows' Hall, and was well attended.

On Saturday I proceeded to Sutton, through one of the finest valleys in Yorkshire, and found that our Sutton friends had procured the use of a chapel at Cross Hills, about half a mile distant. The meeting was crowded to excess, the managers and elders of the chapel being present. They expressed their

hymn. I lectured on 'Labour and Land,' most respectable middle-aged gentleman, who is, am informed, a local preacher, and an elector of the Riding, asked me by what means did I hope the Universal Suffrage could become law? I replied, That as an acknowledgment of truth, sinfulness

purpose, energy of action, intelligence and organisation of numbers seemed to me to be the elements of success, we would endeavour to aggregate those from society; and if we could by persuasion and argument change the thoughts of men, we would one day change institutions, laws, and governments.' T

leader of the band gave out the Hundredth psalm beginning with the line, 'All people that on earth do dwell,' and so ended the labours of the week.

On Sunday I addressed a crowded meeting in the Bazaar, in Leeds, hundreds being unable to obtain admission. At the conclusion, the organisers

was begun and the committee generously voted it
as a new year's gift. I proceeded to Rotherham,
a tea party; the meeting was select, harmonious
and elevating. I thank our Rotherham friends for
their great support. At Rotherham there are a few
fine fellows, and now, as they have procured a new
large place of meeting. I leave their success to

Theobald, a lady-lecturer on temperance, addressed the meeting, and made a feeling appeal on behalf of the victims. I this evening lectured in the Town Hall on 'Labour, its position and prospects.' As our friends in the Midland Counties, for many sufficient reasons, desire to postpone my visit for

month, I will return to London, not later than Saturday. Wishing you and all your readers a happy year, I remain, yours faithfully,
SAMUEL KYDD.
Sheffield, December 26th.
P.S.—The West Riding election has turned

most favourable for the interests of democracy. Many of the supporters of Sir Culling C. Earle have discovered that they have hitherto played a losing game, and openly confess that there is no hope for progress but by a union with the out-and-out Radicals. The union between the constitutional Whigs and the out-and-out Radicals.

wings and the unconstitutional Tories, has completely changed the relation of parties. Earl Fitzwilliam, whose purse was most advantageous in gone times, is no longer to be depended on. A cheque for a few thousands cannot now be had on his will. If the Chartist electors stand aloof, the Whigs and Tories, who are united to defend the Act,

and Constitution' are in the majority. Our policy is obvious. Let the Chartist electors in each district form themselves into local committees—corresponding with all the districts in the Riding—fix on the man who is to be their representative, the dispossessed, and thinking parties of the Liberal interest

support them in preference to either the Whigs or Tories. No compromise will be necessary, as the balance of power will be in their hands, and non-electors will give to them a most decided support. One thing is plain, so important a constituency must not again be sacrificed to satisfy the

The Chartists, throughout Yorkshire, will, I hope, continue to correspond with the Executive. The Wakefield nomination has raised them in popular esteem, and, in the future, we must never lose an inch of ground once gained. The success of

present attempt at re-organisation rests merely with the local leaders. If they do their duty, and I doubt not but they will, success is certain. Our aim is not a struggle of party or faction, it is the cause of human right and progression, and progress it must be.

THE CONSTITUENT OF ENGLAND.—On Monday next (January the 1st) the new act passed in the last session (11th and 12th Victoria, chap. 90) which regulates the time of payment of rates and taxes of Parliamentary electors, will take effect. It is provided that after the 1st day of January, 1849, no person shall be required, in order to qualify himself

have his name inserted in any list of voters for any city, town, or borough in England, to have any poor rates or assessed taxes, except such as may have become payable for him previously to the day of January in the same year, and that no person shall be entitled to be on such list of voters as to the poor rates and assessed taxes, until he has been so inserted in the list of voters for the year in which he is to be so assessed.

M. CABET.—We are informed that M. Cabet is going to Liverpool for America, on Saturday, Dec. 16th, on the Europa steamer, for the purpose of superintending personally the Communiistic operations in N. Texas.

cropping would, I am confident, place them in a favorable position to toil on.

he refused the common diet; and

The NORTHERN WIND, of Saturday, contained the following: "We regret to have to report a case of the latest type of typhoid fever, which is now spreading in this district. Hitherto, the disease was confined to the country, where twelve or thirteen cases have occurred, and where the patients have been treated by the local medical men. On Thursday night, a man named Henry Kneen, a cooper by trade, and residing at No. 18, Millbrook street, was seized with diarrhoea, vomiting, and cramps—the early stages of this complaint. Unfortunately, the medical aid was not sought for until ten o'clock in the morning, when the man was found in the state of collapse. He was taken to the St. Andrew's Hospital, in which, on the following day, the case occurred, was most assiduously treated, and attention to the sufferer all day, and with the constant advice of other medical practitioners, until the 23rd

various appliances that experience points out as the cause of the evil in the complaint; but he died about ten or twelve last night.

RETURN OF IRISH POLITICAL REFORMERS.—Mr. Daniel O'Connell, solicitor, at present in Constantinople, and who left for England in August, drawing arrest in consequence of his connexion with some of the political offences in Ireland, on returning to his native country, his friends have been informed that he will be in the city of Dublin, in the month of August, at the Habes Corpus Office. Mr. John O'Donnell, of this city, writes that for whose apprehension a warrant was out, is expected home by his friends.

THE POOR LAW AND THE LANDLORDS.—The modification of the poor law now engendered in the minds of the aristocracy, the hostility of the gentry to the ultra section, who had been clamouring for the repeal of the law, finding no sympathy in the country, here abandoned the attempt to get up an agitation for the lawless object. The general meeting of poor law guardians—those dismissed as well as those in office—were to take place this day, in Dublin. It has been conjectured that the meeting will be a very quiet one, and will be closed for a total change; but they have been disappointed in their proposal to suit alterations in the system: would limit the area of taxation, equalise the burds: more

[illegible]

for the revulsion of the poor-law, but also for the benefit of the occupying tenant."

On the same subject, the DUBLIN EVENING POST says:—

London correspondents inform us that early in the morning of Tuesday last the Dublin Evening Post will give notice for the appointment of a committee to consider the whole question of the Irish poor-law.

The committee of Irish poor-law guardians appointed at the meeting on Tuesday have forwarded to the different boards throughout the country the propositions for the abolition of the poor-law, in which the following are the views set forth in the paper, but more minutely stated. They recommend a diminished area of taxation; that the workhouse staff and the medical charities should be supported by a national rate; and that the general expense of relief should be met by local rates.

THE IRISH LANDLORD SYSTEM.

A very remarkable article appears in the EVENING POST, on the relations between landlords and tenants in Ireland, and the evil effects of the system on the whole framework of society. It is contended that no change in the law can be either beneficial to the general interests of the country, or practical in its operation. What is the real tendency? to get rid of the great mass of the Irish population, and wretchedness, paucity, and degraded and cruelly unjust proprietors of Irish soil.

Exceptions are made in regard to good landlords, but it is held that the interests of the class, as well as the improvement of the condition of the occupiers, require a complete reformation in the system of landlordism. The result is drawn between England and Ireland, to show that the former has a freehold tenure, but a totally different mode of dealing between the landlord and tenant in the letting of farms, the preparation of farm buildings, the allowance for valuable improvements, and, in fine, in the entire arrangement between the owner and occupier; the object being in England to give the tenant a permanent tenure, whilst, in Ireland the rule has been to deprive him of all motive to exertion for independence. The object of this system, it is contended, has been to reduce the occupiers to exist upon "roots and water," and neither free trade in corn, nor the poor-law, can be truly assigned as a cause for pauperism; while the potato disease, the failure of the potato crop, and the consequent passages, in reference to the agitation for a total change in the poor-law, as many weeks cannot elaborate this subject will be discussed in all its bearings in Parliament—

"Let come into the present century, and institute a search into facts" and "wholes," and see if we can find out any period at which the

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When, therefore, the representatives of bad and cruel landlords lay their prayers before the Legislature for the poor law that will 'save the labourer from being driven to the workhouse' (that is, they save themselves from being run to ruin, those members of the Royal Parliament who are really desirous of laying the foundation for the present salvation and future prosperity of this country, will do well always to keep in mind that unless the alterations in the poor law are of such a nature as to be wise and kind and cruel landlords are on the real delinquents, regarding the consequences may be to them, and unless all the old and stupid prejudices which have blinded, up to this time, our legislators, and rendered them either incapable of perceiving or unwilling to remedy the real causes of the distress, which the government of Ireland always presented, are got rid of, the same distresses will continue to be many among the Irish landed proprietors along with those dependent on them, will still victim the effect of exterminating pauper tyrants, and the whole country, with all its people, interests, &c., be sacrificed.

[illegible]

gery. The ground all along is strewn with bones, some surprisingly large; and on the left of the plantation were seated a congregation of gulls, vultures, sedately waiting the departure of the morante, to finish the refuse of the fish and other food which should be left. It was really an extraordinary scene, and I could have watched it hours."—*Liverpool News*.

TO THE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND

TO THE PEOPLE OF ENGLAND.

LETTER IX.

FELLOW COUNTRYMEN.—Is it my duty, with as little as a possible moment to trace the working of Mr William Rand's third and last remedy for the present national misfortunes; to discover, if I can, thereby such an improved demand for manufactures will be obtained as will bring all population into employment, and thus secure a demand for all our manufacturing powers, for a vastly increased production in our culture.

Mr William Rand has not left us to conjecture what our national diseases are. They consist, he tells us, in 'that constant stream of immigration from the rural parts of the country into the large towns and villages of the manufacturing districts.' The numbers employed in agriculture being considerably fewer than they were in 1811, notwithstanding the large increase in the general population of the country.' 'The productions of agriculture being far less than the home demand require, while the productions of manufacture have, year after year, exceeded the demand.' These circumstances, therefore, by natural results of such an excess in regulating our national productions, as to meet the wants of the people, and thus secure demand, are declared to be 'the most depressed condition of trade—extensive and alarming social evils—the very safety of society, in the manufacturing districts, being put in jeopardy—the workshop being filled with the destitute, the workman the disaffected—thousands being out of work—dressed upon hundreds in this locality alone (Barnsley), and in many other localities also (Havering), or placed either in the military, and their derelict, or subjected to a life of misery not to be described. The sheepkeepers, and other tradesmen being kept up with poor rates and other burdens!'

Says Mr William Rand, 'into almost all various branches of manufacturing industry, and will hardly find any one able to get prime cost of the goods they produce, and the goods are called "cheapsakes." In fact (tho' the words of a second of Mr Cobden's nomination!)—In England has set up a god called "Cheapsakes," everything in the shape of industry is to be sacrificed to him! May those words be inscribed in the temple of our gods, and the words of that "god—Free Trade Hall in Manchester!"

Will W. Rand proceeds:—"Consumers, it is as much by cheap, no matter by what means, as cheapness is attained. It is considered by the moral economists an unmix'd good, but it is a delusion, and a delusion, Rand properly insists it is, to suppose that the cheapness of the products of industry for more than their cost."

These latter admissions, from one who occupies a seat near the presidential chair in the Corn Law League, are really worth a Jew's eye. Mr William Rand has fairly described the national disease. He has not disguised the cause, viz the "cheapness" of the products of industry, and the branches of industry, as compared with our own. He has a clear conception of what constitutes the healthy state of society, i.e., "All being employed and selling the products of industry for more than they cost." Mr William Rand is one of those, who are in favour of the "cheapness" of the products, and who make such regulations as will effect the "cheapness" of the products, for he will not allow it to be said, causes which put society in peril are beyond the reach of legislation!

The question is, has Mr William Rand proposed the proper remedies? Hitherto I have failed to discover any, and I must confess to be disappointed. I will return to their examination.

Will W. Rand says as well as free trade, or Free Trade, fully and fairly carried out, the very 'cheapness' to which Mr William Rand alludes. Will it give employment to all? Will it find room for all our productions in agriculture as well as in manufactures? Will it give remuneration allowing a fair and just remuneration. In wage the labourers and artisans employed therein. All but Free Trade. That question I will strive to solve.

Necessarily, the first operation, under this proposed arrangement, must be, the abolition of the custom now so sensitive to the "cheapness"—the abandonment of every duty on imports, ports, excise, licenses, and such stamps as are required in buying and selling land, building, shares, and other property. The immediate charge of every person now employed in connection with these duties will follow as a natural consequence.

Whether for good or for evil, this is a god stride. Such immense changes must involve questions, and unsettle the relative positions of national interests. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the members of the House of Commons, who unconsciously have been measures forced. Those parties I, at present, leave to Mr Wm. Rand's proposal as best they can represent care is, to watch the operation of this reformation on a class of national creditors, whose just claims can never be rejected without danger to the State. I must leave this to the people.

In the changes just named, I discover no national good. Granted, there is an annual diversion of a large capital into a new course. Its employment in the future is not defined. A capital equal in amount will be required from some other source, and the same amount of capital, and the same amount of revenue would suffice to meet the requirements of the government. The derangement caused by changes will be very great; still they are not to add one farthing to the national capital. They will not give employment to one additional labourer, but they will add immensely to the number of the unemployed. They will crowd the streets as vagrants, crowd our lanes and streets—They add to the 'cheapness' of which Mr Rand complains, increasing the number of victims to "god!"

Is it neither my duty nor my wish to defend the workings the must result from these changes; at present I discover no national good.

I have said that the labourers are not national creditors. I would, before I proceed in this exaltation, that their claims should be clearly understood and fully recognized.

There is no claim that no Act of Parliament can invalidate. Their labour is their property guaranteed by right Divine. To preserve property inviolate is the first principle of society. The first duty of government, which, neglects to leave all other property insecure! Nay, on the violability of that principle, the right to all property is destroyed.

Fellow countrymen, I do not say that the government should establish workshops where every man may demand employment; but I assert that government is bound to cause such national arrangements to be made as will enable every man to remunerate himself, with a just remuneration for his labour.

The British Constitution is based upon national property. Hence the reverence for the law which it signals distinguishes our race. And mark, in connection to our rejection of that principle, as the basis of our national property, the diminution of it is also to be noticed that the increase of the poor distress, and crime of the people is proportionate our disregard of that wise and safe principle of legislation.

When such a cautious and prudent man as Mr West is taken to the extent of proposing appropriate measures, it is useful, at all hazards, we should rightly understand the basis on which property rests. It is necessary that we, who so loudly of 'keeping the national faith,' should take the national faith is broken when the labourer receives the value of their property, i.e., labour.

The time seems to be drawing near when it will be determined who are the national creditors.

Fellow countrymen, I would inculcate this cheapness is not security. I would endeavour to convince the freeholders, and all persons of property, that although they may be enabled to gain by cheapness, that very cheapness, maintained by breaking faith with the labourers, or their title insecure. For, what said the late Sir John Beckett, Bart., when addressing the electors—non-electors of Leeds? These were his words: "I have been the tomb for a season, but my voice is still in the land, and I am convinced of the necessity of having every measure founded on—justice to the labourer, as well as to the holder! 'Peace at home,' said Sir John, 'contentment at home; and unless we can establish such a system of things as will afford means to the labourer to maintain himself, and to be able to maintain themselves and families in order there can be no peace at home—there never will be peace at home—there never ought to be peace at home!'

Fellow countrymen, remember that the people are the home dividends cannot be secure. So are the words of His Royal Highness Prince Arundel: "Depend upon it, the interests of those who are so often contradicted are the same."

In my next, I hope to conclude my examination of Mr Wm. Rand's third and last remedy.

I am, Fellow countrymen, your obedient servant,
The Friend of the Funtailers
and of the Labourers,
RICHARD OATLEY
Fulham, Middlesex.

According to official returns, the exports at the close of the Zilverreeze, in 1847 in various articles were as follows:—Raw cotton, imported, 45,000 cwt.; exported, 14,545 cwt.; wrought, 54,588 cwt.; sulphur, imported, 2,340 tons; exported, 38,850 cwt.; cast and other iron, rails, &c., imported, 1,100 lbs cwt.; exported, 42,882 cwt.; and the 45,588 cwt. The population of the Zilverreeze, 1847, amounted to 20,461, 712 souls.

causes of evil over the earth may be removed, and the causes of good may be made to super-

Is it not, then, man's highest interest to exert

his power to acquire the knowledge to move the causes of evil from his race, and supersede them with those causes which all produce good only, and to apply this true knowledge to immediate practice ?

True charity, based on the knowledge of the laws of humanity, applied to practice, under the direction of the science of the overwhelming influence of circumstances over human nature, will easily and speedily effect its great change in the condition of man over the earth, and in its wondrous results greatly surpass the accumulated wonders of the past period of human existence.

Thus will the cause of good and evil become the cause of this to man, and for the future be placed, under this new knowledge, under his control ; he will thus be new-formed in mind, regenerated, made rational, intelligent, beautiful and highly refined in person, manner, and conduct.

Prepared thus, the

and good citizens, and only, will be ready to receive the wedding garment to enable them to become an inhabitant, not of an imaginary heaven in or above the clouds, but of a substantial paradise upon our own earth. Then, and not till then, will there be real LIBERTY, EQUALITY, and FRATERNITY; and this is the change for which Europe is to-day so blindly contending for and against. The Socialists blindly attempting, with inefficient knowledge and an erroneous spirit, to attain it; while their opponents, possessing only the errors of past times, vainly oppose, and desire to retain the unjust and absurd state of things as they are, producing all, endless evils and miseries.

The contest between the existing false and irrational system which is most injurious to all, and the true and rational system which will be permanently most beneficial to all, may,

coming from the present irrational state of both contending parties, be severe and cruel to its progress; but as Truth is about to prevail over error, the ultimate result admits of no doubt.

ROBERT OWEN.

EFFECT OF FAIRHART.—One of the most affecting occurrences in the life of Campbell was the conversion of his wife and their only son to a madhouse as an incurable lunatic. All the parties interested that melancholy episode are of the most painful interest. Describing many of the inmates, the poet says:—"You may remember a horrible incident, a few years ago, on the Salisbury road, when a madman broke from his carriage and rushed at a house he bit two men on the throat; one of whom he killed by he wild beat on the spot; the other flew to an adjacent house. It was locked by those who fled to it or shelter. The poor fugitive saw the lion, after compelling his companion, stalk slowly towards the monster. He brank up to the side of the wall. The monster glared upon him, but, by some unaccount-

able accident, passed him, and went on. At that moment, he said, he felt exactly as if half of his heart had been torn off. Nevertheless his senses did not desert him. He proceeded to London, and with him and had compass enough to direct him to the amount of the catastrophe; but his intellect soon afterwards fell to ruins, and he is now incurable. — *Beattie's Life of Campbell*

Vasco. — The brig Margaret, of and from Steckoburg, was bound for Abordown, when she was wrecked on the morning of the 30th, in attempting to make the harbour. The sea at the time was running very high, and a strong gale blew from the south-east. No sooner did the vessel get among the broken waves than she ceased to obey her helm, and she was driven to the pier-head, and just as she was about to enter, a heavy sea struck on her starboard side, and hove her to the north of the pier, while as she was proceeding one carried her farther to the back of the breaker, where she struck. Immediately after, a tremendous swell swept the deck, and washed away the mainmast, and the foremast, and the fore and main masts by means of life buoys. The body of the ship was recovered the same evening. — The

Lyde, of Glasgow, Thomas Alder, master, laden with cotton, from Charleston for Glasgow, was totally wrecked on the rocks of Colony on the night of the 15th. The crew, including the master and mate, consisted of twenty-two; of that number fifteen were taken on shore, and the rest drowned; nine of the number were first saved by some boats belonging to Colony. The captain and five men perished on the wreck, for several hours would have perished had not the wreck left the rock on which it first struck, and come to the shore of the island, when they got on shore.

The Markets.

CORN.
GENERAL AVERAGE PRICES OF BRITISH CORN
For the Week, ending December 23rd, 1848, made up
from the Returns of the Inspectors in the different
Cities and Towns in England and Wales, per Imperial
Quarter.

Wheat	Barley	Oats	Hay	Beans	Peas
17s 6d	17s 6d	12s 6d	12s 6d	12s 6d	12s 6d

DUETIES ON FOREIGN CORN.

[illegible]

PROVISIONS.

LONDON, Monday, Dec. 25th.—We experienced a considerable demand for butter during the past week, and, in consequence, the market has advanced, chiefly in local prices; and, in some cases, in the advance of 1s to 2s per cwt. was realised towards the close of the week. The beneficial change in the weather has given holders little inducement to bring forward their supplies of butter for sale, and the market has been somewhat dull for bacon, and the sales effected were of a retail description. Prices ranged from 80s to 91s landed.

POTATOES.

SOUTHWEST WAREHOUSE, Dec. 11.—The arrivals of the past week, both coastwise and continental, have been so extensive, that the supply will be more than adequate to the wants of potatoes than it has hitherto been. In the last three years, which, with a very dull sale, has caused a considerable accumulation of stock, the supply has been a few choice York Regents, and a few Kentish Whites, which were at a high figure, but, with that exception, were not so much in demand as they have been this season. The week has been and is heavy, at the following quotations: Yorks, 100s to 120s; Kentish Whites, 100s to 120s; Stockton ditto, 100s to 120s; Scotch ditto, 100s to 120s; ditto cups, 60s to 90s; ditto reds, 60s to 80s.

WOOL.
Oryx, Monday, Dec. 29 B.—The wool market has been steady. The imports into London last week were limited; comprising 141 bales from Germany, 271 from Egypt, 171 from South Australia, and 161 from the Cape. The best orders are for the best to hand, by the steamer from North and South America and India.

Robert Thomson Meinteth, Glasgow, manufacturer
George Robertson, Rosneath, Dumbartonshire, ship
broker - Andrew Phillips, Aberdeen, cabinet-maker
Alexander Drysdale, Glasgow, merchant - John Cr
Forfar, Ironmonger.

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