

NOTICE.—A number of communications received too late for insertion will appear in next Saturday "Star of Freedom."

On the 14th of April a shock of an earthquake was experienced at Demerara, but no damage was done. On the same day, as we learn from the Barbadoes papers, the islands of St. Vincent and Grenada, several hundred miles distant, were visited with similar concussions.

A banquet of 400 covers took place on the 21st in the White Hall of the Royal Palace, at Berlin. The Czar, wearing a Prussian uniform, sat between the Queen and the King, the latter, with the royal princes, wearing the dress of Russian generals. The King of Prussia, rising from the table, gave the following remarkable toast:—"In my name, in the name of my army, and in the name of the Prussian hearts, I drink to the health of his Imperial Majesty of Russia. God preserve him to that portion of his world which He has given him for an inheritance, to our epoch, to which he is indispensable!" The Emperor replied "God save your Majesties!" and a little later said, "I drink to the King of Prussia and his army."

that he has a very bad memory" —

This may be amply "sufficient" for the illustrious Granier; but, strange to say, it is voted by the public large a most insupportable and cowardly rejoinder. The joke of the joke remains to be told. This "hired bravo" not merely failed to win the applause of his worthy man—he has positively incurred that master's displeasure. Why so? Because, by underestimating the exploits of the *rizai* general, he has thereby given mortal offence to the soldiers. His first article was literally torn to pieces by the camp where the officers of the army "most do congregate; and his rejoinder has elicited from the same persons a *hundred* of derision.

The unceasing and numerous glorification of the wars of "the Empire" is exciting a general feeling of disaffection among the heroes of Algerian *rassazis*. This feeling found vent in words on the part of a certain *de la Pierre*, sub-lieutenant of Chasseurs, who has refused the oath, given his reasons in the following terms:—

With audacity worthy of BONAPARTE and his generals, these worthy delegates proceeded to vote, place, pay among themselves and to those whom they assumed would be their instruments. I understand that Mr. CROWE has had the good sense to dec-

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one of her own sex, she called a cab, and ordered the driver to proceed to Foster-street, Bishopsgate, the home of invalid. Scarcely, however, had the vehicle proceeded more than a few yards, when a crisis of nature came, and an infant was added to the party. The cab was then ordered to St. Giles's workhouse, where the young mother







**To Correspondents.**

Mr. T. P. GREEN is thanked for his encouraging letter.

of freedom," is published at One Penny, and not at a shilling, as announced.

**THE TROUSERS.**—Among the Polish exiles who were recently expelled from *Republique* France, for being *Republicans*, is a veterinary surgeon, who completed his studies in the celebrated Veterinary School of *Aix*, near *Nice*. Besides a perfect knowledge of French, Italian, and Latin, he is conversant with the English language, and, in consequence, he is also versed in the stuffing of quadrupeds and birds, in which—having studied zootomy—he excels. We give insertion to these few lines thinking that some of our readers might be in want of a person who would be so good as to procure a quadruped at the same time to be performed by giving him employment. Further information can be acquired of Mr. Krynski, Polish shoemaker, 10, Grosvenor-street, Baker-street, New York, London.

**WE HAVE NO ROOM FOR YOU.**

**P. G., Edinburgh.**—We are so overwhelmed with matter that we are unable at present to give insertion to the communication which you have the honor to publish in your issue of the 10th inst.

**Q.**—We should be glad to hear from Henry Croucher, who lived, some years since, at Messrs. Swan and Edgar's, Regent-street, London, should he chance to see this notice.

**A.**—We have no doubt that the "Boy Jones" has been at Buckingham Palace again. The same writer suggests that a certain principle of "reciprocity" means a mutual *tabula-rasa*. The same writer serves us from "Punster."

**J. SANDERS, New Bedford.**

**MR. HARRIS.**—Received. Thanks.

"ALL MEN ARE BROTHERN,"  
**A SOIREE,**  
 consisting of a  
**TEA PARTY AND PUBLIC MEETING,**  
 IN HONOR OF  
**"THE STAR OF FREEDOM."**

Will be held in the Literary and Scientific Institution, Junction Street, Tottenham-courts-road, on **Friday, the 25th inst.**

The following friends to political and social reform will attend and take part in the proceedings—Louis Blaine, Robert Le Blond, Walter Cooper, George Julian Harney, Samuel M. Lydl, George Massey, D. T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P., Thornton Hunt, G. J. Holyoake, and others, are also invited, and expected to attend.

Admission to all halfpenny, and precisely; and the public meeting to commence at eight o'clock.

Admission to the Tea and Public Meeting, 6d each. To Public Sale only, Gallery 3rd, Hall, 2s.

Vectors may be had of Messrs. Glanvilles-street, Commercial road, East; John Matthias, 40, Broad street, Ratcliff; Wm. Brinsford, Glouce House, Mill-end-road; A. E. Belsham, 10, Somerset-square; Wm. H. Smith, 10, St. James's-street; Wm. White House, Harle-street, Bethnal-green; Wm. Travers, 17, Margaret-place; Mackeney; C. K. Nichols, 10, Great Windmill-street; City; John Washington, 155, Golden-lane, Barbican; George Taylor, 165, Goswell-street; John Beaz, 183, Fleet-street; Henry Holyoake, 3, Queen's Head-passageway, Finsbury-road; James Grasby, 55, Regent-street, Lambeth; John Mills, 1, Union-street, Berkeleysquare; Robert Wilson, 10, St. James's-street; George Martin, Tottenham-courts, 23, Little Windmill-street, Haggermarket; D. W. Ruffy, 13, Tottenham-courts, New road; John Arnott, 11, Middlesex-place, and Messrs. W. & A. G. Wood, 10, Tottenham-courts, New road.

**Adm.—The proceeds will be given to the Harpers' Escapade.**

THE ORGANISATION OF REFORMERS.  
WHAT DOES IT MEAN, AND HOW IS IT TO BE  
ACCOMPLISHED?  
ON SUNDAY EVENING, May 30th, at Half-  
past Seven o'Clock, Mr. G. J. HOLYOAKE, Editor of the "Rea-  
soner," will lecture on the above subject at the Literary Institution,  
John Street, Fitzroy Square.  
Admission.—To the Hall 2d., Gallery 3d.  
N.B.—The Appoionic Society will perform before and after the  
Lecture.

**THE STAR OF FREEDOM,**  
SATURDAY, MAY 29, 1853.

Notice.  
In the "Star of Freedom," of Saturday next, will be Published,  
**A SMASH FOR THE SMASHERS.**

THE OLDEN SPIRIT AND THE OLDEN  
POWER.

says a morning crowd on the near old "young men" mourn-  
ful. Perile indeed seems to be the only means by which  
their minds are capable of being improved. All  
laffy and many thoughts are far above the mental  
capacity of the majority of them, and should their  
attention be directed to such, they seem to consider  
them matters with which they have not any capabil-  
ity for interference, or profess any interest in. How-  
widely does the present youth of the nation differ  
from that of the olden time! Even the best edu-  
cated are becoming little better than absolutely  
foolish, for, in accordance with the dogma of the  
system—a system as fatal as it is absurd—the  
attempted to be forcibly developed, while the body  
is left uncared for—or, rather, it is too much cared  
for, wrapped up as it is, and shaded from even the  
gentle breeze of springs, as if the insensate parents  
and so-called "educators" would outlaw nature,  
contradict her laws, and change all the causes of  
health and disease.

We would rather see again the happier days of our forefathers, than these days of degeneracy, disease and death. If men did not possess the intellect, the feelings and the noble and manly feelings; and although, in their ignorance, they submitted to kingly and priestly tyranny, they did not do so from any feeling of cowardice, or inability to right themselves; but because the double usurpation of fraud and force had been handed down to them, time-honoured and unquestioned.

Very different are the feelings and the power of the men of the people of to-day. They have gained enough intelligence to know their wrongs and to hate and exorcise the tyrannies under which they are crushed, and which have none of the hallowing associations of those of old. But they have altogether lost that physical power necessary to enforce their decrees of justice, and they have moreover been deprived of arms, and of a knowledge of their use.

Such are the incidents of the present day.

away the heart of the nation. Such are the evils that are undermining the foundations of our national greatness, and hastening the fall of our national power and glory. They are two-fold, the radically bad system of education, or, say rather, compression; for it is not really education, but the dwarfing of the mind and body of the future man, and that execrable social state, which has deprived the masses of the people of the many holidays they once enjoyed, of pure air, and of healthy exercises and amusements; turned, in fact those who should have been men, into wizen-faced, weak, and listless working machines.

As regards the first, consistently with the very liberal, but not very ennobling 'principle of laissez aller,' the education of the young has been left to paternal stupidity and incompetence, notwithstanding that every page of history is a distinct demonstration of the great truth, that the education of the nation is the only condition on which the nation can be efficiently performed only by the children of it.

to the fall of the Lower Empire, giving to the body all the strength and powers of endurance which it was capable, while the mental powers were allowed to lie dormant, that which succeeded it—the attempt to educate the mind alone—was not merely faulty, but was absurd and impossible. If the body was weakened, or its forces allowed to remain undeveloped, it will not be long before it pulls down the mind to the level of its own condition. The only possible method of raising an intelligent and physically vigorous people, is by an education which shall develop all the powers of the individual—those of the body, as well as those of the mind. Military training, forming part of such a system, we should have constantly raised a body of ten Militia; an army of enlightened and stout-limbed citizens, soldiers ever ready to be the nation's defender against internal and external tyrants.

Yet small would be the benefit to society if no

young, thus trained, were to be drafted from the National Schools into the pestilential factory workshop; and this brings us to the second part of our inquiry.

The marital spirit of the people is degenerated by their physical powers become enfeebled, by overwork and confinement in the deadly atmosphere of the places in which they are pent up; and if the cause continue, the effect will increase until we become a nation of women, at the disposal of some foreign hired assassins, or lie at the feet of some ignorant conqueror. For this there can be no remedy, until we abolish the cause. Let us have comfort and health, exercise for the now pining, overworked toilers, and we shall soon awake in them the old English spirit, which will be the best of all national qualities.

To do this, we must have something more than the *Su Milla Bill* that comes from our incapable short-sighted rulers, whose measure will but take a few of the yokers from their industry.

week or two in the summer, then return them to the  
weakened and murdered as before. 'Men must be  
sports,' says the 'Daily News.' 'Let us make  
own muster on cricket-grounds. Let us have wr  
ling-matches for our exercises. Let us have f  
races and leaping matches, as our preparation  
matches. Let us set up our targets, and see  
nicely we can pick out the bull's eyes. Let  
swimmers seek out the strongest streams, and s  
how valiantly they can charge the enemy, and  
him off from their broad breasts.'

Yes ; let us indeed have all this ! But what opportunity have the workers for engaging in manly sports and healthy exercises, when an absence of five minutes during their long hours of labour will cause them to be deprived of half their day's scanty pittance ? You well know, hypocrite as you are ! that the only way in which the people, while the world is ruled by the selfish Capitalists, whose cause you advocate, possess their present unlimited power over the children of toil. If you really desire to see again a nation, composed of political rights and establish the reign of equality, give us the Franchise, and we will work out our own regeneration ! Deprive us no longer of our civil rights, and in the liberated nation we will awake the olden spirit, and build up the olden power !

POPULAR PROGRESS.

We are sometimes inclined to think, that those of us who may live on for some thirty or forty years, on looking back, may say, 'Well, there has been some progress in our time, but it has been so slow as to be almost imperceptible!' How often have we seemed to be on the verge of that great day which our firm faith assures us shall yet arise. Again and again have we thought the time had come of which the Prophets and Poets have foretold and sung, for which the Apostles of Progress have toiled and suffered, and for which the countless host of Martyrs have welcomed death with calm front and smiling countenance, glad even to climb the scaffold, and strain their weary eyes upon the thick mists of ages, to catch one unobscured glimpse of the coming glory, before they aid down their noble heads, with the scaffold-block for their last pillow, and bade a thankless world farewell. How often have we thought that this day of emancipation for the suffering, plundered poor, had been at length arrived; and then, how bitterly have our hopes been dashed to the ground—how cruelly have we been deceived. The tide of re-action has set in; and our little schemes have been swept away by its destructive might, and our very footprints have been washed out from the shore and sound of time! Yet, in spite of these things, there is Progress withal. Doubtless, we are too sanguine, and build too largely on expectation, forgetting that a few years, which is much in the life of Man, is but little in the life of Humanity, and little even in the life of time of the People. Let us remember that this People, which

now the grand fact of the time, those very names exist as a thousand stirring memories, and a thousand throbbing hopes, was scarcely whispered about before as that time they were looked upon somewhat in the spirit of the old French law, which empowered certain nobles, who might return hot and weary from the chase, to embowel two—only two of their serfs, the warm entrails! And they were treated some thing according to this grim and bloody shred of feudal barbarism, and used up for the gratification of their lords. But what a part has this same People played since that Revolution! The People have come upon the stage of History and the pride of Kings and Princes has withered, and their hearts have perished within them in its majestic presence. There was a time when we thought a Lord a superior sort of being, made of Nature's porcelain, while we were the only common clay. We saw him only in the gloom of our ignorance. Now, as we look on our miserable

These master-nobles in the light of Knowledge, we find that they have not even got a natural crown on their heads; like the common cock that struts at the barn-door; therefore, we have ceased to hail them as cocks of the world's walk any longer. Indeed, we find that their brains do not lie so near their eyes as our own do, but are mostly at the back of their heads. The workers, as a class, no longer think it right that they should toil and sweat, and drain out their very life's blood, that pimple after pimple may adorn the aristocratic, millicroatic, or aldermanic nose, that the palaces of the rich may be heaped with princely splendours, and their tables laden with all the fruits and luxuries of the earth, while they, the producers, live scantily, are wretchedly clothed, and exist in dirty dens, feverous alleys, and plague-stricken hovels! The workers are thinking, and do not struggle on in contented silence, as in times gone by. Where the heart does not burst out into bitter words of rebellion against the present state of things, the scowling brow, set lips, and the clenched fists, will tell what is going on within. The light of knowledge is springing like sunrise in the eyes of the toilers; a light which shall enable them to see the incubus which has crushed them in the dark so long, and marshalled them for the death-grapple with wrong and oppression. They are silently thinking out their revolution, which must be thought out before it can be wrought out. They are thinking at the loom, in the field, in the road

forge-light, and the murky mine. And, as all institutions are based on ideas, so shall the people's institutions inevitably follow the people's thinking. It is this ignorance which covers the multitude as with a sea of darkness, that tyranny drops its anchor of safety, and maintains itself aloft; let this ignorance be removed, and the king-CRAFT, the priest-CRAFT, and the state-CRAFT, shall be swept away down the stream of time, by the irresistible and rushing wave of Progress. We are making some progress; witness the many movements, Socialist, Co-operative, Temperance, Poor-law, and numerous others which are springing into existence around us, for the amelioration of the condition of labour and its emancipation. We are manifesting the greatest progress in our belief, in self-reform, and in our growing reliance on ourselves. We have learned that if we would have freedom we must win it ourselves. We have learned that a man who is a tyrant in his own heart would be a tyrant still, though

the Charter were the law of the land to-morrow. We have learned that men may be called Democrats, and yet be the veriest slaves and humbugs. We have learned, that if we would carry our cause to victory, it is not sufficient that we rally round men, but round principles, and, if need be, we must cheerfully sacrifice men at the shrine of those principles. We have learned that our greatest foes are in the tyranny we exercise over ourselves, and that our governors can afford to laugh at all our brag and bluster, and mock at our impotent strutting to obtain Reform, so long as we are content to spend annually in drink more than the cost of the whole imperial taxation, which is now done, as is proved by Government returns. We have learned in short, that a vicious, tyrannical, Government can only exist by the virtue of the vice and slavishness of the people, which it mal-governs. This is much that cannot pass away. This is something on the road of Progress. The people are thinking—let us aid them, let us lead them.

to supply them with fitting food. There is much to be done in the work of education which has been neglected. Let us teach them what to do to win the Charter, and what to do with it when won, rather than be eternally harping upon the one string of self, about what the Charter will do for us. Set the people—the whole people—thinking, and action will follow, the fruit follows the flower, and Spring follows Winter, and there is no power on earth can prevent a people—ripe for freedom—from hastening to a swift fulfilment of its glorious destiny.

**RUSSIA DOMINANT IN EUROPE.**

We have long held the opinion that the 'Holy Alliance' of Kings would not for any length of time exist as a fraternal fact with co-equal members; but that all the divisions of the army of absolutism would coalesce under the banner of the Czar. As so it has come to pass. Every despot and would-be despot vie with each other in their endeavours to obtain the patronage of the Emperor of Russia. Through the land of the murdered BLUX—through that Germany, so celebrated for the genius and bravery of her children, the assassin of Poland and Hungary, rides in triumph, and in every town where he visits in the enchained Fatherland of the Germans, there is some one of her many tyrants kneeling at the feet of the Muscovite, and owing the Empire of the Russias for his lord and master.

It is patent to the world that Austria does not now exist as a great power; that from the day when the Cossack hordes burst into Hungary to crush the conquering army of Republican freedom there, it was nothing conserved of the once mighty Austrian Empire but the bare name, and that it then became a mere Russian province, and its NERO imperial Emperor nothing more than a Lieutenant of CAZAR. As such he has been treated by NICHOLAS during the late visit of that crowned brigand in Vienna, where he accepted with glorious condescension

on all the servile attentions of his imperial vassal, and the miserable, sickly, 'popular, enthusiasm' really got up by the government, with the aid of dynasts and sold.

Not alone, however, has the ruined and rotten Russian Empire cast itself into the arms of the Arch-enemy of Northern Prussia, or, rather the King of Prussia has also sunk to the degradation of being the vassal of a foreign power. At a banquet given by **NICHOLAS** at Berlin, the royal drunkard and hypocritical knave, **FREDERICK WILLIAM**, pledged his ego lord, and prayed that God might "preserve him from that portion of the world which he has given him for his inheritance, and to our epoch, to which he is indispensable." The people of Germany would do well to take note of these words, as it is of much importance they be remembered upon the arrival of the new revolution, when the nation shall again be in possession of power. They will demonstrate the ineffectuality of the attempt to transform kings and princes into good and loyal citizens, and to show them that there is no cure for tyranny but extirpation. There have we the man who in 1848 defied his fate before the triumphant revolution, and bowed down with respect in the presence of the sovereign people in arms, declaring that the millions of Russia, the Caucasus, Asia, and the Pole are the property of this Merciless Tyrant, bestowed upon him by the ALMIGHTY GOD, to be butchered or brutalised by him at his pleasure, Can there be any hope for humanity while there exist monsters who entertain such atrocious sentiments, and who have not any fear or shame to express such abominable blasphemy.

But not only do these royal villains pretend that it is by the will of the Supreme Being that they are seated upon their absolute thrones, and have thence proceeded to scourge and oppress the suffering people; they actually arrogate to themselves the right to dictate to the whole world; and to decree that nowhere should dictatorship be tolerated; that the right of the individual wherever shall burst its bonds of slavery or of despotism; that the people everywhere should be awakened to a life of freedom and progress; but that the whole of the human race shall for ever remain crushed under the iron sceptre of brutal and debasing despotism. It is for no other purpose than that of European liberty, that the Czar (who is indisputably the epoch of Kings) is marching triumphantly through his extended territories, giving his counsels, and issuing his commands to his gervile and obedient dependents, in Germany, Louis Napoleon controlled in their cause, by slaughtering and oppressing the people, and for this he has received the thanks of the red monarchies of Europe; but he is too slippery, and not respectable enough to become an adopted son of the Czar—much as he has sought the honour of it. Besides, he has reached his blood-stained throne on the back of the hated Revolution, and cannot appeal to that 'divine right,' which is to be the tyrants' only charter. France, therefore, must be restored to its former position, while the tumult constitutionalism of Belgium and Piedmont must be overthrown, and the 'unholy radicalism' of Switzerland be forever banished.

When this 'holy' work of 'legitimacy' and absolute rule shall have been accomplished, the whole continent, bound in the chains of 'order,' and ruled by the Russian despot, through his satellites, it will be time to crush England, and punish her for her sympathy with foreign patriots, and her many other crimes against the curse of European 'law and order.'

But shall Britain, the certain victim of this conspiracy of the CZAR and his serfs, allow them to work out their libercidal plans without hindrance or molestation? Shall she not rather fling down the gauntlet to this most unholy alliance, and raise her yet powerful arm in defence of human freedom? She might do so, if the people, the veritable people would awake from their apathy, and see it done. If the British nation would but rouse itself early into action, and clasp the hand of their American brother, which is now being stretched out to them so eagerly, they would be invincible, and would be able to hurl the Cossack from his throne, and strike off the fetters which bind the suffering and oppressed nationalities of Europe.

COLLIERS: 'KILLING' IN COAL-PITS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE STAR OF FREEDOM.  
SIR,—It is in our nature, our education, and habits, to reject inquiry into the causes of human suffering. Each section of society is apt to confine itself to its own specialties, casting it may be an occasional glance at others, but ever returning in its vitality to its own immediate interests. There is, it is true much in common among men; but it is equally true that certain grades are stamped with the impress of their own vocations, and are at once recognised and recognisable by all. In most cases, the matter ends

The underground portion of the British population and chief among those the colliers—are a distinct and separate class, which can only be understood by examining in person, or by direct and authentic evidence, their tastes, habits, associations, manners, customs, labours, dangers, and rewards.

The Colliers of England number many thousands and to their industry, in a great degree, our country is indebted for much of her manufacturing greatness. According to Parliamentary evidence, the Collier enjoys, on an average, relatively, a fair share of the comforts of life. Their food is homely and plentiful and, since a law was passed to prevent the employment of women in coal mines, their domestic enjoyment have been vastly increased—a fact especially deserving of notice, showing, as it does, that in the end profound humanity is the wisest economy.

A boy, at an early age, enters a coal pit as a *trapper*, so called from it being his duty to sit in small cavity in the coal pit for ten or twelve hours as the case may be, and open a *trap door* when he hears the *putter* approach with his coal tub. In time the *trapper* becomes a *driver*, the *driver* a *putter*, the *putter* a *heaver*. The duty of the driver is, to drive horse, to which is attached waggons. The *putter* fills the waggons. The *heaver* heaves or digs the coal out of the seam.

The leading manager of a coal pit is the *viewer* whose duties consist in planning and managing the working of a coal mine. Next in rotation is the *underviewer*, whose duties are subordinate to those of his chief. Next in rank are the *overman* and *deputy overman*, whose duties are to superintend the

All of these grades have their share of personal responsibility. The *tramp* boy, by neglecting to shut the trap door, may endanger the lives of all persons in the pit. We have often heard the *colliers* in the north complain of the risks to which they were exposed by danger in this respect. *Driver*, *putter*, and *hewer*, may, by inattention, endanger the lives of others; but the chief cause of coal pit accidents is, in many cases, inefficient ventilation.

The greater part of the life of a *collier* is in and about the ground; his work to all not engaged in it must seem uninteresting and unimportant, and is justly esteemed unpleasant. When above ground the *collier* associates with his own order, and a *collier* village presents to the eye of the visitor the appearance of an industrial colony of an exclusive class. The cottages are small one story buildings; their furniture, in some cases, for their rank in life, is good; but in others, indifferent. They invariably burn with blazing fires—the doors of their dwellings being generally open. We have mixed much among the *colliers* and have found them confiding, generous, and hospitable. The old practices of dog fighting and man fighting are on the decline. Methodism and Christianity have each contributed to bring about and accelerate that improvement. Methodism is the predominant form of religion. So far as our experience goes, Chartism is the ruling passion with the

The Colliers complained of many hardships, and frequently suffer grievous injuries, arising from over-reaching practices of some of their employers and overlookers. "Strikes" are, therefore, of frequent occurrence, and as usual, leave in their wake disastrous consequences. The last great "strike" was in 1843 or 1844. We were present at many legal and other meetings, and pay a willing tribute of respect to the self sacrifice, personal courage, and enthusiasm of the Colliers of Durham and Northumberland. But these are virtues, which, against the power of united capital are all but powerless.

As to the physical condition of the Colliers of Northumbria, perhaps nothing can be more expressive than the following quotation from the appendix to a Parliamentary Report, published in 1842:—Mr. WILLIAM FROST, the medical attendant of the Lam Collieries, says:—"The outward man distinguishes the pit-man from every other operative. His stature is diminutive, his chest is narrow, his shoulders are

onate; his legs much bowed; his chest prominent, and greatly developed; his brows are overhanging, and the forehead retreats; the cheek bones are prominent, and the cheek hollow. I have seen agricultural labourers, blacksmiths, carpenters, and even distressed stocking weaver, to whom the term 'Jolly Collier' might not unaptly be applied, but I never saw 'Jolly Collier.'

On the effects of labour in producing

Dr. Elliott states:—"The premature old age in appearance is common; men of thirty-five or forty years may often be taken for ten years older than they really are." Mr. Thomas Greenlow, of the Waukegan Colliery, North Durham, says:—"I have an aged aspect somewhat early in life." In some parts of England the colliers are not so small in stature and decrepit in appearance as in the Northern Counties; but, in all, "an old collier" is scarcely to be met with. The early age at which colliers begin work—the years of life they spend underground—the painful position they are forced to assume in excavating the coal, sometimes creeping into an aperture, only wide enough to allow room for the contracted motion of their arms, squatting on their hams, sometimes in one posture, sometimes in another, in few instances working upright. Always in a state of nudity, or almost so, exposed in many cases to damp and draughts, subject to rheumatism, arising therefrom, it is not surprising that Mr. Morrison never saw a "jolly collier." Despite of these obstacles, some of the colliers are men of considerable muscular power, and many, but for such obstacles, would have been good soldiers.

Every now and again, the heart of England is shocked by the news of some fearful coal-pit accident, some horrible tragedy, in which human beings in tens, twenties, or hundreds, are hurried out of existence. "No reckoning made,"

Within the throng of a few days sixty-four lives are sacrificed at Aberdare; twenty-seven at Pembro; twenty-two at Hebburn; thirty-four at Coppel; in all, one hundred and forty-seven human beings are sent to the funeral pyre. Sisters, mothers, brothers, and fathers are steeped in grief. Many have been eye witnesses to the inexpressible anxiety with which relatives await the sequel of a coal-pit accident. Women are often the screaming eyes, and some too much overcome to be able to know the calm of tears. O, horrible! most horrible!

The recent coal-pit accidents are not accidents out of the usual course, they are the every day lessons of a Pitman's life. It was caused by the same thing the time worn assertion "It is caused by the carelessness of the men" which statement is as often false as it is true. It is not true that the Pitman should become "foolhardy," it is but natural that he should become careless. It is but natural and reasonable to expect that he will become careless of danger, when all the practical teachings he receives lead him to think so. Who instructs him in the danger of his careless actions? Who informs him how to avoid danger? With rare exceptions:—No. The answer is, the viewer, the lessee, or the proprietor? It was not without good and sufficient reasons that the government commission took notice of two things. The almost invariable practice of attending accidents to the foolishness of the men, and the unwillingness of surgeons to present them with a register of accidents.

It sometimes happens that a coroner's inquest on the bodies of the dead does not end without a remark to the living. Such was the case at Hebburn. The jury could not separate without expressing an opinion that there has been a great want of caution in the safe working of the colliery. They further recommended, that an additional trapper be placed in the district, that the whole of the lamps be locked, and that no blasting take place in that part of the colliery wrought by lamps.' A recommendation which implies, that had such precautions been taken, no explosion would have occurred, and therefore twenty-two men would not have been killed.

Whose duty was it to see that the pit was in a safe

working condition? Such was the duty of the owner, who neglected that duty? The owner, who, then, by neglect or variance, caused the death of twenty-two men? The very conditions of the jury answer our question.

By the same reason, the owners of the colliery of Hebburn Colliery should pay an indemnity to the heirs of the deceased, for the losses they have sustained, because of the deaths of their husbands, fathers, or brothers, as the case may be. Such a practice is now recognised in all cases of railway accidents, arising from any neglect on the part of railway companies or their servants. Why should coal owners be treated differently, and also penalised? If the owner or owners of Hebburn Colliery had to pay down £10,000 to the relatives of the deceased colliers killed, because of neglect—because there had been a want of caution in the safe working of the colliery—then, as much mistaken if such a penalty would not, in future, secure the 'safe working' of that and other coal pits.

The Collier is constantly exposed to danger—sometimes from water, as in the case of the Pembrey Colliery in South Wales—sometimes from inflammable gas, as in the case in West Hebburn, and often from other causes; and it may be that the collier, who has devoted his vocation free from risks, to which other trades are not exposed, is not so much at risk, however, that the collier is exposed to unusual risks, should render him an object of care on the part of society and the legislature. Government commissioners should be empowered to shut up all coal pits, that are not in safe working order, until they be made so, and under a strict law of landlord; and the owners of coal pits should be held responsible for the lives of all persons engaged under their superintendence.

Any measures short of these will prove futile. Any lessening of the numbers of colliery accidents, in the absence of some such restrictions as we have hinted at, will be looked for in vain. 'Cotton Kings,' like 'Railway Kings,' are to be found in many cases, and they are entitled to the responsibility of property, and in their ambition to share a large dividend, and pocket handsome profits, subject their dependents to unnecessary danger. If our countrymen wish to escape the horror of such fearful colliery accidents, they must not only heed of, and some of them have witnessed, the terrible results of the neglect of safety precautions, they must also be made to see in time that such means are adopted as shall secure the safety of the workers. The advantages that science has suggested for his behalf, and negligence and avarice alone prevent him from reaping the benefit of. Were the interests of labour as much cared for as those of Capital, at no distant day matters in the case of the Colliery would be much improved.

GRACEY.

THE "REBELS" OF '48.

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"Y Vindicator" publishes a

one of those who figured in the "year of turbulence," 1838. The writer is Mr. William P. Dowling, a young Irish artist, who resided in London, and took an active part in the Chartists' Demonstrations of '43. He was transported to Van Diemen's Land, under the act which prohibited open political speaking. Of his compatriots he says— "Cuffy is now in the free-trade, while Matt Lalor, says I, is not very brisk; but no doubt the disorders in the neighbouring continent has made every trade good work—he is much respected as a sober and industrious man. Fay has always been in constant employment, and he is considered the best workman in the colony. Lacy has opened a shop in Luncheonston, his wife and five children have come to him, and he is in a fair way of reaping a fortune, and so forth." A great number of men employed, and particularly since the gold discoveries, has received more orders than he can procure men to do them. Ritchie has not been very fortunate, but is now in employment. With respect to the colony Chartists, none of them have been able to get employment at their trades, there being no factories of any consequence in the colony; they are, however, employed somewhere in the interior as gardeners, &c. Sinclair O'Brien, since his acceptance of a ticket of leave, has lived in great privacy and retirement in the vale of Clonsilla, prior to employ his highly cultivated mind, condensed into a book, entitled "The History of the English Irish physician who resided in the retired place of an eminent and dignified demagogue has procured him the respect of all, even of those most opposed to him in principles and politics. He is now, I am informed, in very bad health, so much so that he has been obliged to give up his employment he had accepted, and has got permission to visit his wife, and settle with a family, by his side, in the society of his old friends, such as Mr. John Martin, who must be as happy as it is allowable for an exiled rebel to be. O'Mengher still resides in his solitary domicile at Lusk. Sorell, save that the solitude is now somewhat disturbed by the presence of his amiable and beautiful bride. O'Connell is at present in this town, and has just completed a history of his persecutions in this colony, which would be published immediately—but in consequence of the war the publishers printers cannot be procured at any price, they are all gone to the "diggins." There have been published in Dublin and London, for the benefit of his family, as well as in the colonies and America. Letters have been received here from Mr Manus, enclosing his business cards to his friends—among others, to the Governor and the Comptroller-general. O'Doherty is practicing his profession Hobart Town, and is universally respected. ————— has had the pleasure of seeing him he was in excellent health."

THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.—The General Assembly of the Established Church of Scotland met at Edinburgh on the 20th inst., the Earl of Mar being the Lord High Commissioner. Dr. McLeod, of Morven, Moderator of the past year, preached the annual sermon and proposed the Rev. Dr. Forbes as his successor. The Royal letter being read by the commissioner, a committee was appointed to prepare the reply. The assembly was occupied on the following day entirely with royal business. It appears that the incomes of the ministers in the country parishes have been seriously diminished by the alterations in the court duties; and it is only at intervals of twenty years that an augmentation of stipends can be legally obtained, and even then the heritors or courts of law make much opposition. An address to the government on the subject is resolved on. It is expected that both from the assemblies of the Established and Free churches, a petition will be adopted against the continuation of the Maynooth grant.











them in comfort and luxury. But what would become of

then, also, he saw ready to play into their hands wealth more honourable in every sense of the word except a election, but, who then had no confidant, confessed. "Hear, hear," he believed that in counties there was not this bribery, but in boroughs it was universally known that no hon. member's seat was a permanent one unless he was prepared to bleed most freely. (A laugh.) These things were not openly talked of, but hon. members said to each other to another (and particularly just about this time) "are you getting on in your borough? I have a very awkward customer in my neighbourhood. Now, you would suppose this awkward customer was some person who was exercising a legitimate influence; but no, he was in all probability like the 'Man in the Moon' of some place, or the 'Man of Sovereign-alley' in system, and so he (Stanford) did not mean to adopt this general election. (A laugh.) He was determined to take this house from high-minded principles to speak his own duties, and gratuitously to discharge the laborious task of a representative. It was said of such a one, "Why, at Cambridge, that to tell a lie to a proctor was thought no harm—(a laugh)—and in this house, though any hon. member would be indignant at being sued, though any member in other cases, with regard to election matters unscrupulous were made almost a matter of course. At dinner parties the grand subject of conversation was such as these—"My grandfather's seat was taken in this election." "Such and such a man almost ruined his family in election expenses," and "I should be a much richer man if I had my father had not contested such and such a borough."

Mr. WAKLEY said he had listened to many queer speeches in the house, but the speech he had just heard was, he thought, the most secret, and the most heart. He could not understand what the hon. gentleman had said. He knew that was the hon. gentleman had been lecturing the house some length. How was it that the hon. gentleman had just found his voice in that house? It was it that he had just discovered what his duty and the duty of the house was? (Hear, hear.) The hon. gentleman had told them to do this and do that, and had said that the hon. gentleman had the house had neglected their duty, and yet in the same breath he told them that any hon. member who came there and spoke his own sentiments purely was an ass. Surely the hon. gentleman did not mean to call himself an ass. (Laughter.) Did the hon. member speak his own sentiments? (Mr. Stanford.) No, Mr. Wakley understood that when the hon. gentleman was elected for Reading he brought to unite himself very closely with a lady belonging to the borough, but that he had not redeemed his pledge. The hon. gentleman, however, for he believed the fault was not his, had not intended to blame a lady for not uniting herself to such an animal as himself who the hon. member had described. (Shouts of laughter.) (Mr. Wakley) presumed the hon. gentleman was taking Mr. Stanford and his friends in that way. ("Hear, hear," from Mr. Stanford.) If so, the hon. member might have more merit in civil language. (Hear, hear.)

BOOB LAY DOWN. CONTINUOUS

and we understood the noble earl to correct his statement,

**ON THE NEW LAW BOARD CONTINUANCE BILL.**  
On the 10th of January, 1846, for the committee of the Poor Law Board Continuance Bill.

LORD D. STUART moved an instruction to the Committee that they have power to make provision for amending the bill in relation to the view of moving in the Committee a proviso, that in the event of the Poor Law Board shall not be required to send any parish notice of the removal of whose poor is regulated by a local act. He argued that the Committee had the sanction of the framers of the original bill to include such parishes, and his motion was designed to mitigate undue influence of the Poor Law Board in the removal of the poor. His powers which had been denounced by the present Minister in his office. He (Lord D. Stuart) said that he could not understand this, then, how could he support this bill in its integrity, and so sometimes to the Poor Law Board those powers which he had so often denounced as unconstitutional and oppressive. He (Lord D. Stuart) said that, under the administration of the Poor Law Board, that the poor were frequently exposed to very great cruelty and oppression; that the system of medical relief was very objectionable; that in many instances the poor suffered grievously in consequence of the enormous size of the unions; and that the inmates of workhouses—many of whom were treated with much unnecessary and very rigorous. He felt so strongly on this subject, that he should think it his duty to press his motion to a division.

Sir J. TROLLOPE said the bill was simply to continue the Poor Law Act for two years, and it was most inconvenient to raise a discussion concerning the whole code of the Poor Laws upon a continuing bill. With respect to the object

of Lord Dudley, he put it to the house whether it would be right to exempt one-eighth of the population and one-eighth of the expenditure from the wholesome supervision of the Poor Law Commissioners. The question was put, and the act and 5 William IV. was passed to that effect. We read reports from medical superintendents of the condition of the workhouse poor in certain parishes, in order to show the necessity of stringent rules and authoritative control. Under the local acts there would be no system of uniformity, and no control.

Sir G. FENWICK supported the motion.

Mr. BAILES stated that the reasons why he felt it to be his duty to resist the motion, which went to declare that parliament had erred in the original Poor Law Amendment Act, the intention of which, there could be no doubt, was that the authority of the Commissioners should extend to the whole of the country, and not be limited to the parishes created by local acts. There were 375 parishes in England under the Poor Law, and the majority had been created by local acts. It was not possible for the Commissioners for a long time under the regulations of the Poor Law Board—many of them upon the application of the guardians themselves; and the effect of adopting the provisions of the Bill would be to take away from the local

the principles upon which the Poor Law Board introduced their orders into some parishes under local acts, while

others were exempted.

Mr. HUME suggested that those parishes not yet under Poor Law Board regulations should continue exempt, until a majority of the ratepayers desired to be placed under the Board.

Sir B. HALL and Mr. J. BELL gave certain explanations respecting the parish of Marylebone.

Mr. HENLEY should vote against the motion, seeing no reason why there should be any exemption in favour of parishes under local acts.

Mr. WAKLEY urged that the government, if opposed to the motion, should relinquish the bill altogether; and the action should extend until the end of the next session.

Mr. W. WILLIAMS spoke in favour of the motion.

Lord EMBURGH pressed the government to look into the state of the metropolitan workhouses.

After some remarks from the Marquis of Granby, Lord R. Grosvenor and Sir De Laoy Evans,

The house divided, when the motion for the instruction was negatived by 112 against 33.

The bill then passed through the committee, after some discussion.

Certain other bills were advanced a stage.

Mr. STAFFORD obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the Act 11 George IV. c. 20; and

Mr. G. A. HAMILTON a bill to alter and amend certain acts relating to the woods, forests, and land revenue of the Crown.

The house adjourned at twenty minutes to two o'clock.

TUESDAY, May 25.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—The Earl of DUBBY, in reply to the Marquis of Breadalbane, declined to lay before the House a statement of the communications received from military men as to the defences of the country.

Lord CRAWFORTH moved the second reading of the Commonwealth Enfranchisement Bill, and after entering into a detail of the absurdities and inconveniences of the existing system, concluded by stating that the object of the bill was enable lords to compel tenants, and tenants to compel lords to accept of certain modifications, which would not operate with hardship.

The LORD CHANCELLOR admitted the great inconvenience resulting from the existing system, but thought the bill

its present shape could not with safety be allowed to pass and therefore proposed that it be referred to a select committee.

CAMPBELL had hoped that the bill would have to come law during the session, but feared the speech of the Lord Chancellor was fatal to it.

After some further discussion, in which the Lord Chancellor assured the house that the government had no intention, when the proposed that the bill should be referred to a select committee of throwing it over for another session, the bill was read a second time, and ordered to be referred to a select committee.

Some other bills were also forwarded a stage, and the lordships adjourned.

**MANOOTH COLLEGE—ADJOURNED DEBATE.**  
**HOUSE OF COMMONS.**—The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned debate Mr. Spooner's motion for an inquiry into the system

Mr. Sergeant MURPHY who opposed Mr. Spooner's motion, not, he said, because he resisted inquiry into the discipline and mode of education pursued at the college, but because he believed that any such inquiry (the more stringent the better) would only redound to the credit of the college and show that it had answered its original purpose; i.e., because the motion had not originated in justice and good faith; because ample light had been already thrown upon the subject; and because he believed it had been suggested by a mean spirit of retaliation against the Roman Catholic claims of the United Kingdom in 'connexion with a recent transaction. He further opposed the motion for reasons

assigned in an attachment put upon the notice paper of Mr. H. Wendt, the simple vituperative powers, ordines and extenuations being left to the imagination of the reader by a Parliamentary Committee was supposed and would create distrust and foster a spirit of religious bitterness—reasons which furnished a sufficient answer to the motion. Mr. Murphy entered into an argument some length to demonstrate that the college had in no great measure from the object of its institution, to provide a home education for the priesthood in the tenets of Roman Catholicism, and that it had been carried out as an appropriate ultramontane doctrine. The *Irish Times* press is originally received having never varied. The *Irish Free Press*, he observed, that no inquiry was instituted or suggested, in 1845, when Sir R. Peel made the grant manifest, was conclusive in favour of his statement.



