The Northern Star,

AND LEEDS GENERAL ADVERTISER.

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TO THE GROWN UP MEN OF ENGLAND.

"Labour's battle once begun,
Bequeathed from bleeding sire to son,
Though baffled oft, is ever won."

MY FRIENDS.—Such was the motto under which I addressed you on the 6th of April upon the subject of a Ten Hours' Bill. I was not sanguine as to the result of Lord Ashley's proposition, notwithstanding the thrice affirmed vote of the House of Commons in its favour. Lastly, as you must have seen, that Lord Ashley's nerves had been shaken by the unconstitutional threat of resignation of the Tory Ministers by Sir James Graham. Indeed, I announced the fatal result of the Noble Lord's weakness in the following terms:—

"Let the personal friends and admirers of Lord Ashley, of which I am one, invent humane excuses for him as they may, I tell you he has abandoned a position which he might have retained by courage; and by its surrender, he has considerably weakened his party, and strengthened the hands of the enemy."

The fatal effect of Lord Ashley's weakness is now matter of history. And although considerably lessened in poignancy by the present flourishing state of trade, you may rely upon it that it will remain as the plague spot of those institutions, interests, and orders of which Sir Robert Peel would make the slavery and degradation of women and children the foundation and support.

I shall pass over the individual infirmity by which the measure was lost, for the purpose of canvassing the reasons assigned by its principal opponents for withholding their support; and the results which they insist must have followed its accomplishment. The principal opponents of the Ten Hours' Bill were the Free Trade party, backed by all the newspapers that advocate Free Trade principles, with the single and honourable exception of the *Sun* newspaper. These are facts which you must keep clearly in your view, because I have always endeavoured to keep the whole question of Free Trade before you, so that you may comprehend something more of it than the mysterious philanthrophy of the terms "high wages, cheap bread, and plenty to do do." The most cunning section, that is, the political section of free traders, have invariably attempted to enlist Chartist support for their principles, upon the assurance that Free Trade was but intended as the beginning, and that the Charter was the contemplated end. I have told you that my objections to the League were of a much more general character than the mere opposition to their pet measure. I have opposed the acquirement of power by that party upon the grounds that that power being vested in the hands of capitalists, would be used to their own advantage and to the complete subjugation of all the rights, the interests, and even the privileges, of the labouring classes. I have over and over again described to you the secular and spiritual influences by which such a party, if once in the ascendant, would be actuated and governed. They would have the power of the Executive, and of the *representative* bodies. They would have the enactment of laws, the control over those laws, and the enforcement of them. In fact, their heads would constitute the Government of the country; while from the tail juries would be selected, and from their adherents the very police would be appointed: and under such a rule it is my firm conviction that the qualification for a policeman should be, his acquiescence in Free Trade principles, and a pledge to insure submission to them by the bludgeon. Those have been my general reasons for opposing the Free Trade party. And let us now see whether or not I have been justified in my every suspicion.

The Free-Traders have been foremost in their opposition to the Ten Hours' Bill. They have subscribed hundreds of thousands of pounds to carry a Repeal of the Corn Laws. They have assured the world that the accomplishment of their object would have the effect of dispelling every national grievance, and would at once right the whole social system, and would reduce political inquietude to the mere angry vapouring of the unsettled and dissatisfied interested few. Under these circumstances we must naturally conclude that any sacrifice would be but trifling to insure the accomplishment of so great a national boon; and surely, its value would be greatly enhanced, if, through its instrumentality, the question of ten hours' labour for women and young persons was taken out of the complicated catalogue of political economy, and placed upon the side of safe, wise, and *expedient legislation!*

We should naturally conclude then that the parties who would rest the nation's hope upon a single measure would co-operate in insuring its accomplishment; while of the political section we may justly say "if your object in looking for Free Trade is to insure free representation, you should, pending the struggle, give your support to those measures which would be likely to result from that free representation. You charge us with being 'impracticables,' because we will not join in your progessive policy: while in turn I now charge them with resisting a measure which must result from the change which they profess to seek—"free representation". I shall now show you, from the lips of one of their leaders, that the Free Trade party would not accept their own darling measure—the hope of the nation—the talisman of prosperity—if encumbered with one single violation of the sacred principles of political economy. Here I shall reprint that portion of a speech of Cobden's which appeared in the *Star* of last week:—

I have watched very attentively the proceedings in Parliament on Lord Ashley's motion on the Short-time Bill, and I have heard it admitted by the leading men on both sides of the House that the Corn Laws and the other monopolies are the cause of the long hours of working in this district—(applause). I was walking down Parliament-street one day, just when Lord Ashley had brought forward his first motion, and I was mentioning to a gentleman the subject of the Ten Hours' Bill. He was a shrewd man of a few words; and he shook his head, and said, "It will be quite impossible for the working classes to support the aristocracy with ten hours' work a day." (Peals of laughter and cheering.) But I did not expect to hear such specific admissions from the leading men on both sides of the House, as I did on the subject. After Lord Ashley had got a majority to vote for his motion, Sir J. Graham speaking against it, with a view to get the House to reverse that decision, tried every kind of argument; and at last, at the conclusion of his speech, he turned round very significantly indeed, with a look which he knows so well how to put on, to the squires behind him, and he said: "Let Hon. Gentlemen beware what they do. This restrictive system of ours is an artificial system—(hear)—it is like a house of cards; if you touch one the rest will fall"—(hear, hear). I was sitting behind a rabid protectionist, a member for a rural district; I touched him on the shoulder, and said, "Do you understand that?" "Yes," he said—(laughter). Now, interpreted in plain common sense and English, what does Sir J. Graham's admission amount to? Why this: if you pass a Ten Hours' Bill the Corn Laws, the Sugar Laws, and the Coffee Laws cannot be maintained—(hear). Why? He did not see, while making this appeal to the squires behind him, or he seemed to forget—that there was a Leaguer present, and that we should interpret his argument, and carry it out in the Free Trade Hall. What does it amount to—this admission by the Home Secretary? Why, that the working classes here are working two hours a day to maintain the monopolists.

Of course every one who knows Cobden will be assured that he never met the man in Parliament-street at all; nor was the rabid protectionist behind him, other than a mere phantom of his imagination; therefore, I leave the Parliament-street man and the rabid protectionist wholly out of the question, and argue it upon the merits of what really fell from Sir James Graham, to the certainty of the Ten Hours' Bill being followed by a repeal of the Corn Laws.

Cobden would fain, as he promised, interpret the argument of Sir James Graham to suit the morbid palates and thick skulls of those who frequent the Free-Trade Hall, at Manchester. So the inference that he draws from the important look of the Home Secretary is "THAT THE WORKING CLASSES HERE ARE WORKING TWO HOURS A-DAY TO MAINTAIN THE MONOPOLISTS." Now, such is Cobden's interpretation of the look, the admission, and the caution of the Home Secretary. Cobden heard and saw it. His own view was confirmed by the rabid protectionist and by the Parliament-street man; and, therefore, we must conclude that if the whole House beside were ignorant of the fact, Cobden was aware that virtually, nay actually, the debate was upon the Corn Laws: as the repeal, according to Sir James Graham, must have followed the success of Lord Ashley's motion. Hence we arrive at the conclusion, the rational conclusion, the only conclusion, not that "the working classes here are working two hours a-day to maintain the monopolists," but that Cobden and the Free Traders would not accept of a repeal of the Corn Laws at so high a price as the *remission of two hours'* labour of women and young persons.

Let the Free Traders and their servile unprincipled prostitute prints who now support them, say what they please, they never can, they never shall, get out of that fix, in which their over-cunning indiscreet leader has placed them. Let it now be understood by the operative slaves that "THEIR NATURAL LEADERS," the Free Traders, would not accept a repeal of the Corn Laws at so great an expense as the loss of two hour's labour of women and young persons. And let any simple-minded Chartist, who has ever been foolish enough to place reliance upon the Free Trade party, now understand, that if that party was in power to-morrow, with them long hours of labour would be the question of questions; and if in point of financial policy they should be niggardly and retrenching, it would be merely for the purpose of enabling them, as the chief plunderers, to extract more from the working classes in exhausted labour and reduced wages. For instance: it might be that the new Smokocracy of this country, if in power, would sponge the National Debt; but if they did do so, they would share the plunder amongst themselves. They might, and probably would, transfer a large portion of the Church revenues to the hungry dissenters, and remit the remainder; but not one penny's-worth of advantage would the working classes gain from the transfer! They might reduce salaries and fixed incomes, in order to increase their own plunder store, acting upon a different principle from that which now influences political landed proprietors. The landed proprietors sacrifice a portion of their landed incomes to insure a ten times larger amount of income from their political influence. The steam-lords, if in their situation, would require to make no such sacrifice to uphold their political power; while all the savings that would emanate from their retrenching policy would be divided amongst their own order.

However, we now have the fact, the "GREAT FACT" that the Free Traders would not accept of a repeal of the Corn Laws in conjunction with a Ten Hours' Bill, and therefore it now becomes the bounden duty of every honest man, of every humane man, and of every good man, to range himself upon the side of justice and humanity, in order that the *national force may be prepared for the next great* struggle. The principle of restriction having been negatived in the House of Commons, our duty now is to use all the available force at our disposal so as to render the competition and consequently long hour system as innoxious as possible. If the Ten Hours' Bill had passed, and supposing the present machinery to remain settled, the demand to remain steady, and the speed not to be increased, as in fact it could not be increased beyond its present rate, as it has been used heretofore, as a whip to try the speed of the team; and suppose at twelve hours' labour per day one-sixth of the working population had remained a competitive reserved force for the masters to fall back upon, as a means of reducing wages, the limitation of work to ten hours a day, would have given employment to that idle reserve, and all being employed, they would have very speedily and very summarily settled question of wages.

A Strike then, as recommended by Mr. Muntz and others, would have been a general act in which all would feel interested. There would then be no "knobsticks" or "blacklegs" to fall back upon, and to whom a Strike of those at work is generally a Godsend, as it is the unnatural means by which they now and then come in for a scramble in the *labour market. The Ten Hours' Bill, however,* having failed as a means to take of this reserve, our next consideration should be, how we can relieve the over-toiled from that competition arising from the necessities and poverty of the unemployed. I know but of one means, and that by a constitutional assault upon the damnable law, the relief under which is so degrading as to compel men to work for any wages rather than be subjected to its provisions! If a strike—as recommended by some very loyal persons should be resorted to as the means of doing actually what the House of Commons has done virtually, the first and the wise step should be to put the poor man's house in order. Had it not been for the Poor Law Amendment Act, a Ten Hours' Bill would have been cheerfully conceded; and had the proper use been made of that measure in the debate upon the Ten Hours' Bill the country gentlemen could have been very easily persuaded that long hours of labour must lead to a large force of unwilling idlers, and that those steam-made paupers must, to a considerable extent, be supported by those who have no interest whatever in their labour.

Independently of ensuring twenty Chartist members in the next House of Commons the whole Labour-force must be directed, where no chance of *returning a Chartist member exists, to the return of* those candidates who will pledge themselves,—not to the modification of the damnable Bill; not the question as to who is the father, the man or the woman; but to its total repeal—and to the limitation of the labour of women and young persons to Ten Hours a day; unless by that time the improvements of machinery, a war with America, or other circumstances may render an Eight Hours' Bill expedient. The rational economist must be prepared to teach the Malthusian economist a proper lesson when school next opens. I wonder whether or no the working classes have ever bestowed a thought upon the whimsicality of a set of gorged senators, propounding those safe principles of political economy which should govern legislators in the making of laws for naked backs and hungry bellies! I very much suspect, that after all the morality, sanctity, expediency, and political economy called to the aid of the long hour system, "THAT THE LORD LOVE YE, WE ARE ALL FOR OURSELVES IN THIS WORLD," was the moving power by which the measure was lost, slavery perpetuated, and a servile ministry preserved. Howbeit, my friends, their days are numbered, and their dissolution is at hand. And it is only upon their appeal for a renewal of their tenure that we can hope for their "new birth unto righteousness." Sir Robert Peel has made a grand use of the machinery placed at his disposal by the last general election. He has made good *tools of great fools to work their own destruction.* He has by his Tariff and his Banking scheme put a roof so solid upon the paper house of Pitt and his predecessors that must bring it to the ground, and in its fall crush the Landlords, and the whole of that artificial system by which an unnatural state of things has been long perpetrated. I proclaimed Peel's tariff to be the greatest, the wisest, the most statesmanlike and comprehensive measure ever propounded by statesmen living or dead: and I now proclaim the Banking scheme to be a suiting roof for that great superstructure. Happy for him that the passing gleam of prosperity has dimmed the vision of those who, when that gleam has passed away, will awake to the sad reality that they have been bitten by their own watch-dog—sacrificed by their own saviour—destroyed by their chosen protector.

Our duty now is, to be prepared for the next crash and for the next contest. The crash will come as soon as the speculators have drugged the markets of the world with cheap English slave produce—the contest will come when the country gentlemen fail to be able to discount their bit of local respectability at the counter of the National Bank—and the struggle will come when the whole industry of Britain fails to satisfy the rapacious demand of those whose political economy teaches them, that the willing idler should be the first partaker of other men's labour. Peel will fail in his attempt to *establish reality upon a fiction; and his downfall will* be occasioned by the exasperation of the sufferers, who to preserve him and his cabinet, have been made the instruments of their own ruin.

Our success at the next election will very much depend upon the operation and development of Peel's measures at that time. Let us then be prepared; and I have the pleasure to inform you that in the Metropolitan Districts alone, the names of several thousand Chartist claimants have been added to the Registration List.

In conclusion, my friends, bear in mind, that Cobden came to the knowledge of Sir James Graham's declaration on the 13th of March, upon the first division on Lord Ashley's motion; and that he had from that time to its disastrous rejection, to have marshalled his Free Trade forces, and that he might have insured a repeal of the Corn Laws had his party voted for the Ten Hours' Bill; but that they prefer THAT THE WORKING CLASSES HERE, SHOULD WORK TWO HOURS A-DAY TO MAINTAIN **THEIR** MONOPOLY, to purchasing their own darling measure by such a sacrifice of the principles of political economy, as a relaxation of the toil of your wives and infant children.

Now, then, you have the real undisguised, and henceforth undisguisable picture of the Free Traders before you.

Your faithful friend,
FEARGUS O'CONNOR.

P.S. Register! Register!! Register!!! Fill the workhouses, and don't be ashamed to fall back upon the poor resource that the pinch-gut political economists have left you. Assault the damnable Bill by all the constitutional means in your power. Swear that you are so loyal, that you will carry out the thrice affirmed vote of the House of Commons; but above all, instruct your wives, your children, your friends, your relatives, and your neighbours, in the justice of those sacred principles contained in the *People's Charter*, through which, and through which alone, you can hope for peace, for happiness, and for PERMANENT prosperity. Let the forthcoming holidays be devoted to increased exertion on behalf of yourselves, your order, and your principles.

F. O'C.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO THE CHARTIST BODY.

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN,—Having spent the last six years in unceasing efforts to enlighten the public mind on the principles of self-government, as contained in the People's Charter, and the value of their application to British Society, and having succeeded in enlisting the sympathies of the unrepresented class in favour of these principles, it now behoves us, the chosen officers of your Association, to point out to you what appears to us to be the most efficient means of causing them to be made the law of this Empire.

A knowledge of the results of the Revolutions which have *from time to time burst forth in different* nations, ancient and modern, has taught us the absolute necessity of creating a *mind* among the people, as the surest foundation of any beneficial change. Our exertions, therefore, up to the present time, have been almost exclusively directed to the elucidation of those great principles which should form the basis of equitable government. But now that they are so extensively understood and so highly appreciated, we feel it our imperative duty to recommend and commence practical operations, to ensure the triumph of our cause within the walls of the House of Commons.

To that end we emphatically urge, firstly that the General Council in every city, and borough in the kingdom, will at once set to work and ascertain the exact state of the Parliamentary Register; how many Whig, Tory, and Chartist electors there are in their respective localities, and transmit the result of their enquiry to the General Secretary, that we may learn where the enemy is weakest, and where we have the best chance of returning Chartist candidates, at the next General Election. Once in possession of this highly important information, we should be able to go to work in earnest. We would then select from the list of boroughs the most favourable for the furtherance of our object, and bring to bear upon them all the influence and weight of the democratic public throughout the entire kingdom. With the cordial assistance of the Chartist body, we confidently aver that at the next General Election we should be able to return to that sink of corruption, the House of Commons, at least twenty devoted advocates of the Peoples' Charter, enjoying the confidence, and cheered on by millions of their countrymen. Such a phalanx *as this standing on the floor of the house*, battling for labour's rights, and bearding the monster faction in its den, would shake the rotten system of tyranny and corruption to its very centre. Such a combination of intellect and patriotism would make the most powerful and ferocious government yield to the righteous demands of a suffering but brave and determined people.

For the creation of such a power, let us at once to the work! let every shoulder be put to the wheel!

Brothers,—We have now arrived at a stage of our movement when candour best becomes us. For us to do any good you must provide us with the means. Without funds we are like a general without an army, or a chancellor with an empty exchequer. At present we have much cause to complain. With a few honourable exceptions, the localities do not act up to that part of the Plan of Organization, which provides that one-fourth of the weekly contributions are to be sent monthly to the Executive Committee; did they do so we should be enabled to employ all those patriotic and talented missionaries who have distinguished themselves by their able and faithful advocacy of our cause. At present we have not the means of employing one! notwithstanding that there never was a finer scope, or greater necessity for their exertions. We therefore call upon the Chartists in every town, village, and hamlet, to commence immediately and raise a missionary fund. Let there be no time lost. No excuses, but every man try and do his share of the good work. Few men are so poor but they could give something to the glorious cause. If we are to have twenty Chartist Members of Parliament at the next general election, we must have plenty of agitation, especially in those places where we shall make the attempt to return our own men. The General Council, in each locality, are most respectfully, but urgently, requested to take the matter up with becoming spirit. We would recommend them to issue subscription books, and not confine themselves to members of the Association alone, but visit every man at all favourable to our cause, whatever may be his position in society.

If this be done, and we have entire confidence in the exertions of the Council, we are sanguine for the result. Recollect the purpose! To carry the Charter! To return to Parliament men who will represent human rights, and not clay and stone! To make your homes the comfortable dwellings of freemen, instead of the nauseous and suffocating hovels of slaves.

Working men! you have placed us in a proud and an onerous position. The duties imposed upon us will be most cheerfully performed; you will ever find us at our post. But recollect that you must do your share of the work. Without your support we are powerless. There are various ways in which you can aid us. Two of these ways we have already pointed out in this address, viz., attending to the Parliamentary and Municipal Registry, and raising a Missionary Fund. Next week we shall call your attention to the necessity for acquiring the power of Local Government, and the means of getting possession of such power.

We have, in conclusion, to request that each sub-Secretary will read this address to the members of the Association at their earliest meeting, and also enfore upon them the great advantage to our cause from the adoption of the recommendations contained therein.

We remain, fellow Democrats,
Your faithful Servants,
C. DOYLE,
T. CLARK,
P. M'GRATH,
F. O'CONNOR, Treasurer,
T. M. WHEELER, Sec.

May 21, 1844.

N.B. Having received several communications containing powerful arguments against the charge of one shilling for the balance sheet, we have remitted them to the localities free of expence. Places having sent cash for the Balance Sheet will oblige by stating to what purpose it shall be applied.

SOUTH-SHIELDS.—Mr. Dickinson, the Manchester Packer, lectured here on Sunday, May 19th, and gave general satisfaction.

DUNCOMBE TESTIMONIAL.

TREASURER,
RICHARD NORMAN, ESQ., No. 2, New Broad-street.

SUB COMMITTEE,

Mr. PAPWORTH, Paper Stainer. Mr. WILLIAMS, Silk Hatter.
Mr. HICKS, Printer. Mr. MOORHOUSE, Skein Silk Dyer.
Mr. SEWELL, Upholsterer. Mr. WHEELER, Wool Comber.
Mr. PARKER, Tailor. Mr. M'GRATH, Tailor.

HONORARY SECRETARY.
JAMES HUTTON, ESQ., No. 10, Tokenhouse Yard.

BANKERS,
Messrs. PRESCOTT, GROTE, AMES & CO., No. 62, Threadneedle-street.

THE Trades of London having resolved upon raising a sufficient Fund to purchase an Estate for THOMAS SLINGSBY DUNCOMBE, ESQ., M.P., as an imperishable testimonial of their thanks and gratitude to that Honourable Gentleman for his uniform support of their order, do hereby invite the working classes in their several localities throughout the United Kingdom to form "DUNCOMBE TESTIMONIAL COMMITTEES," and to arrange all the necessary machinery for carrying out the contemplated national object with vigour and energy; and when the machinery in each locality is completed, the Central Committee of the London Trades will communicate with the several Committees as to the mode by which they propose to give effect to this national project.

JAMES SYME, } Secretaries.
JOHN KELSEY, }

The Central Committee meet every Wednesday Evening at Eight o'Clock, at the Prince and Princess Gravel Lane, Southwark, London, where Collecting Books, &c., may be obtained. All Communications with reference to the Duncombe Testimonial to be addressed, post-paid, to the General Secretary, James Syme, 1, Bishop's Terrace, Walcot Square, Lambeth, London.

The Central Committee, consists of from sixty to eighty of the different Trades of London; the insertion of all the names would occupy too much space.

DUNCOMBE TESTIMONIAL.

It will be seen by the above Advertisement, that the gallant Trades of London are now fairly embarked *in their noble and generous undertaking*; and we trust that their appeal will be promptly *responded to* by the Trades and working classes throughout the Empire. It will be seen that the Central Committee are prepared to furnish applicants with books, and all information necessary for carrying out the great National Project. We learn that there is not a single trade in London indifferent to this call upon their spirit and generosity; and that the only contest existing among them is as to which branch shall best exert itself in making the project complete and successful. We trust that the Trades in the several provincial towns will forthwith put their machinery in order, for the purpose of co-operating heartily and efficiently with their London brethren. This Trades' Testimonial, if successful, as we anticipate it will be, will be the proudest offering ever presented to living man: equally honourable to the recipient and to the donors; to the recipient, because he justly merits it; and to the donors, because they cheerfully contribute it for honourable services.

DUNCOMBE TESTIMONIAL.

GREAT MEETING OF THE METROPOLITAN TRADES.

ON MONDAY week, the 3rd of June, the Trades will hold a grand meeting at Saville-house, No. 6, Leicester-square, in aid of the above object. The Central Committee having resolved upon convening similar meetings in the several metropolitan districts, have by their selecting Leicester square, afforded an opportunity to the Trades and the public of Finsbury, Marylebone, and Westminster, of expressing their sentiments on the above object.

JOHN TEMPLE LEADER, ESQ. IN THE CHAIR.

THE FOLLOWING GENTLEMEN WILL ATTEND:—

SIR WILDIAM MOLESWORTH, Baronet, JOSHUA SCHOLEFIELD, Esq., M.P.
CHARLES HINDLEY, Esq, M.P., ROBERT WALLACE, Esq., M.P.,
RICHARD NORMAN, Esq., Treasurer. JAMES HUTTON, Honorary Secretary,
FEARGUS O'CONNOR, Esq,

Together with several other supporters of the national object. The chair to be taken at eight o'clock precisely.

Admission to the body of the Hall One Penny; Platform, One Shilling; Reserve Seats, Sixpence.

Entrance to the body of the Hall, in Lisle-street, Leicester-square; Entrance to the Platform and Reserved Seats in Leicester-square.

Chartist Intelligence.

CHARTISTS

REGISTER! REGISTER!! REGISTER!!!

REVISING BARRISTERS' DECISIONS.

A return of the appeals from the Courts of the Revising Barristers to the Court of Common Pleas, pursuant to the Act 6th and 7th Victoria, cap. 18 (the new English Registration Act), shows that the total number of appeals, including both counties and boroughs, has amounted to thirteen, on the hearing of which the judgment of the Court was pronounced in favour of the appellants in only three cases, and for the respondents in ten.

No order respecting the payment of the costs of any of these appeals has been made by the Court of Common Pleas, it not having appeared that any of the cases were frivolous or vexatious.

The following points relating to cities and boroughs are amongst those decided:—

1—"That any number of rooms in a building, such rooms being each of £10 annual value, and let separately to different occupiers, is sufficient to confer a qualification.

2—"That the name of such occupiers, being inserted in the rate-book jointly with that of the landlord, is sufficient rating, and the payment of the rates by the landlord is sufficient payment on the part of such occupiers.

3—"A servant occupying a house not used for the purpose of his employer's business, but occupied by him for his own use, the rent being paid by him in his services, is held to be tenant, and entitled in respect of such occupation.

4—"The payment of rates by the landlord, in consideration of services performed by the occupier, who is rated, is held to be a sufficient payment by the occupier himself.

5—"A cowhouse or stable, of sufficient value, will give a qualification.

6—"Property situated in a borough, and of a description that will not give a qualification for the borough, will, if it be such as is required for county voters, confer on the owner the right of voting for the county.

7—"In cases of successive occupation of different premises, the voter must have all such premises as are required to make up the twelve months' occupation inserted in the list of voters.

8—"Delivering to the postmaster's managing clerk the duplicates and objections, for the purpose of posting, stamping, and comparing, is a delivery, for the purposes of the Registration Act, to the postmaster.

9—"Where a servant rents a house belonging to the master, but which he is permitted to occupy only for the more efficient discharge of the duties of his situation, there is no relation of landlord and tenant, and he will be disqualified from voting in the borough in which such house is situated."

In addition to the committees announced in the *Star*, a Registration Committee sits every Wednesday and Friday, at the Golden Lion, Dean-street, Soho; and one for the Tower Hamlets, at the Standard of Liberty, Brick-lane, Spitalfields. Every information afforded on application to EDMUND STALLWOOD,
General Registration Secretary.

Executive Office, 243½, Strand, London.

FEARGUS O'CONNOR, ESQ. AT THE CITY CHARTIST HALL.

On Monday evening last, Mr. O'Connor attended to deliver a lecture for the benefit of the Hall, the meeting was numerous and enthusiastic. Mr. Christopher Doyle was unanimously called to the chair, and briefly opened the proceedings. Mr. O'CONNOR, on rising, was greeted with tremendous cheering, and proceeded to deliver a lecture on "The Past, the Present, and the Future." After a few preliminary observations he said he thought Sir R. Peel's tariff should be regarded as a Chartist measure number one. But Sir J. Graham thought it too good without alloy, and had come down in the person of his laquey, Mr. Gally Knight, to the House, with the atrocious Master and Servants' Bill; and he mentioned this to illustrate the effect of Chartist strength on the House. But with barely a fortnight's notice the steam was got up, and by the pressure from without ninety-nine members were induced to do their duty and strangle the hideous abortion—(loud cheers). When scenes of distress, destitution, and poverty was proved to exist, each party in the House, landlord, fundlord, and cotton-lord bandied it about from one to the other, each declaring that they did not cause it—it was no child of theirs—(hear, hear). The throwing out the Master and Servants' Bill had shown what the trades could do when they threw off their apathy and put their shoulders to the wheel. They cordially thanked Mr. Duncombe for his great and meretorious services, and were about to present him with a testimonial of labour's gratitude. From the letters he received from all parts of the country on the subject, he was sure their testimonial would be a bumper—(great cheering) Cobden says if you pass a Ten Hours' Factory Bill, you must repeal the Corn Laws; now what does this show? Why, that they are not yet prepared to vote for their own darling measure—"Free Trade,"—if the people are to partake in its benefits—(loud cheers). One section of Repealers said Repeal the Corn Laws and we will aid you to get the Charter; but could we trust them when they refused so small a measure as ten hours' labour to women and children?—(cheers). The aspect of the Free Traders appeared to be to reduce the labourers' pittance to its minimum, while they raised profits to the maximum—(cheers. A voice in the meeting cried "No, no, I want Free Trade, and the Tories thrown out, and another Ministry brought in"). Yes, said Mr. O'Connor, you want the Tories thrown out and the Whigs brought in, and that the millowners may exact twelve hours' labour from helpless women and little children—(loud cheers). My friend in the meeting appears to have imbibed false notions without having had the opportunity of discussing or hearing both sides of the question; but he has now the opportunity, if he thinks fit to embrace it, of discussing the point at the conclusion of the lecture—(cheers). The Chartists were the only free traders in existence; but they first demanded political power. Let every man have the vote—let us have the Charter to-day, and then free trade will be yours on the morrow—(loud cheers). He thought there was sufficient of the manly British feeling in the breast of his friend to refuse free trade unless he first had the vote to direct it—(cheers). Look at the inhuman conduct of the Free Traders on the Poor Law Bill and the Factory Bill. Could anything be plainer than their intention to reduce the workman to the lowest possible state? Then how do they act as Justices?—Is it not against the man and in favour of the tyrant—(cheers)? Did they require just and humane laws? No; they never sought them, never supported them—(hear, hear). He had met their crack man, their great luminary, and he fallen him like an extinguisher—(laughter)—he proposed to a meeting of his own calling his Free Trade resolution—I proposed my Chartist amendment, and carried it by a tremendous majority—(great cheering). I accepted Cobden's challenge, and gave him the choice of ground in Lancashire, Nottinghamshire, Yorkshire, or Middlesex; the braggart ran from his challenge, and declined the meeting of his own proposal. He is now called on by a vote of his constituents in his own borough of Stockport to meet me there to discuss the question—(hear, hear). What was the object of a Government? was it merely to issue orders to the police, to the army; or to collect taxes to support state paupers and royal bastards?—(hear, hear)—if so, they had done their duty. He contended that the duty of Government was to cause an equitable distribution of the wealth produced: but alas we had immense wealth on the one hand and wretched squalid misery and destitution on the other—(hear, and cheers). Lord Westminster complained to his coachman that he was the worst used man in existence. "John," says he, "I have to pay £12,000 a year for taxes. What do you think of that?" "Why, my Lord, that is a large sum; but if your Lordship pleases I will change places with you"—(roars of laughter). Sir Nicholas Tindall's decision in the Court of Common Pleas had given them an excellent opportunity of pushing their principles; and he hoped, expected, and demanded that all Chartists would avail themselves of it, and immediately claim to have their names inserted on the rate-book, with a view of being placed on the electoral register—(loud cheers). Mr. Sharman Crawford brought forward the other day a sort of bastard Charter, embracing three principles only. It was seconded by Dr. Bowring. The Minister would not even deign a reply, but refused permission to the Bill's introduction without a discussion. But if they would but now do their duty, and let every compound householder—every man who paid 4s. a-week for a room, a shop, or cellar—immediately send in his claim, and then we would send twenty Duncombes, and compel them to entertain, discuss, and adopt the Charter—(loud cheers). He thought three nights' debate on the Charter would be much more profitably spent than on a question of privilege—(hear, hear). Let no man think that it is positively necessary to have a majority in that House to carry the Charter; twenty Duncombes would effect the object. Mr. O'Connor again impressed on them the importance of attending to the registration—made a strong appeal on behalf of the Duncombe testimonial, and resumed his seat amid tremendous cheering.

The Chairman then called on the gentleman, or any one who differed with Mr. O'Connor, to come forward and express their opinion.

Mr. Hannan then came forward, and said he had heard several arguments put forward which he thought he could confute. Mr. O'Connor had said that he would prefer the landlord to the manufacturer. (Yes, from Mr. O'Connor.) Well, I am an Irishman; you have all heard of the O'Driscoll's, and other Irish landlords. Are not the Irish people glad to get over and live in the cellars of the Manchester manufacturers? Mr. O'Connor thought I was not a Chartist; I am an admirer of all its principles; but I do not like the means taken for its obtainment. Why did not the Chartists follow the example of the poor Irish, and *pay their shillings?* (Loud laughter.) It is my firm conviction you cannot obtain the Charter until you first obtain a repeal of the Corn Laws. Repeal them, and you compel the former to press on the landlord, and thus bring them to your aid. A repeal of the Corn Laws would have a better effect on the landlords of Ireland than on those of England. He admired Mr. O'Connor, but did not like his policy. He had mustered courage to night to tell him so; he hoped respectfully. He thought their course should be progressive.

Mr. O'CONNOR rose and said, my friend has misunderstood me. I said if driven to a choice I would chose the landlord in preference to the mill-lord simply and solely because he has not the power to use his oppression so forcibly and frequently as the mill-lord—(cheers). I now declare that, as an Irishman, I would much prefer being an agricultural labourer in that country to being a factory hand in this—(cheers). My friend has said there was more intelligence in towns than in the agricultural districts. That was the reason, doubtless, why Cobden appealed to the latter for his verdicts—(loud laughter and applause). As respect the shilling, he (Mr. O'Connor) would say God forbid that the question should turn on a golden pivot—God forbid that he should ever see the day when a set of hungry fellows should keep up grievances in order that they might live on the pence of the people—(loud cheers). He would cite high authority for what he would now state. Mr. O'Connell had said give me three millions of signatures, backed by the shillings, and I will give you Repeal. Mr. O'Connell had the signatures and the shillings, but they had not yet got Repeal—(hear, hear). He thought Repeal and the Charter would be much better for Ireland than Free Trade—(great cheering). Mr. O'C. sat down greatly applauded.

Mr. F. Goodfellow rose to move a vote of thanks to Mr. O'Connor, which was seconded by Mr. Sumner, and carried unanimously.

Mr. O'Connor responded, and moved a vote of thanks to Mr. C. Doyle, their chairman, passing an high eulogium on his character as a Chartist.

Mr. T. Clark seconded the motion, and at the same time said a few words in reply to Mr. Hannan, and very ably showed up the tyrannical conduct of the mill owning Free Traders, who had discharged many hands, among others himself and their Chairman, for no other reason than that they dared avow their Chartism—(hear, hear). He believed that landlords were bad enough; but that steamlords were worse—(cheers).

The motion was carried by acclamation.

Mr. Doyle responded.

Several members were enrolled, and the meeting dispersed.

Forthcoming Chartist Meetings.

LONDON.—MARYLEBONE.—EMMETT BRIGADE. Mr. Ruffey Ridley will lecture at the Bricklayers Arms, Homer Street, New Road, on Sunday evening next, May 26, at half-past seven.

CITY CHARTIST HALL, TURNAGAIN LANE.—Mr. James Mee will lecture in the above hall on Sunday evening next, May 26, at half-past seven.

THE METROPOLITAN DELEGATE COUNCIL will meet at three o'clock precisely in the above hall, for the transaction of business.

CITY OF LONDON.—A Grand Plain and Fancy Dress Ball will be held at the Hall, Turnagain Lane, on Whit Tuesday, May 28.

SPITALFIELDS.—The general councillors of the Standard of Liberty locality, Brick Lane, Spitalfields are requested to meet on Sunday evening, at half-past seven o'clock.

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held at the Standard of Liberty, Brick Lane, Spitalfields, on Sunday evening, at eight o'clock.

THE MILE END LOCALITY will meet on Sunday evening next, May 26th, at two o'clock, at the Rainbow Coffee House, Whitechapel Road.

A GENERAL MEETING of the United Boot and Shoe Makers, will be held on Sunday evening, May 26, at the Cannon Coffee House, Old St. Lukes.

ISLINGTON.—Mr. Alfred Hunnibell will deliver a public lecture at the Flora Tea Gardens, Barnsbu Park, on Sunday evening next, May 26, at half-past seven.

TEMPERANCE BRIGADE, SAFFRON HILL.—Mr. James Mee will lecture at the Provident Coffee House, Saffron Hill, on Tuesday evening next, May 28, at eight o'clock precisely.

A MEETING of the directors of the City Hall, Turnagain Lane and Skinner Street, will be held on Sunday evening next, May 26, at six o'clock precisely.

SOMERS TOWN.—Mr. T. Clark will deliver a public lecture at the Bricklayers Arms, Tonbridge street, Cromer street, on Sunday evening next, May 26, at half-past seven precisely.

LAMBETH AND SOUTHWARK.—Mr. M'Grath will deliver a public lecture at the South London Chartist Hall, Blackfriars Road, on Sunday evening next, May 26, at half-past seven precisely.

WESTMINSTER.—Mr. Davoc will deliver a public lecture at the Golden Lion, Dean street, Soho, on Sunday evening next, May 26, at half-past seven precisely.

HAMMERSMITH.—A meeting will be held on Tuesday evening next, May 28, at eight precisely.

MILE END.—A General Meeting will be holden at the Weaver's Arms, Pelham-street, on Sunday evening next, at seven o'clock, to hear the Repor the Registration Committee.

LITTLE SAFFRON HILL.—Mr. J. Mee will deliver a lecture on Tuesday evening, at eight o'clock, at the Provident Coffee House, Little Saffron Hill; after which an Harmonic Meeting will be holden.

AN HARMONIC MEETING will be holden at the "Feathers," Warren-street, Tottenham Court Road, on Monday next, at eight o'clock. The proceeds to be given to the Manchester Shoemakers now on strike.

A MEETING will be held at Mr. George's, the Dun Cow, Brook Green-lane, Hammersmith, on Tuesday evening next, at eight o'clock precisely. Friends of Duncombe, attend.

BOLTON.—Lectures will be delivered in the Chartist Room, Newport-street, on Sunday, at two o'clock in the afternoon, and at six in the evening. At the close of the evening lecture a special meeting of the members will take place.

A TEA PARTY will take place on Sunday the 1st of June, in the Association Room.

A DELEGATE Meeting of the Bolton District will take place on Sunday the 2nd of June, in the Association Room, at ten o'clock in the morning.

SUNDERLAND.—Mr. Dickinson will lecture on Sunday morning, at half-past ten.—On Sunday evening the Members of the Chartist Association will meet in their room Burleigh-street, at seven o'clock.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—Mr. Dicknison will lecture on Sunday next, at half-past two o'clock, on the Bents.

NEWCASTLE.—Mr. Dickinson will lecture in Sait Nicholas's-square, at half-past six o'clock—Subject: "The Witch of Endor." After which he will give a lecture in the Three Tuns Long Room, commencing at half-past seven o'clock the same evening. On Monday evening Mr. Dickinson will resume his lectures on "Nervous Sensibility," in the Three Tuns Long Room, at half-past seven o'clock.

STOCKPORT.—On Sunday evening, at six o'clock, a Camp Meeting will be holden on the vacant ground near the Railway Arches, Heaton Norris. If the weather be not favourable the meeting will take place in the room on Bomber's Brow, at the same hour.

BIRMINGHAM.—Mr. George White will address a meeting at Duddeston-row, on Sunday morning next, and attend a meeting in

White Crows.—We were shown to-day, at a house in the Kirkgate, a brace of crows, nearly as white as the undriven snow. They are this year's birds, and were taken out of the same nest, in company with a brother or sister of the ordinary colour. When anxious for food, they caw their vernacular in splendid style, run about the floor, and are as well-grown, as birds can well be, of the same age. Their rations consist of potatoes, loaf bread steeped, and occasionally worms. The owner is a youthful horticulturist, who hopes in time to render them so tame, that they will follow him when at work in his father's nurseries and gardens.—*Dumfries Courier.*

INSOLVENT DEBTORS to be heard at the Court House, at Wakefield, in the County of York, on the 12th Day of June, 1844, at Ten o'clock in the morning.

GRACE APPLEBY, widow, and sole executrix of the last will and testament of Stephen Appleby, late of No. 30, Church-street, and No. 1, St Mary's Lane, Quarry Hill, Leeds, Yorkshire, pawnbroker, deceased, formerly of the said No. 30, Church-street, and No. 1, St. Mary's Lane, pawnbroker, and late of No. 124, Wellington-street, Leeds aforesaid, in lodgings, out of business.

CHARLES BURRELL, formerly of Fleet-street, Briggate, then of St. John's-square, afterwards of High-street, and at the same time occupying a shop No. 13, Fleet-street, all in Leeds, Yorkshire, butcher, and late of No. 66, Bridge-street, and carrying on business at No. 13, Fleet-street aforesaid, butcher.

WILLIAM BAYLDON, late of Monkbretton, near Barnsley, Yorkshire, out of business, in lodgings, previously of Folly Hall, Old Mill-lane, Barnsley aforesaid, linen manufacturer, carrying on business in George Yard, Barnsley aforesaid, formerly on his own account, then in partnership with George Bayldon, under the firm of William and George Bayldon, and afterwards on his own account.

HENRY HARDISTY, formerly of High-street, Harrogate, Yorkshire, grocer and confectioner, and during part of the time carrying on the same business in School Close, Leeds, Yorkshire, then of Williamson's Buildings, York-road, Leeds aforesaid, gardener and confectioner, afterwards of Camp Road, Little London, and subsequently of Burley, both near Leeds aforesaid, gardener, then a prisoner for debt in the Gaol of Rothwell, near Leeds aforesaid, and late of Burley aforesaid, gardener.

WILLIAM HEMINGWAY sued as William Hemmingway with John Hemmingway, late of Carr-lane, in North Bierley, near Bradford, Yorkshire, formerly a grocer and flour dealer, afterwards a grocer and flour dealer and beerseller, then a beerseller only, and lately in lodgings, out of business.

WILLIAM PORTER, late of North Wing Wapping, Bradford, Yorkshire, formerly a beerseller, and afterwards a beerseller and worsted top maker, then a beerseller and woolcomber, and late a woolcomber.

GEORGE WILSON, formerly of No. 2, Newsams-yard, and afterwards of No. 6, Parkinson's-yard, both in Briggate, Leeds, Yorkshire, waiter at an Inn, then of the South Market, Hunslet-lane, Leeds aforesaid, waiter at an inn, and eating-house keeper, afterwards of No. 30, Lilac Terrace, and late of No. 26, Imperial-street, both in the Leylands, Leeds aforesaid, cashier and waiter at an inn.

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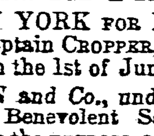

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Malton, Jan. 30, 1843.

Gentlemen,—Though it is but a very short time since I last wrote for a supply of Parr's Life Pills, I find that owing to an astonishing increase in the sale of them, I am again compelled to request you to send me twenty dozen of the small, as also a supply of the large size. I should wish you to forward them by railway to York, thence by carrier, as early as possible, as I am afraid my present stock will be exhausted before they reach me. I enclose you the case of a person who resides in Malton, and whose testimony may be relied upon as being strictly correct. This is but one case selected from an almost incredible number of others, which have come under my notice, in which cures have been effected by the use of Parr's Life Pills. Many highly respectable persons in this neighbourhood, who previous to the introduction of Parr's Life Pills had a decided dislike to Patent Medicines, are now thankful that they are able to add their testimonials to the beneficial effects of these pills. By forwarding me, without delay, the quantity of pills as ordered above, you will oblige,

Gentlemen, yours, respectfully,

J. WRANGHAM.

Gentlemen,—When I consider the very great relief I have experienced from the use of Parr's Life Pills, I think it not only to be my duty to you but to every one who may be suffering from similar complaints with which I have been afflicted, to make my astonishing case as public as possible. For a long time past I have been greatly troubled with a most severe nervous complaint, giddiness, and swimming in the head, which increased to such a degree that at times I was compelled to leave off from my work, being unable to bear the least fatigue or excitement. At the suggestion of many of my friends, I was induced to try various medicines, but found that my complaint instead of diminishing, was daily growing worse. Having fortunately heard of the beneficial effects of Parr's Life Pills, I resolved to give them a fair trial, though I must confess with but little hopes of deriving benefit from them, after having tried so many other medicines without success; I immediately purchased a small sized box of Mr. Wrangham, chemist, the only agent for the sale of them in Malton, and fortunate indeed has it been for me that I did so, for though I have just finished taking this one box, I find myself so far relieved that instead of daily, nay hourly, suffering from that dreadful complaint, nervousness, with its attendant miseries, I am restored to my former good health; my nerves are strong—the giddiness and swimming in my head are totally removed, and I am now able to attend regularly to my trade. Allowing you to make whatever use you may think proper of this statement and being truly grateful for the benefit I have obtained from taking Parr's Life Pills.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient Servant,

THOMAS PATTISON, Painter.

N.B. I shall be glad to answer any enquiries respecting the good the pills have done me.

To Mr. T. Roberts and Co., Crane Court, Fleet-street, London.

A most extraordinary Case of Cure communicated, by Mrs. Moxon of York.

Mrs. Mathers, of that City, had for many years been affected with a most inveterate disease, which her medical attendants pronounced to be Cancer. It originated in her breast, and continued to spread nearly all over her body, defying every effort of surgical skill. Parr's Life Pills being recommended to her, she resolved to give them a trial; and, speaking of the result, she says she cannot express the inconceivable advantage which she has already derived from them. She further states that she is now almost well, and ascribes her convalescence solely to the persevering use of that sovereign medicine Parr's Life Pills.

From Mr. R. Turner, Lewton.

To Messrs. T. Roberts & Co., Crane Court, Fleet-street, London.

Lenton, near Nottingham, Dec. 12, 1842.

Dear Sir,—I beg leave to tender you my warmest thanks for the great benefit which I have recieved from your valuable Parr's Life Pills in the cure of a distressing species of fluttering, or palpitation of the heart, which I experienced some years, and which has now, by the use of three small boxes of your invaluable medicine, entirely left me; and indeed, I now enjoy better health and spirits than I have done for some time. Hoping you will, for the benefit of the public at large, make my case known, I remain, Gentlemen, yours, very gratefully,

RICHARD TURNER.

N.B.—Any person who may not credit this statement may, by referring to me, obtain satisfactory answers to their enquiries.

R. T.

From F. Mattheisz, Jaffra, Ceylon

Jaffra, October 17th, 1842.

Sir,—I beg to inform you that having undertaken the small supply of the celebrated Parr's Life Pills, lately received here from you by the Rev. P. Percival, they have met with a very rapid sale, and the constantly increasing demand from every part of the province ensures to a very large extent success to the dealer, and good to the people at large. May I therefore take the liberty of requesting you will be good enough to send me 1000 boxes by the very first opportunity, making, if you please, the usual discount to purchasers of such large quantities. I beg to remark that the value of the above will be given by me into the hands of the Rev. Mr. Percival, who has kindly offered to be responsible to you for the same. I remain, your obedient servant.

F. MATTHEISZ.

Please address me F. Mattheisz, Jaffra, Ceylon.

To Messrs. T. Roberts and Co., Proprietors of Parr's Life Pills, Crane-Court, Fleet-street.

Communicated by Mr. H. Foster, Chemist, Winchester.

East Stratton, near Winchester, Dec. 13th, 1842.

Sir,—You will remember I sent to your shop for a bottle of medicine round which was a paper containing testimonials of cures effected by the use of Parr's Life Pills. Amongst many others I observed one; a case of Rheumatism, which appeared to me similar to my own case, and seeing it so successfully treated, simply by the use of Parr's Life Pills. I resolved upon giving that invaluable medicine a fair trial. I had been afflicted with Rheumatism many years, and at the time to which I refer was suffering acutely. I determined, as I have said, on giving Old Parr's remedy a fair trial; and accordingly sent for a box of the Life Pills. By the use of these pills I am enabled to say that I am now as well as ever I have been during the whole of my life. Thank God, I can now walk as well as ever I did. At the time when I first tried Parr's Life Pills, I could scarcely walk during the day-time; and at night I could get no sleep. I am now enjoying excellent health, and sleep soundly, and I am free from pain of every kind. I am, Sir, yours, &c.

JAMES DANIELLS. (aged 56 years.)

Mr. H. Foster, Chemist, Winchester.

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This medicine can be purchased of all respectable druggists throughout the United Kingdom.

TO THE PUBLIC.

An injunction in the Court of Chancery of Massachussetts, was lately granted against George Roberts of the *Boston Times and Notion,* Boston—(no way related to our Thomas Roberts)—for fraudulently attempting to issue a spurious article as our famed and excellent medicine, "Parr's Life Pills." The Chancellor, Judge Story, after ordering the defendant, &c. into Court, ruled, that "the injunction be made absolute in every point sought for"—being a severe animadversion on the conduct of the defendent. Although our agents are constantly on the alert, and the great difficulty and expense of imitating our labels on and around our boxes of pills, are strong safeguards, we are determined, at any cost, to protect ourselves from the cupidity of dishonest persons, and the public from the danger of a spurious imitation of our medicine.

THOMAS ROBERTS & CO.,
No. 304, Broadway, corner of Duane-street.

It will be seen that Parr's Life Pills have extended their fame to the United States, and that equally there, as in England, they are efficacious.

Beware of Imitations; see the words "Parr's Life Pills," in white letters on red ground, on the Government Stamp. In boxes at 1s 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s.

The number of Testimonials of Cures by Parr's Life Pills are crowding upon the proprietors daily and their unsolicited testimoney witnessed by gentlemen of high reputation.

The following Testimonial is from one of the most talented and respectable members of the Theatrical Profession, Mr. T. D. Rice (the Original Jim Crow) —a gentleman whose high character for worth and integrity as a citizen places his unsolicited and voluntary attestation of the excellence of the medicine beyond the shadow of suspicion:—

"Gentlemen,—Having in the course of a long and arduous practice of my profession, contracted a tightness across the chest, with prostration of strength, and suffering much from the effects of the labour attached to my peculiar pursuits, while in England I had recourse to your popular medicine, Parr's Life Pills, from which I received great benefit. Finding a branch of your house in this city, I procured a few boxes of the medicine, and can now sincerely testify to their value and great efficacy; and also to the great character they bear in the Old Country.

"Your obedient servant, Thos. D. Rice.
"20, Vestry-street, New York."

"Thomas Callaghan, 31, Cumberland-street, Liverpool, was troubled for eighteen months with a water-brash, which reduced him to a skeleton: he had plenty of medical advice, which was of no use, read the advertisement of Parr's Pills in the *Liverpool Chronicle*, and bought a small box, and before it was finished was as well as ever.

(Signed) "J. H. H. Nightingale, Agent."

A decided Case of Consumption radically cured by Parr's Life Pills.

"To the Proprietors.

"Gentlemen,—I feel it a duty I owe to you and to the public at large, to acknowledge the most important benefit I have received from Parr's Life Pills. I was for nine years a soldier in the 52nd Regiment of Foot, and was discharged in October, 1839, in consequence of ill-health, (being deemed consumptive,) after having the best advice her Majesty's service afforded. I returned to my native town, feeling that my days could not be long on earth. But by what almost appears an interposition of Providence my attention was directed to Parr's Life Pills, and by taking only two 2s. 9d. boxes, I was completely cured, and am thus a living monument to the good effected by this most valuable medicine. Within the last few days I have been on a visit to some of my friends in a neighbouring village, where I was told that 'It was like seeing one risen from the dead, to see me walking through their streets.' I have recommended them to my neighbours, and many of them have experienced very great benefit from their use.

"I am, gentlemen, yours, &c.,
"John Osborne."

Witness—James Burgess, Bookseller, Hinckly.

Mr. John Osborne's case was pronounced by the regimental doctors to be incurable consumption. By the aid of this wonderful medicine, he is now so hearty and active, as to be enabled to travel on foot since the date of his recovery upwards of 1200 miles

IMPORTANT CAUTION—BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

In order to protect the public from imitations, the Hon. Commissioners of Stamps have ordered the words "Parr's Life Pills" to be engraved on the Government Stamp, pasted round the sides of each box, in white letters on a red ground. Purchasers are also requested to observe that a *fac simile* of the Proprietors' signature, "T. Roberts and Co., Crane Court, Fleet Street, London," is printed on the directions wrapped round each box—without which none are genuine.

Sold wholesale by E. Edwards, 67, St. Paul's Churchyard; Barclay and Sons, Farringdon Street, Sutton and Co., Bow Churchyard, London; Mottershead and Co., Manchester; and J. and R. Raimes and Co., Edinburgh; and retailed by at least one Agent in every Town in the United Kingdom, and by most respectable dealers in medicine. Price 13½d., 2s. 9d., and family packets 11s. each. Full directions are given with each box.

Poetry.

FIELD FLOWERS.

Ye field flowers! the gardens eclipse you, 'tis true,
Yet, wildings of Nature, I dote upon you,
For ye waft me to summers of old,
When the earth teem'd around me with fairy delight,
And when daisies and buttercups gladden'd my sight,
Like treasures of silver and gold.

I love you for lulling me back into dreams
Of the blue Highland mountains and echoing streams,
And of broken glades breathing their balm,
While the deer was seen glancing in sunshine remote,
And the deep mellow crush of the wood-pigeon's note
Made music that sweeten'd the calm.

Not a pastoral song has a pleasanter tune
Than ye speak to my heart, little wildings of June:
Of old ruinous castles ye tell,
Where I thought it delightful your beauties to find,
When the magic of Nature first breathed on my mind,
And your blossoms were part of her spell.

Ev'n now what affections the violet awakes;
What loved little islands, twice seen in their lakes,
Can the wild water-lily restore;
What landscapes I read in the primrose's looks,
And what pictures of pebbled and minnowy brooks
In the vetches that tangled their shore.

Earth's cultureless buds, to my heart ye were dear,
Ere the fever of passion or ague of fear
Had scathed my existence's bloom;
Once I welcome you more, in life's passionless stage,
With the visits of youth to revisit my age,
And I wish you to grow on my tomb.

Thomas Campbell.

WITHIN AND WITHOUT.

A LONDON LYRIC.

(Without.)

The winds are bitter; the skies are wild;
From the roof comes plunging the drowning rain;
Without in tatters, the world's poor child
Sobbeth abroad her grief, her pain!
No one heareth her, no one heedeth her:
But Hunger, her friend, with his bony hand,
Grasps her throat, whispering huskily—
"What dost *Thou* in a Christian land!"

(Within.)

The skies are wild, and the blast is cold;
Yet riot and luxury brawl within;
Slaves are waiting, in crimson and gold,
Waiting the nod of a child of sin.
The fire is cracking, wine is bubbling
Up in each glass to its headed brim:
The jesters are laughing, the parasites quaffing
"Happiness,"—"honour,"—and all for *him!*

(Without.)

She who is slain in the winter weather,
Ah! she once had a village fame;
Listened to love on the moonlit heather;
Had gentleness—vanity—maiden shame:
Now, her allies are the Tempest howling;
Prodigal curses; self-disdain;
Poverty; misery. Well—no matter;
There is an end unto every pain!

The harlot's fame was her doom to-day,
Disdain—despair; by to-morrow's light
The ragged boards and the pauper's pall;
And so she'll be given to dusky night!
... Without a tear, or a human sigh,
She's gone, poor life and its "fever" o'er!
So let her in calm oblivion lie;
While the world runs merry as heretofore!

(Within.)

He who yon lordly feast enjoyeth,
He who doth rest on his couch of down,
He it was, who threw the forsaken
Under the feet of the trampling town;
Liar—betrayer—false as cruel,
What is the doom for his dastard sin!
His peers, they scorn!—high dames, they shun him!
Unbar yon palace, and gaze within.

There—yet his deeds are all trumpet-sounded;
There, upon silken seats recline
Maidens as fair as the summer morning,
Watching him rise from the sparkling wine.
Mothers all proffer their stainless daughters;
Men of high honour salute him "friend;"
Skies! O, where are your cleansing waters!
World! O, where do thy wonders end?

Barry Cornwall.

SONG OF LIBERTY.

Air—"Colleen Oge."

See! see! the morning breaks,
And light is dawing o'er us!
Hark! hark! a spirit wakes
Throughout the land that bore us!
And Freedom's sun that darkly set,
In shame and gloom and sorrow,
Shall rise in kindly brightness yet
Upon a cloudless morrow.
On, on, 'tis Freedom's cry!
Our ancient sunburst rearing!
Live free, or bravely die
For Liberty and Erin!

Hark! hark! our fathers call
The dead of years departed—
Soft, soft, their voices fall—
Shall we be cold, faint-hearted?
Their spirits linger still around
To rouse, to guide, to cheer us;
Where'er the free and brave are found,
O! there *they* hover near us.
On, on, 'tis Freedom's cry, &c.

Rise! rise! be fearless, proud,
But not with red sword gleaming;
Lift! lift! our voices loud,
But not on vengeance dreaming.
No crime shall mar, no blood shall stain
Our cause, the cause of numbers;
Our cry shall ring across the main,
And scare th' oppressors' slumbers.
On, on, 'tis Freedom's cry!
Our ancient sunburst rearing!
Live free, or bravely die
For Liberty and Erin!—

The Nation.

Reviews.

CLEAVE'S GAZETTE OF VARIETY, Part 3.

The third Part of this ably conducted Miscellany is before us, and fully realises all that was promised at the commencement of the new series. The biographical sketches are really first rate, and in the present Part comprise the Florentine poet Dante; the celebrated actress Mrs. Siddons; and the famous "calculating boy" Zerah Colburn. As many of our readers may not be so conversant with the name of this latter prodigy we subjoin a few extracts:—

Zerah Colburn—whose extraordinary powers of instantaneous mental calculation, when a mere child, so greatly excited the attention of the world some thirty years back—was born Sept. 1, 1804, at Cabot, in the state of Vermont. He was the sixth child of a farmer, who discovered his talent when he was less than six years old, by hearing him repeat the multiplication table to himself as he was playing on the floor. Surprised at this, he asked his son what 13 times 97 made, and he instantly received the answer, 1261.

He was taken to Boston, and here,—

Questions in multiplication of two or three places of figures were answered with much greater rapidity than they could be solved on paper. Questions involving an application of this rule, as in Reduction, Rule of Three, and Practice, seemed to be perfectly adapted to his mind. The extraction of the roots of exact squares and cubes was done with very little effort; and what has been considered by the mathematicians of Europe an operation for which no rule existed, viz finding the factors of numbers, was performed by him, and, in course of time, he was able to point out his method of obtaining them. Questions in Addition, Substraction, and Division, were done with less facility, on account of the more complicated and continued effort of the memory. In regard to the higher branches of arithmetic, he would observe that he had no rules peculiar to himself; but if the common process was pointed out as laid down in the books, he could carry on his process very readily in his head."

In 1812, young Colburn, accompanied by his father, visited England.

On the arithmetical questions which young Colburn solved at that time, we give the following extract from a paper published in London in 1812:—

"Among other questions, he was asked the number of seconds in the time elapsed since the commencement of the Christian Era, 1813 years, 7 months, 27 days. The answer was correctly given: 57,234,384,000. At a meeting of his friends, which was held for the purpose of concerting the best method of promoting the interest of the child by an education suited to his turn of mind, he undertook and succeeded in raising the number 8 to the sixteenth power, and gave the answer correctly in the last result, viz. 281,474,976,710,656. He was then tried as to other numbers, consisting of one figure, all of which he raised as high as the tenth power, with so much facility and dispatch that the person appointed to take down the results was obliged to enjoin him not to be too rapid. With respect to numbers consisting of two figures, he would raise some of them to the sixth, seventh, and eighth power, but not always with equal facility; for the larger the products became, the more difficult he found it to proceed. He was asked the square root of 106,929, and before the number could be written down he immediately answered 327. He was then requested to name the cube root of 268,336,125, and with equal facility and promptness he replied, 645.

"Various other questions of a similar nature, respecting the roots and powers of very high numbers, were proposed by several of the gentlemen present, to all of which satisfactory answers were given. One of the party requested him to name the factors which produced the number 247,483, which he did by mentioning 941 and 263, which indeed are the only two factors that will produce it. Another of them proposed 171,395, and he named the following factors as the only ones, viz: 34279 by 5, 24485 by 7, 2905 by 59, 2065 by 83, 4897 by 35, 581 by 295, 415 by 413. He was then asked to give the factors of 36 083, but he immediately replied that it had none; which in fact was the case, as 36,083 is a prime number. On another occasion, he was requested to give the square of 999 999; he said he could not do this, but he accomplished it by multiplying 37037 by itself, and that product twice by 27. Answer,—999 998 000,001. He then said he could multiply that by 49, which he did. Answer,—48,999,902,000,049. He again undertook to multiply this number by 49. Answer,—2,400,995,198 002,401. And, lastly, he multiplied this great sum by 25, giving, as the final product, 60,024,879 950,060 025. Various efforts were made by the friends of the boy to elicit a disclosure of the methods by which he performed his calculations, but for nearly three years he was unable to satisfy their inquiries. There was, through practice, an increase in his power of computation; which, at first beginning, went no further in multiplying than three places of figures; it afterwards became a common thing with him to multiply four places by four; in some instances five figures by five have been given."

We have not space to follow the career of our hero; for that we must refer our readers to the magazine. This wonderful man, whose education however appears to have been shamefully thwarted by his own father, and hence the comparatively trifling results which flowed from the possession of this extraordinary faculty, is, we believe still living, and is, or was, a minister in the Methodist persuasion, in the State of Massachusetts.

The tales, romances, traveller's narratives, criticisms, &c., which stock this cheapest of the cheap, and truly useful publication for the million, are very cleverly written, and all entertaining. We trust that this excellent periodical will meet with that support it so well deserves.

THE MINERS' MAGAZINE—MAY.

Contrary to our usual wont, we return a second time to this magazine. We do so not, only on account of the very clever contents of this advocate of the industrious toilers, but also because we are anxious to do all that in our power lies to serve the men of the North in their present struggle. This we can best do by keeping before the public the grievances of which they complain, and the justice of their demands. With this view we give the following lengthy extract from an article headed—

THE STRIKE.

This is the subject which, beyond all others, is now occupying the public attention of the two counties, Northumberland and Durham.

The different newspaper accounts, published by the direction and sanction of the masters, have represented the whole dispute to be one entirely of *wages*—that the pitmen have demanded a most extortionate price for the required labour—more than the profits of the trade would allow of.

It is well-known that there are several *other* points of difference besides wages.

In order to make ourselves understood, we will here briefly recapitulate the points in dispute, and then comment upon what the owners say about them.

1—The payment of wages: the pitmen require to be paid every week all that they have earned—close up.

The owners refuse this: they say they will pay but once a fortnight—and then only up to the preceding Saturday—always keeping a week's wages in hand.

2—The term of the hiring.

The *men* propose that it be for six months: the *owners* propose one month—from month to month, determinable by either party giving a month's notice to the other.

3—The guarantee: during the period of the hiring, the pitman is to be the servant of the owner—to work for him, and him only—to go to gaol if he works any where else: is the workman for this to receive any certain means of subsistence?

The *men* propose that for this servitude they may be guaranteed five days' work in the week—of three shillings a day.

The *owners* refuse this: they refuse to bind themselves to give either wages or work.

4—The work of *hewing* is done by the men; the work of *putting* the coals by boys.

The *men* agree to hew at all times, but they refuse to *put*, except in some cases of absolute necessity; they refuse also to work—save with their own consent—at any other work but colliery work, or at any other colliery but that which they were hired to.

The *owners* insist that the men work at hewing, putting—or any other work—either at the colliery or any where else.

5—How shall the wages be calculated—by weight or measure?

The *men* insist that they be paid, by *weight* alone, for all that they actually send to bank, neither more nor less: that the weight be ascertained by Beam and Scales; and that in the event of dispute, the same be adjusted by the District Inspector of Weights.

The *owners* insist upon the old system—weight or measure, as they think proper: the men to be bound to send a certain amount to bank; if they send less than that amount, to lose their labour and be paid nothing; if they send more than that, however great the excess, no additional remuneration is to be given.

6—The pay-bills. Frequently there are disputes before the magistrates, in which the principal question is—How much have the men been paid? In proof of *their* case the men turn to their pay-bills which have been given them at the time of payment by the owners; the owners then swear that they have paid more; that "in order to please the men," they inserted a less sum in the pay-bills: this latter assertion is then denied by the men; the bench always decide with the masters.

The *men* require that when paid, they be furnished with a *pay-bill*—specifying what has been *paid*, and what *deducted*—and that such *pay-bill be evidence* in case of dispute of such payment and deduction: that the masters be not at liberty afterwards to deny the truth of the pay-bill.

The *owners* say nothing as to this proposition; but during the latter weeks of the last binding, they refused in one or two instances to give the men any pay-bills at all.

7—A fair day's work. What is it? A master can send a man to gaol for three months and hard labour, if he does not "perform a fair day's work."

The *men* require that what *is* a fair day's work, be settled, as far as possible, beyond dispute; they say, that the doing of eight hours' work and the earning three shillings in that time, shall be deemed enough.

The *owners* do not object to the eight hours' standard—the money standard they refuse.

8—Liberty to attend delegate meetings.

The general interests of the pitmen are managed by delegates selected from each colliery; these meet ten or twelve times, or perhaps oftener, in the year. Under the "fair day's work" provision, the delegate who left his work, even for a single day during the hiring would be liable to the gaol and the treadmill, or he may be fined 2s. 6d. Attending a public meeting, or in fact leaving their work for any cause whatsoever, would entail the same penalty.

The *men* require that no imprisonment or forfeiture be inflicted for the above absences, provided they give one or two day's previous notice.

The *owners* insist on maintaining their former power; in their pamphlet they say, that if they yield in this point, it will be considered as a "recognition" of "the Pitmen's Union."

9—No fly doors. Considerable inconvenience and danger is incurred by the men from fly doors; the only saving to the master is the expense of a little boy to open and shut them.

The men require that there be no fly doors—that a "trapper" be placed at each door.

The *owners* refuse this: the expence of a trapper is indeed very small: but the concession, it is said, would be a bad precedent.

10—Injury or death from accident in the colliery.

The *men* require, in case of accident, to be paid ten shillings per week, with medical attendance. In case of death, they require five shillings a week to be paid to the widow and children for one twelvemonth, and that five pounds be paid towards the burial: these allowances not to be paid unless the accident or death are occasioned by their employment in the colliery.

The *masters*, in their new bond, say nothing about this. In their last pamphlet, they propose five shillings per week in case of accident; as to death they make no offer, but say, they are always very charitably disposed in such cases.

11—With regard to "fines for foul," the *men* desire that no fine shall be inflicted beyond the loss of their labour. The *masters* require something very like the old "threepence per quart," which sometimes leaves the hewer in the position of having five shillings to pay and sixpence to receive.

12—*The* arbitration clause, in case of differences arising not provided for by the bond.

The *men* require that this clause, which is based upon a similar one in the old bond, shall be made effective: at present it is of no avail to either party. The *masters* require that it remain as formerly.

13—Trials before the magistrates. A man under the old bond has been taken up after breakfast, and sent to gaol for three months before dinner time, without having an opportunity of obtaining any witnesses or professional assistance whatever.

The *men* require that before being tried and sent to gaol, they receive a week's previous notice of the charges, and the names of the witnesses to be brought against them; the *masters* say nothing.

The above are the differences now existing between the masters and the *men*. The *masters*, every one of them, have struck against the men's bond; and the *men*, every one of them, have struck against the masters' bond. The public have now both cases before them, and will have little difficulty in arriving at a correct conclusion.

It has been observed that the whole of the local newspaper press is against the pitmen. This is natural and cannot be prevented. Pitmen do not buy *Gazettes* and *Journals*; *Chronicles*, *Courants*, and *Observers*. Pitmen don't advertise: they have no "grazing stock" nor "fashionable furniture;" no "implements of husbandry, plate, jewels, and wines," "to be Sold by Auction, by Messrs. Small and Brough, without any reserve"—they have no "Royalties to let, with immediate possession." But these are the things that pay the press: these are the meat that editors and publishers live upon. They are supported by that class of persons to which the *coal-owners* belong. It is not, therefore, a fair subject of surprise—still less of anger—that the local newspapers take part with the masters.

Publishers and editors, however, are, like their purchasers, subject to the judgment of public opinion:—*All* of them will *yield*: their yielding will be, indeed, slow and unwilling, grumpy and awkward: but they will yield at last: and the time that will elapse before their enlightenment takes place, will be much shortened by the fact, that *what is wanted* by each party is now clearly explained; it is stript of the mystification by which it has been surrounded, and thenceforth will be easily comprehended and fully understood. The time for falsehood is gone by, and a very short period only will be allowed for further deception.

Within a fortnight;—now mark the words, and see if the prophecy *is not an accurate one*:—*Within a fortnight* after public opinion shall have decided, that the pitmen's *wages* ought to be calculated *by weight*;—that the coals ought to be weighed by *beam and scales*, and each man paid for the weight of coals he *actually sends to bank*: within a fortnight after this—and the time is galloping rapidly on—the whole newspaper press—*Guardians*, and *Gazettes*, *Courants*, and *Chronicles*, *Mercuries*, *Mentors*, *Journals*, *Advertisers*, and *Observers*.—all of them—each running as fast as it can in hope of getting before the other, and saying, "I did it first"—will admit that the pitmen's claim is a reasonable one, and ought to be complied with.

Aye, it is a reasonable one, and it shall be complied with; and within five days—mark too, this prophecy—within five days after the newspapers—the owners will gallop up to the public (passing by the editors and publishers—whom it was heretofore expedient to keep in the van—and taking now no notice whatever of them)—and they'll say—and that frequently and loudly to all they meet in the street—"that the pitmen's determination is a most correct and just one." They will not admit, indeed, that any change has taken place in their own opinion—not they, indeed—far, very far from it; they "were always in favour of beams and scales; and of paying the men by weight"—they "never fined a man for a Quart"—Mr. Philipson knows it—"told him so last Thursday"—then they'll look at each other—and Mr. Philipson, holding down his head, will look at them—"in fact they wished to introduce the beam and scales—the weighing system—and to abolish the fines long ago, but the men were so obstinate—so contrary—they would not let them do it;" and to finish the thing bravely they'll swear most lustily—like him of Thornley—that "they have had the beam and scales on their collieries for the last six months, but they havn't had time to fix them"—and so they'll all swallow together—and even Jarrow will swallow the bitter dose at last!

One comfortable draught for the pitmen before we *conclude*. The press of the last few days have avowed that if the Masters conquer, the first use they will make of their power will be to pay themselves for the loss they have sustained by the strike; by bringing the wages lower than they were before. What a glorious prospect for the Summer months!

We would gladly have inserted a most important article, or at least portions of it, on "The Truck System;" but considering that everything pertaining to the Strike had, at the present time, first claim upon our space, we preferred giving the above. There are besides those already named, several articles of great importance to the miners generally. From "Notes of the Month," we extract the following for the good advice contained therein,—advice which we trust will be unhesitatingly adhered to:—

Let there be no Violation of the Law.—Let there be no Breach of the Peace.—The success of the movement depends upon this being *strictly* observed. Since the commencement of the Strike Mr. Beesley has been indefatigable in his attendance upon meetings of large bodies of the pitmen; frequently two, three, and sometimes four meetings in a day, and those often at considerable distances from each other, and has omitted no opportunity of exhorting and urging the men to keep the peace and respect the Law. The success of his endeavours is evidenced by the peaceful firmness which distinguishes the present from former strikes. The soldiers continue in the neighbourhood and are doing good service: their sauntering inactivity is the most powerful proof of strength yet produced by the Union—by far the severest blow with which the masters have had to contend. What would they not give—for a trumpet—a blast—a cry, "to horse" the sabre flash, and the clattering of iron hoofs through the streets of Durham? What a treat it would be! How they'd send for the Lord-Lieutenant"—"read the riot act," and "write to the Home-Secretary for more troops."

The troops won't be sent for—the masters must bear it—let them suck their thumbs!

In concluding this notice, we have much pleasure in transcribing the following from the *Weekly Dispatch*:—

"The March of Improvement.—The miners of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, have now an organ of their own, in the shape of a Monthly Magazine. Some of the articles are cleverly written, and forcibly bespeak the oppression which these hard-working sons of toil receive at the hands of those who govern the pits. This magazine will do more to prevent tyranny, if it go on in a right course, than all the Strikes that can ever take place."

This Magazine *will* "go on in a right course," and *will* "prevent tyranny," if only backed up as it should be, by the miners themselves. Let our friends then see to it that that support is universally accorded; for, by so doing, they will indeed make Mr. Roberts the "terror of evil doers," and effectually protect themselves from the consequences of the calumnies of the corrupt press-writers, who, sold body and soul to the devil of Capital, employ their pens to the perversion of truth, and the propping up of tyranny. With an organ like this they may defy the machinations of the prostituted press-gang, and in their holy struggle of right against might, go on conquering and to conquer.

EXETER HALL PETS.

Religion, like fancy, has her peculiar favourites. Ladies and gentlemen have, among the various heathens, their pet proselytes, just as among birds and dogs they have their pet macaws, their pet poodles. It is an adage old as Truth—whose register of birth was *not* lost at the Flood—that the human heart must love something: hence, beautiful is it, in this balmy month of May, to see crowds of lovers—spiritual lovers we mean—ascending the crystal steps of Exeter Hall to testify their affection for the benighted sons and daughters of earth thousands and thousands of miles away. Elastic, indeed, are human heart-strings, for they stretch from pole to pole. Indeed, with many of the worthy people of Exeter Hall, distance is essential to love. Just as connoisseurs take a backward step truly to consider the beauties of a picture, do many of these good folks require distance to see the miseries of human nature through an attractive medium. They have no taste for the destitution of the alley that abuts upon their dwelling place, but how they glow—how they kindle at the misery somewhere in Africa? Familiarity truly begets contempt. The famishing shoe-binder or sempstress is a homely common-place; the benighted Chinese an exotic darling. With some folks sympathy, like Madeira, is all the better for a sea-voyage.

We have said that proselyte-mongers have their special pets: Among them, the Hebrew people bear a great price. Hence, as was shewn at a late meeting, upwards of £25,000 are annually subscribed for the conversion of the Jews at Jerusalem, Hebron, Beyrout, Constantinople, Smyrna, and we not how many other *places promising in apostacy*. We must confess, we should like to see a fair balance-sheet of this account. We should like to know the exact number of converted Hebrews, that we might arrive at something like the market price of a renegade Jew. We own it; we more than fear that he is a great luxury; a bird of Paradise of exceeding cost. Hence, we confess it, we would have our gentle countrywomen retrench their outlay on the foreign curiosity, that they might better afford to buy up somewhat of the misery produced at home.

A day or two after the meeting was held of these benevolent people, whose hearts yearn for the Jews in Sapet and Strasburg, there appeared in the papers—but then the tragedy happened at No. 1, Angel-court, Long-acre, not a quarter of a mile from Exeter Hall—an account of the death of Mary Wall, aged 35. She died famished. John Bitton, of St. Martin's workhouse, testified as follows:—

"On opening the door of a room on the ground floor, or, more properly speaking, a lumber-room, there being no floor to it, he found the deceased lying on her face on the earth, her body covered with shavings, and her head resting on part of an old basket similar to a wine-merchant's hamper. She was groaning, and seemed quite insensible."

Mr. Leonard, surgeon, to the out-door poor of St. Martin's, deposed:—

"On being taken to the workhouse, remedies were used to restore animation; but she never rallied, and died within twenty-four hours after. The place where deceased dwelt emitted a most noisome smell, from the quantity of decayed garden-stuff. On making a *post mortem* examination, he found inflammation of both lungs, which no doubt arose from the non-application for medical assistance; which, together with her not receiving any domestic comforts, *and lying on the bare and cold ground alone and neglected, produced extreme exhaustion, of which she died.*"

It must, however, be allowed that the death of the woman was doubtless accelerated by her determination not to go into the workhouse: nevertheless, had we societies as actively benevolent in the Angel-courts of London and our great towns, as in Constantinople and Smyrna—had we home missionaries of charity to tempt the fetid dangers of Seven Dials and Spitalfields, could these scenes of horror be enacted? But then there is this bar to the zeal of the philanthropic—both Seven Dials and Spitalfieds are close at hand; they are real, tangible foulness; the eye turns from them—the nostril shrinks at them; whilst what a picturesqueness invests Constantinople—what a hallo of duty does distance cast about Jerusalem!

Again; consider the great difference between the objects to be succoured. The dwellers of English lanes and alleys are common, vulgar things: creatures of foul and violent speech; commonplace in their very rags and ghastliness. But the Jews—the spiritually forlorn of Jerusalem! O, the Evangelical imagination clothes them with the mystic beauty of the place; uplifts and sublimates them by the magic of religious fervour, and the very tatters of the Hebrew become rare and beautiful as Joseph's coat of many colours. And so, soft-hearted ladies and gentlemen, rapt by the forlornness of the far-off Jew, write their cheques, or put their money in their plate, too deliciously possessed by the sweet apostate in the distance ever to dream of the famishing Christian at their right hand. Could we but transport our destitute population to China or to Africa, we have no doubt that many English Samaritans would then be marvellously piteous of them. O, ye miserable Christians, who hunger and waste unvisited in English lanes and cellars,—why are ye not Jews, glorified by distance, dwelling in Beyrout and Hebron?

Even religion to some people is more attractive when invested with a certain air of romance. The modern *missionary is, to some folks*, picturesque as was the Templar Knight of old. To be sure, he goes not forth to slay the unbeliever; but—happier condition of the world—to make proselytes. He carries neither sword nor spear, but hard cash, with which he turns the heart of the needy Hebrew, and writes home "a soul saved." And every gentlewoman who gives a guinea to the goodly fund is softened and upraised by the thought that she has her soldier of peace fighting in Palestine; and with such sufficing belief she may give a chicken wing to Bijou her dog though a Christian mother shall whine with hunger at her gate.

On the last meeting of the Society in question, the Bishop of Winchester preached a sermon. Eloquent no doubt was the discourse; heart-touching, pocket-penetrating. We would, however, that his Grace—if only for *one round—would visit the Angel-courts of London*: the pilgrimage might, we think, give an impetus to the sluggish imaginations of those who think that true misery, real mental darkness, is only to be found, like their flue hyson, in a far country.

Allowing, however, that it is necessary to the apoplectic philanthropy of some folks to bleed their purses for the heathen, we think that at least the Jews might be *left* as they are until other unbelievers should be converted.

—— Here, madam,—you, who at the last meeting invested five pounds in apostate Jews,—here is the map of the world. Cast your eye over it. Here is the poor Esquimaux doomed to whale-blubber and a soul-blighting creed—here the Red Man—here the Hottentot—here the New Zealander—here people on people, and tribe on tribe, all in uttermost darkness. Enlighten them, and then, if you will, begin with the Hebrew. Meanwhile, for ourselves—we confess it—we have more than a sneaking respect for a people who had Moses for a leader and a law-giver. We rarely meet with a *long-bearded Rabbi* that he does not carry our thoughts to the plains of Mambre—to the first patriarchs of the first nation.

And *ye, who would convert the Jews, first copy* the Jews' great virtue: first take care of your own poor; feed and clothe them, and then, if you will, with the superfluity make proselytes of the Hebrew. Meanwhile, with misery wasting thousands of our fellow-Christians at our very doors, we hold the subscription of large sums of money for, at best, the questionable conversion of the Jew, as the offering of a miserable, morbid egotism; and should still think so of the purpose, though the whole Bench of Bishops wagged their silver tongues in aid of it.—*Punch.*

THE POLISH BALL AND THE ENGLISH POOR.

The Annual Ball for the benefit of the Polish Refugees is about to take place at Willis's Rooms, St. James. The Poles are amongst the bravest and noblest people upon the face of the earth: their name is associated with ideas of freedom, patriotism, and glory, which excite a feeling of emulation in the soul; and the noble struggles of that gallant nation against the accumulated power and fury of the Czar, entitle it to the respect and admiration both of the present age and posterity. The philanthropy of England was never better exercised nor more judiciously displayed than in its relations with the Poles; and most sincerely do we hope that a handsome balance will remain above the expenditure upon the approaching occasion, to swell the exchequer of the Society of Friends of Poland. Amongst the Ladies Patronesses of the ball we find many illustrious names, and those alone would prove a host in themselves to attract the fashionable and gay to the scene of pleasure. There is no doubt, then, that the affair will be a brilliant one, and that love of enjoyment and feelings of sterling humanity will combine to concentrate a crowded assemblage at the rooms selected. We have not taken up the subject with a view to act as a marplot: our opening observations testify our perfect sympathy with the objects of the ball. We cannot, however, behold this ready demonstration, annually made, in favour of foreigners, without uttering a word in favour of our starving and suffering poor at home. We have no annual balls for those whose wives and families are our own fellow-citizens, and who are undergoing all the fearful privations which utter destitution can possibly entail upon them. At long intervals we hear a whisper, or read a newspaper puff, of sums given by the members of the aristocracy to charitable purposes; but we must also remember that the nobility and the wealthy classes derives all their riches from the labours of the poor; and that when they give an alms to the starving operative, they merely returne a pittance out of that enormous whole which they wring from the sweat of the brows of our mechanics and industrious population. The newspapers, daily and weekly, unfold to view the most heart-rending situation of human misery,—starvation in all its most horrible stages,—misery, gaunt, lean, and frightful, in all the dwellings of the poor; and yet the efforts of the law, and of spontaneous charity, are totally insufficient to provide a remedy for this extent of suffering, or even materially to mitigate the severity of the pangs which it inflicts. What we should wish to see is this:—our aristocracy (if we must have one, or while we have one) not only essentially and effectually aiding our own poor, but also able and willing to afford a mite to patriots in distress like the gallant Poles. Out of ten noblemen, each with an income of £10,000 a-year, does any one give a clear hundred pounds per annum to charitable,—really charitable purposes? And yet that *entire* revenue is derived from the labours of those who are so deeply suffering. When we think of the enormous sums of money lavished *upon ostentatious ceremonials*, and pleasures of all kinds by our Court, aristocracy, and wealthy classes, and then turn to the appalling picture of human misery presented by the condition of the working population—to say nothing of the fearful embarrassments of the trading and commercial community in general,—we feel grieved and astonished that human nature should be so weak and pusillanimous, as to allow so vitiated a state of society to exist a moment longer. But now a word upon this ball, or any other ball, the object of which is to obtain a fund for charitable and philanthropic purposes. The case rests upon a certain amount of human distress and misery, which is to be relieved; and in order to collect money to alleviate the most acute sufferings to which man is liable, a party of pleasure and enjoyment is proposed. What! are Englishmen and Englishwomen so selfish that they will only give their gold to remove human pain, when they receive an advantage by way of compensation? It is evident that our aristocracy will subscribe to a ball for a charitable purpose, when they will not draw their purse-strings for the mere charity itself; they require a bribe—a *quid pro quo* of some kind or another; even their very philanthropy is but another name for selfishness. It is impossible that the real dispositions of our wealthy classes can be put in a *more odious light; and yet there is not the slightest* exaggeration in the picture. The industrious classes possess more sterling principles of charity and humanity amongst themselves, poor though they be; their alms are given without ostentation; their benevolence requires no spur to urge it into operation. We despise that conduct which makes an ostentatious display of what it is pleased to call charity, and which holds forth inducements of pleasure and dissipation as the prices of the alms it solicits. The tickets for this ball will sell with amazing rapidity; but the money received will have been given for the pleasure anticipated at the assembly, and not for the relief of the really *worthy* objects of this vaunted philanthropy. It is highly discreditable to those who are pleased to call themselves "the upper classes," *to make the sufferings* of their fellow-creatures the means of their own enjoyments with the money which is to supply bread to the needy. A shilling given without return of any kind is worth more on the score of charity, than five guineas laid out to procure the blandishments of Almack's at what is called "a Philanthropic Ball."—*Weekly Dispatch.*

Doctors and Lawyers.—Amongst the policemen on the Great Western Railway are eight members of the Royal College of Surgeons, and three (ex) solicitors.

Wreck of the Ship Wellington.—This vessel, while on her homeward passage from New Orleans to Liverpool, laden with cotton, ran upon rocks on Tortugas, on the night of the 31st of March last—in the subsequent three days became a total wreck. A large quantity of her cargo, comprising near 700 bales of cotton was saved. She belonged to Belfast, and was upwards of 400 tons burthen. She is not insured.

One of the splendid American liners, the ship *Gladiator*, Captain Britton, was nearly lost on the 19th of last month, by running ashore off Sandy Hook, near New York. Fortunately, through the timely arrival of plenty of assistance, in the course of twenty-four hours she was got off without sustaining any material damage. The vessel belongs to St. Katherine's Docks, and had a very valuable cargo on board, besides a great number of passengers from London.

Launceston Election.—On Monday, Admiral Bowles was returned for the borough, of Launceston, without any opposition.

Modesty and Piety.—The following advertisement appears in a Manchester paper:—"To Drapers, Haberdashers, Warehousemen, &c.—Wanted, towards the latter end of April, by an eminently pious young man, of Scotland, who has been regularly bred to the above branches, and considerably experienced generally, a situation as assistant clerk, manager, salesman, or traveller. The advertiser is twenty-four years of age, possessed of excellent health, an amiable disposition, good ability, extensive knowledge of the great Scriptural doctrines, strictly evangelical, and would be found of immense advantage in assisting to advance the claims and reign of the Messiah's kingdom, amidst all the civil and ecclesiastical opposition so prevalent amongst the nations of the earth in these latter agitating times. Testimonials and references to several eminent evangelical dissenting ministers and members of the Gospel, as well as to the former and present employers, of the most strict and satisfactory tendency as to character and ability, with portrait, may be had on application. No objections to town or country, and would be willing to conform to the rules of a liberal Church or dissenting family, holding evangelical principles, and make himself generally useful. A house favourable to evangelical, presbyterian, or independent Church principles, affording permanent employment, and progressive advancement of salary, preferred."

Shipwreck.—On the morning of Sunday last, the 12th instant, about 2 o'clock, the principal keeper at Kinnaird lighthouse, while on his watch in the light-room, was attracted by the noise of some one knocking at the door of the house. Having summoned the assistant keeper, it was found that the person who sought admittance was a shipwrecked seaman in a very wet and exhausted state. When his necessities had been provided for, the statement he gave was that his name was Alexander Hutchison, and that *his vessel was the Eliza*, of Kirkcubright, bound from Liverpool to Dundee, with salt. She struck on a rock on the 9th instant in passing through the Pentland Frith, but from the fog did not know exactly where it was. The wind was favourable for crossing the Moray Frith, and this they attempted to do by working the pumps till the morning of the 11th (Saturday), at 5 o'clock, when the pump leathers being worn out and the water above the cabin floor they determined to abandon the vessel. In putting the boat out for this purpose, however, the rope by which she was attached to the sloop slipped, and she went adrift. Upon this the crew, consisting of four men, jumped overboard, leaving a boy who was unable to swim, on board the vessel. Hutchison was the only one who made the boat; the rest all perished; and the vessel went down in about an hour after he left her. He was unable to render any assistance, as there were no oars in the boat, which was gradually drifted towards the shore, which he saw in the afternoon. The wind changed at night, and, afraid of being drifted off again, he determined to swim to shore, about half a mile distant, which he reached at midnight, about a mile west of the lighthouse, and, keeping the light in view, he arrived as already mentioned.—*Edinburgh Paper.*

Mr. Sharman Crawford has made his annual move towards a bill enacting "Complete Suffrage," as it used to be called; though its promoters seem already to have grown ashamed of the title. The guise with which this measure comes forth is not imposing. It is "the Charter," but called by another title, as if in effeminate fear of a name,—a very idle kind of evasion. But, good or bad in itself, the parading it merely to be so slighted that the only speakers on the motion were the mover and seconder, was still more idle. Such courtings of failure do not advance the cause of Parliamentary Reform, but the reverse; for they indispose people to think about a thing so despised, so successless, and so irksome. It would be better to propose the simple "Charter" at once, in a manly way; still better to wait, watchfully, till a practical interest in the class of questions revives.—*Spectator.*

The Startling announcement has reached London, that a treaty to annex Texas to the United States has actually been concluded—ay, sealed and signed! But stay—it has yet to be ratified by the Senate; so that the impudent manœuvre may be stopped, or at least delayed. By losing its grossness vice loses half its evil; and some years hence, by being less palpably a flagrant offence, the absorption of Texas into the Union would become really less wicked. The case of this state is known to all the world; it has arisen before the eyes of the generation now living. Texas is a Mexican province; *American citizens migrate into it, upon sufferance*; they grow to be a majority, or at least the most powerful class in that province; they declare themselves independent; and now they wish to be taken back into the Union, as American citizens, along with the Mexican territory! It is as if the English in Boulogne were first to declare themselves "independent," and then to offer to annex Boulogne to England. In the very same way, if Mexico were hospitable to foreigners, the whole of the Mexican republic might be decoyed into the Union. The success of the measure, however, is doubtful. It is suspected to be an electioneering ruse of John Tyler, anxious to curry favour with the populace, in hopes that he may be forced to accept another term on the Republican throne. It is only wonderful that Mr. Calhoun should have lent himself to the trick. Luckily, however, there are other political leaders: Mr. Henry Clay, the chosen representative of the Whigs in the approaching election for the Presidency, has forcibly denounced the plan; and Mr. Martin Van Buren, the chosen representative of the Democrats, also deprecates it: reflecting and rational men of "the two great parties in the state," therefore, are ashamed of consummating the spoliation with such barefaced haste; the Senate is likely to revise Mr. Calhoun's diplomacy rather unfavourably; and then the treaty will be rejected. Some, day, probably, Texas, in the nature of things, must be "annexed": but time to forget Mexican associations—time for witnesses of the trespass to die off—time for a little further insight into the social nature of slavery and of the Negro race—is due to decency, before another slavery-tainted star be added to the "star-spangled banner."—*Spectator.*

The Princeton Calamity.—The terrible catastrophe of the Princeton, with which the public mind is at this moment so deeply impressed, is one of those occasions which should be seized to grave in with the deep impressions something good. Such visitations are not sent us by chance, and though I am not one of those interpreters who are constantly frittering down God's providence into a series of petty contrivances, yet I cannot help remarking here that a dreadful lesson has been given to the people who wanted one, and at the time when they wanted it most. Those legislators whose vapouring speeches about Oregon have been uttered at the hazard, and apparently with a wish to produce a war, never dreamed, probably, that the path of carnage would come near them; they thought of popularity and applause, and votes to be acquired; and never thought at all of the bloody quarter-deck, the groans of the dying, and the wail of the widow and orphan. They have never seen and heard these things; and when they raise their voices again to invoke a war, let them bear in mind that they are invoking a thousand repetitions, or ten, or twenty thousand, of the tragedy of the Princeton—not among their friends and intimates, perhaps, but among men whose blood is as red, whose pangs are as real, whose wives and children as dear, and more dependent, and whose souls, too, are as precious before God. How many hearts do you suppose are now throbbing with anguishing suspense till the names are known of those six sailors who were joined in this calamity. To-morrow's news will tell them, bringing relief to many, but desolation to a few. Here is the matter to reflect upon; the dead can be buried and commended to Heaven's mercy, and then our minds naturally find repose; but we must give more thought to the living. Consider deeply, and realise, if you can, the sufferings that women and children must endure; and ask if the man has the heart of a man who would not hate the light if he had wittingly had any share in bringing such evils upon the earth. Not but that we must fight in case of need; for it is unhappily but too much proved that passive submission leads to greater evils than resistance; but we should first of all resist the devil, who paints war to us in gaudy colours, and inspires mob-orators with insane common-places about glory. Before we begin to destroy human life with gunpowder, we must fight the war-demon, the war-spirit; we must make war on the causes of war; we must exert ourselves as for life and death, to resist, obviate, or elude its possibility, trample out its sparks, and silence its exciters. But if all honourable means fail, and the dogs of war must be let loose, then probably it will be found they owe their horrid feast to these exciters who are now so ready to be their jackals. Think of the Princeton, and you will know what to think of them. *New York Evening Post.*

Official Change.—Sir Henry Hardinge goes to India as Governor-General, and Sir James Graham, who expected the appointment, goes for the present to the Wall.—*Punch.*

A Cool Retort.—The Duc de Feltre, who was indebted for everything to Napoleon, abandoned him on his first reverse of fortune, and became a *Royaliste Exagere*. Some time after his second abdication, the Duke, seeing in the presence of Louis XVIII. an officer of the Emperor's Old Guard who had faithfully stood by his late master during the Hundred Days, sneeringly asked him how long he had served the *Usurper?* "Just three months longer than the Duc de Feltre," was the reply. The King, who could relish a clever saying, smiled and handed his snuff-box to the gallant old soldier.

Death of a Highland Bard.—Alastair Buidhe Mac-Iodhair, the celebrated Gaelic bard, died lately at Gairloch, Ross-shire. He was poet to the lairds of Gairloch, from whom he had a pension, which he enjoyed up till the period of his death. Alastair reached the patriarchal age of eighty-four—a longer term of life than is usually allotted to the poetical tribe. He was at a wedding some years ago, when a miserly gentleman, observed that "the bards were extinct." "No," said Alastair, "but those who rewarded them are gone." He may be considered the last of the Highland bards, with the solitary exception of the author of "Loch-Aic," Maccoll.—*Inverness Courier.*

Bankrupts, &c.

From the London Gazette of Friday, May 17.

BANKRUPTS.

Edward Buckton Lamb, 10, Burton crescent, builder.—Sarah Binks, Ipswich, victualler.—Robert Masterman, late of 127, High-street, but now of 3, Trinity-street, Southwark, surgeon.—Peter Cattaneo and Joseph Cattaneo, Reigate, Surrey, jewellers.—Thomas William Younghusband, now of 27, Upper Belgrave-place, but late of Poplar, bitumen manufacturer.—Charles Newton and Charles Worssam, Kingsland-basin, Kingsland-road, engineers.—Richard Marks, Old Salmon public-house, Union-street, Southwark, and Duke of York public-house, Liquorpond-street, Bedford-street, victualler.

DIVIDENDS DECLARED.

George Walton, Stockton-upon-Tees, Durham, wine merchant, first dividend of 4s. 3d. in the pound, payable at 57, Grey-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on May 18, or on any succeeding Saturday.

John Leech, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, ironmonger, first dividend of 3s. 4d. in the pound, payable at 57, Grey-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on May 18, or any succeeding Saturday.

Thomas Hobson, of Carlisle, mercer, fourth dividend of 3d. and three-sixteenths of a penny in the pound, payable at 57, Grey-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on May 18, or on any succeeding Saturday.

Thomas Townshend, of Birmingham, railroad contractor, further dividend of 2s. 11d. and two-fifths of a penny in the pound, payable at 27, Waterloo-street, Birmingham, on May 23, or on any subsequent Thursday.

DIVIDENDS TO BE DECLARED IN THE COUNTRY.

James Southern, of Birmingham, grocer, June 10, at eleven, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Birmingham—G Hawkins, of Bristol, mason, June 13, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Bristol—William Watson Tait, of Liverpool, merchant, June 13, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Liverpool—James Richardson, Liverpool, merchant, June 8, at eleven, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Liverpool—Benjamin Jasper Wood, of Liverpool, optician, June 7, at half-past twelve, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Liverpool—Mark Marks and Samuel Barnett, of Liverpool, tailors, June 12, at twelve, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Liverpool—Charles Humbertson and Samuel Frodsham, of Liverpool, commission merchants, and of Ramsay, Isle of Man, ship-builders, May 29, at twelve, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Liverpool—John Fisher and George Henry Fisher, of Manchester, Manchester warehousemen, June 11, at one, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Manchester—Saloman Lipman Polack, and Rudolph Lipman Polack, of Manchester, merchants, June 11, at one, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Manchester—Thomas Lucas, of Brampton, Derbyshire, ironfounder, June 11, at twelve, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Manchester—Edward Wilcock, George Teasdale, and John Turner, of Ulverstone, Lancashire, paper manufacturers, June 10, at twelve and one, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—Henry New, late of Birmingham, but now of Blakedown, Worcestershire, iron-manufacturer, June 10, at half-past eleven, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Birmingham—Mark Marks and Samuel Barnett, of Liverpool, tailors, June 8, at twelve, at the Court of Bankruptcy, Liverpool.

CERTIFICATES to be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on the day of meeting.

George M'Donell, of Mincing-lane, City, wine-broker, June 7—George Hawkins, of Bristol, mason, June 10—Ebenezer Rogers, of Newport, Monmouthshire, fire-brick manufacturer, June 7—Robert Paddon, of Hartlepool, Durham, chemist, June 7—Jonathan William Ord, of Durham, linen-draper, June 7—Edmund Pickup, of Manchester, fustian manufacturer, June 10.

CERTIFICATES to be granted by the Court of Review, unless cause be shown to the contrary, on or before June 7.

Joseph Scholefield, of 39, Cheapside, City, cutler—William Cheesman, John Hodson, and William Oliver Cheesman, of Brighton, chinamen—George Foord, of Lenham, Kent, seed merchant—John Leech, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, ironmonger—Wm. Robert Hawkes, of Brighton, common brewer—Robert Josiah Craneis, of Maldon, Essex, butcher—George Walton, of Stockton-upon-Tees, Durham, wine-merchant—Thomas Bayley, of West Smithfield, City, licensed victualler—Christopher Teesdale, of Westminster-bridge-road, Surrey, furnishing warehouseman—John Clews Jackson, and Job Jackson, of Burslem, Staffordshire, earthenware manufacturers—Frederick Scott, of St. Alban's, Hertfordshire, apothecary—Joseph Lidwell Heathorn, of 3, Abchurch-lane, City, ship-owner—John Conaway, of 3, Gray's-inn-lane, cheesemonger—Charles Couchman, of 46, Edwardes-square, carpenter—Thos. Millar, of Liverpool, hosier—George Chamberlain, of Wivenhoe, Essex, shipowner.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Henry Brownbill, Edmund Smith, John Hulton, Joseph Wood, and John Worsley, of Newburgh, Lancashire, coal-miners—Wm. Cross and Joseph Jackson, of Liverpool, leather-dealers.

From the Gazette of Tuesday, May 21.

BANKRUPTS.

John Cooper, smith, Stoney-lane, Southwark.—Wm. Lickfold, licensed victualler, Hazlemere, Surrey.—Wm. Cowland Buttress, silk throwster, Sewardstone, Essex.—James Snelling, eating-housekeeper, Blackman street, Southwark.—Isaac Alden, butcher, Oxford.—Pearson Richard Morrison, merchant, Liverpool.—Thomas Carline, builder, Shrewsbury.—David Parker, hop merchant, Salford, Lancashire.—Wm. Gray, wine merchant, Sheffield.—Lewis Langdon Hall, tea-dealer, Taunton. John Ward, coachmaker, West Bromwich.—William Fletcher, maltster, Cinderhall, Staffordshire.—Edward Riley, grocer, Stratford-upon-Avon.——Mary Lewis, straw-bonnet manufacturer, Derby.

MARKET INTELLIGENCE.

London Corn Exchange, Monday, May 20.—The demand for Wheat was in a sluggish state. The finest qualities found buyers at prices about equal to those obtained on Monday last; but, in the value of the middling and inferior kinds, an abatement took place in most instances of 1s per qr. Since Monday last the present duty of 17s per qr has been paid on about 3,500 qrs of Foreign Wheat. The best descriptions of both red and white supported previous rates, but inferior parcels on easier terms. Foreign Barley realised late rates. Malt at unaltered quotations. Oats at last week's figures. Beans at an advance of 1s dearer. The value of other kinds was supported. Flour at previous figures.

London Smithfield Cattle Market.—We have to report a decided improvement in the Beef trade, at an advance on the rates obtained on this day se'nnight, of quite 4d per 8lbs for the best Scots and homebreds, and 2d for the middling and inferior descriptions. The Mutton trade was very firm, at a rise on last week's quotations of from 2d to 4d per 8lbs, the best old Downs, out of the wool, producing 4s per 8lbs; Kents and Kentish half-breds, 3s 6d to 3s 8d per 8lbs. The best Down qualities of Lambs sold readily, other kinds slowly, at unaltered quotations, they ranging from 4s 10d to 6s per 8lbs. The Veal trade was steady, 4s 8d per 8lbs being realised for the best kinds. Irish Pigs at barely late rates; English Pigs at a full prices.

Borough and Spitalfields.—Although the supplies of Potatoes are not to say large, the demand for them is in a very sluggish state, and some difficulty is experienced in supporting last week's prices.

Wool Market.—Since this day se'nnight, nearly 3,000 bales of wool have been imported into London from New South Wales, but the arrivals from other quarters have been limited. By private contracts very little business is doing at late rates.

Borough Hop Market.—The accounts from the plantations still coming very unfavourable, an alarming increase of fly being apparent amongst the young bine, the demand for all kinds of hops is active, and last week's advanced rates of from 8s to 10s per cwt are fairly supported. So small a quantity of hops on offer in this market has not been known for upwards of 25 years as at this moment.

Tallow.—We have no alteration to notice respecting prices for Tallow. The demand for Y.C. during the week has been very limited; other descriptions, such as South American, New South Wales, Town Tallow, &c., being considerably less in price, naturally throws the demand on them. In New Y.C. there is very little business doing, and the price is 41s 6d for the last three months, at which there are good buyers. Town Tallow is 39s to 39s 6d net cash.

Liverpool Corn Market, Monday, May 20.—The supplies of Grain, &c., coastwise and from Ireland since this day se'nnight, have been light, but there have arrived from abroad 24,800 qrs. of Wheat, 800 qrs. of Oats, 2850 qrs. of Barley, 270 qrs. of Peas and 2700 barrels of Flour. The business of the week has on the whole been only to a moderate amount, and some parcels of the foreign Wheat offering ex-ship have been sold at 1d to 2d per bushel below the rates quoted in our last report, most other descriptions being at the same time easier to purchase. Oats, Oatmeal, and Flour have each been held for previous rates, but have met a slow sale. Barley has barely sustained last week's rates. Beans and Peas, upon a moderate inquiry, are fully as dear. Appearances have threatened rain, but as yet very little has fallen in this quarter.

Liverpool Cattle Market, Monday, May 20.—We have had a large show of Cattle at market to-day, which met with dull sale at last week's quotations. Beef 5½d to 6d., Mutton 6½d to 7d per lb.—Cattle imported into Liverpool, from the 13th to the 20th May.—1,366 cows, 20 calves, 2,954 sheep, 1,042 lambs, 6,776 pigs, and 62 horses.

Manchester Corn Market, Saturday, May 18.—At our market this morning all descriptions of Wheat were in extremely limited request, and had buyers appeared, purchases might have been made on lower terms. Flour likewise met a very dull sale, except choice fresh made parcels of English and Irish superfines, which, upon a fair demand for consumption, realized former rates. Oats and Oatmeal continuing neglected, were the turn cheaper.

MONIES RECEIVED BY MR. NATHANIEL MORLING, BRIGHTON, FOR DR. P. M. M'DOUALL'S RETURN.

Brighton, May 14th, 1844.

	£	s.	d.
Sheffield National Charter Association, per Mr. George Cavill	2	5	0
Bolton, per Mr. James Fulton	0	7	11½
Morley, near Leeds, per Mr. Moses Nicholls	0	5	0
Bury, per Mr. Jones—			
From the Spring Water Printers 0 12 0			
Garden-street lecture room, on Mr. O'Connor's visit to Bury 0 10 0	1	2	0
May 15.			
From Barnsley, per Mr. Valance	0	10	4
Dundee, 2nd subscription, per Mr. Kidd...	0	9	3

Messrs. Nicholls and Jones will oblige if they will favour me with their address.

Nathaniel Morling.

THE FREE-TRADERS IN HUMAN FLESH.

CHEAP SUGAR *versus* THE RIGHTS OF MAN.

Mr. Editor.—There is no nation under Heaven which has so many institutions professedly for the improvement of the human race, as England. The philanthropy and generosity of our middle and upper classes, develope themselves under a variety of phases. What object is there that we have not Associations for promoting and securing? We have associations to secure to the people the blessings of cheap bread and cheap religion. We have a society, expending annually its thousands in the conversion and enlightenment of the heathen, while we are told that the people are lamentably ignorant at home; and we have another whose object is the extermination of slavery from all parts of the earth, except England. But not a single association will these classes form, patronize, or support which has for its object the eradication of those political and social causes which embitter with poverty and wretchedness the lives of the toiling millions of this empire.

On Friday last, one of these creations of middle and upper class philanthropy held its annual meeting at Exeter Hall. For several days previously, the public were informed by large placards, borne through the City, that Lord Brougham would take the chair. Many, like myself, whose presence at the meeting was induced by a feeling of curiosity to see the political nondescript, were doomed to disappointment, as a letter was read to the meeting, alleging a few lame reasons for non-attendance.

Could not the Anti-Slavery Society find a more consistent and respectable character to fill the presidential chair on this occasion than the vacillating Lord Brougham? What sort of a man did the occasion require? A tried friend of humanity—a fearless advocate of the rights of man—a man whose life was characterised by rectitude and consistency of conduct—a man of stern and unbending devotion to humanity, truth, and justice. Is my Lord Brougham such a man? Who is the individual that will respond in the affirmative? It is true that some of the richest effusions of Brougham's eloquence have been poured out in the denunciation of the horrors and injustice of slavery. But men of wisdom, as the Committee of the Anti-Slavery Society pretend to be, should demand stronger proofs of political integrity than tinkling professions, or flowers of rhetoric. They should vigilantly scan the actions of the man.

Was the Committee of the Anti-Slavery Society oblivious of the fact, that Brougham was the strenuous supporter of that culminating act of Whiggish treason against the people, the Poor Law Amendment Act? law which outrages the tenderest feelings of humanity, in the severance of wife from husband, and children from; both which clothes the victims of law-made poverty more degradingly, and feeds them more sparingly than the vilest felons! Were they not aware that this same Lord Brougham, this uncompromising advocate of the God-defying, humanity-desecrating New Poor Law, was seen the other day prostituting his talents at the shrine of the heartless millocrats of this country, by denouncing the humane proposition for limiting the hours of female labour in factories to ten hours per day! Surely, the selection of such a chairman evidences little discretion on the part of the Committee. For how could such a man stand before an enlightened meeting to declaim against slavery while, at the same time, he gives unlimited scope to the murderous factory system? With what pretension to consistency could such a man denounce the horrors of American and West Indian thraldrom, while he sanctions the immolation of the health and happiness of the fair wives and daughters of free-born Englishmen on the blood-besmeared altars of insatiable avarice? Brougham was aware of these things. He knows the unenviable position which he occupies in popular estimation, and hence his non-attendance at the Anti-Slavery meeting.

Much has been said and written by the free-booting cheap bread men, and their venal press, about Chartist interference at public meetings; but never since the commencement of the agitation were the Chartists guilty of such an act of interruption as were the decorous Free Traders in Exeter Hall, on Friday last. At one time the Free Traders and Anti-Slave party became so vociferous in yelling and hooting at each other, that they appeared more like a crowd of maniacs then an assembly of rational beings. The turmoil was commenced by the *interference of the League party.* Three long Free trade orations were inflicted on the meeting's patience, by Messrs Geo. Thompson, O'Connell, and Bright. Mr. Thompson commenced by saying that he came to the meeting the representative of no party; he came to represent his own feelings. Bright, however, revealed the secret, shewing clearly that Thompson was there as the mouthpiece of the League; he said that he and Mr. Thompson had *arranged* as to the course they should pursue at the meeting; thus proving that it was a premeditated move to bring Free Tradeism before the meeting. But it may be asked what had Free Trade to do with the object of that meeting? How could such a subject be introduced? The report brought forward by the committee expressed satisfaction at the fiscal regulations enforced by Government for the discouragement of slavery. George Thompson moved an amendment to the adoption of the report to the effect that all fiscal regulations should be discountenanced by the society, because the enforcement of such regulations required the aid of secular power; the society deprecated force in suppressing slavery; *ergo*, all fiscal regulations should be deprecated.

To this bit of special pleading I should reply that it is the imperative duty of Government, to repress slavery by wise and salutary legislation; and as a matter of course, to resort to force if necessary, to compel obedience to the decrees of reason and justice. Mr. Geo. Thompson has a different opinion; he is now one of the oratory of the hypocritical League, and, perhaps, in the plenitude of his Free Trade notions, he thinks commerce in human flesh should be as "*free*" as he tells us trade in everything else should be. He said he would be clear and explicit with the meeting. Government, he said, imposed a high differential duty on slave-grown sugar, in favour of the produce of our free colonies. This he considered a piece of gross injustice to the people of England, because they should be allowed to go to the cheapest market for their sugar. I never yet heard one of the agents of this Leviathan combination of hypocrisy and fraud, but my mind was impressed with the idea that he would readily sacrifice every principle of justice, religion, and humanity at the shrine of grovelling, sordid, self-interest. George Thompson thinks it right that the produce of slave labour should have the same advantages in the markets of the world as the produce of free labour. Would it, I ask, be justice to the free colonies to throw their labour into competition with foreign slavery! Would it be justice to reduce the free labourer to the degradation of the manacled slave? Yes, responds George Thompson and the League, because by so doing we could procure our sugar at a cheap rate. So much for League morality and religion! But it is consoling to know that such notions of justice can only find resting places in the avaricious pericraniums of Corn Law Repealers. Suppose, said this doughty champion of freebootism, I had ten yards of cloth for sale; I want to buy sugar for it; here are two persons in the market; one will give me 25lbs. of sugar for my cloth, the other will give me 50lbs.; would it not be an act of folly on my part to refuse to take the greater quantity? This argument embodies the whole theory and practice of Free Trade. George Thompson seems to think that men have lost all idea of religion, morality, and justice. Before the impartial tribunal of his reason, the rogue and the honest man, the fair dealer and the slave dealer stand upon an equal footing. He would give them equal advantages in the markets of the world; he would patronize the robber in preference to the honest man, because the former could minister to his cupidity more plenteously than the latter.

But I deny the right of the man with the 50lb. of slave grown sugar to come into the market at all. He is a robber—a dealer in men, women, and children; a vender of the blood-bespattered produce of slavery. The attribute of "cheapness" which recommends his goods to George Thompson, is given to them by the nefariousness of the means employed in their production; every sentiment of reason and morality rises up in reprobation of such a wretch; and just, wise, and salutary, in my opinion, would be the law that would exclude him from social intercourse, and his stolen goods from the markets of the globe. Mr. Thompson could see no criminality in patronising the trafficers in human flesh; no culpability in purchasing the produce of slavery! I will prove from the logic of this Solon that there is no criminality in slavery itself. If no rule of equity is violated in buying the produce of slavery, none is broken in selling it; for the right to buy implies the right to sell. The right to buy and sell evidently implies the right to produce. If therefore parties are justified in buying, selling, and producing, they are justified in the means of production; or, in other words, in the establishment and consolidation of slavery. This is a fair inference, deducible from the logic of this modern political mentor.

London May 21, 1844. Vindex

TO THE WORKING MEN.

My Friends.—I have received a great number of invitations from all parts of the country. I now announce my intention of fixing on the dates of my lectures in the various places to which I have been invited, in the *Star* of each week.

On Monday and Tuesday, I shall be in Coventry; on Wednesday, in Birmingham; and on Thursday, in Macclesfield. On Friday, I shall visit Manchester, and remain at rest until Sunday.

The arrangements which may be made at Manchester I cannot now relate, as I shall leave them entirely in the hands of the committee.

After Manchester, I shall visit Todmorden; and if possible that shall be on Tuesday or Wednesday, the 4th or 5th of June.

I shall announce in the succeeding *Star* the future arrangements decided upon.

From the state of my lungs, I fear it may be possible that I cannot make a speech in all the places mentioned; but nothing save a very dangerous state of health shall prevent me from meeting my engagements.

Ever sincerely yours,
P. M. M'Douall.

RECEIVED BY MR CLEAVE.

FOR P. M. M'DOUALL.

	£.	s.	d.
Mr. Elliot	0	1	6
A Friend (Convention Room, Manchester)	0	1	0
Mr. Browett	0	1	0
Mr. Williams	0	1	0
A Lover of Justice	0	1	0
Mr. W. Peace	0	3	0
VICTIM FUND.			
White Horse Locality, Whitechapel ...	0	3	4
Lambley, Notts	0	3	0

LIBERATION OF CHARTIST PRISONERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NORTHERN STAR.

Sir,—I have much pleasure in informing you that John Lovell and Jenkin Morgan, two of the Chartist prisoners tried at Monmouth, under the Special Commission, with Mr. Frost, myself, and others, and sentenced with Charles Waters, Reece, and Lewis to six years' imprisonment in the Millbank Prison, have arrived in Newport.

Lovell, arrived by the packet from Bristol, on Thursday morning; and Morgan on Saturday, by the same conveyance; both much shattered in constitutional health and strength, particularly Morgan, who is almost too feeble to walk alone.

Lovell states that he obtained permission to petition the Secretary of State, which he did; and their discharge was sent, no doubt, in consequence of their bad state of health. Morgan and Waters were both in the Infirmary; the latter so ill that he had not arrived at home in Chepstow yesterday, and they express their fears whether he ever will be able to leave the place which, until within a few days, was more crowded than ever. The other two prisoners who were sentenced with them have been discharged these three years back.

Mrs. Lovell, by the most praiseworthy perseverance and hard labour in the garden they occupied, has preserved a comfortable home for her husband on his return, which was quite unexpected. I had the pleasure of assisting Lovell to his home, welcomed by every one we met or saw. Not so comfortable or pleasing are the prospects of poor Mr. Morgan, whose circumstances, previous to the affair that led to his apprehension was superior to almost any in the ranks, with the exception of Mr. Frost: but HE HAS LOST HIS ALL—his cows, a rick of hay, worth upwards of £100 was distrained upon for rent, sold for less than its value by one-half; and to support the wife and family his two houses were sacrificed. His wife retired to her friends, and poor Morgan has returned shattered in his constitution, without a home to go to. Since his arrival he has recovered a little, and has gone into Glammorganshire, where he has a brother, a farmer, living near Pyle; but his intention is to return to Newport when recovered, and by the assistance of his friends, if he can, to resume his work in life as usual, as a milkman. It is hoped that the friends to THE VICTIM FUND WILL NOT FORGET POOR JENKIN MORGAN, WHO HAS SUFFERED FOUR YEARS AND-A-HALF IMPRISONMENT.

A letter has been received last week from Mr. Frost, which is very satisfactory to his family and friends as it respects the office he fills, and the kind treatment he receives from those in authority.

P.S.—I hope you will get this in time to make it public this week. I should have sent it sooner but I waited to hear from Chepstow concerning Waters until this morning (Wednesday).

Yours, respectfully,
Samuel Etheridge.

Newport, Monmouthshire, May 22nd, 1844.

THE NORTHERN STAR.

SATURDAY, MAY 25, 1844.

THE "RAG ROOKS" TACKLED.

THE HANDS OF THE "OLD LADY OF THREADNEEDLE-STREET" TIED AT LAST.

PEEL AND THE BANKERS.

ARTICLE THIRD.

In the two former articles on the Monetary question, we traced the operation of paper-money from the establishment of the Bank of England in 1694 to the year 1826, when the measure proposed by Sir Robert Peel in 1819, for the resumption of cash payments by the Bank, came into extensive operation. On the present occasion we have to show what the *effects* of that most devastating measure have been on the productive interests of the Kingdom.

In the first place we must acknowledge, that, in principle, Peel's Bill was correct; that the *object* sought to be accomplished by it was just; and that the injustice which it has inflicted arose from the fact, that the measure was not accompanied by other measures, *adjusting* the FIXED ENGAGEMENTS of the country, as well as all private contracts, to the altered circumstances which that Bill was certain to bring about.

It must be manifest that a law to compel the Bank to pay its debts was just in its nature; and one about which there could be no hesitation in passing, as far as the principle on which it was founded was concerned. The Bank never ought to have been *protected* from the demands of its creditors; it never ought to have been RESTRICTED from its due and honest payments; it never ought to have been enabled, by law, to maintain its station as a Trading Company, when it was notoriously insolvent, and only preserved from wreck by the law enabling it to set its creditors at defiance: this clearly ought not to have been, for it was most unjust to all other traders, and utterly repugnant to and destructive of the principles that govern trade and credit: therefore the measure known as Peel's Bill, which was to take away this unjust protection, this unnatural RESTRICTION, was, *of itself*, a perfectly just and necessary measure.

But when we come to view that measure *relatively;* when we view it in connection with the *amount* of Debt incurred during the Bank Restriction; with the increased amount of taxation consequent on wars—on increased salaries—on new offices of State—on augmented Civil Lists—on long Pension and Half-pay Lists: when we view the measure in connection with these things, and with the fact that its operation was *sure* to augment *every debt* owing in the kingdom: when we view the measure thus *relatively*, we are bound to designate it as the most cruel and monstrous national injustice ever perpetrated, notwithstanding the fact that the measure was founded on correct principle, and was perfectly just in itself.

It has before been explained that the vast amount of paper money afloat during the existence of Bank Restriction caused the prices of all produce to become very "*high;*" that wheat which had on a long average of years sold for 5s. a bushel, "rose" to 15s.; and other produce in proportion. In other words, the circulating medium of the country was so large in amount that its *value* WAS DEPRECIATED; greater quantities of it had to be given for a certain amount of produce,—the bushel of wheat, for instance, for which *three* times the amount of "money" had to be paid in the depreciated currency to what had been paid before such depreciation. We have also explained that the operation of these things had necessarily caused a *violation of all contracts:* that the interest of a mortgage entered into some twenty years before could now be paid with some one half the sum formerly given. That is, the amount of produce required to be sold to raise the *nominal* amount of money required for such interest would not be more than one half. This violation of contracts, however, was *in favour of the debtor.* It enabled him to get clear of his engagements much more easily than he could otherwise have done: but though it might and did favour the debtor, it was no less an injustice; a palpable injustice to the creditor, who was forced to be content to receive one-half of the amount contracted to be paid; and unjust in its very nature, when it enabled the debtor thus to forfeit or evade his bargain.

But if the operation of a measure to produce "high" prices was an act of injustice to the whole community, inasmuch as it thus violated contracts, though in favour of the debtor, what must be the nature of a measure to suddenly produce "LOW" *prices*, and violate contracts *against the debtor*, causing him to part with double the amount of real wealth he had contracted for!! This was done by Peel's Bill! And this alone, and of itself, would have been sufficient to have characterized the measure as the most monstrously unjust one ever enacted: for it is well known that the Debtor class are the most weak portion of the trading community; and to pass a measure to *double their debts* was, in fact, to consign two-thirds of them to irretrievable ruin, and expose the whole to enormous difficulty and danger. This alone, we say, would have been sufficient to stamp the devastating scheme, as the crowning act of injustice connected with the infernal system of Paper credit; but when to this we add the injustice inflicted NATIONALLY, in causing the producers of wealth to pay the interest of an overwhelming Debt—a Debt mainly contracted in a depreciated currency—in "gold of full tale and fineness"; and in causing those same producers of wealth to continue to pay all the other charges of Government, *which had been raised and augmented* because of the ENHANCED prices of produce consequent on the depreciation of money: when to the act of injustice perpetrated on the private debtor class of England, we add these acts of national injustice, the whole measure appears to be one of such a monstrously unjust character, that language fails to supply terms sufficiently strong wherewith to characterise it.

It had its effect on the Private Debtor class. It brought thousands of them to insolvency. It sent hundreds to the parish. Many a one who had fancied himself in a situation of COMPETENCY, and who indeed was competent, under the then circumstances of the country, was reduced to the necessity of breaking stones on the highway to procure the "coarsest sort of food" wherewith to keep soul and body together. *By doubling debts*, as this measure did, it necessarily took the property out of the hands of one class of property-holders, and conferred it upon another. No act of confiscation could have been more complete. The operation was *silent;* was *unseen;* but it was sure and EFFECTIVE. The debtor had to part *with more than double the amount of real wealth* in exchange for a nominal amount of money; and he had to hand over that nominal amount to his creditor, who thus became possessed, in reality, of his debt twice over. Could there be any wonder that *insolvency* followed on such a confiscating measure as that? People have been amazed to see the property they possessed *melt* out of their grasp; silently disappear; but they knew not the cause. They knew that at one time they had it; that they had at one time, when "weighed up," they had *more* than would satisfy all claimants—as much as would leave them a good COMPETENCY, when all their debts were paid. They saw a time come when all they possessed was not sufficient for the satisfaction of those debts. They saw the whole *decrease in value*, and thus became swallowed up: BUT THEY KNEW NOT THE CAUSE. That cause was Peel's Bill! *just* and *righteous* as the measure was in itself! These *effects* followed from reducing the nominal value of produce, by decreasing the amount of circulating medium: and the error was in attempting and effecting that, *without a previous* ADJUSTMENT *of contracts.* The effect that the measure would have on prices was well known to its promoters. Experience had sufficiently told them that. Every attempt on the part of the Bank to *prepare* even for the resumption of cash payments had driven down prices; had produced all but universal confusion. There could be "no mistake" then as to the *effect* which this Bill was sure to have on the debtor class, by those who originally framed it. Equity, then, would have told them, that if they must pass a measure to reduce the value of property so that double the amount would prove to be sold for a nominal amount of money, that it must be accompanied by another measure ADJUSTING CONTRACTS, so as to prevent the *weak* debtor from being *robbed.* And had Equity's call been attended to in this respect, much of the misery, many of the heart-burnings, much of the suffering and want, since known in England, would have been unknown. Hundreds and thousands of those who have been reduced to beggary, would still have been in affluent circumstances; and hundreds more, who have actually starved to death, would still have been in the land of the living,

The call of Equity, however, was not attended to! It was utterly disregarded, not only in the case of the private debtor, but also in the case of *National Engagements*, The effect on the former we have already seen: let us now treat of the effect on the latter.

In 1727 Geo. II came to the throne. He reigned thirty-three-and-a-half years; and the average annual amount of taxation during his entire reign was £8,219,247. Geo. III succeeded him in 1760: and for the first thirty-three years of *his* reign the taxation averaged £16,230,026. *This was before* "Bank Restriction." The currency was then, as now; partly gold, partly paper: the paper currency *convertible* into gold: or in other words, the Bank forced to give gold in exchange for its paper to those who demanded it, as long as it had gold to give. In 1797, however, as before set forth, the Bank Restriction Act was passed: and with it came those immense issues of paper money that so greatly depreciated the currency, or so "*raised*" prices, as to cause the quarter of wheat, which in 1727 had only fetched £1 17s 4d, to fetch, in 1800, £5 0s 10d, and in 1812 £5 16s 10d! To meet the *altered* state of things, additional *taxation* was needed. It was represented to Parliament that it was utterly impossible for the common soldier, for instance, to "*live* on his sixpence a day"; that the enhancement of prices of provisions totally put it out of his power; and his pay was raised to thirteen pence, having a one-half and one-sixth *added* to it. What was true of the soldier was true also of the judges, and the other officers of State. On the salaries, which were ample when wheat was thirty-seven shillings and fourpence a quarter, they could not maintain their station when wheat was at 100s or 116s a quarter, and other things in proportion. So also with the pay, or rather *allowance*, to the King. Parliament could never allow the King to starve on "*dear* bread:" so, as a matter of course all the wages, salaries, and allowances, were tremendmendously augmented by Act of Parliament; some of them being considerably more than doubled, and all of them nearly so. In addition to all this, loans were being constantly resorted to. We were at war during the whole time from 1793 to 1814 with the French, *to put down Republicanism*, and prevent Reform at home: and during part of the time with *America* also, to "depose James Maddison" and destroy the "home of the free"—[would that it were really so!]—in the west. To carry on those wars in the expensive manner they were carried on, by money raised from the people in the ordinary manner, was utterly impossible: so, therefore, the respective Governments *borrowed* from the Jews and the loan-mongers no less a sum than £570,000,000!! on which they left the people the *interest* to pay! Not that the Governments actually *received* from the lenders the above astounding sum: far from it. For the nature of the whole transaction was so inherently rotten, that the loan-mongers could not be *induced* to part with their "money," "worthless rags" as it were, unless GREAT ADVANTAGES were offered to them: and it is a fact, as shown conclusively by Marshall, in his "Digest of the Finance Accounts," that for every £100 of money—("worthless rags")—netted by the Government from the loanmongers, no less than £173 of Stock was created: that is, "*the most thinking people in the world*" were induced to pay, and still continue to pay, interest on £570,000,000, every £100 of that amount being accounted as £173! [On this fact we shall dwell more at large when we come to treat of the Equitable Adjustment that is yet to take place.] It must be remembered too, that these *loans were made* in a depreciated currency; most of them when wheat was at 15s. a bushel.

When therefore it was determined to resume *cash payments*, common justice towards the tax-paying people dictated the necessity of so ADJUSTING the *national engagements*, as to meet the altered circumstance that must inevitably be brought about. The resumption of cash payments was as sure to reduce prices of produce, as the Restriction had produced "HIGH" prices. The one effect was just as inevitable as the other. And if it was just and necessary to augment the salaries of the judges, the soldiers and the sailors, the Civil List and the Pension List; if it was just to augment these because of the *enhanced* prices of produce, surely it was *no less just to reduce those* payments when the prices of produce were to be reduced! And if this was true of the salaries, was it not also true of the interest of the debt? No man can be blind to the fact that, in reality, ALL PAYMENTS ARE MADE IN PRODUCE. The nature of the transaction may be disguised because Money is used; and the payment may appear to be made in money: but before the money can be had, the grower of corn, or the maker of shoes, must *sell* his produce: *and it depends on the relative prices at different times* HOW MUCH PRODUCE HE HAS TO PART WITH FOR A NOMINAL SUM OF MONEY. When Wheat was at fifteen shillings a bushel, *one* bushel stood in the place of *three* with Wheat at five shillings a bushel: or, in other words, it would take *three* bushels at the later time to raise fifteen shillings, while *one* would do it at the former time. To pass a measure then, *to reduce* the bushel of Wheat to five shillings, and still leave the grower of wheat to pay engagements entered into when it was at 15s. was in fact to *rob* him of two bushels out of every three. And this is what has been done by Peel's Bill!!! It *has* reduced prices. It *has* brought down the value of every description of real wealth. But it maintained and still maintains the salaries and the interest of the Debt: and it has, in fact, *doubled the taxation of the country:* taking from the producer more than twice the amount of produce to give to the tax-eater, whether in the shape of Judge, Minister, Pensioner, Queen, or recipient of interest of Debt. And this it is that constitutes the GREAT INJUSTICE of Peel's Bill. The people had before time been taxed to the top of their bent. It was overwhelming and crushing before this later infliction. Peel's measure, however, just doubled that which was intolerable: and the effect is to be seen in the inquietude, disaffection, and alleniation of feeling of every class—(but the tax-eaters)—from the Government of the country.

Such have been the EFFECTS of Peel's Bill, as far as it has gone. We shall show on another occasion that it has not *yet* been fully reduced to practice; and that the new Banking scheme introduced by the Minister, *is intended to further apply the principle of his Bill of* 1819. But as far as it has gone, such has been, in brief, its devastating effects. It has stripped the debtor of his all. It has reduced hundreds of thousands to beggary. It has given to the fundholder more than twice as much as he ought to receive. It has enabled *him* to rob the land-owners, the house-owners, and the performers of labour of all sorts. It has enabled him to assail the funds of the poor: and it will in the end make it necessary for him to produce a CONVULSION, in which must be destroyed all the Ancient Institutions of the country, unless the people should have the wisdom and the resolution to put a stop to his ravages, by reducing his interest according to the principles of reason and of justice. That END Peel is engaged in producing. He *dare not propose* to deal justly with the nation. The *power* of the Jew Monster is more than he dare face. But he does the next best thing. He applies principles, and puts in action, measures, that must compel the nation to do justice for itself!

THE COLLIERS' STRIKE.

We beg to direct attention to an article in our 3rd page, extracted from *The Miners' Magazine*, stating clearly and fully the demands of the Pitmen of Northumberland and Durham, who have now, for nearly two months past been engaged in a contest forced upon them by the heartless cupidity of the "Coal Kings," who refuse so simple an act of justice as concession of the reasonable and necessary demands in that article set forth.

When the public hear of a "Strike," the idea of a demand for higher wages, or at any rate resistance to a lowering of wages, is immediately uppermost. Aware of this, the masters have industriously laboured to prejudice the public by representing the present struggle as one for the obtainment of higher and exorbitant wages. The men certainly demand a fixed sum of wages—*four shillings per day.* Can any man say that such a sum is exorbitant? That it is more than a "fair day's wage?" Will not all reasonable men admit that so far from the sum being extravagant, it is far too small,—greatly insufficient to provide for the wants of a family in this profit-cursed and tax-ridden country?

But the wages question is by no means the most important of those connected with this strike. There is the question of labour, and the term of its duration per day. The Legislature has refused to interfere for the protection of the working man. It has "thrown him upon his own resources"; told him "it would be *wrong* to restrict his FREEDOM of working (!) for as long or as short as he may please"; that "he is the best judge of what is good for himself," and "the best protector and champion of his own interests." Acting upon this doctrine the men of the North have determined to limit their labour to a term of eight hours daily; knowing that by so doing they will not only be in a position to improve their own minds, cultivate those of their children, and attend better to the duties of home, but that also they will thereby equalise employment, and ultimately secure for themselves better wages than they now have under a system which compels them to work for any number of hours which their task-masters may think proper to impose. Sir Robert Peel, in his late speech on the Ten Hours question, quoted an address from the Miners of the North; and speaking of this demand of Eight Hours' labour, characterized it as "most mischievouss" and "one that would be most injurious if conceded to those who demanded it." Let it be borne in mind that the Miners seek no Eight Hours' Bill. They act upon the decision of the Parliament for themselves to regulate their own labour. They act upon the theory of Sir R. Peel, that "the labourer should be FREE to dispose of his labour as to him seems best." Thinking eight hours per day amply sufficient, they endeavour to make such regulation, when Peel at once turns round—"turns his back upon himself," as Castlereagh would have said, and would, if he could, *deny the working man the privilege of doing that for himself which Parliament refuses to do for him!* and which that Parliament tells him "CAN BEST BE DONE WITHOUT ITS INTERFERENCE." Sir R. Peel characterizes this demand of the Miners of the North as "mischievous," and "one which if carried out would be productive of the most injurious results"; appearing to be in a state of most blissful ignorance of the fact that *the Miners of the South work no more than that term of hours daily.* Yet such is the fact. The lead and copper-miners of Cornwall work only eight hours daily; and though they have the option of working longer if they please, they do not do so, but rigidly confine themselves to that term without any of those lamentable consequences which Sir R. Peel predicts would be the result of a similar regulation being carried out in the North.

We have not space to comment at length upon the various other regulations demanded by the men, and which will be found fully set forth in the article above alluded to. We ask for them the attentive perusal of our readers, assured that if such be given, no one will be found to gainsay the justice of the regulations and the necessity for their adoption. What more just than that having performed a full week's work, the Miner should be paid a full week's wage, the moment he has fulfilled his share of the contract? Yet this the masters refuse, and thereby proclaim, impudently proclaim, their determination to intimidate the workman. A week's wages is always to be kept back, to keep the poor Miner under the thumb of his purse-proud oppressor. What more just, than, if a body of men are to be the bound servants of a master, to work for him and him only; and even though wanting work of him, not allowed to work for another, under pain of going to gaol; what more just, we ask, in return for this worse than feudal serfship, that the master shall be compelled *to guarrantee* to the men at least five days' work in the week, or fifteen shillings? Yet this the masters refuse! They refuse to guarantee either work or wages; though they will send a man to prison who, wanting work from his regular employer, shall seek work anywhere else to save himself and his children from starvation and death. For the points in dispute respecting the mode of calculating by weight or measure the pay-bills, fines, &c., we must refer our readers to the article in our third page. Fraud and meanness is indelibly branded on the foreheads of the masters who can refuse regulations so just as those in dispute. The refusal to employ "trappers" instead of using "fly-doors," and that of medical attendance and weekly relief in case of accident, or a certain allowance to the widows of those who may be KILLED while toiling for those cormorants of Capital, proclaim them the most heartless and cruel of slave-drivers. Gold is their god. The possession of mammon their only hope. Broken limbs and mangled carcasses, are, with them, but the trophies of their successful brigandage—like the scalps of the Indian warrior, the witnesses of their triumphs over their prostrate fellow-creatures. Widows' tears and orphans' cries soften not their hearts. They are at war with justice and mercy. The union of the million and the voice of an enlightened public opinion can alone bring them to a sense of the right, and induce them to grant to fear that which they refuse to reason.

Had the Press been honest, this struggle would weeks ere now, have been brought to a close. Everyday events serve to convince us that of all engines of fraud and oppression—even the Pulpit not excepted—the corrupt, class-fettered Press is the most formidable for evil. Whatever differences of faction or party divide the "race that write" under ordinary circumstances, place before them a body of hard-working ill-paid ground-down and plundered working men; let these working men be simply contending for *the right to live;* let them only demand something like a decent remuneration for their toil; let them exhibit ought of a *spirit* of resistance to the selfish oppression of their task-masters, and forthwith the entire pack of blood-hounds are on the scent to hunt down the defenceless, and destroy the unprotected. This has been eminently the case in the present instance. The press of Northumberland and Durham, of all parties, from the *Newcastle Journal* to the *Gateshead Observer;* from the Tory glorifier of the great Northern Duke down to the *Calveshead* champion of Cobden and Sturge; all—all have combined against Labour and in support of Capital. Had these pretended exponents of public opinion, but argued the case between the contending parties on its fair merits; had they stated the facts and left it to public opinion to settle the question; the masters would at once have been driven to the performance of that justice which they are now moving earth and hell to evade. Next to the masters, these soulless perverters of the truth are chargeable with all the suffering which is, and has been, and which we very much fear for some time, will yet have to be. To the gallant Pitmen we say let "*peace and perseverance*" be your motto: and despite the tyranny of your oppressors, and the falsehood of the faithless quill drivers who support them and calumniate you, YOU WILL YET SUCCEED. The public, as they come to know the real facts of your position, will come to your rescue, and compel a concession to your just and reasonable demands.

To Readers and Correspondents.

J. Mitchel.—No such report was received.

Stars to Ireland.—Any locality in England desirous to send *Stars* to Ireland, will be supplied with a list of fit and proper persons to send them to, by applying to W. H. Dyott, No. 26, North King-street, Dublin.

William Johnston is referred to the advertisement of the Duncombe Testimonial in our first page.

A Factory Worker suggests that the factory operatives should immediately take steps to ensure the ejection of all M.P.s', at the next election, who voted against the Ten Hour's clause, particularly all professing liberals, such as Roebuck, Ward, Warburton, Gisborne, and Co.

J. B., Bishop-Auckland, writes us that the men of the North are more than ever determined to maintain the struggle, and are in a better position now than when the strike began. The shopkeepers see that the demands of the men are just and reasonoble, and this has induced them to give any amount of credit to the men so nobly struggling for their own. The trades too are coming to the rescue, and respectable farmers are not afraid to lend £40 or £50 on the word of an honest pitman. For instance, at the Black Boy Colliery, on its becoming known that some individuals were in want of necessaries, £40 was immediately advanced by one friend, £10 by another, and a third pledged his word for £50 worth of goods; or, even a £160, if necessary. The new move of the "Coal Kings" is to turn the men and their families out of their houses; this they have already done at Hunwick Colliery, but this will only rivet the men more firmly together and excite that universal storm of indignation among all other classes, before which the tyrants must cower and give way.

Samuel Lloyd appeals to the Chartists of Bilston and its neighbourhood to attend the tea-party on Whit-Monday, for the benefit of Joseph Linney. He also hopes that other measures will be adopted to provide a handsome subscription for the victim on his approaching release.

Allerton Bywater Colliery.—The statement of reduction of wages is not authenticated, as it must be if we publish it.

H. C. H., Duckinfield.—We cannot answer his question.

J. M'Farlane, Northampton—We noticed last week on the authority of old "Daddy" Richards himself, that the person going about the country, and *sponging* on the Chartists, as old Mr. Richard's son, is an impostor.

FOR THE EXECUTIVE.

	£	s	d
William Johnston, Basford	0	1	0
VICTIM RICHARDS.			
A few Handloom Weavers at Haggate, near Burnley	0	1	7
A few friends at Burnley, by T. Rickards	0	1	2

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

It appears that the Government have ordered increased precautions to insure the King's personal safety during the residence of the Royal family at the Chateau of Neuilly. This, has given offence to the National Guard, in whose name the *Reforme* states that—"Louis Phillippe and his family were scarcely established at Neuilly than the National Guards had reason to complain of the manner in which the military service of the palace was arranged. As soon as the hour arrives for marching the patrols the commanding officers are ordered to see that the soldiers of the line under their command load their muskets with ball cartridge, whilst the National Guards, who are performing the same service, have neither ball-cartridge nor flints in their guns.

TURKEY.

Constantinople, April 27.—The accounts from Albania are daily becoming of a more gloomy character. Advices from Corfu affirm that intelligence had arrived there to the effect that the Pacha of Scutari had been killed in an onset upon the insurgent Albanians. It is affirmed there that 25,000 of the insurgents had occupied a causeway in a commanding position leading to the town of Scutari, and were attacked by a body of 3,000 of the Nizam, brought from Janina; that the body of the Albanians was dislodged and signally routed, and that their Pasha (or the Turkish Pasha, for the accounts vary) was killed just as the Turkish troops had succeeded in relieving the town. Other communications from Salonica, of very recent date, bring dreadful reports of the Albanians having destroyed Palanka, in the mountains near Iskupe, and butchered 2,000 of the Christian inhabitants. The amount of the insurgents in arms was said to be not less than 30,000. Official accounts from Adrianople announce that detached predatory bands of Albanians are now infesting the whole of that neighbourhood.

ITALY.

The late Executions at Bologna.—A writer in the *Times*, dating from the Stato Ponticio, states that the parties recently condemned by the military Commission were most of them of the working class, and all of them young. Of the fifty persons tried, thirty-three varied only from seventeen to twenty-three years. Of these fifty, there were twenty condemned to death, thirteen to the galleys for life, one for twenty years, five for fifteen, three for ten years, and two, aged respectively seventeen and twenty-three years, to the galleys for five years; the remaining six were discharged *in liberta provisiona*—that is, they may be again tried for their lives, should further evidence be adduced. This Military Commission opened its proceedings with the "divine sacrifice of the mass" and the recital of the accustomed prayers," and their ferocious sentences on misled boys were pronounced after the solemn "invocation of the most holy name of God." Of those condemned to death six have been executed; they were shot in the back in the Prato di St. Antonio, at Bologna, on the morning of the 7th inst.; three of them aged twenty-one, twenty-three, and twenty-eight years respectively."

SWITZERLAND.

Civil War—"Besancon, May 21—A supplement of the *Novelliste Vaudois* of the 19th of May, at noon announces that civil war has broken out in the canton of Valois. The inhabitants of the Upper Valois have seized on Sion; those of the Lower Valoise have risen *en masse*. Each party have some pieces of cannon, and a battle was imminent on the 18th."

JOINT-STOCK BANKING, BEGGING AND ONE POUND NOTES.

To the Editor of the Freeman's Journal.

Sir,—Everybody, rich and poor, merchant and shopkeeper, farmer and labourer, are one and all interested in the circulating medium of the country, while but few, give that attention to the subject which its vast importance demands. Some people are of opinion that the currency question is beneath their notice, and consequently know nothing of the effect which any change in it produce upon society. There are many who hold the opinion that the more banks are established and the more one-pound notes are issued, the more the country is benefitted; in short, that banks and bank-notes cause prosperity—while others are of opinion, and do conscientiously believe, that an unlimited power of issuing one-pound and other notes brings in its train unmitigated misery and destitution, especially amongst the working classes.

I am, Sir, one of those who hold this latter opinion, and I look upon the whole banking system to have been from the beginning to the present period highly injurious to the community at large—a system which has tended more to keep up rack-rents, high prices, and low wages, than all other systems and circumstances put together; besides which, it leads its advocates into the most shameful inconsistencies. I don't see how a man can be a member of the Anti-Corn Law League, whose sole object is to pull down the price of corn and all farming produce, and at the same time the strenuous advocate of joint-stock banks and one-pound notes, for the avowed purpose of keeping up the price of corn and farming produce.

We have heard it stated that "trade is paralyzed in Ireland for want of banking accommodation; that the internal resources of the country are not developed, nor cannot be developed until such banking accommodation is afforded." Let me ask what trade is paralyzed for want of banking accommodation?—and what is meant by the development of the internal resources of the country? Now with respect to trade, I state a fact, when I say that in nine cases out of ten where a country shopkeeper could not meet his bill punctually, his excuse uniformly was, that there were too many traders in the town of late; that trade was over done, in consequence of which, profits were out of the question, and sales could scarcely be effected except at a great sacrifice. Every body knows that is literally true.

As to the beneficial effects of banking accommodation, let us have an example. One fact is worth a thousand arguments. There are at present, and have been for several years past, FOUR BANKS in the *city of Kilkenny*. There was but one in 1800; yet the trade of Kilkenny was ten times greater, and the city more prosperous in 1800, than it is at the present time. Will the advocates of joint-stock banks let us know how this has come to pass? Have the joint-stock banks increased trade in Kilkenny, or in any other town or city where they have been established? I admit that joint-stock banks have increased the price of provisions, kept up rack rents, and diminished labourers' wages. Joint-stock banks have increased wofully in Kilkenny, Clonmell, Carrick-on-Suir, Waterford, Dungarvon, Tipperary, Limerick, Cork, Tralee, and other places, without any increase in the trade and prosperity of these towns and cities. The issuers of one pound kites have contrived to get possession of the hard earnings of honest tradesmen, and in nine cases out of ten have driven those tradesmen into the insolvent calender.

It is asserted "that the agricultural, commercial and manufacturing prosperity of Scotland may be ascribed to a wise and well regulated system of joint-stock banking." In reply to this statement I say that those who know Scotland ascribe its poverty, wretchedness, and destitution, to their true cause, which is known to be joint-stock banking. The great body of the people of Scotland are in the most wretched condition. The poor are licensed to beg; and in the prosperous cities of Scotland eight tickets for the poor are sold for one penny. When a poor Scotch beggar seeks alms you give him the eighth part of a penny, for which he is very thankful, so that here to begin with the Scotch beggar is four times as badly off as the Irish beggar, who gets a halfpenny. The joint-stock banks in Scotland have given a fictitious value to everything: they have made the poor poorer, and added to their numbers; they have made the rich richer, and added to their numbers; but then for every man who has become rich by means of joint stock banks 100 have been reduced to beggary by the same means. He who has been successful shines forth as an example of the beneficial effects of joint-stock banking, while those who have been ruined by its operation hide themselves in lanes and alleys. They are lost to society. The superficial observer looks only at the sunny side; he can see nothing but that which he expects will promote his own interest. The beneficial effects of Scotch joint-stock banking can be seen in the undeniable fact that the constituted authorities in the manufacturing districts have been under the necessity of paying visits periodically to London for the purpose of soliciting alms to save the manufacturers of Scotland from perishing of hunger. No great proof of manufacturing prosperity this, surely. Agricultural prosperity may be seen amongst the wretched labourers who are compelled to herd together on the great laird's farms in "boothies, and feed on brose;" that is, on unboiled oatmeal, salt and cold water, with occasionally a little milk. The Scotch joint-stock banking has had the effect of increasing the number of poor in Scotland, by keeping up rack-rents and the price of all kinds of farming produce without causing any advance in the wages of labour; the result of which is, that there are more poor in Scotland in proportion to the whole population than there are in any other country in Europe. There were very few beggars in Scotland prior to the present "wise and well regulated system of joint-stock banks." The proportion that the poor bear now to the rest of the population is frightful. The working people are not to blame for this; they are honest, frugal, and industrious. Their poverty and destitution are caused by the vicious system under which they are forced to live. For instance, Scotland does not contain more inhabitants than the province of Ulster. It contains nearly three times as many acres of land, fifty times as many beggars. It is, therefore, obvious that the Scotch system of joint-stock banking has increased pauperism in Scotland. If it has not, let those who push themselves forward as public instructors enlighten the public upon this subject. It is incumbent upon them not only to show that banking has not caused beggary, but also to show what else has caused it. Scotch joint stock banks have enabled some Scotchmen to come and buy the potatoes in the ridges before they are ripe, and the cabbages in the gardens in the neighbourhood of Dublin and Belfast, thus adding to the distress and misery of the poor Irish labourer, by raising the price of those articles at his own door, above his means to buy them.

It is true that that vicious system of joint-stock banks in Scotland, which has raised some men from obscurity to affluence, has had, on a minor scale, a similar effect here, where we find some men who failed in every other pursuit which depended for its success upon industry, honesty, sobriety and skill have become successful as BANKERS. "Guenea Malone" was but a novice compared to the great Bankers we have nowadays.

It has been recently stated by a very high authority, "that the suppression of one-pound notes in Ireland would diminish the price of all farming produce, and inflict the egreatest calamity on the country." This doctrin has been formally, and

deliberately propounded by a great statesman; a leading member of the Anti-Corn League, whose professed object is to inflict this calamity by r pealing the Corn Laws, and thus as they and their advocates say, reduce the price of all farming produce. Now I am at a loss to know how it can be reconciled to common sense that diminishing the price of farming produce by the suppression of one-pound notes is a grievous calamity; but diminishing the price of farming produce by repealing the Corn Laws will not be a calamity but a blessing.

We are told by financial pedants that joint-stock banks on the wise Scotch system will have the effect of developing the internal resources of the country; but they forget to tell what these internal resources are. The internal resources of this country are, beef, mutton, pork, butter, wool, and corn; and the development of these means additional facilities to raise and export them to Great Britain cheaper than they can be produced there. Joint-stock banks on the wise Scotch system is sure to do this; and there is not a rack-rent or absentee landlord who is not directly interested in encouraging the introduction of this Scotch joint-stock bank system Joint-stock banks will no doubt afford additional facilities for exporting these necessaries of life, for the want of which our own people who raise them are starving. Will joint-stock banks enable the poor hard-working labourer to eat beef and mutton, bacon and bread, as he ought to do? No, not a bit of it; but the very reverse. The increase of one pound notes will place those necessaries of life farther out of his reach. The rack-rent landlord, and his ally, the issuer of one-pound notes, will soon drive all the small tillage farmers out of the country, have none occupying the land but great graziers, and overgrown farmers, and slaves, who will, if possible, be forced to live upon potato skins.

It can be demonstrated—in fact, it has been incontrovertibly proven before—that if every adult in Ireland who does not taste animal food more than two or three times a-year were to get but half a pound five days in the week during the year, we could not export a single pound of beef, mutton, pork, or bacon. What a pretty state this is for a country to be reduced to!

It is high time for honest men to combine, and endeavour, to prevent professing patriotism from further plundering its deluded, confiding, and credulous dupes under the pretence of abolishing a Banking monopoly, while its obvious purpose is to get into its own hands and for its own profit a far more odious and far more baneful monopoly than that which it professes to abolish.

Bad as the Bank of Ireland is, it has the merit of being domestic. It is not an absentee Bank. It can appoint its own clerks and its own porters without applying for leave to do so to a head in London.

It is not in banking establishments, in the palaces of the rich, in large distilleries, or teetotal breweries, that men of sense and integrity look for the prosperity of a country, but in the condition of the working classes, and there alone.—Give the people their political rights and the foundation of a nation's happiness and prosperity will be laid.

In my opinion the whole system of banking should be utterly abolished. One-pound notes should be immediately suppressed, and all banks of issue put an end to. When this system of banking is utterly abolished, then, and not till then, will honesty, industry, sobriety, and skill have their reward.

Patrick O'Higgins.

Accidents, Offences, Inquests, &c.

Sudden Death.——An awfully sudden death occurred on Tuesday evening, in the vicinity of the Hunt's Bank Station of the Leeds railway, Manchester. Soon after the arrival of the seven o'clock train from Leeds, while the passengers were proceeding from the carriages, a gentleman was observed to fall down as in a fit, and an officer immediately ran to his assistance. It was ascertained that he resided at the Crown and Thistle, Half-street, whither he was accordingly conveyed, and the attendance of a surgical gentleman having been procured, an attempt was made to bleed the deceased, but without effect. He was pronounced to be dead from apoplexy.

Fatal Accident from Machinery.—On Saturday, Mr. Molesworth, deputy coroner, held an inquest at the Old Boar's Head public-house, Heap Bridge, near Ashton, on the body of Simeon Howarth, aged fifteen years, who died on Thursday last from injuries he received about a fortnight before while working in Messrs. Wrigley's paper mill.

Incendiary Fire.—On Thursday morning, the 16th, between seven and eight o'clock, a fire broke out in a rye-stack, on the estate of H. C. Partridge, Esq., Snarehill, which was entirely destroyed. The plantations and brush covers were cut down some yards round the stack, to prevent the flames from reaching them. It was no doubt the work of an incendiary. The stack is situated more than a mile from the road.

Fatal Accident at the London Docks.—On Monday morning, about half-past twelve o'clock, an accident of a peculiarly frightful character happened in the Eastern Basin of the London Dock, to a man named Thompson, belonging to the Sylph, a vessel trading to the West Indies, and which is now unloading at that quay. He was aloft doing something to the rigging, when, from some unexplained cause (being perfectly sober at the time), his foot slipped, and he fell from the maintop-sail yard, a height of perhaps thirty feet, head-foremost on to the deck, striking, in his descent, against the handle of the winch used for hoisting out the sugar hogsheads, which the men had left hardly three minutes before. His skull was literally dashed to pieces by the fall, and the deck strewed with his brains. When taken up he was quite dead, and presented a shocking spectacle, the face being smashed to a mummy, and the arms and ribs completely broken. The poor man had rejoined his wife and family only two days before, after returning safely from a voyage to the West Indies.

Fatal Accident.—On Monday, at the Infirmary, Manchester, an inquest was held before Mr. Chapman, on the body of Thomas Galley, carpenter of Waterside, in the parish of Glossop, who, it appeared, was in the employ of Messrs Miller, Blackey, & Co., railway contractors, of Glossop, and in the afternoon of the 27th ult., was at work on the Manchester and Sheffield railway, near Deepclough. in the above parish. While assisting to draw up a piece of timber of the weight of two tons, by means of what is termed a crab crane and blocks, the rope broke, and the timber fell upon the deceased thereby causing a severe fracture of the spine. The deceased was 34 years of age; and has left a wife and five children.

Fatal Coal Pit Accident.—On Friday 17th, an inquest was held at the Fox Tavern, Ridgehill, before Mr. Rutter, on the body of a man named Thomas Pickersgyke, a collier formerly employed at the Ridgehill colliery. It appears that the deceased was at work on Thursday last, when a boy, about fourteen years of age, who "waggoned" for him, told him that he had better prop the roof of the pit, as it was likely to give way. Deceased replied there was no occasion for doing so. In a few minutes after, however, a portion of the roof fell upon him, and he was killed on the spot. Verdict—"Accidental Death." The deceased has left a wife and one child.

Destructive Fire near Folkestone.—On Monday a fire broke out in the extensive homestead occupied by Mr. Taylor, and known as Enbrook Farm, situate about midway between Folkestone and Cheriton. On the engines arriving at the spot the fire was found to be raging furiously in the stack-yard belonging to the farm. Two wheat ricks were already destroyed, and the flames were rapidly extending themselves. Before water could be procured in any sufficient quantity to be of service, several adjoining stacks were on fire; and, as a strong north-easterly wind was blowing at the time, small hope was entertained of saving any portion of the general wreck. Within little more than half an hour of the outbreak, a large barn full of wheat, all the ricks in the stack-yard, and various lesser outbuildings, were one complete burning mass. So rapid was the progress of the flames, that all those at work on the farm where the fire broke out could do was to remove the horses and other live stock out of danger. The farm in the stack-yard and homestead continued to rage with undiminished violence, and only ceased when it had literally burnt itself out. When the last up-train left last night, nothing remained but a heap of smouldering ruins.

Incendiary Fire.—On Thursday evening, the 16th instant, about nine o'clock, a fire broke out on the farm of Mr. Daniel Dixon, of Moldash, which in a short time reduced all the buildings and stacks to ashes. It was first discovered in a three floored barn, and such was the rapidity with which the flames spread, that the building, containing about one hundred quarters of wheat, the adjoining cart lodges and stable, and some straw stacks, were consumed, despite all attempts to avert it. Two bullocks and two calves also perished; but two horses were fortunately rescued after receiving only some injuries. The dwelling-house, and a small lodge at a distance from the immediate scene of devastation, were happily preserved.

Child Murder and Suicide.—An occurrence has lately taken place at Westlaby, near Lincoln, which has excited a great sensation in that locality. Some persons who were taking young rooks in Mr. Tongue's rookery, found a bundle which contained a dead child, and one of the men most unfeelingly kicked it into some ivy. The affair, however, caused a good deal of conversation; it was mentioned to Ann Robinson, Mr. Tongue's housekeeper, and she was observed to evince confusion, though at the moment she passed the matter off with a mere expression of surprise. In the course of the evening the dead child disappeared from the ivy bush, and could not then be found, and the same night Robinson destroyed herself by taking a large dose of laudanum. The child was hers; but nothing transpired tending to show whether it had been put to death or died in the birth through neglect. Inquests were held on both bodies. In the case of the woman a verdict of *felo de se* was returned; in that of the child the jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" against the deceased Ann Robinson.

Deaths by Drowning, at Wakefield.—About half-past four on the morning of the 18th inst., as some men were unloading a vessel near to Messrs Thompson's corn mill, they observed the body of a boy floating perpendicularly in the water. The body was got out and removed to the house of Mr. Chas. Dibb, where it was identified as the body of a boy aged seven years, the son of Joseph Crosgrove, an umbrella mender, lodging in Wrengate. It had been missing since the previous Sunday morning. Thomas Lee, Esq., coroner, held an inquest on the remains the same day, when a verdict of "Found Drowned," was returned by the Jury.—Another inquest was held at the Jolly Sailor Inn, East Moor, on the 20th inst., on the body of another youth named Thulis, aged twelve years, who had been catching fishes at a brick pond, on the Sunday afternoon, in company with other children, when he overbalanced himself, and fell into the water. He was dead before assistance could be procured. Verdict —"Accidentally Drowned."

Death from Lock Jaw.—Mr. Joseph Bayne, Deputy Coroner for London, held an inquest on Tuesday evening, at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, on the body of John Maguire, aged thirty years, whose death occurred under the following circumstances:—It appeared in evidence that the deceased was a horsekeeper, in the service of Mr. Turner, a cab proprietor, of Mount-pleasant, Gray's Inn-lane. On the 7th instant he sold a load of manure to a countryman, who filled his cart so full that his horse could not draw it out of the yard, when deceased and another man attempted to assist by pushing the wheels. While thus engaged the horse made a sudden plunge, and the back of deceased's hand was caught on a hook fixed on the side of the cart. The flesh was lacerated a good deal, and deceased got the wound dressed by Mr. Brydges, a surgeon, of Euston-street, under whose care he continued for several days. On the 15th instant he first complained of pains in the jaw, and said he had a difficulty in closing his mouth. By the advice of his wife he then applied to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where he was admitted on Thursday last. Every attention was shown to the deceased, notwithstanding which the unfavourable symptoms increased, and he died on Sunday morning, about three o'clock, from the effects of lock jaw.—Verdict accordingly.

Strange Suicide in France—On Saturday afternoon, at about two o'clock, a young man, most elegantly dressed, entered the church of St. Gervais, and after having knelt for some time before the painting representing St. Juliette, went into the confessional of the chapel in which it hangs, and appeared to be praying with fervour. At the end of a short time an explosion was heard, and the young man, who had blown out his brains with a pistol, fell backward on the flooring of the church. No papers were found upon him to indicate who he was, but in one of his pockets was a letter addressed to a female residing at Coulange-sur-Yonne, and who is styled in it sister. In this letter he speaks of a secret which he had not possessed courage enough to reveal to her. His body was conveyed to the Morgue to be identified. A marriage was being celebrated in an adjoining chapel at the time of this suicide.

Bradford.—Bursting of another Steam Boiler. —On Friday, about twelve o'clock, a steam boiler on the premises of Mr. Allens, Thornton Road, manufacturers, exploded. Fortunately no person was near at the time. The only damage was the stopping of the mill, and filling the fire hole with water. One of the girls on leaving the mill exclaimed, "the boilers are all bursting, because the parliament folk wo'nt give us the Ten Hours' Bill."

Extensive Fire in Dorset.—We regret to state that since the great fire at Lyme Regis on last Saturday week, which, it will be recollected, burnt down the Custom house and sixty other buildings, intelligence has been received of farther calamitous outbreaks happening in the same county. On the Sunday following the conflagration at the above town, a dreadful fire occurred at the village of Seavington, near Chard, which, before an hour had elapsed after its discovery, destroyed three dwelling-house, tenanted by respectable tradesmen, as also a barn and other buildings, a fine horse, and two large Newfoundland dogs being burnt to death. At Winfreth, situate about nine miles from Dorchester, a destructive fire broke out on the same day, by which six houses were consumed. The chief of the occupiers were agricultural labourers, and consequently they will suffer severely from their serious loss. On Wednesday, at the villages of Stoke St. Mary and Rodford, alarming outbreaks took place. Four cottages were burnt down at the former, and three at the latter. At Sherborne, on Thursday, the Court-house, farmhouse and buildings attached, in the occupation of Mr. Thornford, were consumed. The property, which belongs to the Earl of Digby, is insured. In the parish of Lonfleet, near Poole, on the same day, two cottages and outhouses were levelled to the ground; and nearly at the same time a destructive fire took place at Woodford, in the main London road, and before the flames could be effectually checked, five houses had fallen a sacrifice; and, lastly, on Saturday, the town of Trowbridge was visited in a like manner, three substantial buildings having been destroyed. Happily, not a single life was lost at any of the above fires.

Incendiary Fire.—On Sunday afternoon, about four o'clock, the inhabitants of Stowmarket were alarmed by the cry of "fire," when it was discovered that one bean and two hay stacks, at Abbott's Hall, were on fire. Two persons are in custody, who were seen near the spot a short time before the fire broke out.

Law and Police.

Confession of a Murder committed Nine Years' ago.—A report having been circulated in Colchester that a native of Polstead, Essex, at present in the East Indies, had been apprehended for having committed a murder nine or ten years back, and for which an innocent man was hung, we have ascertained the following particulars:—On Monday morning last, Sir Joshua Rowley, Bart., of Steke-by-Nayland, received a communication from Colonel Dear, of the 21st Regiment of Fusiliers, stationed in the East Indies, with the copy of the Court of Inquiry on a case which has caused a great sensation in that regiment. A short time back a young man of the name of William Towns, a native of Polstead, whilst on guard, mentioned to one of his comrades that he was most miserable and wretched, and was determined on committing suicide, or else (pointing to a file of guns which were piled together opposite them) he must shoot one of his officers, or commit some deed in order that he might be hung, and that justice might be satisfied. His comrade advised him to get consolation from the minister of his persuasion; but at this period of their conversation three other soldiers came up and inquired what it was that preyed so heavily upon his mind. He then told them, that nine years ago, he went out poaching in Hintlesham Wood; that he murdered the gamekeeper; and that an innocent man was hung for it, and he was present at the execution, with James Hill, of the same regiment. He added, that he had not been able to rest for some time; and also stated that he saw both the men in his dreams, and was haunted by their visions day and night, till death would be welcome to him in any shape. A court of inquiry followed, and the soldiers severally deposed to the confession of the prisoner, who made no attempt to contradict them. It appears that about nine years ago, the gamekeeper and his assistant, in the service of Miss Lloyd, of Hintlesham Hall, heard a party of poachers in the preserves, and when they got there, finding only three poachers, they attempted to take them into custody; but they were violently attacked by the poachers, and Byam Green, the gamekeeper, was barbarously murdered, his skull being literally dashed to atoms by a blow struck with a gun, which was left behind. A reward was offered for the discovery of the murderer, and a man of the name of Chalker, a French polisher, living at Ipswich, was apprehended on the charge. At his trial, the gun was distinctly proved to have been his, as well as the dog which accompanied the poachers, and it was further proved that he was seen in the neighbourhood, drinking, before the fatal affray took place. The evidence, although calculated to throw strong suspicion upon Chalker, was purely of a circumstantial character, and it was a matter of doubt whether the Government of the day would allow his execution to take place. However, in accordance with his sentence, the prisoner suffered the extreme penalty of the law, at Ipswich, protesting his innocence of the murder to the last, but acknowledging having been one of the party of poachers.—*Essex Standard.*

Suspected Murder at Sunderland.—On Thursday a waterman named William Softley was brought before the Mayor and sitting magistrates, on suspicion of being concerned in the death of a soldier named Daggan, belonging to the 37th Regiment, who was found in the river on Wednesday morning, with various wounds on his head. The prisoner was remanded. An inquest was held the same evening before Mr. J. C. Maynard. Considerable doubt existing, the jury left it open for further magisterial examination by returning verdict of "Found Drowned."

Horrible Affair.—On Saturday, after the disposal of the night cases, at Queen-square Police-office, Mr. Ryder, chairman to the Board of Guardians of St. Luke's Chelsea, requested the advice and assistance of the magistrate under the following very extraordinary circumstances!—Mr. Charles Morris, a person who had lately come to reside in Chelsea, had his attention called to groans which proceeded, night after night, from No. 4, Princes-street. He accordingly brought the matter before the Rev. R. Burgess, rector of the parish, who having frequently received intimation that other parties heard the same sounds, had written him (Mr. Ryder) to take some steps to see whether the groans and cries did not proceed from some human being confined in a room of the house. He instituted inquiries, and found that the information given to the Rev. Mr. Burgess in the letter, and confirmed by his own, was too correct. Some horrifying scene was being acted in that house; and the groans and cries of a human being, chained as it was supposed to a wall or bed, for he was never seen near the window, appalled the ears of the neighbours almost nightly. Mr. Burrell expressed his astonishment that it could have existed for so long a period without the interference of the neighbours. Mr. Ryder said that the door of the house, as they could best learn, had not been opened for years, and, unable as they were to obtain any evidence on the subject, and fearful of getting into some difficulty, it had been suffered to go on until the present moment. Mr. Burrell asked if they had ascertained who were the inmates? Mr. Ryder replied, that as far as they could learn, it was occupied by a woman named Pelham, who had been the kept mistress of some Noble Lord, and who had had two natural children by him, for which she received an allowance. It had been rumoured that one of these children, a son, was of unsound mind. It was then agreed that an entrance should be made into the house without any previous intimation being given, lest that should frustrate their object in learning the real state of matters. Mr. Forbes, inspector of the B division, was accordingly desired to take a party of police with him and proceed to the house in question. Mr. Ryder, and the chief usher of the court, accompanied the police. On the return of the latter, at about half-past four, he communicated to Mr. Burrell the result of their visit to the house. He said, that they had effected an entrance by getting over a side wall, and in at the back door, and, after much hesitation, the back room on the first floor was opened by a female, when the most revolting scene that had ever come within his view during a very lengthened experience burst upon them. On a small straw bed lay a poor human creature of the male sex, without one morsel of clothing more than old and filthy rags, which might be termed a shirt, and a small piece of flannel or blanket. Beneath him was a hole rotted through the filthy straw of the bed, evidently by his own excrements, and maggots and loathsome vermin of every description were crawling on his frame, which was so obscured by filth, that it was almost difficult to discern him a human being. His beard reached nearly down to his middle, and his nails protruded some inches beyond his toes. In a few minutes afterwards the police returned to the office, bringing with them a fashionably-dressed female, from fifty to sixty years of age, and a heavy working man about thirty. On being placed at the bar, the female gave her name as Harriet Eleanor Pelham, and the man was described as her son, Wilson Pelham. Mr. Ryder, who was deeply affected, said that such a spectacle as that they had just witnessed had very rarely been seen. He proceeded to describe it in substantially the same terms as those already given. He added, that after their admission, the poor creature, who was evidently a lunatic, was dressed, a portmanteau full of clean wearing apparel being brought from some other part of the house, and he was then put in a cab and conveyed to the workhouse. The female at the bar said that the unfortunate man was her son, and that he and his brother (Wilson Pelham) were natural children of General Spencer. In concluding his statement, Mr. Ryder expressed his surprise that the filth in the room had not engendered some most fatal disease. The female wretch attempted to justify her abominable conduct to the unfortunate lunatic. Mr. Burrell said that it was a most horrible and deplorable case. The treatment of the mother and son who controlled the unfortunate man, had gone on until they were callous to all feeling. The poor creature was now rescued and placed where every attention would be paid him. Defendants must stand committed in default of finding heavy bail until Thursday, when they might produce any evidence they thought fit. The prisoners, who appeared surprised, said there was nobody to look after their house. Mr. Burrell said he could not help that.

The Convict Barber.—Great exertions it appears are being made with the Government to procure some amelioration of the sentence of transportation for life upon this convict. A petition, prepared by the solicitor of Barber, has been presented to her Majesty on behalf of Barber. It is reported Mr. Wilkins has had an interview with Sir J. Graham relative to Barber, and that the transportation has been postponed for a month. —*Observer.*

Execution.—On Wednesday week, John Cordery underwent the extreme penalty of the law in front of Carrickfergus jail, for the murder of Sergeant Dodd, of the 66th Regiment. The place of execution was attended by 72 soldiers belonging to the 66th Regiment (eight from each company in town), a portion of the company stationed at the Castle, a party of the 5th Dragoons, and a large posse of police, under the command of Captain Flieter. At the instant Cordery was thrown off, seven soldiers of the 66th fainted away, and were carried to a garden opposite the jail, where they remained a considerable time before animation was restored, and at the same time a dragoon fell from his horse in a swoon. In the fall his face was severely cut. Cordery was 24 years of age, and was a native of Stoke, Buckinghamshire. He had only been five months married.

Execution in Ireland.—On Saturday, at one o'clock, James Hickey, convicted of the murder of Hanly, at Green Hall, and John Cooke, for the murder of Nowlan, near Roscrea, underwent the last sentence of the law at the front of Nenagh county gaol. Hickey was a stout man, apparently about thirty-six years of age, was married, and had no children. His wife was permitted to see him a few days since, to bid him farewell for ever, when, as we have been informed, the scene was truly affecting. Cooke was but a young lad, whose education was altogether neglected, for he could neither read nor write, and was scarcely more than twenty. His father and mother are alive and reside in Clonmel. His mother and sister came a few days ago to see him, and take their last and final adieu. At five minutes past one, the unfortunate men appeared on the drop, accompanied by the Rev. Mr. Power, R.C.C, the Rev. Mr. Bowles, R.C.C., and the Rev. Mr. Birmingham, P.P. of Borrisokane, when Hickley declared his innocence of Hanly's murder—that he had neither hand, act, nor part in it; that he was never concerned in a robbery, or in the taking of fire-arms; that he forgave his unjust prosecutors, and concluded by saying, "God be with my company in Newport. Boys pray for us. May the Lord have mercy on my soul." The unfortunate man ceased to exist in a few seconds, without even a struggle. Cooke, the younger of the two by many years, appeared less firm than his companion, declared his guilt, and acknowledged the justice of his sentence, and said there was no one else concerned in the murder of Nowlan but himself and Moylan. He begged the prayers of the people, and after the drop fell he appeared to suffer much, his body being frequently agitated with convulsive throes for seven or eight minutes.

Murder and Robbery.—On Monday, James Hanstead, a dock foreman, Alexander Nicholson, a milkman, and two sisters named Mary Ann Ash and Rosetta Bragger, were brought before Mr. Ballantine, at the Thames Police-court, on a charge of assaulting and robbing Mr. Williams, the landlord of the Chequers public-house in Wappingwall, Lower Shadwell, who has since died. The prisoners were sent to Clerkenwell prison, to await the result of the inquest over the body of the deceased.

Murder.—The same day W. Hend was committed from Clerkenwell on a charge of killing a woman named Catherine Sheehan, by violently beating her while in a fit of passion.

The Collier's Strike.—On Monday last Captain Mildrum, of the Eliza collier, of Newcastle, appeared upon a summons at the Mansion-house, to answer the complaint of George Thorborn and several other seamen, who charged him with having unreasonably detained them for several weeks in the port of London. As the men are paid so much for the voyage, and are bound to perform it, the detention is a great loss to themselves and families. The vessels are delayed at Gravesend by the owners, waiting for a rise in the price of coals in London. The applicants were told that there was no law under which the Bench could interfere for their protection.

Hollinwood.—Tyrannical Conduct of a Constable.—On Sunday evening last, four respectable looking young women were taken before the Rev. J. Holme, magistrate of this place, charged by Constable Berry with behaving in a disorderly manner. The circumstances of the case are as follows:—One of the young women who resides at Oldham, and who, along with her parents formerly resided in Manchester, had been to the latter place for the purpose of receiving the sick gift of a club, of which her father is a member, he being at present unable to work from sickness, and having met with three of her former companions they accompanied her as far as Hollinwood on her way home. When about to separate, one of them observed, that as it might be a long time before they should see their companion again, she would give her a "parting kiss," which she accordingly did, the rest of her companions following the example. Berry, who was near the spot, and who pays great attention to the preservation of the morals of the people, shocked at beholding such disgraceful conduct as the above, took them into custody and placed them in the lockup adjoining the Buck Inn, where they were confined for several hours. The cries of the poor girls, however, attracted the attention of the landlord, and he sent to the magistrate, who gave orders that they should be brought before him at his residence, which they were; and after having heard the circumstances of the case he discharged them. The conduct of Berry on this occasion has excited one general feeling of indignation throughout the village, the inhabitants declaring that if such conduct be allowed to pass unnoticed, it will be dangerous for people to leave their homes.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS—Thursday, May 23.

The Royal Assent was given to day to the Eastern Counties Railway Bill (No. 1), to the Eastern Counties Railway Bill (No. 2), to the Selby and York Railway Bill, to the South-Eastern Extention Railway Bill, to the Furness Railway Bill, to the Darlington Junction Railway Bill, to the Hartlepool Dock and Harbour Bill, to the Coal Mining Company's Bill, and several Inclosure and Naturalization Bills.

After the presentation of some petitions, the Doncaster and Carlisle Railway Bill came under discussion, and caused a very peculiar and personal debate; Lord Brougham considering himself particularly aggrieved by the conduct of the company, in their proposed mode of passing his property; and having procured the addition of a clause to enable him, as Lord Campbell said, "to erect gates "across the Queen's highway, and that, too, upon the great North road." But the matter took a wider and somewhat more personal range than the merits of a particular clause in a Railway Bill. Lord Brougham attributed the opposition to the clause to feelings of spleen towards himself; whereupon the Marquis of Clanricarde got up, and, with much warmth, rebuked the Noble and Learned Lord for overrating himself; he had great abilities, eloquence, and so forth, but other and higher qualities were requisite to the formation of a great man. The remarks of the Noble Marquis called up Lord Brougham again, who abused his old friends the Whigs in his usual style. The discussion finally closed with the passing of the Bill.

The House was then adjourned to Thursday, the 30th inst.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—Wednesday, May 22.

The Speaker took the chair at four o'clock, at which time there were exactly forty members present.

Mr. Warburton presented petitions against the bastardy clause in the New Poor Law.

Lord Sandon presented a petition from the journeymen coopers of Liverpool, praying the House to take into consideration the distressed state of their trade.

On the motion of Sir G. Clerk leave was given to bring in a Bill to enable her Majesty to carry into effect the existing treaties for the suppression of the Slave Trade.

On the motion of Mr. Labouchere, the Forestalling and Regrating Prevention Bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on the 3rd of June.

Mr. Greene brought up the report on the Bank Charter Act, which was received. The resolutions were then agreed to; and a Bill founded on them was ordered to be brought in.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the House adjourned at five o'clock.

Thursday, May 23.

The Manchester Police Bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. Ferrand gave notice that, on the 30th of May, he should move for copies of the correspondence which had taken place between Mr. Ryder, the Chairman of the Chelsea Board of Poor Law Guardians, and the Poor Law Commissioners, on the subject of the removal of a pauper from Kensington to Chelsea while he was in a dying state.

The Customs' Duties Bill was read a third time and passed.

Mr. W. O. Stanley rose, pursuant to notice, to call the attention of the House to the petition of Dr. O. Roberts (presented on the 15th of April), praying for inquiry into the manangement of the Friars' (Bangor) Free School, and other endowed free schools in the diocese of Bangor and St. Asaph, and to move for a select committee to inquire into the same.

After a short discussion, in which Colonel Pennant, Sir George Grey, and Mr. Hume took part, Mr. Stanley withdrew his motion.

Mr. Hume moved an address to her Majesty, to give directions that, whenever her Majesty shall grant the honour of the Peerage, or Baronetcy, or Knighthood, for eminent public services, no fees shall be charged thereon.

The motion was negatived without a division.

Mr. Christie rose to bring on his motion respecting the universities, but was met by a request that the House be counted, when forty Members not being present, the House adjourned.

Chartist Intelligence.

BIRMINGHAM.—An open air meeting was held here, at Duddeston Row, on Sunday morning last, at ten o'clock, which was addressed by Mr. George White at great length. Mr. W. gave a general description of the state of the Chartist movement in the various towns he had visited. He declared the principles of the Charter to be more deeply impressed on the minds of the working classes than in the midst of greater excitement. Wherever the working men depended on their own energy, the cause was prosperous; but, in all cases where they sought the aid of, or depended on, middle-men, there was nothing but endless quarrels and bickerings. They wanted the Charter to enable them to get rid of middle-class tyranny and profit mongering, that fruitful source of human misery; and it was extreme folly to expect those who plundered them in private life to join with them in their struggle. A petition against "Warburton's Anatomy Act" was read and unanimously agreed to. Mr. White declared his intention of removing from Birmingham in a short time, and residing in Yorkshire, after which the meeting separated.

Monday Evening.—Mr. White addressed a meeting this evening, at Duddeston Row, and again gave a lengthy definition of what he meant by "whole hog" Chartism. The noble old veteran, "Daddy" Richards, also addressed the meeting at great length, and was warmly received. He is in good health after enduring a long imprisonment.

Daddy Richards addressed a crowded audience at the christian Chartist Church, on Sunday last.

STOCKPORT.—On Sunday last, the first of a series of camp meetings was held in the afternoon, at half-past two o'clock, which was addressed by Mr. Dixon, from Manchester; and notwithstanding the very unfavourable state of the weather, a very numerous and respectable meeting assembled and listened to one of the most powerful and instructive lectures ever delivered. In the evening, the weather being so very cold, the meeting was confined to our own room, Bomber's Brow, when Messrs. J. and R. Wild, who have lately been liberated from Knutsford prison, after nineteen months confinement, delivered each of them very instructive and powerful addresses in favour of the principles for which they have suffered. They both declared themselves to be more firmly attached to the principles of Chartism than ever.

SALFORD.—A lecture was delivered in the Charter Association Room, Great George's-street, Salford, upon the conduct of the House of Commons on the Ten Hours' Bill, on Sunday evening last, by Mr. Wm. Dixon. The thanks of the meeting was given to the lecturer and chairman, and the people dispersed, determined never to rest satisfied until the Ten Hours' Bill was carried, and the Charter the law of the land.

TODMORDEN.—Brown, the Free Trade Candidate.—On Monday last, Brown, the Free Trade candidate for South Lancashire, visited Todmorden, accompanied by the notorious Cobden. After the delivery of some most wretched twaddle dignified by the name of speeches, Mr. Horsfall boot and shoemaker, came forward, and requested permission to ask Mr. Brown the following questions; but previous to asking them, he proved to the satisfaction of the assembly that Free Trade would not be beneficial under the present system of taxation:—Question 1st, Will you vote for the Charter being made the law of the land? Answer—I am not perfectly aware what the Charter is; but if you will explain it, I will tell you whether I will or not. Mr. Horsfall then said, Gentlemen, I am really surprised to find a candidate for Parliamentary honours who does not know what the Charter is; but I will for his instruction go through the whole Six Points contained in that document, and ask him separately whether he will support them. Then, Sir, (said Mr. Horsfall) will you vote for every man who is twenty-one years of age not condemned by the laws of his country, and of sane mind, to have a vote in the election of members of Parliament? The answer was that the people were too ignorant to have a vote, and therefore he would not vote for that point. Mr. Horsfall called out at the top of his voice, Working men, he says you are too ignorant to have a vote. This caused Mr. Brown's friends to deny he had used the expression, and he said they were "not sufficiently intelligent in the agricultural districts to use the franchise." With a little more quibbling upon the point, they left that, and Mr. Horsfall then proceeded through the whole of the "Six Points." The answers to some of them were a plain "No," and to others he did not sufficiently understand them to give a decided answer; but he would be guided by his convictions upon hearing them discussed. Mr. Horsfall then asked him—would he vote for a Ten Hours' Bill? He hesitated a little and then said, he thought that question was settled; but that he did not think it would benefit the labourer, but the reverse. We understood him to say he would not pledge himself to vote for it. The next question was—would he vote for the repeal of the new Poor Law? In answer to this he said he was not in favour of aged people being separated in bastiles. After having done questioning him, Mr. Horsfall made some very pointed remarks upon the answers returned to his questions, and requested the people to use their judgment upon the fitness of the candidate to represent them. Mr. Cobden was then introduced, and spoke for about a quarter of an hour, in his usual style; at the conclusion, Mr. Brook came forward, to ask a few questions. After a great deal of quibbling, he did get permission. He said he was not satisfied with the answer given to the question put to the candidate; would he (Mr. Brown) vote for a repeal of the new Poor Law? Instead of answering it fairly he had evaded it; but he hoped Mr. Brown would state explicitly whether he would vote for its repeal or not. The same answer as before was returned. Mr. Brook then said he had a question to ask Mr. Cobden—what was the reason he did not meet Mr. O'Connor, after having challenged him to a discussion. Mr. Cobden said *he had never challenged Mr. O Connor*, and that he could find better use for his time, and was glad Mr. O'Connor was opposed to them. Mr. Brook then said he was sure Mr. Cobden had challenged Mr. O'Connor no fewer than three times, at three different places, but that he durst not meet him. He had been requested by his constituents at Stockport to meet him, and yet he durst not do so. Mr. Cobden then got exasperated, and challenged Mr. Brook to meet him at Stockport. This created a roar of laughter. Mr. Brook said, I know Mr. Cobden you are a great boaster, but a very great coward at heart At the conclusion, the chairman called for three cheers for Mr. Brown, but it would not take. Three cheers were given for Mr. O'Connor and the Charter, which made the welkin ring again. Cobden and Co. will not forget their visit to Todmorden.

LONDON.—Cripplegate.—Mr. Doyle delivered an excellent lecture on Free Trade fallacies, at the City Arms Coffee Rooms, Red Cross-street, on Tuesday evening last, to a crowded audience. He was loudly applauded throughout.

A Public meeting was held at the National Hall, High Holborn, on Tuesday evening, on the subject of Free Trade, Currency, and the Bank Charter, and holding out, to use the language of the placard, "Plenty of work, high wages, and good profits," as the great object of the meeting. Samuel Murray, Esq., was called to the chair, and after several speeches a resolution was submitted in favour of the above objects. Mr. George Rogers, of High-street, St. Giles's, moved an amendment in favour of the People's Charter, which was duly seconded, Mr. Bronterre O'Brien spoke in favour of both objects, recommended that the resolution should be passed, and that the amendment should be afterwards submitted as a substantive resolution. The amendment was carried by a large majority. The announcement was received with loud cheers.

Leeds.—We are given to understand that the necessary steps have been taken for calling a vestry meeting for the purpose of establishing a select vestry for this township. The meeting is called for Thursday evening next, at seven o'clock, in the vestry of the parish church. The meeting will be one of the most important that has been held in this town. By the establishment of a select vestry the predominance of the Whig party at the workhouse board will be put an end to, and the accounts of the workhouse will have to be brought forward at vestry meetings. Chartists be at your posts, and elect men who will pay more regard to the wants of the poor than has been the case with the overseers. The Whigs will fight hard to prevent this taking place. Be you there in time. Recollect, Thursday evening, at seven o'clock.

Sheffield.—The late Samuel Holberry.—A correspondent informs us that a very handsome monumental stone has been placed on the grave of the above martyred patriot. The following inscription appears on the stone, written by Mr. Edwin Gill, of Sheffield:—

SACRED
TO THE MEMORY OF
SAMUEL HOLBERRY,
Who, at the early age of 27, died in York Castle,
After suffering an imprisonment of two years
and three Months, June 21st, 1842
For advocating what to him appeared to be the
true interests of the People of
ENGLAND.

Vanish'd is the feverish dream of life,
The rich and proud find no distinction here,
The great and lowly end their care and strife;
The well-beloved may have affection's tear,
But at the last the *Oppressor* and the *Slave*
Shall *Equal* stand before the bar of God;
Of *Him* who life, and hope, and *Freedom* gave
To all that through this vale of tears have trod.
Let none then murmur 'gainst the wise decree,
That ope'd the door and set the captive free.

Also, of Samuel John, his Son,
who died in his infancy.
This Tablet was erected by his bereaved Widow.

Bolton.—A general trade meting of the operative cotton spinners of Bolton was held in the Britannia large room, on Sunday evening last, for the purpose of hearing the report of their delegate, Mr. Samuel Howarth, who had been delegated by that body to London, for the purpose of assisting in the forwarding of the ten hours question. At the close of Mr. Howarth's report the following was agreed to:—"That in the opinion of this meeting of operative cotton spinners, a vote of censure is due, and hereby given, to Henry Ashworth, Esq., Dr. Bowring, R. Cobden, J. Bright, J. R. Roebuck, R. H. Gregg, and all others who opposed Lord Ashley's amendment on the ten hour's question; and that the *Bolton Free Press*' the *Bolton Chronicle*, and the *Northern Star* be requested to insert it in their paper of Saturday next.

Great Open Air Meeting. A lecture was delivered in the new Market Place, Bolton, on Sunday last, by Mr. Schofield, of Manchester, to a respectable and attentive audience. At the close of the lecture Mr. Davies moved, and Mr. Schofield seconded, the following resolution—"That it is the opinion of this meeting that a vote of censure is due and hereby given, to Sir R. Peel, Sir J. Graham, Messrs Warburton, Gibson, Hume, Clay, Bright, Roebuck, Villiers, and all others who voted against the Ten Hours' Bill.

Appalling Murder at Nottingham—On Thursday afternoon the police discovered the bodies of a woman and three children, in a plantation, near Colwick, with their throats cut. They are identified as the wife and children of a William Saville, of this town, who was seen taking a walk with them in that direction, on Tuesday morning last. The man is apprehended.

South Lancashire Election.—The candidates, Mr. Entwisle (Conservative) and Mr. Brown (Free-Trader) are both busily engaged canvassing the electors. The nomination took place on Friday, at Newton, and the polling will take place on Monday and Tuesday next.

EPSOM RACES.

THE DERBY STAKES of 50 sovs each, h ft, for three yrs old, colts, 8st 7lbs; fillies, 8st 2lbs. The owner of the second horse to receive 100 sovs out of the stakes, and the winner to pay 100 sovs towards the police regulations of the Course. Last mile and a half. (155 subs).

Mr. A. Wood's Running Rein	(Mann)	1
Colonel Peel's Orlando	(Nat)	2
Colonel Peel's Ionian	(G. Edwards)	3

(29 started).

IRELAND—THE STATE PROSECUTIONS.

Dublin Court of Queen's Bench, May 22nd.—The Judges did not enter Court until twenty minutes past four o'clock.

The Chief Justice said, immediately after taking his seat, Mr. Attorney-General, I have to state to you that the Court has appointed Friday morning for giving judgment in the case of the Queen v. O'Connell and others.

The Court immediately adjourned.

NOTICE.

THE Public are raspectfully informed that the Committee appointed to receive Subscriptions for the Miners of Northumberland and Durham, now on Strike, will attend at Kersall Moor to receive Subscriptions for the above purpose. A Member of the Committee will be placed at each of the Entrances to the Race Course, each Day, at the Manchester Races.

The Trades and Country Districts are informed that the Committee sits every Monday Evening, at Eight o Clock, at the Committee Room, 43, Brook-Street, under the Carpenters' Hall; when Contributions for the above Purpose will be thankfully received.

JOHN MURRAY, Treasurer.
THOS. PARKIN, Secretary.

THEATRE, LEEDS.

Licensed pursuant to Act of Parliament of the 6th and 7th of Victoria, Cap. 68., under the Sole Management and Lesseeship of Mr. J. L. Pritchard, late of the Theatre Royal Covent-garden, Hawkin-street, Dublin, and Edinburgh, and now Lessee of the York Theatrical Circuit.

THE Public are respectfully informed, that the Theatre will open for the Season on WHIT-MONDAY, May 27th, and Performances will continue to take place on every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday Evenings, for the Months of June and July, 1844.

On Whit-Monday, May 27th, 1844, previous to the Play, the National Anthem of "God save the Queen" will be sung—the principal vocal Parts by Miss Villars, Mrs. Gilbert (late Miss Raymond), Mrs. Gourlay, Misses Harcourt, Mr. Smythson, Mr. French, and Mr. Charles Bland, formerly a popular Favourite in this Circuit.

Her Majesty's Servants will commence the Theatrical Season with Mr. James Sheridan Knowles's beautiful play of THE WIFE, a Tale of Mantua.

After which, a variety of Singing and Dancing. To conclude with an entirely new Tale of Fairy Land, and Comic Pantomime, with new and extensive Scenery, Machinery, Dresses, and Decorations, interspersed with Combats, Dances, Choruses, and Processions, entitled HARLEQUIN and the OCEAN QUEEN! or, the King of the Ruby Castle, and the Magic Yew Branch.

The extensive Machinery, Tricks, &c. by Messrs. Bath and Dewar.—The splendid Scenery painted by Messrs. Gilbert and Dalby. The whole written and produced under the sole direction of Mr. James Elsgood.

Doors Open at Half-past Six; to commence at Seven. Boxes, 3s.—Pit 2s.—Gallery 1s.

JUST PUBLISHED, Cloth Lettered.—Price 1s. 6d. PRACTICAL GRAMMAR, or Composition Divested of Difficulties, with Select Examples from the writings of Elegant Authors; containing all that is necessary for ordinary purposes and no more; and intended for the use of those who have little time to study.

By G. J. Holyoake.

"No department of knowledge is like grammar. A person may conceal his ignorance of any other art—but every time he speaks, he publishes his ignorance of this. There can be no greater imputation on the intelligence of any man, than that he should talk from his cradle to the tomb, and never talk well."—G. J. H.

London: J. Watson, 5, Paul's Alley, Paternoster-row; E. Nichols, 61, Broad street, Birmingham; M. Roalfe and Co., 105, Nicolson-street, Edinburgh.

CLEAVE'S GAZETTE OF VARIETY,

Now Publishing, Price 6d., Part I.

IT is Published in Weekly (penny) Numbers, and its First Part, consisting of Five Numbers, is now issued. It is admirably printed, and contains an excellent and instructive variety of general knowledge, literature, and science. We cannot detail the series; but the statement that this first part contains about sixty several articles, the immense quantity provided at an economical rate may be imagined The publication is a valuable addition to the literary periodicals for the million.—*Morning Advertiser.*

Now Publishing, Price Sixpence, AMERICA and ENGLAND CONTRASTED; or the Emigrant's Hand-Book and Guide. Comprising information as to the bestfields for Agricultural and Manufacturing Employment, Wages, Climate, Ships, Shipping, Far West, with Letters from actual settlers, &c. &c.

"This sixpenny work abounds with information; indeed, with every thing an emigrant can seek to know. Every inquirer about the States should possess himself of it. To praise this little work too highly were impossible."—*Morning Advertiser.*

Just published, in small octavo, price One Shilling in neat wrapper, and One Shilling and Sixpence in boards, HOWITT'S POPULAR HISTORY OF PRIESTCRAFT, in Two Parts.

"This abridgment is made with much care, judgment, and ability."—*Atlas.*

"This work is well adapted to the spirit and necessities of the present times."—*Sheffield Independent*

"We are heartily glad that the abridgment has appeared, and we trust that it will circulate through the whole population of the empire. It is admirably written, it is incalculably useful, and it is precisely what is requisite in the present circumstances of the country."—*Leeds Times.*

Just published, uniform with the above, price Sixpence each, Considerations touching the Likeliest MEANS TO REMOVE HIRELINGS OUT OF THE CHURCH By John Milton.

"This is a cheap and neat reprint of the immortal Milton's nervously written and ably reasoned tract. It should be extensively distributed, and closely studied at the present time."—*The Spectator.*

A SPEECH FOR THE LIBERTY OF UNLICENSED PRINTING; addressed to the Parliament of England. By John Milton.

This is Milton's most celebrated prose work; indeed it is a most precious manual of freedom, an arsenal of immortal weapons for the defence of man's highest prerogative—intellectual liberty!"—*Dr. Channing.*

Also, Price Sixpence, the BOOK OF THE POOR MAN'S CHURCH. Dedicated to the Bishop of London.

"The practical working of a state church is here truthfully pourtrayed, as it is exhibited in the page of history; and a mass of evidence is collected, the details of which, for their exhibition of sordid avarice and priestly intolerance, united with a settled enmity against all that tends to ennoble and ameliorate the condition of mankind, are almost without parallel in the history of any human institution: and must, we imagine, convince the most prejudiced of the fearful danger to which Christianity and freedom are exposed by this desolating moral plague. The facts appear to be compiled from the best and most unexceptionable authority, and are handled in a candid, though unsparing manner. They will furnish an armoury from which the opponents of the state church may supply themselves with the most potent of all weapons—experience. Thousands who are sincere in their opposition to the establishment, must be ignorant of the black catalogue of misdeeds which our author has dragged to light. The contents throughout are a most bitter satire on the self-assumed title which the hierarchy has arrogated to itself, as 'The Poor Man's Church.' *Lucus a non lucendo.*"—*The Nonconformist.*

COBBETT'S LEGACY TO PARSONS. Price 1s. 6d. Shewing the abuses of that Church, "Established by Law."

London: Cleave, Shoe-lane, Fleet-street; and all the Agents for this paper in Town and Country.

MARRIAGE.

On Wednesday last, at East Parade chapel, in this town, by the Rev. Andrew Reed, B.A., of Norwich, Charles, second son of the Rev. Andrew Reed, D.D., of London, to Margaret, youngest daughter of Edwd. Baines, Esq., of this town.

DEATHS.

Drowned at Sea, Alexander Linton, of Plymouth, aged 67, and —— Linton, his son, aged 24; the former mate, and the latter seaman, on board the Three Sisters, sailing from Plymouth to Newport, Wales. The vessel left Plymouth on the 22nd of February last, and has not since been heard of. The senior Linton was a native of Leith, Scotland, and had been engaged upon the sea nearly sixty years, having been brought up a fisherman. When about 18 or 19 years of age he was pressed into the navy, and continued in that service to "brave the battle and the breeze" many years, but without any reward in the shape of a pension. His father was also drowned. Bodily, he was powerfully-made, possessing great physical strength: mentally, he was a clever sailor; and morally, he was all that became a man. He has left a wife and six children, five of whom are destitute of support; the youngest a cripple. The son, who was drowned, was to have been married on his return from his last fatal voyage. The case of this family is one demanding the sympathies and aid of philanthropists of all classes, sects, and parties:—

"The drying up one tear has more
Of honest fame than shedding seas of gore."

On Wednesday last, after a lingering illness aged 44, Mr. Edward Porter, of Leeds, butcher.

LOCAL MARKETS.

Leeds Corn Market, Tuesday, May 21.—The arrivals of grain to this day's market are larger than last week. Fine fresh Wheat has been slow sale, and about 1s per qr. lower; in the chamber samples very little doing. Barley no alteration. Oats much the same. Beans full as dear. The weather has been very cold the last few day's, this morning a little rain.

THE AVERAGE PRICES OF WHEAT, FOR THE WEEK ENDING MAY 21, 1844.

Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Beans.	Peas.
Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.	Qrs.
4680	220	363	0	467	40
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
2 16 7½	1 9 6¼	1 2 6¾	0 0 0	1 15 1	1 12 9

Leeds Woollen Markets.—There was rather less business done at the Cloth Halls, on Tuesday last, than was the case on Saturday; but notwithstanding, there is no falling off, but rather an increase in the daily demand. The wool market is steady.

Bradford Markets, Thursday, May 23d.—*Wool.*—The Spinners are buying on the smallest scale possible, and as the market is tolerably well supplied, it tends to keep the prices with a downward tendency.—*Yarns* are more inquired for, but the prices current are not equal to a few weeks past.—*Piece.*—As the manufacturers have conceded a little in the price of goods, it has induced the merchants to operate more freely, and the business done is more extensive than for some time.

Price of Iron.—English bar, per ton, £6 10s 0d to £0 0s; nail rods, £7 0s 0d; Hoop, £8 10s 0d; sheets, £9 10s; cargo in Wales, £5 15s 0d; pig No 1, Wales £4 5s 0d; do. Clyde, £3 8s 0d. Foreign, Swedish, £10 0s to £0 0s; Russian, ccnd, £16 10s; psi, £0 0s; Gourieff, £0 0s; Archangel £0.

Rochdale Flannel Market, Monday, May 20. There has been a brisk demand for flannels to-day, considering that it is the time of the year when this business is usually the flattest. There have not been so many merchants in the market; but some of the large manufacturers have bought rather freely. The wool market is much the same as it has been for several weeks.

York Corn Market, Saturday, May 18.—A few sales made in Wheat last week at high rates, under the impression of having a further advance in prices, have caused our farmers to demand more today than any one seems disposed to give; and though the supply is small, no sales can be made without submitting to a decline of fully 1s per qr. Oats and Beans, on the contrary, are ready sale. a continuance of dry, cold weather being injurious to spring corn. No Barley offering.

Richmond Corn Market, Saturday, May 18.—We had a good supply of Grain in our market today, but the prices continue much the same. Wheat from 7s to 8s 3d. Oats 2s 9d to 3s 8d. Barley 4s to 4s 3d. Beans 4s 9d to 5s per bushel.

Malton Corn Market, May 18.—We had only a moderate supply of all kinds of grain offering at this day's market. Wheat 1s per qr. lower. Barley nominal. Oats met a dull sale, and rather lower. Wheat, red, 58s to 62s; ditto white, 64s to 68s per quarter of 40 stones. Oats, 10d to 10½d; superfine ditto, 10¾d per stone.

State of Trade.—Notwithstanding the decline in the cotton market, consequent upon the recent intelligence from the United States, the market here yesterday, was tolerably steady, and a fair amount of business was done both in goods and yarn, in some cases at a slight decline, but generally at the prices of last week.—*Manchester Guardian* of Wednesday.

WAKEFIELD CORN MARKET.

Friday, May 24.—There is a thin attendance of buyers at this day's market. The finest samples of Wheat have met a slow sale, at barely so good prices as last week; all other sorts must be noted 1s per quarter lower. The demand for Barley is very limited, without material alteration in value. Oats and Shelling each command rather higher rates. Beans are in request at an advance of 1s per quarter.

Chartist Intelligence.

TO THE PEOPLE OF SCOTLAND.

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN,—Again the important duty devolves upon us to call upon you to arouse from your present slumber, and to enter once more the field of active agitation, that another simultaneous and energetic effort may be made to liberate yourselves from the power of class tyranny, class legislation, and domestic oppression.

Do you want an incentive to urge you to this? Look at your degraded country. Look to your offspring whom you are rearing for slavery by your apathy. The cause of the misery of your country and your offspring is class legislation.

You are an enlightened people; yet are you politically enslaved.

You are ingenious and industrious; yet thousands of you are deprived of the necessaries of life.—Why?

Because it is the interest of those who legislate for you that you should be politically fettered, that they may have the power to revel in the fruits of your industry and ingenuity.

Every thing which has added value and wealth to our country has almost exclusively emanated from the working classes, and yet these classes are not recognised as men in the body politic. Nay, they are scorned and trampled upon by those to whose pleasure and profligacy their ingenuity and industry is made subservient. This social degradation is the offspring of our political thraldom. Let it be so no longer. Throw off the lethargy which has overcome you, and demand those privileges, which, if rightly demanded, dare not be refused.

We are aware that you will acknowledge the truth of these observations; but more than this mere acknowledgment is necessary. We must have your persevering assistance. We must have your pecuniary and moral aid. We must have the benefit of your co-operation, or all the efforts and energies that a few can bring to the support of the agitation for the Charter will be in vain.

Let no one keep back from joining us from the idea that his assistance will do no good. That one with his efforts and influence will add new strength. Individuals form the great aggregate: the great globe is a combination of particles; the mighty ocean a concentration of drops. Units make thousands. Forward then, one by one, till the united strength of our country is ranged on the side of freedom.

Let no one hold back with the idea that he can do more good in a local or sectional, than in a national concentrated capacity. There must be a national bond of brotherhood,—a national union of principle, of purpose, and of polity. "Union is strength;" but in order to have this strength there must be a union of sections. There is a union of your oppressors; this must be met with a National Union on your part, or you will fail. They are strong and combined in the wrong; you must be strong and combined in the right, and your agitation carried on with a rectitude becoming men labouring in the holy cause of universal freedom, will ultimately prevail.

"He that is not with us is against us."

The man who opposes this Union, or keeps aloof from it, is adding to the enemy's strength, and is investing that enemy with additional powers to coerce us into a more abject position than the one we are now placed in.

In order to have a wide-spread public opinion in our favour, talented individuals must be engaged as lecturers. The expected visit of Mr. O'Connor will do immense good to our cause. But we must have others whose route we can chalk out, well acquainted with the science of government, and who know the working of the present system, and can depict, without exaggeration, the wrongs suffered by the unenfranchised. Such individuals would be of immense value to the cause of liberty, by effecting such an Organization as would make us reassume the position we lately held.

We have much need of such individuals to develope fearlessly and fairly our principles; to meet the charges and rebut the falsehoods of our enemies, and to remove prejudices from the minds of the ignorant. But to effect this we must have your co-operation; upon it we depend, and we trust we shall not be disappointed.

If this appeal is not responded to, complain no more of the iron rod of misrule pressing heavy upon you, when you will not make an effort for its removal. No more complaints of oppression and injustice, while you are emphatically your own oppressors—no more complaints of poverty and wretchedness, when you are willing parties to endure without murmuring that wretchedness and poverty which is annihilating every moral feeling and virtuous emotion of the soul, sinking your country into degradation, and bringing your offspring to a premature grave.

Parties wishing to enter into co-operation of means for the purpose of bringing lecturers from England to arouse the dormant energies of the people, are requested to enter immediately into communication with William Brown, No. 30, John-street, Bridge End, Glasgow.

JAS. SMITH, Chairman, DUNCAN SKEVINGTON,
WILLIAM BROWN, DENNIS M'MILLAN,
ROBERT BURRELL, JOHN COLQUHOUN.

Glasgow, May 13, 1844.

A CHARTIST TOUR—STATE OF THE MOVEMENT.

MR. EDITOR—As many Chartists and numbers who are not so, are frequently enquiring how the cause of Chartism is situated, it may gratify your readers to receive an account of the position of the towns I have visited, from my departure from the Convention to my return to Birmingham. I shall describe each place faithfully. I addressed two meetings at the Carpenter's Hall, Manchester, where I met an attentive and enthusiastic audience on both occasions, and also attended the great public meeting held in Stevenson's square. From what I witnessed in Manchester, I look upon Chartism as all-triumphant in that great emporium of the cotton trade. I visited Stockport twice, and found the lads there to be real out and outers—full of energy, and divested of every particle of humbug. At Salford I addressed a good meeting in the Chartist room, where a similar spirit was displayed. At Dukinfield there did not seem to be that general feeling on our side which is to be met with in the other towns of Lancashire; but those who belong the Association are a noble and sincere body of men. The Oldham men held a meeting in their room, Greaves-street, which I addressed; it was well attended, and a noble spirit of perseverance and determination displayed; they are building a splendid Hall of hewn stone, which will contain many thousands. At Rochdale we had a meeting in the Assembly Rooms, well attended, and a number of new members were enrolled. Lancashire, so far as I can judge from the above samples seems to be all right; in fact the working classes seem mainly to be Chartists. At Bradford, in Yorkshire, I addressed a meeting in front of the Odd-Fellows Hall, which meeting convinced me that if properly attended to, Bradford would become, what it formerly was, one of the strongest holds of Chartism in England. At Leeds we had a very numerous meeting in Vicar's Croft, on the Sunday afternoon, and a crowded one in their splendid Hall at night. They are "going a-head" in fine style. At Sheffield I attended a meeting of 15,000 in Paradise-square, when an unanimous vote of thanks was returned to T. S. Duncombe, Esq., for his gallant conduct on the "Masters and Servants' Bill." Mr. Duncombe is highly popular in Sheffield. Mr. West also addressed the meeting, and I was much pleased to see the esteem in which he is held by the working men of that town. We had a meeting at night in the Chartist room, Fig-Tree-lane, and enrolled forty-four new members. At Leicester I addressed a large meeting in the Market-place, on Thursday evening, in company with Mr. Bairstow. On Sunday morning we had a meeting in the Abbey Meadow, the property of the freemen. Mr. Bairstow preached Lord Abinger's funeral sermon in the Market-place, in the evening, and had a very large congregation. I addressed a meeting in the large room Church-gate, at night. It is needless to say that Chartism is in a flourishing condition in Leicester. I passed through Coventry on my way home. No time for a meeting, as it was half-past eight on Monday evening, when the coach arrived, and I had to start for Birmingham early on the following morning. We are not doing much either here or in the other towns in Warwickshire. But from what I know of this district, and have seen in the parts I have lately visited, I am convinced that Chartist principles are widely diffused, and highly appreciated by the working men. Some people judge of our strength by the amount of shouting they hear from time to time. I am content to know that the mass of intelligent men amongst the working classes, are fully convinced of the justice of Chartist principles. All that is now required is industry in organizing the opinion created, and a general fund for the further extension of our principles.

Yours truly GEORGE WHITE.

DUBLIN.—The Chartists of Dublin met at their Hall, No. 14, North Anne-street, on Sunday last. The meeting was what might be considered a pretty full one. The far greater number were strangers. It is exceedingly gratifying to observe the good feeling which prevails generally amongst those who attend and who are not members. Chartism is sure to burst in Dublin ere long, in all its pristine beauty and excellence. To stop its onward march is impossible. The very parties who were at first employed to aid in hunting down Chartism are now its strenuous supporters, though not members. Some of them had the moral courage and the honesty to say that they were sincerely sorry for their former conduct. Chartism would have been effectually crushed by the first opposition to it, were it not for the personal character, and well-known integrity of purpose of those who, in spite of every denunciation, adhered to it, and beat down every open opponent. The most insidious arts were then had recourse to. The rostrum, the pulpit, the altar, and in some instances the very confessional was applied to destroy it. Nevertheless it is thriving; walking abroad, like a young giant. Its innate worth, its truth, and a stern unbending adherence to principles right and just in their very essence, are recommending it to the consideration and approval of every rational man in society. The little Chartist band have announced their intention to take a larger and more central place to hold their meetings, and have this day boldly and manfully challenged opposition. A committee has been appointed to make arrangements for some large building for the use of the Association for one night in the week. Citizens of known wealth and respectability have come forward and tendered pecuniary aid for the purpose of forcing pure political principle on public attention. The working people cannot attend meetings held in the day time; and the press does not like to report nocturnal proceedings. These difficulties are still in the way. Chartism has much to encounter, but nothing to fear. The *Stars* sent into the country parts of Ireland are doing their duty well. They are the only lecturers that can as yet be sent out amongst the Irish people. Let the Irish people once learn a political creed, and no power on earth will ever divert them from it. Let them but once get the political knowledge, and they will stand to it, at all hazards. The scaffold and the gallows, the hulks, and the penal colonies would soon lose their terrors, even if the two infamous factions Whig and Tory united were so weak and so wicked as to try their hands at them. It is a sin against High Heaven, a crime that can scarcely be forgiven, to keep such a noble minded, generous, confiding, forgiving people as the Irish, in a state of political ignorance. Mr. William Woodward was called to the chair at half-past one o'clock. Mr. H. Clark acted as secretary. The minutes of the last day's proceedings were read and confirmed. Mr. Clark spoke at considerable length and with great effect upon the advantages which the working classes would derive from the enactment of the People's Charter. He was loudly cheered. Mr. Keagh said that various circumstances prevented him from attending their meetings for a considerable time past, but his Chartist principles did not cool by his absence—(hear, hear). He advocated their cause everywhere he went, and would continue to do so. He was very happy to have it in his power to say that a better feeling was abroad than when he last had the pleasure of meeting his brethren in that Hall. Chartism was growing handsome. It would soon grow strong—(cheers and laughter). Mr. O'Higgins addressed the meeting, at some length, and read a resolution passed at the Town Council of Birmingham, which he said went very far to prove that the Complete Suffragists, and the Anti-Corn Law League had discovered that they were wasting their energies and their funds to no purpose; in short, that until they became Chartists, as they should have done long ago, that they could not make one step in advance. He (Mr. O'Higgins) would now say to his British brethren, that now was their time to be conciliatory, mild in all their proceedings, but at the same time firm, resolved, and determined not to yield an inch, one iota of those principles for which they have suffered such unparalleled persecution. He called upon the Irish labourers to join the Association. The appeal was successful. Several gave in their names for admission on the next day of meeting. Mr. Clark moved that the meetings be adjourned for one week; that is, till Sunday, the 2nd of June.—Carried unanimously. Thanks having been voted to the Chairman, the meeting separated.

LONDON.—DR. M'DOUALL.—On Sunday evening last, May the 19th, there was a very full muster in the City Chartist Hall, Turnagain-lane, to welcome home Dr. M'Douall. On his entrance the Doctor was received with loud shouts of applause. Mr. P. M'Grath was called to the chair and delivered a very able address. On the Doctor rising to address the meeting he was again greeted with the hearty acclamations of the numerous assembly. He said he did not know whether his two years exile had made a difference, whether he should be as able to address them now as formerly; he was aware the political mind had much improved within the last two years; they all now knew the A B C of politics; it was therefore necessary to go to philosophy. He wished to have a blow equally at Whigs and Tories; at fund lords and landlords; he stood there to advocate the rights of labour—(hear, hear). A man must thoroughly understand the system, or it was utterly impossible that he could apply the remedy—(cheers). What was the aristocracy but a conspiracy to rob the working man of the fruits of his industry? What were the manufacturers but a similar body? Look at the soldiers, the police, are they not banded on the side of your oppressors? You have your trades unions, but are they not weak? Shew me one healthful green spot in the ranks of labour and I will shew you an oasis in the desert—(hear, hear). I stand here to strike a blow by reason and argument against all your oppressors. I need not enter into the abstract question of the soil; that has already been done. The reading of the constitution showed it to be the constitution of the aristocracy. The orator then reviewed the penal code, and said, its bearing was vindictive, hateful, and revengeful, instead of being corrective, healing, and beneficial—(loud cheers). He hewed the effect of the law of conspiracy: its web was equally adapted to catch three persons or three million persons—(hear, hear). In the penal code the doubt acquits; but in political conspiracy the doubt secures conviction. The speaker next ably discussed the commercial code; demanding a revision of taxation, and arguing strongly in favour of an equitable adjustment prior to its relaxation. Having now hastily sketched the penal and commercial code, he would proceed to the executive: the head was the centre, the seat of sensation, and the executive should be the centre of representation—(loud cheers). The present head was quite suitable to the aristocracy, because it could do them no wrong,—but to you it can and does wrong; because you cannot reach it. Your prayers, your petitions are never heard. Society is based on wrong principles, worshipping wealth and royalty—(loud cheers). Next we are told ministers are responsible; to whom? to the aristocracy? by whom could they be impeached? by the majority of the House of Commons, selected from their own adherents. Thus they protect each other and continue their wrong doing in your name—(great cheering). A jury would, in nine cases out of ten, find their verdict in accordance with the summing up of the judge, and the judge receive his instructions from his paymasters—the government. Thus you will find the whole executive influence, from the Queen down to Jack Ketch, vested in the aristocracy; and those two symbols, the crown and the gibbet, were the most odious and oppressive to mankind. He trusted the plank of the scaffold would soon become a coffin for the other—(loud and long-continued cheering). Dr. M'Douall then, in a masterly manner, shewed the demoralising effects of a standing army, and while ably exposing the horrors of man-butchery was greeted with great applause. The unconstitutional police force also came in for a full share of well-merited and just castigation. The speaker said the government could not trust a militia selected from the people with bayonets in their hands, but preferred trusting to an unconstitutional police force under the immediate control of the Home Secretary—(cheering). Taxation was next held up in all its hideous deformity, and its results, smuggling, adulteration, and deterioration, forcibly illustrated by the articles, tobacco, snuffs, spirits, port wine, tea, coffee, sugar, bread, &c.; and its poisonous effects shown on the human constitution. Taxation, in fact, reaches everything, no matter how small its proportion or gigantic its stature—(hear, hear). Thus did taxation and its twin brother, profit, swallow up the wages of the working man—(loud cheers). Fifty-three millions are collected and expended annually. Sure he was that under a proper system of representation, twenty millions might be left in the hands of the people, to create a home market, and thus by a better system of distribution raise the wages and improve the condition of the people—(hear, hear). The speaker then proceeded to show up a few of the social evils arising from the present sytem. He reviewed the murderous Game Laws, &c. &c., and said the whole was backed up by a most pernicious system of education; the aristocracy taking care to cause the young twig to be bent as the old tree inclined. Thus our youths were trained up in the principles of base submission and mental degradation—(loud cheers);—supported as they were by that great engine of oppression, the Established Church—(hear). Having for the last two years being unaccustomed to public speaking, he trusted they would excuse all imperfections. It was for the Chartists, for the great body of the people, now to see how they could abolish the present system in the easiest, the shortest, and most effective way. (Great cheering.) To effect the change it was necessary to show that Chartism would be a remedy for present evils. He must confess he was impatient, but must for a time endure with those who have endured. He had suffered, and was willing to suffer again. (Loud cheering.) It was then his duty to lay before them a plan—to engage their attention, to enlist their sympathies—so that in due time they may become fellow labourers in raising the truly noble democratic superstructure. (Immense applause.) The practical step that now loudly called for their adoption was electoral registration. The late decision in the Court of Common Pleas would, if they would only exert themselves, and attend to the matter—enable them to return at least fifty Chartist members at the next general election, who would form such an obstructive force that no measure could pass, and Ministry after ministry must fall—or enact that measure for which he had always contended—the People's Charter. (Great cheering). Mr. P. M. M'Douall resumed his seat amid the most enthusiastic cheering. Mr. T. Clark then came forward, and, in a brief and pithy speech, moved a vote of thanks to Peter Murray M'Douall, for his persevering and patriotic advocacy of the people's cause. Mr. C. Doyle seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously, and the meeting dispersed.

METROPOLITAN DELEGATE COUNCIL.—The first meeting under the new Organization took place on Sunday afternoon last, in the city, Chartist-Hall, Turnagain-lane, and Skinner-street. Mr. Rodgers, Lambeth, was unanimously called to the chair. Mr Stallwood was appointed secretary *pro. tem.* Mr. T. M. Wheeler delivered an encouraging report from the Duncombe Testimonial Committee. The course of lecturers was unanimously reappointed. Mr. Cuffay reported from the M'Douall and Richards Prize Distribution Fund, when 9s. were voted to P. M. M'Douall. The parties holding cards are requested to make an immediate return to Mr. Cuffay, 409, Strand. The Council adjourned until Sunday afternoon next, at three o'clock.

CITY CHARTIST HALL.—A meeting of shareholders was held on Sunday morning, May 19th. Mr. Stallwood was called to the chair; the Secretary's report and balance sheet, was brought forward and adopted, as were new rules for the guidance of the hall. It was unanimously agreed to form a school, and the committee deputed to make the necessary arrangements. A vote of thanks was then unanimously awarded to J. T. Leader, Esq. M.P. for his donation of £25 for the use of the directory, and the meeting separated.

Foreign Movements.

FRANCE.

DEATH OF A REVOLUTIONIST.—M. Pons de Verdun died at Paris, on Tuesday, the 14th inst., in the 85th year of his age. He had been a member of the National Convention, and of the Council of Five Hundred, and Attorney-General in the Court of Cassation under the Empire. Banished by the Restoration, he retired to Brussels, where he resided several years; but, thanks to the interference of his friend Andrieux, of Count Roy, and of the Duke De Cazes, he was permitted to return to France.

THE WAR IN AFRICA.—The accounts from Algeria contained in the *Sémaphore de Marseilles* of the 13th inst. come down to the 10th. On the 24th ult. an engagement took place between the Kabyles and the column commanded by the Duke de Aumale in person. A dense fog which prevailed at the time caused a panic among the soldiers of the Goum, who marched on the flank of the main body, and their precipitate retreat occasioned some confusion in the ranks. The Arabs were repulsed, but, it would appear, not without a serious loss on the side of the French. One account estimates at twenty-one the number of their killed, including Lieutenant-Colonel Gallias, whilst others state that they had thirteen officers and upwards of 100 men put *hors de combat.* Two pieces of artillery captured by the Arabs were recovered. The march of the expedition under the order of Marshal Bugeaud continued to be impeded by bad weather, and the two steamers despatched to meet him at Dellys had brought back to Algiers a great number of sick.

RAILWAYS.—In the Chamber of Deputies, on Wednesday week, the Minister of Public Works introduced several railway bills, which have been looked forward to with great interest by speculators both in France and in England. These different bills comprise the formation of railroads to the extent of about five hundred leagues. They are all to be made according to the mixed system laid down in the law of 1842. The *Debats* says—"The outlay on the part of the State will be about *sixty millions of francs per annum during* six years. With the resources at the disposal of the Minister of the Interior the amount set aside for railroads is available without any embarassment to the Treasury. The outlays, at the expence of Companies will be about 250 millions. The whole comprises an operation of 600 millions, without counting all the other public works which the State executes on the roads, the rivers, the canals, and in the harbours, and independently of that which is expended by powerful public companies, such as the Rouen and Havre Railway Company, whose works alone will absorb about forty millions."

The Chamber of Deputies has at length got through the clauses of the Prison Reform Bill, and on Saturday the Chamber divided on the whole bill, when it was passed by a majority of 231 to 128 votes. The system adopted in this measure is the Pennsylvanian system, somewhat modified.

BELGIUM.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT ON THE BRUSSELS AND ANTWERP RAILWAY.—ANTWERP, MAY 18.—A dreadful accident has occurred on the railroad from Brussels to Antwerp, at a station four miles from the latter town, named Bad Goed. The train which arrived at this station about five o'clock was, while in full progress, thrown off the line, and brought in contact with a luggage train. The concussion was fearful in the extreme; three persons were brought in dead last night, fifteen grievously wounded, and about forty with contusions more or less serious. The carriages were crowded with passengers, and among them several English people. One Englishman was carried *to the hospital of St. Elizabeth*, but after having his wounds dressed was able to be removed to a private residence. I could not learn his name at the hospital, as his stay was short, and no record made. Another had his face severely cut and contused, so that his features could not be recognised; and a third, who had left his own carriage and was travelling with his courier, was severely wounded in the legs, but not, it is to be hoped, to require amputation. An English lady is also named as having been killed, but I will not repeat the name, as it is a common one, until I can ascertain if the report is correct. Four German bakers who had been in England, and were returning to their employment, got into a carriage which had been recently painted, but left it for another in consequence of the strong smell of the paint. It was a providential removal, for the newly painted carriage was literally crushed to atoms. A Belgian advocate had both his legs so frightfully jammed, that amputation appears inevitable.

PORTUGAL.

OUTRAGE ON A BRITISH SUBJECT.—LISBON, TUESDAY, MAY 14.—A fresh, and, if possible, more atrocious outrage upon the rights of British subjects than that in the case of Mr. Fletcher, arising from Senhor Cabral's "suspension of the guarantees," is now in the course of perpetration upon a victim of equal respectability, Mr. John Alfred Tozer, of Coimbra, brother to the British Consul at Figueira. Mr. Tozer has now been thirty days under arrest, and dragged during that period through no fewer than six Portuguese prisons; one the common felons' *calabonco*, or dungeon, at Coimbra; another the Limoeiro, or ordinary felons' gaol, in Lisbon, sickened with noisome exhalations, and literally covered with vermin from the persons of his convict associates, a fact which can be proved on oath; and up to the present moment no formal act of accusation nor specific charge has been preferred against him, nor any allegation but the vague one that he was concerned in bribing some soldiers at Coimbra to join the insurgents in Almeida, a charge which, on the two sergeants who affirmed it having been a second time questioned, dwindled down to the still vaguer statement, that he was present when money was offered them. Mr. Tozer is an independent merchant, with no motive whatever to mix himself up in the contaminating politics of Portugal; and the secret of his arrest and degradation (for no *amende* can prove a compensation to feelings outraged by a forced association of thirty days with the felons, foul air, and vermin of filthy Portuguese dungeons, of six of which he has now had experience) will be probably found in the fact of his having in a manly and English, but incautious manner, expressed in society his opinion of the unconstitutional and despotic proceedings of the rulers of the day. From the first, Mr. Tozer demanded to be brought to immediate trial, a demand which, on various pretences has been systematically refused to the present time.

The correspondence between the British Consol at Figueira and the Civil Governor, produced no results, and Mr. Tozer has been sent to Lisbon, and is confined in the Castle. This is the fourteenth day of his incarceration in the metropolis: and so active have been the movements of the authorities, both Portuguese and British, that we are not informed whether any steps have been taken to transfer his case to the Conservatorial Court. It is stated, that as the case has been referred to the Government, he cannot be released without a Royal order.

BAVARIA.

(From our own Correspondent.)—BEER RIOTS.—The Bavarian Beer is the most celebrated of all kinds of this drink brewed in Germany, and, of course, the Bavarians are much addicted to its consumption in rather large quantities. The government laid a new duty of about 100s. *ad valorem* on beer, and in consequence of this an outbreak occurred, which lasted more than four days. The working men assembled in large masses, paraded through the streets, assailed the public houses, smashing the windows, breaking the furniture, and destroying everything in their reach, in order to take revenge for the enhanced price of their favourite *drink.* The military was called in, but a regiment of horse-guards, when commanded to mount on horseback *refused to do so.* The police, being, as everywhere, obnoxious to the people, were severely beaten and ill-treated by the rioters, and every station formerly occupied by police-officers, had to be occupied by soldiers, who, being upon good terms with the people, were considered less hostile and showed *an evident reluctance to interfere.* They only did interfere when the palace of the king was attacked, and then they merely took up such a position as was sufficient to keep the rioters back. On the second evening (the 2nd of May) the King, in whose family a marriage had just been celebrated, and who for this reason had many illustrious visitors at his court, visited the theatre; but when, after the first act, a crowd assembled before the theatre and threatened to attack it, every one left the house to see what the matter was, and his Majesty, with his illustrious visitors, was obliged to follow them, or else he would have been left alone in his place. The French papers assert that the King on this occasion ordered the military stationed before the theatre to fire upon the people, *and that the soldiers refused.* The German papers do not mention this, as may be expected from their being published under censorship; but as the French papers are sometimes rather ill-informed about foreign matters, we cannot vouch for the truth of their assertion. From all this, however, it appears, that the Poet-King (Ludvig, King of Bavaria, is the author of three volumes of unreadable Poems, of a Traveller's Guide to one of his public buildings, &c. &c.) has been in a very awkward position during these outbreaks. In Munich, a town full of soldiers and police, the seat of a royal court, a riot lasts four days, notwithstanding all the array of the military,—and at last the rioters force their object. The King restored tranquillity by an ordinance, reducing the price of the quart of beer from ten kreutzers (3½d) to nine kreutzers (3d). If the people once know, that they can frighten the government out out of their taxing system, they will soon learn that it will be as easy to frighten them as far as regards more serious affairs.

PRUSSIA.

(From our own Correspondent.)—The parsonocracy of this country, enjoying the peculiar protection and favour of the present government, assume every day a more haughty position. It has, for instance, lately occurred in Berlin, that one parson after the other refused to perform marriage ceremonies on a Saturday, alleging as his reason for this refusal, that the parties would in all probability not rise on Sunday morning in a fit state of mind for the celebration of the Lord's day, if they were married on the previous day! Of course the Berliners, who care very little about a due celebration of the Sunday, and on the contrary make it the merriest day of the week, are crying out that the governing party was going to introduce among them "*the English Sunday*," than which they know nothing more formidable. Indeed, the English Sunday is most repugnant to the feelings and habits of all continental nations.

RUSSIA.

(From our own Correspondent.)—Considerable ministerial changes have occurred in St. Petersburg. The Minister of Finance, M. Cancrin, has fallen into disgrace, and the same is reported concerning the Police Minister, the well-known Count Benkendorff. Nicholas is evidently struggling to keep up a system which is rapidly ruining itself. The anti-Russian feeling in Germany and the other continental states is upon the increase, notwithstanding all the efforts of Nicholas's paid literary army. The financial state of the government is one great difficulty; the pomp of the court, the innumerable army of policemen and spies, the expences of diplomatists, spies, reporters, of secret intrigues, and bribery all over Europe, the army and navy, and the endless wars against the Circassians, have eaten up everything that taxes and loans could bring together. The restrictive commercial policy of M. Cancrin has made foreign trade in some parts of the empire almost impossible, and has failed to establish a system of national industry at home. *Among the nobility, three parties are to* be traced distinctly—the court, the old country nobility, and the officers of the army. They are intriguing constantly against each other, their object of course being nothing else but exclusive dominion over the person of the Emperor, who, as all despots, is, after all, only the tool of his favourites.

ITALY.

PROGRESS OF REVOLT.—Malta papers of the 8th inst., contain the following:—

Extract of a letter from Trieste received via Corfu:—

"*We have received news of a most lively interest* from Trieste, under the date of the 15th April. The seed of resistance to the religious and political absolutism of the Holy See, which has been for a long time creeping amongst the Italian clergy, and which the Roman court always endeavoured by all means to suppress and conceal, has acquired in these latter times a public and imposing character. The number of secular and regular clergymen arrested for preaching against the actual political and religious system is stated to be not less than 70. On the other hand, then, everything acquires also much gravity on the side of the revolutionary spirit throughout the peninsula. The Austrian Government has deemed it necessaay to put Venice in a state of *quasi* siege. Its garrison has been increased to 11,000 men. One frigate is constantly and openly kept with her guns turned against the city. Defections in the Austrian army still continue. In these latter days twenty Italian and Hungarian officers are said to have disappeared from the corps in which these two nations serve promiscuously. The last news from Milan states, that a strong band had appeared on the Lombardian hills, to which are attached some youth from the highest families in Lombardy. The Court of Vienna has showed itself very much alarmed at these *preliminaries, inasmuch* as they announce a new æra to Italy. The Archduke Giovanni, the Austrian Admiral, and the Viceroy were authorised to offer free pardon to the sons of Rear-Admiral Bandiera, in order that they may return to their posts; and also to extend this measure to all the officers of the army who may be in the same condition, and who would accept of this pardon on taking a new oath.

GREECE.

Letters from Athens of the 30th ult. states, that the members of the Holy Synod having, at the instigation of Russia, declined to take the oath to the Constitution, M. Mavrocordato gave them twenty-four hours to consider of it, threatening, in case of refusal, to dissolve their body, and appoint others in their place. The firmness displayed by the Minister had the effect of removing the scruples of the Bishops, and after offering some apology for their resistance, they complied with the required formality.

HAYTI.

The following appears in the *Times*:—A mercantile letter from Cape Haytien, dated the 4th of April, contains a very full account of those turbulent affairs that have lately brought the island of Hayti so prominently before the public. As it presents the facts in regular order, the substance of it may with advantage be repeated.

In the month of January a calm seemed to prevail over Hayti, an increase of confidence was general, and the hope was diffused of a period of prosperity after the frightful calamities that have visited the unfortunate island. The hope was speedily dissipated. In the beginning of March, the Spaniards, who occupy the eastern and most valuable part of the island, and who never liked the union with the French, set forth their grievances in a public manifesto, and then flew to arms, declaring themselves a free and independent state, separate from the Haytian Republic. The Spanish population not being more than one-third of the French, the President thought he could crush the insurgents at a single blow; and therefore he put under arms the entire male population of the French part of the island, without exception. He left Port-au-Prince on the 10th of March, and with an army 30,000 strong, set out for St. Domingo. His first encounter was at Azua, a small town of about 6,000 inhabitants, where, it is said, two regiments of his advanced guard were cut to pieces. However, coming up the next day with the main body of his army, he forced the Spaniards to retire upon Bani, and ultimately occupied the town, which he found abandoned by every soul. The loss before Azua was estimated at 1,100, and by the last accounts from Port-au-Prince it appeared that the President had not advanced, but was awaiting further reinforcements, though he had removed a short distance from the place, to avoid the stench of the dead bodies, which had not been interred. General Pierot was active on the north side of the island. He had mustered 16,000 men on the frontiers at Daxabou. In the meanwhile, the Spanish General Salcedo having marched from Santiago, advanced with a body of 3,000 men to within eight miles of the Haytian forces, and then sent two officers, escorted by four dragoons, with a flag of truce, explaining to Pierot that the object of his mission was not hostility, but the occupation of the frontiers of the Dominican republic. Daxabou being on the Spanish frontier, and occupied by Haytian troops, some explanation was required. General Pierot, far from respecting the flag of truce, seized the officers and men, stripped off their coats, side-arms, &c., which he distributed among his soldiers, and then marched off to Cape Haytian, where he confined the six persons in a dungeon only eight feet square, and prohibited all communication with them. They were still in this wretched condition at the date of the letter. The Spaniards now retired before Pierot to draw him into the interior, when on the 24th of March he set out from Daxabou with all the troops that the north could muster. His orders were to take Santiago at any sacrifice of life, and then to cross the country, and join the President for a combined attack upon the city of St. Domingo. On the 29th he reached Santiago, and found that the Spaniards had assembled a force of about 5,000 men on an advantageous position in the outskirts of the town. The Haytian army was formed (skilfully, it is said) in three divisions, the right under the command of General Cadet Antoine, the left under General St. Louis, and the centre under General Pierot. The Spaniards quietly allowed the army to approach, and when it was close, poured such showers of grape and musketry that the Haitians were thrown into confusion. In vain they rallied; the Spaniards alone remained victorious, and the Haytian army was forced to retreat, reduced, it is reported, to less than 1,000 men. The Spaniards now left their lines, and are said to have sustained little or no loss. General Pierot found it necessary, after the action, to send a flag of truce, but the result of the mission had not transpired.

In the opinion of the writer of the letter, this result was decisive in favour of the independence of the Spaniards; and the merchants seem to regard this issue with satisfaction, as the policy of the Spaniards is more liberal and enlightened than that of the Haytians. Business was of course at a complete stand-still.

The French journals contain news from Port au Prince of the 8th. There was no information of anything decisive in the way of battle or accommodation between the Spanish and French portions of the island. The President had advanced upon Santo Domingo after the last encounter, but was said to wait for reinforcements. His whole plan, however, would be overthrown by a revolution which had taken place at Cayes during his absence. The insurgents complained that the constitution voted in December had not been put in vigour, and they upset Herard's government, practising many cruelties. Though the particulars are not known, it is much feared to be a reaction of blacks against mulattos, though Herard sedulously sought to avoid exciting any enmity between these races. The French admiral, Des Moges, had arrived at Saint Domingo, and offered the President his mediation, which the latter refused. The *Courrier du Havre* speaks of the French admiral having demanded possession of the port and bay of Samana, to be kept till the settlement of French claims. This would be indeed one way of uniting all the contending parties of Hayti.

MONTE VIDEO AND BUENOS AYRES.

LIVERPOOL, FRIDAY EVENING.—The following interesting communication, which has been received to-day by an eminent mercantile house here, from its correspondent at Monte-Video, will be read with interest by all who have business or other concerns with the River Plate.

Monte Video, Feb. 27th, 1844.

"The war, siege, and bloodshed still continue; the former shows but little symptoms of being soon over, though latterly several very important operations have taken place, and a little more or less to our advantage. The day that will see it brought to a close, if in favour of this republic, will indeed be glorious. Of the siege, we are now in the second year; *that* shews we are not to be starved out so easily as the enemy imagine; neither were our troops to be frightened by the appearance of their great force, nor of death by starvation or the sword. We have stood manfully. The blockade will continue, I dare say, until one side or the other has been conquered. On Saturday a strong body of national cavalry, commanded by Colonels Floris and Estivas, made *their appearance, coming* towards the Mount; they had to pass an equal force of the enemy's cavalry, which was over there; they crossed a little river, and then rushed at the Blancoes, who fled in all directions: they left fourteen killed on the field, and took twelve prisoners; on our side, there were two killed and four wounded. A small party had taken from the enemy about 900 oxen and a quantity of horses; but being attacked by a much larger force, they could only save 150 oxen and the horses. Some infantry were sent the same night, and since then about 2,000 men have gone over. Sunday and Monday were like fair days there, as the wives and sisters of the soldiers had gone over, I have no doubt, for the sake of getting some fresh beef, as they came back with what they could carry. Since their return they have been fighting; they are at it now, I hear them firing. On Sunday and Monday the Blancoes did not muster many, but on Tuesday and to-day they have about 2,000 cavalry and 300 infantry. General Paz was over yesterday, and had all the men under arms, and all the cavalry mounted, ready for an attack on the Cerrito, when it commenced to rain, consequently they were compelled to return.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

GAMING HOUSES.—The *Nuremberg Correspondent* states from Frankfort, that the Germanic Diet is to be occupied during the present session with the abolition of all the gaming-houses in the states of the confederation.

HORRIBLE.—A Dantzic journal publishes the following:—"The clergymmn of a village in *Lithuania had amongst his parishioners* a young man dreadfully given to intoxication. Finding all other means of reforming him useless, he took him one day to church, and there made him solemnly, in the presence of the image of Christ, that he would abstain altogether from spirituous liquors. In the evening of the same day, the young man met some friends, who invited him to a public house. He refused, and told them the motive of his refusal, for which he was so ridiculed, that he at length consented to accompany them, and soon fell dead drunk from his chair. In this state the publican had him removed to the house of his father and mother, who being very religious persons, and knowing the oath that he had taken, were much shocked at his perjury. They called together all the members of the family, and it was decided that he had made himself the slave of the Devil, and that it would be pleasing to God to put him to death immediately. They consequently mixed some pulverised arsenic in an infusion of herbs, and giving it to the drunkard, who was still insensible from the fumes of the brandy that he had taken, he died in a few hours, in violent convulsions. His murderers have been arrested, and will be brought to trial, for a crime committed by them under an idea that it would be agreeable to the Almighty."

THE FRENCHMAN'S GRAVE.—New troops are about to be sent to Algeria, which has now become what Italy was said to be in the wars of the middle ages—the Frenchman's grave.

GREAT UNDERTAKING.—Captain Sir James Alexander is exploring the country preparatory to the formation of a grand military road, which is to connect together the three provinces of Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, and to keep open the communication between Canada and England, by way of Halifax, when the waters of the St. Lawrence are frozen.

M. THIERS has completed his history of the reign of Napoleon. He is to receive half a million of francs for the manuscript.

THE SCOTCH FISHERIES.

An Enquiry into the manner in which the White Fishery is at present conducted, along the Eastern Shores of the Coast of Scotland, Orkney and Shetland, with a few suggestions how this Branch of Trade might be improved and rendered a source of National Wealth.

MR. EDITOR,—The subject which I am about to treat is of such vast importance to the public generally, and to none so much as those who toil for their daily bread, that I tremble least I should fail to do it ample justice. I know there are many who have gone before me, and theoretically written on the fisheries, treating the subject in many particulars correctly, but in as many instances have also been *guilty of egregious errors.* To correct these, this short sketch of the present mode of conducting the fishery is undertaken, and also, to arouse men of capital, spirit and understanding, wherever situated in the country, to embark in this highly important but hitherto completely mismanaged trade.

Before proceeding farther I may mention, that during the past forty years, I have had an opportunity of visiting all the principal fishing stations on the Scotch coast, and likewise have been considerably engaged in the fishing trade, not alone as respects purchasing fish when brought on shore by the fishermen, but also, in conducting fishing vessels at sea, where the fish were taken and cured on board; and I never knew an instance where a profitable return for the expence laid out was not *doubly* secured, when the cures were persevering. For many years I have thought the land proprietors opposed to prosecuting the deep sea fishery on an extended scale; indeed, some of the most intelligent of these, have expressed to myself their firm conviction, that were able companies in this country to follow the example of the Americans and the Dutch, the rearing of cattle would cease as a profitable speculation; and this would operate with a deadly effect on the rental of the country which is at present raised from the sale of live stock. Nothing I think, can be more evident than this: for if the people had plenty of fish, which could be conveyed to them daily, in excellent order by the rail roads. There little beef would be required, which is the case already in the close vicinity of the fishing stations, the cattle dealers are compelled to look elsewhere for customers for their beasts.

In the meantime, the fishery is chiefly confined to the Haddock and Herring trade. If we go to Orkney and Shetland, the Cod and Ling fishery is better prosecuted; but the fishermen being sent out by their lairds, receive merely a scanty livelihood; and those who venture out in open boats, upon their own account are little better off, for they are compelled to sell them to the wealthier portion, who know how to manage matters for their own advantage. This disheartens the fishermen so much, that the most active of them who can get away, prefer a voyage to Davis Straits or Greenland, at thirty shillings a month, rather than toil at the fishing of *Cod, when it only affords them the coarsest fare* during the summer, and no provision for the winter, except what they may happen luckily to pick out of the sea, in any of the days which find them shelter.

It could hardly be expected that a trade could prosper in the hands of men so poorly rewarded; yet so it does in no ordinary degree; for the crews are paid a small sum for every ton of fish caught, and which would amount to about a half farthing for each cod fish to be divided among the crew; yet the fish is so exceedingly abundant, and the crews so expert in the art of splitting and curing the fish, that they seldom fail to load their ships. If the Orkney men are poorly paid, the Shetlanders are more so; and what adds greatly to this hardship, the trade in that northern latitude is extremely dangerous for such small vessels as they use, and were it not that the fish lie near the shore, those who go out would many times experience great hazard in returning. From all that I have seen or heard, the Shetland fishermen seem to be treated more like beasts, than human beings. They have become, by a long course of training, reduced to a state of insensibility and mental torpitude, which must astonish every person of discernment who visit those Islands. The Lairds and ministers have got a complete mastery over them, and have forbidden, under pain of a total exclusion from employment, the reading of any newspaper, and all books except the Bible: and this order is pretty well attended to. The Truck system is carried on here in all its blessedness. The Shetlanders finger no money, if possible; so of course they can purchase neither newspapers nor books; and when any of them wish to go to Davis Straits or Greenland, the laird must first grant liberty, who claims the right to draw the monthly pay and oil money, for which trouble he exacts one pound, and the balance is generally paid in cloths and other goods. In spite of the most unpromising circumstances, and in defiance of every insult and fraud that is practised against this hardy people, they go to sea at all hazards, in their frail barques, and keep their ground on the fishing banks in weather which would frighten their more southern brethren of the same calling.

When we come south to the May Frith, and cast our eyes along the eastern shore, as far as Holy Island, we see the fishery conducted upon the same old-fashioned and thriftless principle: namely, fishing in small open boats of about twenty feet of keel for haddocks. These boats carry four men; and although six or more were to join the crew, the success is proportionally the same. They never venture to sea but under the most promising weather, and each man carries to sea about 1,000 baited hooks. The lines are called "small lines," and the team to which the hook is made fast is composed of horse hair, which is neatly fastened to a small cord called a snood, which is attached to the line by a clove hitch. Four men's lines thus rigged will extend 2,048 fathoms, and if completely mounted are calculated to ensure 4,000 fish. These boats seldom exceed ten miles from land, but more frequently they are found to stop short at half that distance; and from the moment they shoulder their line to go to sea, all is agitation, and they run like race-horses to the boats, refusing to speak to any one whom they may happen to pass. Should it be calm, they pull to sea like madmen, very seldom exchanging a single word with each other, until the lines are laid, when most frequently the general conversation turns upon the state of the weather. If it be calm they are afraid they will have to pull all the way to the harbour; if it blows, they are afraid of a storm; if they see the least appearance of fish, they are afraid of too many, if otherwise, they declare there will be none; and should a dog-fish stray within their sight, they become extremely alarmed, and fly to their lines with fury: so they are in continual fear and perplexity from the moment they go to sea until they land. Should it happen, as it frequently does, that the haddocks keep without their proscribed limits, they attribute their want of success to ill luck, and not unfrequently to the witchcraft and cunning *cantrips* of some old wife in town whom they may have offended; and should the minister pop in while they are in the act of bating their lines, *not a single hook* more would be baited that day. I know there are exceptions, of even whole towns, who do not follow these barbarous customs. They gradually vanish as we proceed southward; but I know the majority of the fishermen along the shore are totally incapable of conducting the fishery on an extended scale.

The fishery to be rendered profitable must be undertaken by less superstitious, less fearful, and far more intelligent men; men who can examine the chart; men who can keep a ship's reckoning at sea; men who, like the Dutch and Newfoundlanders, are possessed of hearts that will keep the sea in all weathers, and embrace each succeeding opportunity.

In my next, I shall lay open the method I would adopt, and on its complete success I would fearlessly stake the labours of a season. In the meantime, I beg to remain,

Most respectfully yours,
JOHN SMART.

Aberdeen, 13th May, 1844.

THE NEW POOR LAW—THE DAMNABLE DOCUMENT.

TO THE BISHOPS OF LONDON AND CHESTER.

My Lords,—I have waited with some impatience, and now almost with a feeling of despair, to see the Poor Law Amendment Bill brought forward. Why Ministers should delay probably the most important measure of the whole session—why they should "higgle and haggle" upon detached parts of it, as the Bastardy Clause—without bringing the whole forward, I cannot conceive; for let it be observed, this is not a Bill of Departments—it is not a Bill having reference to this or that particular service—but a Bill for the whole people, as rate-payers and rate-receivers—a national Bill—and therefore, in that character, ought both to claim precedence, and to engage the general attention of the Legislature.

My Lords, you stand in a peculiar situation with respect to this bill, and the people of England look with anxiety to the course which you will now pursue. You two prelates were members of the original Commission; you voted in support of the Bastardy Clause, which your brother of Exeter stigmatised at the time as "iniquitous, unrighteous, and unmanly"—everything that was base and horrible—tending also to the two dreadful crimes of infanticide and suicide—and which Sir James Graham now himself preposes to relinquish, as being liable to all the obloquy which was poured upon it by that Right Rev. Prelate's eloquence; and further, as having tended to insurrections in South Wales, and throughout the North of England. *Nor is this all*: you are also charged with participation in that dark production dragged to light last year in the House of Commons, containing the following passages, for which you are as much answerable as if they were your own writing, and which form the basis of the subsequent Poor Law:—

"That at any time after the passing of this act, the Board of Control shall have power, by an order, with such exception as shall be thought necessary, to disallow the continuance of relief to the indigent, the aged and the impotent, in any other mode than in a workhouse, regulated in such manner as by the aforesaid Board of Control shall be determined.

"The power of the Commissioners would be to reduce allowances, but not to enlarge them.

"After this has been accomplished, orders may be sent forth directing that after such a day all out-door relief should be given partly in kind; after another period it should be wholly in kind; that after another period it should be gradually diminished in quantity, until that mode of relief was extinguished. From the first the relief should be altered in quality, coarse brown bread being substituted for white; and, concurrently with these measures as to the out-door poor, a gradual reduction should be made in the diet of the in-door poor, and strict regulations enfored."

What is the course you now mean to pursue? When the Poor Law Bill will be brought forward, no one can tell: all is trick, chicanery, and treachery, with respect to that measure. But the Factory Bill, which is to come under discussion on Monday in your Lordships' House, contains the twelve hours' clause, and it is not improbable that that clause will be discussed with some reference to the kindred measure of the Poor Law Bill.

The Duke of Wellington has denied that such a document as that to which I have alluded is, or ever was, in existence—that there never was any recommendation to give bad food, and scanty measure of it to the poor. His Grace's words were—

"Knowing, as I do, my Lords, that no such document ever existed, I will venture, in this House, to deny the assertion altogether. I again repeat that no such document ever existed."

Sir James Graham, on the centrary, allowed of its existence, not at first indeed, but after he had received some powerful refreshers of his memory. His words were as follow:—

"Although *these propositions* WERE SUBMITTED *to the consideration of Lord Grey's Government*, they were rejected by that Government."

Now, what say you, my Lords, between these contradictions? You must know the fact; for you are charged with participating in the now avowed criminality of the document. If, with Sir James, you allow of its existence, I have nothing more to say to you at present; but if, with the Duke, you deny that existence, then you will, of course, make this fact known to the public by some authentic method, such as the appointment of an impartial committee to inquire into the case.

I have the honour to be,
Your Lordships' obedient servant,
CHRISTIANUS ANTIOCHENSIS.

London, May 17, 1844.

A HINT TO GAMBLERS.—In the gambling houses broken into by the police last week, falses die were found among the gambling implements seized. The brass divisions of the roulette tables are in most of these dens so formed as to present an obstruction to the entrance of the ball, at the will of the manager of the table.

ADVERTISEMENT EXTRAORDINARY.—"ADAM'S PALE ALE.—The above celebrated liquid, so strongly recommended by Father Mathew, and the faculty of Priessnitz, may be procured in any quantity from the pump in Burlington Gardens, by applying yourself to the handle.—Be particular to enquire for the ladle."—*Punch.*

THE COLD WATER CURE.—The ordinary punishment at the Boston House of Correction is a shower bath. The offender is placed in a very narrow box, with a collar round his neck, and three or four barrels of ice cold water are poured over him in succession; it is said that it cowes and subdues the most refractory.—*Weekly Dispatch.* [The above, if true, is monstrous. We are surprised that if anything more than a joke, our contemporary should have let it pass without comment. We repeat that if true, this infernal torture is a disgrace to the nation tolerating it.—*E. N. S.*]

THE VOWELS.—Is there a word in the English language that contains all the vowels? There is, *unquestionably.*—*English Paper.*—[There is another which contains them in the natural order, viz:—*facetiously.*—*Belfast Whig.*]

THE HAYMARKET PRIZE COMEDY.—The committee appointed by Mr. Webster to award the prize of £500 for the best prose comedy, illustrative of modern British manners and customs, concluded their labours on Saturday, their twentieth meeting, by unanimously adopting the piece, entitled "Quid pro Quo, or the Day of the Dupes." It is by a lady, and one who is by no means unknown to literary fame. [The *Sun* states the lady to be Mrs. Charles Gore.]

A BREAK-UP.—The Metropolitan Conservative *Society has dissolved itself*; the reason assigned is that they have been "abused, insulted, and betrayed" by the Government.

THE TEXAS.—The German Society for Emigration to Texas has purchased 450 square miles of that country, St. Antonio de Baxar, and send their first batch in September.—*Augsburgh Gazette.* [Three-fourths of these poor wretches will perish, as the German emigrants to the West India Islands perished.]

THE ALBERT CAP, in spite of all the quizzing of *Punch*, has been issued to some of the infantry regiments. It bears a striking resemblance to a flower-pot turned upside down, and has drawn upon the unfortunato wearers of it, at Bath and other places, a great amount of ridicule.

GIPSY WIT.—A short time since two young ladies were accosted by a gipsy woman, who told them that for a shilling each, she would show them their husbands' faces in a pail of water; which being brought, they exclamed, "we see only our own faces!" "Well," said the old woman, "those faces will be your husbands'."

THE MURDERER CROUCH.—William Crouch, who was found guilty at the last sitting of the Central Criminal Court, of murdering his wife, Elizabeth Frances Crouch, in Marylebone, and sentenced by Mr. Baron Alderson to be hanged, will expiate his crime on the scaffold in front of Newgate on Monday next, at eight o'clock, should the Sheriffs not receive any contrary directions previous to that day from the Home-office.

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS—Friday, May 17.

Lord Abinger, after the usual ceremonies, took his seat in the House of Lords.

Lord Beaumont postponed the second reading of the Roman Catholic Penal Acts Repeal Bill, and at the same time expressed a wish that the Government would allow it to be brought on with as little delay as possible.

Lord Brougham called attention to the proposed annexation of Texas with the United States, and pointed out briefly the probable political effects of such a measure if carried into effect, by giving the United States a great additional extent of sea-coast, and a preponderance in the Gulf of Mexico, not to mention its unhappy effect on the great question of slavery.

The Earl of Aberdeen said it was true that a treaty had been signed between Texas and the United States, but before it became of validity, it required the ratification of two-thirds of the Senate. The subject comprised a question new and unexampled in the history of public law, and it would receive the serious attention of the Government.

The Bishop of Exeter, after presenting a petition on the subject, laid a Bill on the table for "The more effectual suppression of brothels, and trading in seduction and prostitution."

Lord Wharncliffe called the attention of their Lordships to the present state of the Houses of Parliament, and made some remarks not at all complimentary to Mr. Barry. He said it had become necessary to bring the subject under the consideration of the House, inasmuch as very extensive alterations had been made by Mr. Barry in the plans as originally laid down—these alterations having been made without the concurrence of the Committee which had been appointed to watch the progress of the new buildings. He moved that the matter be referred to a Committee of the Board of Works.

Several other Noble Lords made remarks on the subject, but none of them seemed disposed to justify the course adopted by Mr. Barry; and Lord Brougham expressed a hope that the architect for the Houses of Parliament in future would make no changes without consulting the Government.

The motion of Lord Wharncliffe was agreed to, and the House adjourned at eight o'clock.

Monday, May 20.

THE FACTORIES BILL.

Lord Wharncliffe moved the second reading of the Factories' Bill' He stated the leading provisions of the bill, and the nature of the alterations which it would effect in the existing law.

The Marquess of Normanby spoke at some length, arguing in favour of a greater limitation of the hours of factory labour. His opinion was, and, although he knew he differed upon this point with many of his Noble Friends, he should declare that serious opinion, namely, that interference having been once commenced this bill did not go far enough. Those who objected to the bill because they objected to all interference on the subject, upon the ground that the putting any limitation upon labour was impolitic, were opposed to universal practice and all sound theory. He was quite convinced that the Noble Lord would not maintain such a doctrine, and he had not done so. The question was this: it having been established by the Legislature that interference was necessary with regard to particular sorts of labour, the question was one of degree, to what point they should go, and at what point they should stop. His opinion on the subject had been formed during the period he administered the Home Department, and it had squared (as we understood the Noble Marquis to say) with all his previous opinions on the subject. He certainly felt that the state of the manufacturing districts was such—there was such an accumulation of population in those districts, where the whole of the occupation was of one description, and it was so difficult for a labourer to remove from one district to another—that there was a ground for interfering with the subject; the labourers, moreover, being of a peculiar class, young persons and women; and for confining the labour to the usual limits in other parts where the masses were combined. To show how absolute the power of the masters was, it was sufficient to state the fact, that masters were led by the low rate of their wages to employ women and children, the mother and the children, whilst the husband was left in idleness, owing to his high rate of wages. It has been said that we could not compete with foreigners working for fourteen or sixteen hours a-day. If this argument were to be urged at all it would be an argument against the bill as it stood, as well as against going further. The same principle applied to any restriction, and they ought not to pass the Bill at all. If he asked their Lordships to put a limitation upon the hours of labour it was only to the extent which was suggested by common sense, that is, the extent to which the mass of labourers were regulated by the laws of nature. Twelve hours a-day, all the year round, was an amount of labour which man could not render throughout the world; it would be regulated by light, by climate, and by the operations of nature. Look at the labourer in the tropics, where day succeeds night immediately, there being no twilight. If it be said, you should not interfere with labour, what would you do at the tropics? In the measure of emancipation in the West Indies it was provided that there should be "shell-blow," as it was termed, at sunset at six o'clock; and nothing was then said about the spoliation of the right of owners; but he should be told that then they were dealing with slaves. He answered, they were, indeed, slaves by law; but were there no such things as slaves by circumstances? A large proportion of our working population, who were dependant upon a particular species of labour, were in effect slaves, for they had no option; they could not remove themselves to other employments. He did not intend to propose any amendment to the Bill, and he did not recommend to other Noble Lords, after the divisions which had taken place upon the Bill in the other House of Parliament, to attempt to alter it, but he was anxious that the Bill should not pass without a protest on his part. The Noble Marquis alluded to recent divisions on this question in the House of Commons, as being calculated to bring the present representative system into disrepute. He had been one of those who had supported the Reform Bill for the amelioration of our representation; but if there was one ground upon which he objected to that measure, it was that he considered that, whilst it enlarged the constituency, it did not increase the share which the working classes had in the representation. He adopted it, however, as a great constitutional amelioration; but if ever there was a document likely to excite those feelings towards the representatives of the nation which their Lordships would not like to push to extremes, it was the record of the recent division of the other branch of the Legislature upon this Bill. He regretted that decision, as not providing for the education of the young and the care of their children by women; he regretted it because it tended to defer the period when that particular class of the community might be admitted to a share in the representation, and because it aggravated their sense of the injustice of their exclusion, and created an anxiety to alter the existing system of the Legislature, because it would produce an impression that those who were elected to represent the opinions of the nation did not honestly represent them. If that was the impression, it would be one which every man must deprecate, if created by the conduct of the other House of Parliament and the proceedings of her Majesty's Government. It had created a sensation throughout the country, and the seats of some Members might be affected by it. In the North Riding of Yorkshire a very considerable interest had been felt in the elections of 1835 and 1839, and an Hon. Friend of his, related to the Noble President of the Council, had received a good deal of support from the parties connected with this question. The Hon. Member for the West Riding had been taken to represent the opinions of the Noble Lord. Why, he (Lord Normanby) looked at the the list of votes in the other House, and he saw the name of his Hon. Friend as one of the tellers of Lord Ashley, which showed a very strong opinion. The conduct of the Government on this measure, had been most imprudent and injurious, in inducing the House of Commons to reverse its decision three times distinctly pronounced. At the same time, a considerable improvement was contained in the Bill, and as he should have no chance of succeeding in that House in attempting to amend the Bill, and if he did succeed it would not pass the other branch of the Legislature, he should not press upon their Lordships an amendment of the Bill.

Lord Brougham protested altogether against the bill. He protested against the whole doctrine of his Noble Friend. The Noble Marquis had become the champion of the working classes, and said the Reform Bill was objectionable because it did not let in the working classes. The Noble Lord's argument was, that inasmuch as the working classes will find themselves not represented, whereas the master class are represented, they will cry out for a bill that will secure to them the same rights and privileges that are enjoyed by their employers. But why was it that the noble Lord said the interest of the working classes was not represented in Parliament? Because, according to his Noble Friend, the Parliament refused to say to young men and to women, "You shall not work above ten hours in the day"—(hear, hear). Could any mortal who calmly reflected on the subject really string up his mind to believe that it was for the interest of working men and of working women to have their hours of work reduced to ten hours a-day, when they were able, and when they were willing, and when they were anxious, to work for a longer period—that it was not for their interest that they should be free in disposing of their own time? They were the disciples of the doctrines of free trade on his (the Opposition) side of the House, and his Noble Friend was an advocate of free trade, and he could not conceive on what principle they were—while advocating free trade with one breath—to turn round the next moment and say to the working classes, "You are not to carry your labour to the best market. You are not to be employed at all hours of the day during which you feel your constitution allows you, or your spirits bear you up, or perseverance and industry excite you to work." They were to declare it expedient, in order to show that they were the friends of free labour—to go to the working classes, to deprive them of their freedom of labour, and to clothe them in the shackles of an act of Parliament—prescribing to them what neither nature nor their own judgments, nor their strength pointed out as necessary or advisable—the hours beyond which the legislature would not allow them to work or labour for hire—(hear). If those individuals, for whom they were about to legislate, laboured, as his Noble Friend told them they did, and as might possibly be the case, under the same delusion as some of their betters, and would prefer having their hours of labour confined to ten hours a-day, might it not be that they perhaps expected to get twelve hours' wages for ten hours' work?—(hear, hear). If his Noble Friend could make out any process by which he could persuade the manufacturer to be easy enough and silly enough, and wealthy enough, to give his workmen twelve hours' wages for ten hours' work, he would then no doubt have invented an instrument that would prove very beneficial to the operatives; but he should take care not to lead them into a blunder and a delusion, which must be short-lived, for they would no doubt soon find out the error into which they had been led. His Noble Friend had in the course of his speech instituted a comparison between the agricultural labourers and the factory operatives. Now, he (Lord Brougham) would pledge himself, if the subject of the agricultural labourers ever came before their Lordships' House—which he rather doubted—to bring under their consideration a frightful picture of the suffering of the peasantry, from being barely fed, scantily clothed, hardly worked, and rudely sheltered, while they were at the same time exposed to the blast in the rain, and in the snow—(hear, hear). His Noble Friend would prevent a boy of seventeen working more than ten hours. A boy of sixteen or seventeen years was able to make a bargain for himself, and if he happened to be under that age he should be left to the care of his natural protectors—his parents. His Noble Friend talked glibly enough about nature; but what could be more indicative of nature than for a child to be left to the care of its parents? He would again warn their Lordships against committing the gross blunder of interposing contrary to the order of nature and to the direction of Providence, which was imprinted in the bosom of the mother, and of the father, in the care of that offspring which it was the great object of that Providence to secure. He would warn them how they interposed by legislative enactment, contrary to the order of that nature and the dictates of that Providence, between the parent and the child, and prevented that which was unavoidable, which fact and reason showed to be unavoidable, and which experience proved to be requisite for their existence—the necessity and the right of labouring, as they had done heretofore, for their subsistence, and which right would never have been questioned but for the meddling interference of the Legislature. The unavoidable consequence of such interference would be to deaden the natural feelings of the parents by no longer leaving to them the exclusive management of their offspring, for in such a case the parent would cease about that child kindly and naturally to care. Those were the reasons on which he differed entirely from the Noble Lord who had preceded him. He considered the bill would be made still worse by their Lordships agreeing to the ten hours' clause, and having their eyes open to the consequences that would be likely to result from it, and discovering, above all, that if the working classes laboured for a less number of hours in the day they would be paid a proportionally less amount of wages, he trusted their Lordships would see the danger to which such a provision must lead. He rejoiced at the large majority which in the late division had supported the Government on this question. He had, on more than one occasion, trespassed on their Lordships' attention as the friend of the working classes; and he still occupied the same position, and was literally their friend; and it was because he believed this measure the worst that could possibly be introduced for their interests, and because he thought they would be most prosperous if left to manage their own affairs and the duration of their own labour, that he gave it his decided opposition. He would not interfere with the Bill, except to enter his protest against it to the extent which he had stated. He did so because he thought, if they went a single fraction of a step towards so wrong a course, that they would injure the interests of the classes whom they professed to serve. The Noble and Learned Lord concluded by repeating his determination to protest against the parts of the Bill of which he had complained.

The Marquis of Normanby explained—His Noble and Learned Friend had questioned his statement respecting the comparison between the agricultural and manufacturing labourers, but he had then in his hand the report on the sanatory condition of the labouring classes in 1842, which bore him out in showing the more perfect health enjoyed in the agricultural districts. The Noble Lord then read an extract from the statement of Mr. Chadwick in that report, referring to the condition of the agricultural labourers of Rutlandshire, and stating that the duration of life was as great among them as among the higher classes in Manchester, and nearly double that of the factory labourers, the proportion being 17.1 to 38. The report also bore evidence to the superior morality, sobriety, and industry of the agricultural labourers.

The Earl of Winchelsea expressed his deep regret that this Bill did not limit the period of labour to ten hours daily. The ages of the children employed in factories generally ranged from thirteen to eighteen, and he did not think persons of that age could be regarded as free agents, for it was well known that they were frequently compelled to work by their parents. The atmosphere in which the factory labourers worked was of a most pernicious nature, and having himself visited the manufacturing districts, and examined into the condition of the people, he was prepared to say that the atmosphere they breathed was extremely injurious to their health. When in the manufacturing districts he had said, "Why don't you provide better ventilation? Look at the state of the children here. They are the very pictures of ill health, their constitutions destroyed by the atmosphere they breathe." The answer was, "It is impossible for us to give more complete ventilation. Look at these threads of cotton; if there is a breath of air in the place, the whole manufacture will be destroyed." The legislature of this country had, as he thought, most justly established the principle of interference; but he regretted they had not carried out that principle still further, and limited the period of labour to ten hours. That was the limit of labour in the case of the great body of the agricultural population. In the summer their hours of labour were from six o'clock in the morning to six at night, with intervals of an hour for breakfast and an hour for dinner. He was happy to say that it had never been his lot to witness, among the agricultural population, such pictures as had been drawn to-night by the Noble Lord (Brougham). He (Lord Winchelsea) was connected with three different counties; he was intimately acquainted with the state of the labouring population in them; and he defied the Noble and Learned Lord to show that such circumstances as he had described, or anything approaching to them, had ever existed in any of those counties. He hoped the time would come when even the manufactures would see that it was their interest, as he was convinced it was, to limit the daily duration of labour to ten hours.

Lord Campbell was opposed to the Ten Hours system. He had made some inquiries on this subject, and he could not find any instance in which a limitation below twelve hours had been imposed upon labour, except in a certain country of which an account had been given by Sir Thomas More—Utopia. The limitation in Utopia did not extend to ten hours; it was for six. He had translated very literally the Latin passages in More's work, which referred to the limitation of labour in Utopia; and if they could depend upon the statement of its effects there, they might be greatly encouraged to adopt a similar measure in this country, for, although the people worked only six hours, they had all the comforts and necessaries of life. "Nor is an Utopian severely worked," says More, "like a beast of burden, from early in the morning till late at night. This would be worse than the life of a slave, although operatives are generally condemned to it, except, in Utopia; but there, day and night being divided into twenty-four hours, they allot only six hours to labour,—three before noon, when they dine, and after they have reposed two hours they work three hours more, when they sup. The rest of their time they employ in reading, hearing lectures, and in recreation and amusement. It might be apprehended that from their working only six hours a-day, a scarcity of necessary things might be experienced among them; but this is so far from being the case, that from the portion of time allotted to labour, they have not only a sufficiency, but a superfluity of all the necessaries and comforts of life."—[Lord Lyndhurst exclaimed, "I wish I lived in that happy land."]—An Irish bishop was said to have remarked, on one occasion, that he feared Captain Gulliver told a great many lies in his celebrated "travels." If he (Lord Campbell) could rely upon the statement of More he had just quoted, he might be prepared to support a ten hours' bill; but, till he could be persuaded that this was a true account, he could not consent to carry the limitation of labour beyond twelve hours.

The Earl of Haddington vindicated the Government from the remarks of the Marquis of Normanby.

Lord Wharncliffe, in reply, said his Noble Friend had specially referred to the last election for the West Riding of York. He apprehended there was nothing very strange that a father and son should be of different opinions on some subjects—(hear, hear). Undoubtedly, his son's opinion upon this subject was declared at the last election: it was then extremely strong, and was extremely strong still; and if he were not an agitator, he had very much encouraged the feeling on this question; but he (Lord Wharncliffe) was one of her Majesty's servants—one of them to whom the government of the country was confided, and it was his duty to look not only to the feelings of those persons with whose feelings he should always be glad to be in unison, but to the general good of the country—("hear, hear," from the Duke of Wellington)—and to take those views of measures that were proposed that would be most likely to lead to the contentment of the country. He was altogether opposed to a limitation of labour to ten hours.

The Bill was then read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Friday, the 31st instant; after which their Lordships adjourned.

Tuesday, May 21.

FRENCH INTERFERENCE AT TUNIS.

Lord Beaumont then rose, pursuant to notice, to move for copies of the correspondence which had taken place between her Majesty's Government and the British Consul at Tunis, on the subject of a trial of a Maltese subject for the crime of murder. His object in submitting this motion to their Lordships, was to show that a most unwarrantable interference had been shown by the French at Tunis, and to show that by that interference the treaty which had been entered into between the Sublime Porte, this country, and the Dey of Tunis, had been violated. The Noble Lord, after speaking at some length in support of his motion, concluded by moving that an humble address be presented to her Majesty for extracts from correspondence between the Foreign Office and Sir Thomas Beade, Consul at Tunis, respecting the trial of the Maltese Xulbet, and the interference of the French Consul-General Monsieur de Lagan.

Lord Aberdeen said that the difficulties connected with the jurisdiction of the Levant were very great indeed, and no man knew them better than the Noble Lord opposite (Lord Campbell). He (Lord Aberdeen) had himself introduced a Bill which had become the law of the land, and which he thought would apply a remedy which would remove those difficulties. He had no objection to lay the correspondence which the Noble Lord moved for on the table of the House.

Their Lordships then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS—Friday, May 17.

Mr. M. O'Connell presented ninety-seven petitions, from different parts of Ireland, against any ministerial measure respecting registration in that country.

A large number of petitions were presented in favour of the Dissenters Chapel Bill, and a few against it.

CUSTOMS DUTIES BILL.

On the motion for the Speaker leaving the chair,

Mr. Labouchere called attention to the state of the cooperage trade in this country, which was suffering from the effects of the alteration in the tariff of 1842. He advocated free trade; and when individuals complained to him that free trade was ruining them, he told them that it was because the principles of free trade were not fairly carried out. Utter ruin was impending over the cooper trade of this country, for they were unable to maintain competition either in their colonial or their foreign trade, exposed as they were to an *ad valorem* duty on staves from 30 to 60 per cent. Out of 1500 journeymen coopers in London, there were not at present 500 employed. It was not a question of revenue at all, for the whole duty involved amounted only to £20,000 a year. The manufacture of furniture was a case in point; by a reduction of the duty on the raw material we were now creating a foreign trade in the export of furniture, and thus extending the field for our cabinet makers. The same favour should be extended to our coopers.

Mr. Gladstone complained that this subject was unexpectedly brought forward. Admitting that the coopers had a strong case, he affirmed that there was, notwithstanding very considerable exaggeration in their statements. The remission of the duties on timber effected by the new tariff was unquestionably insufficient to place our workers in wood on a fair equality with foreigners, but the present short supply of Baltic staves, and their high price, was a temporary reason for the present difficult condition of the coopers. Their colonial trade was on a better footing than it was some years ago.

Lord J. Russell, after a few remarks on the character of the remitted timber duties, asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer what duty was contemplated on foreign chicory.

Mr. Hume interposed, with a general disquisition on the advantage of a consistent and comprehensive scheme of free trade, especially in the remission of duties on raw materials.

Mr. Aaron Chapman mourned over the decay of the shipping interest. Ships were never cheaper than at present. The coopers were suffering more from the decline of the West India demand than from the reduction of the duty on colonial staves.

A conversational debate followed, shared in by Mr. Hutt, Lord Sandon, Sir John Hanmer, Mr. Thornely, Lord Howick, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whose answer to Lord J. Russell respecting foreign chicory was inaudible.

The Customs' Duties Bill then went into committee.

Mr. Ewart moved to equalize the duties on foreign and colonial coffee. He avowed that this proposal was aimed by him as a blow at the differential duties, to which he proclaimed himself an enemy. He believed that the revenue, instead of being diminished by a reduction of duty, would be increased by it. The phrase increase by reduction was originally Mr. Pitt's, and experience had verified it. The coffee-growing countries were now the chief purchasers of British manufactures. But his greatest object was the British consumer, whose loss was much more than in proportion to the Exchequer's gain. The use of this sober stimulant was highly favourable, not only to temperance, but to intellectual cultivation, and he would gladly encourage its consumption. He desired to apply the same principle to cocoa.

Mr. Goulburn answered, that the question of differential duties had been fully argued at the time of the tariff; and unless the House were disposed to rescind the whole principle then affirmed, they ought not to rescind it with reference to one or two particular articles. Our colonies had a right to the protection thus afforded them. America, indeed, imposed no duty on foreign coffee, but then America grew none of her own. It was true that a former reduction of duty on coffee had increased revenue; but that was because the reduction so made had brought the article, from being a mere luxury of the few, to be the common beverage of multitudes. But now that it was already in general use, a further reduction of duty would not produce a like increase of consumption.

Mr. Ricardo briefly supported Mr. Ewart.

Mr. P. Howard thought it ought to be recollected, in legislating for the colonies, that they did not now possess the virtual representation here which they had enjoyed before the Reform Bill. Their people were not to be regarded by us in the light of mere foreigners. He, therefore, acceded to the view of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The Committee then divided—

For the differential duty	39
For the equalization	28
Majority for the differential duty	11

Some attempts were made by Mr. Alderman Humphery, Mr. Warburton, and Mr. Bright, to introduce into the discussion certain minor articles not the subjects of the present bill, such as apples and canary-seed, chiefly with a view to impute that the county of Kent had been unfairly favoured in point of protection through the Cabinet influence of her representatives, Sir E. Knatchbull. This was disproved in detail; and Sir R. Peel, protesting, however, against this irrelevant debate upon extrinsic topics, observed that the tariff, so far from favouring Kent had reduced in a very large proportion the most important of all her productions, in lowering so materially the duty upon hops.

WOOL DUTY.

The clause proposing the abolition of the duty on wool was brought up.

Mr. Gladstone, who, admitting that at first sight the abolition of the duty might seem to be injurious to the home grower, expressed his strong conviction that he would speedily reap the advantage of that increase of consumption which would arise from the impetus given to trade. He adduced returns to show that the duty had not been beneficial, and to prove that when you tax foreign wool you tax British, and when you relieve foreign, you, in like manner, relieve British.

Mr. Miles regarded the abolition of the duty as another movement towards free trade. The present moment seemed very unsuitable for the experiment, as the woollen manufacture was rapidly recovering from that depression which it had shared with others of our staple productions, and was increasing at a rate which was calculated to excite fears for the future. The abolition of the duty, though it would not benefit the consumer, would be beneficial rather than otherwise to the English grower; but it would interfere with our rising Australian colonies, whose wool growth had been stimulated by the little protection which the duty afforded.

Mr. Charles Wood replied that as German wool was required for a different use from that of colonial, there was no apprehension that Australia, with its large trade in wool, could suffer from the abolition of the duty.

A number of members joined in the debate, Mr. Divett thanking the Government, Mr. Trotter cordially approving of the reduction, Mr. Aldam declaring that no proposition could be made by which so much good could be done with so little loss to the revenue, and Mr. Darby protesting, that, in consenting to it, he and those who thought with him did not do it as a step to free trade.

Mr. Labouchere insisted that the Government were acting on Free Trade principles, however distasteful it might be to the inconsistent advocates of monopoly who supported the abolition of the duty.

This provoked a reply from Mr. Darby, who was answered by Mr. Labouchere, reiterating his opinion that the measure was nothing else but a free trade movement.

Mr. Warburton, not thinking the occasion a very suitable one for entering on a general Free Trade discussion, took the opportunity of expressing the feelings of his constituents (Kendal), who were grateful for the abolition of the duty.

Sir R. Peel hoped that the harmony of the committee would not be disturbed by any debate on abstract principles. Nevertheless, he adhered to those principles on which he acted in framing the tariff of 1842, and considered the present reduction of duties to be but a following out of it, and that, by benefitting the consumer, the grower would also reap a corresponding advantage from greater demand.

After a few remarks from Mr. S. Wortley, the clause was agreed to, and the whole Bill having been gone through, the House resumed.

The House next went into committee on the Stamp Duties Bill.

All the clauses of the bill were agreed to, and on the schedule,

Mr. Forster entered into a long statement to show the prejudicial operation of the present scale of duties on marine insurances, and moved the following scale of duty on marine insurance, as an amendment on that proposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, viz.:—on premiums under and not exceeding 10s, 3d.; on premiums exceeding 10s. and not exceeding 20s, 6d; on premiums exceeding 20s, 1s; on premiums on time risks exceeding six months, 2s; on mutual insurance policies, 1s.

Dr. Bowring supported the amendment.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer defended the present state of the schedule. He had carried reduction as far as he could. It did not follow, because he had reduced the duty on marine insurances so far, they ought to give up the great bulk of the duty.

After a few words from Mr. Duncan, Sir C. Burrell, and Mr. M. Philips,

The Committee divided—

For the clause	69
For Mr. Forster's amendment	22
Majority	47

The clause was then agreed to.

The other clauses and the preamble were also agreed to, and the Chairman reported progress. The report to be received on Monday.

After a few words from Dr. Bowring,

The report on the Isle of Man Customs was received and the resolutions adopted.

The West India Relief Bill went through Committee.

The House adjourned at one o'clock.

Monday, May 20.

After a good deal of important discussion on Railway Bills; the House went into Committee on the

BANK CHARTER.

Sir Robert Peel spoke at considerable length, re-expounding the principles which he had laid down in his speech of the 6th of May last, and giving explanations on various points. His former speech had been made without any communication with any one interested, for the principle of maintaining secrecy in Government measures held especially in those relating to monetary matters. If, therefore, subsequent communication had led him to alter his opinion, he would have had no hesitation in modifying his plan. But no reason had been adduced that would justify him in doing so: he adhered to his plan as originally stated, and had only some explanations to make on a few of its details. Thus, the Bank of England is to issue notes on securities to the amount of £14,000,000, and the remainder on bullion; which, as its present stock is not less than £16,000,000, would enable it to have a circulation of £30,000,000. But £22,000,000 is about the average amount required by the necessities of commerce; and, therefore, if the Bank should at any time require an increase of its issues on *securities*, it can only be done by an Order in Council, duly published at the time in the *Gazette*. Though adhering to a gold standard, regulating the issues by gold, and making gold, as now, the only legal medium of payments, he thought it might be convenient to include silver in the stock of bullion. It is the standard of other countries; large amounts of it are now imported from China and America; and though in this country silver coins are only tokens, and it would be injudicious in any form to make a compromise of the principle of a gold standard, it would give convenience and facility to commerce if the Bank could include a certain amount of silver in its stock of "bullion;" and therefore, it will be allowed to return one-fourth of it, say out of £5 000,000 in bullion, £4,000,000 may be in gold, and £1 000,000 in silver These two points were the only explanations he had to make on his plan, so for as the Bank of England was concerned; the increase of circulation on securities beyond £14,000 000 can only be effected through an Order in Council, and silver to the extent of one-fourth may be included in the stock of bullion. With respect to joint-stock and provincial banks, he had also some explanations to give on details. He claimed the privilege of issuing paper money as the prerogative of Parliament, which it may deal with when and how it pleases. But as the prerogative had been parted with, and was not at present to be withdrawn from those who possessed it, he would take the 6th of May last as the line of demarcation; all existent banks of issue on that day will retain their privilege until Parliament shall think fit again to interfere; the amount of their issues is to be regulated by their average amount during the two years preceding the 6th of May last, and the present maximum amount of country bank circulation, which is £8,000,000, is not in future to be exceeded. The returns of issues are to be made DAILY to the Stamp-office, from which a WEEKLY average is to be made up, for publication in the *Gazette*, along with the weekly publication of the returns from the Bank of England, which establishment is prepared to enter into negotiations with provincial banks of issue, for the purpose of substituting its notes for theirs. He had been blamed for a want of logical sequence in his speech of the 6th of May, and it was said that he had not made out a sufficient case for interference with the privilege of issue. He thought he had done so fully; for he referred to the experience of the last twenty-five years, which proved the absolute necessity of a controlling power over the issue of bank-notes. In 1825, in 1832, in 1835 6, and 1838 9, each of these periods being marked by great monetary derangements, the evidence showed that when gold was draining from the Bank of England, and the state of the exchanges was compelling a contraction of its circulation, the country banks, instead of contracting, enlarged their issues, to which they were tempted by temporary rise in prices, and consequent speculation. This, of itself, would justify interference; but the history of their management afforded another. In 1839, nine country banks failed, seven of which paid no dividends; in 1840, twenty-four failed, seventeen paying no dividends; and if they went back to an earlier period, they would find that in the three years from 1814 to 1816 no less than 240 failed. The causes assigned for the failure of some of the issuing banks were ludicrous or absurd, and showed how imperfectly or recklessly they were managed, as speculation in Spanish bonds, the state of the spirit trade, advances to partners, railway speculations, and so forth. One of these banks, which on its bankruptcy had liabilities to the extent of £150,000, had only £20 in assets, and of course paid no dividend. When, therefore, they talked of affording facilities for commerce, they must recollect that when pushed beyond a certain limit, facilities in the issue of bank-notes became an injury instead of a benefit. The notes of bankrupt banks were most usually to be found in the hands of that class of the community least able to protect itself or to bear the loss. Let them take precaution in time; and assuming that the principle of a metallic convertible currency was adopted as a sound one, he contended that his present measure would secure our commerce from those extraordinary revulsions to which it has been exposed from the state of our currency in past times.

Mr. Charles Wood followed in a speech of considerable length, in which he went with great minuteness over the whole subject, and criticised the new plan, which he characterised as been sound so far as it went. He concurred generally with the principles laid down by Sir Robert Peel; the doctrines of free trade we inadmissible in the regulation of the currency. He pointed out two or three objections to the details of the plan, to which, however, as a whole, he would give his cordial support.

Sir William Clay, in like manner, expressed his approbation of the plan.

Mr. Stuart Wortley approved the plan, and added some suggestions of his own upon particular points of it.

Mr. P. Stewart, though he applauded the plan in general, had some objections to make to it, which he intended hereafter to try whether he could induce the House to carry. The experiment of a single bank of issue was a bold one; but still it was an experiment only: plausible at this peaceful period, but not likely, he feared, to stand well in stormy days. Meanwhile he thanked the Government for the improvements proposed in the law of joint-stock partnership.

Mr. Montagu Gore thought this plan would provide a sufficient currency, and guard against an excessive one.

Mr. Gisborne was alarmed by the awful unanimity which was manifested on the subject. He was for free trade in banking as in other commercial matters; and doubted the soundness of the doctrine which would regulate the circulation by the foreign exchanges.

Mr. Newdegate, Mr. F. Baring, Mr. Plumptre, Mr. Muntz, Mr. Charles Buller, Lord Worsley, and Mr. Darby followed.

The resolutions were then agreed to and the House resumed.

Sir James Graham postponed the committal of the Poor Law Amendment Bill, until Monday, the 10th of June.

Mr. Gladstone proposed to pass the Customs' Duties Bill through another stage, but

Mr. T. Duncombe objected. He had many objections to the details of the measure, and could not think of allowing it to go through a stage at that hour of the night.

Mr. Gladstone promised that all Mr. Duncombe's objections should be fairly considered on the third reading.

Mr. Duncombe—"O! Sir, we have had enough of postponements of discussion until measures get to the third reading—(cries of 'hear, hear'). Marvellous changes of opinion take place whilst bills are getting to that stage, and for my part I must decline being satisfied with promises of fair discussion at a time to be hereafter fixed."

Mr. Gladstone postponed the measure.

Sir J. Graham postponed the second reading of the Registration of Electors (Ireland) Bill, until Monday, June 10th.—(An ironical "Hear, hear," from the Opposition benches).

The House adjourned at half-past one o'clock.

Tuesday, May 21.

Mr. O. Duncombe presented 102 petitions against the proceedings of the Anti-Corn Law League.

A large number of petitions were presented for and against the Dissenter's Chapels Bill.

Mr. T. Duncombe presented a petition from York against the County Courts Bill; also a petition from Aberdeen, complaining of the present state of tailoring there.

Mr. T. Duncombe begged to ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer when the report of the Commission appointed to inquire into the Custom-house frauds would be ready to be delivered to Hon. Members. He peceived by the *Times*, that that journal was in possession of the report, as it commented upon it not in terms very complimentary to the Custom-house, but quite as complimentary as the Custom-house deserved.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said he had no knowledge of how that paper got possession of the report. He was aware that it was in type, and as soon as ready for delivery it would be laid on the table.

Mr. Borthwick rose to bring forward his motion for a Committee of Inquiry in to the operation of the Anatomy Act, and into the allegations contained in the petition of Mr. Roberts, presented on the 25th of March last. He should spare the time of the House and the sensibilities of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, by abstaining from having the petition read at the table, and he should only recur to such portions of those allegations as he considered the House were called on by public principle to notice. The question was whether the Bill which the Hon. Gentleman had brought before the House, and which was now the law of the land, had effected those great objects at which it aimed, or whether it was required, as the numerous petitions laid on the table of the House showed, to be remodelled, for the purpose of really carrying out those objects? He was of opinion that the bill required careful remodelling. Its principle was to prevent the traffic in dead bodies; but there was nothing in it to prevent the traffic in parts of dead bodies, and according to the statements in the petitions, there were numerous instances in which that traffic was still followed. The Hon. Member was proceeding with his address, when another Hon. Member moved that the House be counted, and there being only thirty-one Members present, the House adjourned.

Accidents, Offences, Inquests, &c.

Incendiarism in Suffolk and Essex—Bury St. Edmunds, May 18.—The continual recurrence of agrarian outrage in this county is an evil so imminent and so destructive as to demand the most prompt and efficient preventive measures on the part of the Government. The farmers are paralysed: they appeal to the magistrates for protection; but the magistrates have no power to assist them. Even the insurance offices begin to be alarmed: many of the directors decline to effect polices for the insurance of farm buildings and stock unless on the payment of what are termed "hazardous" premiums. At a Special Court of the Directors of the Suffolk Fire Office a resolution was recently adopted, and subsequently laid before the magistrates of the Stowmarket bench, referable to the subject. It was in these terms:—"That it is the opinion of this meeting that the police force is of essential service in the protection of the public against loss by incendiary fires, as well by the increased facility given by such force to the detection of incendiaries." If the officers of the London Detective Police Brigade, who have been located in various parts of the country for some months, have acted on the instructions they received from the Home Office, the Secretary of State must be fully aware that the mere presence of police, however numerous or efficient, cannot afford an adequate check to the commission of incendiary crime, perpetrated as it is by a mysterious agency, even in open day, which baffles all ordinary vigilance. In former times the incendiary accomplished his guilty purpose by common means: by the tobacco-pipe, or a flint and steel. These vulgar implements of revenge have latterly been rejected, and the more certain and scientific agency of chemical preparations is now commonly employed to the same end. The corn rick or the barn rick bursts into flame, as from spontaneous combustion, under the eye of the owner, surrounded by his farm-servants, who are too frequently suspected, whilst the miscreant author of the crime may be many miles away, plotting the commission of a similar outrage in a distant part of the country. How is this evil to be met is now the question asked by many reflecting men.

The following particulars of recent fires are derived from the official returns made to the various local authorities:—Between twelve and one o'clock on Friday, the 10th inst., flames were seen issuing from a straw stack on the premises of Mr. J. Baldry, at Lidgate. The alarm was given by one of the female domestics, who called her master from an adjoining field, where he was superintending his labourers. The aid of a powerful engine from Dalham-hall was promptly obtained, and the fire was subdued without serious loss of property. The circumstances were such as to admit of no doubt that the fire was occasioned by means of some chemical combustible having been deposited in the straw on the previous night, as it was impossible that any person could have entered the stack-yard in open day, without being seen from the house. A man named Pulmon was arrested on suspicion, and has been fully committed.

Another fire broke out on Monday morning in a farmyard, the property of Mr. T. Brackenbury, of Shouldham Thorpe, and was attended by most disastrous results. There were several men thrashing wheat in the barn when the dry straw burst into flames and spread with irresistible fury in every direction. The live stock was saved, but the barn, which contained 70 quarters of wheat, a large quantity of straw, various farming implements, the out-buildings, and three cottages were wholly consumed. The property destroyed is estimated at £500. The owner is, however, fully insured. A searching investigation has taken place, but nothing has been elicited to account for the origin of the fire. The men in the barn were working a threshing machine, and they suggest that the flames may have been produced by friction, which is not improbable; but the known aversion of agricultural labourers to the use of machinery in husbandry operations serves to raise the presumption of design. This is the second fire that has taken place within a week under similar circumstances.

A third fire, equally destructive, took place about two o'clock on Tuesday morning, on the premises of a widow lady named Jonas, of Great Thurlow. The family narrowly escaped with life, owing to the barking of the yard dog, which aroused young Mr. Jonas, who perceived that a quantity of loose straw near the granary was on fire. A number of labourers speedily collected and worked with alacrity, though to little purpose. The flames having caught the granary, soon spread to the barns, stables, cart-sheds, and other outbuildings, which, from the combustible nature of the material, burned with terrific fury until the whole was consumed, including two clover stacks, forty coombs of threshed wheat, sixty loads of straw, a large quantity of barley, and the farm-house, from which the inmates had barely time to escape. The Haverhill engine was brought to the spot, but too late to make any impression on the flames, which had then spread over the entire homestead. The furniture, plate, and a large stock of wine were saved. Mrs. Jonas is insured. The police on the following day apprehended a man named Barrett, who was known to have frequently threatened the late Mr. Jonas to burn his premises. The prisoner was committed.

Another widow lady, named Clayden, who occupies a large farm at Whithersfield, has been made the victim of a similar act of atrocity. The fire in this case was discovered about eight o'clock on Tuesday evening, just after the labourers had left off work. The barn and granaries, containing a large quantity of thrashed corn, together with sixty coombs of wheat in the straw, and forty coombs of beans, beside the farming implements, were all destroyed. By the exertions of the neighbours and farm servants the farmhouse was saved. The flames, which were visible many miles round, attracted a vast concourse of labourers, who generally exerted themselves to save the property, as the owner is known to pay liberal wages.

Three other fires—one at Snarehill, near Thetford, on the premises of Mr. J. C. Partridge, a county magistrate, which destroyed a rye stack; another on the premises of Mr. Day, of Garboldisham, which destroyed a haum stack; and the third at Mr. Emerson's farm, near Bradfield (the second on the same premises within a year), which was fortunately got under without serious damage—complete the catalogue, so far as has been ascertained, of the outrages of the week in this county.

Several arrests have taken place of parties who are suspected of having been concerned in these and previous incendiary fires; but, as the evidence is almost invariably circumstantial, and the delinquents generally keep their own counsel, there is little chance that convictions will be obtained.

Braintree.—This town was the scene of another conflagration on Thursday night last. Between ten and and eleven o'clock, the alarm of fire was given through the streets, when it was discovered that the premises at a farm called "Chenery's" were on fire at various parts. It being but a very short distance from the town, thousands of persons soon congregated at the spot, and rendered every assistance in their power, but were unable to arrest the progress of the flames, although there were three engines at full play. The flames first burst out from one of the barns, and almost immediately after several other parts of the premises were on fire, although at a considerable distance, and unconnected with the barn in which the fire originated, so that there is no doubt that the combustible matter had been introduced at different parts, and about the same time. The two barns, the stables, a long range of sheds, coach-houses, piggeries, poultry-house, granary, and two large stacks of hay, were entirely consumed. The live stock were all saved. The premises destroyed covered three-quarters of an acre of ground. The farm is in the occupation of the Rev. Alexander Fletcher, minister of Finsbury chapel, and the Rev. Gentleman's travelling carriage was completely burnt, although the greatest efforts were made to save it. There was a range of cottages adjoining the premises, which were saved, except one next to the fire, which was entirely pulled down to cut off the communication of the flames with the others, another was completely gutted, and the poor cottager's furniture demolished. The damage is estimated at £1,400. There is no doubt that it was the act of an incendiary, or incendiaries.

About seven o'clock the same evening that the above fire took place, a large bean stack was maliciously set on fire upon the premises of Mr. Jeffery Gardner, of Tollesbury, about a mile and a half from Tolleshunt D'Arcy, where an incendiary fire occurred upon the farming premises of Mr. Seabrook, a few evenings previously. This was one of the most daring instances that has occurred, as Mr. Gardner's children were playing at marbles in the road, within a few yards of the stack-yard, when they discovered that the stack was on fire. They instantly ran into the house, and informed their father, who immediately went in pursuit of the villain, thinking it impossible he could have been out of sight, from the circumstance of the diabolical act being so recently committed, as the fire had only extended about two feet; but he was unsuccessful. On his return, he despatched a messenger to Maldon for a fire engine, but long before its arrival the stack was burnt to the ground. There was a large wheat-stack within a few yards of the bean-stack, which was fortunately preserved by wetted blankets being placed upon it, which, as there was but little wind at the time, had the desired effect.

Death from Contamination by a Corpse.—A poor woman named Owen, residing in Water-street North, Colchester, was a short time since engaged to "lay out" the corpse of a man for interment, and on entering the cottage of the deceased for that purpose, slightly scratched her finger with the latch. Having performed the required duty, she returned home, and shortly after her hand became painfully inflamed, which increased so much that medical aid was obtained. The fatal poison had, however, reached the springs of life, and, after lingering in great agony for several weeks, she died a few days ago.—*Essex Standard*.

An Innocent Man Transported for Ten Years.—On Saturday an investigation took place before Mr. Wakley, M.P., and a respectable jury, at the New Model Prison, Pentonville, on the body of George Gibbons, late a prisoner in that gaol. Mr. W. Bradley said he was the resident medical officer of the prison. The deceased was admitted in the month of February, 1843, under sentence of ten years' transportation. He was at that period in apparent good health. He began to complain of illness in the month of January last, and consumption soon developed itself, which continued until Thursday last, when he expired, having gradually sunk under the effects of that dreadful disease. In answer to the Coroner, the witness stated, that it was proposed, as soon as fatal symptoms betrayed themselves in this case, to apply to the Secretary of State for the Home Department on behalf of the deceased, but he believed it had not been done. John Taylor, a prisoner, was next examined as to the mode of treatment to sick prisoners. He said, he had been in the New Model Prison sixteen months, and had been for the last nine months under the doctor's hands. He had nothing to complain of. He was well fed and clothed, and properly taken care of. He had been confined in Preston gaol for nine weeks prior to being sent to that prison, and would not go back to the former if he could help it. He had been a cotton spinner, and had a wife and five children living at Blackburn. He had been sentenced to ten years' transportation, although he declared he was innocent of the offence for which he was sentenced. He was convicted through the evidence of a man who swore against him solely through malice, and who had himself since been transported for life for robbery. That man asked witness to buy a coat of him for 2s., which was worth 10s. 6d., and which he refused to do. The man was afterwards taken into custody for stealing the coat in question, and sent for witness to swear that he saw him buy it; but which he also refused to do, as he did no such thing. The man escaped conviction, and subsequently out of revenge gave false evidence that witness had stolen five cheeses. He (witness) was foreman of the factory where he worked, and having paid the men returned home and went to bed at eleven o'clock on the night previous to which the robbery was committed at three o'clock in the morning, and remained there until the time to go to work next day. He had then been fifteen years in the employ of his master, at a salary of 30s a week, who attended at the trial and spoke to his character. Evidence was also adduced to prove he was in bed at the time of the robbery. After some further investigation as to the prisoner's case, Mr. Bradley, on being appealed to, said he was labouring under hypochondria. The Coroner remarked, that he really believed the simplicity with which the poor man had told his tale indicated his innocence. It was to be lamented that the proper authorities did not more strictly investigate cases before they were sent for trial. So many were tried at once, and so few defended by counsel, that it often happened that the innocent suffered with the guilty. It was really horrible for them to reflect when they left that place they might leave immured within its walls an innocent man. It certainly would be a delightful duty for some humane individual to employ their leisure hours in examining into the cases of prisoners with a view to ascertain if they had been wrongfully convicted. In answer to inquiries, the Governor replied that the prisoner Taylor was an exceedingly well-conducted man. The jury, having with the coroner expressed a strong hope that some means would be adopted to restore Taylor to his wife and family, returned, in the case of the deceased, a verdict of "Natural Death."

Fatal Occurrence.—Three Lives Lost.—On Sunday night, between eight and nine o'clock, the most painful excitement was produced in the neighbourhood of London-bridge and Fresh-wharf, in consequence of a distressing accident, involving the loss of three lives, occurring on the river at the foot of London-bridge steps. It appears that at about half-past eight o'clock a boat under the charge of the son of a waterman, named Williamson, a young man about eighteen years of age, pushed off from the stairs on the City side of London-bridge, with about eleven boys (under the age of twelve years) and three girls, intending to take them to the Custom-house. The boat had not reached ten or a dozen yards from the stairs, before she came athwart the tide, which was running down very fast, and she was carried with great violence against the bows of the Diamond steamer, moored off Fresh-wharf. Had they kept their seats, in all probability nothing further would have happened, but unfortunately the whole got up, and instantly the boat went down stern foremost, precipitating all of them into the water. The accident being observed by many hundreds of persons assembled on the bridge, and on the different steam-boat piers, the excitement that ensued was of a character easily conceived. Fortunately, a man having charge of the dumb-lighters in front of Fresh-wharf was standing at the bow of the Diamond steamer at the time. He threw overboard ropes and other floatable articles for the children to lay hold of. Most of them rose to the surface, and eleven, including the waterman, were with great difficulty saved; but the remainder (some say three, and others six) were drowned. Among them are known to be two girls (one sixteen and the other eighteen years of age), and also a boy eight years of age, whose parents are living in Milton-street. Those saved were in a most exhausted state. They were all immediately conveyed to the Royal Humane Society-house—the New Castle, in Lower Thames-street—where they received all possible assistance. Drags were directly put into requisition, and search was made for the bodies of those drowned; but, up to eleven o'clock, none of them had been discovered.

Extensive Fire at Tattersall's Farm, Willesden-Paddocks, Middlesex.—On Sunday morning, shortly after nine o'clock, the inhabitants of the picturesque village of Willesden, about five miles from Hyde Park-corner, were aroused from their usual quietude by the outbreak of a fire upon the extensive range of premises belonging to Edmund Tattersall, Esq., who is universally known for his connexion with the sporting world, situate at Paddocks, Willesden. The fire originated in the rick-yard, contiguous to which stands a line of stabling chiefly built of wood. In the yard there were at the time of the outbreak two immense stacks of hay, containing (our reporter was informed) 140 loads. It appears that a boy employed upon the premises was amusing himself by cleaning out a kettle which had contained a quantity of pitch, used the day before for farming purposes. To do this the more effectually he heated the vessel by kindling a fire near to a hedge close by the ricks. By some accident, yet unexplained, he upset the pot of pitch, and the wind blowing very fresh at the time, the flames communicated to the body of hay. Alarmed by the circumstance the boy ran away into the fields to seek for help, and in a few moments several labourers were upon the spot attempting to subdue the violence of the raging element. Finding it impossible to check the flames, information was sent off to Willesden and London, and several engines were promptly in attendance, but although great efforts were made by the firemen, aided by at least 200 countrymen, the flames could not be subdued, and the whole of the hay would have been consumed had not the expedient of cutting the unburnt from the burning mass been resorted to; but the operation was performed with great difficulty, and some danger to those engaged in it. By two o'clock the fire was got under.

Destruction of Naworth Castle, Cumberland.—About two o'clock on Saturday afternoon last, a most violent fire broke out at Naworth Castle, one of the seats of the Earl of Carlisle, when an express was immediately sent off to Carlisle for the fire engines and other assistance. The engines were almost instantly sent off by the railway, and arrived at the scene of destruction about six o'clock. The progress and devastation of the fire in the mean time had proved so rapid and violent, that on the arrival of the engines the roofs of the principal building had fallen in, with the exception of the large tower, which the uncontrollable element had not reached. The exertions of the firemen were directed to the preservation of this tower, which, after the most venturesome and arduous work, was at last with great difficulty saved. We understand that the valuable collection of old paintings, by the best masters, and also the ancient and valuable furniture were nearly all destroyed. The smoking ruins of Naworth Castle are all that now remain of the baronial mansion of the great Barony of Gilsland, situate in a verdant park, embossed among lofty trees on the south margin of the river Irthing. This specimen of a feudal residence consisted of two lofty towers connected by other masses of masonry, inclosing a quadrangular court. Up to the time of its destruction by fire, on Saturday last, it was kept up in the style in which it appeared when occupied by Lord William Howard, the "Belted Will" of "the Lay of the Last Minstrel." Fortunate, however, it is for the sake of antiquity, that the tower which is saved is that which contains the private appartments and furniture; the library, oratory, and armoury, which "convey a strong impression of the solitary grandeur and magnificence of the feudal lord. The private apartments communicate by secret passages with the dungeons; thus, whilst reading in his library, or engaged in his confessional, his eyes might still be directed towards his prisoners and their guards," so that it may be truly said of Naworth Castle, "that suspicion was its architect, and fear its founder." The loss sustained by this fire cannot as yet be actually ascertained, but it will be enormous. No lives were lost.

The Colliers' Movement.

ADDRESS FROM THE COAL MINERS IN THE GLASGOW DISTRICTS.

The following was brought forward by a Miner, John Hunter, and read to the Miners on the Banks of Clyde, in general meeting assembled, when it was carried unanimously that the same be submitted to the public through the press.

Countrymen and Friends,—The time has now come when we feel it to be our duty to speak as Miners were wont to do in days gone by, when independence was acknowledged to be our birthright; when slavery, pauperism, and crime were unknown in the land; when the cottage of the labourer gave undeniable proofs of the comfort he in return for his labour enjoyed. We are now the hardest worked and the worst paid of any class in Britain; breathing an impure atmosphere, subject to a thousand perils unknown to other classes of the community, and in constant danger of a violent death. Ought this to be? The immense importance of our labours to society should ensure us the protection of society. If that is denied we must find out the way to protect ourselves.

The masters in the Glasgow district are in the habit of grossly violating the laws by deducting and subtracting from the wages of the Miners, without the Miners having any control over the masters whatever. No doubt the law provides a remedy, and may be applied for; but law is one thing and justice is another: and to obtain the latter as a class of workmen we are powerless. Generally speaking, with a few exceptions, there is not a Colliery in this district that the master, manager, hill-clerk, or banksman have not the power to reduce the wages of any Miner to any sum he may choose; therefore it may be understood that the Miners have no fixed wages. In the first place, on a Miner's tub coming to the bank, which, in general cases, ought to weigh four cwt., should any of the persons before-mentioned think proper to have the same adjusted, the process runs thus. The Miner's tub is weighed upon small weights set apart for that purpose, when the small coal is taken from the round, and the round weighed on the purgation principle, which has been the ruin of many a poor Miner and his family, while it has filled the coffers of the employer. The coiners employed at the Mint are not more particular in taking the dross from the gold than our masters are to find a stone in a Miner's tub; and although the same be known to have been produced in a chamber many fathoms under ground where in many instances the dim light of a lamp makes it difficult to distinguish the stone; should a few stones be found in any tub, no matter, supposing five cwt. of saleable coal remain, *that tub is forfeited*; and in the same manner, during the day, every one may be forfeited! In the second place, when the Miner's tub goes to be tested, if found wanting one half ounce of four cwt. the one half of that tub is forfeited, while the weightsman has it in his power to take every tub if he choose. Twelve cwt. is our agreement in this district. The masters say they want no more, and to the public they give no more; yet, at the same time, the Miners are compelled to put out from fifteen to sixteen and eighteen cwt exclusive of small coals. Besides the small coal supply is in very great consumption in the market; and, as a matter of course, seeing they grow together, we consider they ought to be sold together, and the Miner paid for both together. In one case here, where a Miner's tub weighed three and quarter cwt., the whole day's work was forfeited to the amount of fourteen tubs; and in the same colliery, the workmen of one pit sustained a loss, during a period of six months, of from 300 to 400 tubs, the employer refusing to pay them anything for the same. Thirdly, it has happened in a Colliery, not above three miles from Glasgow where a poor Miner met his death, that a few days previous to his death, he had been fined ten shillings for being a little too wide in the working of his chamber, which was stopped from his widow and children.

Lastly, there is the accursed Truck system in full operation throughout this district, the workings of which are too well known to require comment from us. We have no wish to resort to violence or any unlawful means to remove the evils of which we complain; but we are resolved by union and legal combination, to effect that change our present condition so imperatively demands. We are at present in a state of slavery, the most abject, which we are resolved no longer to endure. To that end we earnestly urge the co-operation of our brother Miners by joining our Association, at the same time soliciting the sympathy and aid of the public at large in our righteous struggle to obtain for ourselves a fair remuneration for our toil and protection against the wrong and insult to which we are at present subjected.

SHEFFIELD.—On Saturday, W. P. Roberts, Esq., visited Sheffield for the purpose of procuring information respecting the case of six Colliers, named John Straw, Thomas Straw, Henry Brook, Charles Nixon, Joseph Herbert, and William Sheldon, who were committed to Wakefield for two months, on Wednesday last, by H. Walker, Esq., of Rotherham, for "absenting themselves from the work and service of George Wilton Chambers, of the Clough, at the Holmes Colliery, without giving legal notice. It appeared that the defendants, in common with the rest of the Colliers in the neighbourhood, had given a written notice on the 16th April, which their master kept in his possession until the 20th before returning it; he then told them that as he had lent them money at different times, he should stop their wages in payment, if they persisted in leaving. Some of the men, who owed money, agreed to withdraw their notice; but having attended the meeting at Thorpe, at which a resolution was passed unanimously that all should cease work until they obtained a fair day's wage for a fair day's work, they refused to return to their work; the consequence was, they refused to go to work unless upon the advance claimed by the men, and were thereupon committed. Mr. Roberts having got the necessary information, a pressing invitation was made to him to address the colliers in their Lodge Room, at the Robin Hood, in Sheffield Park. He instantly complied, and in a few minutes the room was crowded. Mr. Swallow was called to the chair, who briefly introduced Mr. Roberts, who was greeted with loud cheers. Mr. Roberts commenced by observing that it always afforded him extreme pleasure to meet with any portion of the working classes, if his presence could be of any advantage to them. He wished the working men to become a thinking body. Each had a mind of his own if he would only exercise it for himself and not be dependent on others. For himself he considered it fortunate that by almost an accident, he had become connected with a body of Colliers in the North; they had invited him amongst them; but the pursuits he was then engaged in rendered it impossible that he could attend to their invitation; but out of mere courtesy for their kindness, he considered he could not do less than visit them in person to explain the reasons. But when he went among them, what a change was effected in his previous crude notions respecting them. Like other persons, he was apt to form his opinion of the character of persons from the nature of their pursuits. He could tell a tailor, or a lawyer, or a ploughman, when he saw them; but amongst the Colliers was to be found the long, slim, Italian looking man—the short, hard featured mountaineer—and the robust, broad, burly farmer; but amongst them all a similarity in mental character. As a body they were distinguished above all other classes of working men, for being deliberative and reflective. The nature of their employment made them so; for working for years separate and debarred from the social converse which other trades could indulge in, very often lying on their back or side to work, if the reflection of the mind did not sustain them, they would sink under the weight of toil they had to endure; and when they returned to the top, to be met by a virtuous wife;—and, said Mr. Roberts, I am proud to say, no body of working men, of equal numbers, can boast of more virtuous partners than the Miners can,—he deliberates on her condition, on his own usefulness to society, on the oppressions he is compelled to endure, of the struggles—unavailing struggles—he has made to end them; and then fashions the next plans he must adopt when the 5th of April once more sees him a freeman. It was thus I found them; and my own temperament and feeling being one of deadly hatred to oppression in any shape, I soon had no choice left, but to assist them in their glorious struggle. Mr. Roberts next at length alluded to his late exertions to put down the Truck system. He had been in Derby, and on Friday had served writs on coal masters to the amount of £8,000, and he would persevere; for, by the God that made him, Truck should fall. The same power that sent him there would send him again if it were necessary; or, if all failed, as long as he could pay railway fare, he would be there when wanting. He then referred to the strike in the North. The newspapers were representing that the men had struck for an advance of wages. The fact was, the masters had struck, and not the men. It was not prices so much the men wanted as that they should be paid for the work which they actually sent to bank, and that they should be paid by weight alone, and not by measure, as the masters wanted—that the weight should be ascertained by beam and scales, to be adjusted by the District Inspector of weights. The men want also to be paid their wages weekly, while the masters want to pay them every fortnight, and to keep a week's wages always in hand. The men want the hiring to be for six months, the masters one month. Mr. R. enumerated many other wholesome and necessary regulations that the men were contending for, and concluded a most splendid address, amidst the most enthusiastic applause. Mr. Rogers, of Intake, moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Roberts for his past services and the unbounded confidence of the Miners in him as their advocate. A Miner seconded it, and it was carried with three cheers. Mr. Roberts returned thanks. Mr. West moved a vote thanks to the chairman, and the meeting separated highly delighted with their intellectual treat.—On Sunday, Mr. West preached two sermons at the Corn Exchange, for the benefit of the Colliers on strike, in the afternoon at half-past two, from Jer. xxi. 13. The day was very raw and cold, and the meeting in consequence was not as numerous as it otherwise would have been. At the conclusion, the sum of 12s 7d was collected. In the evening, the attendance was much larger. Mr. West took for his text Deut. xxiv. 14. He entered at great length into the grievances of the Colliers, and the tyranny that was practised on them by the Coal-owners. At the conclusion, the sum of 18s 9½d was collected, making for the day the sum of £1 11s 3½d. If the Chartists in the different localities would do likewise, something might be done to assist the poor Colliers in their noble struggle.

PUBLIC MEETING AT MANCHESTER, ON BEHALF OF THE MINERS OF DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND.—A public meeting of the trades and productive classes was held in the Carpenter's Hall, Garret-road, on Monday evening last, May 20th, to take into consideration the case of the Coal Miners of the counties of Durham and Northumberland, now on strike. At the hour appointed for commencing business, Mr. Roberts, a working man, was unanimously called to the chair. He said that the business which had called them together was of that nature that demanded their most serious attention. For himself he knew little of the grievances which the Miners had to complain, but he was sure that he was surrounded by gentlemen that would lay the whole case before them. He then concluded by reading the placard calling the meeting, and introducing Mr. Hamlet Booth, from Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Mr. Booth, upon rising, was greeted with rapturous applause. He entered into the grievances of the Miners, and gave a detailed explanation of the differences which existed betwixt the employers and the men, and stated that they were now in the seventh week of their strike, if such it could be called, and there could not be less than 10,000 of them that had ceased labour until justice was done to them by their masters. He hoped, therefore, that the men of Manchester would render them all the assistance in their power—(loud cries of "we will, we will"). He (Mr. Booth) regretted the necessity of having to make this appeal, inasmuch as if the trades of this country understood each other better than they did, and united with each other as the heart of one man, to assist each other in times of emergency, these appeals would be unnecessary. He was glad to see a spirit beginning to manifest itself once more in this country for the purpose of forming a national union of trades—(loud cheers). In Whitehaven the trades were beginning to look that way as also were those of Bristol; and he hoped that the trades of Manchester would not be behind in the good work—(cheers). If such an union was formed, what could not the working men of this country accomplish? Mr. Booth concluded by an earnest appeal for the Miners, and sat down amid deafening applause. The Chairman then introduced Mr. Wm. Dixon, who entered into the statistics of the coal trade, and remarked on the repeated assertions of the Coal Kings and the press, that there had been no reduction in the wages of the Miners of the North, and proved that notwithstanding the price of coal in the market to which the produce of their labour was sent had varied very little, yet as facts and figures plainly showed their wages had been reduced last year about four shillings and a penny per week. [Mr. Roberts here entered the hall, when the assembly rose from their seats *en masse*, and received him with every mark of respect and esteem; cheer succeeded cheer for several minutes after he took his seat on the platform. After the cheering ceased Mr. Dixon concluded by making an appeal to the trades present to form a committee for the purpose of getting up funds to assist the miners of the north in this the time of need, and sat down warmly applauded. The Chairman introduced W. P. Roberts, Esq., as the long-tried friend of the working classes. Mr. Roberts rose amid deafening cheers. In the course of his address he entered into the merits of the miners' claims, and in a masterly manner exposed the numerous oppressions to which they have been subjected. He showed that the strike was, properly speaking, not for an advance of wages, but for great principles, and convinced his audience that the demands of the men were nothing but such as any honest master would give to his workmen. His address occupied upwards of an hour and a half in the delivery, and drew forth repeated plaudits. On Mr. R. resuming his seat he was enthusiastically cheered.—Mr. Rankin, a journeyman engraver, moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting having heard the statements of the previous speakers on the cause of the miners' strike in the counties of Durham and Northumberland, is of opinion that they are perfectly justified in their present course of ceasing to labour under such galling terms. And this meeting pledges itself to exert its powers to the utmost to obtain for them public support." For his own part he would give one shilling now, and give the same sum every week until the strike was terminated—(cheers). Mr. Sutton seconded the resolution, which upon being put from the chair, was carried unanimously.—Mr. E. Clark, a joiner and cabinet maker, moved the next resolution in a brief speech—"That this meeting do forthwith elect a committee of nine, with power to add to their number, for the purpose of carrying out the foregoing resolution; to whom shall be given the power of receiving all contributions for the Miners of the counties of Durham and Northumberland, now on strike, and by them to be forwarded to the General Treasurer of the Miners' Association once a week, so long as the strike continues." Mr. Linton, a member of the cordwainers' body, seconded the resolution, which was carried *nem. con.* The following gentlemen were chosen as the committee:—Mr. Rankin, Mr. Taylor, James Beesley, Mr. Coates, Mr. Linton, Mr. Mason, Mr. Stainfield, Mr. Whitely, and Mr. Hardman. Mr. Dixon moved—"That the thanks of this meeting is due, and hereby given, to W. P. Roberts, Esq., for his indefatigable exertions in the cause of labour's rights." Seconded by acclamation, with three times three, and one cheer more. Mr. Roberts acknowledged the compliment in a neat speech, and moved the thanks of the meeting to the chairman, which passed. The sum of one pound four shillings was thrown upon the table by the parties around the platform. The committee remained after the meeting dispersed, and agreed to meet the following evening, to lay down their plans for carrying out the object for which they had been elected.

RAWMARSH COLLIERY.—We beg to return our sincere thanks for the following subscriptions:—Barnsley Lodge, on the 14th of May £2 10s; Operative Potters £1 1s 4d; Swinton friends 2s 10½d; Shaw 1s; D. Willey 1s; J. Knapton 1s; E. Jackson 1s; friends at Rawmarsh 2s; do. at Mexbro 1s 1½d; do. at Greasbro' 6s 4d; do. at Rotherham 5s; friends 4s; do. 8s 4d; do. 6d; A. Holmes 6d; Messrs Knapton Colliery 2s; Messrs Barbers Colliers 4s 9d; Melton Colliers 11d; friends 6d.

RAWMARSH COLLIERY.—We beg leave to return our sincere thanks for the following subscriptions:—J. Ramsden, Pit 5s: Operative Potters £1 2d; Mr. Barber's Colliers 7s 3d; Messrs. Knapton's Ditto 4s 9d; Friends, Swinton 1s 6½d; Ditto, at Kilnhurst 1s 4d; Ditto at Rotherham 6s 2½d; Ditto at Rawmarsh 8s 2d; Friend 6d: Friends 2s 6½d; W. Twigg 6d; D. Willey 1s; J. Knapton 1s; G. Swan 1s; E. Shaw 1s; Droppinswell Colliers 2s; Friends at Greasbro' 2s 9d; sent by a Friend £15.

NOTTINGHAM.—J. Sweet begs to acknowledge the receipt of the following sums for the Miners' Association, viz., Mr. Thornton 3d; from Hoyles Rotary Shop 2s. 3d.

STALYBRIDGE.—The Coal Miners at Rabbit Holes are at present on strike. They beg to acknowledge the following sums:—William Ellis 1s 10d; a Friend at the Highland Laddie 2s 10½d; a few friends at Stalybridge £1 17s 11½; a good woman 2s 6d; a friend 1s 1d; friends at print works, Sandy Vale, Dukinfield 5s 5½d; a friend 1s; ditto 6d; Mr. Wm. Barsley 1s; Rains boiler makers 7s 8d; a friend 1s; Fernihough boiler makers 3s 11d; few friends 15s 6d; a few friends at Newton 13s 1d; a few friends at Glossop 7s 11½d; a few friends at Ashton 10s 7½d; a few friends from various parts of the country £8 10s 9d.

MASBOROUGH MOOR.—Mr. Swallow, of the Parkgate Colliery, in the Sheffield district has assented to the demands of the men, who resumed work on the 16th instant.

WARWICKSHIRE.—Messrs. George and Ramsay have held a number of very successful meetings in this county. All letters for the lecturers to be addressed, "Care of Mr. Wm. Pickard, Jun., Collycroft, Bedworth, Warwickshire."

THE MINERS OF COULTON AND NEVILL HILL beg to acknowledge the kindness of their many friends in Leeds; among other sums received are the following: Messrs. Wright, Broughton, Horn, and Stott, Gracestreet, Leeds £1 11s 7d; Binns and Son 15s 7d; Wilkinson 2s; a few Chartist friends 2s 4½d; Jas. Brown 1s; M. Maud 1s; — Coulson 1s 10d; Mrs. Hall, Briggate 4s 4d; Ardill and Pickard's Foundry 5s 10½d; a few friends 1s 5d; ditto 1s 10d; — Wood 1s; David Thompson 1s 4d; Richard Roads 1s 5d; William Robinson 1s; — Burrell 2s 0½d; Lawson's men 6s 2d; Wm. Brook 1s; Howard's weavers 1s; John Long 3s 3d; Thomas Smith 2s; Victoria Pit 4s 11d; Mill Pit 2s 5d; Pearse Pit 8s 11d; Richard Bayldon 2s 6d; Sand Pit 1s 8d; Wakefield Lodge £1 16s 4d; Manston Colliery 8s 10d; Osmanthorpe 10s 6d; several friends 2s; Rock Colliery 3s 9d; and a large number of smallar sums for which we have not room.

SOUTH WALES.—Messrs Wilde, Taylor, and Williams have addressed the Miners of Newbridge, Blackwood, and other places. The Miners of this part are mostly very poor, through low wages and the truck shops, which are very numerous in Monmouthshire. Many females are working in mines in open violation of the law. Messrs. Wilde and Williams will visit Pembrokeshire in a short time.

THE STAINBRO' MINERS return their thanks for the following sums:—George Charlesworth 6d; George Twigger 6d; W. Barlow 1s; Thomas Rey 6d; a few frinds 4s 6d; Moses Medard 1s; Cowthorn Lodge 7s 3d; Barnsley Committee £5 7s 4d; Joseph Airston 6d; James Smith 2s; Shepton Colliery 7s 6d; Hoyland 4s 5d; Unshelf Bank 6s 6d; Silkstone £8 3s. We wish to correct a mistake in your paper on the 4th instant. It ought to have been £5 10s from Silkstone, instead of 5s 5d. Holismoor 12s; Smiths and Burton 3s 2½d; High Green and Mortemley 12s 8d; James Walker 6d; John Lee 6d; James Beardshall 5d; Adam Lockwood 6d; Clifton 2s; Henry Haigh 1s; George Senier 10d; Daw Green 3s; Dedworth 5s 6d; Edward Edgar 8s.

THE SHEFFIELD MINERS request the insertion of the following sums received for the support of the men now on strike who number about 1,200:—from the Razor Grinders £3; Ditto the File Grinders £1 10s; Ditto Sheffield Type Founders 10s; Ditto Spring Knife Cutlers 3s 5½d; Ditto German Silver Trade £1; Ditto Stag Cutters 6s 9d; per Benjamin Den 4s; from Woodhouse £2 2s 1d; Ditto, ditto £1 13s 7d; Ditto Intake £1 17s 9d; Ditto, ditto 14s 9d; Ditto Public Meeting, Paradise-square £1 16s 3d; Ditto Mr. Briggs 5s; Ditto a Friend 1s; Ditto all sources £50 3s 11d.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.—Received for the Miner's Association at the White Cow, Old Radford, Notts:—Bunting's shop 2s 5½d; Harvey' factory 1s 7½d; Kerrey's factory 2s 2d; Thackeray's factory 1s 6d; Fisher's factory 19s; J. Sweet's 2s 7d.

NOTTINGHAM.—J. Sweet begs to acknowledge the following sums for the Miner's Association:—Mr. Wainwright 1d; Mr. Thornton 3d; Mr. Mullin 1d; from Hoyle's Rotary shop 2s 3d.

THE KIPPAX MINERS beg to acknowledge the following sums;—Griffin Lodge, Wakefield £2 16s; Allerton Colliery 7s 10d; Kippax friends 12s; Batley 4s; Rothwell Lodge 5s; Robin Hood 13s 2½d; a few Friends 5s; Mill Pit 2s 4½d; Pearce Pit 10s 6d; Victoria 4s 11d; a Well-wisher 4s; a few Friends 2s.

THE WEST MELTON FIELD MINERS return their sincere thanks for the following sums:—Mr. Beever's Miners £1 1s 2d; Thomas Armitage and Company, of Winin Colliery 11s; Wosper Park 1s 4d; Swinton friends 1s 8d; Masbrough 1s 6d; Mexbrough 1s; Wath 5s 11d: Lady Paine 1d; Newill friends 3s 2d; West Melton friends 7s 11d; Rawmarsh friends 3s 3d; Rotherham friends 1s 3d.

RADCLIFFE COLLIERY.—The masters are trying every unfair means to crush the men. They have given several men, who are working under them at the Harbour, notice to quit their work and dwelling houses, because they have nobly refused to work in the pit. The men, however, nothing daunted, are resolved to fight the battle till the last.

THE COAL MINERS of Grimscar, Ainley's, Hollinhey's, Park Hard Bed, Pack Soft Bed, and Bin's Bottom, near Huddersfield, gave up work on the 11th of May, on account of the conduct of their employers, who went to the several pits on the 26th of April, with their infamous test, which stated that if the Miners did not abandon the Association they would give every man a month's notice. The men received this notice with becoming firmness. They had begun to reduce their hours of labour one-third, which did not suit the taste of their employers: the masters therefore combined *together*, and gave notice that those men who refused to send out the usual quantity of coal, should be discharged on the 11th of May. The men have therefore been driven into a strike, and they are determined to stand to each other until they get a fair day's wage for a fair day's work.

MINER'S TURN-OUT.—The Miners in the employ of Mr. Whitley, Lepton, near Huddersfield, are still on strike; the difference between the men and the masters being only fourpence per day. There are other grievances, such as the discontinuance of the "home coal," &c. The men confidently expect a speedy settlement of their difference.

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.—For some time past our very efficient agent, P. M. Brophy, has, in addition to his labours as a lecturer, been busily employed in the bringing to light the nefarious acts of the Butty Colliers and the mine owners, whose tools the butties are. Most of the masters keep what are called "Tommy Shops," and the butties, who contract with the masters or owners, employ men who are paid in truck; and in addition to this monstrous evil most of the butties keep or have an interest in a public house or beershop. Mr. Brophy knowing that Acts of Parliament were in existence which might be brought to bear upon the system, has lately been instrumental in bringing a number of cases before the magistrates, when several parties have been fined £5, and £10, for paying wages in "tommy," and also for unlawfully settling with men in a public house. If the working men would thus use the law for their own protection, they would bring the masters and butties to their senses.

NEWCASTLE,—The following sums have been subscribed for the unemployed Miners of the Counties of Northumberland and Durham:—From the Low Lights Pottery, North Shields 12s; the Cumberland block printers £4 8s; and the South Shields flint glass makers £1.

MAY 20TH, 1844.—The Melton Field Miners return their sincere thanks for the following sums:—A few friends 8s 2d; Mexbrough friends 2s 10d; Swinton Potters' Union 8s 4d; a few friends, near Elkinser 11s 1d; Jenathan Depledge 1s; John Worrell 1s; John Crowder 1s; Ann Lankshire 1s; Mr. Blackburn 6d; John Lawton, of Melton Newell 2d; friends, near Rawmarsh 5s; a few friends 9s 7d; Swinton friends 2s 5d; Crosland 6d; Mr. Harrison 6d.

BEDLINGTON.—A public meeting of the Miners of the collieries in the Bedlington district was held on Monday, May the 20th, at two o'clock, on the Sea Beach, near Seaton Sluice, Mr. Joseph Simpson, of Seghill, was unanimously elected to the chair. Mr. Robt. Turnbull, of Seghill, moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. John Nicholson, and supported by Mr. Wm. Dawson, both of Seaton Delaval, and carried unanimously:—That in the opinion of this meeting, we having public opinion and support on our side, no schemes of our employers can defeat us unless we defeat ourselves." Mr Thomas Wakenshaw moved the next resolution, which was very ably seconded by Mr. Christopher Haswell, of Seghill, supported by Mr. Wm. Bird, of East Cramlington, and carried unanimously:—"That the Miners of this district have been labouring under such severe grievances, that this meeting considers quite justifiable their present cessation from labour; this meeting therefore pledges itself to support such cessation until the Miners are better remunerated for their labour." Towards the close of the meeting Mr. Beesley made his appearance, and after the business of the meeting was gone through, addressed them for about twenty-five minutes, amidst the applause of the audience. After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting separated with a stronger determination, if possible, to have a fair day's wage for a fair day's work.

SWANWICK.—As great doubts have existed in the minds of the Coal Masters in our neighbourhood of there being such a person as Mr. Roberts, several of them had their doubts settled on his first appearance in Belper. The severe castigation he gave them and the magistrates at Belper that day will not soon be forgotten. We have again had the pleasure of meeting him at the Derby County Hall, where he came to defend the parties who had taken out summonses for the recovery of their wages, which had been paid to them in goods instead of money. This system is practised to an enormous extent in this county, as great numbers of persons have never received money for two years. If they get a shilling they have first to get goods from the tommy shop, and then sell them at a great loss; meat, for instance, as much as 1½d per lb. less; sugar 1d per lb. less; tobacco 2d in a quarter of a pound; bacon as much as 2d per lb.; cheese as much as 2d; very few articles but what they can buy at a less *price* at the other shops in the neighbourhood. We shall have some little business to transact with the Truck tyrants at the next quarter sessions, as they have been already served with writs to the tune of seven thousand pounds and upwards! We will endeavour to give you some little account of the proceedings in the County Hall. I am sorry I cannot send you Mr. Roberts's introduction to the cases. Let it suffice that it was what is called here a 'stunner!' Most of the Truck masters were present, whose appearance was such that there was no mistake in recognising them as those who live on the fat of the land. They came well prepared with a number of official tools, called butties and others, who, shame be it spoken, swore most scrupulously on the side of their employers. These parties, however, were so severely cross-examined by Mr. Roberts, and contradicted each other so glaringly, that it is evident it will never do to be at the expense of paying a number of liars to go to Derby again, as when they get there they are at once detected.

WAKEFIELD DISTRICT.—Mr. George Brown, and Mr. Thomas Shepherd have addressed a number of meetings in the Wakefield district, most of which were very numerously attended.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. John Auty has visited the following places:—Tuesday, May 7th, Flimly; Wednesday, 8th, Dearham; Thursday, 9th, Broughton; Monday, 13th, Bolton, near Wigton. Thursday, May 16th, Dearham; Friday, 17th, Oughterside, and Saturday, 18th, Flimby.

DEWSBURY.—We beg to acknowledge the following subscriptions:—Received at David Stephenson's shop, Chickenley, 14s 10d; Thomas Toung's shop, Earlsheaton, 5s 2d; Pildaker Mill, 2s 1d; other sums from friends, 7s 1½d; Ossett Common Lodge, 7s.

THE MINERS OF LEEDS and the neighbouring Colliers return their sincere thanks for the following subscriptions:—Watson's men, Leylands 3s 2d; Lawson's iron moulders 8s 3d; Dickson and Barraclough's mill 1s 1d; a few friends 8s 5d; Lawson's men 3s 7d; Messrs. Pearson and Smith's workmen, Kirkgate 7s 6½d; from a few cloth dressers 13s 9d; from Binns and Sons 17s 7d; Wm. Hunt 1s; a few friends, York Road 11s 9½d; Waterloo Colliery 6s 10d; W. Haywood 1s; a few friends in Leeds 16s 6½d; Robert Bloom 1s; Mr. Wetcham 1s; Dobson's men 4s 1d; a friend in New Town 16s 6½d; gentlemen of Leeds 11s 5d; Mr. John Long 3s; Brewery Moor Side 13s 3½d; Mr. Fisher 1s; Thomas Brumfit 1s; Joseph Parker 1s; friends in Hunslet 9s; Mr. Bayldon 2s 6d; Ardill and Pickard's foundry 5s 1d; Barraclough's Coffee House 2s 7½d; B. Sheppard 1s 4d; Mr. Hall's 4s 10d; Ross's Coffee House 7s; Beeston Lodge 8s; Howard's mill 2s 8d.

THE GILDERSOME MINERS appeal to the public for support in their present struggle. Our only demand is such an advance as would give us 3s 4½d per day for eight hours work. We have supported our brother Miners in different parts of the country when contending for their rights, and to them and the public at large, we now respectfully appeal for that aid which will enable us to obtain our righteous demand.

BARNSLEY.—The Colliers in the districts for miles round are nobly acting in the present strike. Richard Thorpe, Esq. sent for his men on the 21st instant, and gave them the advance, at the same time telling the men to stick to the Union, and gave the men who waited on him 11s. His agent gave them 5s. with a promise to give every man a stone of flour. Mr. Elija Sutcliffe has also given his men at Mapplewell the advance; and this day (Wednesday) Mr. John Hall, of the same place, has agreed to give 4s for the eight hours work. A public meeting of the Miners of Barnsley and the out districts, was held in the Odd Fellows' Hall. The men came in thousands with their flags and banners, for the purpose of meeting their friend and advocate, Mr. Roberts, but that gentleman had unavoidably been compelled to be at Wigan, at a trial; but a letter of apology was read from him, stating at the same time he would give them a day at the earliest opportunity.

STAINCLIFFE.—The Coal Miners of Staincliff Colliery struck work on the 13th of May, and the masters complied with their reasonable demands on the 16th. They therefore returned to work on the 18th.

BRADGATE.—The Miners of Bradgate now on strike, return thanks to their friends for the support rendered. They beg to acknowledge the following sums:—Mr. J. Goodinson 5s; Joseph Kemster 1s; Adam Knowles 6d; Wm. Lambert 1s; friends at Rotherham and Masbro' 10s 9½d; from Barnsley 9s 3½d; foom the fork trade committee £1. The number of men now *on strike* at Bradgate is 140—not one black sheep among them.

A GENERAL DELEGATE MEETING of Miners will be held at the house of Mrs. Elizabeth Goulder, Duke-street, Sheffield Park, on Friday the 31st day of May, 1844, to commence at nine o'clock in the morning.

BURNLEY.—IMPORTANT VISITATIONS.—This town was visited on Tuesday, the 21st inst., by the Lord Bishop of Chester, to administer spiritual consolation to his charge, and by W. P. Roberts, Esq., the able and zealous Attorney-General of the Miners, to administer to the temporal welfare of the sons of toil. The bells in the Tower of St. Peter's Church rung merry peals during the morning, and the Union Jack was fluttering in the breeze: the ringing answering the double purpose of welcoming both bishop and lawyer; and the Union Jack a befitting emblem of the united exertions of the Miners' Association to raise prostrate labour above the power of rampant capital. Mr. Roberts arrived in Burnley a little before twelve o'clock at noon, in an open carriage, with two bands of music playing, and flags flying; amongst the flags we noticed the following mottos:—"United we stand, divided we fall;" "Peace, Law, Order;" "Peace on earth and good will towards all men;" "Tyrants' chains are only strong while slaves submit to wear them," &c. &c. The procession, composed of Miners from Hopton, Altham, Padiham, and Burnley halted at the Swan Inn, where Mr. Roberts partook of some refreshment. The procession was then re-formed, and proceeded down the main street to Padiham. It being the hour of noon, the factory hands were seen pressing in all directions to get a glimpse of labour's friend. The street was literally crammed; and thus the Miners' Attorney proceeded through Burnley, amid the hearty cheers of the sons of toil, followed out of the town by hundreds, anxious to spare the last moment that the factory bell would allow. The procession arrived at Padiham shortly after one o'clock, when the whole population seemed to be turned out to welcome Mr. Roberts. The procession moved through the town, maintaining the strictest order, and returned to the Dun Horse Inn, where Mr. Roberts, after transacting some important business with the Miners, and making arrangements for active operations, proceeded to address the Miners in the large room of the Tun. The carriage was then ordered to be in readiness to convey Mr. Roberts back to Burnley. On mounting the carriage, Mr. R. addressed the large assembly outside the Inn. His remarks were principally directed to the pitmen (turnouts), inculcating the strictest obedience to the law, advising them neither by word or deed to insult those who were opposed to them, but keep strictly within the pale of the law. He also made some excellent remarks to the shopkeepers on the Truck system, showing them how they were injured by the operation of those employers, who, in spite of the Truck Act, carried on the practice of paying their work people in goods, instead of money. Mr. R. concluded amid the hearty cheers of the assembly. The carriage then proceeded to Burnley at a quick rate, Mr. Roberts having to take the half-past four o'clock train at Todmorden for Wakefield.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—The men employed at the Crown Glass Works, South Shields, have given a donation of 17s. 3d. to the Miners of Northumberland and Durham.

BILSTON.—A meeting of Miner's delegates was holden in the Chartist Room, Bilston, [our correspondent does not say when] Mr. Robert Johnson in the chair, when it was resolved to enroll the Miners of the district in the Miner's National Association.

MR. TOFT has visited and formed branches of the Miner's Association at Manston, (Yorkshire) and Seacroft.

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.—A delegate meeting was held in the People's Hall, Wednesbury, on Monday last, May 20, when the following sums were paid in:—Stammermill 11s; West Bromwich, No. 1, 10s; ditto No. 2, £1; Oldbury No. 1, £1 14s 6d; ditto No. 2, 10s; Great Bridge £1 14s; Dudley Port 10s; Swan Village, No. 2, 4s 6d; Darlaston £3 4s; Wednesbury No. 1, £1; ditto No. 2, £1 14s; ditto No. 3, 2s; Summer-hill 6s 6d; Dudley No. 1, £2 4s 4d; ditto No. 2, 8s; ditto No. 3, £1 10s; ditto No 4, 12s 10d; Park-house-lane 10s; Tipton No. 2, 15s; Whiteheath-gate 8s; Prince's End 14s; Pleck 6s 3d; Jerusalem £1 10s; Brierley Hill No. 1, £2 3s 7d; Woodside £1 15s 8d; Netherton, No. 1, £2 5s 2d; ditto No. 2, 12s; Brockmoor £1 1s 8d; Delph 13s 1½d; Hart's Hill 12s 1½d; Mount Pleasant 14s; Garnal Wood 13s; Kate's Hill 10s; Oldhill £1 5s; Penenett 10s; Walsall No. 1, £1 8s; ditto No. 2, 13s; Dudley Wood 9s 5½d; Gold's Green 8s 8½d; Can-lane, Lower Gornal 3s 9d; Pelsal £1. The meeting was addressed by Mr. John Herbert, Mr. David Swallow, and Mr. Harrison. The speakers were repeatedly cheered, and the greatest enthusiasm seemed to actuate the men. The meeting began at nine, and closed at twelve by singing the Miners' hymn.

OVERDOING THE THING.

SOUTH SHIELDS POLICE COURT.—One of those extraordinary exhibitions, so prolific at this time in the North, in which the powers that be figure so conspicuously in endeavouring to attach crime to the peaceable colliers, took place at this Court on Wednesday, the 15th.

Mr. Wilkinson, of Scots House, became, on this occcasion, the lever in the hands of the magistracy, to enable them, if possible, to remove three colliers from their families and homes to the unenviable purlieus of a penal settlement. It appears that Joseph Richardson, Ralph Curry, and Charles King, the three colliers alluded to, went on the Sunday morning previous to a plantation near to Mr. W.'s residence, for the purpose of taking young crows. Had this circumstance taken place in ordinary times, they would simply have been charged with so doing; but the men of the entire district being so profoundly and cautiously peaceable, and hence the complete absence of any and everything bordering upon crime: this was too good an opportunity to be allowed to pass without making the most of it. What was best to be done? Mr. Wilkinson saw, or fancied he saw a light among the trees, somewhat like unto that which a lucifer match might produce. Capital idea.

The men were forthwith charged with attempting to set fire to Mr. Wilkinson's premises!!! And how was the charge of "Cunning Isaac" sustained? Like many other far-fetched and heavily-strained points, it was overdone; the link upon which all depended snapped; the charge fell to the ground, and,

"Like the baseless fabric of a vision,
Left not a wreck behind."

Mr. Roberts defended the Colliers. On this occasion he almost surpassed himself: he was in one of those superlatively happy veins, in which every word that escaped his lips became a two-edged sword, skilfully wielded. We really pitied the poor nervous creature who could be induced to make so serious a charge against his fellow men on such flimsy pretexts, for such an ignoble purpose. The writhing castigation which Mr. R. inflicted upon him on cross-examination was well merited. We cannot pretend to say whether Mr. Wilkinson felt himself to be a self-convicted liar or not; but it is tolerably clear that a man is not in great risk of receiving "dangerous bodily harm" from another man twenty yards off, at the moment he is in the act of running away to save himself, and with a gun shot wound in his back! In short, such evidence would be scouted from a Court of justice altogether in less querulous times. The men were very properly acquitted; the magistrates deciding that the felonious intention was not sustained by the evidence. We regret that our space will not allow us to go more fully into the matter. It is one of those occasional lessons that teach "upstart crime manufacturers" to keep within just and reasonable bounds for the future.—*From a Correspondent.*"

ANOTHER TRIUMPH FOR LABOUR.

(From our own Correspondent.)

IMPORTANT COLLIERS' CASE—MR. ROBERTS IN WIGAN.

A highly important and interesting case was brought before the Wigan Magistrates on Wednesday last, at the Town Hall. The magistrates on the bench were Messrs. Lord, (the Mayor), S. M'Clure, and T. Eckersley, (all high Tories.) The Court was crowded during the whole of the hearing. The charge was made by Samuel Green, underlooker and agent to Mr. Wm. Lamb, coal-master, of Wigan, against an operative Miner named Daniel Belshaw, for refusing to fulfil a contract entered into by him with Mr. Lamb, on the 15th of May, 1841.

Mr. Ackerley, of the firm of Lord and Ackerley attended on behalf of Mr. Lamb, and Mr. Roberts, Attorney-general to the Miners' Association, for the prisoner.

Mr. Ackerley, in opening the case, said the prisoner had worked for Mr. Lamb a considerable length of time, and that in May, 1841, he having contracted a debt by borro wing money, had entered into a written contract or agreement to serve Mr. Lamb till all money was paid. The money to be paid by weekly instalments of two shillings each. He, however, continued to work for Mr. Lamb till March, 1843, when he was taken sick and unable to follow his employment. He, therefore, applied for leave to go to the workhouse; but when he became well, instead of returning to his work to Mr. Lamb's pits, he went to work for Mr. Woods. On the 5th of May last, therefore, Mr. Green waited upon him and asked him when he was going to come to work, when, after a little conversation, he agreed to come on the Monday but one following. After thus distinctly agreeing to return, he called upon Mr. G. and asked him if Mr. Lamb's men had not given notice.

At this stage of the proceedings, Mr. Roberts rose and said, he begged respectfully to apply for leave for the witnesses for the prosecution to leave the Court.

The Bench said the witnesses for both sides must leave.

Mr. Roberts said, he had no witnesses at present in the Court.

Mr. Ackerley wished to know who the witnesses were whom Mr. R. intended to call.

Mr. Roberts said he should not give the names of the witnesses whom he intended to call, inasmuch as it might furnish his opponent with a clue to the line he intended to adopt. It was not imperative for him to give the names of the witnesses; it was sufficient to know that they were not in Court.

Mr. Ackerley (with great warmth) said this was a captious objection.

Mr. Roberts retorted the compliment.

The Mayor said Mr. Roberts should be turned out of Court if he made a similar reply.

The magnanimous threat was not, however, attempted to be carried into execution.

The two witnesses for the prosecution then retired, and

Mr. Ackerley resumed—The further observations made by the prisoner to Mr. Green, shewed that he was connected with the Colliers' Union. Mr. Green asked him who had told him he was not to work, and he replied, "They all said so." He believed the man was not so much to blame as those who had improperly tampered with him. The man said, and he begged the bench would notice it, "I'll not come to work, I'll go to prison first." Mr. Lamb had no vindictive motive. If the defendant was willing to go to work and complete his contrat, all proceedings against him would be withdrawn.

Mr. Jonathan Lamb was then called—Was son to Mr. Wm. Lamb, the prosecutor. The memorandum produced (a slip of paper, to which Belshaw had made a cross, stating that he should work for Mr. Lamb until all money owing by him should be paid to Mr. Lamb,) was his handwriting. The money owing at the time of the signing of the agreement was 26s. Had not been repaid. The money now owing was £2 19s. 4½d. Had given directions for Green to call on defendant about a fortnight ago. The defendant had neither paid the money nor given one month's notice. Had served according to the agreement for some time. Had signed the agreement on the 15th of May, 1841,

Mr. Roberts said he would, to save any further waste of time, make a preliminary objection.

Mr. Ackerley and the bench loudly demurred at Mr. Roberts's interruption, and said he must make his objection at the proper time.

Mr. Roberts said he would not have interrupted the examination, but he was convinced that the objection he had to urge would totally do away with the charge, and thereby save the bench the time and trouble which it would take to go into it. He would prove the charge altogether untenable. The agreement, according to the Truck Act, was altogether null, illegal, and void. By the second section of that Act, it was illegal to pay wages in other than the current coin of the Realm. He was glad to have this opportunity of opposing these illegal bonds. A bond was drawn up for the man to work until all money was paid, which might be for a great length of time, and the man was thus held fast, and debarred from a free use of his labour.

Mr. Ackerley read another portion of the Act, endeavouring to show that borrowed money did not come within the meaning of the Act. He said the real question at issue was, whether or not the masters should be controlled by the men.

Mr. Roberts said, the 24th section stated the exceptions, and it was the duty of his opponent to show that borrowed money came within those exceptions. The agreement was entered into for a by-gone debt. There was nothing said as to what the debt was for, or how contracted. He pledged his reputation as a lawyer, that he would put down this accursed system of binding men over.

The Bench decided that the objection should stand over until the case had been fully gone into.

Mr. Roberts cross-examined Mr. Lumb.—Had prepared the agreement on behalf of his father. The man was in a bad state of health, and he had lent him money repeatedly. Never gave him authority to get goods. The man had worked for his father for some years. Could not swear that the money was not for an assault case heard before his father. The man had left their employment fourteen months. He was unable to work. Had wanted to go to the workhouse, and was permitted, on condition that he should come back when wanted. Was not aware whether the defendant had worked anywhere else. Said he had gone to the workhouse. It was always customary to give notice.

Samuel Green examined.—Belsham had worked a long time prior to 1841 for Mr. L. Saw him on Sunday, 5th May. Asked him if it was not time to come and work out his agreement, promised to come on the Monday but one following. Came in middle of the week and asked if the men had not given notice that they would strike. Replied that they had given a pretended notice, but that they were fast. He had then said that he should not come to work. Asked him who had said so to him. Replied "all had said so." Defendant had worked at Mr. Woods since he left the workhouse. Did not *know how long.* Never saw him work.

Mr. Roberts said it was his duty to address them on this all-important case. It was important, as the decision would have great influence in the whole of this extensive district. He would rely on the principle of the agreement. The whole of the spirit of the law was against prepayment of wages. A man might bind himself to work off a large debt, and might work nearly the whole of his life without liquidating it, and when liquidated he would have to give a month's notice. How long had been allowed to elapse in the present case before it was brought forward? Why three years—from the 15th day of May, 1841. He would ask if a deduction from a man's wages could be an actual payment? The Act required that such should be the case. That the artificer should be paid in the current coin of the realm. It was no answer that admissions had been made by the man. If the man had ignorantly stated that he would go to work it did not alter the matter a bit. An agreement to be legal must be signed by the parties in writing and attested. Now no agreement had been entered into since the first one. He would respectfully submit that the agreement had ceased by his going to the workhouse. The man stood there on the law and spirit of the constitution, and he hoped the Bench would act up to it and decide accordingly.

Mr. Roberts not having called any witnesses, objected to Mr. Ackerley's right of reply, but the bench permitted him on the law points raised by Mr. Roberts solely.

Mr. Ackerley endeavoured to grapple with the points of law raised by Mr. Roberts, and contended that the former contract had not been put an end to.

The Bench, after a consultation, in which they were assisted by Mr. Part, solicitor, Chief Clerk of the Peace, said that they did not consider Mr. Roberts' objections founded upon the Truck Act at all tenable, but that they deemed the agreement to be informal and illegal, and on those grounds dismissed the charge.

The decision was received with a great buzz of satisfaction by the whole court, which had repeatedly applauded Mr. Roberts during the progress of the case, and as repeatedly been threatened to be cleared out by "dogberries" and "blue bottles." The decision is more surprising, as the whole of the magistrates on the bench were high Tories, and the mayor was partner with Mr. Ackerley, the attorney for the prosecutor. It was universally believed that the decision given was not in consequence of the illegality alone of the agreement as stated by them; but that they well knew that the other objections taken by Mr. R., founded on the Truck Act were perfectly tenable. They have lately had enough, it is to be hoped, of Queen's Bench law, through "doing as they liked, by overruling law and everything else by illegally appointing a coroner, and being completely upset by the decision of that court, and saddled with the whole expense to risk the trial of another, in which they well knew they would stand quite as little chance as the other. They had therefore to swallow the bitter pill of deciding against themseles, and we certainly believe that they have more wisdom than what we had before given them credit for, as they undoubtedly saw that the "first loss was the best." The case occupied nearly two hours, and Mr. Roberts left the town shortly after the conclusion.

WAKEFIELD.—The strike of the Miners still continues, and on Monday last they met to the number of four thousand, in the open space of ground, Wood-street. They have met with liberal support from the public.

Trades Movements.

THE TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL DINNER of the Carpenters of London, will be held at Mr. Hinton's, Highbury Barn Tavern, Islington, on Whit-Monday, May the 27th, T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P. in the chair. Dinner on the table at two o'clock precisely. A grand military band will be in attendance, as also a celebrated quadrille band.

BARNSLEY—PECKETT'S STRIKE.—A large meeting of the weavers was held on May-day Green, on Monday, the 20th instant, Mr. F. Mirfield in the chair, who opened the business of the meeting with a warm exhortation to the good and true to continue their support to the men on strike. Messrs. Grimshaw and Shaw then addressed them; after which the meeting separated fully resolved to carry out the wholesome advice of the speakers.

LIVERPOOL TRADES.—At a public meeting of the trades held at the Assembly Rooms, Lord Nelson-street, on Tuesday, the 14th, called by the boot and shoemakers of Liverpool, in aid of their brother tradesmen in Manchester, the following resolution was carried unanimously:—"That the best thanks of this meeting are especially due to that portion of the public press, namely, the *Northern Star*, the *Weekly Dispatch*, and *Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper*, for their advocacy of our cause against the oppressions of the master shoemakers of Manchester."

FRAMESMITHS.—On Monday, May 20th, a meeting of the journeymen framesmiths of the county of Derby was held at the Thorn Tree, Ripley, when a union was formed.

NOVEL STRIKE AT BRADFORD.—On Saturday morning above 200 of the children in the employment of Mr. Waud, of Bradford, left the mill, and sung through the streets, declaring that unless the woolcombers (who were then on strike against a proposed reduction) obtained their wages, they would all go to school. On Monday, the number of children who had struck, amounted to 320, all of whom attended school at the Philadelphia Chapel, North Wing. This had the desired effect, for on Monday evening Mr. Waud sent for the woolcombers, and agreed to pay at the rate of wages received before the present attempt at reduction. On Tuesday, the children all returned to their usual employment. The reduction contemplated by Mr. Waud, on his woolcombers, was full 12 per cent.

BRADFORD SHOEMAKERS.—On Monday evening the Shoemakers' Society, held their usual monthly meeting at the *Bay and Barrel, Westgate*. After the financial affairs had been arranged, it was unanimously agreed that as the strike was now nearly over, a striking president was not required. It was also resolved, "That a Committee of eleven persons be appointed to examine the present state of the binders, ascertain the number, and make arrangements for the formation of a society, to include all the shoebinders in the town and neighbourhood." The committee will meet on Sunday at two o'clock in the afternoon.

UNITED TAILORS' PROTECTION AND MUTUAL BENEFIT SOCIETY.—The Executive Council respectfully submit to their brethren, the following suggestions:—first, the necessity of appointing one or more efficient persons, as lecturers, to visit various parts of the country to expound the principles and objects of the society, as well as to open new sections. They have come to the decision of requesting the opinions of the several sections throughout the country, in reference to this matter, on account of a great number of towns, requesting to know whether such assistance can be awarded, as they are of opinion that if a voluntary fund was established, by each member subscribing a trifle, the object would be easy of accomplishment. The objects of this society cannot be extensively known, unless means are taken to disseminate its principles. Secondly.—Applications are made to join the society by individuals who are so situated that they cannot join a section, there not being any within a considerable distance. We submit to such individuals the propriety of their communicating with the General Secretary, who will attach them to a section, and through him they can transmit their contributions; and all persons desirous of purchasing a copy of the rules, can have them by enclosing, in a letter, four postage-stamps. Societies and houses of call, who do not join, previous to the 1st July, 1844, will be charged a higher rate of entrance; therefore, it is well that they take this intimation into consideration. Many are keeping back, because others have not joined. This is unwise. Each should set the other the example. We hope the trade generally will not wait for this or that body of men. It is folly. The question is, can we better our condition by a partial, or a general union? It is admitted by all that the general protective principle is the best; then let all adopt the plan. No more delay; let all to the work; it is a good cause; the society is based upon principles of equity and strict justice. Additional applications since our last have been made by the following places—Dartford, Kent; Portsmouth and Portsea; Truro, Cornwall; Todmorden and Hyde, Lancashire; and Huddersfield, Yorkshire. Another house of call, the Adam and Eve, Jewin-street, London, have also adopted the plan. The following is the amount received for cards, rules, &c.:—Section No. 1, £1 3s 1d; No 2, 4s; No 3, 9s 4d; No 4, 8s 4d; No 5. 4s; No 7. 7s 8d; No 8, 9s 4d; No 9, 4s 5d; No 10, £1 14s 4d; No 11, £1 10s; No 12, £1 10s; No 15, 15s; No 16. 4s 4d; No 18, 5s; No 19, 18s 8d; No 20, 3s 6d; No 23, 4s 5½d; No 16, subscription, 2s 3d; 23 copies of rules sold 3s 10d—Gross amount £11 1s 6½d. On behalf of the Executive Council, J. W. PARKER, General Secretary.

TAILORS' PROTECTION SOCIETY.—The monthly meeting of the Tailors' Protection and Mutual Benefit Society, will be held at the Nottingham House, Fore-street, City, on Monday evening, June 3rd.

DUNCOMBE TESTIMONIAL.—The Central Committee of Trades met, as usual, at their rooms, Prince and Princess, Gravel-lane, Southwark, on Wednesday evening, May 22nd, Mr. Rose, currier, in the chair. The secretary read a number of letters from different places, including Sheffield, Warrington, Birmingham, Ware, Hertford, &c. &c., requesting books, addresses, circulars, &c. Mr. O'Connor entered the room and was received with loud cheers. He stated that he attended from the committee of gentlemen, who had succeeded in taking suitable rooms for a West-End Committee, in Saville House, Leicester Square, and as the Trades had expressed their wish to hold public meetings, he had to inform them that there was an immense room, capable of holding at least 3,000 people within the walls of that well-known and central building—(hear, hear,)—which could be had at any time they wished it. (Cheers.) He repeated, the wish of those gentlemen, which was to aid the Trades in their laudable undertaking, and stated, that if they thought fit to hold public meetings on the subject, several talented gentlemen had come forward to offer their valuable services, to attend and take part, should the trades deem it advisable. From the vast number of letters he had received from all parts of the country on the subject, he thought success certain; and it would be the proudest moment of his life to form one of a deputation to place Mr. Duncombe in possession of the testimonial of Labour's gratitude. Mr. O'Connor resumed his seat, amidst loud applause. Cheering reports having been given in by several delegates. Mr. Edwards (silk skein dyer) said his body was very desirous that a public meeting should be held at the East End of London on the subject; and believed great good would result from it. Mr. Kelsey (Secretary) said the cental committee was ready to receive and attend to any application for public meetings. It was unanimously resolved that a public meeting be held in the large rooms, Saville House, Leicester Square, on Monday evening week, June the 3rd, and that J. T. Leader, Esq., M.P., be requested to preside. It was likewise agreed that 1,000 cards, for windows, bearing the inscription—"Subscriptions received within"—be printed. At the suggestion of Mr. Knight it was agreed that cards be issued to facilitate the collection. It was also unanimously resolved that a public meeting be held at the East End of London on Monday fortnight. A considerable amount of subscriptions having been handed in, and a large quantity of books, addresses, circulars, &c., issued, the committee adjourned until Wednesday evening next. It is requested that all sums of five pounds or under be forwarded per post-office order to the Corresponding Secretary, Mr. James Syme, and that all sums above that amount be transmitted to Richard Norman, Esq., Honorary Treasurer, No. 2, New Broad-Street, London.

ABERDEEN—TAILORS' PROTECTION SOCIETY.—Mr. Robert Lowery delivered a lecture to the above Society on the evening of Wednesday, May 15th:—Subject, "The advantages of a Trade's Union, and the means that may be employed to elevate the mental, moral, and social condtion of its members." Mr. L. displayed a complete understanding of the manner in which the tailor-trade ought to be regulated in its various departments. He reviewed the systems of conducting trades' Unions generally adopted, more especially of former unions of the tailors; pointing out their errors—the rocks on which they split. He highly approved of the plan now being generally adopted, and doubted not of its ultimate success, if carried out in the spirit in which it has been begun. He warned those who are or may become members from being deceived with the false hope of immediate benefit; it being a plan that would require time, intelligence, and steady persevering energy to bring it into active operation, and to work that good it was calculated to achieve. After a vote of thanks to the lecturer, the meeting (which was well attended) separated highly gratified and instructed.

FORTHCOMING CHARTIST MEETINGS.

BRADFORD.—The Chartists of Little Horton, will meet in the School Room, Park Place, on Sunday morning, at ten o'clock, and at two in the afternoon, to elect a delegate to the next Riding meeting, to be held on the second of January, at Dewsbury. The Chartists of the Central Locality, will meet in the Council Room, Butterworth Buildings, on Sunday morning, at ten o'clock.

THE CHARTISTS of White Abbey, will meet in the School Room, on Monday evening, at eight o'clock.

THE CHARTISTS of Manningham, will meet in the Association Room, on Sunday, at ten o'clock, and at six in the evening.

THE M'DOUALL Committee will meet in the large room, Butterworth's Buildings, on Sunday, at two o'clock in the afternoon. A full attendance of the members are requested, as business of importance will be brought before the meeting.

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All communications must be addressed, post-paid, to Mr. HOBSON, *Northern Star Office*, Leeds.

(Saturday, May 25, 1844.)